BELGIAN CONGO STUDY CIRCLE

Bulletin No. 19 April, 1970

The appearance of this Bulletin has, for many years, been erratic but never has there been such a long gap as between Nos. 18 and 19. The Secretary must take the prime blame for this, he being responsible for the production, but no contribution has been received from any other member and a Bulletin without any text would not be of much value.

During the last four years, the Study Circle has held meetings at approximately six monthly intervals. Attendances have usually been small, comprising the five "regular" members together with the odd most welcome "visitor", he, or she, sometimes travelling from the distant North at some considerable inconvenience.

Two or three packets have been circulated, judging by the results to the satisfaction of both contributors and recipients. Books are currently being collected for a further packet. Two postal auction sales have been held with reasonably satisfactory results; because of the potentially few bidders and with the consequent result that for many lots there would be only a single bid, the Secretary decided to make them "Dutch" auctions, the highest bidder obtaining the lot at his price. The object was to avoid unduly high reserves being put on lots in any future sales.

NEW MEMBERS

Since the last Bulletin, the following have joined the Circle:

Mr. E.S. Grimes, Elm Studio

Mr. D.M. Hill, Math-LSU, Maton Rouge, Lousiana, 70803, U.S.A.

Mrs. H Jeidal.

Nothing has been heard of Mr. Grimes for many months and it is feared that he has lost interest.

A list of current members is enclosed.

GIBBONS' CATALOGUE

Members' views on the contents of the catalogue were canvassed and the Secretary discussed them with the Catalogue Editor. With very few exceptions, the Editor accepted our proposals and it is hoped that the revision to the listing meets with members' general approval. It cannot suit everyone's taste and Gibbons is only a general catalogue.

The Secretary would have liked to attack the pricing but that was not possible although he did suggest the previous existence of a few that were grosssly wrong and the comments were courteously received and acted upon. In that connection, has any member ever seen Ruanda Mozart, Olympics and Cathedral stamps used other than with First Day (!) cancellations? And what about used copies of the last issue of Ruanda postage dues? If the numbers available were used as the basis of catalogue prices, these items would be priced in pounds rather than pence.

CHECK LIST OF POST OFFICE CANCELLATIONS

Mr. Heim has been revising the check list with details of all cancels that he or the Secretary has seen and the dates that have been noted. The list is completed, although known that it must be incomplete, and the Secretary is slowly checking it against his own collection. The list comprises a hundred quarto pages and

Mr. Heim is willing to send over the original sheets for photo-copying if any other members are interested. Our funds, or lack thereof, do not permit our having them copied and circulated to all members. The cost of copying depends to a very great extent, perhaps from 1d to 9d a sheet, on the number of copies taken. Will members who would like to have a set let the Secretary know up to what price they would be prepared to pay. If any member has access to a cheap means of photo-copying that would be a great help. Alternatively, if any member wishes to have a set independently copied for his own use, that can probably be arranged.

FORGERIES AND FAKES

The stamps of Belgian Congo and Ruanda Urundi appear particularly prolific in forgeries and we find complete stamps, overprints and cancellations forged, some very cleverly, othersvery crudely. In addition, there are deliberate colour changelings and other fakes of the usual kinds and purely bogus overprints and cancellations.

The study of these weeds is fascinating for those who have that kind of interest, but, in any case, the more knowledge that a collector has of these matters, the less likely he is to be cheated in his purchases. Some of the forgeries and fakes are very well done and they are offered as genuine by even the most reputable dealers, few of whom have the specialised knowledge of Congo stamps to recognise the good from the bad.

Completely Forged Stamps

1886 Issue

50 centimes. The Billig Handbook illustrates a 50c forgery but this has not been seen by the writer. According to the illustration, the forgery is of much coarser appearance than the original. The quoted features by which the forgery can be recognised include 1) The arched "ribbon" at the top and immediately to the left of the centre is not split by a deep gash as in the original. 2) The S of each word CENTIMES has a smaller head with the top curve not extended beyond the horizontal (relative to the letter itself). 3) The "fleur-de-lys" in the centre under the head has the central upward-pointing spike rounded instead of pointed.

5 francs. There are at least seven forgeries, only one of which is dangerous. In the original stamp, there is, at the bottom of the right vertical stroke of the N of CONGO, a large white mark, a relic of the C of FRANCS in the original die of the 5 francs stamp of Belgium (1878) that was altered to make the die for the Congo stamp. On two or three impressions on the plate from which the genuine stamps were printed the white mark is faint but can be seen with a glass. In all forgeries, except one, the white mark is completely missing, the N of CONGO being normal. The one forgery with the white mark can be distinguished from the genuine by many details but the most prominent is in the lines of the hair under the right leg of the A of FRANCS. In the genuine stamp (also on the similar low values) there is a clear V with the top of the V touching the top of the head; in the forgery, the V is replaced by a Y.

1887 Issue

Any imperforate or partly perforated stamps are complete forgeries or "Lenoir reprints" (see later).

50 centimes. The Billig Handbook illustrates two forgeries but does not state if they are in brown or grey or both colours. The writer has seen neither. Both are line-perforated, not comb, and this may be a clear guide on many of such forgeries. What appears to be the clearest incorrect detail in the one forgery is in the "ribbon" stretching from the left edge to a point immediately above the C of CENTIMES. Whereas, in the original, the lower of the inner lines of the ribbon is clear, in the forgery it is blurred and not parallel with the outer line. The second forgery is said to be lithographed instead of surface-printed and appears to be very crude; the C of CENTIMES is more rectangular and larger than in the original and the S is more rounded.

5 francs. At least four, and probably five, forgeries exist, both in violet and in grey. Two are very crude and comparison under a glass with a genuine stamp or with a lower value of the same design clearly indicates their status. If a genuine 5 francs stamp is available for comparison, the length of the word "FRANCS" and the size of its letters are a clear indication of two of the forgeries. If the stamp passes this test, the position of the lower horizontal bar of the F identifies a third forgery. The vertical lines in the oval white patch in the beard, immediately above the C of FRANCS should be compared with those on the genuine stamp or with one of the lower values. Both figures 5 in the genuine stamp have the upper right part of the loop as a straight diagonal line meeting the curve at each end in a sharp angle; in the forgeries, the diagonal line is curved or blends into the curves.

10 francs. There are at least four forgeries of which one is very crude. Comparison of the oval white patch in the beard with that on a lower value is a very useful point of recognition. The size and shape of the S of FRANCS is, in most cases, different from the original but this requires a genuine 5 or 10 francs stamp for comparison. In two of the forgeries, the G of CONGO is as a C without the horizontal bar.

The Sperati forgery is undoubtedly the best as it was produced photographically from an original stamp but it has not, unfortunately, been seen by the writer. Description of the forgery was included in Bulletin No. 14 but, because of the method of production, distinguishing from the original is of necessity a matter of shade of ink and paper in natural light and in ultra-violet light and this requires careful comparison with a genuine stamp. Useful information is that the cancellations on "used" stamps are BANANA 3 SEPT 6-S 1892, BOMA 13 MARS 7-M 18 and MATADI 20 OCTO 11-M 1893, all in black. Most impressions are said to be "muzzy".

25 francs. A forgery is illustrated in Billig's Handbook. The clearest indications appear to be the shape of the R of FRANCS, the absence or lack of clarity of the engraver's initials AD under the NC of FRANCS and the rounded, instead of straight, diagonal line on the back of the figures 5. In ultraviolet light, it is probable that the ink does not show the green fluorescence of the original stamps.

50 francs. A forgery is illustrated in Billig's Handbook. It is said that the leg of the R of FRANCS is different from the original; the upper roll of the ribbon immediately above the F of FRANCS is different; the diagonal outline of the top right corner of the right S is less oblique. Again, the forgery probably does not show the green fluorescence of the issued stamp.

1894-95 Issues

Quite incredibly crude imitations are found. Whatever the object of the imitations, it could not have been to deceive the serious collector. The 25c,

50c and 1fr are in colours approximating those of the 1894 issue, the 10c is in the colours of the 1895 issue and the 5c has the frame in olive, quite different from the colours used for any of the 5c stamps. It appears that imitations of the 5fr do not exist.

There are pseudo-die proofs produced by photo-lithography from the original stamps. These comprise the centre and frame in black and printed side by side on the same "proof". The 1fr and 5fr values have been seen and, presumably, the other values exist. No genuine proofs of the 1894 issue are known with centre and frame side by side although such a proof of the 3,50fr of 1898 is recorded. Whereas a genuine die-proof of an engraved stamp is seen, under a lens, to have the ink slightly in relief, the bogus are quite flat in appearance. In the issued stamps, the shading of the vignette blends with the shading of the casement; in the photographically produced die proofs, it was not possible to differentiate between the two sets of shading and careful inspection discloses discrepancies.

Illicit Reprints of Stamps

During, or shortly after, the Great War, original cliches of ten electrotypes used in the preparation of the plates for the 1886 and 1887 issues were stolen and the so-called "Lenoir reprints" were printed therefrom. The values reprinted were the 5c, 10c, 25c and 50c of 1886 and the 50c, 5fr, 10fr, 25fr and 50fr of 1887. The plate of the 5fr of 1886 was not produced from multiple cliches of electrotypes and, presumably, the common 5c, 10c and 25c of 1887 were not considered worth reprinting.

In general the designs are identical with those of the genuine stamps and the same regular clicke varieties are found.

With the exception of the 5fr of 1886, which was not reprinted, genuine imperforate copies are not known although there are imperforate colour trials of the 50c of 1886 which approximate in colour the issued stamps. The reprints are found both imperforate and perforated 15.

Y. Burniat in "Vade Mecum du Collectionneur de Timbre-poste de Belgique & Colonies" describes the forgeries, comparing with the originals the shades of inks and paper under ultra-violet light. A translation of the Congo section of Burniat's book accompanied an early number of the Bulletin. According to Burniat, the reprints are generally 1mm taller than the originals but the writer believes this to be erroneous. There is some difference in height, produced by difference in paper shrinkage, but nothing approaching 1mm; according to Jules Van Bleyenberghe, the reprints are up to 4mm taller than the originals and this is confirmed by the writer.

The paper of the reprints is slightly thicker and greyish white instead of creamish white but this is of only marginal assistance in recognising the forgeries. The perforations of the perforated reprints are rougher but this, again, is no clear indication.

In normal light, the shades of both originals and reprints vary considerably but shade is of some assistance, particularly with the 25c. The appearance under ultra-violet light is the best indication for certain values.

The best guarantee of a genuine stamp is the presence of a constant plate variety (but not a clicke variety) and, fortunately, there are plenty of them, particularly on the 25 and 50 centimes values.

Most perforated reprints are well centred whereas the vast majority of the originals are off-centre.

- 1886 5 centimes. Under ultra-violet light the genuine stamps are olive or deep olive, even black, in colour whereas the reprints are pale green.
- 1886 10 centimes. The two reprints studied are respectively pink and orange-red in ultra-violet light whereas the originals are plum coloured.
- 1886 25 centimes. In daylight, the original stamps appear cobalt blue whilst the reprints are blue (nearer to greenish blue than is cobalt).
- 1886 50 centimes. Under ultra-violet light, the original stamps appear brown whereas the reprints retain their original olive colour.
- 1887 50 centimes brown. Reprints exist but have not been recognised by the writer. It is understood that the shade of brown is distinctly different from those of the issued stamps.
- 1887 50 centimes, 5fr, 25fr and 50 francs grey. Under ultra-violet light, the reprints appear grey or grey-black but the colour of the originals changes to light green.

A curious thing about the 25 francs reprints is the doubling of most of the letters of INDEPENDANT and CONGO on at least two impressions in the cliche of 10, a variety not found on the original stamps. It appears clear that the particular cliche stolen was not one of those used in preparing the original plate. Van Bleyenberghe has shown that, for most if not for all of the other values, the cliches stolen had formed part of the original plates of 50 or 150.

The 10 francs in grey exists as a reprint but probably not as an original colour.

1887 - 5 francs and 10 francs. The 5 francs violet and the 10 francs reprints would not be easy to recognise with any degree of certainty but for a fortunate weakness of impression which exists in the issued stamps for only these two values (both 5 francs and the 10 francs).

The order ribbon over the king's shoulder consists of alternate continuous and thinner interrupted lines. In the reprints, as in the centimes values of the issued stamps, the interrupted line nearest to the neck is clear whereas in the issued 5 francs and 10 francs it is virtually non-existent.

Reprints of the 5 francs, in both colours, are found with the genuine framed "COLIS POSTAUX" surcharge, the original overprinting stamp having been stolen at the same time as the cliches.

1915 Artist's Essays of 5c, 10c and 25 centimes

Imperforate die proofs of these three values of the 1910 issue were modified by hand to serve as essays for the 1915 issue. Parts of the frame were erased and the words "CINQ", "DIX" and "VINGT CINQ" were added in white ink.

The writer has seen copies of these essays, made by a collector for his own amusement and not to defraud. It is quite possible that these examples may come onto the market or that other similar copies have been made by less scrupulous artists. The die proofs have larger margins than is normally possible to obtain by cutting the perforations off a stamp of the 1910 issue. They are free from

the plate varieties and other imperfections by which every stamp in the plates of the three 1910 values can be recognised.

Colour Changelings

Many stamps are found in shades, even colours, different from those they had originally, sunlight, soaking and cleaning fluids having a very appreciable effect on some dyes; the 10c Stanley issue in bright blue and the 20c Masques in pale grey are particularly conspicuous examples. It is doubtful if such changelings have been made to deceive the collector.

Fakes of the 5 centimes blue of 1894, made by changing the colour of the frame of the 5 centimes green of 1900, abound and have clearly been made to defraud. Similar fakes of the 10 centimes brown of 1894, made from the carmine stamp, exist but are nothing like as common.

1894 - 5 centimes blue

Most used copies and many unused without gum are fakes and not recognised as such by even the most reputable of dealers. If an unused stamp is gummed, it is probably genuine. The vast majority of used stamps with black cancellations are fakes.

If a stamp has the Balasse Type II frame with the minute circles near the upper and lower corners, it is a fake.

Under ultra-violet light the original stamps appear grey-green; some of the fakes look much the same but others appear pale green, pale blue, grey or black.

Fortunately, the centre plate used for the green stamp was different from that used for the blue stamp and all positions in the sheet are recognisable without much difficulty. Identification of the position in the sheet provides certain recognition of a faked stamp.

1894 - 10 centimes brown

Examples have been seen with frames in brown-red and orange-red, quite different from the brown of the genuine stamp. The writer does not know if better matches to the correct shade have been made.

Again, the centre plates were different from the brown and carmine stamps but recognition of the position of a stamp in the sheet by means of the centre plate is not as easy as with the 5 centimes value. However, a stamp can be plated, generally by frame plate imperfection, and, with care, the centre can be recognised as coming from brown or carmine centre plate. It has to be remembered that both brown and carmine centre plates were re-entered during their lives; this complicates recognition of the fakes but it can be done with certainty.

Forgeries of Typographed Overprints

These are considered separately from handstamped overprints as different methods of recognition are used. Typographed overprints are usually clearer than handstamps, more regular, technically more complicated to forge, and generally easier to recognise the good from the bad.

With typographed overprints, the stamp should, if possible, be positioned in the sheet and the overprint compared in detail with the genuine article. In

most cases each overprint in the typographing plate has its individual characteristics, minute though they be, which distinguishes it from the others.

The following is, in the main, a list of typographed overprints, forgeries of which have been seen by the writer or reported by others. Unless specified to the contrary, the method of recognition is by positioning the stamp in the sheet.

Typographed "Congo Belge"

Many forgeries exist, including on cover and genuinely used after addition of the forged overprint. Particular mention should be made of the 5 centimes and 10 centimes with normal upright overprints and misplaced, inverted, double and in pair, with and without, overprints on all values. In that connection, it should be remembered that the only genuine inverted overprints known are on the original 50 centimes and the Princes' 3,50 francs; the only double overprints are on the original 25 centimes and the Princes' 10 francs; the only pairs, with and without overprint, are of the Princes' 3.50 francs with inverted overprint.

Most of the forgeries can readily be identified by means of the standard "Congo Belge" gauges of Maes, Gelli and Tani and Balasse. That of Maes is reputed to be the most precise but is not now available. The currently available Balasse gauge is more accurate than the original Gelli and Tani.

The genuine overprint has a pronounced kink in the G of CONGO; this is missing from all but one of the forgeries which is very well done and matches almost perfectly the larger typographed overprint (T2) on the gauge. To be quite certain of any of the large overprints, it is necessary to position the stamp in the sheet and compare the overprint with an authentic copy. Fortunately, plating of most of these stamps is not difficult.

1921 Overprints

The only genuine inverted overprint is the 15c/50c but forged inverted overprints have been seen of the 30c/10c, 50c/25c and 3 francs. The only genuine double overprints are of the 50c/25c (slightly oblique) and the 1 franc (vertical); forgeries of the latter and of the 30c/10c exist. There are forgeries of the "1921" overprint on the 5 francs and 10 francs values with "Congo Belge" overprint, and probably of the lower values with the same "Congo Belge" overprint.

The standard methods of identification apply but recognition of the genuine "1921" overprint is not easy.

1922 Malines Surcharges

Forgeries of both double and inverted surcharges of the 30c/10c stamp have been seen. They are clearer in outline than are the originals. Forgeries of the 5c/50c with surcharge inverted are reported.

A curious forgery is of the normal 10c/5c and the writer has seen several copies. The surcharge is noticeably smaller than the genuine and is carmine rather than vermilion. It is probable that, while he was about it, the forger produced double and inverted surcharges.

1922 Local Surcharges

10c/5c, both normal and inverted and in several of the four types of surcharge. Some of the surcharges seen are on stamps from the booklet panes of 10, third

printing and these are readily identified as the booklet stamps were not surcharged.

10c/1fr with normal surcharge and it is probable that inverted examples exist. Copies seen have the surcharge rather fainter than on the originals.

25c/40c with inverted surcharge is reported.

25c/5fr with normal surcharge. On copies seen, the surcharge is intense black instead of the normal greyish black.

1942 50c/1,50 Francs Air

Forgeries of both normal and inverted surcharges have been seen. The outlines of the figures are not as clear as those of the originals. The original surcharge varies in length between the vertical rows with the space between 0 and c from 2 to 3mm.

1916 Est Africain

The only genuine inverted overprint is on the 5c. Forgeries of this and of the 10c have been reported.

An extension, by hand, to produce the long T variety has been seen. Careful inspection discloses the different ink.

There are many fakes of the closed C to give the mis-spelling "OCOUPATION" and not only on the 5c and 1 franc values where the genuine variety exists. On those seen, the colour of the ink of the closure is the same as that of the original overprint, both in daylight and in ultra-violet light. Positioning the 5c and 1 franc stamps discloses most of the fakes as the 5c (shorter overprint) exists only in the fourth vertical column and the 1 franc (longer overprint) only in the left vertical column. Genuine "OCOUPATION" varieties have not been seen by the writer.

1924 Ruanda Urundi

Several different forgeries on a variety of values have been seen. One is a crude handstamp, immediately recognised as bad, but the remainder demand careful study. The stamps are almost entirely free from blemishes and it is not possible to position a stamp in the sheet. The simple rule for the detection of forgeries of typographed overprints cannot, therefore, be applied.

In the various forgeries seen, the shape and length of the tail of the R's and the shape of the i are different from those of the genuine overprint. One of the forged overprints has sensibly thicker letters than the genuine.

Presumably, the 40c with inverted overprint has been forged but not only this stamp but all values with normal overprint require careful examination.

1926 Ruanda Urundi 60c

Forgeries of the normal overprint have been seen. The letters of the overprint are thicker than the genuine and all those seen have the overprint at the top of the stamp instead of at the bottom. Several have clear Congo cancellations.

There is an excellent Nysten forgery of the inverted surcharge that is not authentically recorded as a genuine variety. The writer is unable to detect any difference in the lettering of genuine and forgery but the forgery is in dull instead of in shiny ink. The stamp bears the Nysten "authenticity" mark which usually, probably invariably, denotes a forgery.

1927 Ruanda Urundi 1,25 francs

Forgeries of the overprint on this stamp were recorded in "La Revue Postale" in April, 1927, less than four months after the stamp was issued, while it was current and, presumably, generally available. Judging by the illustration, the R's and the i are clear indications of the forgery. Other values may well have received the forger's attention.

1924 Ruanda Urundi Postage Dues

Forged double overprints have been seen on all values, these bearing the Nysten "authenticity" mark. The forgery is well done but the I is too thin.

General

The above is almost certainly not a comprehensive list of the forged typographed overprints. All curiosities, such as inverted and double overprints, should be treated with suspicion. Forgeries may well exist of all normal overprints whereby the catalogue value of the stamp is enhanced, be it only slightly.

Bogus Typographed Overprints

Five values of the 1931 issue exist with purely bogus surcharge:

16 X CENTS
Detatchement
U S A
AIR
MAIL

The values are 15 cents/50 centimes, 16 cents/75 centimes, 20 cents/1 franc, 30 cents/1,25 francs and 50 cents/2 francs. The stamps of horizontal format have a diamond instead of a cross to obscure the original value. "DETATCHEMENT" in capital letters and no horizontal line between "AIR" and "MAIL".

The mis-spelling of the word "detachement" suggests that the surcharges were not applied in Belgium or by local people in the Congo but, according to Burniat, the series was on sale by a Liege dealer in 1943 and this makes it probable that the overprint was applied in Belgium.

Forged Handstamped Overprints

Unframed "Colis Postaux" Surcharge

Surcharges on forged 5 francs stamps of both 1886 and 1887 issues are necessarily bad but forged surcharges are also found on genuine stamps.

Three different forgeries have been seen, two on genuine stamps. The original surcharge has the letter S nearly closed or, if the surcharge is thick, completely closed as an 8. In all the forgeries seen, the S is normal. The P and O are not as closely spaced as in the genuine.

Framed "Colis Postaux" Surcharge

As has been stated earlier in this article, genuine surcharges are found on Lenoir reprints and there is no reason why they should not be found on complete forgeries.

Two different forged surcharges have been seen, one on a genuine violet stamp.

The genuine surcharge has a double-lined frame and the U of "Postaux" is shaped as a C with the top closed and the right leg broken. Each of the forgeries seen has a single-lined frame and the U of "Postaux" is normal.

'Congo Belge" Handstamps

Whereas there are sixteen genuine handstamps, there are many more different forgeries, simulating both local and Brussels overprints.

The presence of a cancellation dated 1908 or earlier is a clear indication of a forgery but cancels dated 1909 and later are no guarantee of authenticity of an overprint. Stamps with forged overprints were postally used and there may well have been no official objection to such "unofficial" overprinting. There are many forged cancellations and genuine cancellations have been seen with the last figure of the year altered to a 9.

The "Congo Belge" gauge is of great assistance and this, combined with the peculiarities of certain of the overprints, is perfectly adequate to recognise in a clear overprint which of the sixteen it is and to identify a forgery. If an overprint is blurred, it may not be possible with certainty to identify it. Some of the best forgeries (Nysten) are of the Brussels handstamps and it is fortunate that these were invariably applied with care.

Particular mention should be made of local handstamp 7 of which there is a forgery that is very close in measurements to the original.

Elisabethville Surcharges

Judging by the writer's accumulation of these stamps, it appears the majority, by a considerable margin, of these surcharges are forgeries and in many cases, due to lack of clarity or superimposition of a cancellation, it is not possible for an expert to say with certainty if a surcharge is genuine.

It has to be borne in mind that there were two slightly different handstamps, illustrated on page 285 of General Du Four's book "Congo - Cinquante Ans d'Histoire Postale". In the original overprinting, one surcharge was applied to the 1921 "Recuperation" stamp and the other to the 1922 "Malines Surcharges" stamp. In the much commoner second overprinting, the surcharges were interchanged with respect to the stamps, that previously used on the 1921 stamp being applied to the 1922 stamp and vice versa.

With the original overprinting, the 1921 "Recuperation" stamp does not exist with the frame in the carmine-lake shade. With neither over-printing does the 1922 Malines stamp exist with the Type 1 centre before retouching of the die to increase the area of shading of the sky.

There are so many different forgeries that it is not possible to give any certain means of identification. Particular points to be considered are the shape of the figure 2, the shape and size of the top bar of the figure 5, the presence of the comma as opposed to a dot and the relative levels of the figure and comma.

The original surcharge on the Malines stamp is jet black whereas that on the 1921 stamp is grey-black. The second overprinting on both stamps is in grey-black ink.

"Ruanda" and "Urundi" Overprints

Forgeries of both overprints have been seen but only two of "Ruanda" and one "Urundi" have been studied.

The original overprinting stamp was of rubber, as presumably were the forgeries also, and the overprints are necessarily crude. This fact together with the different colours of the four authentic overprintings and the fact that the "Greysolle" overprints were from different rubber stamps make recognition of the genuine difficult.

The colours of the various overprints are as follows:-

Original : greyish lilac

"Tabora (reprinting for philatelic

purposes) : blue

"Greysolle" (not issued) : grey with touch of lilac

Havre reprint : violet or brownish violet

The "Greysolle" local overprints were by different overprinting stamps, the words "Ruanda" and "Urundi" being slightly arched, the former convex upwards and the latter concave upwards.

Measured from the centre of the vertical stroke of the R to the centre of the dot the length of the original "Ruanda" overprint is 17mm and that of the "Greysolle" overprint 17½mm. The two "Ruanda" forgeries that have been studied measure 17¼ and 17½mm respectively. The serifs of the letters are appreciably clearer than on the originals. One of the forgeries has a forged "Poste Militaire" cancellation and bears the Nysten "authenticity" mark.

The forged "Urundi" overprint is jet-black, has the right leg of the second U broken near its bottom and the D is 1.8 instead of 2.0mm wide.

Inspection of the overprints under ultra-violet light is of little assistance in recognition.

Forged overprints have been applied to stamps from combinations of frame and centre plates that do not exist with the genuine overprints and probably the majority of forgeries can be identified in this way.

Fakes

Most of the usual arts of the fakers have been applied to the stamps of the Congo. Amongst the scarcer stamps a careful watch has to be kept for carefully repaired and regummed items. Stamps, fiscally used, are found with the pen-cancellations removed and a forged cancellation added or the back re-gummed; inspection under ultra-violet light will disclose a removed pen-cancellation. The 10 francs Grossebarbe and the 10 francs of 1898, perforated 12 were much used on gun licences and copies are found with the pen-cancel removed.

The writer has seen a faked copy of the 10 centimes blue with centre inverted, made by cutting out the centre and replacing by another, inverted. Casual inspection discloses nothing wrong and it is understood that viewing under

ultra-violet light does not disclose any very obvious break between frame and centre. Study with a glass shows the care with which the fake was prepared, the shading of the centre having been extended by retouching into the design of the frame, thus giving a real appearance of authenticity. The retouching of the centre shading does not, of course, agree perfectly with the genuine centre and careful comparison with a genuine stamp discloses the discrepancies. With some positions in the sheet, plating of centre and frame would make the fake apparent. It is reasonable to suppose that fakes of the 10 francs of 1898 and 10 centimes of 1915 with inverted centres may have been similarly produced.

Perforations

Perhaps the greatest menace in the way of faking is the removal of perforations from the line-engraved stamps to produce imperforate or partly perforated examples. The Mols issues have suffered particularly in this way. It should be remembered that the only authenticated imperforate items of these issues are: 3,50 francs, and 10 francs of 1898 (die proofs and plate proofs), 3,50 francs Princes' with typographed "Congo Belge" overprint, 1915 issue (some values as die proofs and all as plate proofs) and 1918 issue (all values as plate proofs). Some perforated stamps with imperforate margin have been mutilated to produce imperforate copies. All single stamps, apparently from imperforate-between pairs, should be treated with the greatest suspicion; there is no way of knowing whether authentic or fakes.

A single Vloors stamp has been seen apparently imperforate vertically.

A copy of the 10 francs Stanley stamp, normally perforated 14, has been seen perforated 14 x 14 x $15\frac{1}{2}$ x 14. These stamps were comb perforated and the particular stamp must have been reperforated at the bottom. Why so much trouble should have been taken with so common a stamp is difficult to see.

Forged Cancellations

These are the easiest forgeries to make and, generally, the most difficult to identify. Whereas the average collector would not wish to include a forged stamp in his collection, he is not interested in the genuineness of the cancellations.

There are two types of forged cancellations, those of rare or uncommon cancels, intended to deceive the cancellation collector, and those of the common cancels, intended simply to convert unused stamps to used.

In principle, any cancellation not found on <u>authentically</u> used cover is suspect and, in that connection, faked covers with forged dispatch, transit and arrival cancellations are found. It is clear that there can be no certainty that a particular cancellation is forged and it can only be presumed that a particular cancel is bad if not known to be authentic.

In this short article, it is not practical to describe or to illustrate even the relatively few forged cancellations known to the writer and he can only list those of which he has copies. If there is sufficient general interest, detailed descriptions could follow

In the following lists of forged cancellations seen by the writer, dates are given where it appears that the date in the cancel could not be altered; where no date is given, various dates on the same cancel are found. All those listed have been seen on genuine stamps; those found on forged stamps are not included.

Normal Post Office Cancellations

Banana, small circle, several; Bena-Bendi, small circle; Boma, small circle, many, including 7 AVRIL 7-M 1889, 5 AVRIL 5-S 1892, S-9 9 VI 1892, 17 JANV 1895, 28 JANV 8-M 1895, 17 FEVR 12-M 1895, 30 MAI 4-S 1897, 15 JANV 3-S 1898, 18 8-9 NOV 1925 and 16 11-M; Boma, large circle without stars or date; Bumba, small circle; Coquilhatville, Postes, 17.9.27-11; Dima, small circle; Elisabethville, small circle, 3-4 20 JANV 1924; Irebu, small circle, 12 AVRIL 15-16 1913; Irumu, large circle, 28.2.3=7; Kinshasa, small circle 12 JUIL 14-15 1912; Kipaila, small circle; Leopoldville, small circle, several, including 20 JUIN 9-M 1900, 22 FEVR 11-M and 2 MAI 9-M; Leopoldville, Postes; Lukungu, small circle, 26 Mars 3-S 1898; Matadi, small circle, several, including 30 DEC 1-S 1893, FEVR 21 11-M 1897, 23 DEC 11-M 1897 and 8 JUIL 6-7 1912; Nouvelle-Anvers, small circle, 30 DEC 3-S 1896; Rutshupu, no circle, 4 JAN 6-7 1918; Stanleyville, small circle, 13 Mars 8-9 1912; Tshikapa, Postes, 10.2.35; Tumbu-Mani, small circle; Usumbura, large circle.

"Special" Cancellations

Kigoma, straight line; ZONE DE PONTHIERVILLE, large circle with central flag; GARE DE TUMBA, small circle; PAQUEBOT LEOPOLDVILLE, straight line; PAQUEBOT LEOPOLDVILLE, in large circle with date; CHARGEURS REUNIS FOUCAUD in rectangle; CFL with date in rectangle; TAXES in rectangle; POSTES MILITAIRES, small circle.

The above lists are by no means complete and probably include only a very small proportion of the forged cancellations that exist.

Bogus Cancellations

Congo stamps are found with foreign cancels, port arrival marks for letters posted aboard ships, arrival marks because the stamps were otherwise not cancelled and, in the case of adjacent territories, transit marks at the first foreign post office handling the mail.

Whereas many of the curious cancels found on Congo stamps could legitimately have been applied in foreign countries, others, generally unrecognisable and covering only a corner of the stamp are undoubtedly purely bogus or applied by the "courtesy" of a foreign postal official in order to provide the owner with a stock of used stamps. The stamps found thus are usually of low face value

THE WATERLOW "PUBLICITY PROOFS"

There was in Bulletin No. 4 (October, 1951) a short article by the writer on the proofs of the Mols issues. Later, Baron de Moffaerts, in La Revue Postale Nos. 56 to 62, gave a more comprehensive description. Much at the time was unknown, even the purpose of the proofs; it was realised that the Mols proofs were not printed from the plates used for the issued stamps but the sizes of the plates from which the stamps were printed were not known; the only known multiples were pairs of the three top values.

A find, two years ago, of a considerable number of these items and of similar proofs of Belgium, China, Siam, New Zealand etc. has cleared up most of the mysteries and the object of this article is to record what is now known of the proofs. With acknowledgment to Baron de Moffaerts, the writer includes some of the information in the La Revue Postale article.

The designs of the stamps are identical with those of the issued Waterlow stamps of the Congo and Ruanda but they are in different colours. Some of the Mols

types exist without overprint but all of the Mols types and the later issues are found with overprint "Waterlow & Sons Ltd. Specimen".

The 'Waterlow & Sons Ltd. Specimen' Overprints

Four different "Specimen" overprints were used:

- Type A1 small antique characters (sans-serif) with full stop after D and in black.
- Type A2 as A1 but without the stop after D, in black.
- Type B large antique characters (sans-serif). The writer has seen no example of this overprint.
- Type C Large Roman characters (with serifs) in deep blue.

A further overprint, Type D, in small Roman characters (with serifs) was not in general use in overprinting the proofs and has been seen only as a trial of which more detail later.

The overprints were typographed by means of special plates. In the case of the Mols proofs of horizontal format, there were two settings of the plate of overprint A1, one with the overprint horizontal, the other inclined, one setting of overprint A2 with the overprint nearly vertical and two settings of overprint C, one horizontal and the other inclined.

The Mols Proofs

Unless stated to the contrary, these were printed from small plates of nine impressions, three horizontally by three vertically.

5 Centimes Etat Independent, Waterlow Ref. No. S.T. 477

The centres were printed in black, the frames in wine-red.

The centres are from the original die, as used for the 1894-1910 issues and not as modified for the 1915 issue. The frames are from the original die as used for the 1891, 1895 and early 1900 printings before the addition of the two small circles near the top and bottom right corners.

The proof is known to exist in the following conditions:

- a) without overprint, perforated 15.
- b) with oblique overprint A1, perforated 15.
- c) with nearly vertical overprint A2, perforated 15.
- d) with overprint A1 or A2, imperforate (recorded by de Moffaerts).
- e) with oblique overprint @ perforated 15.

The writer has seen a sheet, perforated 15, which is apparently a trial sheet of the overprints; impression No. 1 has Type C in carmine, No. 2 Type C in blue, No. 3 Type D in red, No. 4 Type D in blue and Nos. 5 to 9 Type C in blue.

All impressions, except No. 2 (centre stamp, top row) have a vertical guide line to the left of the left boat, reminiscent of the similar guide lines on some

of the issued stamps. There are other minor imperfections that permit the proofs to be plated and the same holds good for all the other Mols values of which complete sheets have been seen.

10 Centimes Etat Independent, Waterlow Ref. No. 478

The centres were printed in black, the frames in lilac, but there are two distinct shades of the frame, one in pale rosy lilac and the other in blue-lilac, approaching violet.

The proof is known to exist in the following conditions:

- a) Without overprint, perforated 15.
- b) With horizontal overprint Type A1, perforated 15.
- c) With oblique overprint Type A1, perforated $12\frac{1}{2}$.
- d) With nearly vertical overprint Type A2, perforated 15.
- e) With oblique overprint Type C, perforated 15.

All impressions appear to have the top outer frame line retouched; this is particularly noticeable on Nos. 1 and 2 above the first D of Independent. No. 7 has the left outer frame line thickened by re-entry or retouching. No. 9 has the central sky very weakly doubled, undoubted evidence of re-entry.

One sheet of this value exists with centre inverted.

25 Centimes Etat Independant, Waterlow Ref. No. 479

The centres were printed in black, the frames in light blue, quite different from the blue of the stamps of 1900.

The centres of all impressions have an imperfection with the appearance of links of a chain under the third rock from the right. This imperfection is found on the stamps of 1900 with the blue frame and it must have been present on the transfer roll applied after the completion of the printings with the orange frame. The centre plate used for the issued stamps was completely re-entered again before the printing of the 1910 stamps and the imperfection disappeared; this second re-entry must have been made with a new transfer roll. The small plate for the publicity proofs, therefore, must have been made using the transfer roll used for the 1900 issue.

The proof is known to exist in the following conditions:

- a) Without overprint, perforated 15.
- b) With oblique overprint Type A1, perforated 15.
- c) With nearly vertical overprint Type A2, perforated 15.
- d) With nearly vertical overprint Type A2, imperforate.
- e) With oblique overprint Type C, perforated 15.

A proof sheet, with various and differently coloured overprints, similar to the 5 centimes sheet, has been seen.

The top frame lines are very weak, partly missing, as were those of the original issued Etat Independent stamps.

40 Centimes Etat Independant, Waterlow Ref. No. S.T. 1219

The centres were printed in black, the frames in brown.

The centres are from the original die, with the white mark in the canoe and the irregular reflection of the prow in the water, before retouching of the die during the course of the 1915 issue and before the 1925 Colonial Campaigns issue.

The proof is known to exist in the following conditions:

- a) With oblique overprint Type A1, perforated $12\frac{1}{2}$.
- b) With oblique overprint Type A1, imperforate.
- c) With overprint B, imperforate (recorded by de Moffaerts).

On the frame plate used for the issued stamps, the top frame line must have been very weak at the left and all impressions on the plate were retouched, some crudely. Similar, but rather more careful retouching of the frame line is seen on the proofs.

No. 3 has a brown mark in the white ellipse to the left of the left figure 4, reminiscent of the re-entry on several impressions of the issued stamps of the same value of 1910.

50 Centimes Etat Independent, Waterlow Ref. No. S.T. 480

The centres were printed in black, the frames in orange.

The centres are from the original die, without the added shading to the smoke and to the river bank due to retouching of the die during the course of the 1915 issue.

The proof is known to exist in the following conditions:

- a) Without overprint, perforated 15.
- b) With horizontal overprint Type A1, perforated 15.
- c) With oblique overprint Type A1, imperforate.
- d) With oblique overprint Type C, perforated 15.

The lower outer frame line on the left side must have been very weak on the original die. On the frame plate of the issued stamps this line must have been added by hand on many, if not all, impressions, so that the tail of the lower comma-like ornament in the left margin is sometimes inside, sometimes outside and sometimes coincident with the frameline. The same variable retouching is seen on the proofs.

No. 2 has a very clear misplaced entry; parts of the far bank of the river are doubled downwards by more than 3mm. No. 8 has an orange line between the left framelines, both at top and bottom; these are probably traces of re-entry.

1 Franc Etat Independant, Waterlow Ref. No. S.T. 481

The centres were printed in black, the frames in bistre.

The proof is known to exist in the following conditions:

- a) Without overprint, perforated 15.
- b) With oblique overprint Type A1, perforated $12\frac{1}{2}$.
- c) With nearly vertical overprint Type A2, perforated 15.
- d) With overprint Type A1 or A2, imperforate (recorded by de Moffaerts).
- c) With oblique overprint Type C, perforated 15.

All impressions have the top right corner, including the figure 1, doubled to the right or to the right and upwards. On Nos. 3, 5 and 9 the re-entry extends down to the mid-point of the right frame lines. No. 1 has the top frame line above Etat lightly doubled upwards.

No. 4 has a major re-entry, a considerable part of the centre design being doubled downwards; particularly noticeable are the trunk, tusks and belly of the elephant.

5 Franc Etat Independent, Waterlow Ref. No. S.T. 482

The centres were printed in black, the frames in green.

The proof is known to exist in the following conditions:

- a) Without overprint, perforated 15.
- b) With nearly vertical overprint Type A2, perforated 15.
- c) With oblique overprint Type C, perforated 15.

All impressions on the frame plate of the issued stamps have an imperfection resulting from a damaged transfer roll; a white patch in the left frame. The proofs do not show this imperfection. It follows, therefore, that the proof plate was prepared either before the roll was damaged or from a second transfer roll.

No. 1 has the left outer frame line lightly doubled to the left. No. 4 has the top left corner and the left outer frame line very clearly doubled to the left. No. 5 has the top left corner and the left outer frame line lightly doubled to the left.

The long panel of solid colour near the right frame line appears to have been generally retouched with some of the vertical lines of engraving encroaching on the white line inside the right frame line. This encroachment may have been due to re-entry or shifted transfer.

10 Francs Etat Independant, Waterlow Ref. No. unknown

The centres were printed in black, the frames in violet.

The proof has been recorded only with oblique overprint Type A1, imperforate.

The writer has not had the opportunity to inspect this proof and cannot say if it was printed from the plates used for the issued stamps or from specially prepared plates. The proof is reported to exist in blocks so that it cannot have been taken directly from the die. The fact that the original plates were prepared and the stamps printed by Waterlow Bros. and Layton, a separate company that was not amalgamated with Waterlow and Sons until the early 1920's,

suggests to the writer that the proofs were printed from the original plates of 50. Proofs of this stamp in various other colours, but without the overprint, were printed from the original plates; it seems likely that the proofs in various colours were also intended for publicity purposes and were not colour trials for selection by the Congo Administration of a suitable combination of colours.

15 Centimes Bilingual (1910), Waterlow Ref. No. S.T. 756

The centres were printed in black, the frames in wine-red.

The proof is known to exist in the following conditions:

- a) With nearly vertical overprint A2, perforated $12\frac{1}{2}$.
- b) With nearly vertical overprint A2, imperforate.

The centre plate is from the original die before it was retouched by strengthening of the spine of the palm frond during the course of the 1915 issue. The frame plate is from the original transfer roll before the damage to the G of Belge (this occurred prior to the preparation of Frame Plate IV and the booklet panes) or from a second transfer roll.

40 Centimes Bilingual, Waterlow Ref. No. unknown

The centres were printed in black, the frames in brown.

The only copy seen by the writer has horizontal overprint Type C and is imperforate.

The centres are from the original die with the white mark in the canoe and the irregular reflection of the prow.

From the solitary copy seen it can be said with certainty that the proof was not printed from the plates used for the issued stamps. It may originate directly from the dies or from special plates. By analogy, one is tempted to say that, again, a special sheet of nine impressions was used but this may not be so in this instance.

5 Francs Bilingual, Waterlow Ref. No. unknown

The centres were printed in black, the frames in green.

The only copy seen by the writer has oblique overprint, Type A1, and is imperforate.

The proof was not printed directly from the die, nor was it printed from the plates used for the issued stamps. There must have been a special plate prepared and one presumes that it was of the same nine impressions.

10 Francs Bilingual, Waterlow Ref. No. 1032

The centres were printed in black, the frames in blue.

The proof has been recorded only with oblique overprint, Type A1, imperforate.

The writer has not had the opportunity to inspect this proof. From a photograph in a sale catalogue, it appears that the dies were those of Waterlow Bros. and

Layton and used for the 1910 issue, not those by Waterlow and Sons for the 1918 Red Cross issue.

It is not possible for the writer to say if the proof was taken from the plates used for the 1910 issue, directly from the dies or from specially prepared plates.

Paper and Gum

All imperforate proofs, and those perforated 15 seen by the writer have been on paper of about the same thickness as that used for the issued stamps. Some, but not all, of the proofs perforated $12\frac{1}{2}$ are known on much thicker, almost card, paper.

Proofs perforated 15 have been seen with gum; complete sheets of the proofs perforated $12\frac{1}{2}$ have no gum. It appears likely that the sheets perforated 15 were gummed, those perforated $12\frac{1}{2}$ were not.

Perforation Curiosities

Sheets of the 5,10, 25 and 50 centimes and 1 and 5 francs values of the Etat Independent series exist with the most curious and bizarre perforations. A sheet of nine, perforated normally, has four vertical and four horizontal lines of perforations, the line perforations continuing through the selvedge on all sides. In these extraordinarily perforated sheets, the left vertical line of perforation is normal, extending the whole height of the sheet. The next vertical line extends upwards through the bottom selvedge, between Nos. 7 and 8, between Nos. 4 and 5 and stops at the horizontal line of perforation running between Nos. 1 and 4. The next vertical line extends downwards through the top selvedge, between Nos. 2 and 3, between Nos. 5 and 6 and stops at the horizontal line of perforation between Nos. 6 and 9. The right vertical line of perforation is normal.

The top horizontal line of perforation is normal, extending across the full width of the sheet. The next horizontal line extends through the left selvedge, between Nos. 6 and 9, between Nos. 5 and 8 and stops at the vertical line of perforation running between Nos. 7 and 8. The bottom line of perforation is normal.

Thus, the sheet of nine cosists of two horizontal pairs, imperf-between, two vertical pairs, imperf-between, and a single stamp, that in the centre, normally perforated on all four sides. The perforations are 15.

In the ordinary way, missing lines of perforation, resulting in pairs, imperforate between, and single stamps with imperforate margin, are the result of careless or unskillful operation of the line perforating machine. Perforation of these specially perforated sheets on the line perforating machine must have required the greatest skill and care; the machine had to be stopped at exactly the right time when the pins had perforated the paper as far as was required.

What was the purpose of perforating the sheets in this peculiar way? Imperforate-between pairs of postage stamps are of interest only to the collector and not to a government that is considering the purchase of stamps from a printer. No prospective purchaser of stamps would be interested in such tricks and would not be amused with the possibility of the stamps of his country being received partly perforated.

April, 1970

Was it a private endeavour by a perforating machine operator to demonstrate his skill? Waterlow and Sons printed bank notes and stamps under the greatest conditions of security to prevent theft of all material; even unused printing paper had to be accounted for. The machine operator would have had to return the partly perforated sheets to the store and his supervisor would not have thought the exercise as amusing as did the operator.

The writer is of the opinion that these special sheets were so perforated for demonstration by the perforating machine manufacturer to Waterlow of new machines, or of old machines fitted with some new gadget for stopping the machine at will.

Proofs of Later Issues

All the following are printed from the plates of 50 or 100 impressions used for the issued stamps. They all have oblique overprint Type A1 but, in the case of the perforated copies of 1,25f Congo seen, the word "SPECIMEN" is above and not below "WATERLOW & SONS LTD."

Belgian Congo

Leys (1925) 60c, Waterlow Ref. No. S.T. 1236. Colour - ultramarine.

Perforation a) 12½

b) imperforate

"Spitfire Fund" (1942) 10fr + 40fr, Waterlow Ref. No. S.T. 2011

Colour - violet. Predominance - French.

Perforation a) 12½

b) imperforate

"Palms" (1942) 50c, Waterlow Ref. No. S.T. 2009
Colour - brown. Predominance - Flemish
1,25fr, Waterlow Ref. No. S.T. 2006.
Colours - orange and black. Predominance - French.
2fr, Waterlow Ref. No. S.T. 2003.
Colour - greenish grey. Predominance - French.
10fr, Waterlow Ref. No. S.T. 2004.
Colour - carmine. Predominance - Flemish.
20 fr, Waterlow Ref. No. S.T. 2008.
Colour - brown and black. Predominance - Flemish
All the above exist with perforation a) 12.
b) imperforate

Railway (1948) 2,50fr, Waterlow Ref. No. S.T. 3069
Colours - blue-green frame, red-brown centre.
Perforation a) 12
b) imperforate

Ruanda Urundi

"Spitfire Fund" (1942) 10 fr + 40 fr, Waterlow Ref. No. S.T. 2010.

Colour - brown. Predominance - French.

Perforation a) 12½

b) imperforate

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"Palms" (1942) 75c, Waterlow Ref. No. S.T. 2005.

Colours - blue-green frame, sepia centre.

Perforation a) 12½

b) imperforate

20fr, Waterlow Ref. No. S.T. 2007 Colours - purple and black Perforation a) 12½

b) imperforate

Waterlow Reference Numbers

The reference numbers are clearly not those of the dies; for the bicoloured stamps there were two dies and there was only one number.

Assuming that the numbers were allocated in sequence, they cannot have been given to the issued stamps. The 40c Etat Independant (1896) has No. S.T. 1219 and 60c Leys (1925) No. 1236; during that period, 1896 to 1925, Waterlow produced more than 16 different stamps for the Congo alone and they were producing stamps for many other countries.

The writer is of the opinion that the number is that of the Publicity Sample, the letters ST indicating that it was a sample of a stamp. Maybe the letters "BN" stood for bank note and other letters for the other printed products of which Waterlow would require samples for publicity purposes.

Acknowledgment

The writer wishes to express to Messrs. Robson Lowe Ltd. his sincere gratitude for the opportunity granted to him to inspect the sheets that they had for disposal and for the information on the Waterlow Reference Numbers.

DIE PROOFS AND ESSAYS

The following die proofs have been seen:

Congo 1942 Spitfire Fund with French predominant, in violet.

Ruanda 1942 Spitfire Fund with French predominant, in brown.

Both the above are in the colours of the corresponding Publicity Proofs.

The following essays have been seen, all of the 1942 "Palms" issue:

Congo 50fr with centre of the 100fr issued stamp. Frame in deep blue, centre in bistre.

Ruanda 50fr with centre of the 100fr issued stamp. Frame in violet, centre in sepia.

Ruanda 100fr with centre of the 50fr issued stamp. Frame in red-orange, centre in black.

STANLEY ISSUE

In an early issue of the Bulletin there was described a re-entry, partly doubled C of CONGO and B of BEIGE, on stamp No. 1 of Plate 1 of the 10 centimes value.

A second re-entry on the same value has been found with all the letters of the upper CONGO partly doubled; the diagonal white line of the N has an interrupted coloured line down the middle. The exact position in the sheet is unknown but it must come from Plate 2 and from the second horizontal row (tall stamps), Nos. 21 to 40 in the sheet.

THE IDOLS ISSUES

In recent issues of the Bulletin, the Secretary has described his studies of these stamps. The study of the 1,50fr Congo and of the 1,50fr, 3,50fr, 10fr, 20fr, 50fr and 100fr Ruanda is incomplete because of lack of material. Would members who have copies of the above stamps be so kind as to allow the Secretary a sight of them. He will keep them for only a very short time. And if anyone has a bottom right corner copy, or better, a corner block of the 2,50fr Ruanda or the same with the 3fr surcharge that would be a great help; any stamps with bottom margin might help.

EXTRACTS FROM PERIODICALS

La Revue Postale Nos. 70 to 77

Congo - Cinquante Ans d'Histoire Postale - Addendum.

It is pleasing to see that La Revue Postale is taking a leaf from our book'. The need for the addenda started with Bulletin No. 18 has now disappeared and we are delighted to see it continued in La Revue. To date pages 1 to 249 have been dealt with, much new information having been forthcoming.

La Revue Postale Nos. 74-75-76

Les Timbres Surcharges lors de l'Independance du Ruanda Urundi - C. Celis.

The author lists the various stamps overprinted for use in Ruanda and Burundi, with information on the different settings of overprint that existed, and the varieties of overprint that may be found. An interesting study.

OFFICER

POST WARRS OF BELGIAN CONGO AND RUANDA URUNDI

Latitude andlongitude are given to the nearest five minutes as far as can be ascertained. Longitude is always east of the Greenwich meridian.

The Provinces of Belgian Congo are :-

Province de Loopoldville

Province d' Equateur

Province Orientale

Province de Kivu

Province de Kasai

Province de Katanga

The Residencies of Ruanda Urundi are :-

Ruanda

Urundi

Post Offices are classified according to status :=

P - Perception (principal post office)

S - Sous-perception (subsidiary post office)

B - Bureau auxiliaire (auxiliary post office)

Each Sous-perception and Bureau auxiliaire is responsible to a Perception.

The dates "from" are of opening of the post office, of its transfer to a different status or of its transfer to a different Perception. The dates "to" are of the closing of a post office, of its transfer from its present status or of its transfer from the Perception to which it has been responsible.

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	Equateur	Katanga Orientalo Kivu	Kasei	Kasai	reo c	1	Katanga Equateur		Katanga	3	Kesai	erranerio	0.00	Equateur	1		Equateur Leo	Leo	Leo	•	Leo		i de	FROVINCE
	លល់	ប្រមាល	្ ម ល	ဗေ	ರ ೮೦ ೬	n Co	ម្ន	K/a	ಶ	d to	co .	ט פֿר	יסיו מ	ស ៤	5 2 (ㅂ	ta ta	ਜ਼ਿ	ካ መ	(2)	ᅜ	₽ď I	w.	STAT
33	31, 1,36 20,7,40 21,9,48	23,8,49 1,1,06	95°27°4°	1.6.14	18,6,98	1,8,51	5.3.12		23,7,52	31.7.36	1,6,01	1,1,28	15,1,29	1.2005	84,01,48	22°7°36	21,1,98	1933	5°11°53	1,1,30	1,1,22	1,6,2,	30,7,12	FROM
	20,7,40	1.8.08	n të	3.8.14	1,6,01		16,10,14 1,8,51			19,10,53	1,2,09	101040	ם מ י	15,1,29	1	26,10,48	15,9,98 00,05		55.55 55.55	1935	1,1,30	1933	1,6,2,	TO
	COQUILIATVILLE 1	STANLEYVILE 1	IULUAEOURG 1	ESTAN TIMPA TITTE	CERT ABATINDES	BOENDE PANTNOVIII	BOEWDE	ALEGRAVILLE 1	TO TOTAL	PORT FRANCQUI		.6	Q	E natvang	LIBENCE	3		8	LUMA	BOMA	BOMA	0		FERCIEPTION
	e	Transferred to AVAKUBI		100 100 100 100 100 100 100 100 100 100	Transferred to DASONGU		×	3.20	5 9		Transferred to DIMA	**	8				Transferred to LIBENCE		Name changed to TSHELA	Name changed to BANGA-TSHELA		Name charged to HANNINGVILLE	S. S.	NOTES

VZNVEDE	BOZENE	OTOTOSOT	PONYCHIVENOET	BONDO	TILLOG	63	BOMA 7	BOLOBO	BOKUIGU	BOGA BOGONO BOKOTE	BOENDE	BILILI BINGA BISHUSHA	PILL	POST OFFICE
	3 ^o osn	NST _o 7	1°25N	3°45N	Toton	2°20N	5°50s	1°25W 1°25W	0°30s	1°25N 0°05S	య్రం	4°25S 2°30N	NOTo 7	LATO
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Urundi	Equateur	Equateur	Equateur	Equateur	Orienta le	Equateur	Leo	Leo Equateu r	Equateur	Orientale Orientale Equateur	Ruanda Equateur	Leo Equateur Kivu	Orientale	PROVINCE
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	12,7,56 16,3,57	22, 7, 36	9,8,50	10,4°23	16,5,57	4°12°26	1,1,86 4,12,56	25°1°12 9°8°50	22°7°36	14,10,11 1,11,13 9,8,50 25,2,5	1.7.13	\$ \$ \$ \$ \$ \$ \$ \$ \$ \$ \$ \$ \$ \$ \$ \$ \$ \$ \$	23.8.49	FROM
	16,3,57		25,256	50231	\$ (C)	26,6,54	4,12,56	25,2,56	3.8.53	1,2,13 25,8,17 25,2,56	31.8.15 1.2.29		1.2.55	당
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	×	E at	**			,	Name changed to BOMA 1			Transferred to IRUMU				NOTES
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COQUITHATVILLE	CHUIUS FRANCOIS-JOSEPH	CATTIER CHARLESVIILE	BUTTENBO	EUTA EUTA	BUSU-DJANOA	BURUHI	BUNYAKIRI		BUNIA	BUMBA		BULUNGU BUKAYUI 3			ē	BUKAVU		ВОКАМА	BUDJALA	POST OFFICE
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Equateur	Leo	Leo Kasei	Kivu	Squateur Orientale	Equateur	Equateur	Kivu		Orientale	Equateur		Lec				Kdvu		Katanga	Equateur	PROVINCE
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22,10,58	5,12,05	Ηş	8,2,44	3.3.22				4.01.045	9,11,29	1,9,24		26.8.44	×	25,1,55	1.10.27	28,7,27	i f	17.10.18	29,6,48 16,3, 57	TO
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Renamed COQUILHATVILLE ?	£	T T		383			e e e e e e e e e e e e e e e e e e e	y			5 11 0			Name changed to BUKAVU 1	Name changed to CCSTERMANSVI		SAUNTERIA ELVII EU-0-10 EO Jo.	Post Office temporarily tran	9	NOTES

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	Ka'tenga	Orientale Orientale Orientale Orientale	Equeteur	Orientale	Leo Kasai Orientale Equateur	Kerranga	Kasei Orientale Kasei Leo	Orientale Kasei	Kivu	PROVINCE
	ម្រាលប្រាស្ត្រ	ម្នាលម្ន	정보호	ខ្មាល	ਰਿਲਾ ਸ਼ਿਲਾ ਸ	យយល	ਖ਼ ਨਾ ਜ਼ ਯ ਸ	ម្ន	ਰਿਹਾ ਹ	STAT
Š	19.6.47 19.6.47 19.6.47 5.4.51 1.3.56 15.12.57 2.3.59	23,8,49 1,7,08 24,7,36 10,11,42	8.8.56 16.3.57	22, 9, 48 30, 4, 51 24, 7, 36	15.09 6.2.55 5.55 5.55	2,11,58	24-1-51 30-10-52 1-3-27 31-7-36 26-1-50	23,8,49	22°10°58 22°10°58 1°10°57	FROM
52	22,11,17	11.4.34	16.3.57	30,4,51	28,10,31 22,9,48	2,11,58	1.4.28 16.7.42	24.1.51		TO
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	Henemed Hilbarethy Liber. 7	Down and Try TO ADDITION OF THE A	950	*			Transferred to BAMBILI	known as COSTERMANSVILLE	From lo10.27 to EUE	NOTES

INCISI	THEM	TIEBO	TRELLA		VAOIGI.	***************************************		CUNGU.	GUMBA-MOBIEKA	GUMBA (MONGALA)	COMPE MANADT	GONDE	COMBARI	GOMA 2	COMO 2	lkS	COMA	TIED		Carliff True	CHANNING TAN		FIZI		THEST	DOMINA	FARADJE		POST OFFICE
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Leo	Equateur Leo	Kasai	ಸಾೂಇ ಇಗರಿನ್ನ		Leo Lantale		A	Lao	meteupi	Equateur	60	Equateur	Orientale				Kivu	Orientale	52.0	TUBBERTER	Masal		Kivu	53	Leo	Leo	Orientalo		PROVINCE
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12,11,31	22070	15,8,26	22,7,36	27,2,44	240705	2,11,58	E i	24.7.36	1,11,28	24.00.56	当らいつの元の	10,2,48	1,11,22	16,8,58	16,8,58	1,12,39	23,3,36	1.4.54	16.3.57	Z Z	74 L CC	7,5,52	31.7.36	23.8.51	24.7.36	10°20	24.7.36		FROM
	25,2,42	23,12,26	30.7.48	2,11,58	27.2.44		2,11,58		20,1,56			1.10.28	3,3,36			16.8.58	1,12,39		100000	10 10 TO	A 7	H	7.5.52		23.8.51		15,9,55		ō.
COSOTTWATTATTORS 9	WATADL ?	HOENDE	0	KIKWIT 1	KIKIVIT	TOTOFA	KIKNITY 1	KIKWII	COCHTHATVILLE	LISALA	PATTINE 1	WAITSA	160	GOMA 1	8	ġ		BUNIA		T.T. viewers	TOPUTA	BUKAYU 1	BUTTEMBO	KIKWIY	KIKNTI	BANININGVILLE	WAISA		NOTLEECHER
	ě	Renamed PORT-FRANCQUI			Transperie of Date	77777	O.€	8			AND THE PROPERTY OF THE PARTY O	Transferred to Tauali				Renamed COMA 1			15	d.		141				*x			NOTES

KADUNGA KAFAKUMBA		KADONGO			KABINDA			KADARE		KARAMBARIS		KALMIO				KABALLA	JADHOTVITLE 2	JADOTVILLE 1	JADOTVILLE			52,0	ISANGI	3		IRUMU	IREKO			IREBU			INONGO	FOST OFFICE
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Kivu Katanga	¥	Katenge			Kasei			Kivu		Kivu	ć	Katanga			1	Katanga			Katanga			120	Orientale			Orientale	Leo			Equateur			Leo	PROVINCE
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21,5,53	28,8,50	24.7.36	12.2.30	1,2,29	1,6,12	1.7.58		31.7.36	6,12,54	31,7,36	6°7°27	1.9.14	6.7.27	14,10,25	1,11,22	22,4,22	4.1.55	4.01.055	1931	1,2,55	25,1,52	14,10,47	24.07036	15,4,56	1,10,22	1.2.13	4.11.57		1,10,28	1,2,06	1,8,29	1,1,12	1,1,06	FROM
21,4,16		28,8,50	4.4.45	12,2,36	1,2,29					6,12,54	4	6,7,27	5.50	6.7.27	14,10,25	1,11,22			4.1.55		1,2,55	25,1,52	14.00.47		15,4,56	1.10.22	p			1,9,15	1	1.8,29	1,1,11	TO
Bukavu 1	Kamina Kamina	Bukama		8		Bukevu 1	Bukavu	Butembo	Kasongo	Kalima	8		Kabalo				Jadotville 1	D	6	Yangambi 1	Basoko	Stanleyville 1		Bunie	ŧ		Inongo	Coquilhatville 1	Coquilhatville	7.5	8		175	PERCEPTION
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KASINDI	KASENYI	KASANGULU KASENGA	KARAWA		KAPANGA	KANGU	KAMPENE	KAMINA BASE MILITAIRE 2 KAMITUGA	BASE MILITAIRE		i	SAMENA.	×	EVORING	KAMAWA KAMAWA	KALOLE	KALIMA	KVITEHE	77 TO	KVHIMBA	FOST OFFICE
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1,9,14	7.10.33		16.3.57	17,5,58		20011022			10.11.53	מפעי	19.3.35	1,1,29	104.024	13,11,13	ToTCoTO		ē,		4	2 11 58	To
YUMBI	PATRICAL STATES (*)		LISALA	DILOIO	KAMINA DILOLO	BOMA 1	KINDU	KAMINA HASE MILITAINE 1 BUKAVU 1	KALLINA	BUNHMA	Di REANA	JADOTVILLES 1	8	ille out	KABINDA	KINDU	TEOPOINGTIES-KALTWA	EUKAVU 1	IDIOFA	KIRWIT 1	PERCEPTION
Transferred to RUISHURU						::	i.	TE 1	Renamed KANINA BASE MILITAIN												NOTES
RUISHURU	37 S	, , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , ,	8					5	HASE MILITAIL			(**									

KINWIT 1	KIKNII	KUKORDJA		KIGULUBE		LTST.	K.LENIAL KATOOMOO	ST THE THE THE	KCIBOTEO	KIBARSI (INKISI)	080	KIANZI				KENGE 1	KENGE	ICIZU-IBA	(natora) oldaya	KATENGA	O and to take as the second of	KATANDA	E ATTANYA - THE TOWN		KATAKO-KONBI:		и	Kasongo 2	KASONGO 1		KASONGO	SOLUTION LEGAL
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2	7°7°23 20°12°32	15,11,14	1,10°B	2.5.57		11,6,16		4700044	126056	4.12.56	2,11,58	4,12,56	1,1,21	1.6.12	20,10,58	20,10,58	1.4.50	1.9.55	17.5.58	4.12.56	51,59	15.9.55	2000 2000 2000 2000 2000 2000 2000 200	of notes	31.7.36	20,11,51	24.7.36	.0	2	1.1.27	25,7,10	PROM
	20,12,32	22,4,22		1,10,58					13.6.44	; ;		2,11,58	3,9,23	1,1,21			20,10,58				,	15.1.59		رزەزەن	19,7,48		20,11,51			1	1.1.27	13
KIKMIT 1	B		BUKAVU 1	KALTMA	8	USUMBURA		KTCALT	William 3	INCISI	LDIOPA	KIKUTI			KIMIT 1	KIKWIT 1	KIRCHITY 1	TULUMBOURG 1	DEFFERRE	ALBERTVILLE 1	BAK ANGA 1	KABINDA	BUKAVII	しいない	TIES ALBO	INKISI	KIRTI		•	8		PERCEPTION
	,	Transferred to KABALLA		(a)	*				5			020				e e	Renamed KENGE 1						420						500	Renamed KASONGO 1		NOTES

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ALBERTVILLE

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18°35	2600	16°40		26015	,	24.35	24°35	,				24,35	>	20,25	· ·		23 15			21,025			29°30	LONG.
Tquateur	Leo Orientale	Teo OeT		Kivu		Orientale	Orientale					Orientale		Equateur			Orientale	Orientale	Leo	Kasai			Orientale	PROVINCE
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8,8,50	23.8.49	21,1,57	15,6,47	15.7.43	1,5,58	6.2.52	1,2,55	1,2,55	1,2,55	34	25.1.52	28,5,45	27.11.56	12.7.56	25,1,52	7.10.49	24.7.36	23.8.49	15,10,58	20.2.59	7.6.35	25.2.25	7.6.21	FROM
	1,2,55	; 1	1	15,6,47		1,5,58				1,2,55		25,1,52		27,11,56		25.1.52				v		7.8.35	25.2.25	TO
LIBENGE	BUTA	T STILACTORORI	ŧs		T STATUS I	STAN EXVILLE 1	YAIGAMBI 1	YANGAMBI 1	Ģ	8	BASOKO	T STITIVE CONTROL	BUMBA	VEDINE	BASOKO	STANDAYVILLE 1		BASOKO	INKISI	TUSA:TBO	4	VBV		PARCEPTION
		D 44								Renamed YANGA'BI L														NOPES
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