(p4 Lut, RJ) See page 15

Broup

A, 5, 7, 12, 15

for so 16

London Postal History Group

ROTEBOOK

No.20: December 1974

EDITORIAL

By sheer good fortune and readers' contributions, combined with other factors, we have managed to have a further edition of "Notebook "printed by the 'old firm'. However, estimates received from commercial sources for future issues are far from encouraging. Based on current paper costs (which went up 50% as this issue was going to press), the offset printers appear to employ a labor and overhead rate which STARTS FROM £10 PER HOUR - and we have had the nerve to complain about garage bills. Clearly there is an urgent need to consider the purchase of our own, or shared, equipment.

In the 'British Mailcoach 'we note mention of these costs of production and that alternative methods may have to be considered. At least twenty issues of postal history journals come our way in the course of a year and many times that number are no doubt produced throughout the country. Should not those interested get together and share both costs and benefits? It seems to be both sensible and practicable and is one we are actively following. Details of machines and cost of running have been requested from several manufacturers and we anticipate that early in the New Year firm proposals for resolving the problem can be put to all members of this Group and other Societies.

The wish for a Merry Christmas and Prosperous New Year has never been offered with more sincerity.

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PROGRAMME FOR 1975

January 18th:

The E.C. District

March 15th:

Annual General Meeting, followed by London Registration

and Railway Marks.

May 17th:

London Exhibitions.

August 9th:

Annual Auction.

October 4th:

The Massey Trials and Squared Circles.

December 6th:

The Unpaid Stamps of London.

Details and working papers, when possible, will be included in the issue of 'Notebook' immediately before the meeting.

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 London Precancels, A & H Type 1590
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 - 12 Apex Down
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 - 15 London Exchange
 Queen Victoria St., E.C.
- (c) 1974 London Postal History Group or named contributor

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PAID LONDON SHIP LETTER

The habit of filing articles of interest, cut from various philatelic journals, is all very well but after a number of years, the accumulation tends rather to discourage than otherwise. Collecting tastes change and with postal history established as number one, a start was recently made to 'weed out'; however, the 'keep that, it might be useful 'method prevented too violent a reduction in the pile but at least a number of unremembered items were re-read with much pleasure.

One such* was entitled "A London Ship Letter Posted at Bow", by Alan W. Robertson which gave a reasoned analysis of the marks. This was later disputed by W.G. Stitt Dibden who, in the course of his letter, said, "The number 12 stamp in diamond (in both its earlier horizontal format as seen in the illustration of the case in question and in its later vertical 'killer' format) was issued for use on mail passing through the Foreign Branch to or from the Inland Office via the famous loading tunnel that connected the two offices ".

Due to technical difficulties it is not possible to adequately reprint the cover in question which carried a strip of six penny plate, BA - BF, cancelled with the Inland 12 diamond and carrying on the front the PAID LONDON SHIP LETTER, this being in red.

The reference to the very particular function of the 12 in diamond is curious for a number of these have been noted, even in the Editor's limited collection of the type, which show not the slightest sign of getting near water or ships.

Can a reader produce documentary evidence to support the function attributed to the diamond 12 ?

*from ' Stamp Collecting Weekly ', cutting undated.

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LONDON PRECANCELS, A & H TYPE 1590

This type of cancellation was in use for a period of about sixty years. During this time, handstamps were distributed to many newspaper offices and distributing agencies like W.H. Smith. A great variety of handstamps were used with distin - guishing letters, numerals and bars or lines. The cancellation was normally applied to the wrapper prior to the printing of the newspaper or journal.



Has any reader a listing of the variations in this type of handstamp with a record of users and period of use?

Anyone interested in researching is invited to get in contact with

R.D.Lee, 23 St. Andrews Rd., Cranbrook, ILFORD, IG1 3PF

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CORRECTION

In 'Notebook' No.19, an error on page 4. Dubus series 24, amend 14 to 24 (with trace of outside ring)

POSTMARKS FROM A PRISON

It has often been said that London is too vaste a subject for a postal history study in depth. It is really necessary to take a limited area, geographical, time, or stamp and devote one's energies to researching as fully as possible.

Some while since one of the adverts. in 'Stamp Collecting' was for an example of Willcocks cat. 36, which had gone to another by the time the dealer had been contacted. The infrequency of the offers of this item suggest just how difficult a mark it is to get.

Apart from the collection of the stamps, the story of the prison and the stamps which are associated with it merit study and this brief version may serve as an introduction.

The prison started in 1294 as an abode for those found guilty of offences against the King's person, being resited (the prison, not the King!!) outside the walls of the City at Southwark. By 1393 a licence was granted to the citizens of Southwark to build a suitable "house "(!) to hold 'the pleas of the Marshalsea of the King's household and to cater for the prisoners of the Marshalsea and all the other King's Courts '; this resulted in the two courts and the two prisons, 'The Marshalsea 'and 'The King's Bench'.

In 1624 the debtors of the King's Bench petitioned the King against their stay which, apart from general inconvenience, had resulted in eighty of their number starving to death. Despite this weighty argument, the prison was confirmed as a place for debtors and bankrupts to be held in until their debts be cleared.

In stark contrast to the obvious defects of the prison there appears to have been established a system of every day living remarkable by any standard, which allowed those with funds to live almost in a normal fashion.

The rebuilding of the prison was sanctioned by Act of Parliament in 1754, the work being completed in 1758. From a report dated 1761 we learn it was sited ' in a fine air ', though any spacious views which abounded were obscured by thoughtless authority placing an extremely high wall round the establishment.

With the passing of time, there grew up further buildings to house prisoners, both debtor & felon, mothers and children of prisoners and also to provide some form of employment.

Surrey R?

Belvedere R?

Suffork St

A Mewington R?

Westminiter & Belvedere Pl.

Resident Pl.

Tumpike

St Speorges R?

Landon R

A: Acceiving House

B: King's Bench

C: Marshalsea

----- Boundary of the "Rules"

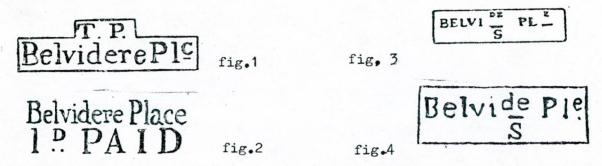
The map provides a rough picture of the area around the prison. The dotted line is the boundary of the "Rules", an area in which debtors who were able to pay a 'fee' to the Master of the prison were permitted to live and work. Many of these folk achieved almost normal life.

In 1820 the prisoners of the King's Bench (the title would change to Queen's in

Notebook No. 20 page 3

1837) and Marshalsea Prisons petitioned for postal services and this was granted by the establishment of a Receiving House at Belvedere Place.

It would appear the Receiving House had both Twopenny Post and General Post stamps. The first could no doubt have been as shown in fig.1, this general issue being introduced in 1819. According to Brumell, 1836 saw the issue of the type shown in fig.2 although this related to handling printed matter until 1840 and U.P.P. Two General Post stamps used are fig.3, R.M.W. dates 1819-38 and fig.4, R.M.W. dates 1823-30.



With the amalgamation of the Twopenny and General Post Receiving Houses, fig 5 appeared after 1838, with the larger version, fig.6 replacing this in the late 1840's. The final stamp, fig.7, came into service in 1857.

Belvedere Place

Belvedere Place



fig,5

fig.6

Established by Act of Parliament, another Act of 1842 abolished The Fleet and Marshalsea Prisons, leaving the Queen's Bench Prison as the sole depository for debtors and bankrupts.

1869 saw dawning realisation of the difficulties for a debtor to eliminate his liability by remaining in prison and an Act was passed to reflect this.

The Belwedere Receiving House carried on however, there still being considerable demand for its services from the inhabitants of the former "Rules", but in 1879 all the buildings were knocked down, including the postal facility, thus bringing nearly five hundred years of history to a close.

Acknowledgement:

This article is founded on 'Stone Walls Do Not a Prison Make 'by the late W.G. Stitt Dibden in 'Stamp Magazine for March 1857. Additional data has been drawn from Brumell's 'Local Posts of London 1680-1840 '(a reprint of this very useful book is available, and also the Willcocks Postal History Catalogue, all readers having a copy!

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FURTHER INFORMATION.....

is sought on the markings. It is worth noting the spelling changed in the hand stamps from BELVIDERE to BELVEDERE. There may well be other stamps employed at the Office, to say nothing of a varity of inks. Readers fortunate enough to have material are invited to send details for a supplement to the article.

page 4

EC or RJ, Further Information from Abbot Lutz.

Readers may recall that in answer to an enquiry, a number of members offered the opinion the stamp was a smudged EC, this being duly recorded. However, Abbot Lutz offers further data in support of his RJ 51 and his letter is quoted, in part, below.

".....I can't accept (that it is an EC) and will go down fighting.

Here is a measurement comparison in millietres

Circle diameter	12	12	11
Letters, width	7½	$7\frac{1}{2}$	7
Letters, depth	4	6	41/2
Numbers, width	6	6	41/2
Numbers, depth	$2\frac{1}{2}$	42	4 1 2
coding	EC/31	EC/51	RJ/51

I remember seeing this strike illustrated in a magazine about five or so years ago, either PJGB or The Philatelist.



Saw Michael Goodman in London in September and he advised how the problem was solved. When Notebook 18 arrived I went to work on

the theory and find it does not hold water, neither does it hold with the measurements...."

In view of the mention of previous publication, would readers please look through backnumbers they may have to try and identify the item. Even if it does not resolve the positive identification, it was add a little light.

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EARLY USE OF DIAMONDS

There has been little response with early dates, though Brian Smith writes in with the following:

Dubus No.	Obliterator No.	Earliest Date
17a	1	27.5.1844
19	3	20.5.1844
22	6	25.5.1844
24	8	23.5.1844

In the latest issue of British Mailcoach the early dates enquiry also goes ahead. Surely members from both organisations can improve on the dates quoted so far. Please drop a note direct the Brian Smith,

41 Cranleigh Drive, SWANLEY, Kent. BR8 8NZ.

Notebook No. 20 page 5

REWRITING THE RECORD FOR THE INLAND OFFICE

B.P.E. this year provides further copy on page 10, but it also yielded for those who collect Inland Office a very nice ' find '.

As with so many treasures, this item was very nearly missed, coming from a dealer



not associated with postal history; indeed there was but one small box on offer.

Since the cover carried an adhesive in conjunction with the embossed and both were cancelled by different numbers, it was purchased. Not until the time came for it to be mounted and written up was it appreciated the envelope carried a 21 IN THE FIRST SERIES.

Reference to the identification of a 22 in this first series was made in Notebook 15, with confirmation in number 16. Here we have 21 to complete (?) the series. The envelope is backstamped with the London single ring AJ/FE-18/1846 in black & a DERBY/FE 19/1846/A double arc in blue.

The oft repeated statement that the first series of Inland Office diamonds was numbered 1 to 20 is WRONG. The series was at least EXTENDED to 22, if not issued as such in the first place since we have 22 recorded on 17.7.1844.

How many others have owned this item without appreciating the significance is amusing to consider and a reminder not to assume that everything is known and recorded. The importance of checking and reporting evrything cannot over stressed.

The writer will have to start taking his own advice!

AUCTION REALISATIONS

One of the best investments to be made is in the catalogues of first class auctioneers. Apart from the opportunity of sometimes being fortunate to secure an item one has a record of what has been on offer and the price someone was prepared to pay at the time. Further, many catalogues are works of art in themselves and are well worth keeping for the quality of illustrations alone.

WHAT THE AUCTIONS TELL....

Robson Lowe: 2nd. May, 1974

Lot	Description	Valuation 1	Realisation
1253	1760 (c.) E. to Chelsea showing a superb "PAYD/ PENY/POST" of the Temple Office, Time mark of the Westminster Office and boxed "BROWN" Receiver's h.s. ** to ***	€ 35	€ 75
1266	1698 E.L. from France to London showing on reverse "OC/24" Bishop Mark ***	€ 25	unsold,
1279	1796 E.L. from France to London showing on reverse oval framed "PP/1796" (part torn away) and "DE/19" Bishop Mark ** to ***	€ 20	€ 37
	1279 1253 1266		
1430	1900 2d. Registered env. with addl. ld. lilac, to Glasgow, each cancelled with "REGISTERED/47 CANNON ST " skeleton cds scarce	€ 15	€ 12
	CANNO 1430		

Robson Lowe:1st. August,1974

1251	1794 E. showing "WATLING/ST 1" ** to *** and the scarce experimental circular framed "Crown/PY POST/PAID"(W164)	,	7 5	€ 90
1254	1794 and 1800 E.L. each showing circular framed "W" in black * to *** (W255)	£	25	£ 18
1246	1689 an interesting report on proceedings at the House of Commons and House of Lords, showing "POST/PAYD/PENY" of Westminster Office and circular framed "W/Af/8",* to ***. An early Government type.		90	£145

Readers are invited to forward examples from other auctions which they find of interest for publication in Notebook.

Notebook No. 20 page 7

THE " PARTINGTON " MARK, by Alf Kirk

From time to time the name of Partington crops up in 'Notebook', but never his address. Some five years ago I became interested in this mark and after some research came to the conclusion I had found the missing address. Those of you who know the mark will, I feel sure, have noticed it is made from printers type and not the usual wood, this being the construction of so many early stamps.

From the "New Complete Guide to London" I found that a Richard Partington, Stationer, lived at 58 Holborn from 1752 to 1783, that is within the dates known for this mark. 58 Holborn Hill is shown as a General Post Receiving House in Cary's 1791 pocket map of London (Notebook 13, p.18). I could not find Holborn Hill on a contemporary map but I did discover Holborn from Snow Hill to St. Giles was known as Holborn Hill; this was, of course, before the Holborn Viaduct was built.

Whilst it is, so far, only supposition, it is reasonable to suggest that 58 Holborn Hill could have been the address of Partington.

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MIS-SORT MARKS, additional data from Alf Kirk

With reference to the list of mis-sort marks in Notebook No.19, page 5, I would mention I have two of these for South Western District which both show the letter 1 R 1, not mentioned in the list.

These are both addressed to 25 Cromwell Road West. The first is dated 12th.Nov. 1880, postmarked W.C./2 with S.M.P. in the date circle (Westley fig.22a). It is back stamped with two cds for London S.W., both dated 12th.Nov.,1880, one being coded MY above the date, the other 7. Printed on the flap in blue is the word LYCEUM, probably the theatre of that name. The other envelope is dated 20th.April, 1882 and the postmark is Chelsea with the upright oval and 11 in the circle (Westley fig.129). The back stamp is Earls Court and the letter is addressed from 27 Cheyne Walk S.W.

DUBUS, LONDON CANCELLATIONS.

Members are reminded the Group purchased both volumes of this superb work, which whilst invaluable to the production of Notebook are intended to have a much wider use.

Should you wish to borrow a volume please contact the Editor who will arrange for delivery, either at a meeting or through the post. Since the latest asking price is £35 the pair it will be appreciated just how valuable an addition this work is for the Group and that those using the books will exercise their usual care.

APEX UP... Query answered.

Notebook 19, page 14: A number of readers have answered the query as to the use of the particular triangular. Rubber proof impression books all show Scots triangulars after 1907 with a line across, the design apparently not being extended to the English series. The number in the illustration is thought to be 159, for Glasgow, since mail from Quebec by Paquebot would tend to land there.

CHARGE MARKS.....

There was a very fine selection of these included in the Robson Lowe sale on the lst. August, too good to pass unremarked. We are showing some 12 of the items as they were illustrated in the catalogue, with the realisations given below.

1263 4 02.alin/p.102	1266 1 0z.at 5/4/20142
32 02. ut 1/8 per 02	02 ugli/1 ter 02
2 0z a! 10/-per0z	0z.at t2 -per0z
1272 12 1/2 for day	1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1
13/4 Oz at 14/- be 192	Oz.at 12/-/cr02
10-145/4per02	276 / Oz at 8/8 ber Oz F. S

Lot No.	Realisation	Lot No.	Realisation
1263	£35.00	1266	£42.00
1267	£50.00	1268	£67.50
1270	£55.00	1271	£46.00
1272	£85.00	1273	£27.00
1274	£77.50	1275	£46.00
1276	£27.00	1277	£34.00

POST OFFICE ACCELERATORS

Readers may be puzzled by the term 'accelerator 'in connection with the postal servies; the notice reproduced below (by courtesy of Post Office Records) gives fairly explicit reasons for its being, although no idea of the actual vehicle.

POST OFFICE ACCELERATORS.

To convey the Letter Carriers from the General Post Office, St. Martin's-le-Grand, to their respective Walks, and to be in attendance at the door of the Letter Carriers' Office every Morning at 8, or such time as may be required.

ROUTE.

- No. 1.—To proceed through Newgate-street, Holborn, Oxford-street, and Edgeware-road, in .25 minutes, including setting down the Letter Carriers at places where directed.
 - 2.—Through Newgate-street, Holborn, Oxford-street, to Cavendish-square, in 20 minutes, including setting down Letter Carriers as above.
 - 3.—Through Newgate-street, Holborn, Oxford-street, Portman-square, to Montague-street, in 25 minutes, including setting down Letter Carriers as above.
 - 4.—Through Newgate-street, Holborn, Oxford-street, to Wimpole-street, in 23 minutes, including setting down Letter Carriers as above.
 - 5.—Through Fleet-street, Strand, Regent-street, Piccadilly, to Hyde Park Corner, and Grosvenor-place, in 27 minutes, including setting down Letter Carriers as above.
 - 6.—Through Fleet-street, Strand, Regent-street, and to Down-street, Piccadilly, in 25 minutes, including setting down the Letter Carriers as above.
 - 7.—Through Fleet-street, Strand, Pall Mall, to St. James's-street, in 20 minutes, including setting down the Letter Carriers as above.
 - 8.—Through Fleet-street, Strand, Charing Cross, Parliament-street, Great George-street, through the Park to Pimlico and Grosvenor-place, in 30 minutes, including setting down the Letter Carriers as above.
 - 9.—Through Goswell-street to Islington, Pentonville, King's Cross, Euston-square, Tottenham-court and New-road, to the Yorkshire Stingo, in 30 minutes, including setting down the Letter Carriers as above.
 - 10.—Through Cheapside, Cornhill, Aldgate, Minories, Tower-hill, East Smithfield, Ratcliff-highway, Back-lane, St. Georges East, Ratcliff Cross, and Queen-street, Lime-house, in 30 minutes, including setting down the Letter Carriers as above.

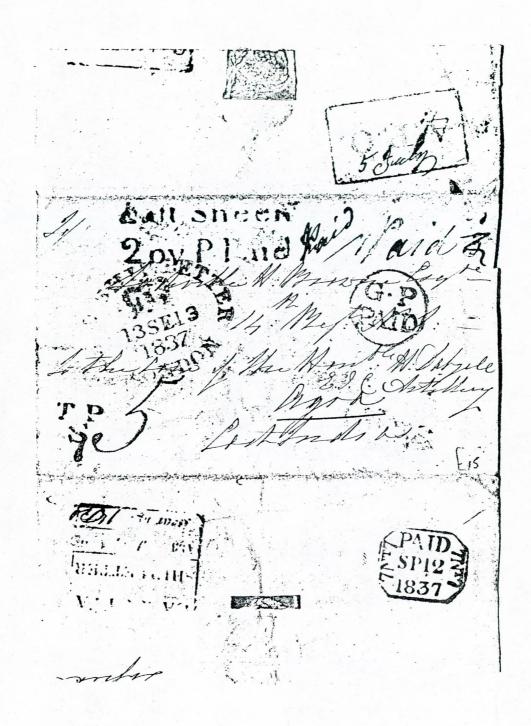
The 'accelerator 'was a horse drawn vehicle, carrying a dozen or so letter Carriers to the start of their rounds. Rather as with certain buses today, the 'accelerator 'did not stop, merely slowed, and the laden Letter Carrier, with his heavy load was obliged to leave a 'moving vehicle '.

The Post Office took the design of a public omnibus called a "Shillibear ", introduced into London, as the basis for their own vehicle, which came into operation a few months later in September 1829.

No doubt the 'accelerator' did just what the name implies in as far as the delivery of the mails was concerned, but the need for distributing the Letter Carrier before he distributed his letters vanished with the division of London into postal districts in 1856. The new Sorting Offices, as soon as they were established, did their own sorting and the delivery started from the S.O. and not the single office in St. Martins.

The final curtain was not rung, however, till 1908 when the last * accelerator * finished its work.

A COLORFUL PIECE



The item illustrated above results from the kind co-operation of Messrs. Stanley Gibbons Ltd., on whose stand in was found at B.P.E. this year.

The point of interest is the T P / S applied in an identical shade of red ink to that used for the PAID lozenge. As can be seen, there is a wide range of other marks, but what is the significance of that particular one? Suggestions range from the serious one of a French transit mark to a somewhat frivolous Twopenny Post Ship Letter (this is not authority to quote Notebook as the source).

Constructive suggestions or positive identification would be most welcome.

POSTMARKS OF THE LONDON E.C. OFFICES, by Jeremy Greenwood

As has already been stated in previous articles, September 1905 saw the issue of a large number of new or replacement hand stamps (including those for use in Pearson Hill machines) which are listed in proof impression books for the London E.C. Offices, that have recently come to light, together with explanations of their mode of employment.

The double ring hand stamp was issued between September 12th. and 15th. with different code numbers at the base, for the following duties.

1 - 4	Chief Office town window collections
5	Long letters from the larger branch offices
6	as 5, but also on later collections from branch offices
7 - 11	Long letters from the smaller B.O.'s, T.S.O.'s (town and/or telegraphic sub-offices) and P.B.'s (pillar boxes)
12	Unobliterated correspondence out of collections
13 - 17	Pearson Hill macine stamps used on correspondence from larger B.O.'s
19 - 23) 25 - 28)	Correspondence from larger B.O.'s
29 - 32	Pearson Hill machine stamps for use on correspondence from smaller B.O.'s, Telegraphic S.O.'s and P.B.'s
33 - 47	as for 29 - 32
48	Used at the Prudential Company's office
49 - 52	Correspondence from smaller B.O.'s, T.S.O.'s, and P.B.'s
53 - 56	as 49 - 52, but Saturdays only
57 - 59	Rendezvous calling, Chief Office country window collections - date before month - time code 8 p.m. only
60 - 62	11.45 a.m. country collections for North-West mid day mail. Date before month. Unobliterated letters out of country collections
64	On check letters
65	12.45 p.m. late fee letters from the country
66 - 67	7.30 p.m. country late fee letters at the Chief Office
68 - 73	Collections from larger B.O.'s. Later required for evening duty
74	Collections from larger B.O. s
75	as 74, also for evening duty and Saturday afternoons
76	Unobliterated correspondence out of collections
77	as 76 found amongst district correspondence
78 - 87	Long letters from smaller B.O.'s, T.S.O.'s, and P.B.'s
89 - 92	Collections from smaller B.O.'s, T.S.O.'s and P.B.'s
93 - 103	ditto, but 89 - 103 were for the 6 p.m. collection only, with 6.45 p.m. clock time and 89 - 98 were also used on Saturday afternoons
104-105	as 89 etc, but for the 7 p.m. collection, with 7.45 p.m. clock time
106-109	Saturday afternoons on unobliterated correspondence from collections

page 12

- 110 111 Throgmorton Avenue office
- 112 113 Mark Lane B.O., Monday Friday 5 to 5.30 p.m. collections
- 114 115 Lombard St. B.O., Monday Friday 4.15 to 5.15 p.m. collections
- 116 118 Sent to Assistant Comptroller with registration paper (?)
- 145 146 Chief Office country collections, 7.30 to 8.15 p.m.
- 147 171 Used on Newspapers but it was decided by the Secretary to suspend stamping $\frac{1}{2}$ d matter with date stamps for 6 months from 14th August 1905. Later they were used as reserve obliterating stamps, as desired.

Acknowledgement

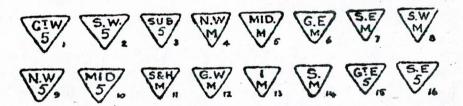
The above information has been compiled from the London E.C. proof impression books; access to which was kindly made possible by Mr. A.R. de Righi, Curator of the National Postal Museum, prior to their being sent for repair and binding.



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APEX DOWN

Readers may be interested to have a note of the use of a selection of the apex down triangular marks which were taken from proof impression books dated 1876.



- 1. Inland Branch, Morning Duty.
 - Used on letters missorted to the Great Western Division and transferred to the General Sorting at the times inidcated. Also with the numbers 6 & 7.
- 2. As above, in the South Western Division. Also with numbers 6 & 7.
- 3. As above, in the Suburban Division, also with the numbers 6 & 7.
- 4. Inland Branch, Midnight Duty.

 Used on missorted letters received on midnight duty in the North Western Division.
- 5 to 8, 11 to 14. As above in the following Divisions respectively:

 Midland; Great Eastern; South Eastern; South Western; Suburban;

 Great Western; Irish; Scotch.
- 9,10,15,16. Inland Branch, Morning Duty.
 - Used on letters missorted to the Divisions and transferred to the General Sorting at the times stated.
 - North Western; Midland; Great Eastern; South Eastern; respectively.

This information is taken from "TPO", the official magazine of the T.P.O. & Seapost Society, Vol.6, No.5, dated Sept - Oct 1952, with appreciation.

LONDON E.C. DISTRICT

Our next meeting on January 18th. has a study of the E.C. District in prospect, being our first venture into a geographical area. Being so prolific in its range of stamps it should allow everyone to contribute.

"Dubus", "Westley", "Alcock & Holland" with magazine articles have been used to put together these working papers upon which it is hoped to prepare something for future publication. Only a few items are illustrated or even mentioned but what is included may serve to indicate something of the interest to be found.

To cite one instance of a query. Bernard Smith, from his new abode in the "wild "west, commented upon the use of the London EC single broken are with initial he had noted on the obverse of some correspondence addressed to Holland. Since it was not a PAID stamp, might one assume it acts solely as a datestamp, in which case why not as a backstamp? What is the significance of the initial?



Rowland Hill and his supporters - including most of the general public - had secured a loss making Uniform Penny Post (the loss aspect is usually overlooked) but as an administrator he improved the organisation - by way of compensation; in London the amalgamation of the District and General Posts, followed by the division of the capital into postal districts. From articles in 'Notebook', readers will be aware the use of district initials and sorting at District Offices was started late 1856, early 1857. It is a puzzle, therefore, why writers insist in treating the third series, which includes the

Cresswells, and which are known from 1857 only, as a series of the London District Post since that organisation no longer existed.

For convenience of study, E.C. stamps have been divided into the following:

- 1. Horizontal ovals; without datestamp; number in circle.
- 2. Upright ovals; with/without datestamp; number in circle.
- 3. Upright ovals; without datestamp; EC over number, in circle.
- 4. Upright oval; with/without datestamp; EC over number, in bars.
- 5. Upright ovals; without datestamp; EC over letter in bars.







2







page 14

- 6. Undated Namestamps. These were classified by Michael Champness in Notebook 8. A great many stamps will be transitional, being introduced as L.D.P. and carrying on into EC District.
- 7. Datestamps used other than as cancellations (A & H Section F)

 Shown below are a number of these stamps as described by A & H; the variations in design, color and periods of use to be recorded.









- n.b. only EC use noted by A & H are shown.
- 8. Paid Stamps including Officials (A & H Section G) note as for (7)







9. Registered Stamps (A & H Section J2)

Just three illustrations for these, which again include Branch Offices.



REGISTERED C 29 JU 97 LONDON.S.E.



- 10. Other Handstamps, for example those listed in recent articles by Jeremy Greenwood. Just how many of some of those oddities can be recorded in use?
- 11. Charge and Explanatory Stamps: anything which may be directed related to the EC district and not 'general issue 'types,i.e. they should bear some positive identifying allocation to the area.

Machine cancellations, which form a facinating study in their own right, have not been included in this listing, though they clearly form part of the story and will certainly be considered.

No final date has been given. Many regard as the mornings mail to be valid postal history.

THE LONDON EXCHANGE

Members are invited to advertise their wants, items for sale or exchange at the cost of dropping the Editor a line. If this edition carries one name rather more than others please correct by placing your own ad. now.

WANTED.....to purchase (or exchange for German material on or off cover)

London Penny/Twopenny Post or covers with a London E.C. or W.C.

cancellation. Payment by U.K. cheque.

E. Shaw, 2082 Uetersen/Holst., Hafenstrasse 8, Fed. Rep. of Germany.

WANTED......WOOLWICH, GREENWICH, DEPTFORD material 1801 - 1860, must be

*** to ****. Top prices paid.

P.A. Forrestier Smith, 6 Church Manor, Bps. Stortford, Herts.

WANTED......CARSHALTON, material and information required to
D.L. Franks, 107a Grosvenor Avenue, Carshalton, Surrey.

WANTED.....BISHOP'S STORTFORD, the duplex with 'before S, in use 1850's material or details of items recorded welcomed P.A. Forrestier Smith, 6 CM23 5AE.

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QUEEN VICTORIA STREET, E.C.

To quote from ' Postal Cancellations of London 'by H.C. Westley

"On 2nd August 1876, a single stamp numbered 16 was sent to Queen Victoria St., E.C., but this can be ignored. A Queen Victoria St. Office was certainly opened about 1876, on the site of the old Probate Registry, but it was solely a Savings Bank Office, and this stamp could not have been used for cancelling mail."

This would seem to clear up the question of the E.C. office, but not the use of the 16. to cancel the lilac.

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