

NOTEBOOK

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END OF THE YEAR.....

and the end of our fourteenth year of publication. We never quite managed to get the six issues a year and must be the only journal with just five erratic editions in the twelve months. Our very sincere thanks to all those who, over the years have provided a hundred pages of what we believe to be of no little interest.

The cost of producing " Notebook " has changed from the low cost of getting it done at work to using our present first rate professional printers. The sub. of £5 (which must be among the least expensive for a specialist group) does not cover the cost of ' Notebook ' and its distribution and the auctions and packet sale have more or less bridged the gap. Prompt payment of the due is helpful, we get a bit of interest if you pay early: if you have not yet paid and noticed a red cross on the last issue, please do remit by return of post.

A few members have asked for number 68. Please check and you will see the double issue should have been 67 and 68.

All the very best for Christmas and the New Year. Here's to new finds, good buys and the pleasure of showing them off to all of us in ' Notebook '.

BRITISH GOODS ARE BEST

Although one of the commonest of the early British slogans, this is undoubtedly also one of the most complicated. It had an unusually long life during which it overlapped with no less than ten other slogans (throughout the UK) and it was probably used at some time in virtually every single impression stamp cancelling machines in the country. Indeed, there is some evidence it was used in the same manner as the recent ' Postcode ' slogans - as an automatic replacement for wavy lines when no other slogan was in use. It is the intention here to try and unravel some of the complications and prompt members to fill in gaps and extend dates.

The use of the " British Goods are Best " slogan was from July 1925 to January 1927, during which time the slogan catalogue lists the following other slogans in use :

- 22 British Empire Exhibition 1925
March to August 1925, 30 dies Hey-Dolphin and Universal
- 23 Visit the Ulster Pavilion
May to October 1925, 2 dies Hey-Dolphin at Belfast
- 25 Join the Fellowship
March to August 1925, 5 dies Hey-Dolphin
- 27 Torchlight Tattoo (and its variants 28, 29, 30A-E)
August to October 1925, probably 35 dies Hey-Dolphin and Universal
- 34 Post Early for Christmas (1925 use)
1 - 23 December 1925, 100 dies Hey-Dolphin and Universal
- 35 British Industries Fair (1926)
December 1925 to February 1926, 12 dies Hey-Dolphin and Universal
- 37 Join the Kings Roll
September and October 1926, but to January 1927 at a few offices
50 dies Hey-Dolphin
- 38 Say it by Telephone
September 1926 to January 1927, 125 dies Universal
- 39 Post Early for Christmas (1926 use)
1 - 23 December 1926, 100 dies Hey-Dolphin and Universal
- 40 British Industries Fair (1927)
November 1926 to March 1927, 12 dies Hey-Dolphin
- 31 British Goods are Best
July 1925 to 1926, but to January 1927 at a few offices
200 dies Hey-Dolphin and Universal

Obviously this is a national listing and , as will be seen from the first listing, not all were used in London. Other slogans, 24, 24A, 26, and A34 were either specialised uses or did not continue in use until July 1925. It will be seen only between February and September 1926 did the " British Goods are Best " slogan hold undisputed sway.

The Hey and Dolphin machines are rather better documented at this period, so they will be considered first. The list below includes all Hey and Dolphin machines known to have been in use in London at any time during the period of use of "British Goods are Best " and indicates the slogans known to have been used in them.

Machine	22	23	25	27	34	35	37	39	40	31	Notes
London A					x		x	x		x	
London B					x			x		x	
London C					x			x		x	
London D				x	x		x	x		x	
London E				x			x	x		x	
London F				x			x	x		x	
London G	x				x				x	x	
London H					x			x	x	x	
London I	x				x		x			x	
London (no letter)							x	x		x	

British Goods are Best.....

Machine	22	23	25	27	34	35	37	39	40	31	Notes
London J	x			x				x		x	
London K	x			x	x		x	x		x	
London L	x							x		x	
London M	x				x		x			x	
London N							x			x	1
London E.C.A											
London E.C.B				x	x		x	x		x	
London E.C.C	x						x	x		x	
London E.C.D	x		x		x		x	x		x	
London E.C.E	x				x		x	x		x	
London E.C.F					x		x		x	x	
London E.C.G				x	x		x	x		x	
London E.C.H					x		x	x		x	
London E.C.I					x		x			x	
London E.C.K				x			x	x		x	
London E.C.P										x	
London F.S.L						x				x	
London F.S.M						x					
London F.S.N										x	
* London E.1 A							x			x	
London E.1 B				x			x			x	
London N.W.1				x			x			x	
London S.E.1D											
London S.E.1E							x			x	
London S.W.1A				x	x	x	x	x	x	x	
London S.W.1B	x				x		x			x	
London S.W.1C	x				x			x		x	
London S.W.1D								x		x	
London S.W.1E				x	x		x	x		x	
London S.W.1F											1
London W.1(No letter)	x		x		x		x		x	x	
London W.1A			x		x		x		x	x	
London W.1B				x	x		x	x		x	
London W.1C	x				x		x	x		x	
London W.1D							x			x	
London W.1E				x		x	x	x		x	
London W.1F	x								x	x	
London W.C. A				x						x	
London W.C. B				x	x		x	x		x	
London W.C. C				x	x		x	x		x	
London W.C. D	x			x	x		x	x		x	
Forest Gate E.7							x			x	1
Hackney E.8							x			x	1
Homerton E.9							x			x	1
Victoria Docks E.16							x			x	1
North Finchley N.12							x			x	
Hampstead N.W.3							x			x	
Kilburn N.W.6										x	
Willesden N.E.10											2
South Lambeth S.W.8							x			x	
Battersea S.W.11										x	1
* London E.1(No letter)				x							

Note 1: These machines, mainly model M machines, were all installed during late 1925 / early 1926. It seems likely they used the " British Goods are Best " slogan from the time of their installation.

2: Latest recorded date for this machine is 20.8.25. Use of the " British Goods are Best " seems unlikely.

British Goods are Best.....

The following list gives all slogans used between June 1925 and February 1927 in the Hey and Dolphin machines.

Machine	Type	Other Slogans/5W		British Goods		Notes
		Earliest	Latest	Earliest	Latest	
London (no letter)				8. 9.26		
	37	27. 9.26		8.11.26	11.11.26	
	39	1.12.26	16.12.26			
London A				21.10.25	10.12.25	
	34	12.12.25	23.12.25	13. 1.26	24. 9.26	
	37	28. 9.26		3.11.26		
	39	3.12.26	15.12.26	29.12.26	1. 1.27	
London B				25. 8.25	9.10.25	
	34	10.12.25	18.12.25	16. 2.26	2.11.26	
	39	7.12.26	16.12.26			
London C	5W	17. 6.25		26. 8.25	10.10.25	
	34	14.12.25	23.12.25	12. 1.26	25.11.26	
	39	1.12.26	22.12.26	13. 1.27		
London D	27	11. 8.25	10. 9.25			
	28	25. 9.25	7.10.25	10.10.25		
	30B	19.10.25	23.10.25	5.11.25	24.11.25	
	34	10.12.25	19.12.25	2. 1.26	6. 9.26	
	37	27. 9.26		4.10.26	18.10.26	
	39	13.12.26	17.12.26	31.12.26	3. 1.27	
London E	27	30. 7.25	2. 9.25			
	28	24. 9.25	7.10.25			
	30B	16.10.25	30.10.25	1.12.25	16. 9.26	
	37	27. 9.26		4.10.26	18.11.26	
	39	1.12.26	22.12.26	29.12.26	7. 1.27	
London F	27	5. 8.25	1. 9.25			
	28	24. 9.25				
	30B	24.10.25	28.10.25	2.11.25	6. 9.26	
	37	27. 9.26		4.10.26	19.11.26	
	39	1.12.26	17.12.26	31.12.26	14. 1.27	
London G	22	4. 4.25	18. 5.25	8. 8.25	10.10.25	
	34	10.12.25	22.12.25	2. 1.26	25.11.26	
	40	27.11.26	28. 2.27			
London H	5W	8. 6.25		14. 8.25	24. 9.25	
	34	4.12.25	23.12.25	9. 1.26	12.11.26	
	39	1.12.26				
	40	3.12.26	1. 3.27			
London I	22	22. 4.25	22. 7.25	24. 8.25	5.11.25	
	34	6.12.25	21.12.25	10. 2.26	4. 9.26	
	37	27. 9.26		7.10.26	19.10.26	
	39	13.12.26		11. 1.27	13. 1.27	
London J	22	16. 3.25	20. 4.25			
	27	4. 8.25				
	28			29. 9.25	29.11.26	1
	39	1.12.26	13.12.26	31.12.26	19. 1.27	
London K	22	22. 5.25	6.10.25	26. 9.25		
	28	28. 9.25	22.10.25			
	34	4.12.25	17.12.25	9. 1.26	19. 8.26	
	37	27. 9.26		10.11.26	19.11.26	
	39	3.12.26	13.12.26	22. 1.27		
London L	22	19. 5.25	11. 7.25	7. 9.25	13.11.26	
	39	3.12.26	20.12.26	20. 1.27		

British Goods are Best....

	Other Slogans/5W			British Goods		Notes
	Type	Earliest	Latest	Earliest	Latest	
London M	22	18. 3.25	3. 7.25	7. 8.25	16. 8.26	
	37	25. 9.26		5.10.26		
London N				16. 7.26	25. 9.26	
	37	27. 9.26		5.10.26	14.12.26	
London EC A						5
London EC B	27	22. 8.25	4. 9.25			
	28	5.10.25				
	30B	13.10.25	28.10.25	6.11.25	1.12.25	
	34	12.12.25	15.12.25	1. 1.26	22. 9.26	
	37	23. 9.26		29. 9.26	1.11.26	
	39	1.12.26	10.12.26			
	5W	7. 2.27				
London EC C	22	25. 5.25		11. 9.25	22. 9.26	
	37	23. 9.26		28.10.26	15.11.26	
	39	1.12.26	22.12.26	23.12.26	5. 1.27	
London EC D	22					1
	25	16. 4.25	15. 7.25	8. 8.25	3.12.25	
	34	10.12.25	22.12.25	5. 1.26	22. 9.26	
	37	23. 9.26	27. 9.26	30. 9.26	4.11.26	
	39	1.12.26	22.12.26	23.12.26	3. 1.27	
London EC E	22	17. 3.25	13. 7.25	24. 7.25	9.11.25	
	5W	31. 1.27				
	34	10.12.25	23.12.25	1. 1.26	21. 9.26	
	37	23. 9.26		25. 9.26	29.11.26	
	39	1.12.26	22.12.26	23.12.26		
London EC F				31. 8.25		
	34	10.12.25	23.12.25	30.12.25	20. 9.26	
	37	23. 9.26		24. 9.26	19.11.26	
	40	24.11.26	3. 2.27			
London EC G	5G	3. 6.25				
	27	5. 8.25	13. 9.25			
	28	3.10.25	7.10.25			
	30B	13.10.25	30.10.25	5.11.25	4.12.25	
	34	10.12.25	23.12.25	13. 1.26	25. 5.26	
	37	24. 9.26	30. 9.26	10.11.26		
	39	2.12.26	22.12.26			
London EC H				5. 9.25	30.11.25	
	34	10.12.25	23.12.25	9. 1.26	12. 4.26	
	37	23. 9.26	11.10.26			
	39	1.12.26	11.12.26			
London EC I	5W	25. 6.25	26. 6.25	14. 8.25	4.12.25	
	34	10.12.25	21.12.25	2. 1.26		
	37	24. 9.26		3.12.26		
London EC K				17. 3.26		
	37	23. 9.26	24. 9.26	11.10.26	28.10.26	
	39	2.12.26	17.12.26			
London EC P				21. 8.25	6. 1.26	
London FS L	35	31.12.25	22. 2.26			
	40	29.11.26	23. 2.27			
London FS M	35	6. 1.26	25. 1.26			

British Goods are Best.....

Machine	Other Slogans/5W			British Goods		
	Type	Earliest	Latest	Earliest	Latest	Notes
London FS N	35	23. 1.26				
	40	3. 1.27	18. 2.27			
London E1 (no letter)	27	9. 9.25				
	30B	14.10.25	29.10.25			
London E1 A				8.10.25	5. 7.26	
	37	23. 9.26	24. 9.26	15.10.26	17.12.26	
London E1 B	27	13. 8.25				
	29			20.11.25	1. 1.26	1
	37	4.10.26				
London NW1	27	11. 8.25	23. 9.25			
	29	8.10.25				
	30B	26.10.25		17. 2.26	8. 4.26	
	37	4.10.26		13.12.26		
London SE1 D	5W	23. 7.25				
London SE1E				27. 1.26		
	37	14.10.26	18.10.26			
London SW1 A	5W	29. 7.25	28. 9.25			
	27	4. 8.25	5. 9.25			
	30B	14.10.25	29.10.25	10.11.25	3.12.25	
	34	9.12.25	22.12.25			
	35	28.12.25	2. 2.26	14. 4.26	24. 9.26	
	37	24. 9.26		1.10.26	8.11.26	
	39	2.12.26	23.12.26			
	40	23.12.26	1. 3.27			
London Sw1 B	22	21. 4.25	20. 7.25	6. 8.25	2.12.25	
	34	9.12.25	22.12.25	8. 1.26	25. 9.26	
	37	27. 9.26		25.10.26	13. 1.27	
London SW1 C	22	14. 5.25		24. 8.25	3.12.25	
	34	9.12.25	23.12.25	14. 1.26	20. 9.26	
	39	2.12.26	22.12.26	6. 1.27		
London SW1 D				21. 9.25	14.10.26	
	39	8.12.26	13.12.26	23.12.26		
London SW1 E	7W	4. 6.25				
	27	31. 8.25	11. 9.25			
	5W	3.10.25				
	30B	13.10.25	30.10.25	16.12.25		
	34	9.12.25	21.12.25	7. 1.26	25. 1.26	
	37	22. 9.26				
	39	1.12.26	22.12.26			
London SW1 F				24. 6.26		
London W1 (no letter)	22	6. 4.25	29. 6.25	31. 7.25	12.25	
	34	10.12.25	15.12.25			
London W1 A	25	19. 3.25	13. 8.25	14. 8.25	3. 9.25	
	34	17.12.25	22.12.25	8. 1.26	22. 9.26	
	37	22. 9.26	26. 9.26			
	40	29.12.26	1. 3.27			
London W1 B	27	24. 8.25	21. 9.25			
	30B	12.10.25	21.10.25	17.11.25		
	34	10.12.25	23.12.25	2. 1.26	3. 9.26	
	37	22. 9.26		2.10.26	1.11.26	
	39	1.12.26	15.12.26	13. 1.27	17. 1.27	

British Goods are Best.....

Machine	Other Slogans/5W			British Goods		Notes
	Type	Earliest	Latest	Earliest	Latest	
London W1 C	22	17. 3.25		7. 8.25	27.11.25	
	34	10.12.25	23.12.25	8. 1.26	29. 5.26	
	37	28. 9.26	29. 9.26	19.10.26	22.10.26	
	39	4.12.26	18.12.26			
London W1 D				24. 8.25	11. 8.26	
	37	22. 9.26	29. 9.26	5.10.26	8.11.26	
London W1 E	27	3. 9.25	22. 9.25			
	30B	19.10.25	30.10.25	18.11.25		
	35	28.12.25	25. 2.26	22. 4.26	9. 6.26	
	37	22. 9.26	28. 9.26			
	39	7.12.26	8.12.26	7. 1.27		
London W1 F	22			17.12.25	10.11.26	1
	40	29.11.26	23.12.26	30.12.26		
London WC A	27	14. 8.25	9. 9.25			
	28	30. 9.25				
	30B	14.10.25	26.10.25	16.11.25	1.12.26	
London WC B	27	5. 8.25	6. 8.25	25. 8.25	4.11.25	
	28					1
	34	16.12.25	23.12.25	16. 1.26	21. 5.26	
	37	23. 9.26	27. 9.26			
London WC C	27	10. 8.25	18. 9.25			
	28	25. 9.25	6.10.25			
	30B	15.10.25	29.10.25	20.11.25		
	34	11.12.25	22.12.25	30.12.25	30. 8.26	
	37	27. 9.26	28. 9.26			
	39	1.12.26	21.12.26	2?.12.26		
London WC D	22	23. 4.25	24. 6.25			
	28			14. 8.25	7.12.25	1
	34	10.12.25	23.12.25	4. 1.26	12. 8.26	
	37	23. 9.26	27. 9.26	20.11.26		
	39	1.12.26	20.12.26	8. 1.27	14. 1.27	
Forest Gate E7	37	28. 9.26	29.10.26	11.12.25	10. 9.26	4
Hackney E8				7. 1.26	21. 7.26	4
	37	23. 9.26	3.11.26	9.12.26	6. 1.27	
Homerton				29. 1.26	20. 9.26	4
	37	3. 9.26	28.10.26			
Victoria Docks E16				16. 1.26	19. 3.26	
	37	25. 9.26	28. 9.26			
North Finchley N12	5W	13. 8.25		1.10.25	30. 7.26	
	37	17.10.26	1.11.26			
Hampstead NW3				2.10.25	11. 8.26	
	37	1.10.26				
	5W	27.10.26	28.10.26			
Kilburn NW6	5W	10. 6.25	30. 7.25	24.10.25	31.12.26	
Willesden NW10	5W	30. 7.25				6
South Lambeth SW8				18. 8.25	15. 3.26	
	37	25. 9.26		26.10.26		
Battersea SW11				20.12.25	29. 9.26	

British Goods are Best.....

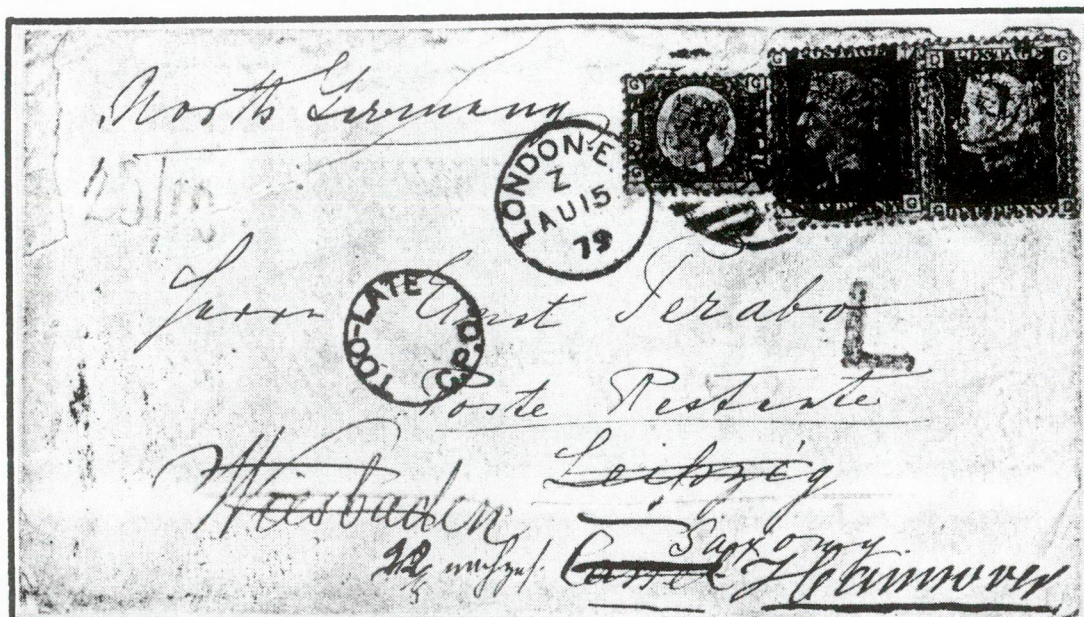
Notes:

1. These slogans recorded as existing but no example seen by or reported to BPS.
2. Date shown is that of the latest recorded mark from this machine and it thus seems unlikely that " British Goods are Best " was used.
4. Earlier marks from these machines (all introduced at end of 1925 or early in 1926) have been reported as follows:
Forest Gate 23.12.25 Hackney 27.11.25 Homerton 2.12.25
The recording was incomplete and it was not shown if they used cancelling bars or slogans.
5. No examples of these machines during the period under review have been seen or recorded by BPS.
6. The latest recorded date for this machine is 20.8.25 (not known whether this is with slogan or cancelling bars). It seems unlikely " British Goods are Best " was used.

This completes the listing of the Hey and Dolphin machines.

ANOTHER ' L ' from Charless Hahn

In Notebook 30 Charless Hahn illustrated an unframed L and although the Editor is sure he has seen at least one similar example, he did not take the details to update the very little information we have.



Charless has now produced a further example, this on a letter to Germany in 1879. This carries the circular framed TOO-LATE G.P.O., with the London EC duplex, code Z for AU 15 79.

To make up the Editorial lack of a pen and paper at the right moment, would any owners of this mark increase the recorded number from the present count of two ?

British Goods are Best...

We now come to the Universal machines. Unlike Hey & Dolphin machines, there is no definitive list of machines for the 1925/7 period as yet. The listing here is intended to include all Universal machines in use at any time during the period June 1925 to February 1927 and indicates for each machine the slogans so far recorded. The detailed dated listing comes next.

Machine	22	27	29	30A	30C	30D/E	34	35	31	32	36	38	39
London E1							x			x		x	x
London N1							x			x		x	x
London NW1							x			x		x	x
London SE1							x		x			x	x
London SE1 A				x			x		x	x		x	x
London SE1 B							x		x	x		x	x
Paddington W2							x						
Paddington W2 A				x			x		x			x	x
Bethnal Green E2							x		x			x	x
Bow E3												x	
Poplar E14							x		x			x	x
Stratford E15							x		x			x	x
Walthamstow E17									x			x	
Finsbury Park N4												x	
Holloway N7							x					x	x
Stoke Newington N16									x			x	
St Johns Wood NW8									x			x	
Willesden NW10							x		x			x	x
Camberwell SE5							x		x			x	x
Kennington SE11												x	
Peckham SE15							x		x			x	x
Woolwich SE18									x			x	
Brixton SW2									x			x	
Chelsea SW3							x		x			x	
Clapham SW4							x		x			x	
Earls Court SW5									x			x	
Fulham SW6							x		x			x	x
South Kensington SW7							x		x			x	x
Stockwell SW9							x		x			x	x
Putney SW15									x			x	
Streatham SW16									x			x	
Tooting SW17												x	
Wandsworth SW18									x			x	
Wimbledon SW19							x		x			x	
Acton W3												x	
Chiswick W4									x			x	
Ealing W5												x	
Hammersmith W6							x		x			x	x
Kensington W8							x		x			x	x
Notting Hill W11									x			x	

Detailed Listing covering the period June 1925 to February 1927.

Machine	Other Slogans/W.Lines			British Goods		Notes
	Type	Earliest	Latest	Earliest	Latest	
London E1	22	16. 6.25		29. 7.25	28.11.25	1
	34	5.12.25	23.12.25	9. 1.26	18. 8.26	1
	38	20. 9.26	30. 9.26			
	39	3.12.26	22.12.26			

British Goods are Best....

Machine	Other Slogans/W.Lines			British Goods		Notes
	Type	Earliest	Latest	Earliest	Latest	
London N1				11. 9.25	2.11.25	1
	34	2.12.25	21.12.25	29.12.25	1. 9.26	1
	38	21. 9.26	11.11.26	22.11.26		
	39	1.12.26	20.12.26			
London NW1	22	14. 5.25		22. 8.25	7.11.25	1
	34	1.12.25	22.12.25	8. 1.26	15. 9.26	1
	38	21. 9.26	9.10.26			
	39	8.12.26	23.12.26	5. 1.27		1
London SE1	34	2.12.25	22.12.25	2. 1.26	10. 6.26	2
	38	22. 9.26	3.11.26			
	39	1.12.26	14.12.26			
London SE1 A	6W	29. 7.25				
	27					
	30A	12.10.25	21.10.25			
	29	7.10.25	14.10.25	13.11.25	16.11.25	1
	34	17.12.25	22.12.25	23. 1.26	30. 3.26	2
				23. 4.26	1. 5.26	1
				27. 5.26	28. 6.26	2
				8. 9.26	14. 9.26	1
	38	22. 9.26	8.11.26	30.11.26		1
	39	3.12.26	23.12.26	1. 1.27		2
London SE1 B				9. 9.25	26.10.25	2
	34	1.12.25	5.12.25	22. 1.26	28. 7.26	1
	38	22. 9.26	1.11.26			
	39	17.12.26	21.12.26	3. 1.27	12. 1.27	2
Paddington W2	27					
	28	18. 9.25				
	34	13.12.25	22.12.25			
	39	13.12.26		31.12.26		
Paddington W2 A	27					
	28	11. 9.25				
	29					
	30A	15.10.25	30.10.25	9.11.25	16.11.25	
	34	1.12.25	22.12.25	7. 1.26	15. 9.26	
	38	20. 9.26	12.10.26	8.11.26	22.11.26	
	39	1.12.26	21.12.26			
Bethnal Green E2	34	3.12.25	10.12.25	2. 7.26		
	38	29. 9.26	13.11.26			
	39	10.12.26	15.12.26			
Bow E3				30. 9.25		
	38	7.10.26	1. 1.27			
Poplar E14				23. 9.25	26.10.25	
	34	2.12.25	5.12.25	3. 1.26	19. 8.26	
	38	27. 9.26	27.10.26			
	39	3.12.26	8.12.26			
Stratford E15	34	19.12.25	21.12.25	13. 1.26	8. 8.26	
	38	21. 9.26	1.11.26	31.12.26	4. 1.27	
Walthamstow E17	7W	25. 7.25		5. 7.26		
	38	20.10.26	14.11.26	22.12.26		
Finsbury Park N4	38	6.10.26	3.11.26			
Holloway N7	34	1.12.25	22.12.25			
	38	4.10.26	26.11.26			
	39	11.12.26				

British Goods are Best....

Machine	Other Slogans/W.Lines			British Goods		Notes
	Type	Earliest	Latest	Earliest	Latest	
Stoke Newington N16	38	30. 9.26	27.11.26	16.10.25		
St.Johns Wood NW8	38	19. 9.26	2.12.26	20.11.25	20. 8.26	
Willesden NW10	34	14.12.25	16.12.25	5.10.25	22.10.25	
	38	30. 9.26	24.11.26	2. 2.26	17. 4.26	
	39	5.12.26	21.12.26			
Camberwell SE5	34	1.12.25	19.12.25	1.10.25		
	38	20. 9.26	26.10.26	1. 1.26	4. 4.26	
	39	1.12.26	8.12.26			
Kennington SE11	38	24. 9.26	23.11.26			
Peckham SE15	34	2.12.25	22.12.25	11. 3.26	10. 8.26	
	38	30. 9.26	3.11.26			
	39	1.12.26	23.12.26			
Woolwich SE18	38	28. 9.26	4.11.26	1. 1.26	11. 9.26	
Brixton SW2	6W	8. 6.25		11. 3.26	19. 7.26	
	38	21. 9.26	28.12.26			
Chelsea SW3	7W	16. 9.25		21.10.25		
	34	7.12.25	23.12.25	13. 1.26	4. 9.26	
	38	24. 9.26	6.11.26			
Clapham SW4	34	4.12.25	10.12.25	25.11.25		
	38	22. 9.26	1.11.26	22. 7.26	5. 8.26	
Earls Court SW5	38	22. 9.26	28.12.26	22. 9.25	28. 7.26	
Fulham SW6	34	8.12.25	23.12.25	3. 9.25	30. 9.25	
	38	22. 9.26	8.11.26	3. 3.26	17. 6.26	
	39	13.12.26	17.12.26			
South Kensington SW7	34	5.12.25	23.12.25	15.10.25		
	38	23. 9.26	20.11.26	4. 3.26	23. 4.26	
	39	4.12.26		23.12.26		
Stockwell SW9	34	14.12.25	21.12.25	18. 8.25	14.11.25	
	38	23. 9.26	26.11.26	7. 6.26		
	39	13.12.26	31.12.26			
Putney SW15	7W	17. 7.25		16.10.25	18. 7.26	
	3B	10.10.26	21.10.26			
Streatham SW16	38	22. 9.26	30.11.26	5.11.25	6. 6.26	
Tooting SW17	38	20. 9.26	14.12.26	16. 3.26		
	7W	7. 2.27				
Wandsworth SW18	38	25. 9.26	10.12.26	18.11.25	17. 4.26	

70/12

British Goods are Best...

Machine	Other Slogans/W.Lines			British Goods		Notes
	Type	Earliest	Latest	Earliest	Latest	
Wimbledon SW19	7W	6. 7.25		23.11.25		
	34	13.12.25	23.12.25	29. 1.26	20. 8.26	
	38	28. 9.26	15.10.26			
	7W	27. 1.27				
Acton W3				9.12.25		
	38	20. 9.26	3.11.26			
Chiswick W4				12.11.25	11. 6.26	
	38	5.10.26	18.12.26			
Ealing W5				16. 2.26	24. 6.26	
	38	19. 9.26	24.12.26			
Hammersmith W6	7W	14. 9.25		29. 9.25	6.11.25	
	34	11.12.25	22.12.25	30.12.25	8. 6.26	
	38	20. 9.26	20.10.26			
	39	2.12.26	15.12.26			
Kensington W8				3.11.25		
	34	7.12.25	21.12.25	14. 1.26	2. 6.26	
	38	21. 9.26	30.11.26			
	39	1.12.26	15.12.26			
Notting Hill W11				22. 9.25	14. 9.26	
	38	19. 9.26	29.11.26			

- Notes - 1. British Goods are Best type 32 (small)
 2. British Goods are Best type 31 (normal large type)

These listings have been taken from several issues of the British Postmark Society Quarterly Bulletin, concluding with the issue for January this year. Many of our members do have extensive collections of twentieth century material and may well be able to assist with date extentions. Brian Pask of 1a Christchurch Road, ILFORD, Essex IG1 4 QY, the hard working Bulletin Editor will be pleased to hear from you.

-o-o-o-o-

BRANCH OFFICE HANDSTAMPS

Another new recording to add to the listing in Notebook 65/2, this time for OLD CAVENDISH ST BRANCH/W, struck in blue, very smudged. Measuring 43 x 11 mm on the front of an envelope which, incorreccted, was routed through the Inland Office, the adhesive being cancelled with diamond 16. The first datestamp was IV MY-19 1857 in black and two Local timestamps, both in red, 8NT MY 19 1857-0- and 1857 MY 20 1857 -B-.

The address, " to / The Earl of Clarendon / Grosvenor Crescent / S.W. " is quite clear so why there should have been a valid cause for mis-sorting or routing is not understood, except for the initial mis-posting through the Inland Office.

More recordings please.

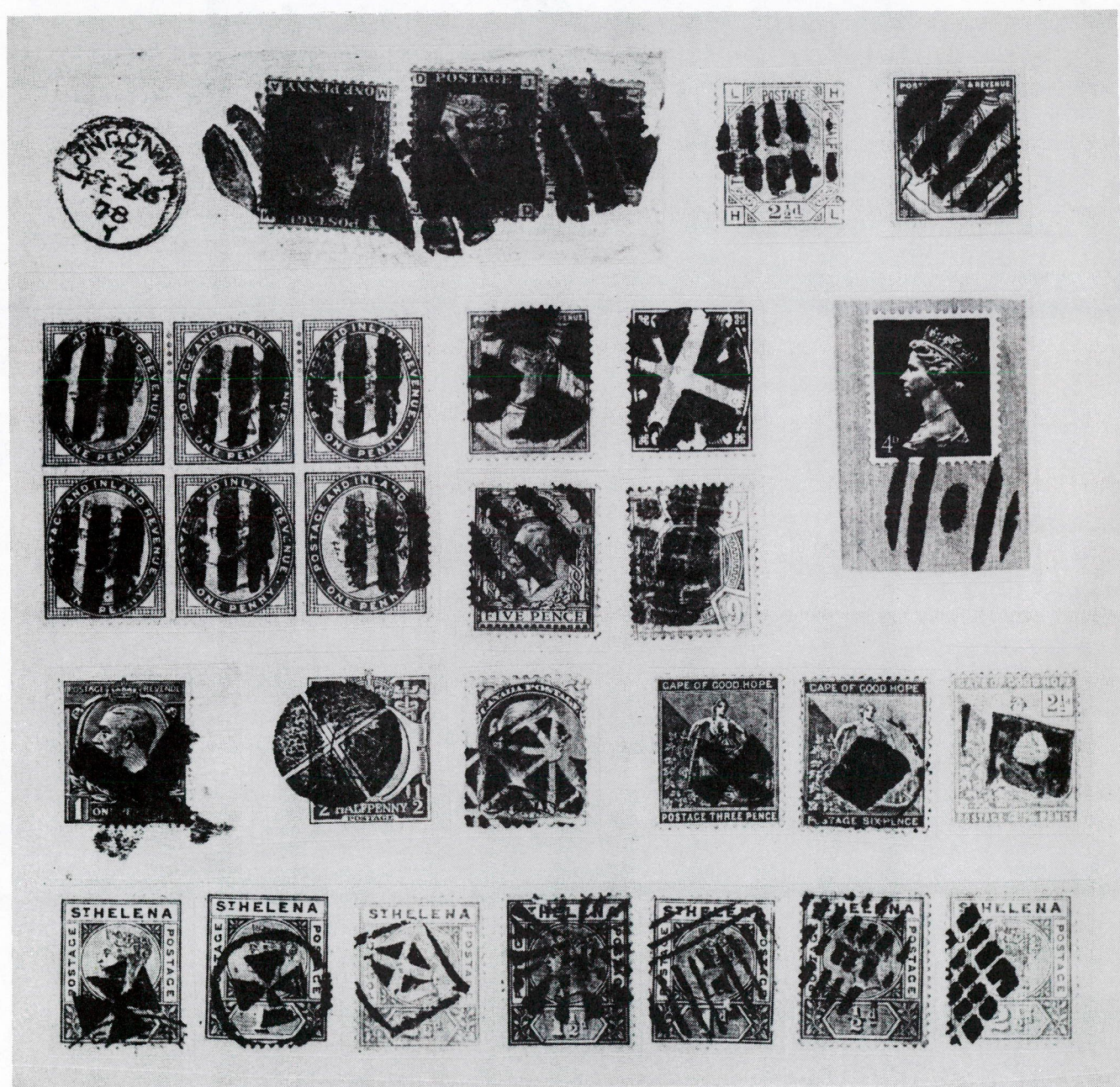
-o-o-o-o-o-o-o-o-

CORK CANCELLATIONS from Mike Bavin

The first illustration is part of a cover from London West Central in 1878, with the 2½d. rate obliterated by cork cancellations. Leon Dubus illustrated a number of these, with dates from 1876 to 1879 and attributed mainly the WC and one from the East D.O. and an address of 141 White Chapel Rd. - E.

Corks (and rubber bungs .') are readily cut to quite intricate designs. A range to the present day are shown. Generally these (real) obliterators are used when the machine cancellation has failed. This demonstration of art by postal officials is not confined to this country. There are examples from Canada, Cape of Good Hope and St. Helena and cork fancy cancellations can be found on material from a number of countries. The simplest, non-artistic, cancellation seen recently was a thumb-print on a card from Portland, Oregon.

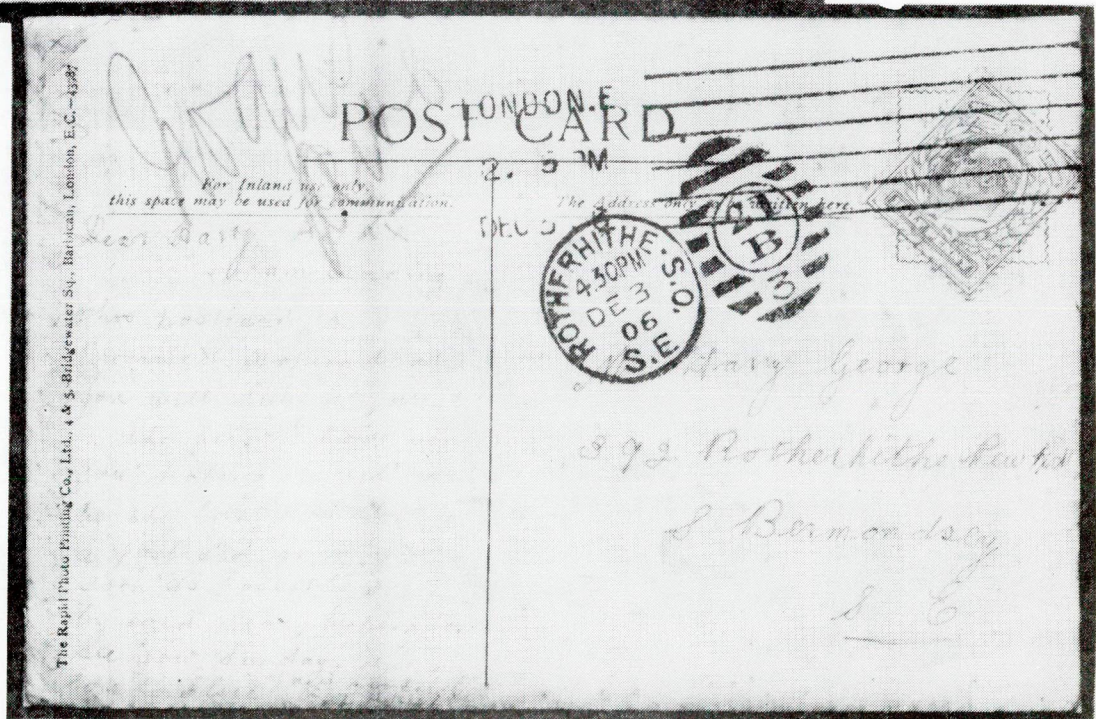
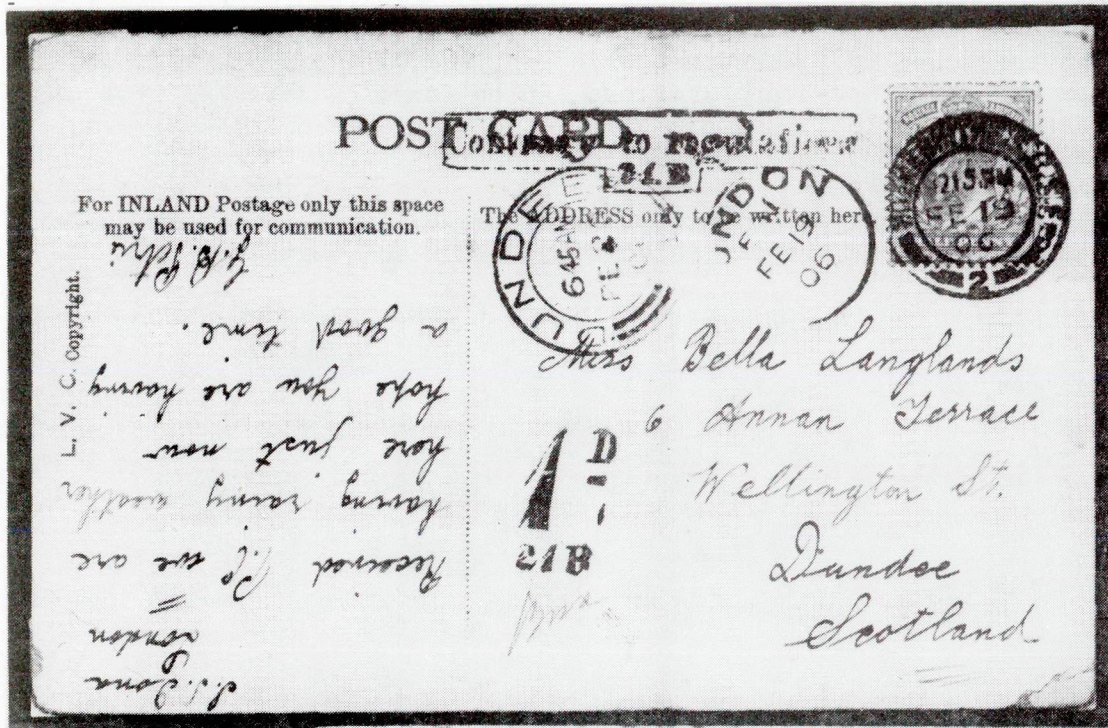
In place of the all too frequently seen ball point squiggle, has a reader examples of modern fancy cancellations in the UK, especially London and East Anglia ?



ROTHERHITHE POSTAL MARKINGS from Bob Preston

I have two items from my collection which fit in with Alf Kirk's excellent in-depth article on Rotherhithe. One card shows the framed "Contrary to regulations" over "21B" with the 1D / 21B charge mark, apparently not known before. The fine example of the duplex is some two years later than noted in the article.

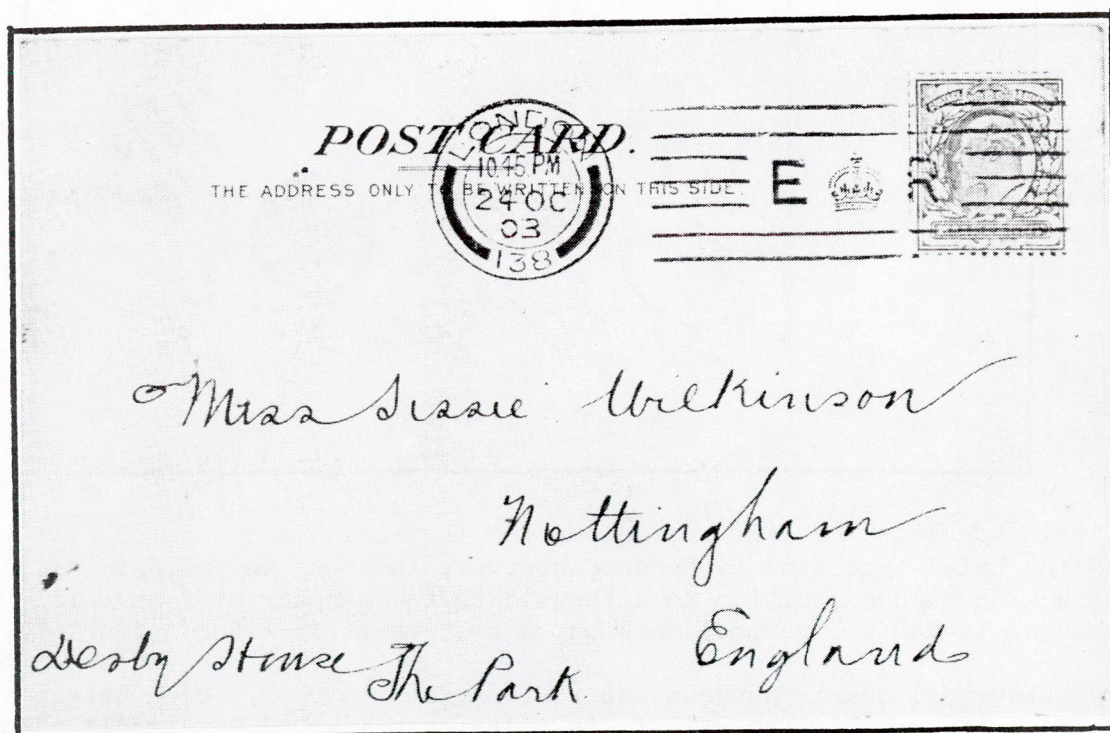
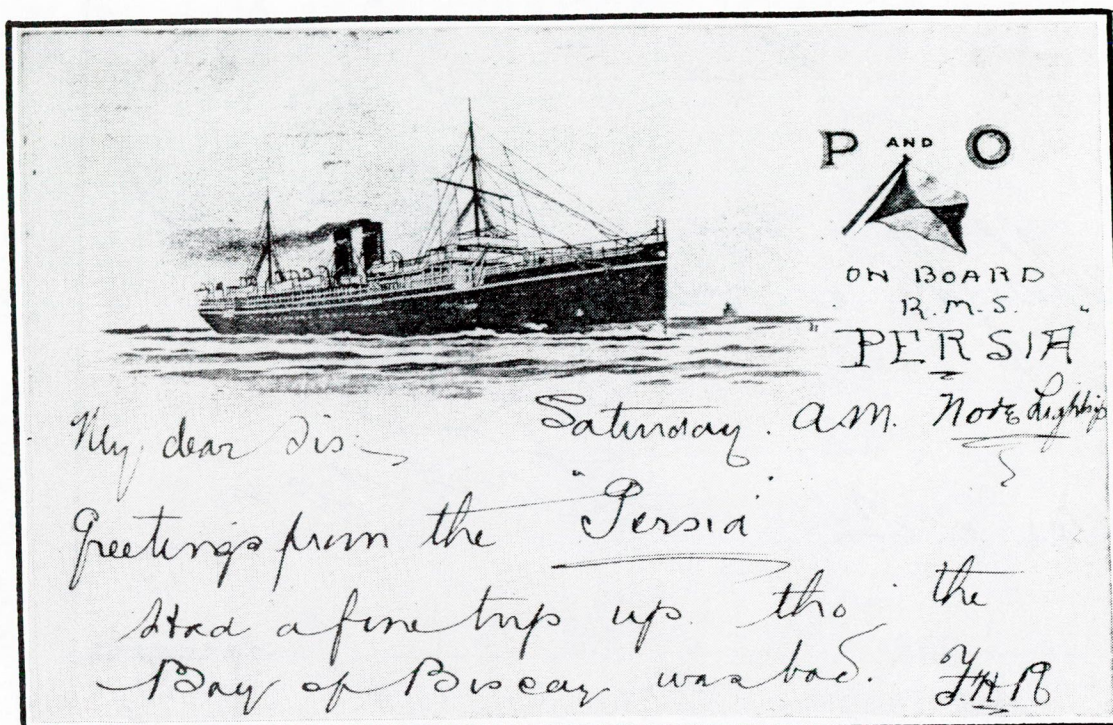
08 in cat!

NORTHERN DISTRICT SINGLE OBLITERATOR from Charless Hahn

On a printed circular dated 1st July 1874, all in Spanish but from 22 Moorgate Street, London, and being a bulk mailing to Spain, the one penny plate (153?) is cancelled with the N/12 (12D9) shown in the Handbook as 'not recorded.'

BICKERDIKE VARIETY supplied by Noel Dickinson

A quite delightful P and O card, endorsed " on board R.M.S. PERSIA ", cancelled on arrival in London, but what a cancellation. Feel free to speculate but just how does a handstamp(?) get itself so nicely placed by the cancelling bars. London 138 was, according to the listing in Notebook 62, "used on 8 p.m. collections from B.O. TSO and Pillar Boxes, also 8.30 Collns from GPO East."

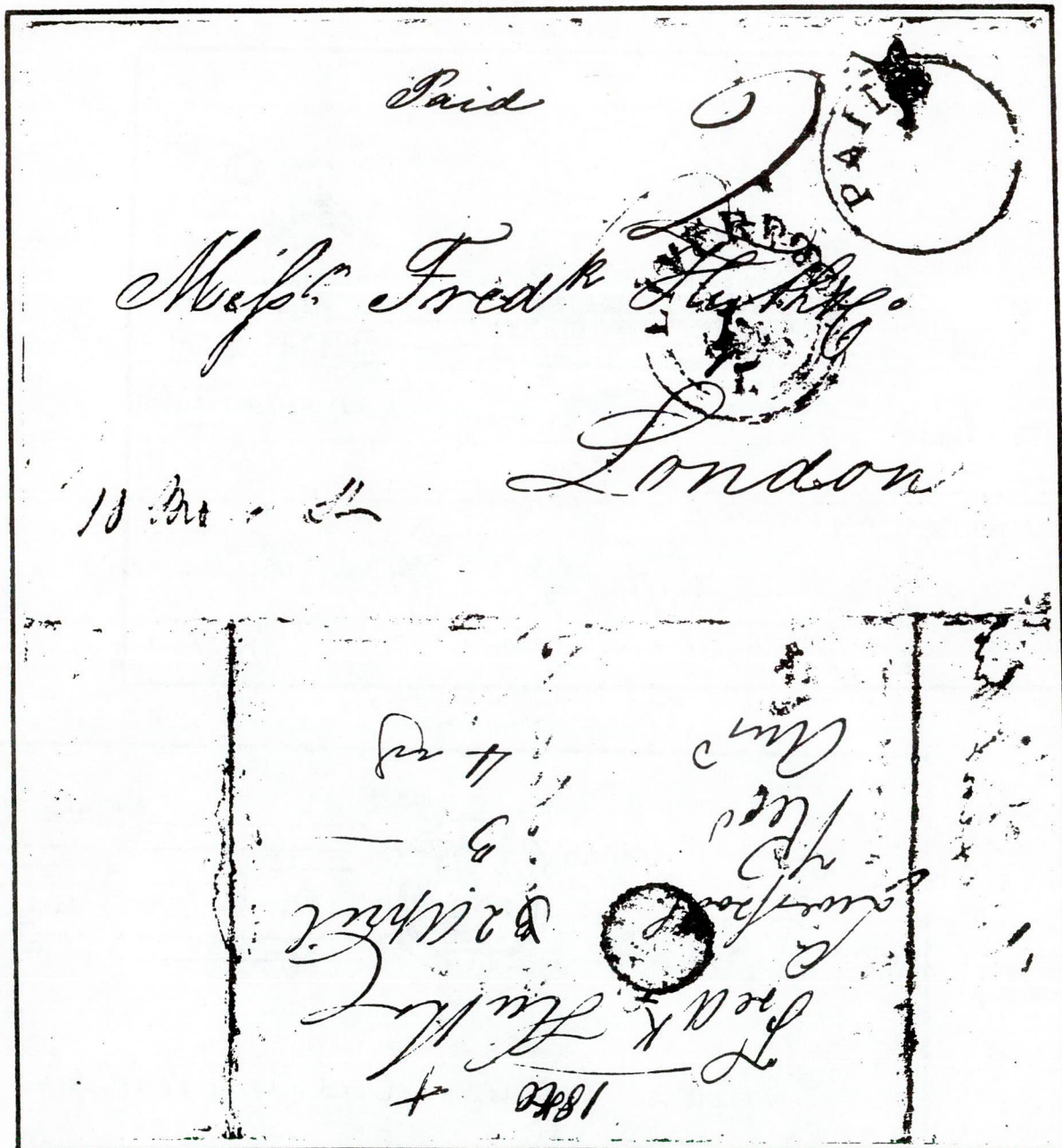


Can anyone produce other examples of this type and is this a handstamp neatly placed or has the machine operator substituted (somehow) the head of the handstamp for that which should be in the machine ? This seems unlikely but clearly the normal dater had ' gone missing ', either completely or by casual default.

As many readers will be aware, this ship posted mail was generally cancelled by the one-time London backstamps from the 1850s period, these being re-issued to the London EC office for ship letter duty, to quote from the EC Impression Book.

PAID STAMP UNDATED from Tony Clark

I enclose a photocopy, Tony wrote, of a recently purchased cover. It is Liverpool - London, dated 2.4.1840. It has a manuscript " 2 " in black ink, also " paid " and an endowment lower left " 10 Moor ST ?"



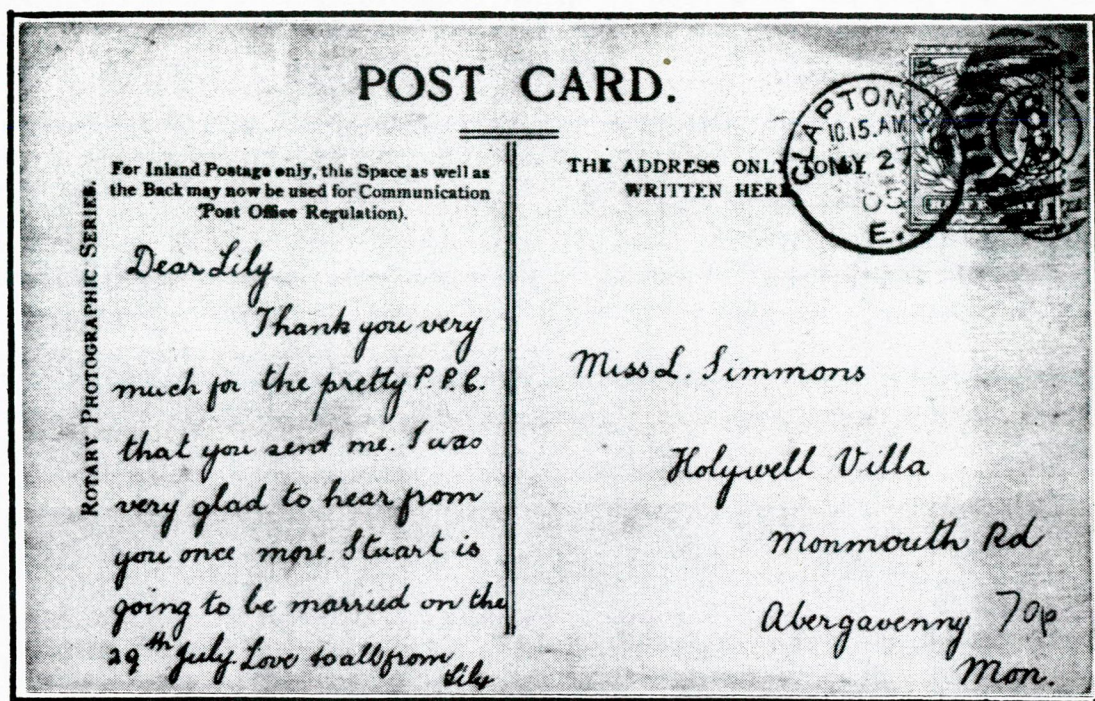
The interest is the PAID mark alongside the black manuscript 2. It is very similar to the dated type used at London, however, this one has no date slugs. Also it is struck in such a position to authenticate the manuscript 2 as paid. Martin Willcocks thought it was a Liverpool mark but I believe it is a London Variety.

The Liverpool cds is smudged but would appear to be 2.4.84 - bright orange it is typical Liverpool. The PAID is in a deeper brick red - typical London. What gives further credence for the PAID to be London is the lack of any other London marks on the cover.

-0-0-0-0-0-0-0-0-0-0-

CLAPTON S.O. DUPLEX

Recorded in the first supplement to Handbook but not illustrated is the Clapton 6B duplex with the "1" cut into the bars. This now shown by courtesy of K.Foster.



common!
my mistake -

J CODE OR NOT ?

Andrew Ford writes " May I offer the following possible explanation. On legal documents, where Roman numbering was commonly used in the period under consideration, the following convention was applied -

eight	viiij
twenty two	xxij

It is my contention the "j" was used for a "1" as a reasonable substitute, it being common practice to use it thus. This explanation also fits quite comfortably with the examples cited. That a "1" is used as well seems quite normal. I think the final selection would be dependant on the education and the social background of the postal worker, who set the stamp for the day and of the workman who cut the Bishop. In any year there would be only twelve opportunities for a Bishop to be cut in this way. I do not believe the type of stamp is significant and the dearth of examples may well be that only one or two men had these preference.

-O-O-O-O-O-O-O-O-

THE LONDON GENERAL COURIERS SOCIETY

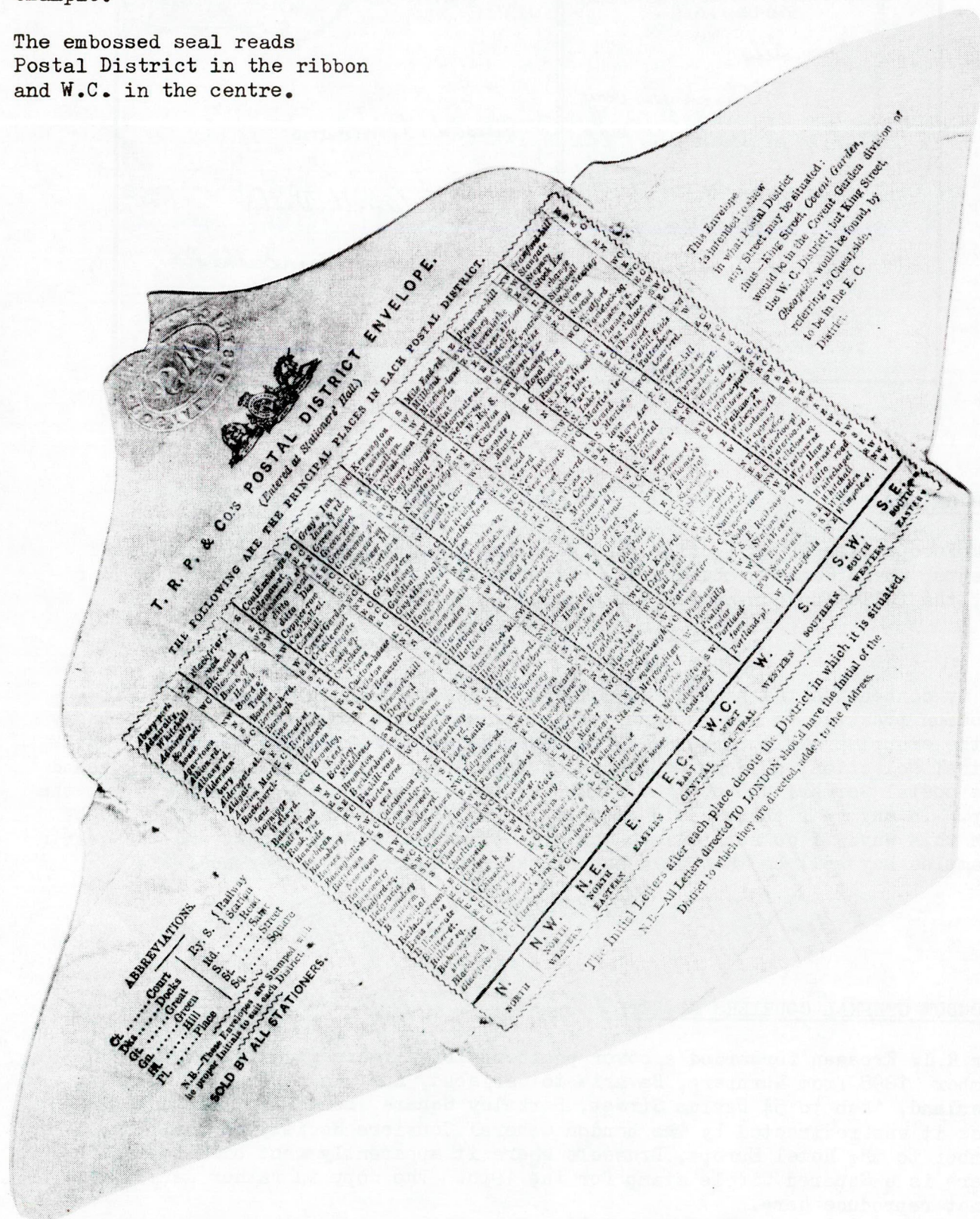
Member R.J. Kroesen forwarded a cover photocopy of a redirected letter, dated September 1898 from Nurnberg, Bavaria to Carlsbad, Austria, then to St. Moritz, Switzerland, then to 54 Davies Street, Berkeley Square, London W. At that address it was redirected by The London General Couriers Society on the 15th. September to the Hotel Europe, Brussels where it apparently went back to London as there is a Squared Circle stamp for the 19th. The copy is rather dark, so it will not reproduce here.

Can anyone provide any information on the Courier's Society please ?

-O-O-O-O-O-O-O-O-

This particular example is not dated in any way but it must surely be fairly close to the introduction of the District Initials. Can any reader produce a dated example.

The embossed seal reads
Postal District in the ribbon
and W.C. in the centre.



MISS COPELAND'S RECOLLECTIONS

Our " Recollections " for this occasion are furnished by Miss Copeland, who was for many years the Postmistress of Enfield Town. Although now in her 80th. year, she retains an active memory and still follows local events with evident interest.

In the course of an interesting conversation Miss Copeland said :- I have lived in Enfield ever since I was seven years of age. I was a native of Hoxton, London, and remember riding up in a carriage to my aunts' house in the Town. They were the two Miss Leech's, and they lived in an old-fashioned bow-window shop which adjoined the chemist's shop kept by Mr. J. Tuff (now Mr. Goldby). There was a third sister, Mrs. Jelly, whose husband was a baker, and occupied the old wooden premises now tenanted by Mr. Ebben. Mr. Jelly was then Postmaster and carried on the work, such as it was in those days, in his shop. At his death his widow continued the postal duties. After her Miss Leech and her sister, became Postmistresses in turn; and when the last dies I succeeded in the office. I remember that the shop was divided by a glass partition and there was one part for the postmen (what few we had) and the other for the public. Of course there was but little room and in course of time, after the Post Office people had been down repeatedly and complained of want of room - more especially on the advent of the Parcel Post - they at length took our back sitting room which we had built over our little garden at the back of the house. Mr. Cushing, the builder, did the alterations for us.

My cousin was a lawyer and he was very good to my aunts. For the postal work we were only paid £75 a year and we had to find accommodation and also lighting. It was very little pay for so much and my cousin used to allow us £20 a year to help out; but even then I found it necessary to go out teaching in order to make ends meet. I was in Post Office work for about 60 years altogether; but during the time I was helping my aunt I was only an assistant, so of course that time didn't count. I was Postmistress for 25 years and retired in 1896. Mr. Macdonald was an interim official in charge; but Mr. Hiatt succeeded me here as Postmaster. I cannot exactly remember as to our first postmen. There were, I think, at first two brothers named White; and then came Penny, who was, I fancy, the first uniformed postman. Others were March, a shoemaker (who lived in an old wooden house in Silver-street, where Messrs. Hobb's office and workshops now are), Thorne and Rattee. Poor old Webb at one time brought the mails on his velocipede from Ponders End railway station; before then one or other of the postmen went on foot between our office and the station.

As you can imagine, with a population of only 8,000 or 9,000 the number of letters etc., was very different to what it must be now. Neither Christmas nor New Year's Day made any difference to us in my young days; but St. Valentine's Day ! Then we would have a pile, to be sure, for it was quite the fashion to send all kinds of valentines through the post. Those of a sentimental character were mostly elegant and often scented love tokens in which two doves were conspicuous. On the other hand, a lot of ugly valentines always came along every 14th. February.

I very well remember what an awful worry it was to us when the telegraph was taken up by Government. The instalment of the wires and instruments was a great ordeal. There was an allowance of 14s. a week for the telegraph work. We had to pick up the work of sending and receiving messages as best we could. We only had a single needle and I recollect that if we passed the test we were to have a guinea. There came a message one day in which "CH" was the signal. You can fancy what a worry it all was just then. Somehow I could not remember, so I thought the best thing to do would be to get a horse from Mr. Biscor's (now Welch's) and let postman Thorne take the message up to London and say I could not read it. When pay-day came I wanted my bonus; but I had to pay for that horse ! In those days what made the work much harder was that we had to deal with the telegrams for Enfield Lock and we were on a circuit which very often meant waiting an hour before we got a chance. It took an hour to get to the Lock with a message. Postman Webb was the messenger. Our first messenger boy was named Lower, who was afflicted with a form of paralysis. He was the son of the Ponders End constable and a very nice boy he was. He wore uniform and came to us from the Grammar School: it often struck me what a difference there was in the boys of the Grammar School and those of other schools. When

Miss Copelands Recollections.....

Lower left us he set up in business at Edmonton. About three or four years after telegraphs started we used to have a Clerk and Wheatstone instrument, special, for despatching messages relating to the races Mr. Riddell introduced into Enfield.

So far as I can remember, I never heard in my girlhood days of Charles Lamb; but then my work was very absorbing. I did a great deal of letter-sorting day after day -- Miss Leech had got past that sort of thing: she was in her 90th. year when she died. In the earlier days Thorne did the sorting and then taught me to do it; and it was no joke to stamp the letters and sort them into eight walks, for that was the number of postmen for some years. The hardest time for me was when a General Election took place -- such a lot of sorting and late work; but I had to do it as best I could.

The Parcels Post was almost the last straw ! It was an awful time. The Depart - ment was constantly worrying us for more space, until in 1884 we moved from the old house in the town into new premises built for us by Mr. Fairhead in Southbury-road (now in the occupation of Messrs. C. Berry and Hollingdale). For some time Mr. Sim (one of the members of the Volunteer Band mentioned in the course of the " Recollections ") was the only clerk; later we had two clerks. I found the sort - ing work very heavy and used often to fall asleep in the office waiting to sort the last inward mail, for as the place grew so rapidly during the latter year of the 19th. century, the number of letters increased in a very great proportion. I often think how great the contrast now and the time, 60 years ago, when I came to my aunts' to live. Then there were no telegraphs, no parcels, no money orders, no uni - forms as now, no holidays, no doctor, no stripes for the postmen, no lanterns, no waterproof capes and not nearly the salaries paid to-day.

Speaking of Enfield generally, Miss Copeland added : The term applied to the Rev. Heath in your " Recollections " - " the black knight " was quite appropriate. He was a dark-haired man and his horse was black: Mr. Wilson, the vet., used to speak of it as " an ugly brute ". Mr. Heath married a Miss Harman, who lived at Clayes - more. I distinctly remember the Rev. W. D. MacLagan coming to Enfield: he came, really, as a peacemaker and was a wonderful worker, especially in organising parish teas. I was very interested in reading Mr. Bilton's account of his young days in the Parish Church choir. In many ways life is very different now in Enfield com - pared with what it was 60 years ago and especially as regards the tradespeople, who " saw better times " then and would often join in giving or promoting parties during winter time.

Reminded of the smart and up-to-date Post Office of to-day, the aged ex-Postmistres - s's face lighted up with a smile as she exclaimed, " Oh, yes; what a handsome sort - ing office it is to be sure ! How I wish I had had something approaching it ! But it was all so different 50 years ago ! "

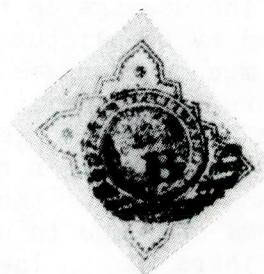
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This extract was supplied by Mr. L. Singer. " Recollections of Old Enfield " was first published in the " Enfield Observer in 1910, being reprinted from the book " On The Borders of Three Counties ", published by Meyers, Brooks and Company, 1913. It was republished by Edmonton Hundred Historical Society, 1983 and reproduced here with due acknowledgement and appreciation.

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ROTHERHITHE from Michael Goodman

On a printed price circular from the Union Oil and Cake Mills dated 1st. November 1890 appears a poor single undated 21/B cancelling the halfpenny adhesive. As remarked in Alf Kirk's article, the use of these marks, as measured by the survival rate, was serverely limited.



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