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## PLATING MOLS STAMPS

In the September Bulletin I published parts 1 and 2 of an 11-part series of articles on the Mols issues. I had hoped to publish part 3 and 4, on the 10c and 15c values, in the December issue. Unfortunately a long spell in hospital has made this impossible, though I certainly hope to be able to write these sections in time for the March Bulletin.

Meanwhile, for those who are interested, the following amendments pointed out by readers should be made to parts 1 and 2.

### Part 1

Page 4, para 2, line 3: 'make' for 'makes'.

Page 6, para 3: change the subheading from 'Retouches' to 'Touching-up and retouches', and replace the second sentence by the following two sentences:

"If part of the design on the plate was found to be too weak, either at the start or in the course of printing, it would be re-etched by hand to strengthen it. If this was done before the plate went to press, it is known as 'touching-up'; if after, as 'retouching' (though for convenience 'retouching' will be used in these articles to cover both cases)."

Page 8, para 3, line 3: 'lézarde' for 'lézard'.

Page 8, para 6, line 6: 'write' for 'writes'.

Page 9, bottom: Unfortunately, between the draft and the final version, some lines slipped out of my word processor here or got switched round. The last four lines of the page should be replaced by the following six lines:

Long overprint: positions 4,10,11,12,31 (stamps of horizontal format); 20,39,40,45,47 (stamps of vertical format).

Broken C of CONGO: 8,34,36,37,38 (horizontal); 11,12,13,17,43 (vertical).

Nick in lower loop of B of BELGE: 8,9,13,21,27,34,37,38,39 (horizontal); 12,13,14,17,22,30,38,43,44 (vertical).

Page 11, para 1, line 1: 'cases' for 'case'.

### Part 2

Page 7, under '1910 bilingual - III1+B3 bl-gr': insert 'p15(DD)' after 'p14(BB)'.

Page 9, first para of text, line 1: '183' for '182' and '18,180' for '18,080'.

Any further amendments from readers will be welcome.

BRIAN HUDSON

## CERTIFICATES OF AUTHENTICITY

When, in the June 1992 Bulletin, we announced that each member, each year, would be entitled to two free certificates for single stamps or equivalent reduction in the cost of certificates for multiples and covers, I expected that many members would take the opportunity to submit some of their stamps; I hoped that most would not submit just two subjects because that would be costly and a substantial drain on the BCSC funds.

The result has been both surprising and disappointing. So far, up to September 1992 and following the announcement, although a record number of 64 submissions were received from eleven members, two members each submitted one, three submitted 2, one 3, two 4, one 5, one 12 and one no less than 26.

If you are lucky enough to receive your December issue of the Bulletin early in December there is still time for you to claim your 1992 allocation of certificates. Because of Christmas and the posting problems it presents we will give a little extra time and allow any subjects posted before 1 January 1993 to be included in the 1992 allocation of free certificates so long as mailings from overseas are sent by air.

Such submissions will be processed in January.

R. H. Keach

## THE SECOND EDITION OF THE CANCELLATIONS BOOK

The free offer of the book to paid-up members, announced in the September Bulletin, will be extended to 31 January 1993. Thereafter the book will be available to members at cost and at a higher price to non-members.

## VP COLUMN

### A Postal Stationery Curiosity

Philippe Lindekens has sent a photocopy of a curious 1912 10c pictorial postal stationery card. It has the printing on the address side inverted relative to the view and is card No. 17; moreover, as well as being inverted the address side is shifted to the right so that only about three quarters of the stamp is in the top right corner and a fragment of the stamp from the next card to the left is visible in the top left corner. My understanding is that these cards were printed in sheets of 36, all different views so that 35 or more like it must have existed.

Mr. Lindekens has made enquiries of other collectors in Belgium as to their knowing of such curiosities. It appears that Dr. J. Stibbe has the following cards with the address side inverted relative to the view: 1912 5c (view 36), 1912 10c (view 23), 1922 15/5c (view 46) and 1922 30/10c (view 3) but it is not stated if these cards also have the address side misplaced as well as inverted.

Cards with the two sides misplaced are immediately obvious but that is not true of those with one side inverted relative to the other, and this is particularly true of the cards with vertical views. It is clear that quite a few of these curiosities must have existed and indeed still exist. They are obviously worth seeking.

### Mols Stamps with Missing Lines of Perforations

In Bulletin No. 81 we listed known Mols stamps with missing lines of perforation. Another imperf-between pair has turned up and any member interested in this highly specialized field is invited to add to that list under the heading 'Intermediate Horizontal Rows Imperforate' the following line:

1910 25c II<sub>1</sub> + A<sub>4</sub> H3/4 Keach

V. P. column *continued*

An Essay of Ruanda Urundi 1960 Pro  
Juventute 50c + 25c

Mr Lindekens has reported an imperforate pair of Ruanda Urundi CO No. 219 with the Olympics logo and the 1960 overprint in gold instead of the normal red. I do not remember having seen the usual imperforate 'proofs' of this stamp but presume that they have the same red overprint as the issued stamps. If that is so this new item has to be an essay. According to Catalogue Officiel the stamps were printed in sheets of fifty so that at least 48 more copies of the essay almost certainly must have existed.

Grossly Misplaced Typographed CONGO  
BELGE Overprints

Abbe Gudenkauf reports having found yet another stamp with the typographed CB overprint shifted vertically by the full height of a stamp: a 1F Princes, No. 36 in the sheet with overprint properly applied to No. 41. The overprinting plate was applied to the sheet of stamps one row of stamps too high so that the bottom row must then have been without overprint and, presumably, these added subsequently.

This is not the first stamp of this type that had been reported in these columns and others must exist, to be found by the discerning. Probably none of us, even those reconstructing sheets of stamps with typographed CONGO BELGE, bother to check that for a particular stamp both the basic stamp and the overprint conform. An exception is when we wish to confirm finally that a stamp is from the Princes' Printing and not from an original printing; in such checking close examination of the CONGO BELGE overprint is essential.

It is strongly recommended that members who have the necessary complete or reconstructed sheets check their stamps with the typographed overprint,

original and Princes', and, if they find any more irregularities, report them in these columns.

1921 1F with Double Overprint

This curiosity has long been recognized in the specialized catalogue and copies came on the market probably as soon as the stamp was issued. The two surcharges are in line horizontally but shifted about 0.5m vertically. There was probably only a single sheet and it is believed that all copies are unused.

However, we have had submitted for certificates in the last two years a pair and a single, both unused, with an entirely different doubling. In this case the two overprints are in line vertically and shifted only about 0.3mm horizontally. Not immediately obvious, the doubling should be suspected if the figure 1 appears thicker than normal. Both overprints are on late printings of the 1910 stamp, with carmine lake frames and from plates II<sub>1</sub> + A<sub>4</sub>.

There has been some disagreement amongst members of the Expert Committee on the nomenclature of these double overprints. I know of no difference, in English, between 'double overprint' and 'doubled overprint'.

According to our Belgian friends, in French the terms 'double' and 'doublé' do not mean exactly the same thing; as applied to overprints 'double' means that the two overprints are widely spaced whereas 'doublé' means they are close together. In both cases the inked overprinting plate having been applied to the sheet of stamps twice. This is a very subtle distinction and I can find no justification for it.

I can imagine a double overprint ('overprint' of course also embraces 'surchARGE'), if typographed, occurring in one of three ways:

1. If the overprinting press, with its inked type-face, operates without a sheet of stamps in place, ink on the type will be transferred to the backing plate. With the next operation of the press with a sheet of

stamps in place and with the ink on the backing plate still wet, the stamps will not only receive the normal overprint on the face of the stamps but also the same overprint, in reverse, on the gummed side. If, during the printing, the sheet with the offset overprint, still wet, were placed on top of another sheet some of the ink of the reversed overprint on the gum-side of the one sheet would be transferred to the printed side of the other sheet and the transferred impression would then be normal and not reversed. This could be termed a 'double offset' and the double offset would be expected to be rather faint and incomplete because no pressure was applied to transfer the ink. My belief is that the faint but widely separated double surcharges to be found on the 1922 5c/50c are such double offsets.

2. If the sheet of stamps accidentally touches the inked overprinting plate the overprint will be inadvertently applied to part or whole of the sheet of stamps but the overprint, although stronger than a double-offset, will be rather weak because the pressure of the printing press has not been applied. I think that some of the double surcharges of the 1922 50c/25c happened in this way.

3. If the sheet of stamps is accidentally entered into the printing press twice and on each occasion the type is inked, this is a double overprint and it is of no consequence if the two impressions are widely spaced or not.

Perhaps, while on this subject, I should define what I mean by 'albino overprint' which occasionally is found on Congo stamps, including the mols. If, accidentally, two sheets, one under the other, are put into the overprinting press the upper sheet will receive a normal overprint; the lower sheet will receive no ink but the high pressure applied in the press will cause the type-face to make an indentation in each stamp in the sheet. This is an 'albino overprint'. Normally this second sheet would be returned to the press for a proper overprinting and if the two overprints are

not coincident the result will be a double overprint, one albino.

Other members' views on the above will be much appreciated.

#### Internal Registration

Mr. P. Lindekens, Av. J. SMETS 4, 1160 Brussels, is studying internal registration postal marking 'ENREGISTRE' about which little is known, with the object of writing an exhaustive article on the subject.

For this purpose he needs help from all members who are fortunate enough to have covers or post cards which bear or should have borne this mark. Will all members who possess covers or cards in the following categories PLEASE send photocopies to Mr. Lindekens:

1. Any cover or card bearing the ENREGISTRE cachet or with this word written in manuscript;
2. Any INTERNAL registered cover or card earlier than 1910 (with cachet ENREGISTRE or RECOMMANDE);
3. Any OVERSEAS registered cover or card dispatched from Congo post offices OTHER THAN BANANA, BOMA, MATADI and LEOPOLDVILLE earlier than 1910 (with the cachet RECOMMANDE)

All photocopies received will be acknowledged.

#### The 1922 'Malines' 5c/50c

Abbé G. Gudenkauf has made an extraordinary discovery: a used copy of the 1922 5c/50c WITH UNSHADED SMOKE issuing from the locomotive. It is cancelled Elisabethville 1. 9. 23. Like the eight unused examples known to us the stamp has the deeper violet-brown frame and the surcharge is shiny ink. It may be that the unused stamps came from the same sheet.

RHK

(It might be well for each member who has a copy of this stamp to position same and report its position to Ray Keach. Should, by some remote chance one of the unused copies be the same position as the

Gudenkauf copy we would know there were at least two sheets. If not we may continue in the assumption there was only the one sheet. Editor) ♦

## REGISTRATION LABELS BELGIAN CONGO AND RUANDA URUNDI

*(a paper presented at the Belgian Congo Study Circle meeting on 12 September 1992)*

Years ago Ray Keach published in the BCSC Bulletin an exhaustive introduction to the study of Registration Labels used in the Belgian Congo and Ruanda Urundi. At that time postal history was not appreciated as it is today and Ray's efforts did not find much echo from BCSC members.

Now that interest in postal history has developed and more documentation is available, it could be time to pursue further Ray's study and find means to facilitate identification of the various types of labels. The present essay is certainly not definitive and further findings may well improve the classification as it is now proposed.

Easy recognition of labels is the main object of this work. As an initial differentiations, labels were attributed number 1 or 2 depending if they were framed or un-framed. Then, in each of these two types, the main base of reference lies in the letter 'R' the height of which will determine a position on a decreasing scale, giving a sub-type. In each sub-type there will be further subdivisions based on variations in other details.

Different means of classification apply to framed and un-framed labels as appears in the following lists:

### Type 1 (framed) with Congo Belge

The height of the letter 'R' determines successive subtypes on a decreasing scale, indicated as A, B, C or D. Within these sub-types measurements of the frames are also noted on a decreasing

scale; the length of the words 'Congo Belge' varies according to sub-types. The association of these two last measurements determines complementary sub-types which are given indicating letters from 'a' to 'g'. All measurements are expressed in millimeters.

The attached list of type 1 shows the shape of the known labels, the distinctive designs of the 'R' and the indicative letter attributed to each position. Ray Keach's initial references appear in front of the new one illustrations of positions 1Ac, 1Ad, 1Ae and 1Ba, mentioned by Keach, will hopefully complete the picture. It should be noted that the photocopying process has slightly reduced measurements. The variety 'broken leg' in the letter 'R' has been indicated by \*.

A new element has been introduced into the classification: it is represented by the position of the registration number relative to the letter 'R'. The determination of the position is explained in the attached sketch (page 8) Position differs from one sub-type to another and in some case even in the same sub-type. Differences in positions could have resulted from the fact that the registration numbers were apparently printed separately on the labels, making proper adjustment difficult. Positions are indicated as H (high), M (medium) or B (low).

Colours vary from orange to bright red, sometimes in the same sub-type and 1Da is known in Lilac. Perforations have not been detailed at this stage.

### Type 2 (un-framed)

Comments about type 1 apply to the classification of types 2, except for complementary sub-types: on the list of types 2 the succession of sub-types has been determined according to their dates of appearance on documents. The list shows that labels can easily be identified due to the great differences in the shapes of the letter 'R' and the registration numbers.

Positions of registration numbers

relative to the letter 'R' are measured differently from type 1, as appears on the attached sketch (page ). Again, three positions (H, M, B,) are found, sometimes in the same sub-type.

Some type 2 labels were printed with the names of the main postoffices. For places with French, as opposed to native names, the printing was first unilingual; later on it became bilingual. Reference is made to these with the marks ' or '+2. Positions show a \* where the 'broken leg' variety is found in the letter 'R' (presently 2G only).

In type 2, colours vary from orange-red to dark red, sometimes within the same sub-type, except for sub-type 2F which was printed in black. Differences in perforations were not noted at this stage. It is hoped, in due course, to discover for what period each sub-type of registration label was in use.

In his introduction to the study of registration labels, (Bulletin No. 21, March 1973)

Keach has made various comments about their history and their utilization by the post offices. Little can be added to what he said.

However, the study of labels leads to the subject of 'town griffes' where it seems that plenty of discoveries are still to be made. Also, the study of registration procedures, associated with that of postal rates, confirms the intricacies of the numerous changes of tariffs that occurred during the relative short existence of Belgian Congo and Ruanda-Urundi. No surprise that post-masters up-country, and even in the Capital, sometimes approximated the rating of postage, without addressing the possible lack of the correct values, to match the new tariff.

A. J. Jeukens  
September 1992

*(When this paper was presented there were not available types 1c 1Ac; 1a 1Ad; 1d 1Ae; and 1e 1Da; the others of which are illustrated on the following pages. Should any member possess examples of the missing items-- your editor would welcome reproducible photo copies to appear in a later Bulletin)*

*In the following illustrative pages of these Registration Labels there are a number of abbreviations:*

Colours:

R-O = ORANGE RED  
Rvif = BRIGHT RED  
Rcl = PALE RED  
R = RED  
R-Ocl = PALE ORANGE RED  
Rfce = DEEP RED  
O = ORANGE  
O-R = RED ORANGE  
L = LILAC

R.K. Ray Keach  
A. J. Andre Jeukens  
"CB" Congo Belge (length of overprint)

## IDENTIFICATION OF POSITIONS

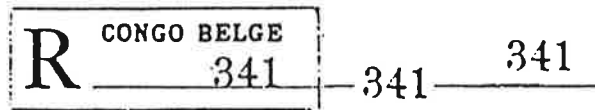
### Type 1

A horizontal line is drawn, aligned with the base of the legs of the letter 'R':

H = the registration number appears in full above the line;

M = the bottom of the number is in alignment with the line;

B = the bottom of the first figure of the registration number falls below the horizontal line.



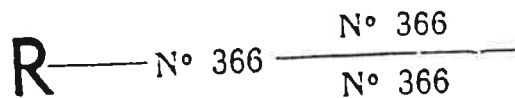
### Type 2

A horizontal line is drawn through the buckle of the letter 'R':

H = the letter 'N' appears entirely above the horizontal line;

M = part of the letter 'N' is crossed by the line;

B = the letter 'N' appears entirely under the horizontal line.


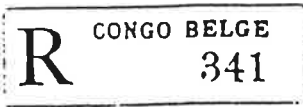
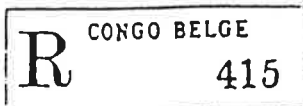
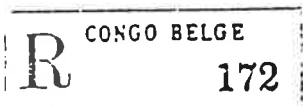
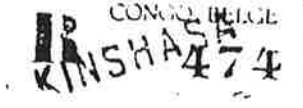
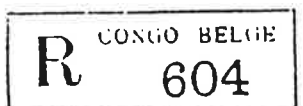


### FRAMED ETIQUETTES

.K.	A.J.	"R"	BORDER SIZE (mm)	"CB"	COLOUR	EARLIEST DATES			
						CB	CB/EAA	R-U	
	1Aa		8	41x14	21	R-O	H M B	_____ _____ _____	_____ _____ _____
	1Ab*		8	41x13,5	22,5	Rvif	H M B	_____ _____ _____	_____ _____ _____
c	1Ac		8	41x13	24	Rcl	H M B	_____ _____ _____	_____ _____ _____
1a	1Ad		8	40x14	23	R	H M B	_____ _____ _____	_____ _____ _____
1d	1Ae		8	40x14	22	R	H M B	_____ _____ _____	_____ _____ _____
	1Af*		8	40x13,5 (8)	22,5	R/Rvif	H M B	_____ _____ _____	_____ _____ _____



## FRAMED ETIQUETTES continued

R.K.	A.J.	"R"	BORDER SIZE (mm)	"CB"	COLOUR	EARLIEST DATES
1Ag*			8 39,5x13,5	22	Rvif H M B	_____ _____ _____
1B			7,5 40,5x13	23,5	Rcl H M B	_____ _____ _____
1b	1Ca		7 40x13,5	21	R-0cl H /R M B	_____ _____ _____
	1Cb		7 39,5x13,5	21	R-0/O H /O-R M B	_____ _____ _____
1e	1Da*		6,5 39,5x14	22	L H M B	_____ _____ _____
1f	1Db		6,5 38x13	23	O/O-R H /R M B	_____ _____ _____

\* Exists with the variety, 'broken leg' of the R

## UNFRAMED ETIQUETTES

R.K.	A.J.	"R"				EARLIEST DATES	
						CB R-U	
2	2Aa'	7	<b>R</b>	N° 892	Rfcé	H M B	_____ _____ _____
3a	2Ab	7	<b>R</b>	N° 238	Rfcé	H M B	_____ _____ _____
4	2Ac	7	<b>R</b>	N° 500	R	H M B	_____ _____ _____
10	2Ad'+2	7	<b>R</b>	N° 366	Rfcé/R/R-O	H M B	_____ _____ _____
11	2Ae'+2	7	<b>R</b>	N° 647	R-O/R/Rvif	H M B	_____ _____ _____
2	2Ba	6,5	<b>R</b>	N° 999	R/R-O	H M B	_____ _____ _____
3b	2Bb'	6,5	<b>R</b>	N° 748	R	H M B	_____ _____ _____

UNFRAMED ETIQUETTES continued

<u>R.K.</u>	<u>A.J.</u>	<u>"R"</u>		<u>COLOUR</u>		<u>EARLIEST DATES</u>
4 <sup>1</sup>	2Bc <sup>1</sup>	6,5	<b>R</b>	N <sup>o</sup> 420	Rfcé/R	H M B
3c	2Ca <sup>1</sup>	6	<b>R</b>	N <sup>o</sup> 279	R/Rcl	H M B
5	2Cb <sup>1</sup>	6	<b>R</b>	N <sup>o</sup> 981	Rfcé/R	H M B
12	2Cc	6	<b>R</b>	N <sup>o</sup> 126	R	H M B
6	2D <sup>1</sup>	5,5	<b>R</b>	N <sup>o</sup> 483	R	H M B
8	2E	4,5	<b>R</b>	N <sup>o</sup> 301	Rfcé	H M B
7	2F	4	<b>R</b>	N <sup>o</sup> 000117	Noir	H M B
9	2G <sup>*</sup>	3,5	<b>R</b>	N <sup>o</sup> 294	Rfcé	H M B

NOTES:

1. Exists with printed name of the post office, unilingue
2. Exists with printed name of the post office, bilingue
- \*. Exists with the variety, 'broken leg' of the R

## THE 1922 "MALINES" ISSUE

(Notes on a display by R. H. Keach at the BCSC Meeting 12 September 1992)

This issue comprises five 1915 stamps surcharged with new values and similarly five with EST AFRICAIN overprint for use in the Belgian occupied part of German East Africa. They are all common and inexpensive stamps but are well worthy of attention because of the variations that exist within each stamp, some variations extremely rare, recognized only by the knowledgeable and invariably offered for sale at normal prices. With time and patience a substantial collection of the issue can be made with little expenditure if curiosities such as inverted surcharges and partly imperforate stamps are excluded.

Variations that can be taken into account include:

1. Combinations of Plates of the basic stamps. The 1915 5c exists in five combinations of printing plates of which four and maybe the fifth received the surcharge; the 10c in four combinations and three were surcharged, maybe the fourth also; the 25c in five combinations of which four are known to have been surcharged (as far as we know one combination exists only with the surcharge); the 40c in two combinations of which both were surcharged; the 50c in two (probably three) combinations of which two were surcharged. With very little practice the combination of plates of any of these stamps is easily recognized except for the following; 5c  $V_1 + E_1$  or  $V_2 + E_2$  (this sometimes with difficulty), 25c  $III_1 + C$  or early printing of  $III_2 + C$  and 25c  $III_2 + D$  or  $III_3 + D$  (identifiable in only a few positions in the sheet). The booklet stamps were not surcharged-except for the forgeries.

2. Perforations. Perforation 14 exists for all values and is much the most common. Perforation 15 exists for all values and varies in the surcharged stamps from common to very rare. Perforation  $13\frac{1}{2}$  (actually 13.7) exists for some values and is relatively uncommon in the surcharged

stamps.

3. Shades. With the many printings of the 1915 stamps, mostly under war-time conditions, the printing inks, particularly those used for the frames, varied resulting in a variation in shade, some minor, some very pronounced, in the finished stamps and this is, in part, reflected in the surcharged stamps.

4. EST AFRICAIN overprints. Quite a number of different overprinting plates were used to produce the November 1916 EST AFRICAIN issue, some overprints being immediately identifiable, some perhaps only in certain positions in a sheet of stamps. To some extent this is reflected in the 1922 surcharged stamps. No 'short' overprints are known in this issue but there is no reason why they should not have existed. Stamps with long types L1 (various sub-types), L2 and L2 can be found surcharged.

5. Surcharging inks. The black 5c surcharge on the 50c is found with both matt and shiny ink. The red 10c surcharge on the 5c exists in minor shades of vermilion. The red 25c surcharge on the 40c is found in bright vermilion, red and carmine. The red 50c surcharge on the 25c is found in vermilion, carmine-red and carmine-rose. Let me say that these are my own descriptions of the shades; others may describe them differently but, at least, the differences are obvious enough.

For any particular stamp by no means every possible combination of plates, perforation, shade of stamps, EST AFRICAIN overprint (if applicable) and shade of surcharge is known-far from it-but they could exist and indeed may and they are worth seeking.

### Curiosities

Several values are found partly perforated, either with imperforate margin or in pair imperforate-between and these are necessarily scarce items. Although nice to have they are not essential for an interesting collection of these stamps.

Several values exist with inverted or double surcharge; a sheet of the 5c/50c

with inverted surcharge was sold over the post office counter at Kambove. These curiosities, in the main, are obvious and unlikely to be found offered as 'normals'. However, the 25c and 30c surcharges exist with the double surcharge only a little displaced from the first and these are by no means obvious with a casual glance, the surcharge simply appearing thicker than usual. A magnifying glass shows that there were two distinct applications of the surcharging plates in these instances.

### The Method of Surcharging

Until recently it was thought that the surcharging plates were of fifty subjects comprising report blocks of five or ten subjects and those interested are referred to General Du Four's book 'CONGO -Cinquante Ans d'Histoire Postale' for a detailed exposition of each value.

Current theory, backed by substantial evidence, is different; that, in most cases the surcharging plate was either a single horizontal strip of five subjects, applied ten times to the sheet of stamps, or a plate of ten subjects (5 wide X 2 high) applied five times to a sheet of stamps. It is hoped that, in the near future, a paper in these columns will provide adequate evidence to support this theory.

### Forgeries

Double and inverted surcharges are prime targets for the forger because of the high prices they fetch. In this series however there are forgeries of the normal 10c (on 5c) and 50c (on 25c) which could have resulted in very little gain for the forger, the surcharged stamps being catalogued at little or no more than the basic stamps. No one would have expected such forgeries and, in the case of the 50c, were discovered only because they were booklet stamps that were surcharged (by the forger) and booklet stamps were not surcharged officially. It is very probable that the forger applied his 50c surcharging

stamps to stamps from the sheets of 50 and it is an interesting, even if not a financially rewarding project to seek such faked stamps.

### General

It used to be thought that the surcharging was done at the Belgian Government Printing Works at Malines-hence the nickname of the issue- and this was claimed in the Balasse Catalogue. There is now what appears to be overwhelming evidence that the surcharging was done in London by Waterlow & Sons, the printers of the 1915 stamps. Tradition makes us continue to call the stamps the 'Malines issue' and I imagine the description, although incorrect, will continue to be used. ♦

### **ANDRÉ JEUKENS**

It is with the greatest regret that we learn of the death, in Brussels on 2 November 1992, of Andre Jeukens who first joined the Study Circle in 1957 when he lived in Leopoldville.

Over the years we were able to welcome him to many of our meetings; he and his wife regularly attended our annual week-end meeting and we shall sadly miss their presence in the future.

On his retirement and return to Belgium Andre's interest in Congo stamps greatly increased and he built up a very fine specialized collection. In recent years his attention moved more to the postal history about which he was equally enthusiastic, acquiring many fine items. He had time for the less popular aspects of Congo philately: a paper he prepared, (but, due to his illness, was unable to present personally at our recent September meeting), on REGISTRATION LABELS is reproduced in this issue of the Bulletin. He made sure that the album pages and the documentation he had prepared for two displays at that meeting were there for the members to enjoy.

We extend our sincere sympathy to Madame Jeukens and to all other members of his family

RHK

(Our member, Laurence Green who is Mr. Jeukens brother-in-law comments further) "I visited him at LEOPOLDVILLE in 1960, when we were both very much beginners in Belgian Congo philately, and we have always kept very much in philatelic touch ever since.

André published articles in our Bulletin on the mail routes in and out of the Congo. He was also very interested in CENSURE MARKS and he published, in November 1990, an excellent work "LA CENSURE AU CONGO BELGE (CIVIL ET MILITAIRE GUERRE 1939-1945)."

LGG

*(We will publish in our next Bulletin M. Jeukens work on BELGIAN CONGO MAIL ROUTES--SOUTHERN ROUTE. I came to personally know him at the meetings in Bournemouth and Weybridge and will miss his charm, philatelic knowledge and we shall all miss his erudition in his special philatelic interests. Ed.) ♦*

## FUTURE MEETINGS

Geography and the cost of travelling have had a serious effect on the numbers of members able to attend our meetings.

The afternoon meetings, usually at Tadworth or Esher, rarely have more than FOUR or FIVE members present and usually rely on a display from Ray Keach's resources.

We have something of a difficulty here, in that the Belgian Study Circle are keen to continue the JOINT WEEK-END meetings, and have in mind somewhere near Bristol next year. Also they have more home members available and keen to attend meetings in the south of England.

It has been suggested that in 1994 the Belgian Congo Study Circle should have a meeting in Belgium to coincide with the

Centenary of the issue of the first Mols stamps. I think we owe this to our Belgian members, and I remember with pleasure a meeting we held in Belgium some years ago.

Will those of you interested let me have your views about BRISTOL in 1993 and BELGIUM in 1994. Above all will you let me know whether and what you would be prepared to show at the meetings. My own modest resources have all been shown in recent years, and even Ray's are not inexhaustible.

Saturday afternoon meetings can always be arranged if there is a demand and, indeed, one has been provisionally fixed for 1 May 1993 at Tadworth, when Ed Lavitt hopes to be over.

L G GREEN ♦

## CRANBROOK JOINT MEETING

A joint meeting was held with the Belgian Study Circle the week-end of the 12/13 September 1992 at the WILLESLEY HOTEL, CRANBROOK. The Belgian Congo contingent was small but enthusiastic--we were pleased to welcome two members who had not previously attended--X. H. Verbeck from New York and F. Van Der Weken from Brussels.

Seven presentations were made and brief notes on these follow:

### 1. 1921 RECUPERATION ISSUE-- L G Green

The origins of this curious issue are well known--in effect the Belgian authorities surcharged (overprinted) all the BILINGUE issue of 1910, which they had recovered at the end of the War from the Germans, either with the different values surcharged on the lower values to 50c or with 1921 printed on the higher values from 1F to 10F.

In addition a few remnants of earlier issues were overprinted, as follows:

	Number printed
<u>UNILINGUE</u> 15c on 50c	6000
<u>TYPOGRAPH</u> 5c on 40c	500
15c on 50c	950
1921 on 1F	400
1921 on 5F	100
1921 on 10F	300
<u>LOCAL</u> 1921 on 5F	500
<u>SURCHARGES</u> 1921 on 10F	300

Obviously all these are rare and cancellations are nearly all philatelic--BOMA 10/8/22, although I showed a 15c UNILINGUE canceled BASOKO. A Princess Typograph surcharged 1921 also exists but I have never seen it. Covers for all the normal values were shown (they are not easy to find) in particular a 10F 1921 to Vienna 23/10/23.

As with all surcharges there are lots of minor varieties and imperfections in them and they abound with missing dots.

There were shown two rare reversed surcharges - the 15c on 50c only known cancelled LUSAMBO 3/1/23--and the 30c on 10c which was recorded by DU FOUR as existing, but never seen by him.

The 3 values of the 1915 BILINGUE MODIFIÉS were shown (10c, 30c and 50c)--They are not known used.

15c and 30c were also surcharged in 1921 on the 5c and 10c 1911 Postcards (EP48 to 51 inclusive). A few of these postcards were also exhibited.

LGG

*(A note here should be made of the terms "overprint" and "surcharge"--Keach reports that in French any overprint is considered a 'surcharge', including the simple example CONGO BELGE; in England an overprint which sets forth a new value such as the 5c on 50c is considered a 'surcharge' (see Websters dictionary meaning 3) while the 1921 on 1F is an example of an 'overprint'; here in the United States a surcharge is an extra charge (see Websters dictionary meaning 2 (a))--such as appears on the Red Cross issue of 1918 and the other strikes are overprints--in any event I am sure I readers will understand the author's meaning.*

*Further, as to the 1F Princess Typographed 1921--there is one sheet known--we know of one person who owns one half of it--there are two known blocks of four owned by our members as well as 2 or 3 single stamps. The remaining 14 or 15 stamps are out there somewhere. There are, however, numerous known forgeries. Editor.)*

#### East African Campaign-World War I Hal Hoyte

A display of the postal history of the East Africa campaign of World War I was led by Hal Hoyte, but consisted largely of the fine collection of Mrs. Doris Green, supported by contributions from Ray Keach, with his collection of the Mols RUANDA and URUNDI overprints, and Hal Hoyte.

It opened with some forerunners from the part of German East Africa which later became Ruanda Urundi, a ppc from UVIRA to KISSENJI with USUMBURA transit, and German East Africa stamps with RUANDA, USUMBURA and KISSENJI postmarks. Mrs. Green's collection has been seen and reported before (see her report Bulletin 82/10-13) but one must mention some of the outstanding items; ..I was struck by examples from the earlier part of the war, including a Congo card with German military cancellation, and a ppc from the advance guard of the British Naval Expedition. "Service Militaire" marks and endorsements were well represented, captured German cancelers were represented by the mutilated MUANZA cds (circular date stamp) on cover, straight-line "Kigoma" (including two Gothic type) and USUMBURA with ms date on stamps, and the TABORA straight-line with bar on cover front. Military censorship marks were in abundance, as were the BPCVPK cancels, mainly on cover or card. "Sans-cercle" cancels (Heim & Keach Type 4) from civil POs established in occupied towns included the rare KAREMA on ppc to Italy, and KITEGA on cover dated 7 NOV 1918, before the official opening date of the PO. There were also some POW camp material and some European covers with Congo connections.

This was altogether a most interesting display from a period which is becoming increasingly popular and, alas, more expensive to collect.

HH

## The Portrait Issues of 1886 and 1887

L. G. Green

1886

The origins of the first stamp of the ETAT INDEPENDANT DU CONGO are fairly well known--the 25c and 50c stamp being altered from the same values of the Belgian issue, and the rare 5 Francs of the 1869 Belgian issue being used for the 5c, 10c and 5F values.

Very limited numbers of the stamps were printed and it is curious that the catalogue values of the used stamp bear very little relation to the numbers printed:

Stamp	No. printed	'93 Cat Official value-Belg francs
5c	120,000	850
10c	90,000	160
25c	60,000	1,350
50c	60,000	215

For this issue the Belgian printers used only one of the three sheets (of 50 stamps each) currently in use for the Belgian 1869 issue. The printed sheet was therefor attached to two blank sheets, but not always in the same position, 5c and 50c mostly on the right. The accounting markings were unchanged from the original Belgian markings--the dates of manufacture was printed in RED in the bottom margin for the 5c and 50c and inverted at the top for the 10c and 25c--the place of manufacture ATELIER DU TIMBRE printed in black in the lower margin.

The stamps were printed in horizontal blocks of 10 (5 blocks to a sheet) and both for this and the 1887 issue were shown including most of the many blocks and plate varieties listed in DU FOUR and BALASSE.

Special items of interest displayed:

- block of twelve used 5c cancelled BANANA 16/12/87;
- top left corner mint block of 9 of 25c with marginal markings;
- letter with pair of 25c cancelled BOMA 29/11/88;
- complete mint sheet of the 50c;
- three of the IMPERF LENOIR forgery sheets, with their own varieties.

1887

The eight stamps of this, the first colonial, issue were shown in depth. The marginal markings are more straightforward than the 1886 issue. The stamps were printed

in three panes of 50 stamps each.

One of the most interesting features is that the dates of manufacture were always 1889 or 1890--so the 50c grey issued in 1894 was printed in 1890 as was the 5F grey issued in 1892.

Special items of interest shown:

- the four different types of SPECIMEN and explanation of NUL;
- covers with pairs of 25c and 50c;
- mint corner block of four of 5F grey with variety;
- mint block of four of 10F with variety;
- a wide range of both framed and unframed COLIS POSTAUX with many varieties of doubled and reversed (inverted) surcharges

### Southern Mail Routes from the Congo

André Jeukens (shown in his absence by L. G. Green)

Some magnificent covers were shown to illustrate the various routes discussed in his article

### SECRETARY/TREASURER'S NOTES

#### Alliance & Leicester Building Society

A meeting was held on the 8th September 1992 to change the Treasurer's Account with the Building Society to in INSTANT ACCESS ACCOUNT to improve the rate of interest. The necessary resolutions required by the Building Society were adopted and signed.

#### Annual Subscriptions for 1993

These fall due for payment on the 1st of January 1993 and should be paid as follows:

- Members in the USA and CANADA \$13 to E. M. Lavitt;
- Members in Belgium 400 BF to Abbé Gudenkauf
- Members elsewhere in Europe including the U K £7 to L G Green
- Members elsewhere overseas £8 to L G Green
- Payments may be made to R H Keach via members current accounts

After the large scale survey and the subsequent articles which appeared in Bulletins Nos. 71 and 79, members may feel that they have had a surfeit of this subject. On the other hand, those who are interested may feel that one point - at least - has still not been dealt with fully. That is: where mail was censored in respect of the many towns and villages which are known to have had post offices, but which did not have their own censor stations. As I still had the results of the survey carried out some 4 years ago, I thought I should attempt to answer that question as far as was possible from the available material - i.e. the mass of completed questionnaires and/or photocopies which had been sent in to me.

As we know, there were only 22 censor stations established in the Congo and Ruanda-Urundi and, even now, some of these have never been found to be represented by identifiable censored mail, although it may exist - I have seen covers which might have been censored in Libenge, for instance, but as the only censorship mark was the standard Ba type "CENSURE CONGO BELGE" handstamp, and as these covers also passed through Léopoldville, that cannot be confirmed on this evidence. There were, however, almost 150 places which had post offices in 1940-45, although no cancellations are as yet recorded during the war period for a handful of these. So where was the mail censored after it entered the postal system? So far, I have succeeded in finding some evidence in respect of almost half of the post offices, as shown on the following list, and shall be delighted to add any further information that members may be able to provide.

There are some major points to bear in mind. First, in the earliest stages of Congo censorship, only Léopoldville was fully organised and much mail was censored there which, later on was censored at more local stations; further, Léopoldville remained very much the centre and backstop of the censorship system - if, for any reason, mail reached there without having previously been censored, it was almost certain to be dealt with at that stage. In particular, it appears to have been very common for air mail, directed to the Pan American Airways service from Léopoldville to the United States, to have been sent on to Léopoldville for censorship, even from places such as Elisabethville which had their own well-established censor stations; perhaps this was to ensure that the mail would still catch the earliest possible flight.

I should add that, for purposes of this study, I have only included data where the censor station is absolutely identifiable. There are no guesses based on standard handstamps; either a mark is location specific, or a resealing strip has been used with a cancellation and/or examiner's number to identify the station. As a separate exercise, I also tried to relate examiner numbers to languages used, but this proved an impossible task, even given the wealth of material, as only some 5% of the writers followed the instruction to show the language on covers.



Because, by definition, most of us are Belgian Congo collectors first and censorship collectors second, I have not had access to any large quantity of covers to the Congo from other countries during the Second World War. However, such evidence as I have seen, bolstered by assistance from Mr. Jeukens, would seem to indicate that Congo censorship of incoming mail was undertaken by the censor station nearest the point of entry of the mail to the Congo, as would be expected.

ORIGIN	CENSORED AT
Aba*	Stanleyville (1); Léopoldville (1)
Aketi	Buta (4); Léopoldville (1)
Albertville*	
Ango	Stanleyville (1)
Ankoro	
Bafwasende	Stanleyville (1)
Bambili	
Banalia	
Banana	
Banga-Tshela	Boma (2)
Banningville	Léopoldville (3)
Banzyville	
Basankusu	Stanleyville (1); Coquilhatville (3); Léopoldville (1)
Basoko	
Basongo	
Befale	
Beni	
Boende	Coquilhatville (1)
Bokungu	
Bolobo	Léopoldville (2)
Boma*	Léopoldville (1)
Bomboma	
Bondo	
Bosobolo	
Budjala	
Bukama	
Bulungu	
Bunia	Elisabethville (1); Irumu (1); Léopoldville (2)
Busu-Djanao	
Buta*	
Butembo	
Coquilhatville*	Léopoldville (3)
Costermansville*	
Dekese	
Dibaya	Elisabethville (1)
Dilolo	Elisabethville (1); Léopoldville (1)
Djolu	Léopoldville (1)
Djugu	
Dungu	Stanleyville (1)
Elisabethville*	Léopoldville (15)
Faradje	
Feshi	
Fizi	
Gemena	
Goma	Costermansville (1); Irumu (1)
Gumba-Mobeka	
Gungu	

Ilofa	Léopoldville (2)
Ikala	
Ingende	
Inkisi	Léopoldville (4)
Inongo	
Irebu	
Irumu*	Léopoldville (3); Stanleyville (1)
Isangi	
Jadotville	Elisabethville (22)
Kaballa	
Kabalo	
Kabambare	
Kabare	
Kabinda	
Kabongo	
Kahemba	Léopoldville (3)
Kalina	Léopoldville (1)
Kamina	Elisabethville (2); Léopoldville (3)
Kamituga	Costermansville (1)
Kasenga	
Kasongo**	Kindu (2); Léopoldville (1)
Kasongo-Lunda	
Katako-Kombe	
Kilombo	
Kihembwe	
Kikwit	Léopoldville (14)
Kindu*	Albertville (1)
Kipushi	Elisabethville (1)
Kolwezi	Elisabethville (2)
Kongolo	
Kutu	
Kwamouth	
Léopoldville*	
Libenge**	Léopoldville (2)
Lisala**	Léopoldville (3)
Lodja	Lusambo (1)
Lokandu	
Lomela	Lusambo (1)
Lubero	Irumu (2); Bunia (3); Costermansville (1)
Lubutu	
Luebo	Léopoldville (10)
Luena	
Luisa	Léopoldville (2)
Luishia	
Lukolela	
Lukula	Boma (2)
Luluabourg*	Léopoldville (6)
Luputa	Elisabethville (1)
Lusambo*	
Madimba	Léopoldville (1)
Mahagi	
Malonga	
Mangai	
Manono	Kindu (1); Léopoldville (3)
Masi Manimba	
Masisi	Costermansville (1)
Matadi*	Léopoldville (13)
Moba	

Meerbeke	Léopoldville (1)
Mongbwala	Irumu (1)
Monkoto	Coquilhatville (1)
Mushie	
Mweka	
Niangara	Stanleyville (1); Léopoldville (1)
Nioka	
Nizi	Irumu (2); Léopoldville (2)
Nouvelle-Anvers	
Opala	
Oshwe	
Paulis	Stanleyville (1)
Poko	Stanleyville (2)
Ponthierville	
Popokabaka	
Fort Francoqui	
Punia	
Rutshuru	
Sakania	
Sandoa	Elisabethville (3)
Shabunda	Kindu (2)
Stanleyville*	Léopoldville (3)
Tenke	
Thysville	Léopoldville (10)
Tshikapa*	Elisabethville (1); Léopoldville (6)
Tshimbulu	Luluabourg (1)
Tshofa	
Uvira	
Wamba	Stanleyville (1)
Watsa*	Stanleyville (1); Léopoldville (1)
Yahuma	
Yumbi	
Astrida	
Kigali	Usumbura (2)
Kitega	
Usumbura*	

\* = Censor station

\*\* = Censor station, but with no authenticated examples of censorship

Number of covers censored at each station is shown in brackets

P. S. Foden♦

EDITORS POSTSCRIPT At year end I would like to share with you a story from England by way of Linn's Stamp News, it may touch a familiar chord. It appears that a home, in England, was robbed and the Police were called immediately. They made a careful survey of the premises and when they entered the Stamp room they found stamps of all types and kinds scattered all over. They remarked--"the burglars certainly made a mess here"--the owner made an inspection herself and said--"No. they never came in here--nothing seems to have been disturbed." My New Year's resolution for 1993 is to make my stamp room not fit that description. C'est la vie.