

BELGIAN CONGO



STUDY CIRCLE

*Secretary:*

P. S. Foden,  
5 Ascham Lane,  
Whittlesford,  
Cams. CB2 4NT,  
U.K.

*Bulletin Editor:*

R. E. Jacquemin,  
4132 E. Minnezona,  
Phoenix,  
Arizona 85018,  
U.S.A.

BULLETIN NO. 70

DECEMBER 1988

President: Mr. A. Vindevoghel  
Boite 4, 19A Avenue Marnix  
1050 Brussels, Belgium

Exchange Packet Secretary:  
B. P. Hudson  
92 Oakley Street, London SW3, U.K.

Vice President and General Sales Secretary: R. H. Keach  
25 Kingswood Road  
Tadworth, Surrey KT20 5EE, U.K.

CONTENTS

PAGES

News and Views	2
The Vice-Presidential Column	3 - 4
Perforation of the Mols Stamps	5 - 6
Meeting - 10 September 1988	7
Torquay Joint Meeting 8-9 October 1988	8 - 9
Stampworld London - 1990	9
The Unilingual Issue of June, 1909	10 - 23
Belgian Congo - The 1921 Overprint	24 - 27
Sales Department	28
Seldom Seen Cancel	28
Postal Auction Sale - Prices Realized	29

NEWS AND VIEWSNEW MEMBERS

Two new members have joined our group:

T. Svendeen, Bagsvaerd, Denmark

Thomas E. Giraldi, Sunland, California

According to the application blank filled in by Mr. Giraldi, he has an interest in picture postcards, postal history and postmarks of the Congo. He is a member of the American Philatelic Society, Civil Censorship Study Group, British Caribbean Philatelic Study Group and the British West Indies Study Circle.

BCSC ANNUAL COMPETITION

With 20 January 1989 as the deadline, there is still time to whip together your effort toward entering the competition with fellow members. The subject is POSTAL HISTORY, and as outlined in Bulletin No. 69, this covers a wide field but with the limitation of just 12 pages, it does not take too much effort to show off some of your treasures. In addition you can also show a certain amount of your philatelic knowledge. Best of all, your judges will be selected from our membership, so you do not have to worry about judges who do not have the vaguest idea of Congo philately.

The **main purpose** is to encourage exhibiting on the part of our members in local, regional, national and international shows. Just as we have to crawl before we walk, walk before we run - one should start in the smaller shows and work upward. In order to enter the international level, one has to have earned a certain level in a national show. So it does take time and effort and just material alone will not earn awards. One of the most helpful publications on exhibiting is the American Philatelic Society's "Manual of Philatelic Judging, Second Edition". It should be a must in any good philatelic library.

POSTAL AUCTION SALE

Included with this Bulletin are four pages of Postal Stationery, Part 2. Conditions of sale are the same as used for the first Postal Stationery Sale. Remember the deadline for bids is 28 February 1989, so get your bids in early.

DUES

While it is past the due time for dues and while most members have sent in our annual fee, there are still some who have overlooked this matter. We are certain it is an oversight so prompt payment would be appreciated, as we plan to stop sending Bulletins with the March issue for those who have not remitted.

THE VICE-PRESIDENTIAL COLUMN1915 50c First Centre Plate

Quite unusually our most accomplished 'plater' has asked for my assistance in identifying the position in the sheet of a copy of the 1915 50c with unshaded smoke (plates III3 + A5).

Thanks to trivial imperfections on the frame plate it has to be No. 50 in the sheet but the centre is not what I would have expected. In the complete sheet of the stamp a) the top left part of the continuous horizontal lines forming the shading of the sky is very clearly doubled and b) there is a pronounced horizontal black scratch at the bottom of and extending to the left of the vignette. I have a single copy of No. 50 identical with that in the complete sheet and also a copy with the doubling but without the scratch. This third example, however, has neither scratch nor doubling of the sky. The presence or absence of the scratch is easily explained and of little consequence because scratches appear due to misuse of the plate and disappear due to wear of the plate but the absence of the doubling of the shading of the sky is a very different matter: it could mean that we have to consider another state of this centre plate or accept that some of the 1915 stamps were printed from the plates as they were used for the last printing of the 1910 stamps.

Before deciding on either of these possibilities we need a lot more evidence and it is hoped that members may be able to provide it.

Complete sheets, even large multiples, of the 1915 50c, plates III3 + A5, are rare and with the 5c Malines surcharge are unknown but all 50c with RUANDA or URUNDI overprint are from these plates and that may help.

All members who have complete sheets or large blocks and all who have reconstructed or partly reconstructed sheets (of the) III3 + A5 stamps are asked to study them to see if they agree with the stamps on my complete sheet, as follows:

Position Nos. 10, 16, 35, 36, 39, 40, 47, 48, 49 and 50 have, in part, the continuous horizontal lines of shading of the sky clearly doubled; positions 11, 13 and 41 have the lines, wholly or in part, much thickened due to re-entry.

If any of your stamps from these positions do not have the doubling or thickening, or if you think that they may not, PLEASE write to me. For some of us this is a matter of importance.

THE TABORA DATE STAMP

The TABORA double-circle date stamp is a common enough cancellation on both 1915 and EAAOB stamps but it is seen in two different varieties:

A) If you look at the cancellation with the TABORA at the top, the date data in the centre is askew, turned clockwise by 20 to 30°. This is the normal cancellation, quite commonly found on travelled covers.

B) Again looking at the cancellation with TABORA at the top, the date data is square and not askew.

General Du Four, on page 487 of his book, illustrated these two cancellations and considered B to be rare. I have met it on several isolated 1915 Congo and EAAOB stamps, sometimes with full original gum and obviously CTO or worse. Now I have met it on two stamps with Havre RUANDA overprint and on a 5F with forged URUNDI overprint.

Has any member this cancellation B on a travelled cover? If not I think that we have to treat it as completely bogus.

R. H. KEACH

MOLS 15 CENTIMES PLATES

In Bulletin No. 67, we reported the discovery of the new plate IV1 + C1, (without the addition of lay marks on the frame plate) with the Est Africain Allemand overprint. Recently, the secretary had the opportunity to inspect 100 sheets of the 15c EAAOB stamp. These were in two separate sequences:

91 - 100  
241 - 330

however, it would appear that both lots came from the same original batch of 500 sheets as, without exception, the sheet numbers had been duplicated on diagonally opposite corners. The majority of the sheets were of the well-known plate combination with the lay marks, now known as IV2 + C1, but no fewer than 12 were of the newly discovered state. There is absolutely no sense to the way in which these 12 sheets are distributed among the 100, as they are numbers 91, 93, 97 and 261, 264, 277, 280, 283, 287, 297, 309, 316. (The original IV1 sheet in the secretary's possession is No. 310, but from a completely different batch of 500).

If we are correct in our assumption about the stamps being printed from one combination of plates at a time, and IV2 is the genuinely re-entered state of IV1, which it has every appearance of being, then clearly the sheets must have been printed, and overprinted, in substantial quantities, and the output mixed up in some indiscriminate fashion, before the sheet numbering process commenced.

R. H. KEACH

General Du Four claimed that the sheets of Mols stamps were perforated one, sometimes two sheets at a time but I do not know if this claim was due to knowledge or to deduction from his own observations.

Glover, the long-established makers of the perforating machines used by Waterlow & Sons, claim that their line-perforators are able to perforate ten sheets at a time. This claim, which I am sure they can substantiate, a) may apply only to modern machines and not to those they manufactured fifty to a hundred years ago, b) may apply only when the machines are new and the pins sharp and the pins may soon become blunt and cut fewer sheets and c) may apply only when a particularly skilled operator is using the machine.

Du Four's claim is supported by the scarcity of any particular stamp with faulty perforations i.e. imperf.-between pairs and stamps with imperforate margin. I have a full sheet of the 1915 5c with 1922 Local 10c surcharge with three contiguous rows of perforation missing and there is no record of other such copies of either the original stamp or the same with any sort of overprint. On the other hand I once had before me two imperf.-between pairs of the 1915 10c both from the same position in the sheet; I have a sheet of the 1922 Malines 50c/25c with a missing line of perforation and a strip of three with the same missing line; it is virtually certain that at least two sheets were perforated together in these cases.

It is claimed that the sheets were checked by Waterlow when they were completed, as one might expect and substantiated by the existence of stamps with compound perforation, for example 14X14X14X15 where the odd line of perforation must have been added on a different machine after, during checking, the fault was found and the sheet returned to the perforating room for correction. If a checker found a faulty sheet it is reasonable to expect that he would have looked carefully at adjacent sheets to make sure that they were fully perforated, particularly as he would know if a multiplicity of sheets was perforated in one pass through the machine.

This suggests to me that the General's supposition was about right and that, in the days of the Mols stamps, the Glover machines, as used by Waterlow, perforated only one or two sheets at a time.

I have now had the rare opportunity to study no less than one hundred sheets of the 1916 15c EST AFRICAIN stamps and these in only two series of sheet numbers, 91 to 100 and 241 to 330. It is impossible to believe that any collector would be so ambitious as to collect serial numbers in an effort to complete 500 of a particular stamp and it is a fair presumption that the sheets were bought as remainders after the stamps were demonetized at the end of 1931 and that each sequence of numbers formed part of a single package of sheets dispatched from Waterlow. That all sheets came from a single package is virtually certain because, quite unusually, the sheets are numbered in **both** top left - the normal position with these stamps - and bottom right corners. And so I decided to study in detail the perforation of these sheets.

Most of the sheets are from the combination of plates IV2 + C1 (latest nomenclature) but sheets Nos. 91, 93, 97, 261, 264, 277, 283, 287, 297, 309 and 316 are from plates IV1 + C1. Sheets Nos. 91, 241 to 296, 298 to 310 and 318 to 330 are perforated 14; Nos. 92 to 100, 297 and 311 to 317 are perf. 15.

The sheets would have been prepared in the following stages:

- 1) sheets of stamps printed in two steps, frames and then centres
- 2) sheets dried
- 3) sheets gummed
- 4) sheets dried
- 5) sheets perforated
- 6) sheets checked
- 7) sheets numbered in sequence 1 to 500
- 8) the 500 sheets packaged for dispatch

Not mentioned above is the overprinting and this may have been done between stages 2) and 3), between 4) and 5) or between 5) and 6).

After the periods of drying of the sheets they would almost certainly not be in the same sequence in which they were prior to the drying but it is likely, or so I like to think, that during the perforating, overprinting and checking, and numbering and bundling they would remain

in sequence - or in reverse of the sequence - in which they previously were. Although sheet No. 297 is an exception the remainder give some support to that belief.

I therefore resolved to compare the spacings of the lines of perforation, both horizontally and vertically, of the various sheets to see if I could match them. In the hope, indeed belief, that when two or more sheets were fed into the perforating machine together they would, after the first line was perforated, adhere well enough to the adjacent sheets that during the perforating process there would be no relative movement between the sheets. If that is true then all sheets found with identical spacings between lines of perforation can be presumed to have been perforated together and I would be able to throw some light on the question of how many sheets were perforated at one time.

Had I attempted to match all 83 sheets perf. 14, each to every other, 6800 attempted matchings would have been necessary and I really could not spare all the time required for such an exercise so I decided to match them in groups with an overlap of one sheet between successive groups. Thus I studied as groups of the perf. 14 sheets 1) Nos. 241 to 250, 2) 250 to 260, 3) 260 to 270, 4) 270 to 280, 5) 280 to 290, 6) 290 to 300 (excluding of course 297), 7) 300 to 310 and 8) 318 to 330. For the perf. 15 sheets the groups were 92 to 100 and 311 to 317.

Of the sheets perf. 15 I found perfect matching pairs 94 and 95; 96 and 97, 98 and 99, 312 and 313, 314 and 315, and 316 and 317 but no matching between these pairs of sheets; 92 and 93 were, as far as these were concerned, unique in the spacings of their lines of perforations.

Of the perf. 14 sheets I found matching pairs 261-2, 264-5, 266-7, 268-9, 272-3, 281-2, 283-4, 285-6, 287-8, 289-90, 291-2, 293-4 and 295-6. Also matching trios 257, 259 and 260, 274-6 and 277-9. I was unable to find, amongst the groups selected, matching partners for the other sheets.

There were also 20 sheets of the 30c/10c EAOB numbered in sequence 361 to 380, all perforated 14, and I treated these as a single batch comparing the spacings of the perforations of each with every other. I found the following matching pairs: 361-2, 363-4, 365-6, 367-8, 369-70, 373-4, 375-6, 377-8 and 379-80. Nos. 371 and 372 did not match themselves or any other sheet.

If the premise that adjacent sheets would not move relatively during the perforating process is granted this study indicates that sheets were perforated singly or in pairs and occasionally, and presumably by accident, three sheets at a time. There is no evidence that greater thicknesses of sheets were perforated together.

It is highly probable that operators in the perforating room worked 'piece-work' i.e. were paid so many pence per hundred sheets perforated, as was the custom with semi-skilled work at the time, and the operators would have loaded into the perforating machine as many sheets as they could or were permitted in order to achieve satisfactory results.

RHK

MEETING - 10 SEPTEMBER, 1988

Nine members managed to get to Mr. Wood's house for the meeting, which commenced at 2 p.m. Mr. Hudson presented plate combinations and plate varieties of the Mols 5fr value, using as his starting point his very successful entry in the Study Circle's competition. The basic intention was to show each major plate variety for every combination of plates in which it existed. Among the gems from Mr. Hudson's collection were a number of complete sheets, including the original file copy sheet of the 1894 5fr in deep carmine, and a Princes' printing stamp, without Congo Belge overprint and showing the important variety of 2 long parallel scratches across the centre plate which originated with the Princes' printing (Balasse V2).

Mr. Hudson then explained the systematic manner in which he assigned stamps to their proper positions for sheet reconstructions. Briefly, for each value and issue he sets up a table, with horizontal lines 1-50 then has a number of vertical columns, where he indicates, first, varieties affecting a number of stamps, noting those as a), b), c), etc. This allows a first rough sort, then further notes of varieties which only appear on individual stamps (trying to have at least 3 such varieties for each position), then special notes identifying which are the difficult positions. Further columns identify any relevant surcharge varieties. Generally, it is worth remembering that the unique varieties tend to be the most minor ones.

This was a most instructive, yet extremely pleasant meeting, and we are grateful to Mr Hudson for his display and, of course, to Mr. and Mrs Wood for their hospitality, which was of the usual high standard.

## TORQUAY JOINT WEEKEND MEETING 8-9 OCTOBER, 1988

Eight members, four of them accompanied by their wives, came to Torquay for the annual joint weekend meeting with the Belgian Study Circle. The main business of the weekend commenced after lunch on the Saturday. Our President, Mr. Vindevoghel welcomed those attending and gave the floor to Mr Keach, who was showing his Congo postal stationery for the first session. The display was as comprehensive as we have come to expect from other parts of the Keach collection. Proofs and specimens were included, as were many of the known printing varieties and errors.

After tea, the joint session commenced. This was a presentation of the recess-printed stamps of the 1915 issue of Belgium, together with the 1915 Mols issue of the Congo. As far as possible, Waterlows file copy sheets were used to explain the development of the printings. Mr. Wood, who has specialised in the Belgian 1915 issue for many years, was able to show all the known file copy sheets, together with proofs, etc., and explained the circumstances and printing history of the issue in detail. The Congo display consisted of complete sheets of every combination of plates so far known of all the 1915 Mols stamps and was presented by Mr. Foden, using material mainly provided by Mr. Keach, but with the addition of file copy sheets from the Foden and Smith collections.

The first session on the Sunday consisted of a detailed description by our President of the interest and difficulty in compiling a complete collection of the 1909 Unilingual issue - just 4 stamps. A summary of Mr. Vindevoghel's talk, and some tables which he hopes other members will be able to contribute to, appear later in this Bulletin.

Next came postage dues on cover, mainly the property of Mr. Green, who was unfortunately unable to attend the meeting, with additions from Mr. Keach, who presented the subject, but apologised that he was not able to present Mr. Green's collection with the degree of knowledge which its owner could have brought to it. Nevertheless, the display, which covered the entire period from 1886 to post-independence, had many superb items and was of great interest to all there.

Finally we had a workshop session concentrating on the 1921 overprint on the high value stamps of the 1909 Congo Belge overprinted issues. The background was that the Expert Committee had recently received a number of these stamps for authentication, but, despite various dealers marks on them and some previous expert opinions, were by no means convinced that the overprints were genuine. For the workshop session, as many copies of the stamps as could be gathered had been brought, as well as a number of complete sheets of the overprints on the usual 1910 stamps. In addition, Mr. Vindevoghel had brought some articles which had appeared some years ago in Belgium, as well as a translation he had prepared for our Bulletin of an article by Mr. R. Vervisch, a Belgian expert on forgeries, who had kindly allowed the reproduction (this



article also follows in the Bulletin, but it has to be said that it does not cover all of the forged overprints which the Expert Committee has encountered). Even from the limited numbers of examples available at the meeting, it soon became apparent that the genuine overprints came from precisely the same plates as had been used to overprint the 1910 stamps, confirming the Committee's doubts about many of the so-called "errors" which appear to be going around the market. **BE WARNED.**

Other business consisted of all members signing cards to be sent to our Bulletin Editor, who should have been with us but had been prevented by illness, and to Mr. C. V. Spurgeon, who had recently taken ill.

The thanks of both Study Circles are due to Tony Geake, who found the hotel and made all the arrangements for what proved to be a most enjoyable weekend.

Early indications are that next year's weekend meeting will be in Leamington Spa, Warwickshire. Further details will appear in the Bulletin as soon as they are to hand.

#### STAMPWORLD LONDON - 1990

The next London International stamp exhibition will be held on 3 - 13 May, 1990. If sufficient overseas members, or for that matter the more distant of the U.K. members, intend to come to London, we could consider having a Study Circle meeting in London during that period. In that case, it is not too early to start making arrangements. Would members please let the secretary know their views and, in particular, whether they hope to be in London between 3 & 13 May, 1990.

Further, 1991 will be the 40th Anniversary of the Study Circle and could be an appropriate time for something out of the usual run of meetings. What do members think? Would it be too much to have largescale meetings in both of 1990 and 1991? Should we try for something extra-special in just one of these two years? **THIS IS WHERE WE REALLY NEED YOUR VIEWS AND IDEAS - WHATEVER IS DECIDED CANNOT SUCCEED WITHOUT YOUR SUPPORT, SO LET US KNOW WHAT YOU WANT.**

THE UNILINGUAL ISSUE OF JUNE, 1909

The stamps are those listed as Nos. 50 - 53 in the Catalogue Officiel and 56 - 59 in the Stanley Gibbons Catalogue.

The maps reproduced in the following pages are taken from pages 391 and 392 of "CONGO - Cinquante Ans d'Histoire Postale" by Général Jean Du Four.

According to page 308 of the same book, the quantities printed were:-

5 centimes	200,000
10 centimes	200,000
15 centimes	100,000
50 centimes	175,000

The issue could be called provisional or temporary.

Die proofs of the frames of all 4 values existed in the Waterlow records, although their present whereabouts are unknown. The centres were, of course, from plates that had already been used for the Etat Independant issues and which continued in use for the 1910 issue.

On the 15 June, 1909, the following previous issues were still valid for postage:-

Etat Independant	till 31 July, 1909.
Congo Belge overprinted stamps (both local and typo overprints)	till 1916.

The unilingual stamps were replaced by the 10-value bilingual series in January, 1910 (Belgium is bilingual), so the temporary issue was superseded in some 6 months, although in practice the stamps continued in use probably until 1916, in line with the overprinted stamps of the previous issue.

A collection can be built up in several different ways. An obvious starting point is with the shades and plate varieties listed in the Balasse catalogue; this can be extended by reconstructing sheets of each value by means of the minute plate varieties which can be found on every stamp.

Unilingual stamps are not too common on cover, but an interesting collection can be made of different combinations of stamps on cover - e.g. unilinguals only, or with Etat Independant stamps, Congo Belge overprinted stamps, typo, local, Princes', etc., or with 1910 stamps. So far, the best I have found is a cover with stamps of 4 different issues (illustrated).

Similarly, the stamps are to be found on postcards and postal stationery. Although not particularly common, unilinguals on postal stationery cards with typo overprints are easier to find than on cards with local overprints. The earliest dated use I have found is on a postal stationery card cancelled at Gare de Luki on 17 june, 1909.

A further dimension with postcards is to find the different postal uses - i.e. internal/external - and the different rates before and after the general reduction of Congo postal rates on 1 April, 1910.

I have been trying to build up a collection of each of the 4 stamps cancelled in each possible post office for each year of use (I suppose this could be extended to try to get each month as well, but I haven't gone to such lengths as yet), and the tables behind this article give some indication of the distance I still have to go to fill all the gaps, at least in terms of finding good clear (and genuine) cancellations where the year is obvious. Clearly, it is no easy task, and I should be most grateful if other members would look through their own stamps and covers of the unilingual issue and advise me of where gaps can be filled in.

Incidentally, the latest dates of use I have found are Kikondji and Nouvelle Anvers, both 1916, and Lukula, 1919 - but this one must be questionable and perhaps means that an error was made with the date in the canceller.

Finally, if any member has duplicates of this issue to dispose of, can I appeal to him to send them to Mr. Keach who, with his natural and traditional amiability, will ensure that the stamps move in my direction and that you receive proper settlement.

André Vindevoghel

Secretary's Note:- Add to the tables the following:-

- 5c - Matadi 1910, Thysville 1910, Kinshasa 1909, Boma 1910.
- 10c - Kinshasa 1910, Matadi 1909, Basankusu 1909 & 1911, Leopoldville 1909, Thysville 1910, Luali 1911.
- 15c - Banana 1909, Leopoldville 1910, Bumba 1913, Kasongo 1910,

Thysville 1910.  
50c - Lukafu 10 (used at E'ville), Banana 1910, Matadi 1909 & 1915.

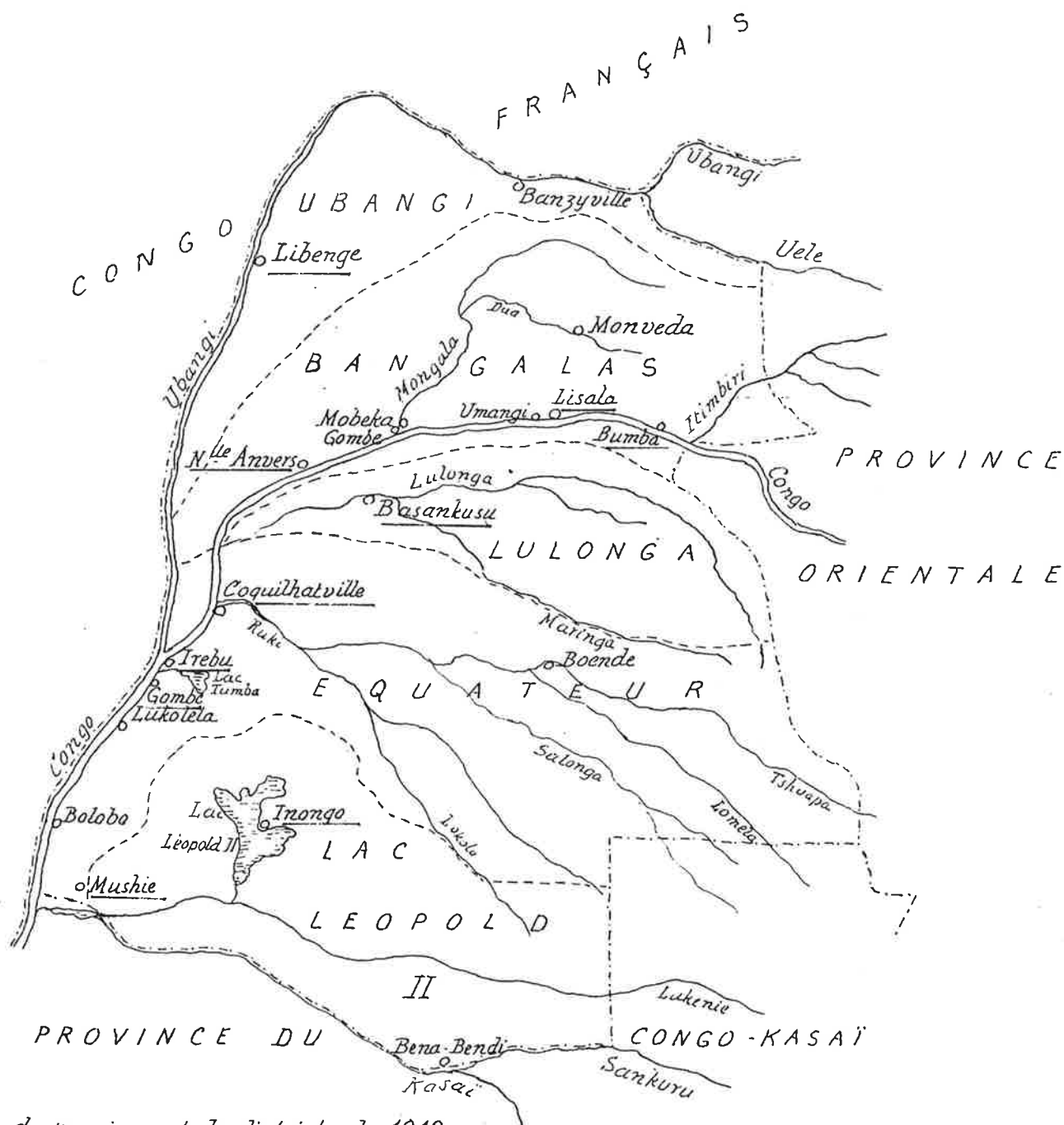
Mr. Vindevoghel's tables remind me of another interesting point, and one which may be relevant. Among a small lot of Congo Belge hand-stamps that I bought some time ago, there were 4 pairs of 25c (13) all with local 5 H/S, and all cancelled at Libenge, the three with legible years all being 1911.

Ignoring for the moment the remote possibility that some individual may have been carrying a supply and using them up himself over a period of time, and bearing in mind that Mr. Vindevoghel has so far not found any use of the unilingual 50 centimes value cancelled at Libenge, are the two facts connected? Were there no 50c unilingual stamps at libenge because they were still utilising existing stocks of 25c stamps? It will be most interesting to see whether any other member can come up with further information about this.

# Province de l'Equateur

Elle comprend 5 districts :  
de l'Equateur  
de la Lulonga

des Bangalas  
du Lac Léopold II  
de l'Ubangi



*Limites de province et de districts de 1912*

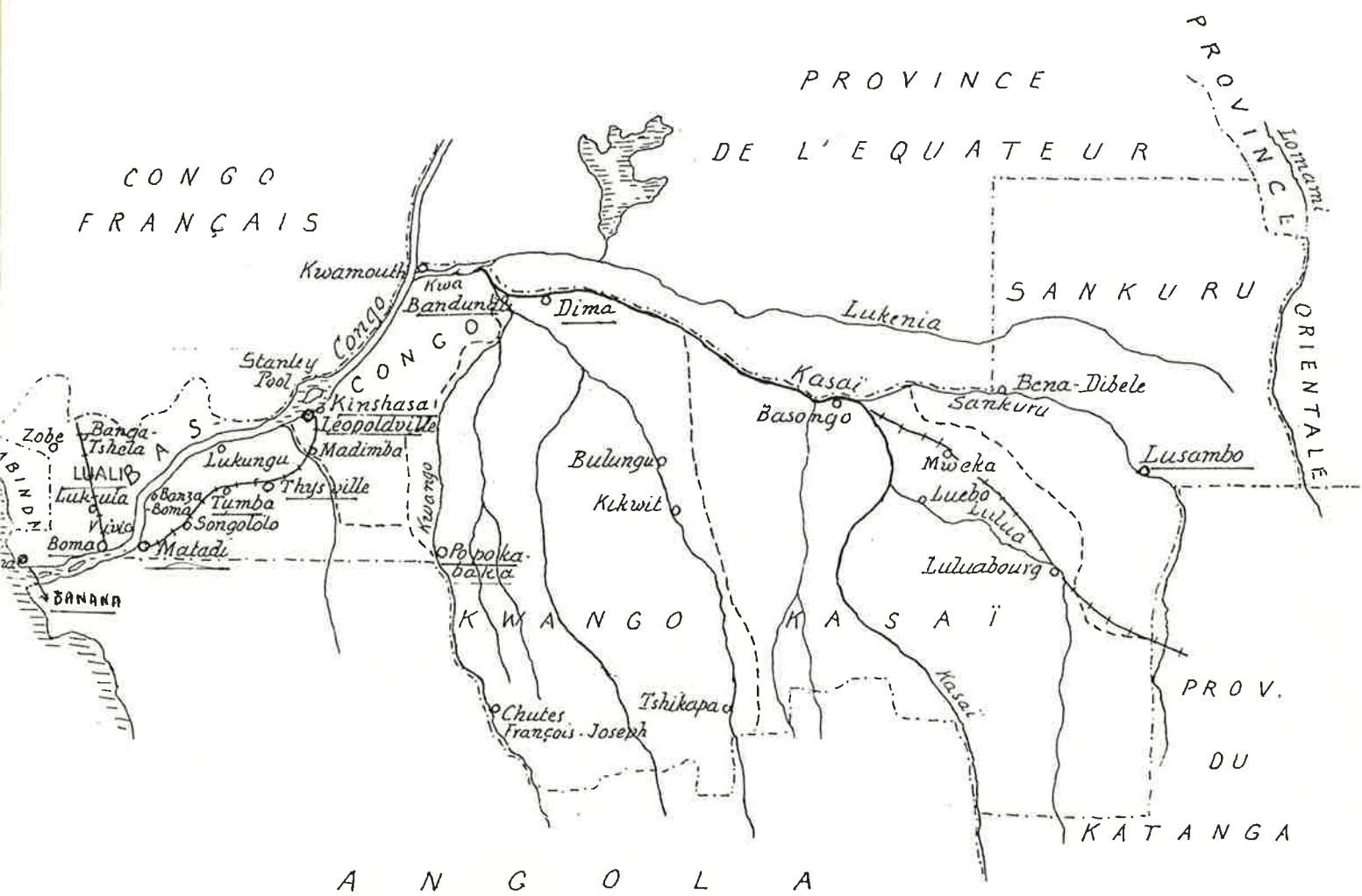


## Province du Congo-Kasai

Elle comprend 4 districts:

du Bas-Congo  
du Kowango

du Kasai  
du Sankuru



*Limites de province et de districts de 1912.*





# Province Orientale

Elle comprend 7 districts :

de l'Aruwimi
du Kibali-Ituri
du Maniema
de l'Uele-Itimbiri
de l'Uele-Nepoko
de l'Uele-Ituri
de Stanleyville
de l'Uele-Nepoko



*Limites de province et de districts de 1912*

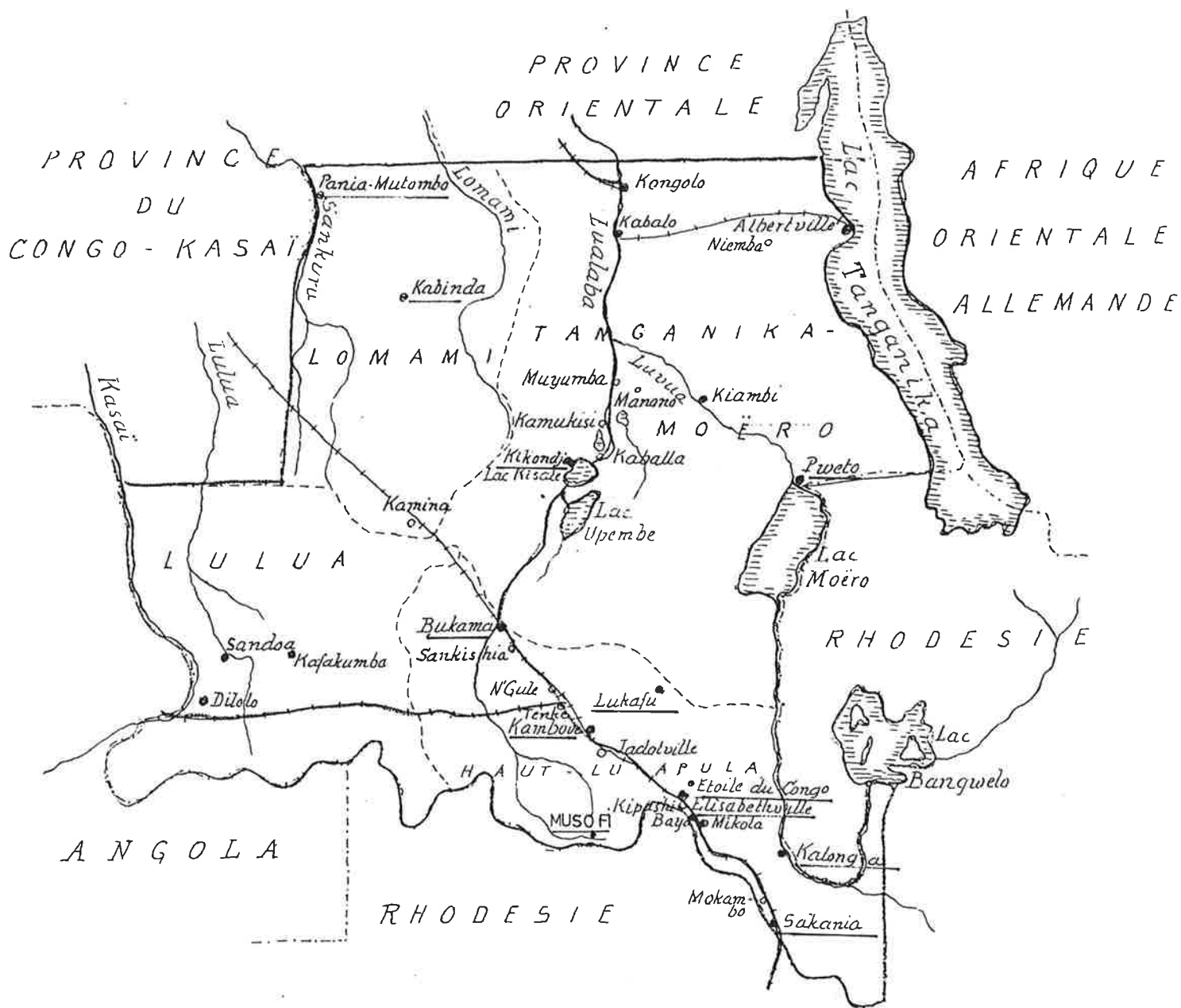
*Limites ultérieures du Kibali-Ituri*



## Province du Katanga

Elle comprend 4 districts :  
 du Haut - Luapula  
 de la Lulua

du Lomami  
 du Tanganika - Moëro



*Limites de province et de districts de 1912.*



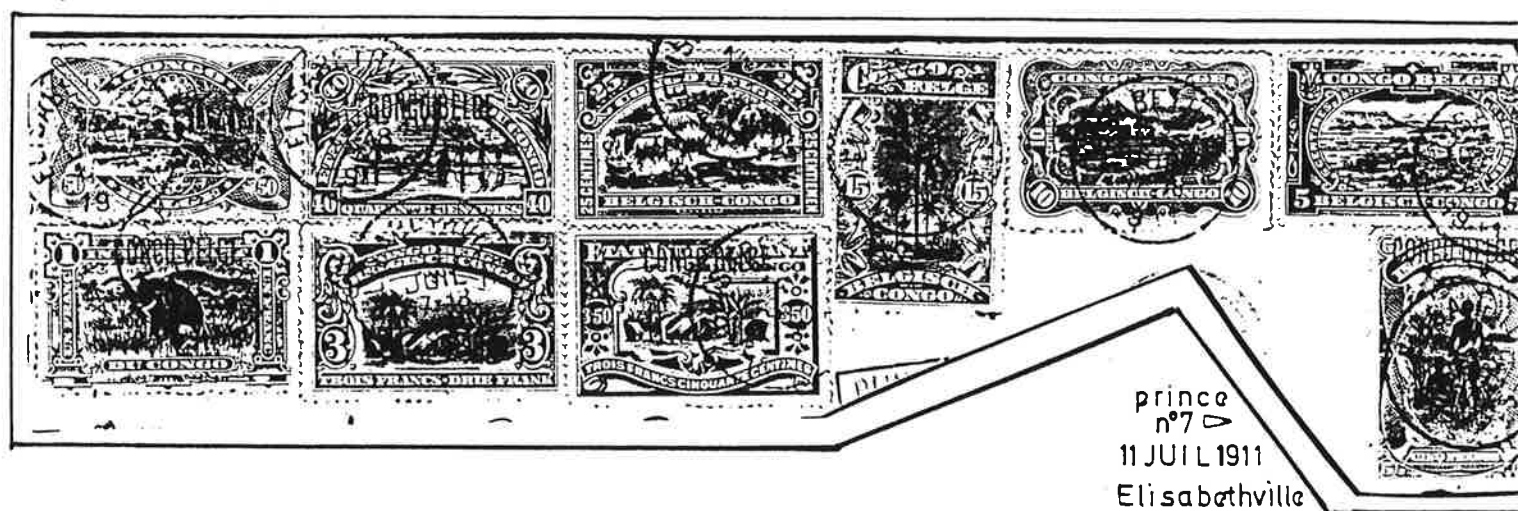
CACHETS TELEGRAPHIQUES	5 cm	10 cm	15 cm	50 cm
BOMA				1909.
COQUILHATVILLE				1910.
KWAMOUTH			1911.	1911.
KINSHASA				1911.
LEOPOLDVILLE				1910,1911.
MATADI			1909.	1910,1911.
T HYSVILLE				
DIVERS				
GARE de BOMA			09	
LAROCHELLE PALLICE		1910		
CONTROLE DES POSTES BOMA				1911

- UNE EMISSION PROVISOIRE DU 15 JUIN 1909 -  
 - LES UNILINGUES-CONGO BELGE -

AFFRANCHISSEMENT COMBINÉ - 4 émissions -

- le 50cm unilingue -
- le 40 cm, 1fr,350fr surcharge typographique (ORDINAIRE)
- le 5cm,10cm,15cm,25cm,3fr, bilingues 1910 -
- le 5fr, surcharge du TIRAGE DES PRINCES 1909 -

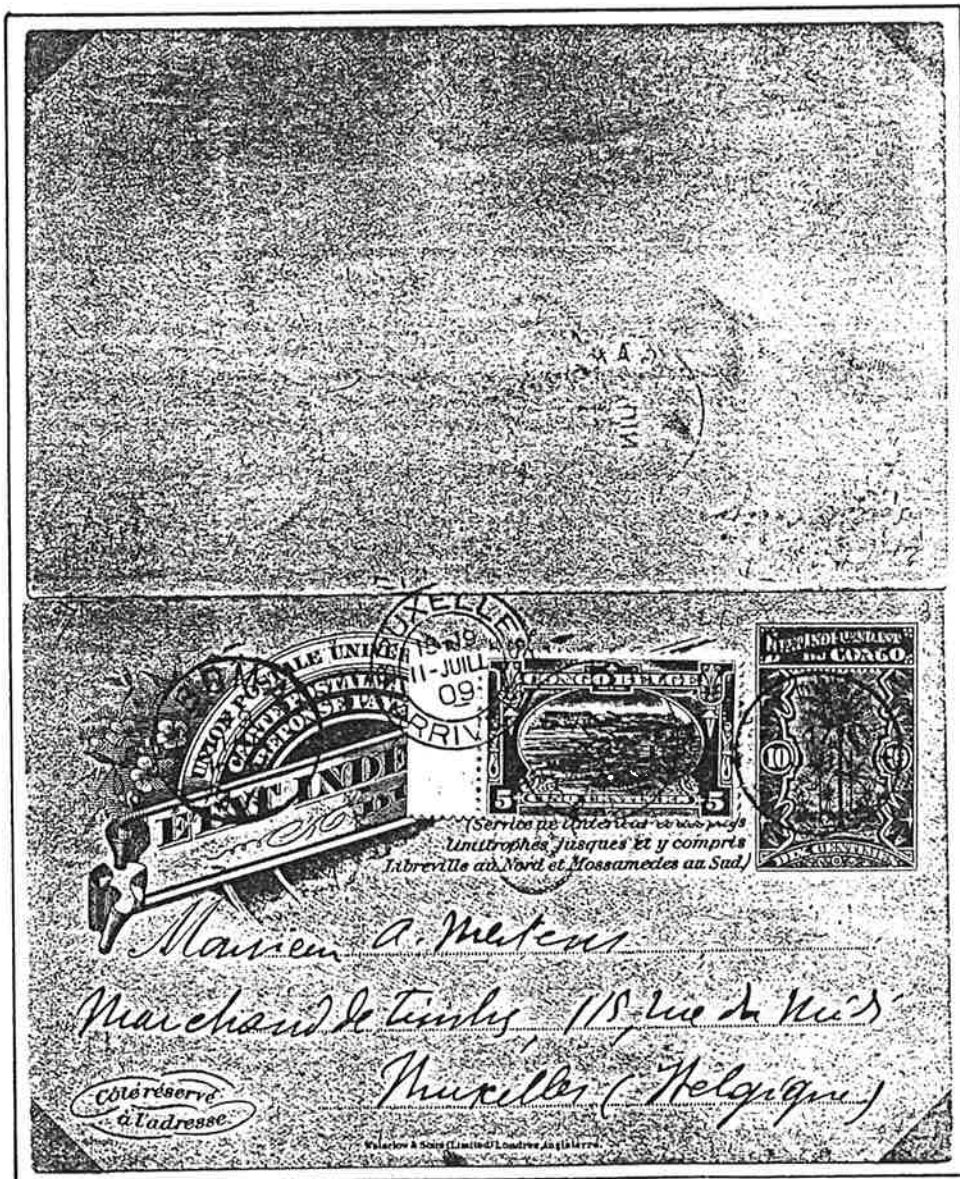
▽ UNILINGUE



on suppose qu'il s'agissait d'une enveloppe chargée?

- UNE EMISSION PROVISOIRE DU 15 JUIN 1909 -  
 - LES UNILINGUES-CONGO BELGE-  
 AFFRANCHISSEMENT COMBINE - 2 émissions  
 - FDC UNILINGUE -

Ceci est le plus ancien document connu avec un timbre unilingue.  
 Cette carte double utilisée n'est pas commune.



locale 1

GARE DE LUKI  
 17 JUIN 1909

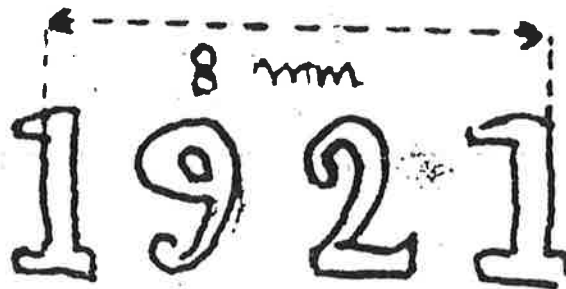
cachet exceptionnel  
 sur document.

Cet entier postal a été utilisé par le Commandant BRUNEEL  
 commandant la Force Publique de Boma.

[texte: n° 4 - allons bien tous les deux]

BELGIAN CONGO - THE 1921 OVERPRINT by R. Vervisch

(Mr. R. Vervisch, one of the very good experts on forgeries, has kindly consented to the reproduction and translation of his article on the 1921 overprints for our Bulletin. We are indebted to Mr. A. Vindevoghel for the translation.)

GENUINEFORGERYBreadth

7,9 to 8 mm

8,1 mm

The measures are taken from the outside staff of the first figure 1 until the outside staff from the second figure 1.

Color

vermilion red

deeper red

Pressure

The relief of the letters can be seen on reverse.

No relief on reverse.

Ink

Fluid, applied on thin coat. Lack of inking can be seen with a microscope (white dots).

Sticky, applied on with thick coat.

Printing

Typographic printing with machine and pressure with great penetration. (see pressure and the line edges of the figures)

Typography probably applied by hand with a high pressure on surface. (no pressure on the back but the lines that found the figures underlined with a thick excrescence of ink)



GENUINEFORGERYFigure Traced

Rectangular basement (however, the pressure of the printing enlarging a bit the angles, the basement could be sort of triangular sight, without that the confusion could be possibly with the Elzevir type)

Triangular basement

Breath of the base of the first l

1.2 mm to 1.3 mm

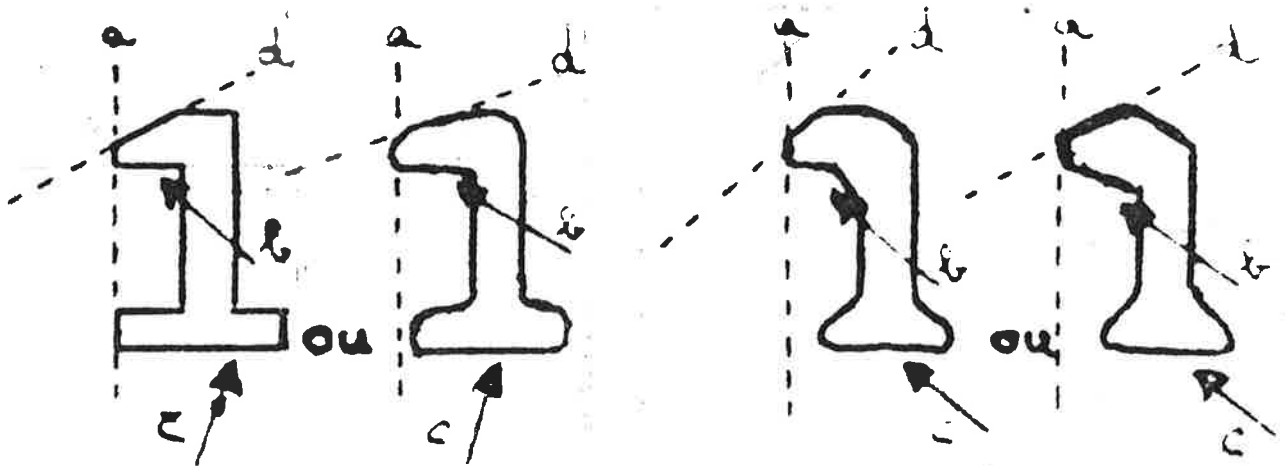
1.1 mm

Form of the Overprint

Elegant with full and very fine stroke

Massive without fine stroke

The supposition of an overprint thickened by usury or the ruin of the figures have to be excluded. The thick overprint, as can be seen with the regularity of the inkcoat and of the excrescence, has been printed with characters newer than those of the genuine overprint.

Form of the Figures 1

From one to the other the head of the figure 1 and the excrescences could be slightly different in the contour and the angles could be plus or minus rounded, but those figures present constant characteristics missing on the forged overprint.

A) Foot and head of the figure on

A) The head of the figure coming

GENUINE

a same vertical or eventually the head could be a little more through the left, scarcely 1/10 e. of mm.

B) The horizontal line makes a right angle with the staff of the figure. Sometimes the angle is slightly rounded.

C) The rectangular basement with rounded angles on many stamps.

D) A line prolongs the oblique section of the head of the second figure 1, cut the staff or the formation of the figure 1

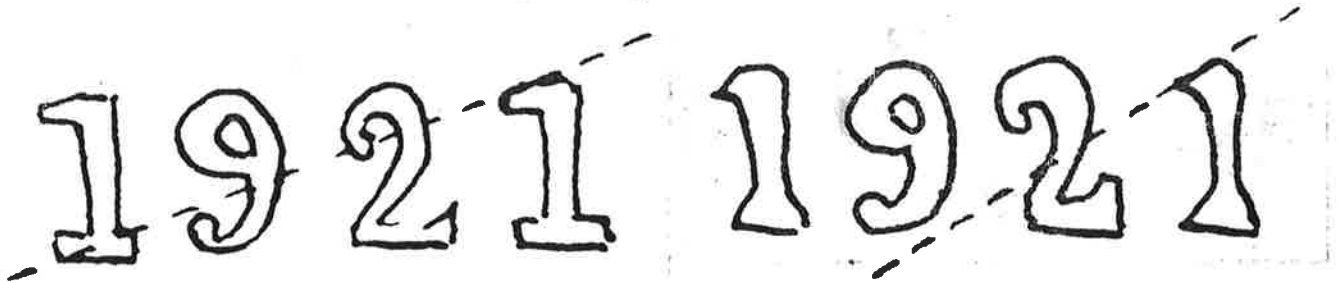
FORGERY

frankly more to left than the foot (minimum 2/10 e. of mm).

B) Trace coming lightly up and cuted angle instead of an horizontal trace and an angle rather right.

C) The basement is triangular.

D) A line prolongs the oblique section of the head of the second figure 1 comes to the figure 9 or between the 9 and the 2.

Form of the Figure 2Drawing

Full and very fine stroke.

Uniformly thick.

Height

2.9 mm.

3.1 mm.



GENUINEFORGERYForm of the Figure 9Drawing

Variable thickness with full and very fine stroke.

Uniform thickness without full and very fine stroke.

Breadth

2 mm.

2.2 mm.

Eye

Oval out of center through the right.  
 Little diagonal: 7 to 8/10 mm.  
 Large diagonal: 1.1 mm.

Oval more rounded and more in the center of the figure.  
 Little diagonal: 6/10 mm.  
 Large diagonal: 8/10 mm.

SALES DEPARTMENT

There are offered: sheets of 15c EST AFRICAIN plates IV2+C1, overprint Type L2, perf. 14 and 15 @ £ 4.00 each, sheets of 1F EAAOB Plates II3+A5, L2, @ £ 8.00 and sheets of 30c/10c EST AFRICAIN, perf. 14 @ £ 4.00. Postage extra.

For those who would care to start 'plating' in a modest way there are available many used copies of the 1915 1F, plates II1+A4. It should be possible to obtain from them several complete reconstructed sheets of the stamp. The copies are not yet positioned in the sheet but I am prepared, hopefully with some assistance, to identify the stamps and provide them as complete or near-complete reconstructed sheets. The price - unusually cheap - is 7 francs, 10½p, a stamp.

Also near-complete reconstructed sheets of the 100 F Congo 1947 Idols at 7 francs, 10½p, a stamp. With a reconstructed sheet of the 100F it should be possible to identify almost any copy of the 6,50F or 20F value, or of the 20F or 100F Ruanda Urundi.

Blocks of the Leys 60c, CO No. 124, imperforate and with demonetizing holes, from Waterlow's record sheet, are still available at £ 10.00 for a block of four.

There are also complete sheets of Floors with RUANDA URUNDI overprint, CO Nos. 55, 56, 57, 69, 71 and 74 priced at about 27% of Catalogue Officiel prices.

Enquiries and orders to R. H. Keach.

-----  
 Seldom seen OUBANGUI-CHARI cancel - from Vincent A. Sgier Collection

