

REPORT OF MEETINGS

A meeting of the Study Circle was held at 12, Avenue Mansions, on Saturday, 9th May. There were present Mr. L.G. Green, in the chair; Mrs. D.M. Green and Messrs. Compton, Cresswell, Keach, Loader, Turner and Wood. Apologies for absence were received from Messrs. Thrasher and Wright.

A very welcome visitor was Major E. Corbisier de Meaultsart who, although not now a collector of the Congo, still retains a very considerable interest in the colony. Major Corbisier has been a very great friend of the Study Circle since its inception, one of his many kindnesses being the provision of a regular supply of modern Congo covers which have been greatly welcomed by members of the Circle. Major Corbisier has also helped individual members of the Circle in many ways. It was unanimously agreed that he should be elected the first Honorary Member and this election was greeted with acclamation.

The Secretary apologised for not having with him the lots for the forthcoming third auction sale but all had not been received and he hoped that he would be circularising to members a catalogue of the lots available within the next week or so and those members who wished to inspect the lots could do so.

The Secretary informed the meeting that he had been able to organise a new issues service through M. Jacques Du Four. Details are given elsewhere in the Bulletin.

There being no other formal business, Mr. Green gave his talk on the 5 franc value of the Mols Series. He showed a substantially complete range of the normal issues and of the more prominent plate varieties. An outstanding item was a partly reconstructed sheet of the 1894 issue from which only eleven stamps were missing. It was agreed that members would like the opportunity of studying this reconstructed sheet and possibly of filling in some of the gaps and it was arranged therefore that the item should be circulated amongst those members who wish to study it so they could do so at their leisure.

At the conclusion of the meeting there was a cordial vote of thanks to Mrs. Green for her kindness in once again permitting the use of her flat for the meeting and for the admirable entertainment that she provided.

A Meeting of the Study Circle was held on Saturday 8th August at the Sheiling, Forest Road, East Horsley, there being present Mr. Wright (in the chair) Mrs. Green and Messrs. Compton, Cresswell, L.G. Green, Keach, Loader, Thrasher and Wood.

Lots obtained by members from the previous postal auction sale having been distributed the Secretary then placed at members disposal a bundle of Congo covers, very kindly sent by our Honorary Member Major Corbisier de Meaultsart, many bearing stamps of the current flowers series. These were received with great pleasure by members and all expressed their gratitude at Major Corbisier's kindness and goodwill.

There being no other formal business Mr. Wright presented his 3½, 3 and 10 franc values of the Mols series including much rare and unusual material. Notable amongst the stamps displayed were the proofs, the imperforate copies of issued

stamps and the glorious array of Princes' printing including blocks of four of the $3\frac{1}{2}$ francs without Congo Belgo overprints. A humorous note was introduced by Mr. Wright in demonstrating that the passengers on the paddle wheel steamer changed in both sex and number between the 1910 and 1918 issues. After the display points of interest were discussed by other members and other material including some attractive die proofs of the 1898 issue shown.

After the meeting a vote of thanks was passed to Mr. and Mrs. Compton for their kind hospitality and it was agreed by all that a Summer Meeting should be attempted next year.

A meeting was held on 17th October, 1952, at 12, Avenue Mansions, and there were present Mr. Keach (in the chair), Mrs. Green and Messrs. Compton, Cresswell, L.G. Green. Loader and Wright. Apologies for absence were received from Messrs. Thrasher, Turner and Wood.

The Secretary reported that General Jean Du Four expected to visit England in the spring and it was agreed that, if possible, a meeting of the Circle should be arranged at which General Du Four could attend.

Apologies were again tendered by the Secretary for the non-appearance of the Bulletin, matters other than stamps having claimed his attention.

It was agreed that, owing to shortage of material, further auction sales should be postponed until the New Year.

There being no other business Mr. Keach presented the collection of cancellations which Mr. Heim had very kindly sent over from New York specially for the occasion. The speaker divided the cancellations into four types, firstly town and village post offices, secondly cancellations of special post offices, thirdly other Congo postal markings and fourthly foreign cancellations on Congo stamps. Most of the town and village post offices that exist or have existed were illustrated with practically all the various types including a good selection of "Griffes".

Of the special post offices there were many railway cancellations, telegraphic cancellations, wireless telegraphic cancellations, Paquebots of both river and ocean-going steamers, and military cancellations.

Other postal markings, including such as Recommandé, Registré, Franco, Retour au Voyer, Expres, Consommez les Cafes du Congo, etc. etc.

After the display a very hearty vote of thanks was passed to Mr. Heim for his generosity in sending his cancellation collection for the edification of the Study Circle and the Secretary was instructed to write to him to express the thanks and best wishes of those present at the Meeting.

A vote of thanks was passed to Mrs. Green for her kindness in once again allowing the Meeting to be held at her flat.

It was agreed that the next Meeting should be at 12, Avenue Mansions, on Saturday, 16th January, and that Mr. Wright should display his portrait issues, 1886-94.

RE-ENTRIES AND RETOUCHES

It is surprising that Mr. Wood's provocative article in Bulletin No. 10 resulted in a complete silence from all other members.

It occurs to the Secretary that examples of "touching-up" of Mols stamps include:

- 1896 - 40c Frames on stamps Nos. 1, 2, 3, 6, 7, 9, 10 etc.
- 1898 - 10 franc, probably every Frame.
- 1909 Unilingual - 50c, some Frames.
- 1910 - 1 franc, Frames of top and bottom rows.
- 1910 - 10 franc, many Frames.

It is doubtful if the term "re-entry" will ever be generally used specifically for varieties caused by entering of the plate after printing as it has been used so widely for all doubling of the design due to a second application of the transfer roll at any time during the life of the plate.

THIRD AUCTION SALE

Since the last Bulletin was issued the third auction sale has been concluded, some 80 of the 130 lots having been sold.

1928 STANLEY ISSUE, 10 CENTIMES VALUE

At the August meeting Mr. Thrasher showed a copy of the 10 centimes value of the Stanley Issue with a prominent re-entry in the top lefthand corner, the bottom of the C of Congo and the bottom of the B of Belge having a very clear doubling with vertical shift. This stamp is No.1 in the sheet of Plate 1.

SALE OF MR. KNIGHT'S COLLECTION

The Congo collection of our late member, Mr. Joseph Knight was sold by Robson Lowe in their auction sale of 30th September, prices realized for many of the lots are being given elsewhere in the Bulletin. Although the prices realized for many of the individual stamps or of lots containing only a few stamps were in many cases reasonable enough and below the valuation, most of the remainders particularly of the Mols issues and of the cancellations realized prices considerably in excess of the valuation although most of these lots were purchased by dealers. The prices realized totalled approximately £1,300.

NEW ISSUES

Contrary to the presumption in Bulletin No. 10, it is understood from an authoritative source that Ruanda is not issuing 50 and 100 franc values of the Flower Series. This is pleasing news to those who collect modern issues.

NEW ISSUE SERVICE

Arrangements have been made for new issues of Belgian Congo, Ruanda Urundi and of Belgium itself for those interested, to be available to members. At first the charge for new issues will be $17\frac{1}{2}$ above face but it is thought that if enough support is obtained it should be possible to reduce this to say 15. It is understood that this new issue service will have to be self-supporting and not subsidised by the funds of the Study Circle.

ADDITIONS TO BALASSE CATALOGUE

		<u>francs</u>
Balasse Magazine No. 84	29C6 10fr (perf.12) imperf. margin used	2000
	64C1 imperf. between, Mint	3000
	78C1 imperf. between, Mint	3000
	R47C1 imperf. between, Mint	3000
No. 86	15C1 imperf. between, Used	3000
	20C1 imperf. between, Used	3000
	R38 imperf. between, Mint	3000
Robson Lowe Sale 30 Sept.	21C1 imperf. between, vertical pair Used	

EXTRACT FROM CONGO ADMINISTRATIVE BULLETIN

1952 - 9 May, 1953

Mr. Heim has kindly supplied the following notes from the above regarding post offices in the Congo and demonetisation of recent issues.

- 3 Dec. 1951 Mwadingusha closed (this office was not listed by Avidon)
- 24 Jan. 1952 Isangi, Yahuma and Yangambi, subsidiary P.O.'s (sous-perception) previously attached to Stanleyville 1, now attached to Basoko.
- 6 Feb. 1952 Djalasiga in the Province Orientale opened as auxiliary P.O. (Bureau Auxiliaire) attached to Nizi.
Yatolema in the Province Orientale opened as auxiliary P.O. attached to Stanleyville 1.
- 9 June 1952 Nioki in the Province of Leopoldville opened as subsidiary P.O. attached to Banningville.
- 18 August 1952 Lubudi in the Province of Katanga, opened as subsidiary P.O. attached to Jadotville.
- 23 July 1952 Auxiliary offices Baudouinville, Mpala, Bruges St. Donat and Dubie, had status changed (what the change was is too deep and incomprehensible to translate).
- 22 Sept. 1952 Kalehe in the Province of Kivu, opened as auxiliary P.O. attached to Costermansville 1.
- 30 Oct. 1952 Demba in the Province of Kasai, opened as a subsidiary P.O. attached to Luluabourg.
- 7 Nov. 1952 Mwenga in the Province of Kivu, opened as auxiliary P.O. attached to Costermansville 1.
- 21 Nov. 1952 Malonga, auxiliary P.O. attached to Dilolo, now closed.
- 26 Dec. 1952 Luisa, subsidiary P.O., previously attached to Luluabourg, now transferred to Mwene-Ditu.

The following stamps were demonetised on 1st January, 1953.

- 1942 series (Balasse 228-249 and Ruanda 126-147)
- 1950 Katanga commemoratives.
- 1951 Lavigerie and Dhanis commemoratives.

Bulletin No. 11

December 1953

RECENT AUCTION REALISATIONS

Vessey - 28 March

214C1 - 224C1 M, £2. 6. 0; 214 Imperf. horizontally M, £1; 226, M, vertical pair, "5c" omitted from lower stamp £2. 2. 0; 227 M pair, one stamp without surcharge £3.12. 6; 227, surcharge double, M £1. 5. 0; Air 17C1 M block of 4 £3.12. 6; RUANDA 117C1 M £1. 5. 0; 114C1 and 115C1 £2. 2. 0; 115 M block of 4 Imperf. between £2.10.0; 116C1 M. 17/6d; 118C1 M. £1. 6. 0; 121 M pair with badly misplaced surcharge 13/- 121C1 M, £1.

Vessey 4 May

RUANDA 44 M, £1.13. 0.

Harmer 18 May

5 largely o.g. badly centred £9. 9. 0; 13 largely o.g. slightly off-centre £9. 9. 0; 27E1 unused imperf. pair, marginal £10.10. 0.

Robson Lowe, 30th September - Inland label on grey-green paper, cancelled "Issanghila 1884", defective, £7.10.0; Homeward label on brownish paper, cancelled "P.Office DIII", £14; Homeward label on blue paper on reverse of envelope £70; 1 to 5 in M Hor. pairs £28; 3, block of three on Postage Due receipt £22; 5 M £10.10. 0; 5M block of four £75; 5E1, M block of four £62.10. 0; Essay "Colis Postaux Fr.3. 50" on Balasse 4, £5. 5. 0; CPI M. stained, £9; 9AI and IIAI £4.15. 0; 11 M, slight thin £7; 11 U, slight thin £7; CP2 and CP4, M. slightly defective £7.10. 0; CP2 C2 M, £16.10. 0; CP2 U, £13.10. 0; CP4 M, £5; CP4 N2 M, £7,10. 0; CP4 C3 M, £8.10. 0; 13N1 and 13N2 U, off centre, £5.17. 0; 14E1, 21E1, 24E1 and 28E2 all with Waterlow overprint as 28E2, £7.10.0; 21C1 U, vertical pair, imperf. between £7.10. 0; 26aN1, 26aN2, 26N1, M. £3.15. 0; 26E1 and Essay of 56 in carmine, both imperf. and O/P "Waterlow and Sons Ltd., Specimen", £3.15. 0; 18C1 M, one perf. short £18.10. 0; 18C1 M. slight thin £10; 23, die proof of centre in black on card £3; 27N2 and 29N4 M, £4; 27E1 and 29E1 (defective) M, pairs £7.15. 0; 29 proof in claret and black £5; 26aN2, M, block of four £15; 36BN2, M. inv. o/p £3.12. 6; 36LN2, type I, block of four £21; 37LN1, M block of four £7.10. 0; 36LN2, type IV M, £4; 49N2, M block of 6, £24; 30P to 39P M, £33; 47P M block of four £6; 49PC3 M, £5; 60C1 U, vertical pair £3.15.0; 61C2 M block of four, imperf. top margin, £3; 64E1-71E1 £2. 5. 0; 102ER1 M, £4. 4. 0; 184E1, 225C1 and Air 17C1 M, £4. 5. 0;

Ruanda 28C2 M, £3; 28C2 M, £2.15. 0; 35C1, U, horizontal pair imperf. between, pinhole £2.10. 0; 36E1 to 44E1 £4. 4. 0; 38C1, M vertical pair, imperf between £3;

Covers - 1884 to Bury St. Edmunds, cancelled "Issinghila 1884 21/2" £31; registered cover with block of four 37L, £13; two covers without adhesives (military) "Paquebot Elisabethville" and "Paquebot Albertville" in circles with star at centre, £4.

Harmer - 19th October, 1953. 1934 Air 3 frame red brown imperf. block of 4, £22; Air 13E1 block of four, £20; Air 8 and 11 in miniature sheets of 8, £5.

EXTRACTS FROM PERIODICALS

*Le Philatliste Belge Nos. 65, 66 & 68 Pp.51, 71 & 108

Les Timbres du Congo Belge by H. Avidon

Dr. Avidon continues his series of articles with three further contributions dealing with the two portrait issues. The second consisting of an anecdote about a large number of copies of the 50c grey with faked cancellations. The third of the articles considers each value of the first issue in turn and gives interesting information on their relative scarcities.

*Balasse Magazine No. 89 page 147.

Document Unique; Angola-Congo Belge.

A post-card is described bearing a 25 centavos stamp of Angola and a 15 centime stamp (1896) of the Congo. The cover was despatched from Loanda and addressed to Belgium. The Congo stamp was cancelled at Boma.

DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The next meeting of the Study Circle will be on Saturday, 16th January, 1954 and Mrs. Green has once again offered us the use of her flat. Mr. Wright will address the meeting on the Portrait Issues of 1886-1894.
