

Secretary:

Stuart S. Smith
Lychgates, Pinfold Hill
Curbar-Calver, Hope Valley S32 3YL
England, UK

BULLETIN 114

BELGIAN CONGO



STUDY CIRCLE

Bulletin Editor:

E. M. Lavitt
P O Box 900
Rockville, CT 06066
U S A

DECEMBER 1999

President Emile Hoorens
Ave. Eugene Ysaye 105
Boite 1, 1070 Brussels
Belgium

V. President

R. H. Keach
25 Kingswood Road
Tadworth, Surrey KT20 5EE,
UK

CONTENTS

PAGES

VARIETIES IN THE CLASSIC STAMPS OF THE ETAT INDEPENDANT DU CONGO—1886-1887	Laurence Green	2-5
THE HISTORY OF WATERLOWS	Colin Hoffman	5-7
MEETING IN BRUSSELS	Emile Hoorens	7
LITERATURE	R. H. Keach	7-8
PLEASE HELP (a request for postal information from the Expert committee)	R. H. Keach	8
POST OFFICE MAPS	R. H. Keach	8
NEW MEMBERS AND CHANGE OF ADDRESS		9
ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING NOTICE		9
NOTICE OF A MAJOR STAMP SHOW		9
EDITORS NOTES- FUTURE BULLETINS		9
CANCELLATIONS, COVERS AND QUESTIONS		9-13
Kalina, M'Pala, M'Toa-Albertville	Peter Storm van Leeuwen	
RESULTS OF SEPTEMBER AUCTION AND DECEMBER AUCTION		supplemental pages

Varieties in the Classic Stamps of the ETAT INDEPENDANT DU CONGO - the 1886 and 1887 Issues

The 1886 Issue was produced by adapting some of the stamps of the 1869/83 issues of Belgium - the Belgian 5 Franc stamp was used as a model for the 5 centimes, 10 centimes and the 5 Franc of the ETAT INDEPENDANT Issue and the 25 centimes and 50 centimes were based on the 1869/83 Belgian stamps of the same value.

The INDEPENDANT issue of was printed on 3 panes of 50 with gutters between, leaving two panes blank. These panes were made up of 50 stamps each from plates comprising five "BLOC-REPORTS" of 10 stamps each. (*A bloc report is a group or cliché-Ed*)

The 5 centimes was printed on the **right pane**, the 10 centimes & 25 centimes on the **left pane**, the 50 centimes normally on the **right pane** but occasionally the 50 centimes was printed on the **centre pane**, when the BALASSE variety VI only partially appears (Cungo).

Rarely one can find adjoining panes, showing stamps on one side and blanks on the other. I have blocks of 4 of the 10 centimes stamp showing 4 blanks on the right of the gutter -also 4 of the 50 centimes showing 4 blanks on the left.

The 5 Franc stamp was printed as 50 individual stamps in the centre pane -therefore no BLOC-REPORT varieties.

The 1886 Issue were all perforated 15, except for the 2 sheets perf 14 (possibly proof sheets).

The sources of information for this and the 1887 issues are:

1. JEAN DU FOUR 'CONGO - CINQUANTE ANS DE HISTOIRE POSTALE'. The author shows not only details of the plate varieties but good illustrations as well each showing clearly the position of the varieties.
2. E & M DENEMOUSTIER '1886 - LES PREMIERS VALEURS POSTALES.' This work also contains good pictures with details of the varieties.
3. 'CATALOGUE WILLY BALASSE. This illustrates some of the varieties.

The number of stamps in the 1886 issue was small, only the 10 centimes exceeding 100,000. Note the high price of the 5 centimes used, more than double the unused price. Few 5 centimes used stamps are to be found, probably because they were not retained and, more likely the only use for this value was for internal printed matter and there could not have been much of that. (*It pays to look for genuinely used copies Ed.*)

1886 Plates and BLOC-REPORT Varieties - Centimes Values.

The main sources of information for these (and for the 5 Franc value) are DU FOUR & DENEMOUSTIER - both go into considerable detail on the various varieties, indicating whether they are from the bloc-report (ie. repeated 5 times per sheet as noted above) or plate varieties (one to a plate). There are 9 bloc-report varieties and 19 plate varieties in the above four centimes values.

I have a few other varieties that I have found but in the absence of full sheets of each value I cannot state whether they are constant or not.

10 centimes

- 1 Red marks surrounded by a halo - one to the right of the mouth and the other to the left.
- 2 Red marks on the bottom of the U in DU.

50 centimes

- 1 C & 0 of CONGO deformed.
- 2 White circle to the right of CE in CENTIMES and another in the Beard.

1886 Plate Varieties - 5 Francs (an item for the rich)

Balasse and others list the three main varieties, common to both the 5 Franc and the COLIS POSTAUX. There are also several minor varieties listed in Du Four.

I, as you can imagine, have no examples of the 5 Franc Plate Varieties, but I can claim examples of virtually all the centimes values.

Curiosities

There are two printing curiosities on the 10 centimes, listed C1 and C2 by Balasse - in addition there is the curiosity/variety of a 9mm circle in the centre of Stamp No 18 (best seen on the back of the stamp) of 5 and 50 centimes values.

Plate Varieties in LENOIR forgeries

The forged LENOIR Imperforate Blocks of 10 of all centimes values, having been obtained from the original bloc-reports of the Centime values show not only the varieties of the bloc-reports, but also add on several varieties of their own - all detailed in DENEMOUSTIER.

The bloc-reports of the centimes values were stolen from the Brussels Post Office, as was the framed COLIS POSTAUX surcharging stamp.

HANDSTAMPS-COLIS POSTAUX

Inevitably with the use of handstamps for the 3,50 Franc COLIS POSTAUX surcharge, these are recorded reversed, doubled, vertical and incomplete surcharge, as well as a pair with one stamp surcharged and one stamp not.

I am lucky to have a BCSC Certificate for a copy of the used reversed surcharge and I strongly advise anyone with any of the 1886 or 1887 5 Francs surcharged or not to send them to the Expert Committee for a Certificate.

1887 Issue

The number of stamps issued in the first specifically designed stamp for the ETAT INDEPENDANT were, of course, considerably greater and the prices correspondingly lower than the 1886 issue. The main anomaly here is the relative prices of the 50 centimes red-brown and the grey .

	Prices in Belgian Francs		
	Unused	Used	Stamps Issued
RED BROWN	2200	1100	200000
GREY	130	800	50000

The reason for this is that the 50 centimes Grey was issued 15/11/94, just before the first of the MOLS issues, and genuinely used stamps are very rare.

The 1887 stamps were, as in 1886, issued in 3 sheets of 50 stamps, made up of 5 bloc-reports of 10 stamps in each sheet but unlike the 1886 issues stamps were printed on all the three sheets. All the stamps were perforated 15.

The reference books again are the same as for 1886, except that Denemoustier issued a new booklet: 'ETAT INDEPENDANT DU CONGO, EMISSION DITE DE 1887'

1887 Plate Varieties - Centimes Values

As one might expect there are more plate varieties than in the 1886 issue and with 15 possibilities in the BLOC-REPORTS variety compared with 1 in the Plate Varieties, the latter should be much rarer, although in practice this is not so. In fact there are listed 5 bloc-reports varieties compared with 22 Plate Varieties .

It is not difficult to find complete mint sheets -of the four low values wliich is obviously a great advantage in locating the varieties. I have been surprised to find all but 1 of the 6 varieties in the 50 centimes Grey unused, despite the rarity of this stamp.

I am indebted to Ray Keach for the following list of additional varieties that he has identified, most of which I have found.

5 centimes

White spot at left of bottom frame line, just under and to the left of 5. Stamp 29 Centre Pane

10 centimes

Vertical white line in the left top corner. Stamp 21 Centre Pane

White mark on right hand 2. Stamp 44 Centre Pane

25 centimes

Vertical white line between N & D of INDEPENDANT. Stamp 1 Left Pane

Coloured Spot under left 2 of 25. Stamp 11, Left Pane

White dot between C & 0 of CONGO. Stamp 1, Left Pane.

Blue dot between left 2 and 5. Stamp 49, Left Pane.

1887 plate varieties - 5 & 10 FRANCS

There is one variety in the 5 Francs and the COLIS POSTAUX a deformation of the bottom part of the right 5 - I am fortunate to have acquired both of them.

In the 10 Francs there are 2 bloc-reports and 2 Plate varieties. These are all detailed in Du Four and Denemoustier.

CURIOSITIES

As for the 1886 issue there is a Curiosity/Variety on the eighteenth stamp of each right frame for all values - 9mm circle, best seen on the back of the stamp.

There is also on the thirty ninth stamp of the 5 centimes Left Pane a large white mark on the left of the forehead ('though I cannot see it on my pane).

PERFORATIONS

In the 50 centimes grey, one sheet was perforated twice. The upper and lower perforations are very pointed (DENTS DE SCIE). I have also example of double perforations on the side as well as missing perforations. (*illustrative of this your editor has a top margin block of four of the 50c gray with the top perforation displaced below the CONGO and the bottom perforation of the top stamps in the normal position with another line of perforations below the CONGO on the lower pair and both lines of vertical perforations are also doubled.*) Ray Keach tells me he has found 2 copies of the 50 centimes Red Brown with horizontal perforations doubled and shifted by one perforation tooth

HANDSTAMPS - COLIS POSTAUX

This is a far larger subject than in the 1886 issue, particularly as in all surcharges they are catalogued as blue , black & grey-brown (brulé). In addition the framed COLIS POSTAUX is also found on the 5 Francs Grey as well as Violet. Both stamps have reversed surcharges, double (one surcharge reversed in some examples) and vertical (unframed only on violet). Here again I urge the collector to get a Certificate from the Expert Committee particularly for the highly catalogued Violet.

VIOLET

I have been able to find only one poor example of the unframed reversed surcharge, but am happy to have one and I have acquired the framed reversed surcharge and one double surcharge both inverted (framed). The same plate varieties for the stamp are to be found on both Violet (if you are lucky) and Grey.

GREY

These stamps were not issued until November 25 1892, but only 10,000 (approximately as for the Violet). It appears that far more Grey received the COLIS POSTAUX than the Violet and the Catalogue values are much lower.

I have one 5 Franc Grey with framed surcharge with A in INDEPENDANT completely missing (uncatalogued).

Bear in mind that the framed COLIS-POSTAUX surcharging stamp had been stolen and as it was applied to genuine as well as forged 5 Francs. This accounts for the multiplicity of double and inverted surcharges as well as the scarcity of the genuine 5 Francs Violet, used and unused.

CARTES POSTALES

The Cartes Postales issues between 1886 and 1892 have many varieties as well, all detailed in "LES ENTIERS POSTAUX DU CONGO ET DU URANDA-URUNDI" by Dr. Jacques Stibbe. This is a large study on its own.

I hope I have written enough to encourage interest in the many byways of variety in the classic issues, which inevitably suffer in comparison with the far more glamorous successor - the MOLS issues.

Laurence G. Green

(Your Editor was privileged to view a portion of Mr. Green's collection at the AGM last year. He displayed most of the varieties he has described and one is stimulated to look at these issues through new eyes. We appreciate his opening the door for us.)

THE HISTORY of WATERLOWS

The following article was the result of a display paper given to the Waterlow Study Circle in June of 1999 by Colin Hoffman and your Editor has excerpted from the complete report which appeared in the Journal of the Waterlow Study Circle in September 1999. Waterlow is so intricately entwined in the stamps of the Belgian Congo we are most grateful to Mr. Hoffman for his study. Editor)

Background

This thematic display has been put together over the years to illustrate some of the story of the Waterlow family. It is a family story, and, like many families, there have been many ups and downs.

In 1810 James Waterlow, a law writer, realised that it would be better to reproduce legal documents by lithography instead of writing them up by hand (1). He opened a shop in Birchin Lane in the City of London, and his business flourished. With the expansion of railways, shipping, banking and insurance as a consequence of the industrial revolution, the demands for his products increased.

Waterlows expanded into printing postage stamps from 1852 (British Guiana General Issues, 1852, 1852, 1860, 1863; Virgin Islands 1866, 1867), and as the business expanded so more members of the family entered it. The four sons of James joined the partnership, and branches opened at Westminster and London Wall.

By the 1860s Birchin Lane had become "the site of a stamp bourse which was actively patronised by embryo philatelists at the dawn of their hobby" (i). Whether James Waterlow was influenced by this activity we do not know - but it is possible.

The younger members of the family were already experienced in the art of printing. Alfred and Walter, the eldest sons, were apprenticed to the firm; Sydney, the third son, born in 1822, was apprenticed at Harrisons, the Crown printers, and later worked in Paris. He was Lord Mayor of London from 1872-73, and also served as an MP between 1868 and 1885 (2).

In 1876 James died, and the firm became a limited liability corporation. In 1877, owing to a difference of opinion on business matters, the brothers decided to divide the business. Alfred, the eldest, with his sons and Layton, an old member of the firm, formed Waterlow Bros & Layton, retaining the Birchin Lane organisation; the new company, Waterlow & Sons Ltd, with Sir Sydney Waterlow, Bart, as Managing Director, carried on the business at London Wall, Finsbury Market, and elsewhere.

For 43 years the two companies flourished in competition, but in 1920 they were reunited, under the name Waterlow & Sons Ltd.

The 1914-1918 war was not kind to Waterlows, or to De la Rue (3).

In the post-war years De la Rue managed to attract a team from Waterlows (1921), including Albeit Gronow, who knew of a clandestine arrangement made in 1914 to carve up the market in printing Treasury Notes. It had been agreed between Edgar Waterlow and Stuart de la Rue in 1914 or 1915 that if the Government gave the contract for the next English banknotes to De la Rue (to be printed by letter press) De la Rue would "slip Waterlow and Sons a shilling for every thousand notes, and conversely, if Waterlows were asked to print (by copperplate) they would pay 6d per thousand to De la Rue, the copperplate method of production being more expensive" (3).

To their joint chagrin, neither won - the contract went to Waterlow Bros & Layton, to be printed by a third process, newer and cheaper, called "photogravure".

In the event, in 1920 Waterlow & Sons bought Waterlow Bros & Layton which was still printing English notes by photogravure. Gronow reminded Stuart de la Rue of the secret deal. A claim was made, and rejected, and the matter went to court, the case finally being settled 10" April 1923, with De la Rue being awarded £120,000 compensation.

The case was famous for revealing the long-standing arrangement for De la Rue "to have the home and colonial territory and Waterlows the foreign market". Having virtually won his case, Stuart de la Rue "was just about to leave the witness box when he looked across at the Waterlow people and made an appalling blunder. He really could not understand, he said, why Waterlows should have begrudged paying for *their* side of the bargain over the English currency notes when De la Rue always honoured a similar promise to- pay Waterlow for keeping out of their stamp monopoly.... It emerged that as far back as Sir Thomas Andros's time [Chairman, 1898-1911] there had been a private arrangement between the head of De la Rue and the head of Waterlow: De la Rue were to have home and colonial territory and Waterlows the foreign market. If by mistake a De la Rue tender for foreign stamps was accepted, compensation was duly made to Waterlow, Sir Thomas Andros invariably entrusting his youngest son, Stuart, with the task of carrying round the money in a black Gladstone bag from Bunhill Row to Great Winchester Street, where he placed it in the hands of Edgar Waterlow himself. The rest of the Waterlow family knew nothing of this arrangement"

Now we know why Waterlows had it their own way in Europe and South America, and why De la Rue printed the English and Colonial Office issues.

However, the major catastrophe for Waterlow & Sons Ltd was the Bank of Portugal case, in which Waterlows were "conned" into producing bank notes which they believed had been properly ordered by the Bank. This was not the case, and after the Bank suffered a loss when the unauthorised notes were put into circulation, the Bank sued Waterlows, and won. In 1932 the House of Lords ordered Waterlows to pay £610,392, and the Company never really recovered (for Derek Lambert's account of this, see *Waterlow Study Circle Journal* 21, pp 50-51: Ed.)

New printing techniques and increasing sophistication compounded the Company's problems, and in 1960 it was sold to De la Rue.

The story is a good illustration of the old saying on the lines of "from rags to riches and back to rags in three generations".

References

- (1) "A Century of Stamp Production 1852-1952", by L.N. and M. Williams, pg 5
- (2) WSCJ 17/70 -
- (3) "The House that Thomas Built. The story of De la Rue", by Lorna Houseman, ch XVIII.

Colin Hoffman

MEETING IN BRUSSELS

An interesting meeting was organized on 3 October 99 in Brussels during the stamp exhibition BRUPHILA 99. Several members made a presentation of a part of their collections : J.M.Frenay presented the post offices of German East Africa during the war in 1916, W.Deynckens has shown us the different cancellations of Kigali, Ph.Lindekens brought an interesting collection showing most interesting covers of incoming post in Belgian Congo from many different countries and finally, E.Hoorens presented a part of his "censorship 40-45" collection. 19 members attended this meeting : Ed.Lavitt (USA), R.Keach and M.Wright (U.K.) and from Belgium J.Van Casteren, D.Bilmans, L.De Keyser, J.De Ruyck, W.Deynckens, J.M.Freany, P.Govaert, Ch.Henuzet, E.Hoorens, L.Janssens, Ph.Lindekens, M.Oblin, V.Schouberechts, Ch.Stockmans, F.Van der Haegen, and D.Vander Hauwaert.

Emile Hoorens

LITERATURE

We now hold stocks of the following three important books by Charles Stockman and Roger Gallant, invaluable to every member with an interest in Congo postal history;

ARRETES ET ORDONNANCES CONCERNANT LES TARIFS POSTAUX AU CONGO BELGE ET AU RUANDA URUNDI 1 Janvier 1886 - 30 Juin 1962 1. Service postal interieur et international 2. Service postal aerien. 3. Service des petits paquets postaux. 135 A4 pages. Price £10.00 plus postage and packing.

The companion volume but 1. Colis postaux ordinaires 2. Colis postaux par avion..131 A4 pages. Price £10.00 plus postage and packing.

The first of these two books includes all the official government instructions on postal rates for letters, post cards, printed matter and small packets, both internal and international by both surface mail and airmail, with dates on which changes were effected. The second book gives similar instructions for parcels, again internal and international, surface mail and air mail.

Literature cont.

SERVICE DES POSTES DU CONGO BELGE ET DU RUANDA URUNDI - Rapports annuels 1908-1958 153 A-4 pages. Price f 15 . 00 plus postage and packing.

This-book comprises the annual reports by the post office of its activities during the 50 year period and is packed with interesting and useful information. Not only are there statistics giving the amounts of mail in its various categories handled by the post office and the number of people employed, including canoists and pedestrians, but some information on the opening of new post offices and very much more. It is a veritable mine of information.

We also have available copies of the large scale (95 X-83 cm) 1958 official postal map of the Congo. This shows the locations of all post offices then existing, the distances and means of transport (including aeroplane, train, motor vehicle, river boat, canoe, bicycle and on foot) between them. A fascinating and useful document. Price £3.00 plus postage.

Orders for any of the above to R. H. Keach, 25 Kingswood Rd., Tadworth, Surrey KT20 5EE, England UK
There is yet another new book:

CONGO et CONGO BELGE 1894-1923 - EMISSIONS "MOLS-VAN ENGELEN" - Etude-du 10c"STANLEY FALLS" BY Leo Tavano. This is, a useful, attractive and interesting compilation of what is known about the 10c value of the Mols issues including its various overprints. Some of the information given is contentious but the book is highly commended. 58 A4 pages. Price 700 FB plus postage. from the author or it can be ordered through R. H. Keach.

PLEASE HELP

The Expert Committee has a problem which other members. can certainly help to solve. It concerns the sea mail letter rate to Belgium in 1935-36 on which there are conflicting reports.

The period in question is 1 June 1935 to 31 December 1936. The two possibilities are:

- 1) 1,25fr for the first 20 grams and 75c for each additional 20 grams
- 2) 1,50fr for the first 20 grams and 90c for each additional 20 grams

Many members must have surface mail covers to Belgium of that period. Will each member be so kind as to see what he has and send me a list giving for each cover the franking, if registered or not, the date of the Congo cancellation and the Congo post office from which the letter was dispatched. Information on covers that travelled air is not required.

Thank you in anticipation of your kind assistance.

R. H. Keach

POST OFFICE MAPS

We now have available copies of the official post office map, 97 X 85 cm, showing the locations of all post offices existing on ---1959 and showing the method of transport between them. The price is £2.00 plus postage.

The indicated means of transport, sometimes by canoe or bicycle, occasionally on foot, provides an interesting insight into conditions in which the postal service operated.

At the moment I have a number of cardboard cylinders suitable for containing the maps while in the post and these are available free to buyers. When these cylinders are gone I will need to buy more and these will be charged.

Requests to R- H. Keach, 25 Kingswood Road, Tadworth, Surrey KT20 5EE, England

Belgian members should obtain their copies from Roger Gallant.

NEW MEMBERS

We welcome the following new members:

Ludo Achten	John Van Casteren
Luikersteenweg 386	Dudenhofelaan 108
3500 Hasselt, Belgium	8620 Nieuwpoort, Belgium

CHANGE OF ADDRESS

New Address

David A. Schaubroeck
36634 Winterset
Clinton Township MI 48035

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING and NOTICE OF A MAJOR STAMP SHOW

The Annual General Meeting will be held in London, at a venue to be announced in the March Bulletin, on **20 May 2000**. It is to be noted that **STAMP SHOW 2000** (an International Exhibition) will be held at Earls Court London from the 22 May through the 28th of May, 2000.

A REMINDER—SUBSCRIPTIONS ARE NOW DUE

Members are reminded that subscriptions for the year 2000 are now due. The subscriptions are as follows: **UK £8.00** to be sent to **Stuart S. Smith, Lychgates, Pinfold Hill, Curbar-Calver, Hope Valley S32 3YL England, UK; Belgium 300 FB** to be sent to **Emile Hoorens Ave. Eugene Ysaye 105 Boite 1, Brussels, Belgium; United States and Canada \$15.00 US** to **Edwin M. Lavitt P O Box 900 Rockville CT 06066**; and the rest of the world **£10.00** to **Stuart S. Smith** whose address is listed above.

EDITOR'S NOTES AND FUTURE BULLETINS

WE APOLOGISE FOR THE LATE BULLETIN. WE HAVE WAITED FOR SOME TIME FOR THE POST OFFICE TO DELIVER THE AUCTION LIST FROM BELGIUM. POSTAL SERVICE HAS BECOME A DISASTER. ON THIS NOTE WE CALL YOUR ATTENTION TO THE FINAL DATE FOR SENDING IN YOUR BIDS. Mr. Lindekens has done a superb job in preparing an auction of 345 Lots, some of which items are quite rare. IN THE LAST AUCTION ONE OF OUR AMERICAN MEMBERS ALLOWED THREE WEEKS FOR HIS BIDS TO ARRIVE AND THEY ARRIVED TOO LATE—SEND IN YOUR BIDS PROMPTLY.

In the next bulletin we plan to reprint the extensive article prepared by Abbé Gudenkauf on the East African overprints and, among other items, a most interesting study of the Reponse Coupons by Emile Hoorens. If you have requests for articles please write your Editor.

Congratulations to Ron Strawser for 2 Golds at the Greater Houston Stamp show in September.

EML

SOME INTERESTING CANCELLATIONS, COVERS AND QUESTIONS

In the next four pages we present some interesting covers, cancellations and, as usual in Peter Storm van Leeuwens articles, some questions. Mr. van Leeuwen has the propensity to discover the unusual and is generous in sharing his discoveries and challenges with us.

KALINA

On 15 May 1929 a post office was established in Leopoldville-Kalina in the Avenue Prince Charles.¹ According to history the name Kalina was chosen in memory of the young Austrian officer Ernest Kallina, who was drowned when his canoe smashed against rocks on 23 December 1882, just ahead of the quay at that locality.²⁻³

As we know, in the years 1943-1947 a canceller type 8B1 of Kalina was used. During the same period we also know of the usage of several cancellers of Leopoldville-Kalina such as type 7C1, 8A1, 8B1 and 10(A).⁴

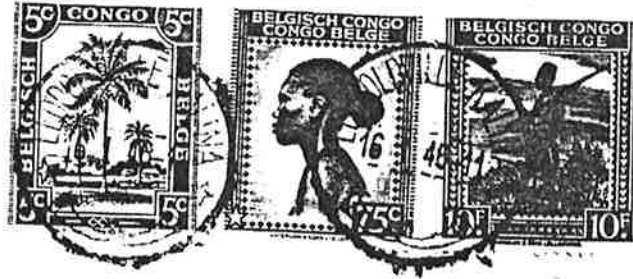
Illustrated below are two registered airmail covers sent from Leopoldville-Kalina on 16 January 1946. Although both covers are surely philatelic, they were really sent to their destinations and were returned to the sender (M. Dal, 45 Avenue Lippens, Leopoldville. Avenue Lippens was situated in Leopoldville-Kalina). These covers should prove that the cancellers Kalina and Leopoldville-Kalina were both used at the post office of Leopoldville-Kalina.

The first cover is cancelled LEOPOLDVILLE-KALINA, 16 1 46-11 (type 8B1). The registration label nr.327 shows the same straight line cancellation of Leopoldville-Kalina as the registration label nr.202 on the second cover. The cover was sent to Lisbon and returned to sender. It is backstamped Lisboa (date unreadable), Leopoldville 1, -1-3-46.-8 and LEOPOLDVILLE / KALINA, -1.-3 -46 12 (type 7C1).

The second cover is cancelled KALINA 16-1-46.12 and was sent on 18 January 1946 to Lisbon (see pencil note on the left), probably like the first cover, but was forwarded to New York. The cover shows on the back several American cancellations but also the notation Retour with a cancellation 'non reclame'. Backstamped Leopoldville 1, 23-4-46.15 and LEOPOLDVILLE / KALINA, 23.-4 -46.16 (type 7C1).

Notes

1. Ord. 6 May, 1929
2. Thanks to Mr. C. Stockmans for this information
3. See also *Le Rail au Congo Belge, Tome I, 1890-1920* by G. Blanchart et al. (Brussels, 1993), p.28. Initially it was called Kallina Point.
4. Cancellation types according to the 2nd edition of Heim-Keach book on the cancellations.
See also page 8



R
LEOPLOVILLE KALINA N° 327

Recommandée



Monsieur Louis Sal

par poste restante
RETOUR A L'ENVOYEUR
DEVOLVIR *de Lisboa* APOSTE

(Portugal)



R
LEOPLOVILLE KALINA N° 202 A

Recommandée



Monsieur Louis Sal

~~*par poste restante*~~
~~*New York*~~

AVION

Via Lisbonne ~~*U.S.A.*~~

M' PALA

We know of the existence of straight line cancellations M' PALA. So far I have seen these cancellations only on loose pairs of Mols stamps. I wonder if they were cancelled to order. The size is 45.5 x 7.0 mm. The few I have seen are all struck in black.

Neither the Heim-Keach book on cancellations, nor General Du Four's 'CONGO, Cinquante ans d'histoire postale', nor De Cock's 'Le Congo Belge et ses Marques Postales' mentions a post office M' PALA. Therefore I think it is most unlikely that in M' PALA some kind of a post office existed. Nevertheless, the cancellation does exist.

'Le Négro Guide' by L. Gailly, 5th edition of 1945, illustrates on page 152 a pair of the 10c Mols COB 65, with a cancellation of M' PALA. Gailly also gives the following information:

M' PALA sur la rive occidentale du Lac Tanganyika a été créé en 1883 lors de la 4e expédition organisée par l'Association Internationale Africaine et conduite par le Lieutenant Storms aidé du Lieutenant Constant.

L'expédition partit de Zanzibar, base de ravitaillement.

Storms soumit toutes les populations avoisinant le lac Tanganyika et devint le chef incontesté d'une vaste région.

Un modeste monument érigé Square de l'Industrie à Bruxelles rappelle les traits du noble pionnier.

M' Pala se trouve à quelques kilomètres d'Albertville.

Les pères blancs y ont fondé une immense agglomération.

La griffe dont photographie (the pair of 10c Mols, PSvL) ci-dessus a été utilisée pendant la période de guerre 1914-1918.

Thus according to Gailly the straight line cancellation of M' PALA was used during the Great War of 1914-1918. How does he know? Do dated covers or postcards exist?

The question is: what was the status of the office which used the straight line canceller? Was it postal?



M'PALA on a pair of 15c 1915 (size 140%)

M' TOA - ALBERTVILLE

Illustrated is an interesting postcard written in *Mtoa (Albertville)* on the 5th of December, 1898. The card was cancelled in blue with the circular datestamp M' TOA, 12 NOVE 6-M 1898 (type 1.1-DMTY). Then something remarkable happened. The card must have been held up for a few months, because it was also cancelled in blue with the circular datestamp ALBERTVILLE, 7 MARS 8-M 1899.

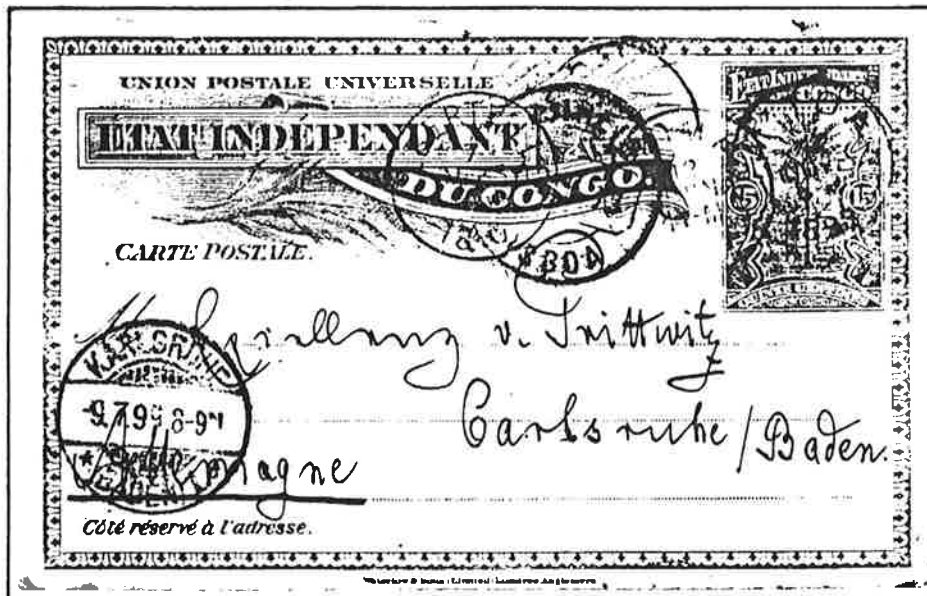
In the literature we know that both the cancellers of M' Toa and Albertville were in use at the same time, but M' Toa is only known in 1898.¹

M' Toa is about 40 kilometres north of Albertville.

The postcard continued his journey in 1899 on its way to Germany via Stanley-Falls (backstamped on 23 AVRIL 3-S 1899), Boma, 12 JUIN 11-M 1899 and Lisbon 6-7-1899. The card reached its destination Karlsruhe on 9-7-1899.

Note

1. A.I. Heim & R.H. Keach. *The cancellations of the normal post offices of Belgian Congo 1886-1960 and Ruanda urundi 1917-1962 including the telegraphic cancellations*, Second edition, October 1992, p.11, Tabulation p.1, 61



Mtoa (Albertville) d. 5. 12. 98.
 Gungelinfan Gungis auf dem Wege über
 den Congo nach Boma und
 Tanganyika sind, nur in fünf Tagen
 durch den belgischen Kongo
 abgehenden. Gungy.