

Revenue Review

Auction Mayhem

Philatelics Australia auction of mid December last had a stack of good revenue collections rarely seen now days, as most collections are either broken down and sold in much smaller groups, so it was nice to recall the good old days when collections were up for grabs with little or no competition. As we all know things change and some tidy sums were paid for some of the collections. South Australia had a very nice clean collection of decimal stamp duties along with Swine and Cattle decimals in plate blks etc. Collections of Railways from Victoria, South Australia & New South Wales were all packed with many rare stamps. I was the under bidder on the Victoria Railways collection which made for a grumpy Dave, but winning a couple of other lots soon picked me back up! It was good to see my on line catalogue quoted in this auction, and with the buyers costs added, lots like the Victoria Railway collection selling for bang on my catalogue prices. The South Australia railway collection total was quoted from the Presgrave & Walker printed

book, with this lot selling for under half the printed book price. I do find most auction lots sell for around half to full catalogue so maybe its time I upped my prices!! Figures 1-4 [courtesy Philatelics Australia] show some of the better items on offer.

Just a \$1.50

One of the harder decimals from South Australia is the humble \$1.50 not at all common in perf 10½x10 but in the same design the 14½x13 is plentiful. Figure 5 perf 10½x10 predates recorded copies by some 4 years, and would be a nice addition to any South Australian revenue collection.

Requests

Yes, I do take requests! I have had a few collectors asking to see the Queensland 8d essay of which I have recorded just 3 copies, figure 6 being the third. This copy was in a small group of Australian revenues, which sold in the last Philas auction. I think the



Figure 1



Figure 2



Figure 3



Figure 4



Figure 5

Dave Elsmore

vendor could have done better had he singled it out. Maybe offered it in a much larger auction, giving it better collector exposure, as I am sure it would have doubled its sale price. I know the winner of this lot was prepared to go to at least double the hammer price of \$1,200 for the entire collection! Nice buying for one lucky collector.

Defence

One of the harder OHMS users of Queensland Railways is the Defence Department. Less than a handful of railway stamps showing 'DEFENCE' in the lower cartouche have survived and a must 'keep you eye out for it'. Figure 7, which also has an inverted wmk, was seen in one of the Cinderella Club books for \$60. Bargain! I hear you say.

More

New South Wales is next to turn up an unrecorded item. Figure 8 an exceedingly rare decimal impressed

80c, which I would like to record here. Even better, being on a full dated document, which is further evidencing the fact that this series was only in use for the first six months of 1966.

Samuel Reading

Some time ago I was able to buy one of the Samuel Reading Proof books with the Roos, PNG, Australia Stationery essays etc in. I have recorded this book selling for up to \$2000. Not bad for a book full of complementary die proofs struck from original dies. The book [1 of 50 copies sold for 1 guinea each] also included figure 9 the only stamp duty in the book, which first took my interest. There is also a Christmas card with a die strike of a roo recorded. The book is not only packed with die proofs but it also contains photographic copies of the die proofs. All printed for Norden philatelic dept. Melbourne by The Hawthorn Press back in the mid 50's. Shown here just in case you are offered a copy of this now scarce book.



Figure 6



Figure 7



Figure 9



Figure 8

Revenue Review

Perfin Corner

If we look back to the first paragraph of this months Revenue Review figure 10 [Courtesy Philatelics Australia] is from the same auction. This 1½d Silvertown Tramway is the first I have seen with a company Perfin within. I further wish to record this here, but wait, there's more! No, not a set of steak knives but the perf 12 on the 1½d also unrecorded. Listings show this only as a rouletted separation. The lot had other Silvertown Tramway values in it [5 in total]. With a selling price of \$700 plus buyers, one can only presume it was the Perfin, and how it was separated that drew the collector interest. Finally bringing seven times estimate, this must be some sort of record, well for today anyway. You can see this very rare New South Wales Tramway Perfin on Perfins.com.au. While I am on this, and away from Perfins for a mo, the printed catalogue by Presgrave & Walker appears to highjack the Silvertown Tramway and purport it to be South Australian!!! The cheek of it.

Re: Figures 11 & 12 Please let me know if you can find one of these little fellas as this is the first to be recorded showing the complete pattern of AMP/F&G.a [Australian Mutual Provident Society Fire & General]. All recorded patterns known are split into pairs so you will have half patterns on singles.

As you all may know, Perfins.com.au turned 1 year old in January and I would like to thank all the collectors [and there are lots of you] who have given me much support and encouragement in this labour of love. I welcome any comments or corrections to help further the development of this site.

Those of you who have been kind enough to purchase 'Revenue Perfins of Australia' you will be pleased to know South Australia should now be very close to publishing. Again the ©Perfin-Finder will be posted ASAP.

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Figure 10



Figure 11



Figure 12