

Revenue Review

Specimens Galore

We are half way through 2011 as I write this, and it has been a quiet month with little to report, but fear not I shall endeavour to fill these pages with some goodies. One of the highlights on the auction scene was the fine collection of Australian Colonies 'specimen' overprints formed by the late Bill McCredie. This was offered by Millennium Philatelic Auctions in Sydney. The collection had some magnificent Revenues on offer and if you missed this sale you should really try to have a gander at this collection. The auction Catalogue in itself is an excellent reference for future students. One of the many bargains was figure one [courtesy of Millennium Philatelic Auctions]. The £5 Statute perfined SPECIMEN, a snip at \$600. I could fill this column just writing about Bill's collection but as it will be archived on line for all to see I will leave you to ponder.

Update

The beer stamps of Tasmania have finally had an

update via 'The Courier' [the journal of the Tasmania Philatelic Society]. Yours truly was asked to fill a few pages of Tasmania beer gems, and if you do not subscribe, or are not a member and would like to view this update it should be by the time you are reading this, be on my web site.

Unexpected Arrival

A rather large box duly arrived in the month, and upon opening it, I found it was packed with Victorian documents, most with low value duty stamps attached. There is a good run of dates with the earliest being 6/1/1880 for the 1d [ugly Queen] litho. This stamp on document has escaped me in the past and was missing from my 8 frame Victoria Revenue exhibit. I had better squeeze this in for a future showing.

Digging deeper into the pile, I came across figure two showing a mix of litho and typo issues, again I had not seen this mix used on a document before. Dated in May you may think this is quite late use for



Fig. 1



Fig. 2

Dave Elsmore

the litho and you may be right. It could possibly have come about where the printer used the last in first out principle. That is, as the litho stamp stock was not fully used up, the new typo issue was placed on top of the remaining litho's, and it was not until they had been used, [which could be a few months], the pile finally got back to the remaining litho's and then subsequently they were used. All conjecture I know, maybe you know better? If so please let me know so I can report your findings here. There is some fun to be had with this issue, as 12 mould types have been identified, and it can be quite a challenge to fill all twelve spaces!

Again digging deeper into this Aladdin's cave, I came to the 1d brown stamp duty [the replacement for the ugly Queen due to public demand]. It is recorded that the issue date was 5/7/1880 so I was surprised to find the earliest brown date was in fact 2/3/1880, quite a bit earlier that records show. Many documents had multiples on these being mostly pay sheets showing any pay over £5 was subject to 1d

duty. This was later dropped to 1d in £2. The balance of the documents were the fiscal postals 1d issues again showing a very good range of dates and a good run of printing shades.

Has anybody out there got bulk issues on document showing runs of dates shades etc? If so could you please make contact so we can exchange info.

Relief

One of the least seen RELIEF overprints from Victoria is figure three the 5/- perf 11. 99% of these were rouletted, so if you do see one, don't be scared to open the wallet.

Fruit & Veg

Stanthorpe Fruit & Vegetable levy revenues from Queensland appear scarce to find. These private association revenues turn up once every 10 years and figure four is no different. A few have been ferreted away by early students of revenue collecting



Fig. 3



Fig. 4

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when the general traditional collectors frowned upon revenues and were happy to virtually give them away. Figure four shows two values rouletted and perfed of the 1951 issue in black. Rare in ANY condition the stains on these do not detract from them at all, and could well be stains from fruit or vegetable's. I am sure if we added up known copies in collectors hands they would number less than 20. Please share any you have here so I/we can record them.

WA Hospitals

A note from Kev Kealley of Western Australia showing me a couple of unrecorded Western Australia Hospitals Benefit Fund issues that are not listed in my on line catalogue is most welcome, thanks Kev. Kev was quite amazed I had not listed them as he said the catalogue is quite extensive. Well Kev to answer you, I guess we can't know it all, and need assistance from people like you to add the next piece to the jigsaw. So in saying that I would like to

place on record figure five, a rather nice 1/9d blue and 2/3d canary yellow. I wonder just how many more values will surface and can be added to the listings. Maybe you have a book full and would like to share them with us. Kev also had a whole bunch of petrol ration tickets to show me. Keep it up Kev, you have some very fine material in your collection.

Private Revenue Perfins of Australia

Finally this month with Queensland Private Revenue Perfin's now published we can turn our attention to the private revenue perfin's of Western Australia and Tasmania. Both David Coath and I have a beta version of Western Australia up and running so if you would like to add to this please make contact with either David or me via the www.perfins.com.au web site.

I can be contacted by mail: P O Box 66 Springwood 4127 Queensland or an Email link from my web site ozrevenues.com



Fig. 5