

Revenue Review

We're Off

First up, can I wish all of you a very happy and prosperous New Year! Well here we go again; we're off on another year of fun and adventure into the fascinating world of revenue collecting. Not just revenue collecting but [read it slower] R-e-v-e-n-u-e Collecting! Ok you got it? Lets' go.

Bodily

Mid last year Gerald Bodily [late] a UK dealer was able to offer some rather nice revenues of New South Wales from a presentation book given by the New South Wales Government to the Government of Serbia. Figures 1 & 2 are a couple of the pages from the book. Richie Bodily offered these at a mere few hundred pounds a page. What is interesting is both pages show the first issue of both the Stamp Duty & Cattle Duty issues, inc the 2/6d orange [a

rare revenue on its own] Stamp Duty which later changed to blue with many new values added to the series over time. What baffles me is the fact that why would Serbia need to know what New South Wales Cattle duty revenues look like as none would surly pass them by. Maybe is was a simple as a presentation book of current issues given as a gift rather than a heads up as to what is coming out of New South Wales.

Savings

As we know Western Australia issued a 1d saving stamp as seen in figure 3 what I hadn't seen was a cancelled used copy. This was sold by Philatelics [Australia] in early December last year at their annual auction. It was in a collection of Western Australian revenues so I apologise for the poor graphic. Maybe you have some cancelled copies, if



Fig 1



Fig 2



Fig 3



Fig 4

Dave Elsmore

so please share them here.

Fourpence

eBay continues to turn up good revenues and figure 4 is no exception. The seller has so far offered 6 copies from what he says is a large buy from a local company archive. They are selling for \$300-\$500 each. I wonder just how many more there is to come out as this may need to be down graded as a once rare item.

Registrar General – Not

We have all seen the exempt revenues of Victoria, they are impressive to look at and always sell. Figure 5 is no exception selling for £50 but what intrigued me was the fact REGISTRAR GENERAL has been deleted telling me there must have been a shortage of some issues. Can you please check your holdings to

see if you have any further copies of an issue being cross-used. If you do find something please let me know.

Bethania

Very few Queensland Railway stamps have been found with postal cancels. All are very collectable with figure 6 showing a 1921 Queensland Railway issue of Bethania Junction cancelled 'Bethania' This is a known cancel from this Station but I do have it with and without the postal cancel. Worth a \$100 of anybody's money. Bethania Junction is on the South Coast line when it used to go the Tweed Heads on the Gold Coast, and junction right to Logan Village and beyond with the Beaudesert Tramway taking over and working it's way up to Christmas Creek. Parcel stamps from the Beaudesert Tramway also command \$100+ each.



Fig 5



Fig 6



Fig 7



Fig 8



Fig 9

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Miners Right

I have shown Miners Rights before but figure 7 is the first £1 I have seen. It appears to be on vellum and has some sort of cancel at top right [fig 8] can you recognise it? If so please let me know.

Stationery or Not Stationery

Figure 9 is an International Reply Coupon, apparently classed as Stationery; this has in the past been confused as a piece of revenue stamped paper. So where does it fit in? Well I'm sure the Stationery boys will tell you they want it, I guess as a revenue collector I want it, and as a Cinderella collector I also want it. I thought [and correct me if I'm wrong] that Post Office stationery had to have an imprint of a stamp on it to pass through the mail.

These 'Coupons' and I stress the word 'Coupon' to me are no more than an exchange coupon of ones countries stamps. They were sent enclosed within an envelope allowing the receiver to purchase a stamp to reply to the letter. Similarly Postal Notes [I have spoke on these in the [past] were enclosed within an envelope and used as a form of sending small amounts of money safely through the mail and clearly revenue stamped paper. The Stationery boys have tried to claim these also!!

So should anything the post office put out other

than stamps be classed as Postal Stationery? Well no, that's just silly! These Reply Coupons to me are no more that that, a coupon, but one which could be used internationally. Quite a lot of stationery exists with a return card affixed allowing the receiver to send a reply without charge, ok that is stationery; however to send something enclosed within an envelope not paying any of the postal content and having the exchange value of a single stamp should the receiver choose to use it is clearly NOT stationery in my book. Figure 9 shows that the recipient would have received the coupon but never encashed it to collect free return postage from the sender. If the Stationery boys insist these are stationery items then it could be argued postage stamps are stationery due to the fact in the early part of the century stamps could be sent interstate, enclosed within an envelope, and using them as return postage Or by taking the received stamps to the local post office, one could cash them in, in full. Coupons were used simply as a form of sending return postage to another country. Your thoughts are welcome. The only exception to cashing in postage stamps at a post office was if they carried a company Perfin.

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Perfin Corner

Talking of Perfins, I would like to close this month by showing you yet another unrecorded Perfin on a railway revenue, this time, figure 10 a New South Wales Railway parcel stamp. Looks horrible but this is quite normal usage for this issue and exceedingly rare with this B R Perfin in it. It may pay you to recheck your holdings for Perfins on railway revenues. Please let me know if you find any! I am sure as the year goes on more and more unrecorded Perfins will surface keep a watch on Perfins.com.au for all updates.

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Fig 9