

Revenue Review

No Ears

First up this month is a rather poor quality forgery [fig 1], which sold by a UK dealer as genuine describing it as a 'dolls house' stamp. I made several enquiries but am yet to get a reply. It sold for \$170.00 to some unsuspecting collector. What to look out for: apart from the obvious, the colour, which should be pink. The problem is, this forgery is also well known in pink! So your next step is to look for a full right ear. As you can see in figure 1 the Queens hair covers her ear, making this the best giveaway that it is forged.

A Nice Pair

A rather nice pair of blue SPECIMEN

overprints [fig 2] on a 7/- New South Wales stamp duty was up for grabs. These are particularly rare in singles let alone a pair. If any are offered to you snap them up at any price as you may be waiting a long time before you see another nice pair!

Another Half

Queensland railway Halfpennies appear hard to find, and when they do show up they are usually from large, close to Brisbane stations. So it was nice to see one from Dalby [fig 3], which is about 200kms west of Brisbane. It still fascinates me that some other States railways issued a farthing stamp, as there was no farthing in the Australian coinage of the time. You



Fig 1



Fig 2



Fig 3

would have had to buy 2 of them! Gee makes you wonder how they were able to legally get money out of the public.

Moo, Oink!

Figure 4 turned up in Israel of all places! A great selection of mint Swine & Cattle remainders from Victoria. You rarely see these issues in any quantity show up. If your like me, you would have a selection of used but very few mint. The pick of the bunch here would undoubtedly be the SWINE overprints.

Ration

After the release of my latest additions to my FREE online publications on Revenues and

Railways including Perfins and the WWI & WWII Cinderella issues. I have just added to the WWII book, all the recorded Petrol Ration coupons or 'Motor Spirit Ration Ticket' as per figure 5. Some of these coupons are just as plentiful as 1d & 2d duty stamps, but some like figure 5 are rare as hen's teeth. The Emergency Rationing of Petrol in 1943 brought about the printing and issue of 'Emergency Ration Tickets'. Issued by post offices and dated with the postal cancellers, these have become very collectable. Steve Hamilton of 'Ham For Stamps' has a 'one gallon' emergency on his web site for a cool \$500.00. I did show some of these last year that a Sydney dealer sold off. Again if you see one, grab it as you will



Fig 4

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be waiting a long time to see another. It goes without saying, the early dates are even rarer.

Third Sister

A few years ago I showed a rare beer duty issue, which had turned up in a USA auction. This was the sister copy to one I owned. Low and behold the same scenario happened recently when figure 6 was sold off by a collector in Germany. As it happened, I own the earlier of the two numbers [fig 7]. Both displaying the same date and signature. Lucky for me mine is not damaged. As things happen in three's I will await the third sister to come along.

Received With Thanks

It was nice to see figure 8, a security pre cancel from Macdonald Hamilton & Co. In the early

years of the 1900's Macdonald was instrumental in the formation of the 'Collins pool', which was an agreement between the major coastal shipping companies. In particular AUSN and their rival the Adelaide Steamship Co. This allowed the building of a larger Australian coastal fleet. The surviving copies are generally 1d & 2d receipt stamps, so to add a 6d to the FREE online catalogue was a bonus!

HB

Another security pre cancel that recently came to light is figure 9. A rather tatty looking 1d from the New South Wales railway's, handstamped 'H.B. / & CO.' Probably from Henry Berry & Co General Merchants of Kent St, Sydney. Another possibility is Hardy Bros, of Hunter St, Sydney. My only problem with the



Fig 5



Fig 6



Fig 7

Dave Elsmore

latter company is, that they were Jeweller's, and I can see little use for railway parcels being sent by this company. Maybe you know? If so please let me know your thoughts.

Auction

A couple of nice auctions full of revenue, railway and Cinderella's are about to hit the auction scene. Keep a lookout and if you do bid, make it low as I will be bidding!!!

Perfin Corner

This month I have a little gem to share with you. Figure 10 is dated 1884, which is very early for a Perfin. It appears to be punched with the letters 'J.L'. To date, all the Perfin guys cannot put a user to these initials. It has been

said it may be from a larger 'cancelling' device and is only part of the actual cancel. A search of Trove leaves answers very thin but did yield a 'James Lilly' who was a Manager working in shipping at the time this was used. Again maybe you the reader can help here? If you have anything remotely similar I would like to hear from you, in the mean time I would like to place this 'unknown' Perfin on record, here in 'Revenue Review'

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web site ozrevenues.com or
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Fig 8



Fig 9



Fig 10