

CAPTAIN COQK

NEWSLETTER OF THE
CHRISTCHURCH (NZ) PHILATELIC SOCIETY, INC

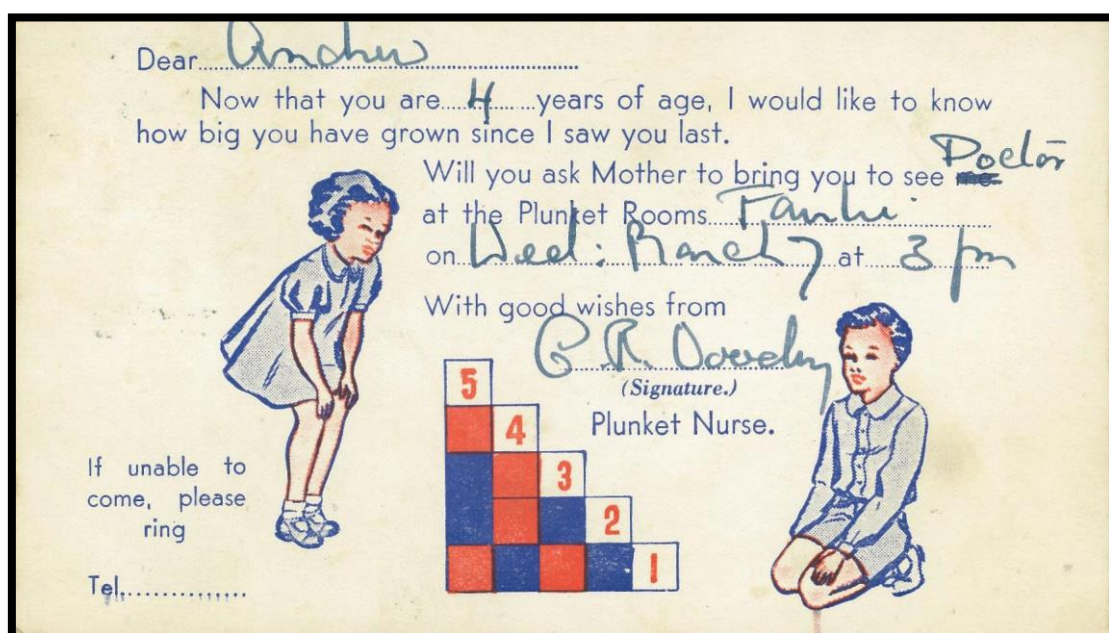
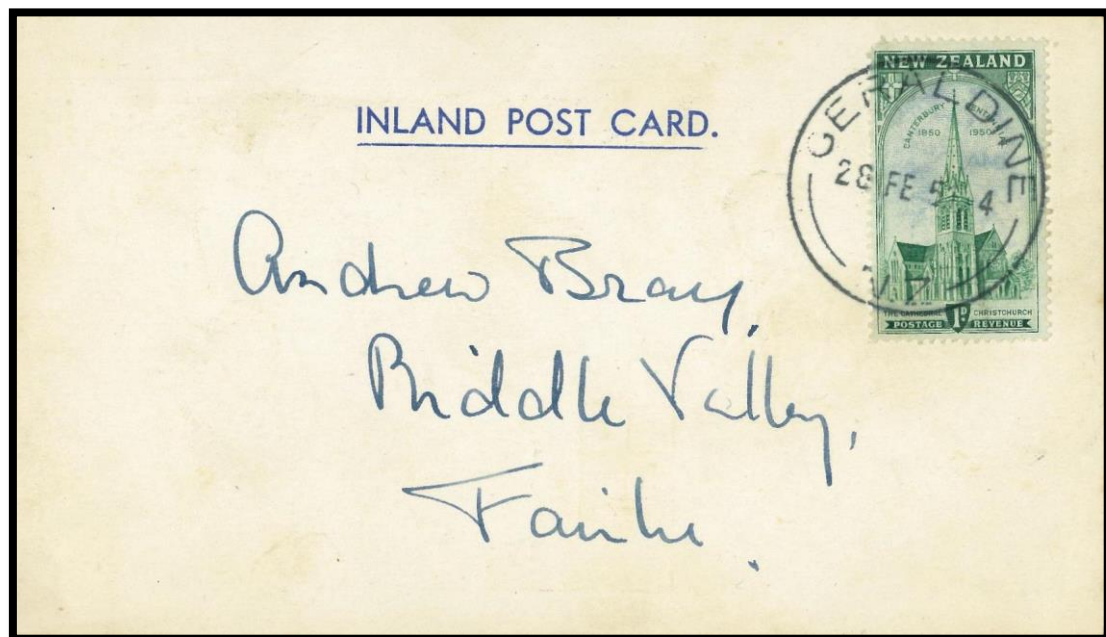
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March, 2018

1951 Plunket Visit Postcard

The item below was a postcard sent posted by the local Plunket nurse in February 1951 to remind parents their child was due for one of the regular checkups on the child's health.



Stephen Jones

CPS Exchange Branch Needs More Members (Now's Good)

The Exchange Branch of CPS operates several stamp circuits around Christchurch and a postal circuit around NZ. The stamp circuits provide a means for Society circuit members to look at a variety of philatelic items which are for sale and to put items which they wish to sell in front of a large stamp collecting group. Very similar to the old approval books you may remember from your early stamp collecting days. As members circumstances change so does the circuit membership.

Over time there has been a gradual drop in the number of circuit members, both those wishing to sell material and those interested in seeing what material is being offered. If you would like to join the circuits let the Exchange Superintendent know. You can contact Tony Stockley at PO Box 9246, Christchurch, phone (03) 332 1044, or email: tstocknz@gmail.com or see me at a CPS meeting or Library Night.

Tony Stockley



Well, I wouldn't guarantee a cover like this in every exchange booklet, but

AGM - Advance Notice - AGM - Advance Notice - AGM

The 107th Annual General Meeting of the Society will take place on Tuesday, April 10th, 2018, at the Philatelic Centre, 67 Mandeville St, Riccarton, commencing at 7.30.

Currently there is no indication that there will be any specific remits to vote on, so no notice for such. The reports for the year will be formally tabled and there is the opportunity to elect officers and committee members. As with all organisations run by volunteers, there is always room for more to be involved and by our rules we have openings for up to 4 committee members.

No-one ever wants to join a committee, but with the CPS team at least currently we have an active team which makes it simpler to be just a committee member, rather than wait till the team retires and volunteers will be sought for specific roles in order to keep the Society functioning. Stepping into a role at that late stage is horrendous.

One way to prevent getting to that stage is to keep what we have for a team supported and functioning so that spread workload means the volunteers we have are more likely to stay.

Please consider joining us now!!

SOCIETY PAGE

PROGRAMME

MARCH 5 POSTAL HISTORY GROUP

MARCH 13 SOCIETY MEETING **MEMBER'S NIGHT**
The Numbers 3, 4, 5, & 6

NUMBERS 3, 4, 5, & 6

A bit of lateral thinking here should result in some interesting interpretations on what to display. You know you can make it work.

MARCH 20 LIBRARY NIGHT Open for all members

MARCH 27 POSTCARD GROUP Flora and Fauna
Steve McLachlan MC

APRIL 2 POSTAL HISTORY GROUP

APRIL 10 SOCIETY MEETING AGM
President's Night

APRIL 17 LIBRARY NIGHT Open for all members

All meetings are held at the Philatelic Centre, 67 Mandeville St, Riccarton, and commence at 7.30 pm. (Library night closes at 10 pm)

SOCIETY ADDRESS: PO Box 9246, Tower Junction, Christchurch 8149
(website) www.cps.gen.nz
(emails) Use the "Contact" facility in the website

SOCIETY OFFICERS:

<i>Patron</i>	Jeff Long	<i>President</i>	Paul van Herpt
<i>Vice President</i>	Sue Claridge	<i>Secretary</i>	Vacant
<i>Treasurer</i>	Karen Jeffrey	<i>Library</i>	Robert Duns
<i>Editor</i>	Stephen Jones	<i>Exchange Supt</i>	Tony Stockley
<i>Collections Convenor</i>	Paul Clark	<i>Immed Past Pres</i>	Robert Duns
<i>Web Master</i>	Murray Taege		

Christchurch (NZ) Philatelic Society (Inc) Subscription Rates

The annual subscription to the Society is \$60.00. A \$10.00 discount may be deducted if paid by March 31st (or on application for membership) Where both husband and wife are members but require only one *CAPTAIN COQK* newsletter to be sent, a combined subscription of \$90.00 is charged, \$15.00 discount allowed. Additional postage is charged to cover the extra cost of posting to overseas addresses. Overseas postage rates are as follows: Australia & South Pacific \$13.20 Rest of the world \$18.70 (Economy rate discontinued)

The view expressed in this issue of *CAPTAIN COQK* are not necessarily those of the Christchurch (NZ) Philatelic Society (Inc) but are simply those of the respective authors

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Annual Competitions 2018

General Meeting Night - JUNE 12, 2018

- Our annual Society competition night is in June and we encourage **YOU** to be a participant. If you are a first time entrant, why not put together an 8 page exhibit. It can also be a preview for anyone wishing to enter the national Armistice Commemoration show in Dunedin later in the year.
- No entry form is required, however your pages will need to have your name and address on the reverse, and numbered from 1 - 16.
- The class entered, and your name and address must be on a sheet with each entry.
- Members who require their entries to be returned by post/courier must enclose suitably addressed prepaid post/courier bags for return postage, in the method that you want your entry returned.
- The closing date for exhibits to be received will be **ON THE NIGHT** of the meeting. Entries can be posted to the Society at PO Box 9246, Tower Junction, Christchurch 8149, to arrive by May 15, 2018. Entries can also be handed in at the May 8 Society Meeting; or the May 15 Library Night.
- **OVERSEAS MEMBERS:** Please send **COLOUR PHOTOCOPIES** of your exhibit - This saves problems with Customs and GST etc. These should be sent rolled or flat - NOT folded, and will not be returned, but will be filed with other similar exhibits in the Society's library.
- **PAGE SIZE:** 28mm x 23mm maximum. A4 sheets will need to be trimmed to meet the height maximum.
- **PROTECTORS:** Entries must be housed in protector pages and these can be obtained from the Philatelic Youth Council, P O Box 2979 Auckland 1140.
- **CLASS A: 16 Pages**

1	Postal History	2	Traditional
3	Postal Stationery	4	Aerophilately
5	Maximaphily	6	Revenues
7	Cinderellas	8	Thematic
9	Open	10	Postcards
11	Entries which do not fit into any of the above classes.		
- **CLASS B: 8 Pages**

12	Adult Development - any of the above classes.		
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Judging - We will have a 2 tier judging effort, those who want to be formally reviewed loosely based on NZPF standards, and for the rest, a popular vote by the members at the Society meeting. We want to make this as just another evening where members can participate, like the Members Nights.

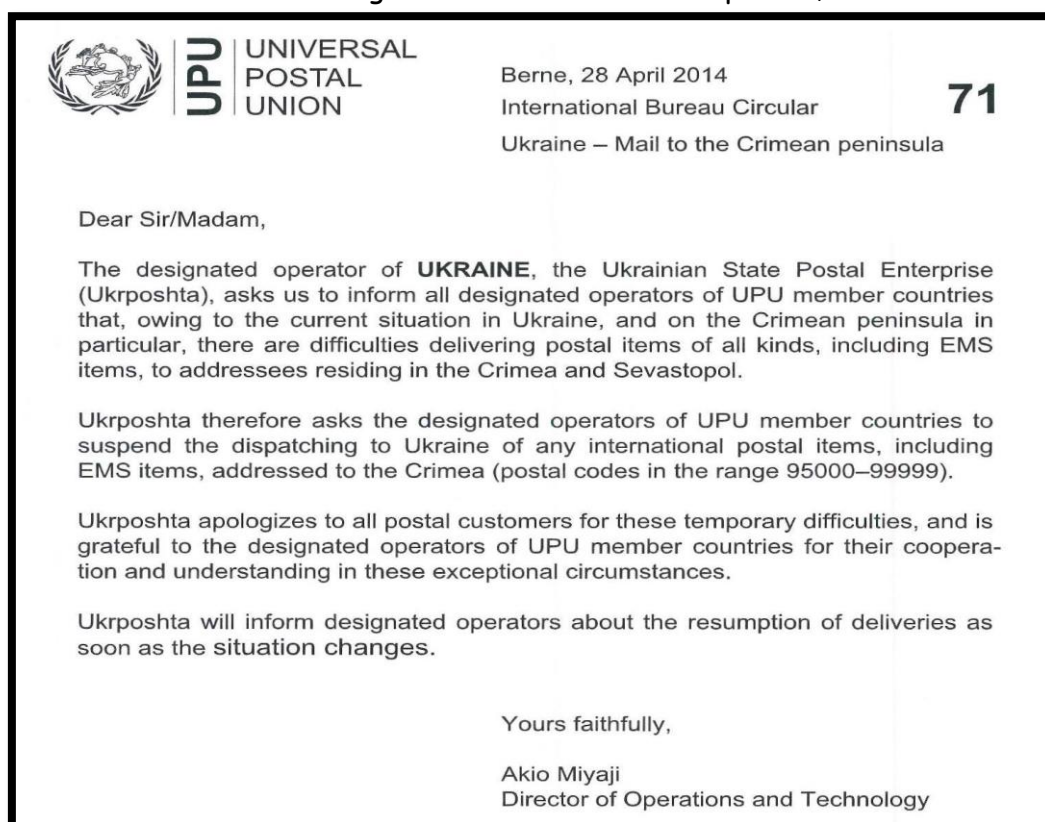
An entry does not have to be specifically written up with a competition in mind, but can be 8 or 16 pages that *you enjoyed putting together and you are happy to share with the rest of us*

2018 Suspended Mail to Crimea

The New Zealand Post website has a section titled "Mail Service Updates" with details on any disruptions or restrictions in place for international mail deliveries. Currently the mail service to Crimea has been suspended due to the ongoing dispute between the Ukraine and Russia after Russia invaded the region in 2014.



In the hope of getting an interesting cachet relating to the interruption to the service, I sent a letter addressed to the region. After about five weeks it was returned and on it was a Return To Sender label referencing UPU circular 71 dated April 28, 2014.

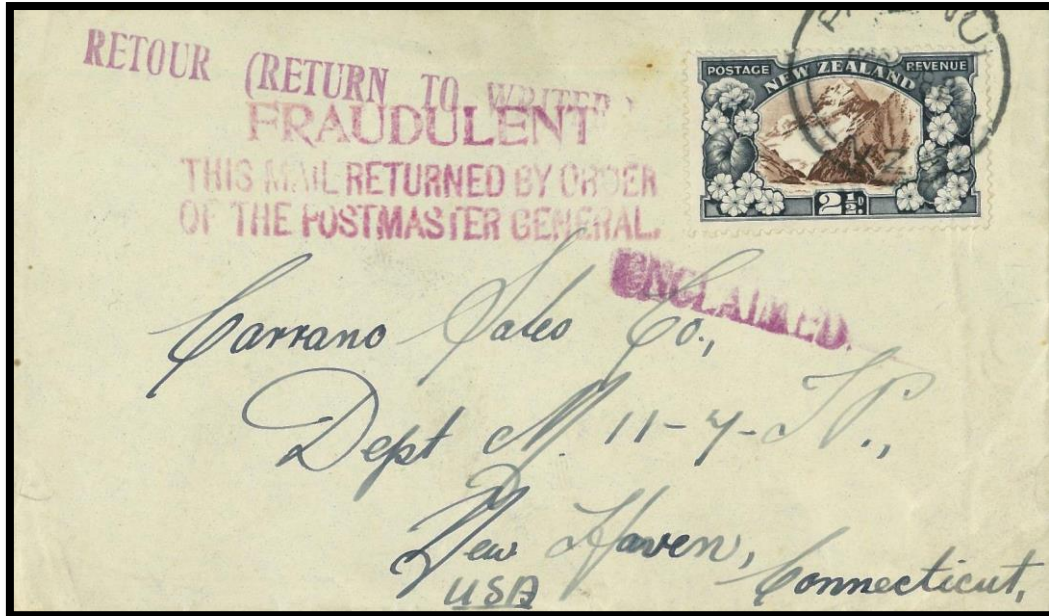


Fortunately Andrew McNiven was able to provide an image of the UPU circular carrying a message from the Ukrainian State Postal Service, advising members that Ukraine had suspended the service to this region. Mail services have also been suspended to Yemen. I'm still waiting for that cover to come back.

Stephen Jones

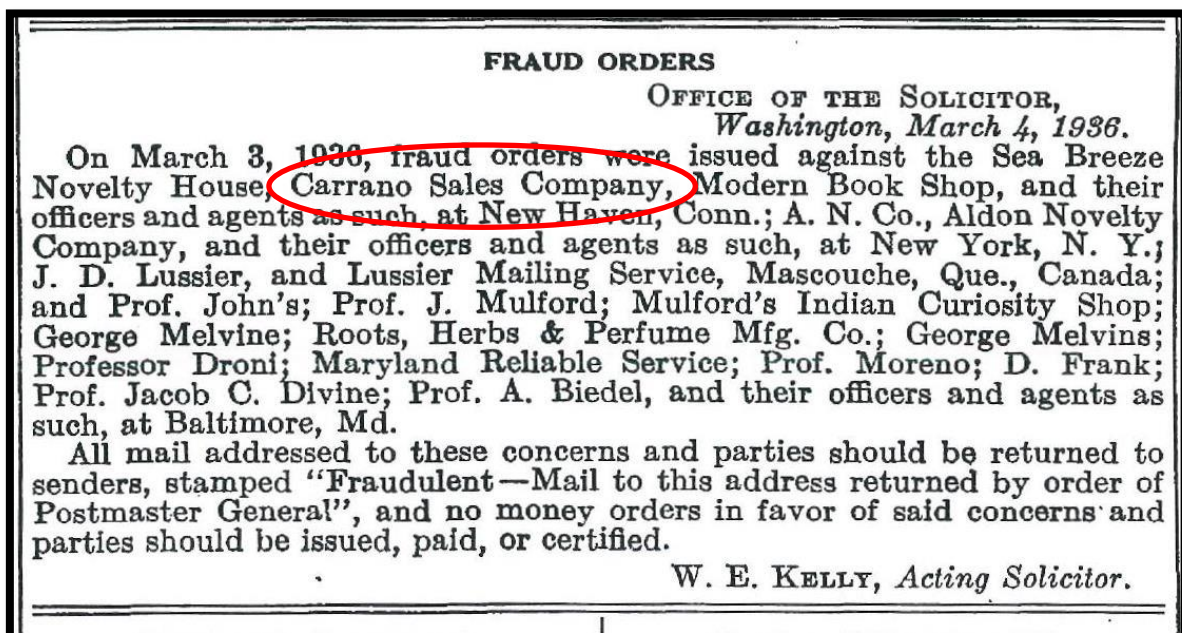
1930's US Mail Fraud Markings

When looking for covers to add to my collection, it is nice to come across something that has some unusual aspect to it. In this case, it was a cover sent to the US early in 1939 and stamped with a number of different markings applied by the US Postal Service. The marking that really caught my eye said "FRAUDULENT THIS MAIL RETURNED BY ORDER OF THE POSTMASTER GENERAL". This was the first marking of this nature I had seen on mail to the US and there had to be some interesting background to it.



Fortunately one of our members and advanced US collector, Bob Watson, was able to provide ample information as to the purpose of the marking, along with an additional example from his own collection.

The marking was applied by the USPS in response to information they received regarding the address being used to conduct fraudulent activity via the US mail service, or mail fraud as it is termed in the US. Although the USPS didn't have the authority to take direct action against the perpetrators, they could refuse to deliver mail to addresses they believed were involved in the illegal activity.



Amongst the information Bob sent was a copy from 1936 of "The Postal Bulletin", the daily publication issued by the USPS for "... the information and guidance of officers and

employees of the Postal Service" The bulletin for March 6 announced fraud orders had been issued a few days earlier against a number of businesses including Carrano Sales Company, the addressee of my cover. How lucky was that to have found the specific announcement relating to the cover? Bob also sent a copy of the public announcement, published in the Hartford Courant the following day, with the specific details of the New Haven, Connecticut based addresses.

The text from the Bulletin instructed Postmasters that:

"All mail addressed to these concerns and parties should be returned to senders, stamped "Fraudulent - Mail to this address returned by order of the Postmaster General" and no money orders in favour of said concerns and parties should be issued, paid or certified"



Bob's example was from some years later in 1949 and addressed to New Mexico. The cachet reads slightly differently, reading exactly as the text appeared in the announcement back in 1936.

I haven't seen any similar markings utilised by the New Zealand Post Office although they did maintain a register of local and foreign addresses that they wouldn't forward mail to. My copy of the 1916 Post and Telegraph Office Guide lists over six pages of prohibited addresses, both of individuals and companies, in a wide range of countries. The directive from the Postmaster-General is as follows:

".... the Postmaster-General has directed that any postal packet received at a post office, addressed to any of the undermentioned persons or firms by their own or fictitious or assumed name, or to such address without a name, shall not be forwarded, registered or delivered by the Post Office of New Zealand"

It doesn't elaborate on how they are handled subsequently, but I would assume they would end up in the Dead Letter Office (DLO).

In some instances, the DLO placed the correspondence to be returned in another envelope addressed to the sender. During WWII, there were severe restrictions on sending mail overseas containing mint stamps. Examples are known of letters found containing mint stamps, returned to the sender in this manner, along with an enclosed note giving the reason for the non delivery. If this was the method employed to return mail addressed to prohibited addresses, it is likely the response of recipient of the returned mail would be to dispose of it, rather than retain it, resulting in a dearth of examples.

Stephen Jones

Where On Earth Is....Diego Suarez?

Diego Suarez, (Antsiranana), is in Antsiranana Bay, at the top of Malagasy (Madagascar). It is one of the largest deep-water harbours in the Indian Ocean and a rival for Trincomalee in Sri Lanka. France had established bases in Madagascar at Fort Dauphin (Tôlanaro) in 1642, Ile de St Marie (Nossi Boraha) in 1750, Toamasina (Tamatave) in 1803 and Nossi Be in 1840.



Ceylon 1935 Trincomalee
Ceylon's Trincomalee could guard India and the east, thus for Britain more desirable than Diego Suarez

Although its existence was known to the French and British, it was over 200 years before France built a deep-water naval base there in 1885. This was due to a combination of Anglo-French rivalry, geography and internal Madagascar politics. Prior to the opening of the Suez Canal in 1869, Madagascar lay astride the main route to India and the Indies. British interests in Madagascar were primarily twofold. First: trade, including the supply of food to Mauritius; second: to keep it out of French hands

Britain did not colonise Madagascar as it had its hands full in India and the East. Also, Britain saw no resources of economic value to justify the expense of colonising it. France saw the main benefit of Madagascar as a potential to pinch Britain's main route to India. Until the Suez Canal was built, Britain kept a large naval presence in the area to deter any French ambitions in Madagascar.



India 1854
Protecting the main route to India was the objective

The geography and climate of Madagascar were not conducive to colonisation. There were only a small number of bays that were suitable for ports. There was no infrastructure, such as roads, which connected these to the capital Antananarivo. This was a policy of the Merina rulers to make any invasion more difficult. The early settlements were marked by high death rates.



Madagascar 1930 Hova with cattle.
Hova was a caste of the Merina

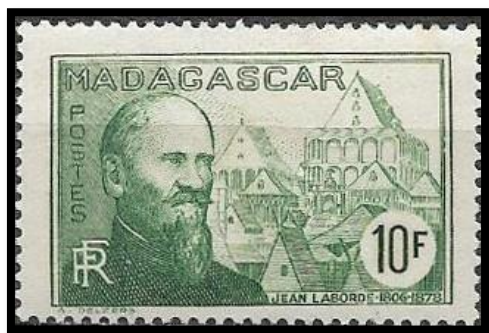
In 1810 Radama I became king of Imerina (Merina were the dominant ethnic group). He invaded Sakalava land (northern Madagascar) and conquered most of their territory. On October 23, 1817 Radama signed a treaty of alliance with Britain.



Madagascar 1930
Sakalava Chief

Britain's aim was to keep France out. This forced France into allying with the Sakalava, and signed a treaty with them in 1840. Radama died on July 27, 1828. He was succeeded by Queen Ranaivalona I. She pursued a policy of isolationism and self-sufficiency, reducing economic and political ties with Europe.

Divisions and factions at court created opportunities for European politicking. Ranavalona's son, the future Radama II, became increasingly disillusioned with his mother's internal and foreign policies. Radama developed a friendship with Frenchmen Jean Laborde and Joseph-François Lambert, two of a handful of Europeans permitted at her court.



Madagascar 1935 Laborde

On June 28, 1855 Radama secretly concluded the "Lambert Charter" which granted Laborde large tracts of land and exclusive rights to road construction, mineral extraction, timber harvesting and other activities. It would also mean the permanent alienation of land to a foreigner (a big no for the Merina). The charter would be effective upon Radama's accession to the throne.

Thus, in May 1857 Laborde undertook a failed coup to put Radama on the throne. On the death of Ranavalona I on August 16, 1861, Radama II became king. He immediately reversed his mother's policies and confirmed the Lambert Charter. This act was the prime cause of his assassination on May 12, 1863.

Queen Rasoherina succeeded Radama II. She voided the Lambert Charter, and reimbursed France for commercial losses. On July 14, 1864 Pro-British Rainilaiarivony became Prime Minister and was the real power. On June 27, 1865 a treaty was concluded with Britain, giving Britain wide powers in Madagascar. This was extended to France in 1868, in which France recognised Rasoherina as Queen of Madagascar. Ranavalona II succeeded to the throne upon the death of Rasoherina on April 1, 1868.

With the French defeat in the 1870 Franco-Prussian war and the subsequent withdrawal of government subsidies to Catholic missionaries, French influence fell further. In reality, Britain could have easily declared Madagascar a British protectorate.

The Suez Canal was officially opened on November 17, 1869. Unbeknown to Rainilaiarivony, the opening of the canal was to cause Britain to veer away from political interest in Madagascar. When Madagascar lay astride the main sea route to India and the East, the keeping of Madagascar out of French hands was of critical importance to Britain.

The opening of the Suez Canal made it now the main sea route to India. Cyprus, Egypt, Aden and Zanzibar now replaced Madagascar as places of political importance. By the late 1870's the expansionist movement in France was starting to make gains after the humiliation in the Franco-Prussian war.



Britain 1873 cancelled B02 "Suez" (Z70)

Jules Ferry, President of France (1880-1881 and 1883-1885), was strongly expansionist and under him France invaded Tunisia, explored the Congo and Niger rivers, and invaded Annam and Tonkin. In this spirit, France used as a pretext supposed breaches of the: 1868 treaty; Sakalava Treaty; and revocation of the Lambert Charter to attack Madagascar.

The real reason was to eliminate Britain from Madagascar. Rainilaiarivony pleaded for British and USA support, but neither agreed. On May 7, 1883 France attacked and captured Majunga on May 17. On June 1, French forces arrived at Tamatave and laid its demands for a protectorate to Ranavalona II, rejected June 9. French forces then occupied Tamatave, but

due to their small size could not penetrate the hinterland. A deadlock ensued. France was now spending vast sums to maintain the French forces there. The deadlock was resolved when France sent reinforcements in April 1884. The French attacks devastated the Madagascar economy and its army.



Military mail from the incorrectly named 1st Franco-Hova War

The Treaty of Tamatave was signed the December 17, 1885. Madagascar ceded Antsiranana (Diego-Suarez) to France and paid a fine of 10 million francs. The treaty essentially gave France control over Malagasy foreign policy, and the French government used this to exert increasing control over the territory, but a Protectorate was not formally declared.



Diego Suarez 1890, Ship with French Flag; Union of France and Madagascar; France.
An unequivocal expression of how France saw not just Diego Suarez, but Madagascar.

However, France could not capitalise on its victory. On March 28, 1885, the "Tonkin Affair" broke. Millions of francs had been spent on the Sino-French war for little gain. Ferry's government fell on March 30, 1885 after demanding another 200 million francs to continue the war. Along with Ferry, the whole expansionist movement also fell amid rising anti-colonialism. The French in Madagascar fell victim to this retrenchment. By 1890 there was again a change in French expansionist thinking. Internally, expansionist ideas again had come to the fore. External events also helped shift French thinking.



Madagascar Protectorate 1891



1895 India overprinted
Zanzibar

The 1884-1885 Congress of Berlin stimulated general European interest in Africa. The August 5, 1890 Anglo-French Treaty: Britain recognised French claims to Madagascar while France recognised British claims to Zanzibar. On November 17, 1890 a similar treaty with Germany, acknowledged its claim to German East Africa and recognised France in Madagascar. Internally, Madagascar was bankrupted by the war and indemnity. The hated fanampoana (forced labour in lieu of cash taxes) was increased to pan for gold to pay the indemnity. This resulted in internal disorder and corruption was rife.



Military mail from the 2nd Franco-Hova War

Rainilaiarivony continued with policies which France considered breaches of the 1885 treaty. France also added the growing disorder, (occasioned by French policy), to justify action. On December 12, 1894, 15,000 French troops landed and captured Tamatave. As the French force advanced towards Antananarivo, they had to build roads. By August 1895, the French were only mid-way. On September 14, a "flying column" of 4,000 French troops raced to Antananarivo. They arrived on September 30. After a short bombardment Ranavalona III surrendered. 25 French soldiers died of fighting, over 6,000 died of disease. In December 1895 a largely peasant revolt, the menalamba ("red shawl"), occurred against French rule. It took till 1902 to finally pacify Madagascar. As a consequence, on August 6, 1896 France annexed Madagascar.

Ranavalona III, the last monarch, was exiled on February 28, 1897. In 1898 Diego Suarez became part of Madagascar.

Postscript: Fear that Vichy authorities would allow Japan to build a submarine base at Diego Suarez in WW2, was the pretext for Operation Ironclad, the British invasion of Madagascar on May 5 1942. Britain took Diego Suarez on May 7 and Madagascar by November 6.



Madagascar 1896
now a colony



Diego Suarez administered
Nossi Be and St Marie de
Madagascar, as "dependencies"

Murray Taege

Captain Cook Contents, Volume 45, 2017

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Thanks again to Alan Tunnicliffe for taking the time to collate the Captain Coqk index for 2017. This is a time consuming exercise but makes the Captain Coqk all the more valuable as a philatelic reference.

Editor

Book Review

Hopefully a series of reviews of books that featured in last year's National Philatelic Literature Exhibition and which have been added to our library as a result of us hosting the exhibition.

THE STRUGGLE FOR INDONESIAN INDEPENDENCE - THE INDRA KUSUMA STAMP COLLECTION

Edited by Leo Vosse, published by Ir. Indra Kusuma, first printing April 2014, ISBN 978-90-72270-04-7

A publication of 227 pages, colour illustrated, glossy paper, with hard bound cover, this book's purpose is clearly stated in the Foreword by the publisher. It is to bring the uniqueness of the period 1945 to 1950 of Indonesian philately to a wider audience in Indonesia as well as internationally. The basis for the book is a FIP World exhibition Gold awarded exhibit of the publisher which has been edited by Leo Vosse, a well known Dutch author of many books and catalogues covering the decade from 1940 to 1950.

It starts with an 8 page historical overview, followed by 4 pages of the postal consequences. From there it split into Java and Sumatra sections and illustrates both Republican overprinting of stamps available and the issues that they produced for their own services.

In the Java section is very extensive with original artwork and renderings, sheets of proof printings, printing errors, and postal use of all the values. On pages where the item doesn't fill a complete page, contemporary Indonesian photos of the period fill the page. The Sumatra section is less extensive with mostly just examples of stamps, less postal history items and no proofs or artwork.

The text with the illustration is basic and doesn't elaborate on all the features an item may contain, but very focused which shows its origins as a philatelic exhibit. The book could have given an opportunity not to be bound by exhibition rules and to really tell the stories behind many of the pieces.

The book is a well presented volume with quality illustrations of some unique and interesting philatelic material. It serves as a wonderful coffee table book to allow a collector to be inspired, which is all good and to the stated intent of the publisher. However, if you are looking for any sort of in depth information on either the history or philately of the period, then this is not the right publication for you.

Paul van Herpt



A selection of Indonesian stamps from the late 1940s



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The web site is up and running allowing orders to be placed directly once you have registered. Currently there are over 12,000 stamps, covers, postcards etc on the site and all are illustrated.

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