

'SYDNEY PHILATELIC CLUB'S GOLD MEDAL COMPETITION.**PRIZE ESSAY.****THE PUNCTURED OFFICIAL STAMPS OF NEW SOUTH WALES.**

BY CEREBUS.

(Continued from Page 139.)

GOVERNMENT SAVINGS BANK.**G.S.B.****N.S.W., TYPE I.****January, 1907.**

On January 1st, 1907, the Government Savings Bank was handed over to three Commissioners. Prior to that date the ordinary Official Stamps punctured O.S.,

N.S.W., used by all State Departments were in use at the Government Savings Bank; but on January 5th, 1907, a change was made, and stamps punctured G.S.B.

N.S.W., Type I, came into existence; the following denominations being perforated in this manner:—1d., 2d., 4d., 5d., 6d., 9d., 1/-, 5/-, 10/-, and £1.

It was found that so many punctured holes caused the stamps to tear, and on March 14th a change was decided upon, when Type II punctured G.S.B. were prepared by the Government Printer.

Up to the time of writing, 27/4/'08, I have not seen any stamps as Type I G.S.B.

N.S.W.; but upon enquiry I learned that all the stamps of this type were used. Their issue punctured as Type I is officially recorded; and, considering the short time they were in use, should prove very rare.

G.S.B., TYPE II.**March, 1907.**

On March 14th, 1907, the following denominations appeared punctured G.S.B., Type II:—1d., 3d., 4d., 9d., and £1, followed on June 6th by the 2d., 5d. and 1/-; and on August the 2nd by the 6d. It was not until February 17th, 1908, that the 5/- and 10/- appeared; and the following denominations have not yet been issued:—½d., 2½d., 8d., 10d., and 2/6.

The only values noted as Type II on Victorian paper to-date, 27/4/'08, are 1d., 2d., 4d., 9d., and 1/-.

G.S.B.

The whole series, viz.:—Type I, N.S.W., Type II, G.S.B., and those denominations noted as Type II, G.S.B. on Victorian paper, were punctured at the Government Printing Office.

Appended is a list of varieties, all of which are either in my possession or in that of other philatelists.

G.S.B.**N.S.W., TYPE I.****January, 1907.****Wmk. Cr. and A.****Perf. 12 x 11½.**

- 1d. carmine
- 2d. ultramarine
- 4d. brown
- 6d. orange
- 1/- marone

Perf. 12 x 11.**Wmk. Cr. and N.S.W.**

- 5d. green
- 5/- purple wmk. 5/-
- 10/- rosine, violet and blue, wmk. N.S.W.
- 20/- ultramarine, wmk. as usual

G.S.B., TYPE II.**March, 1907.****Wmk. Cr. and A.****Perf. 12 x 11½.**

- 1d. carmine
- 1d. scarlet
- 2d. ultramarine
- 4d. orange-brown
- 6d. orange
- 1/- marone

Perf. 11.

- 5/- purple wmk. 5/-

Perf. 11½.**Wmk. Cr. and N.S.W.**

- 5d. myrtle-green
- Perf. 11½ x 11.**
- Wmk. Cr. and N.S.W.**
- 3d. green
- 5d. myrtle green

Perf. 12 x 11.		On Victorian Paper.	
5d.	myrtle-green, wmk. Cr. and N.S.W.	Wmk. Cr. and Double A.	Perf. 12 x 11½.
5/-	purple wmk. 5/-	1d.	carmine
10/-	rosine, violet and blue, wmk. N.S.W.	2d.	ultramarine
	Perf. 11 x 12.	4d.	brown
20/-	ultramarine, wmk. as usual	1/-	marone
			Perf. 12 x 12½.
		9d.	brown and blue

GOVERNMENT RAILWAYS.**G.R., TYPE I. "PIN PUNCTURES."**

Wmk. Cr. N.S.W.
1895, 1897, 1902.

New South Wales Stamps, Centennial Issue, punctured G.R., were used by the Government Railway Department, and were first issued during December, 1895. Some stamps of the 1897-1902 issues were also punctured G.R., Type I. A small hand machine was used for that purpose, which perforated each stamp singly. The appearance of the stamps punctured by that method differ considerably when compared with those punctured as Type II. The first issue, Type I, had punctured holes, which closely resembled a "pin puncture," and caused the letters G.R. of Type I, to appear small in comparison with those of Type II. Both types contain the same number of holes in each letter. I have noted such varieties as "reversed" and "inverted" punctures, evidently a mistake on the part of the operator, who had neglected to carefully place the stamp in the machine.

The Railway Department punctures its own stamps, and has done so continually since their inception. The punctured letter "G" contains 10 holes, and the letter "R" contains 11 holes. The only denominations that were punctured as Type I, were as follows:—½d., 1d., 2d., 6d., and 1/-.

G.R., TYPE II. "LARGE HOLES."

Wmk. Cr. and N.S.W. and Wmk. Cr. and A.
1902-1908.

As some denominations have appeared punctured as Type I, on "chalk surfaced paper" (which come into use about 1902, and are used at the present time), there is some difficulty in giving the exact date when the machine which punctured the stamps as Type II, came into existence, as they also appeared on "chalk surfaced paper, wmk. Cr. and N.S.W., and there is no official record of the date, but it is some time during 1902. Stamps as Type II were therefore punctured prior to the appearance of the Commonwealth wmk. Crown and A.

The new machine now used punctures a row of ten stamps at each impression, a vast improvement on the hand machine.

The only denominations punctured as Type II, on "chalk surfaced paper," wmk. Cr. and N.S.W., were as follows:—½d., 1d., 2d., 2½d., 6d., and 1/-. No additional denominations were punctured until after the appearance of the Commonwealth paper, wmk. Cr. and A., when the following appeared, viz.:—½d., 1d., 2d., 4d., 6d., and 1/-, wmk. Cr. and A., and 9d. brown and blue, wmk. Cr. and A. Victorian Type. These values are at present in use. Appended is a list of varieties issued, all of which are either in my possession or that of other philatelists.

On Victorian Paper.

Wmk. Cr. and Double-Lined A.

The following denominations have been punctured G.R. as Type II, on Victorian paper:—½d., 1d., 2d., 4d., 6d., 9d., and 1/-, and as most of those mentioned were current recently, collectors would be wise in procuring specimens now, as they will undoubtedly become rare.

G.R. TYPE I.
Pin Punctures,
1895.

Wmk. Cr. and N.S.W.
Perf. 11 x 12.

½d. grey

1d. violet, Harbour
1d. pale violet, Harbour
2d. blue Emu
2d. pale blue Emu.
6d. carmine

Perf. 12.

½d. grey
1d. violet
2d. blue

Perf. 12 x 11½.

1d. violet
6d. carmine
1/- marone

Varieties.**Perf. 11 x 12.****Inverted Punctures.**

1d. violet
2d. blue

Reversed Punctures.

½d. grey
1d. violet
2d. blue

1897-1902.**Unsurfaced Paper.****Wmk. Cr. and N.S.W.****Perf. 11 x 12.**

1d. carmine
2d. blue
2d. ultramarine
6d. emerald
1/- marone

Perf. 12 x 11½.

½d. green
1d. carmine
6d. emerald

Varieties.**Perf. 11 x 12.****Inverted Punctures.**

1d. carmine
1/- marone

Reversed Punctures.

1d. carmine
1/- marone

Chalk-surfaced Paper,**1902.****Wmk. Cr. and N.S.W.****Perf. 12 x 11½.**

½d. green
1d. carmine
2d. ultramarine
2½d. deep blue
1/- marone

Varieties.**Perf. 12 x 11½.****Inverted Punctures.**

½d. green
1d. carmine
2d. ultramarine
2½d. deep blue
1/- marone

G.R., TYPE II.**Large Holes.****1902.****Wmk. Cr. and N.S.W.****Chalk-surfaced Paper.****Perf. 12 x 11½.**

½d. green
1d. carmine
1d. scarlet
2d. ultramarine
2d. pale ultramarine
6d. orange yellow
6d. orange
1/- purple brown

Unsurfaced Paper.**Perf. 11½ x 11.**

3d. pale green
3d. yellow green

1906-7.**Wmk. Cr. and Single A.****Perf. 12 x 11½.**

½d. green
1d. carmine
1d. scarlet
2d. ultramarine
2d. pale ultramarine
4d. orange brown
6d. orange yellow
6d. orange
1/- marone.

1907.**On Victorian Paper.****Wmk. Cr. and Double A.****Perf. 12 x 11½.**

½d. green
1d. carmine
2d. ultramarine
4d. brown
6d. orange
1/- marone

Perf. 12 x 12½.

9d. brown and blue

A correspondent who is in one of the New Zealand Government Departments, contradicts the statement in the June number of our Journal, p. 120, that the New Zealand "Officials" are to be discontinued after the present stock is used up.

The same gentleman acquaints us that the sale of New Zealand postage stamps for the year ending 31st March, 1908, was £441,776 3s. 6d.