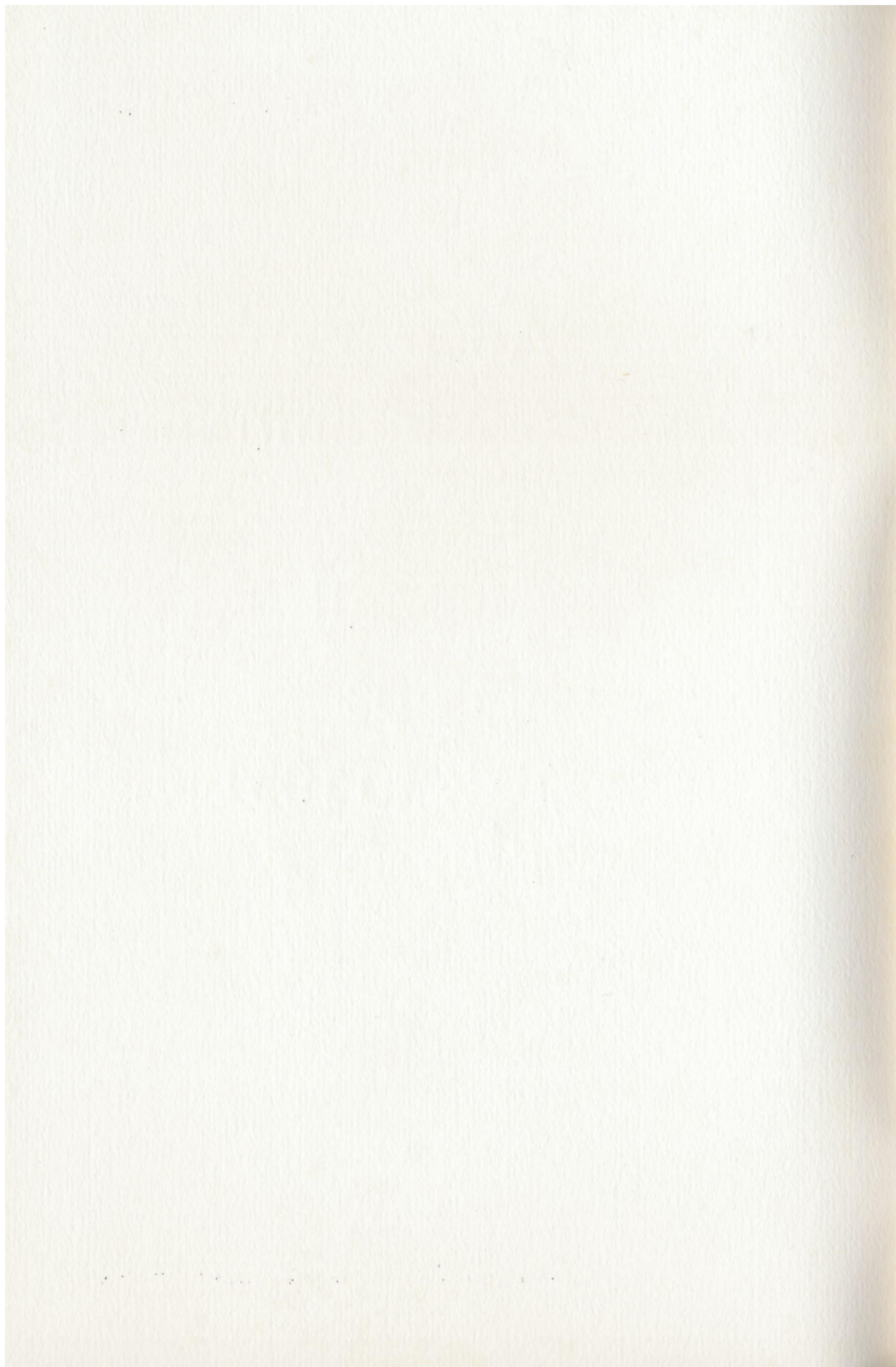


AUSTRALIAN POSTAGE STAMPS

Australian
Commemorative
and
Air Mail
Stamps
1927 to 1951

AUSTRALIAN POST OFFICE: PRICE FIFTY CENTS



AUSTRALIAN POST OFFICE

Australian
Commemorative
and
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1927 to 1951

*(This volume is one of a series
descriptive of Australian postage stamps)*

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The Early Commonwealth Period and the Kangaroo and Map Series.

The 1913-14 Recess-Printed Series and the King George V Sideface and Pictorial Definitive Stamps.

The Early Federal Period 1901 to 1912-13.

The Postage Due Stamps of Australia 1890-1961.

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Introduction

The purpose of this booklet is to give an account of Australian commemorative and air mail stamps issued over the period 1927 to 1951.

The dominating reason why the Australian Post Office did not issue commemorative stamps prior to 1927, despite ample precedents elsewhere to that time, was the lack of adequate local stamp printing facilities.

The Post Office recognized that commemorative stamps, if they were to be provided, should possess a high degree of excellence and preferably should be recess-printed. The letterpress process then used for the printing of Australian postage stamps was not regarded as being sufficiently sophisticated to do justice to commemorative stamp subjects.

The Note Printing Branch of the Treasury, where stamps were printed, was a very modest establishment in its earlier years and with regard to stamp production was wedded to the letterpress process. The relatively small recess-printing facilities then available were committed to other purposes.

Both the Post Office and the Note Printing Branch were very conscious that the first recess-printed stamps of 1913-14 had been produced under great difficulties and were anxious to avoid further excursions on similar lines.

These stamps are described in the Australian Post Office booklet: *The 1913-14 Recess-Printed Series and the King George V Sideface and Pictorial Definitive Stamps*.

The situation remained unchanged over the World War I years, and for a period afterwards. By the early nineteen twenties when the Note Printing Branch was still attached to the Treasury—it was not transferred to the Commonwealth Bank of Australia until 1926—pressure of circumstances forced further development. With some trepidation, the Note Printing Branch committed itself to the production of recess-printed stamps for the territories of Nauru and New Guinea, the series of 1924 and 1925 respectively.

There was determination at the time to show that such stamps could be produced in Australia. But the undertaking proved difficult to achieve and the stamps were a long time in the making. Under more favourable conditions they might have appeared a year or two earlier.

The greatest delaying factor was that the Note Printing Branch did not have a staff engraver to cut the dies. Strange though it may seem today, the engraving of the necessary dies had to be carried out by Mr T. S. Harrison, then General Manager of the Branch, in addition to his normal duties.

Consideration had to be given to the mechanics of producing the first commemorative stamp when a decision that it should be issued was made early in 1926. Mr Harrison had retired from the Note Printing Branch in the previous year and there was still no stamp engraver on the staff, although considerable advances had taken place in regard to the technical processes associated with recess-printing.

So far as the first commemorative stamp was concerned, the circumstances dictated that the die be engraved in England and the plate-making and printing be done in Australia. Shortly after this time the Note Printing Branch did appoint a staff engraver and from that time all dies for recess-printed stamps have been engraved at the Note Printing Branch.

The earlier commemorative and air mail stamps, including some issued as late as 1935, were for the most part printed on a flat-bed recess press of comparatively slow output. Up to 1932 the stamps had the characteristics of being on unwatermarked paper and being perforated single-line, with a measure of 11. An exception was the 2d letterpress-printed Sydney Harbour Bridge stamp.

It was not until the installation of the new rotary presses in 1934, as related in the Australian Post Office booklet: *The Definitive Stamps of the Reign of King George VI*, that the Note Printing Branch was in a position to handle adequately all Post Office requirements of the time for commemorative stamps.

As noted in the text, stamps of some of the commemorative series up to 1935 were illustrative of both flat-bed and rotary recess-printing methods but this intermediate stage was short-lived and the subsequent commemorative stamps were invariably printed on the rotary recess presses.

The establishment in 1947 of a standing Stamp Advisory Committee was a further important development. Its purpose has been outlined in the booklet already noted above.

Since its first meeting in April 1947, when the Committee considered draft designs for stamps commemorative of the 150th anniversary of Newcastle, it has played a most significant role in the development of all Australian stamp designs and in the advancement of stamp printing techniques.

As all the stamps subsequently described were printed at the Note Printing Branch of the Commonwealth Bank of Australia at Melbourne, such reference will not be included in the summaries.

Finally, as being of some interest, various unadopted designs, or bases for designs, are illustrated in the Appendix following the general text.

Opening of Parliament House, Canberra, 1927

The Commonwealth of Australia, a federation of the six Australian colonies, came into being on 1 January 1901. Pending establishment of a national capital, the Federal Parliament met in Melbourne.

By 1925, construction of Parliament House at Canberra was well advanced and arrangements were put in hand to remove the centre of government to Canberra during 1927. A proposal that the occasion might be marked by a special stamp was raised within the Australian Post Office at the time and similar suggestions were made by members of the public. The decision by the Postmaster-General of the day that such a stamp should be issued brought about the appearance of the first Australian Commonwealth commemorative stamp.

It was decided that a suitable design should be sought by public competition, conditions of which were published in the *Commonwealth Gazette* of 1 July 1926. When entries closed on 14 September 1926, more than 1,000 designs had been received. Three unadopted designs from the group of eight selected for final consideration are illustrated in the Appendix, Figs. 66 to 68.



Fig. 1

The winner of the competition was Mr Ronald A. Harrison, then employed as an artist at the Note Printing Branch of the Commonwealth Bank of Australia. Mr Harrison's design depicted on the left a seated female figure, representing Australia, holding in the right hand a shield bearing the Southern Cross and in the other a palm branch extended as a greeting to the new Parliament House, the building being shown in the centre ground.

The design was accepted without change and forwarded to Waterlow and Sons, London, for the engraving of the die. Upon completion, the die was sent to Australia and the printing plates made locally.

The stamp, of 1½d denomination, was issued in both sheet and booklet form and some quantities were punctured 'OS' for official use. The date of issue, 9 May 1927, coincided with the date of opening of the new Parliament House by H.R.H. the Duke of York, later to become His Majesty King George VI.

1½d brownish lake (Fig. 1); issued: 9 May 1927.

Designed by R. A. Harrison; engraved by J. A. C. Harrison
(Waterlow & Sons, Ltd.)

Recess-printed on unwatermarked paper and issued in sheets of 80,
perf. 11, single-line.

Total issue comprised 32,213,680 stamps as follows:

(a) In sheet form: 31,058,480. Of these 18,800 were punctured 'OS'.

(b) In booklets of 16 stamps: 1,155,200.

International Philatelic Exhibition, Melbourne, 1928

Following representations made by the organizers of the International Philatelic Exhibition planned to take place in Melbourne over the period 29 October to 1 November 1928, the Post Office considered a number of proposals by which a postage stamp might be associated with the exhibition.

One of these envisaged the adoption of an unissued stamp of the 1914 period for the purpose (unissued stamps of the 1914 period are described in the Australian Post Office booklet: *The 1913-14 Recess-Printed Series and the King George V Sideface and Pictorial Definitive Stamps*) and a model was prepared in the form illustrated at Fig. 69 in the Appendix. Another unadopted design, which had gained first prize in a stamp design competition conducted by the exhibition organizers, is shown at Fig. 70.

It was decided eventually to utilize a modified version of the 6d stamp of 1913 depicting a kookaburra and to issue the stamp in 3d denomination and in blue colour. Additionally, it was agreed that the stamp would be printed not only in the usual sheet form but also in special sheets of 60 stamps so arranged that within each such sheet there would be 15 blocks each of four stamps surrounded by selvedge to give the effect of a miniature sheet.

Arrangements were also made for the special sheets to be printed on a press which was installed at the exhibition as a working exhibit.



Fig. 2

3d blue (Fig. 2); issued: 29 October 1928.

Designed by R. A. Harrison; engraved by T. S. Harrison (after retirement).

Recess-printed on unwatermarked paper, perf. 11, single-line.

Total issue comprised 5,043,000 stamps, as follows:

(a) Issued on 29 October 1928, at International Philatelic Exhibition, Melbourne, where printing also took place: Sheets of 60—1,002,000 stamps.

(b) Issued on 2 November 1928, at post offices generally: Sheets of 120—3,837,000 stamps. Of this quantity, 20,400 stamps were punctured 'OS' for official use.

(c) Additionally, part sheets of 30 stamps (derived from sheets of 120) and the balance of unsold stocks of special sheets referred to in (a) were also sold at post offices. The quantity comprised in part sheets was 204,000 stamps.

Air Mail Service, 1929

While requests had been received from the public as early as 1919 for the issue of an air mail stamp, following overseas precedents for this class of stamp, the Post Office took no positive action until December 1926 when it was decided that the suggestion would be considered in connection with the development of an air mail service between Adelaide and Perth.

Tenders for the air mail service were invited in May 1928 and at that time arrangements were made for preliminary stamp designs to be prepared at the Note Printing Branch. The designs were considered later in the year and that selected for development showed an aeroplane above a pastoral scene which included sheep, horsemen and gum trees. This, and the other designs submitted, were the work of R. A. Harrison. Three of the group are illustrated in the Appendix, Figs. 71 to 73.

Melbourne artist Harold Herbert was then commissioned to prepare further designs, based on the Harrison design selected for development, and his final design was utilized for the issued stamp.



Fig. 3

The De Havilland biplane depicted on the stamp was of the DH66 type used on the new East-West service which was inaugurated on 2 June 1929.

As was the practice, some quantities of the stamp were punctured 'OS' for official use and in that form were first provided on 1 July 1929. Additionally, the stamp, printed from a special plate, was issued in booklet form for general post office sale.

3d green (Fig. 3); issued: 20 May 1929.

Designed by R. A. Harrison and Harold Herbert; engraved by Arthur Taylor. Recess-printed on unwatermarked paper and issued in sheets of 80, perf. 11, single-line.

Total issue comprised 3,720,560 stamps, as follows:

(a) In sheets of 80—2,972,960 stamps. Of these, approximately 180,000 were punctured 'OS' for official use.

(b) In booklets containing 12 stamps: 1930: 50,000 booklets (600,000 stamps). 1935: 12,300 booklets (147,600 stamps).

Centenary of Settlement in Western Australia, 1929



Fig. 4

Representations that a postage stamp be issued to commemorate the centenary of permanent settlement in Western Australia were made by the Premier of that State in March 1928 and the Post Office adopted the proposal two months later.

Although a temporary settlement had commenced in 1826 at King George Sound, where Albany now stands, the first permanent settlement had its being in 1829 on the Swan River, the leading force of the colonization expedition being Captain James Stirling.

The Swan River Settlement, as it was first known, went through a long period of trials and difficulties before it was firmly on its feet. Later, it became the Colony of Western Australia, with Captain Stirling as the first Governor.

Designs for the proposed stamp were sought from the Note Printing Branch and also from the Government of Western Australia. Amongst the group of designs subsequently considered were three prepared by Mr G. Pitt

Morison, then Curator of the National Gallery, Perth. One of these latter was finally selected, subject to slight modification. Three of the unadopted designs are illustrated in the Appendix at Figs. 74 to 76.

The approved design emphasized the black swan, emblem of the State. It also included conventionalized forms of the kangaroo paw, the State's floral emblem, and eucalyptus leaves and flowers. Following issue, some quantities of the stamp were punctured 'OS' for official use.

1½d carmine red (Fig. 4); issued: 28 September 1929.

Designed by G. Pitt Morison; engraved by F. D. Manley.

Recess-printed on unwatermarked paper and issued in sheets of 80, perf. 11, single-line.

Quantity: 21,281,040, of which 24,000 were punctured 'OS'.

Centenary of Sturt's Exploration of the Murray River, 1930

The Post Office considered proposals from several sources during 1929 that a stamp should be associated with the centenary of Sturt's expedition of 1829-30.

Captain Charles Sturt had arrived in Australia in 1827 and in the following year explored the Macquarie River and discovered and named the Darling. Late in 1829, Sturt established a depot on the Murrumbidgee River and from this point he and his party embarked on 7 January 1830 on their epic whaleboat journey, travelling down the Murrumbidgee to its junction with the Murray, which he named, then following the Murray downstream to reach Lake Alexandrina a month later. The party suffered many hardships and privations on the arduous return journey.

The proposal for the stamp was adopted and the approved design combined features of two earlier essays, a representation of Sturt after the



Fig. 5



Fig. 6

J. H. Crossland portrait in the Adelaide Art Gallery, and a decorative surround of a lyrebird tail, spearheads and shields, the latter typical of tribes of the Murray River area. 'Australia' is shown superimposed on a native shield above the portrait and the commemorative inscription within the outline of a boomerang below. Three of the unadopted designs are depicted in the Appendix, Figs. 77 to 79.

The stamp was issued in two denominations and some quantities of each were punctured 'OS' for official use.

1½d carmine red, 3d blue (Figs. 5 and 6); issued: 2 June 1930.

Designed by R. A. Harrison; engraved by F. D. Manley.

Recess-printed on unwatermarked paper and issued in sheets of 120, perf. 11, single-line.

Quantities: 1½d—20,366,400 stamps of which 30,000 were punctured 'OS'.

3d—2,052,000 stamps of which 24,000 were punctured 'OS'.

Kingsford Smith's World Flights, 1931



Fig. 7



Fig. 8

Air Commodore Sir Charles Edward Kingsford Smith, M.C., A.F.C., was Australia's most famous airman and his many great pioneering and record-breaking flights between 1927 and 1935 roused the admiration of every Australian.

During 1930 the Post Office decided that his many contributions to the development of world aviation to that time should be commemorated by a special series of postage stamps comprising three denominations in a common design. The design which was selected depicted Kingsford Smith's famous aeroplane, the tri-motored Fokker *Southern Cross*, in flight above the eastern and western hemispheres. The badge of the Royal Australian Air Force appeared at the top and upon this was superimposed the word 'Australia'.

It was decided that the 2d and 3d denominations would be utilized for

ordinary postage purposes and the 6d for air mail. The two forms of usage were indicated by appropriate inscriptions in the left and right sides of the design and may be seen in the accompanying illustrations.

Some quantities of the 2d and 3d stamps were overprinted 'OS' for official use, becoming available in that form on 4 May 1931. These were the first commemorative stamps to be so treated, the innovation replacing the previous practice of puncturing the two letters. The form of overprint is shown at Fig. 7.



Fig. 9



Fig. 10

2d carmine, 3d blue, 6d violet (Figs. 8 to 10); issued: 19 March 1931.

Designed and engraved by F. D. Manley.

Recess-printed on unwatermarked paper and issued in sheets of 80, perf. 11, single-line.

Quantities: 2d—20,298,000 stamps of which 32,000 were overprinted 'OS'. 3d—2,180,000 stamps of which 28,000 were overprinted 'OS'. 6d—503,200.

Air Mail Service, 1931

Although the 6d stamp of the Kingsford Smith series was inscribed 'Air Mail Service' its period of availability, as part of a commemorative series, was limited.

The Post Office decided in May 1931 to continue the issue of a 6d air mail stamp and arranged for the 6d Kingsford Smith stamp to be modified by the



Fig. 11

removal of the inscription 'Kingsford Smith's World Flights' from the lower part of the design and the transfer to that area of the words 'Air Mail Service'.

The alterations were duly made, a new colour selected and a date of issue determined.

Early in November 1931 the overprinting of some quantities of the stamp with the letters 'OS', in the form shown at Fig. 7, was authorized. These stamps were first issued on 17 November 1931. As a special gesture, they were made available for purchase by the public and could be used for ordinary postage purposes.

6d sepia (Fig. 11); issued: 4 November 1931.

Designed and engraved by F. D. Manley.

Recess-printed on unwatermarked paper and issued in sheets of 40, perf. 11, single-line.

Quantity: 518,200 stamps of which 75,000 were overprinted 'OS'.

Opening of Sydney Harbour Bridge, 1932



Fig. 12



Fig. 13

The construction of the Sydney Harbour Bridge was a tremendous undertaking which captured the imagination of the public and led to the decision to issue postage stamps commemorative of its opening.

The work of preparing designs was entrusted to the Note Printing Branch. At that time the bridge was only partially constructed and to obtain the desired effect not only was it necessary to study designs, drawings and photographs of the bridge but also to watch the progress of the great structure to express it adequately in the stamp design.

Several different designs were prepared and that adopted shows the bridge in a foreshortened perspective and includes the landing sheds, the roadway and a ferryboat in the foreground. The representation of an

overseas liner, *R.M.S. Orford*, sailing under the bridge gave significance to the size of the structure.

The bridge is one of the largest of its type in the world. The length of the arch-span is 1,650 feet and the top of the arch is 440 feet above the water. The clearance for shipping is 170 feet. The bridge was officially opened on 19 March 1932.

Because of the large number of stamps of 2d denomination required, it was found more convenient to produce the bulk of these by the letterpress method on watermarked paper. It was necessary to redraw the design and cut a new die for this process. The balance of the 2d requirement and all 3d and 5/- stamps were recess-printed. Because of the different methods of production the two types of 2d stamps differ slightly in size.

Forgeries of the 2d letterpress stamp were made in 1932 to defraud the Post Office but these were quickly detected and most of the printing was seized and subsequently destroyed.

Some quantities of the 2d and 3d recess-printed stamps were overprinted 'OS' for official use, in the form shown at Fig. 7, and became available in March 1932.



Fig. 14



Fig. 15

2d scarlet (letterpress) (Fig. 12); 2d carmine-red, 3d blue, 5/- blue-green (Figs. 13 to 15); issued: 14 March 1932.

Designed by R. A. Harrison; letterpress and recess dies engraved by F. D. Manley.

(a) Letterpress-printed on paper watermarked multiple small crown over C of A (Fig. 16) and issued in sheets of 88, perf. 10½, comb. 2d—27,180,616 stamps.

(b) Recess-printed on unwatermarked paper, perf. 11, single-line.

(i) in sheets of 80: 2d—9,749,680 stamps of which 256,000 were overprinted 'OS'. 3d—3,128,000 stamps of which 104,000 were overprinted 'OS'.

(ii) in sheets of 20: 5/—72,800 stamps.

Centenary of Settlement in Victoria, 1934



Fig. 16



Fig. 17

The first permanent settlers in Victoria landed in November 1834 in the area later known as Portland. The settlement of Melbourne followed a few months later. While it had been suggested in 1931 that a stamp should be issued to mark the centenary of Portland, the Post Office decided in 1932 that it would be more appropriate to commemorate by such means the centenary of settlement in Victoria as a whole.

The Melbourne Centenary Committee conducted a stamp design competition for the purpose of having a suitable design selected but the closing date of the competition, 30 March 1934, proved far too late for a prize-winning design to be utilized.

The Note Printing Branch was asked in September 1933 to prepare designs based on a standing aboriginal figure, at left, gazing at a representation of modern Melbourne. This theme appears to have been suggested by a poster issued by the Australian National Travel Association, showing a shadowy figure of Batman gazing across the Yarra to the city.

The approved stamp design depicted an aborigine of the Yarra Yarra tribe facing the modern city across the river. Three of the unadopted designs are illustrated in the Appendix at Figs. 80 to 82.

The stamps were issued in three denominations, 2d, 3d, and 1/-, and were the first to be printed on the new rotary presses mentioned in the Introduction. The comb perforation gauging $10\frac{1}{2}$ first selected and used for the earlier printings of the three stamps proved unsatisfactory, it being difficult to separate stamps without damage. A supply of thicker, softer paper of less tensile strength was used for the balance of the printing order, the perforation measure being also altered to $11\frac{1}{2}$. Stamps on the second class of paper became available at post offices early in August 1934.



Fig. 18



Fig. 19

2d vermilion, 3d blue, 1/- black (Figs. 17 to 19); issued: 2 July 1934.

Designed and engraved by F. D. Manley.

Recess-printed on paper watermarked multiple small crown over C of A (Fig. 16) and issued in sheets of 80: (a) perf. $10\frac{1}{2}$, comb; (b) perf. $11\frac{1}{2}$, comb.

The quantities printed on the separate classes of paper are not known.

Total issues were: 2d—116,138,000; 3d—5,874,000; 1/-—3,420,000.

Centenary of the Death of John Macarthur, 1934

Following the 'Great Depression' of the nineteen thirties, economic recovery was slow and in 1932 the pastoral industry, amongst others, was far from being prosperous. To stimulate the public demand for wool, proposals were advanced for the issue of a special stamp to be associated with 'Wool Week' in that year. The Post Office did not accede to that request, but the subject of a stamp featuring the wool industry was again raised, more appositely, early in 1934, centenary year of the death of Captain John Macarthur.

Macarthur, a 'stormy petrel' of the early history of Australia, came to New South Wales as military commandant of Parramatta goal. In his official career he came into conflict with many of his superior officers, including



Fig. 20

Governor Bligh, but his great legacy to Australia was the foundation of the wool industry, which has grown almost wholly from the Macarthur flocks.

Macarthur imported the first merino sheep to Australia in 1790 and after his retirement from government service settled at Camden Park, N.S.W., where he bred his sheep for fine wool. By 1843, only nine years after Macarthur's death, there were four million sheep in the colony.

It was agreed that a representation of a merino ram against a pastoral background would be appropriate for the Macarthur centenary design and the Note Printing Branch, using photographs, accordingly prepared drafts from which the final design was evolved. It showed a prize merino ram in the foreground, standing in typical 'Macarthur country'—a view of the Blue Mountains, seen from Gloucester Flats sheep run. In the upper corners were conventionalised rams' heads.

The stamp appeared in 2d, 3d and 9d denominations.



Fig. 21



Fig. 22

2d carmine, 3d blue, 9d purple (Figs. 20 to 22); issued: 1 November 1934.

Designed and engraved by F. D. Manley.

Recess-printed on paper watermarked multiple small crown over C of A (Fig. 16) and issued in sheets of 80, perf. 11½, comb.

Quantities: 2d—57,432,000; 3d—2,896,000; 9d—1,216,000.

20th Anniversary of the Anzac Landing at Gallipoli, 1935

At dawn on 25 April 1915, Australian and New Zealand troops landed at Gallipoli in Turkey to open an ill-fated campaign which ended in complete withdrawal but which, paradoxically, firmly established the reputation of the Anzacs as a fighting force. The occasion is recalled each year on 25 April as Anzac Day, a national holiday in Australia.

Following representations made to the Post Office, it was agreed that a



Fig. 23



Fig. 24

stamp would be issued to mark the 20th anniversary of the landing. However, as at that time the question of international disarmament was under discussion, it was considered that the design should be of a symbolic, non-military nature.

The Post Office invited the leading returned servicemen's organization to submit designs on those lines and of those received two designs featuring the Cenotaph in London and a laurel wreath were considered suitable as to theme. These were the work of Mr B. Cottier of Victoria.

A final design was evolved by the Note Printing Branch, the Whitehall Cenotaph being shown embraced by a laurel wreath and supplemented by tilted shields, a device which in heraldry signifies 'end of combat'. The shields were decorated with wattle blossom.

The stamp was issued in two denominations, 2d and 1/-. The 2d was recess-printed on the rotary press and the 1/- on the flat-bed press. For the first time, a new class of watermarked chalk-surfaced paper was introduced for commemorative stamps, being used for the 1/- denomination only.

2d scarlet, 1/- greyish black (Figs. 23 and 24); issued: 18 March 1935. Designed by B. Cottier; design modified and engraved by F. D. Manley. Recess-printed on paper watermarked multiple small crown over C of A (Fig. 16):

(a) 2d: issued in sheets of 96, perf. $13\frac{1}{2} \times 12\frac{1}{2}$, comb; quantity: 47,814,240.

(b) 1/-: on chalk-surfaced paper and issued in sheets of 120, perf. 11, single-line; quantity: 996,000.

The Silver Jubilee of King George V, 1935

His Majesty King George V succeeded to the throne on 6 May 1910, and the 25th anniversary of his succession was marked by the issue of commemorative stamps throughout the British Empire.

The design for the three Australian stamps which the Post Office decided to issue depicted the King mounted on his black horse, 'Anzac', a gift to him from the Australian government. The design was based on a coloured picture which had been produced by Raphael Tuck and Sons Ltd., London, royal approval being obtained for its use as a stamp design and for the inclusion of the commemorative inscription: 'Silver Jubilee of King George V 1910-1935'.

All stamps were printed on the chalk-surfaced paper which had been first employed for the 1/- Anzac stamp. Usually, the watermark of the three Silver Jubilee stamps is to be found only in a sideways position.



Fig. 25



Fig. 26



Fig. 27

2d carmine red, 3d blue, 2/- purple (Figs. 25 to 27); issued: 2 May 1935.

Designed and engraved by F. D. Manley.

Recess-printed on paper watermarked multiple small crown over C of A (Fig. 16) and issued in sheets of 80, perf. 11½, comb.

Quantities: 2d—96,044,000; 3d—2,879,920; 2/-—499,920.

Opening of Tasmanian Cable, 1936

On 25 March 1936, the submarine telephone cable between the Australian mainland and Tasmania was opened, thus completing the link-up of all States in the telephone network, and giving Tasmanians access to the Anglo-Australian and other overseas radio-telephone services.

The cable was unique in that, with a length of 161 nautical miles, it was at



Fig. 28



Fig. 29

that time the longest submarine telephone cable in the world. It provided, by the 'carrier' system of transmission, channels for the simultaneous operation of telephone, telegraph and relays of radio broadcast programmes.

The proposal for the commemorative stamp was initiated by the Premier of Tasmania. The design adopted depicted the terminal points of the cable—Apollo Bay, Victoria, at left, and Stanley, Tasmania, at right—dominated by the central figure of Amphitrite, the wife of Neptune, holding the ribbon of communications which stretched over the sea from Victoria to Tasmania. Amphitrite was shown standing on the shell of a Tasmanian scallop.

The stamp was issued in two denominations.

2d scarlet, 3d blue (Figs. 28 and 29); issued: 1 April 1936.

Designed and engraved by F. D. Manley.

Recess-printed on paper watermarked multiple small crown over C of A (Fig. 16) and issued in sheets of 80, perf. 11½, comb.

Quantities: 2d—89,116,000; 3d—3,902,000.

Centenary of Settlement in South Australia, 1936

The first settlers in South Australia landed at Kangaroo Island in July 1836 but finding that spot unsuitable eventually moved to the east coast of St Vincent's Gulf, where the town of Adelaide was founded. Colonel William Light selected the site and laid out the city. On 28 December 1836, Captain John Hindmarsh, R.N., the first governor, landed at Holdfast Bay where, beneath a gum tree, he read the proclamation which formally inaugurated the colony.

Proposals for the issue of a commemorative stamp emanated from South Australia early in 1935 and subsequently, when the suggestion was adopted,

various designs from South Australian artists were considered, as well as others prepared at the Note Printing Branch. Three of the unadopted designs are illustrated in the Appendix, at Figs. 83 to 85.

The design which was finally adopted, and approved by the Premier of South Australia, included features of several of the other designs, including the 'Proclamation Tree' at Glenelg and a 1936 view of King William Street, Adelaide, with the General Post Office prominently shown. It was decided that the stamp would appear in three denominations.



Fig. 30

2d carmine, 3d blue, 1/- green (Figs. 30 to 32); issued: 3 August 1936.

Designed and engraved by F. D. Manley.

Recess-printed on paper watermarked multiple small crown over C of A (Fig. 16) and issued in sheets of 80, perf. 11½, comb.

Quantities: 2d—78,088,000; 3d—5,448,000; 1/-—2,888,000.



Fig. 31



Fig. 32

150th Anniversary of Settlement in New South Wales, 1937

Captain Arthur Phillip, R.N., the first Governor of New South Wales, reached Botany Bay with the First Fleet in January 1788. Although he had orders to establish the settlement at Botany Bay, he found that site unsuitable and, with a party of officers and marines, set out to find a better location. The party entered Port Jackson, which had been named by Captain



Fig. 33



Fig. 34

Cook, and after some search found fresh water in the 'Tank' stream in Sydney Cove on 23 January 1788. Phillip therefore decided to locate the first permanent settlement on this site.

The 100th anniversary of the settlement had been marked earlier by the Colony of New South Wales in the issue of a series of commemorative stamps in 1888. The Australian Post Office, in line with that precedent, agreed in 1936 to proposals that stamps significant of the 150th anniversary should be issued.

Early designs envisaged the use of a representation of the head of Governor Phillip, with a background of the Harbour Bridge. However, in February 1937 the organization responsible for celebrating the occasion forwarded to the Post Office a design draft showing Phillip's party landing at Sydney Cove. This rough sketch was drawn from a painting by John Allcot in the possession of Mr F. W. Allen, who had commissioned it. Following permission to use the painting as a basis for the stamp design, the final design was prepared by the Note Printing Branch, this following Mr Allcot's conception closely.

The painting was made in November 1926, the officers depicted being (l. to r.): Surgeon John White, Principal Medical Officer; Captain Arthur Phillip, R.N., first Governor; Lieut. George Johnson, A.D.C., commanding Marine detachment; Captain John Hunter, R.N., of H.M.S. *Sirius*; and Captain David Collins, Royal Marines, Judge-Advocate. Governor Phillip holds a drinking horn and Captain Collins indicates the source of water. An illustration of the painting is shown at Fig. 86 and one of the early designs at Fig. 87.

The stamp was issued in three denominations.



Fig. 35

2d scarlet, 3d blue, 9d purple (Figs. 33 to 35); issued: 1 October 1937.
 Designed and engraved by E. Broad and F. D. Manley.
 Recess-printed on paper watermarked multiple small crown over C of A
 (Fig. 16) and issued in sheets of 80, perf. $13\frac{1}{4} \times 13\frac{3}{4}$, comb.
 Quantities: 2d—71,668,000; 3d—2,454,000; 9d—512,000.

Australian Imperial Forces, 1940



Fig. 36



Fig. 37

In the months immediately following the outbreak of World War II, it was proposed that Australia should issue a stamp to commemorate the departure of the A.I.F. for overseas. However, the Post Office considered that it was more appropriate that such an issue should feature the three arms of the fighting forces, and the Nursing Service.

The theme of the design was inspired by a cover painting by Mr Virgil Reilly for the 21 October 1939 issue of the 'Australian Women's Weekly', which magazine gave permission for the use of the painting as the basis for a design. The cover picture depicted a sailor with webbing bandoliers and grounded rifle, a soldier with slung rifle and steel helmet, and an airman in flying kit carrying a parachute pack. Above the three figures was a woman's head.

The design prepared by the Note Printing Branch followed the same general theme but was much changed in detail. Photographs of servicemen were used (two—the soldier and the airman—were actually members of the Note Printing Branch staff); all three men were shown standing at attention, the soldier and sailor with grounded arms. The soldier now wore the familiar slouch hat and the airman no longer wore a flying suit. The head of a nursing sister appeared above. Trees and city buildings in the background indicated that men and women from both the country and the cities were playing their parts in the war effort. Overall, the stamp series commemorated Australia's part in the war. Two of the preliminary designs are



Fig. 38



Fig. 39

shown in the Appendix at Figs. 88 and 89.

It has sometimes been stated that the three men depicted on the stamp were all killed in action. However, the figures in the design were not intended to portray particular persons but were representative of the resolve and integrity of the services. It may be remarked that the three men who posed for the photographs used by the Note Printing Branch all survived the war.

The stamp was issued in denominations of 1d, 2d, 3d and 6d. The 1d stamp, the first Australian commemorative of that value, was intended for use on letters addressed to members of the forces.

1d green, 2d scarlet, 3d blue, 6d purple-brown (Figs. 36 to 39); issued: 15 July 1940.

Designed and engraved by F. D. Manley.

Recess-printed on paper watermarked multiple small crown over C of A (Fig. 16) and issued in sheets of 80, perf. $13\frac{3}{4} \times 13\frac{3}{4}$, comb.

Quantities: 1d—61,244,000; 2d—85,782,800; 3d—3,078,240; 6d—1,808,400.

Arrival of Duke and Duchess of Gloucester, 1945

It was announced in 1944 that His Royal Highness the Duke of Gloucester, brother of King George VI, had been appointed as Governor-General of Australia and would take up the appointment in 1945.

To commemorate the arrival of Their Royal Highnesses the Duke and Duchess in Australia, it was decided to provide a commemorative stamp series. A similar series had previously been intended in 1939, when the

Duke of Kent was appointed Governor-General of Australia, but was abandoned when the Duke did not assume the office.

Royal approval for the Gloucester stamp was obtained and photographs selected by the Duke and Duchess were forwarded from London. Using the selected photographs, the Note Printing Branch commenced design work in September 1944 and die proofs were approved by His Majesty in November.

The approved design showed portraits of the Duke and Duchess, in military and Air Force uniform respectively, in titled oval panels. Above the panels a spray of oak leaves and a spray of gum leaves were joined by a crown, symbolizing the association of Britain and Australia. The series of stamps comprized three denominations.

His Royal Highness was sworn in as Governor-General on 30 January 1945, and held the office until 11 March 1947.



Fig. 40

2½d lake, 3½d bright blue, 5½d indigo (Figs. 40 to 42); issued: 19 February 1945.

Designed and engraved by F. D. Manley.

Recess-printed on paper watermarked multiple small crown over C of A (Fig. 16) and issued in sheets of 60, perf. 14½ x 14¼, comb.

Quantities: 2½d—88,290,000; 3½d—4,048,320; 5½d—5,886,900.



Fig. 41



Fig. 42

Peace, 1946

Following the conclusion of World War II, the Australian Government decided that it would be appropriate to issue a series of stamps significant of Peace.

Designs for such a series were put in hand late in August 1945, it being intended that a different design be used for each of the three stamps to be provided. This was a new concept, so far as Australian Commonwealth commemorative stamps were concerned.

The themes of all designs prepared were allegories or symbols of peace and a final selection was made in October 1945. Three of the unadopted designs are shown in the Appendix at Figs. 90 to 92.

The approved 2½d design featured a seven-pointed star and wreath, the star representing the States and Territories of the Australian Commonwealth. Entwined in points of the star were laurel leaves.

The 3½d design depicted a Barbary dove, symbol of peace, with the Australian ensign as background. Conventional laurel strappings formed a border.

An Angel of Peace, bearing palm leaves, dominated the 5½d design. At the base were allegorical figures depicting domestic peace and industry.



Fig. 43



Fig. 44



Fig. 45

2½d carmine, 3½d blue, 5½d deep green (Figs. 43 to 45); issued: 18 February 1946.

2½d: designed and engraved by F. D. Manley;

3½d: designed by F. D. Manley and G. Lissenden; engraved by F. D. Manley;

5½d: designed by G. Lissenden; engraved by F. D. Manley.

Recess-printed on paper watermarked multiple small crown over C of A (Fig. 16) and issued in sheets of 60, perf. 14½ x 14¼ (2½d and 3½d) or 14¼ x 14½ (5½d), comb.

Quantities: 2½d—88,290,000; 3½d—4,048,320; 5½d—5,886,900.

Centenary of Exploration of Central Queensland by Sir Thomas Mitchell, 1946



Fig. 46



Fig. 47

Sir Thomas Mitchell, Surveyor-General of New South Wales, made his explorations of central Queensland in 1845-46, leading an expedition which was intended to seek an overland route to Port Essington on Cobourg Peninsula.

The party explored the Culgoa, Balonne and Narran Rivers, examined the watersheds of the Maranoa and Warrego and penetrated as far as the Barcoo before turning back. These explorations led ultimately to the settlement of many of the inland pastoral areas.

Following approval of a proposal that a commemorative stamp be issued, various designs were prepared by the Note Printing Branch and one of these was selected by the Premier of Queensland for adoption.

The portrait of Mitchell utilized for the stamp was derived from the 'Picturesque Atlas of Australia' and was presented against a map of Queensland encircled by the commemorative inscription. At the base was a river scene, with sheep on the left and cattle on the right. The same design was used for all three stamps of the series.



Fig. 48

2½d scarlet, 3½d blue, 1/- green (Figs. 46 to 48); issued: 14 October 1946. Designed and engraved by F. D. Manley.

Recess-printed on paper watermarked multiple small crown over C of A (Fig. 16) and issued in sheets of 60, perf. 14½ x 14¼, comb.

Quantities: 2½d—104,492,160; 3½d—4,640,940; 1/-—9,401,160.

150th Anniversary of Newcastle, 1947

Newcastle had its beginnings in September 1797 when Lieutenant John Shortland, R.N., searching for escaped convicts, found coal outcrops on the banks of a river which he named the Hunter, after the Governor of New South Wales.

Lieutenant Shortland first came to Australia on H.M.S. *Sirius* in 1788. He returned to England in 1792 and was back in Australia in 1795 as an officer of H.M.S. *Reliance* upon which also travelled Captain John Hunter to take up his appointment of second Governor of New South Wales. It was during this second stay in Australia that Shortland found and reported on the area which became known as Newcastle. Coal was first experimentally mined there in 1801.

Proposals made in 1946 that stamps should be issued to mark the 150th anniversary were accepted by the Post Office because of the importance of the coal and steel industries, and their contributions to the national effort during World War II.

The designs selected for the stamps, intended to comprize three denominations, were significant of Newcastle's discovery and development.

A portrait of Shortland was selected for the 2½d, while the 3½d illustrated a scene in the steel works and the 5½d carrier cranes loading coal. Unfortunately, the portrait used for the 2½d stamp was of Lieutenant Shortland's father, also Lieutenant John Shortland, R.N. Coincidentally, the father had come to Australia with the First Fleet, as had the son. The mistake was not discovered until a few days before the stamps were due to be issued and, in the circumstances, it was not practicable to make any changes.

2½d red, 3½d bright blue, 5½d green (Figs. 49 to 51); issued: 8 September 1947.

2½d and 3½d designed and engraved by F. D. Manley.

5½d: designed by G. Lissenden; engraved by G. Lissenden and F. D. Manley.



Fig. 49



Fig. 50



Fig. 51

Recess-printed on paper watermarked multiple small crown over C of A (Fig. 16) and issued:

i) 2½d: in sheets of 160, perf. 14¾ x 14;

ii) 3½d: in sheets of 60, perf. 14¼ x 14½;

iii) 5½d: in sheets of 60, perf. 14½ x 14¼, all comb.

Quantities: 2½d—105,840,000; 3½d—4,531,500; 5½d—7,516,380.

William James Farrer, 1948



Fig. 52

It is difficult now to conceive of Australia as a wheat-importing country but when William James Farrer commenced his wheat-breeding research in 1885, Australian harvests had sometimes been so reduced by drought and rust that it was necessary to import wheat for local requirements.

Farrer, born in England in 1845, migrated to New South Wales in 1870 and soon became interested in agricultural and pastoral problems of the time. As early as 1873 he drew attention to the need for scientific study of the fodder value of native pasture plants and for the investigation of sheep diseases.

Farrer also conceived the idea of transmitting desirable qualities from parent wheat varieties and fixing these attributes in improved strains. He carried on this research from 1885 until his death in 1906, at first privately and later as an officer of the N.S.W. Department of Agriculture. As a direct result of the drought- and rust-resistant wheats he bred, Australian yields rose phenomenally, permitting extensions of the wheat belt and the development of export trade. His wheats averaged up to six bushels per acre more than the older varieties and even 25 years after Farrer's death his well-known 'Federation' was widely sown throughout Australia.

During 1945 the Post Office had viewed favourably a proposal for a stamp commemorative of Farrer but was unable to arrange for such an issue at the time. A suitable opportunity occurred in 1948 when a film company produced a film, 'Strong is the Seed', based on Farrer's life and it was arranged that the stamp would be issued on a date to coincide with the film's release.

A number of designs for the stamp were prepared at the Note Printing Branch and two of those unadopted are illustrated in the Appendix at Figs. 93 and 94. The accepted design showed a likeness of Farrer taken from a collection of Farrer's papers now in the Mitchell Library, Sydney.

2½d red (Fig. 52); issued: 12 July 1948.

Designed and engraved by F. D. Manley.

Recess-printed on paper watermarked multiple small crown over C of A (Fig. 16) and issued in sheets of 160, perf. 14¾ x 14, comb.

Quantity: 74,168,000.

Baron Sir Ferdinand von Mueller, 1948

Baron Sir Ferdinand von Mueller, K.C.M.G., M.D., LL.D., Ph.D., F.R.S., was born of Danish parents on 30 June 1825 at Mecklenberg-Schwerin, Germany.

He came to Australia in December 1847 and lived in Adelaide until 1852, when he was appointed Government Botanist of Victoria. With characteristic thoroughness, he explored most of Victoria and set down his findings from botanic, geographic and economic points of view. He also took part in explorations in South and Western Australia, the Northern Territory and Tasmania. He was credited with discovering and tabulating more flora than any other living person and was regarded as a world authority on botany.

Notable amongst his achievements was his work on the initial production of eucalyptus oil in 1852, and his subsequent successful efforts to introduce the health-giving eucalypts to areas of North Africa, Italy, India and other countries. He also initiated the propagation of Australian saltbushes as valuable fodder plants for arid regions overseas. Von Mueller died in 1896.



Fig. 53

During 1947 practically all scientific societies in Australia urged that a stamp to honour von Mueller be issued and, following adoption of the proposal by the Post Office, work on designs commenced early in 1948. Two of the preliminary designs are shown in the Appendix at Figs. 95 and 96.

The final design depicted von Mueller from a photograph in the National Herbarium, Melbourne. The spray of leaves included represented Yellow Stringy Bark (*Eucalyptus Muelleriana*), one of the thousands of Australian species classified by von Mueller.

2½d red (Fig. 53); issued: 13 September 1948.

Designed and engraved by F. D. Manley.

Recess-printed on paper watermarked multiple small crown over C of A (Fig. 16) and issued in sheets of 160, perf. 14¾ x 14, comb.

Quantity: 73,754,880.

Pan-Pacific Scout Jamboree, 1948



Fig. 54

The Pan-Pacific Scout Jamboree was held from 29 December 1948, to 9 January 1949 at Wonga Park, Victoria, being attended by more than 10,000 scouts from most of the countries of the Pacific region, and from Europe, Asia, Africa and America.

The postage stamp which the Post Office decided should be issued to commemorate the occasion was, at the same time, a tribute to the value of the Boy Scout movement in community life and recognition of its ideals.

Designs were evolved at the Note Printing Branch and that finally selected, showing a scout in uniform, with trees in the background, had the approval of the scout organization which had proposed the issue.

2½ red (Fig. 54); issued: 15 November 1948.

Designed and engraved by F. D. Manley.

Recess-printed on paper watermarked multiple small crown over C of A (Fig. 16) and issued in sheets of 160, perf. 14 x 14¾, comb.

Quantity: 90,307,200.

Henry Lawson, 1949



Fig. 55

Henry Archibald Lawson (1867-1922) writer and poet, born near Grenfell, N.S.W., is perhaps one of the best-known names in the history of Australian literature. His verse and prose had a quality peculiarly Australian, reflecting his understanding of human values, and of life as he experienced it over the years in many occupations in many parts of the country. A collection of his writings under the title, 'While the Billy Boils', was the first of many Lawson works to win world-wide recognition.

Proposals by literary societies that a stamp be issued to mark the 80th anniversary of his birth were made in 1947 but although the broad principle was accepted by the Post Office it did not become practicable to provide the stamp until two years later. It was issued on 17 June 1949, the 82nd anniversary of his birth.

A number of preliminary designs were prepared by the Note Printing Branch, these being based on various photographs of Lawson. Finally, it was decided to reproduce Sir Lionel Lindsay's dry-point etching of the poet and this, with a reproduction of his signature and the necessary lettering, became the final design. Two of the earlier designs are illustrated in the Appendix at Figs. 97 and 98.

2½d brown-red (Fig. 55); issued: 17 June 1949.

Designed by F. D. Manley; engraved by E. R. M. Jones.

Recess-printed on unwatermarked paper and issued in sheets of 160, perf. 14¾ x 14, comb.

Quantity: 109,252,000.

75th Anniversary of the Universal Postal Union, 1949

At the Congress of the Universal Postal Union held at Paris in 1947 a recommendation was adopted that postal administrations should mark the 75th anniversary of the foundation of the Union by the issue of special postage stamps.

The Australian Post Office, when first considering in 1948 the form such a stamp might take, arranged for the preparation of several designs which incorporated the symbol of the Universal Postal Union, a globe encircled by allegorical figures, which had been embodied in a monument at Berne.

Other designs subsequently prepared at the Note Printing Branch for consideration included the head of King George VI and various postal symbols. However, none of the designs found final acceptance and attention was then given to the development of a new design of Australian significance.

Based on rough sketches by Sir Daryl Lindsay, the acceptable design depicted a mounted outback mailman, with a mailbag over the saddle. Beyond the horse's neck a barbed-wire fence, a gate and a mailbox are visible. Above the gate a signpost indicates that the mailman is in that proverbial hinterland 'back o' Bourke'. Above, a Convair aeroplane symbolizes modern airmail services.

Three of the unadopted designs are shown in the Appendix at Figs. 99 to 101.



Fig. 56

3½d ultramarine (Fig. 56); issued: 10 October 1949.

Designed by Sir Daryl Lindsay and F. D. Manley; engraved by F. D. Manley.

Recess-printed on unwatermarked paper and issued in sheets of 84, perf.

14¾ x 14, comb.

Quantity: 5,084,688.

Lord Forrest of Bunbury, 1949

John Forrest, born in Bunbury, Western Australia, on 22 August 1847, had a very varied career. As early as 1869 he led a search for Leichhardt and in 1870 crossed Australia from Perth to Adelaide, retracing much of Eyre's route of 1841, and also exploring further inland. Many other expeditions followed, one of the most important being in 1874 when large areas of north-western Australia were explored.

Forrest became Surveyor-General of Western Australia in 1883 and, following the grant of self-government in 1890, became Premier: a position he held until 1901. He was one of the framers of the Federal Constitution and in



Fig. 57

1901 became a member of the first Federal Parliament and the first Commonwealth Postmaster-General. He held many other offices in subsequent years and was elevated to the peerage in February 1918. He died later in the same year.

A proposal had been advanced in Federal Parliament early in 1947 that a stamp be issued in that year to commemorate his public services but this could not be acted upon at the time because of other stamp commitments.

It was later found practicable to include such a stamp in the 1949 programme and the design which was prepared, showing Forrest's portrait, signified his interest in exploration by the inclusion of a compass rose and part of a map of Australia.

2½d carmine lake (Fig. 57); issued: 28 November 1949.

Designed and engraved by F. D. Manley.

Recess-printed on paper watermarked multiple small crown over C of A (Fig. 16) and issued in sheets of 160, perf. 14¾ x 14, comb.

Quantity: 90,602,880.

The Centenary of Postage Stamps in Australia, 1950

The first Australian adhesive postage stamps, the 'Sydney Views' of New South Wales and the 'Half Lengths' of Victoria, were both issued, within two days of each other, in January 1850.

The centenary of their appearance was marked by the staging of an Australian National Philatelic Exhibition at Melbourne in October 1950 and by the issue in September 1950 of two commemorative stamps.

Preliminary designs, the work of two members of the Stamp Advisory Committee, were first considered in February 1950, these being illustrated in the Appendix at Fig. 102. They were used as a guide for the two final designs prepared by the Note Printing Branch. As will be seen, the designs incorporated respectively representations of the central portions of the



Fig. 58



Fig. 59

'Sydney View' and 'Half Length' stamps of a hundred years earlier.

It was decided that as both commemoratives had equal importance it would be appropriate to print them side by side within the same sheet, providing horizontal se-tenant pairs. This was the first occasion in which such a course had been adopted in Australia.

(a) 2½d maroon (Cent. of N.S.W. stamps) (Fig. 58) and

(b) 2½d maroon (Cent. of Vic. stamps) (Fig. 59).

Issued: 27 September 1950.

(a) 2½d (Cent. of N.S.W. stamps); designed and engraved by E. R. M. Jones.

(b) 2½d (Cent. of Vic. stamps); designed and engraved by G. Lissenden.

Recess-printed on unwatermarked paper, the two stamps being in alternate vertical rows in the sheet. Issued in sheets of 160, perf. 14¾ x 14, comb.

Quantity: 47,040,000 of each design.

Jubilee of the Commonwealth of Australia, 1951

The decision of the Post Office to issue a series of stamps in 1951 to commemorate the jubilee of the Commonwealth of Australia resulted in the appearance of four stamps which paid tribute to two great statesmen and to Federal Parliament.

The plan for the series, and the subjects of the four stamp designs, were evolved by the Stamp Advisory Committee early in 1950 and the final designs gained approval in June of that year.

The two 3d stamps of the series, printed within the one sheet, as were stamps of the previous commemorative series, depicted respectively Sir Henry Parkes, regarded as the 'Father of Federation', and Sir Edmund Barton, Australia's first Prime Minister. The 5½d stamp showed the opening of the first Federal Parliament at the Exhibition Building, Melbourne on 9 May 1901, by the Duke of York (later King George V) and the 1/6d value pictured Parliament House at Canberra.

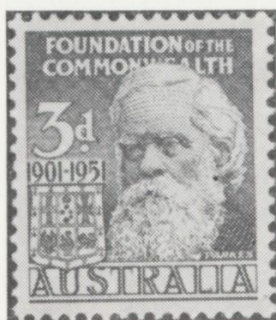


Fig. 60



Fig. 61

Sir Henry Parkes, who played a leading part in the earlier conventions which led to the formation of the Australian Commonwealth, had a long and distinguished career in New South Wales. He did not live to see his dream of federation come into being as he died in 1895.

His successor to the leadership of the federal party in New South Wales was Barton who, by strenuous efforts, assisted in bringing about the convention of 1897-98 which led directly to Federation. Barton held office as Prime Minister until 1902 when he resigned to assume a seat on the High Court Bench.

The portraits used for both stamps were derived from authentic sources although the names of the photographers are not known. The design for the 5½d stamp is after a painting by Tom Roberts, which is now in Parliament House, Canberra. At the time the stamp was designed it was in St James Palace, London. The stamp designer used Roberts' sketches for the painting, these being in the National Library, Canberra. The design of the 1/6d stamp reproduced a newly-taken photograph of Parliament House, the tree at the left being a *Cupressus Arizonica* and that at the right a *Eucalyptus Maidenii*.



Fig. 62



Fig. 63

3d carmine-lake (Parkes), 3d carmine-lake (Barton), 5½d blue, 1/6d red-brown (Figs. 60 to 63); issued: 1 May 1951.

All designed and engraved by F. D. Manley.

Recess-printed on unwatermarked paper, perf. 14¾ x 14, comb.

(a) 3d (Parkes) and 3d (Barton) in alternate vertical rows in the sheet.

Issued in sheets of 160.

(b) 5½d and 1/6d issued in sheets of 84.

Quantities: 3d—52,709,920 of each design; 5½d—2,137,716; 1/6d—6,351,576.

Centenary of Discovery of Gold, 1951



Fig. 64

The suggestion that a stamp be issued in 1951 to commemorate the centenary of the discovery of gold originated with the Government of Victoria. The Post Office accepted the proposal, particularly because there had been many earlier suggestions that there should be special stamps commemorative of gold discoveries in various parts of Australia. It was considered more appropriate to provide one stamp significant of gold discovery generally.

While gold had been reported in various parts of Australia in the early years of the 19th century, its first discovery in payable quantities is credited to Edward Hammond Hargraves.

Hargraves, born in England in 1816, came to Australia in 1832 and followed various occupations until, in 1849 he joined in the gold rush to California. Upon his return to Australia in January 1851 he went immediately to the Bathurst district which he remembered was similar geologically to gold-bearing areas of California.

His almost immediate success brought about the rushes of 1851. The discovery shortly afterwards of rich fields in Victoria led to a high immigration flow and a rapid increase in the population. Hargraves eventually received a government reward for his gold discoveries.

The portrait of Hargraves used for the stamp was reproduced from the frontispiece of Hargraves' own book, 'Australia and its Goldfields', published in 1855.

This stamp, and that next to be described and commemorative of the Centenary of Responsible Government in Victoria (Fig. 65) were printed side by side in the same sheet, as were the two 3d stamps of the Jubilee of the Australian Commonwealth series.

3d maroon (Fig. 64); issued: 2 July 1951.

Designed and engraved by F. D. Manley.

Recess-printed on unwatermarked paper, the two stamps (Figs. 64 and 65) being in alternate vertical rows in the sheet. Issued in sheets of 160, perf. 14¾ x 14, comb.

Quantity: 32,023,360.

Centenary of Responsible Government in Victoria, 1951

Victoria, first known as the Port Phillip District of New South Wales, was constituted as a separate colony as from 1 July 1851, with Charles Joseph Latrobe as its first Lieutenant-Governor.

Latrobe, born in England in 1801, had first arrived in Australia in 1839, having been appointed as Superintendent of the Port Phillip District. His position was very difficult at times, particularly because of the strong separatist movement which was in being. Latrobe held office until 1854 when he resigned and returned to England, where he died in 1875.

Following the adoption of a proposal by the Government of Victoria that a commemorative stamp be issued, the Stamp Advisory Committee arranged for the preparation of a design, utilizing a representation of a portrait of Latrobe from a bronze plaque executed in 1853 by Thomas Woolmen.

This stamp, and that previously described as commemorative of the discovery of gold (Fig. 64) were printed side by side in the same sheet.



Fig. 65

3d maroon (Fig. 65); issued: 2 July 1951.

Designed and engraved by F. D. Manley.

Recess-printed on unwatermarked paper, the two stamps (Figs. 65 and 64) being in alternate vertical rows in the sheet. Issued in sheets of 160, perf. 14¾ x 14, comb.

Quantity: 32,023,360.

Appendix

A selection of various unadopted designs, or bases for designs, as noted in the general text



Fig. 66

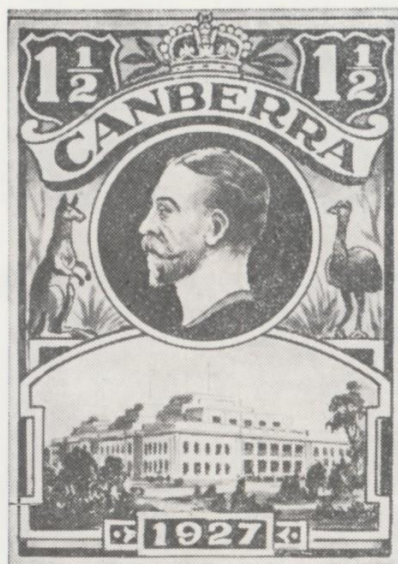


Fig. 67



Fig. 68



Fig. 69



Fig. 70



Fig. 71



Fig. 72



Fig. 73



Fig. 74



Fig. 75



Fig. 76



Fig. 77

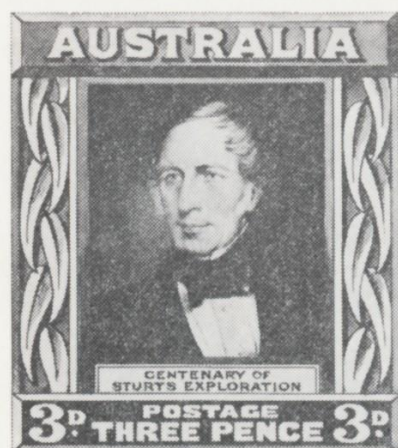


Fig. 78

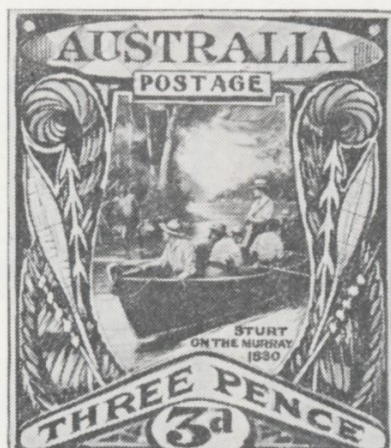


Fig. 79



Fig. 80



Fig. 81



Fig. 82



Fig. 83



Fig. 84



Fig. 85



Fig. 86

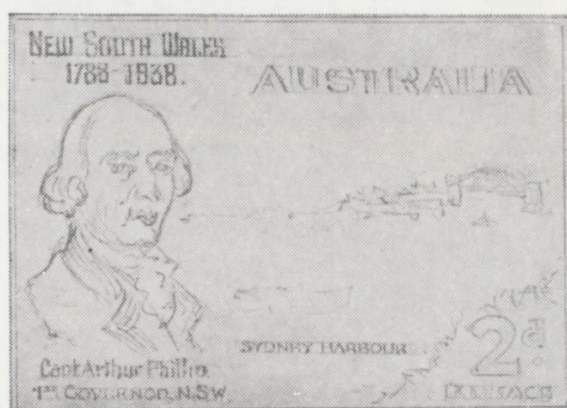


Fig. 87



Fig. 88



Fig. 89



Fig. 90



Fig. 91



Fig. 92

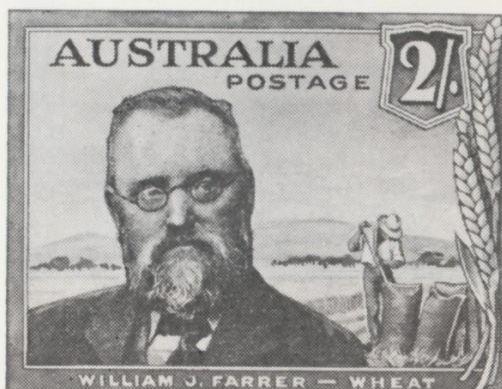


Fig. 93



Fig. 94



Fig. 95



Fig. 96



Fig. 97

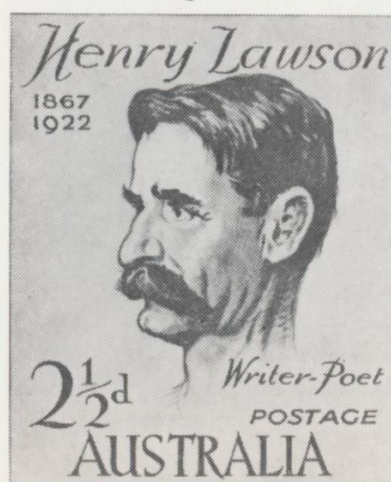


Fig. 98

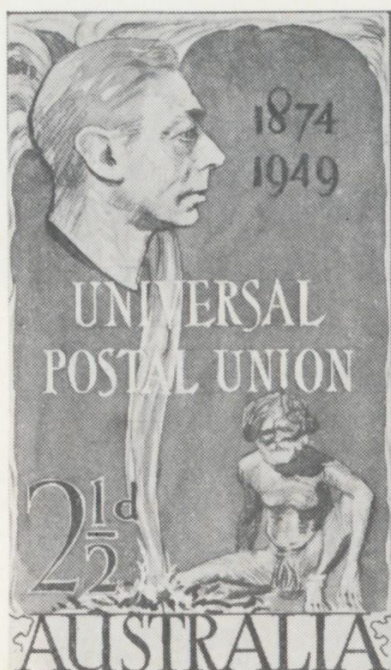


Fig. 99



Fig. 100



Fig. 101



Fig. 102

