



# First Issues

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**The First Issues Collectors Club** promotes the collection of the first postage stamps issued by any nation, province, city or other entity that has, at any time, issued postage stamps, and facilitates the exchange of information about these issues among stamp collectors.

**First Issues** (ISSN: 1547-2299), the official newsletter of the First Issues Collectors Club, is published quarterly. Submissions are welcome from members and others interested in the collection of first issues.

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## President's Message

Since the last Newsletter, I learned of the passing of the man probably responsible for my interest in philately. Jean-Claude Lafleur was a priest and Latin teacher at the high school I attended in Quebec City. Father Lafleur, a kind and quiet man, had started a stamp club at the school and once a week about 30 students of all levels would meet to discuss and exchange stamps. Until then, I was quite happy to fill blank spaces in my beginner's album. But he introduced us to other facets of the hobby – having us research the countries and subjects depicted on the stamps. He also taught us the basics of philatelic exhibits. He was himself an avid collector and won several awards for his thematic exhibit “Studies of the Conqueror of the Mediterranean”. His passion for stamps grew with ours as I learned in 1982 that he became an international level judge and commissioner. I met with him again only once about twenty years after high school at a stamp show in Montreal. He was quite pleased to see that I was still collecting, but his first questions were not about stamps. He just wanted to know how I turned out, what I was doing, and if I had a wife and family. I doubt that the club survived his retirement.

On another topic, I read the book “A Million Dollars an Ounce” by M. John Lubetkin mentioned in the last Newsletter. It was a pleasant read especially since I read it on the train on my way to New York City where much of the action takes place. It combines two things I appreciate, stamps and history. One question, however, kept coming to my mind as I read. The prologue said that the stamps were selected by the Nazis for their value and were worth at least 4 ounces of gold (\$140 at the time) and that half of them were valued at more than a pound of gold and some at over a hundred pounds or \$56,000. I don't have access to a catalogue of that era, but I would like to know what the values of some rare stamps were in those days? Were there many stamps worth over \$56,000? There is little description of specific stamps in the book but the inverted Jenny is mentioned, what was it worth in 1945? Does anybody know?

*Louis Laflamme*

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Visit us on the World Wide Web at <http://www.firstissues.org>

## Bits & Pieces

## Miscellaneous

**Article Accuracy:** *First Issues*, the editor, and other officers of the FICC cannot be responsible for accuracy or originality of any information printed herein. Opinions expressed in the articles are those of the writers and are not necessarily endorsed by *First Issues*, the FICC or its officers.

**Articles Wanted:** Articles, letters, comments, suggestions, album pages or anything else connected with collecting first issues are always needed. Send your copy to the editor (e-mail address on front page, postal address shown in the return address on outer cover). **To be included in V27N1, articles must be received prior to Jan 1, 2019.**

**Membership Directory:** Members may obtain a free FICC Membership Directory by sending a SASE (No 10 envelope with 1 ounce US postage) to our Secretary. You can also request the Directory via e-mail as an Excel spreadsheet (contact information is on pages 1 and 9).

**Back Issues:** Back issues of the newsletter are available from the Secretary for \$7.00 per volume or \$2.00 for single issues. Electronic copies are available on a USB Drive or CD-ROM for \$10.00. Refer to the web site ([www.firstissues.org](http://www.firstissues.org)) or contact the Secretary for more information (contact information is on pages 1 and 9).

**Article Index:** An index to the articles in *First Issues* from 1990 (V1, N1) to date is available on the web site ([www.firstissues.org](http://www.firstissues.org)).

**Bylaws:** A copy of the FICC bylaws is available on the web site ([www.firstissues.org](http://www.firstissues.org)). These were last printed in *First Issues* V26, N1.

## Mail Bag

## South Moluccas - 1

Nick, I recently “found” a set of South Moluccas stamps in my “LOCALS” album. My notes say these were the first issues

of an exiled government. Was it you who asked me a while back if I could supply a scan of the 1<sup>st</sup> issue stamps?

Tim Balm, FICC #91  
e-mail: July 2018

## South Moluccas - 2

Tim, I am looking to update a web site with scans of the overprinted stamps listed in Gibbons (pdf of Gibbons page attached). If you have an SG.1 or the set, please send a scan.

Nick Blackburn, FICC #181  
e-mail: July 2018

### South Moluccas - 3

Nick, Thanks for the memory refresher. The Gibbons listing is not what I have. – but I might write an article explaining the 3 “issuers” of stamps for this “wanna-be” country. A range of issuers from “genuine” to near-genuine to unauthorized Cinderellas.

Tim Balm, FICC #91  
e-mail: July 2018

## Reference Book

Tim, I thought this might be of interest to you. I'm still looking for a copy of PHILATELIC WITNESSES: STAMPS OF REVOLUTION. [Attached to this e-mail was a book review of STAMPS AS WITNESSES OF HISTORY, A GUIDE TO POLITICAL PHILATELY by Ruth Lea.]

Nick Blackburn, FICC #181  
e-mail: August 2018

## Secretary's Report

**Membership News:** One new member joined and one former member re-joined FICC since the last Newsletter went to press.

- Alexey Shavarda, FICC# 262, St. Petersburg, Russia
- Edward Zuckerman, FICC #267, New York, USA

Welcome back Alexey and welcome to the club Edward!

FICC [illegible]

## Call for Mail Auction #98 Lots

**DEADLINE FOR RECEIPT OF LOTS FOR MAIL AUCTION #98 is Dec 15, 2018.** Please send singles, sets, FDCs and covers related to first issues -- basically anything you think other FICC members would be interested in owning. The full set of guidelines governing the auctions is published in each auction mailing.

1. Submit lots to: Tim Balm, 655 Goodpasture Island Rd Apt 216, Eugene, OR 97401-1534 USA.
2. Include an inventory with your name & address, 1-line descriptions of the lots including cat#, current cat value, and minimum accepted bid. [Note: Scott catalog is the default; first issues listed by other catalogs are welcome.]
3. The club receives a 10% fee from each lot sold -- split between the seller and the buyer.

FICC ~~✗~~

## First Issues of Uganda

By Louis Laflamme, FICC #210

The central part of Africa including the region of the great lakes was the last to be explored by Europeans. It was known in the 1840s to Arab traders in search of slaves and ivory and was later reached by British explorers Speke (1862) and Stanley (1875) looking for the source of the Nile. British missionaries were sent to the region and arrived in June 1877. In 1886, during the period of the great scramble for Africa, the region west of Lake Victoria with its four native kingdoms, along with the territories to the east up to the Indian Ocean were awarded to Britain. Over time, other territories north of the lake would be annexed to form the present day country of Uganda (see map).

Already being heavily invested in Southern Africa, Britain gave the rights to administer and develop the territory in 1890 to a commercial company, the Imperial British East Africa Company (IBEAC). The IBEAC soon ran into financial troubles and was unable to fulfill its obligations and maintain order. So, in 1894 the worried British took over the administration and proclaimed it to be the Protectorate of Uganda. In 1895, the mandate of the IBEAC in East Africa was also revoked and the British East Africa Protectorate (present day Kenya) was established.

That same year, George Wilson (the first government official posted in Uganda) decided to set up a postal service in the native kingdom of Buganda – the largest of the four kingdoms west of Lake Victoria. Lacking a printing press he enlisted the help of a young missionary named Ernest Millar working in a mission near present day Kampala. Millar had the idea to produce the stamps using the only typewriter in the region, one that he had brought with him in 1892. He sat down at his typewriter on March 14, 1895 and produced his first trial sheet of stamps using a combination of letters, numerals, hyphens and apostrophes. [He probably did not imagine that over 18 months he would produce around 5000 stamps.]

His first design was very simple, “U” and “G” in the upper corners for “Uganda Government”, and the denomination in the center. The denomination was expressed in “cowries” – the shell of a small sea snail highly valued by the locals and used in trade with an official exchange rate of 12½ cowries to a penny. The stamps were produced with a black ribbon on the thin fragile laid paper he used to type his sermons. They were imperforate and without gum.

The first issue Sc#1-6 contained the 10, 20, 30, 40, 50 and 60 cowrie denominations. The stamps were 20-26 mm wide and were produced 117 to a sheet (13 rows of 9). A single sheet could contain different denominations depending on what was needed. Shown at right is a certified Sc#1 (150%).

The postal service was inaugurated on March 20, 1895 and the stamps were only valid within the largest kingdom of Buganda (except for official missionary business in the other 3 kingdoms). A single letter box was placed in Wilson’s office in Kampala. Stamps of the same type overprinted by pen are also known (Sc#9-16).

Later, in May 1895, Millar received a new typewriter with narrower letters and the stamps were also reduced in width (16-18 mm). A sheet could then contain 143 subjects (Sc# 17-53). In November 1895, a new violet ribbon was used (starting with Sc#35).

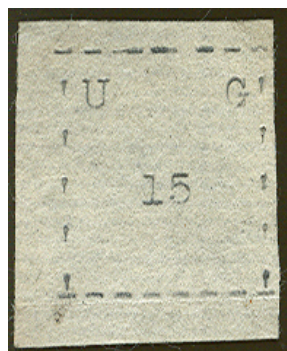
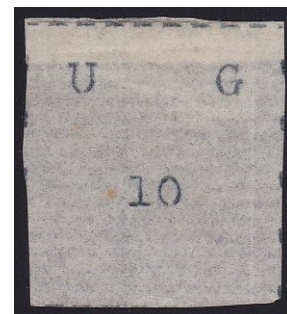
The last “missionary stamps” (Sc# 44-53) produced in 1896 were of a different type with “V. 96 .R” for “Victoria Regina” and the year at top and “Uganda” at the bottom. Unknown to the philatelic world valuable.

One would think that with their simple production they would be easy to fake but letter types, ink and paper proved to be Shown at left is a Sc#19 forgery (figure at certificate archive).

In 1896, the missionary society press and on November 7, at the request of the government, Rev F. printed stamps. These were denominated in more bankable annas and internally. Sc#61 is shown at right, 150%.

They were followed in 1898 by conventional stamps engraved by London now recognized by UPU members.

Continued on page 4.



design and method of the right combination of impossible to match. 150% - taken from APEX

acquired a typeset printing Rowling produced the first rupees but still only valid

De La Rue and printed in



**Uganda** (continued from page 3)

On April 4, 1903 a postal union was established between Uganda and British East Africa. The first stamps issued were inscribed “East Africa and Uganda Protectorates” and are listed under this name in the Scott Catalogues. Shown at left, 150%, is Sc#1 under the East Africa and Uganda Protectorates listing. [Note: Be careful not to confuse these stamps picturing King Edward VII with very similar stamps issued in 1921 showing King George V and listed at the beginning of Scott’s “Kenya, Uganda, & Tanzania” section.]

On July 23, 1920 British East Africa became the colony of Kenya with the and Uganda” issued in 1922 (Sc#18, listed under the KUT section is shown at



first stamp of “Kenya right, 150%).



The Tanganyika territory, part of the former colony of German East Africa, was awarded to Britain following WW1. It later joined the postal union with Uganda and Kenya, and the first stamps issued in May 1935. Shown at left is Sc#46, 150%. [Ed note: The Scott Catalogue lists the #42-45 “common design” set before the stamp shown at left. However, the Stanley Gibbons Catalogue states the #46 stamp was issued on May 1, 1935 while the common design set was issued on May 6, 1935. Therefore, Mr. Laflamme is correct in stating the #46 stamp was issued first.]

As a final act, Uganda 1, 1962. On October 9, 1962 state.

A single set of 4 stamps of self-rule on July 28, 1962 the centenary of the Speke Sc#79, 150%.

The first stamps for issued on October 9, 1962 Sc#83, 150%



achieved self-rule on March it became a fully independent

was issued during the period (Sc#79-82) commemorating expedition. At near right is

independent Uganda were (Sc#83-94). At far right is

**References:**

1. Western Stamp Collector, November 2, 1974
2. African Postal Heritage APH Paper nr 18, part 1
3. <https://www.theoldie.co.uk/article/strange-passions> (last accessed September, 2018)
4. <http://portobellostamp.co.uk/wp-content/uploads/2017/11/April-17-Curiosities-i.jpg> (last accessed September, 2018)
5. <https://imperialismhistoryuganda.weebly.com/> (last accessed September, 2018)
6. Scott stand catalogue of postage stamps 2012

FICC







**Auction #97**

Welcome to FICC Auction #97. Lots shown below have been extracted from the large 846-lot auction accompanying this V26N4 Newsletter – document header stating V26N4 Supplement 1. All auction rules and instructions for submitting bids are provided in the larger Supplement listing.

The auction closes on Jan 15, 2019. Bids received that after will not be considered.

Please read descriptions carefully; lots occasionally have very similar descriptions. If you have questions, please contact me. Also, I will email scans of any specific lots you wish to see. ... All catalogue values (CVs) are taken from the 2019 or 2018 Scott Catalogues.

**#1 Covers (All covers have pencil notations of Sc#s)**

<u>Lot</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>CV</u>	<u>Min Bid</u>	<u>Your Bid</u>	<u>Lot</u>
745	Aden Sc#1,3,4 on Apr 1937 postally used FDC to USA [handstamped with "A"]	\$10.00	\$4.00	_____	745
746	Albania Sc#373(x2), 378 on registered cover to France	\$23.20	\$30.00	_____	746
747	Albania Sc#C1-7 on Jan 1926 unaddressed philatelic cover	\$62.00	\$30.00	_____	747
748	Albania Sc#C1(x2), C2, 149 on May 1925 airmail cover	\$11.60	\$6.00	_____	748
749	Albania Sc#C43-45 + 299-301 on April 1939 unaddressed philatelic cover	\$29.25	\$12.00	_____	749
750	Albania Sc#J1-5 on 2 March 1914 unaddressed philatelic cover	\$32.00	\$15.00	_____	750
751	Albania Sc#J1-5 on 4 March 1914 unaddressed philatelic cover	\$32.00	\$15.00	_____	751
752	Argentina Sc#B12 on unaddressed cacheted FDC	\$0.25	\$0.50	_____	752
753	Aruba Sc#1, 5, 9, 15 on Jan 1986 unaddressed cacheted FDC	\$3.30	\$1.00	_____	753
754	Aruba Sc#18-21 on Jan 1986 unaddressed cacheted FDC	\$5.75	\$2.00	_____	754
755	Australia Sc#C1(x2), 71 on airmail cover to USA via New Zealand	\$17.90	\$7.00	_____	755
756	Australian Ant Terr Sc#L1-5 on Jan 1960 cacheted FDC to USA	\$8.45	\$3.00	_____	756
757	Austria Sc#181 + QE3 on Mar 1919 cover to Vienna	\$0.65	\$1.00	_____	757
758	Austria Sc#455-56 on unaddressed postal card	\$0.50	\$0.50	_____	758
759	Austria Sc#C4-C11, 277, 285 on Oct 1924 reg cover to Thuringen	\$14.60	\$5.00	_____	759
760	Austria Sc#C4 + 277 on June 1924 postal card	\$0.60	\$1.00	_____	760
761	Austria Sc#MB1-3 on Dec 1918 cover to Warsaw	\$2.40	\$1.00	_____	761
762	Austria Sc#P1 (type 1) 4-mrgn on wrapper	\$110.00	\$50.00	_____	762
763	Austria Sc#P1 (type 1) 3+ mrgns on wrapper	\$110.00	\$40.00	_____	763
764	Austria Sc#QE1+148, 169 on cover to Finland [letter inside]	\$4.65	\$2.50	_____	764
765	Austria Sc#4N1-8 (1st cover) + 4N9-17 (2nd cover) on two July 1945 addressed philatelic covers	\$6.10	\$2.50	_____	765
766	Barbados Sc#290-93 on Dec 1964 reg, cacheted cover to USA	\$2.15	\$1.00	_____	766
767	Basutoland Sc#1, 15, 16, 17, 19, 21 on Aug 1938 reg cover to USA	\$7.05	\$4.00	_____	767
768	Batum Sc#1-6 on Oct 1919 registered cover ?Zagreb? [vertical fold just missing stamps]	\$126.00	\$60.00	_____	768
769	Belarus Sc#1 +Russia #5731 pair on unaddressed postal card	\$0.95	\$0.50	_____	769
770	Belgium Sc#C1, 201, 202(x3) on July 6-7, 1930 on cacheted FFC to Villigan	\$1.45	\$0.75	_____	770
771	Belgium Sc#N1-9 on Oct 1916 cover to Frankfurt	\$32.75	\$15.00	_____	771
772	Bhutan Sc#1-7 on cacheted unaddressed FDC	\$6.60	\$3.00	_____	772
773	Bhutan Sc#C1-3 on cacheted unaddressed FDC	\$1.25	\$0.50	_____	773
774	Bolivia Sc#RAC1, C191(x2) on Aug 1971 airmail cover to USA	\$0.80	\$1.00	_____	774
775	Brazil Sc#B1 on cacheted unaddressed FDC	\$2.00	\$1.00	_____	775

Continued on page 8

**Mail Bid Auction 97** (continued from page 7)**#1 Covers (cont'd) (All covers have pencil notations of Sc#s)**

776	Brazil Sc#RA1(x2), 257, 373, C19-21 on FFC Belem-Manaos	\$56.50	\$20.00	_____	776
777	Brazil Sc#RAB1, 517, 519(x2) on airmail cover	\$1.70	\$1.00	_____	777
778	Br Antarctic Terr Sc#1-6 on addressed philatelic cover canceled Signy Island, S Orkneys FE 1 63	\$7.55	\$3.00	_____	778
779	Bulgaria Sc#534(x5) (Peoples Rep) on March 1917 commercial cover to USA	\$1.25	\$1.00	_____	779
780	Bulgaria Sc#O1-2 hor pairs (x3) + O4-O6 hor pairs on two unaddressed philatelic covers	\$4.50	\$2.00	_____	780
781	USA Sc#B1(x4 + #1611) [4 #B1 stamps arranged like UR plate block] on certified cover to New York, USA dated June, 2012	\$1.75	\$1.00	_____	781
782	USA Sc#C1-2 on July, 1924 cover from Illinois to New York [violet hand-stamp saying "On first trip through schedule involving night flying on transcontinental air mail route"]	\$58.00	\$25.00	_____	782
783	USA Sc#C10a ([full pane of 3 + #825, 1611, C10, C46) on certified Feb, 2012 philatelic cover from/to sender	\$69.85	\$25.00	_____	783
784	USA Sc#CE1 Pl# single on May, 1938 cover from NY to Chicago	\$0.80	\$1.00	_____	784
785	USA Sc#F1(x2) (+ #547, 571, 573, 804, 829, 844, E7) on registered Oct, 2007 philatelic cover from/to sender	\$129.20	\$50.00	_____	785
786	USA Sc#FA1 (+ #1064) on unaddressed, certified FDC	\$1.00	\$1.00	_____	786
787	USA Sc#FA1 (block of 4 + #1035) on unaddressed, certified FDC with cachet	\$3.25	\$1.00	_____	787
788	USA Sc#JQ1 (+ #832, 833, 877) on certified Oct, 2007 Philatelic cover from/to sender	\$8.25	\$3.00	_____	788
789	USA Sc#QE1-4 (+ #566, 826, 833) on certified Oct, 2007 philatelic cover from/to sender	\$11.45	\$5.00	_____	789
790	USA-Confederate States Sc#1 on Feb 1862 cover with nice Blue Raleigh, NC cancel [some soiling on front, hr]	\$300.00	\$120.00	_____	790
791	USA Sc#UC1 cover (160 x 89 mm) mnh [Border A]	\$3.00	\$1.00	_____	791
792	USA Sc#UC1 cover (171 x 96 mm) mnh [Border A]	\$3.00	\$1.00	_____	792
793	USA Sc#UC1 cover (242 x 106 mm) mnh [Border D]	\$3.00	\$1.00	_____	793
794	USA Sc#UC1 (+ #720) on Aug 1932 cover with NJ cancel [violet "Tactical Training Flight / USS Akron" [Border A](dirigible) stamped cachet] [Size 5, Border B]	\$2.00	\$1.00	_____	794
795	USA Sc#UC1 on Jan 1929 cover to Los Angeles with Wash DC cancel stamped cachet [Size 8, Border B]	\$2.00	\$1.00	_____	795
796	USA Sc#UC1 (+ #720) on Nov 1933 cover from Indiana to US Patent Office [Border D]	\$2.00	\$1.00	_____	796
797	USA Sc#UX1 postal card with July 23 cxi from Mich to Ohio USA Sc#UY1 reply card mint [pre-printed, some discoloration]	\$25.00	\$12.50	_____	797
798	USA Sc#UY1 entire reply card with Sep 1894 cancel from Minnesota to New York (pre-printed)	\$15.00	\$5.00	_____	798
799	USA-Canal Zone Sc#C1(x3) on July 1929 cover from Cristobal to Chile [violet First Flight Canal Zone-Chile" stamped cachet]	\$15.00	\$7.00	_____	799
800	USA-Hawaii Sc#UX1 mint f/vf	\$14.25	\$7.00	_____	800
801	USA-Puerto Rico Sc#UX1 mint f/vf	\$30.00	\$15.00	_____	801
802		\$165.00	\$75.00	_____	802

**End of Listing**



*First Issues Collectors Club*  
**Membership Application or Renewal Form**

Membership includes four issues of the FICC Newsletter, *First Issues*. Dues for members who receive the Newsletters electronically or who have United States mailing addressees are \$10.00 per year. Rates for members with non-U.S. addresses who receive the Newsletters via postal mail are US\$14.00 per year. Make checks payable to **Kurt Streepy** and send to the postal address below or use the online PayPal feature at our web site, [www.firstissues.org](http://www.firstissues.org). Thank you for your renewal or new membership!

- ☐ New Membership
                    
 ☐ Renewal
                    
 ☐ Additional Contribution: \$\_\_\_\_\_
- ☐ Electronic Copy (by E-mail)
                    
 ☐ Paper Copy (by postal delivery)

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City, State, Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone\* \_\_\_\_\_ e-mail\* \_\_\_\_\_

APS# \_\_\_\_\_ Other Memberships: \_\_\_\_\_

\* Your telephone number and e-mail address will be kept confidential if you wish.

Send this form with your dues to: Kurt Streepy, 3128 E. Mattatha Dr., Bloomington, IN 47401, USA



## BID SHEET FOR AUCTION #97

Bidding Deadline is November 30, 2018

(email bids to [auctions@firstissues.org](mailto:auctions@firstissues.org))

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

FICC#: \_\_\_\_\_

<u>Lot</u>	<u>Bid</u>	<u>Lot</u>	<u>Bid</u>	<u>Lot</u>	<u>Bid</u>	<u>Lot</u>	<u>Bid</u>

# IT'S RENEWAL TIME

Check your address label on this newsletter. If it has an expiration date of V26#4, that means your FICC membership expires with this issue. Please send in your dues renewal by December 15, 2018 to ensure that you do not miss an issue. Dues are \$10.00 per year for members who receive the Newsletters electronically or who have USA mailing addresses. Rates for members with non-U.S. addresses who receive the Newsletters via postal mail are \$14.00 per year. We believe this remains a bargain relative to most other stamp clubs with newsletters.

A membership renewal form can be found on page 9. If you have an email address, please include any changes. Make checks payable to **Kurt Streepy** (not FICC), and mail your dues to Kurt at the address on the renewal form. If you wish to pay electronically using PayPal or Skrill/MoneyBookers, please contact Kurt Streepy for instructions.

## ***First Issues***

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FIRST CLASS MAIL

