



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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Notes From the Auction Manager

The last FICC Auction / Mail Sale was one of several large auctions to come. One of our members is retiring from the stamp collecting arena and is offering the majority of the stamps in his 11-album #1 collection to FICC members via these auctions. The 846 lots in Sale #97 were all from pages of his first album (containing the USA, UN and "A" and "B" countries). This collection contains stamps that are predominantly very well centered with no faults. Further, there are both mint and used copies of many stamps, with the mint stamp being MNH in an appreciable number of lots.

It takes the better part of a month to write the listing descriptions for all the stamps, get the latest SCVs from the 2019 catalogues at my local library, and then produce the Auction listing. There were a couple of typos in the last listing which escaped me - even after 3 proof readings. I will try and be better in the future.

Results from this sale were outstanding. Nearly 300 lots were sold - approximately 35%. But the #1s grouping (lots 1-172) and foreign covers (lots 745-802) had a **VERY** high "sold rate" with multiple bids on many lots.

Nick Blackburn (webmaster) has put a listing of the unsold lots on the web site (link is on the auctions page). Lots can be purchased for the minimum bid price. Just send me a note indicating any lots you wish to purchase. This listing will be deleted on May 1, 2019 - and lots will not be available after that date.

I will be receiving the next album shortly, possibly before this Newsletter goes to the printer. Then, the entire cataloguing, describing, pricing and publishing will begin anew. The next listing is projected to be published in the March or April time frame. Close on the heels of Auction #98 contained on pages 7-8 of this edition of *First Issues*.

Have fun browsing, bidding and buying.

Tim Balm, Auction Manager

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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 V27N2, articles must be received prior to Mar 15, 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) 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).

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

Mail Bag

V26N4 President's Message Response

Louis, Regarding your interest in stamp prices [especially for the inverted Jenny] circa WW II... I have 2 old Scott Catalogues, one from 1933 (end of the Great Depression in

America) and one from 1957. So, I have things bracketed for WW II. The Mauritius #1 is the only stamp I see with a CV approaching US\$56,000. Here are some prices extracted from those catalogues.

- USA C3a -- \$3,300 in 1933; \$4000 in 1957
- Mauritius #1 -- \$30,000 mint and \$12,500 used in 1933; unpriced in 1957
- Hawaii #1 used -- \$10,000 in 1933; \$15,000 in 1957
- Sweden #1a (3sk orange error) -- \$9,000 in 1933; unpriced in 1957

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

Web Site Tribute

Hi.

First, allow me to join what I'm sure is an ongoing chorus of praise for your wonderful website! It's really terrific. ... I have a question: I'm wondering about the dates listed for the Switzerland 2 1/2 rappen stamps. My understanding was the dates of issue of the 2 1/2 rappen "Orts-Post" and "Poste Locale" stamps (both initially unframed) were the same, and in April or May 1850. I'm NOT an expert on Switzerland and am sure your dates are correct. Any idea what the source is for the dates you list?

Lindsay R., non-FICC site visitor
e-mail: December 2018

[Editor: As neither Nick nor Tim knew of the source of the web site table, we suggested Lindsay contact the APS to see if they could supply a definitive date of issue.]

Secretary's Report

Membership News: No new members joined FICC since the last (V26N4) Newsletter went to press.

FICC [illegible]

Call for Mail Auction #100 Lots

DEADLINE FOR RECEIPT OF LOTS FOR MAIL AUCTION #100 is March 15, 2019. 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 

Hawaii Change of Government Update

By Kurt Streepy, FICC #18

In Volume 3 Number 3, I wrote of the three first issues of Hawaii. While doing a little research for an upcoming presentation at my local stamp club, I realized there was another change of government first issue. I will start from the beginning with a brief review of the first three issues I previously reviewed to set the historical stage.

Hawaii was established as a unified Kingdom in 1795 and by 1810 the final two islands joined the Kingdom. The Kingdom issued its first postage stamps on October 1, 1851. This was primarily to meet demand by foreign missionaries living in Hawaii. The first issues are commonly referred to as the Missionaries. The Scott #1 is a 2 cent stamp that paid the local rate for a newspaper. It is the rarest of the missionary issues and one of the gems of philately. The most recent census found one unused, 13 used and one on cover.

Image at right: Scott #1 and #2 on cover. This is the only known cover with Scott #1. It sold for \$1.9 million in the 1995 Honolulu Advertiser Collection auction. The 7 cents in Hawaiian postage paid the local rate (5 cents) and the boat captain (2 cents). The six cents US postage paid for the trip from San Francisco to New York.



By the mid to late 1800s, the influence of Americans and Europeans on the islands had increased. The children of the original missionaries became influential business men and government officials. They slowly removed power from the king. This included the Bayonet Constitution signed by King Kalākaua in 1887 which moved most of the power to the legislature and cabinet.

Upon King Kalākaua's death in 1891, his sister Liliuokalani assumed the throne. Her efforts to re-establish authority to the crown ended with a bloodless revolt January 17, 1893. The leaders of the revolt declared a Provisional Government with Sanford B Dole as the President. The Americans leading the revolt were originally given assurances from the US ambassador that the US would quickly annex Hawaii once Queen Liliuokalani was removed. Unfortunately, newly elected President Grover Cleveland refused to annex Hawaii and denounced the revolt.

The Provisional Government overprinted supplies of the current Kingdom of Hawaii stamps with "Provisional GOVT. 1893" in black or red. Scott lists #53 as the first of these issues, although all were released on May 20, 1893 except Scott #63. The overprinting of remainder stock was primarily for philatelic purposes. Non-overprinted stamps and postal stationery remained valid. The Provisional Government later issued a set of 5 stamps (Scott 74-77, 79).

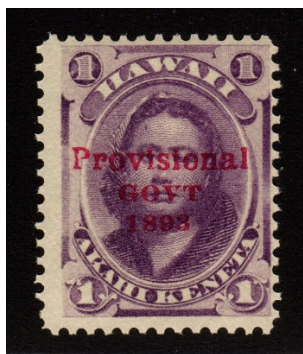


Image at left: Scott Hawaii Provisional

Image at right:



#53, the first issue of the Government.

Printing proof of overprint .

With President Cleveland opposing annexation, the determined they would need to wait out Cleveland's term and hope government after the next election. On July 4, 1894 the Republic established with Sanford B Dole as President. The Republic issued 78, on October 27, 1894 (shown at right). All Kingdom and stamps remained valid for postage.



Provisional Government for a more favorable of Hawaii was one postage stamp, Scott Provisional Government

Stamps of South Moluccas (Republik Maluku Selatan)

By Tim Balm, FICC #91

Have other members noticed the small entry in the Scott Catalogues for South Moluccas? It follows an equally short entry for South Kasai – both of which follow the listings for South Georgia. Many of these short entries (like South Kasai) indicate the area tried to become independent and failed – thus the stamps “issued” for the area were not recognized as legitimate and do not qualify for listing in Scott. The entry for South Moluccas, however, simply states that stamps representing the area were “privately issued” and had no postal use. Wikipedia states, “No valid stamps from that region are known to the Michel editorial department.” Opposed to the stance taken by Scott and Michel, the Gibbons Catalogue lists 17 overprinted stamps and states they were postally used in at least two South Moluccan post offices.

POLITICAL HISTORY

According to references 3, 4 and 5, the Moluccas (also known as the Spice Islands) are located north of Australia and west of New Guinea. The South Moluccas naturally lie in the southern part of these islands, and include the primary islands of Ambon (formerly Amboina), Buru, and Seram.

When Indonesia became independent from the Dutch East Indies at the end of WW II, unrest with Indonesian government began in this small group of islands which had been occupied by the Japanese during the war but given to Indonesia afterward. [It is unclear what the unrest was about, but one issue was likely due to the Indonesian government being primarily Javanese Muslim while the South Moluccans were Protestant.] A provisional government was established, and a republic was declared in 1950. The Indonesian military quickly squelched the rebellion, and the provisional government went into exile in the Netherlands at the end of that year.

Although the main island of Ambon/Amboina was occupied by the Indonesian army, the resistance continued in the outer islands until 1955. Meanwhile, over 30,000 South Moluccans relocated to the Netherlands maintaining their nationalist attitudes.

Further attempts at separation recurred in the late 1990's, but again failed.

STAMPS

According to Linn's Almanac, before being exiled, the provisional government overprinted 17 Dutch Indies and Indonesian stamps with “Republik Maluku Selatan” and “likely placed them into local use”. These are the stamps listed in the Gibbons Catalogue. A used copy of the 50-sen denomination (SG #13) is shown at right (150%). This stamp has not been submitted for a certificate, so no claim of authenticity regarding the cancel is provided.

Many references state that during 1951-54 a large quantity of South Moluccas stamps were introduced into the marketplace – but there is no evidence of them ever being used. Having exhausted my own reference library, I turned to the internet. A Wikipedia entry gave more information about the stamps – although I find some Wikipedia entries are notoriously inaccurate, so *caveat emptor* on the following information.

Wiki indicates that the post-1950 stamps may have two primary sources.

Possibly issued/sold by the Government in Exile: Reference 7 (provided within the Wiki entry) indicates that the Backman Catalogue lists a set of four stamps (4-sen brown, 10-sen blue, 25-sen purple, and 50-sen red) as the first issued by the Government in Exile. These were soon followed by a fifth stamp in the set (1-rupee green). These 5 stamps are shown below, left (80%). Backman #6-7 are larger orange 2½ rupiah stamps - #6 is imperforate and #7 is perforated. Many more stamps from this source are listed in Backman, including some “General Macarthur” issues produced circa 1966.



Stolow Issues: The Wiki entry also describes stamps produced/sold by Henry Stolow (of J&H Stolow), starting in 1955. Approximately 150 stamps in triangular or rectangular shape picturing colourful animal and plant themes were placed on sale in the USA. All are printed with “REPUBLIK MALUKU SALATAN” and have no date of issue. An example of one of these is shown above, right (80%).

Continued on p.6

Email to: editor@firstissues.org

<http://www.firstissues.org>

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Welcome to FICC Auction #98. The auction closes on Feb 28, 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 Scott Catalogues.

AUCTION RULES

1. Highest bid wins. In the event of tie bids, earliest postmark or email date stamp breaks the tie. Bid what you are willing to pay; winning bids are rarely reduced.
2. Auctioneer reserves the right to reject unreasonable bids. Bids received after the deadline will not be considered. Auctioneer's decisions are final.
3. All lots are sold "as is" without warranty by auctioneer or FICC. In case of a dispute, the auctioneer will contact the seller and provide the name of the buyer and nature of the dispute to allow direct settlement.
4. An expertizing policy exists for lots with a realized price of \$75 or more (contact auction manager for details).
5. The club receives a 10% fee from each lot sold. The fee will be split between the seller and the buyer.
6. Shipping charges are added to buyer's total. Lots will be mailed using normal USPS rates. Winning lots totaling more than \$200 will be insured, certified or registered.
7. Payment may be requested before shipment.
8. Bidding in this auction constitutes agreement to these rules.

SUBMITTING BIDS

Submit bids by email (Auctions@firstissues.org) or postal mail (Tim Balm, 655 Goodpasture Island Rd - Apt 216, Eugene, OR, 97401-1534, USA). If you are submitting bids by postal mail, you can (1) enter your bids on the bid sheet on page 9 and mail that, or (2) you can place your bids on a separate sheet of paper giving lot number, description, and the amount you wish to bid. Please include your name, FICC#, and address. Phone bids are not accepted.

#1s

<u>Lot</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>CV</u>	<u>Min Bid</u>	<u>Your Bid</u>	<u>Lot</u>
1	Allenstein Sc#1-14 mh f/vf	\$18.30	\$7.50	_____	1
2	Andorra (Fr) Sc#1 mhr avg	\$1.25	\$0.40	_____	2
3	Bechuanaland Sc#1 mh f	\$95.00	\$33.25	_____	3
4	Bermuda Sc#1 used(m-cxl) f hr [Crown CC wmk]	\$1.75	\$0.60	_____	4
5	British Honduras Sc#1 mng f	\$72.50	\$21.75	_____	5
6	Central African Republic Sc#1 used (l-cxl) vf	\$0.25	\$0.12	_____	6
7	Central African Republic Sc#1-2 used (l-cxl) vf	\$0.50	\$0.25	_____	7
8	Danzig Sc#1-15 mnh/mlh f/vf [#2, 6,15 mlh]	\$110.10	\$50.00	_____	8
9	France-Off in Zanzibar Sc#1 used(l-cxl) f hr	\$7.50	\$2.75	_____	9
10	Gr Brit - Scotland Sc#1 used(l-cxl) vf	\$0.25	\$0.10	_____	10
11	Italian Colonies Sc#1 mvlh f/vf	\$1.00	\$0.40	_____	11
12	Italian Colonies Sc#1-12 mhr f/vf [#4 thin]	\$17.50	\$7.50	_____	12
13	Mauritania Sc#1 mhr f/vf [heavy hinging, ink on gum]	\$0.70	\$0.25	_____	13
14	Transcaucasian Fed Rep Sc#1 mnh f/vf	\$4.00	\$1.80	_____	14
15	Trinidad & Tobago Sc#1 mng + #2 mh f/vf	\$5.25	\$1.25	_____	15
16	Zimbabwe Sc#414 used vf [extremely light cancel]	\$0.30	\$0.15	_____	16

Change of Government #1s

17	Barbuda Sc#12-20/22-28 (Resumed) mnh/mdg f/vf	\$19.10	\$7.00	_____	17
18	Egypt Sc#322-40 (Republic) mixed f/vf [#327 used, #334 mlh, others MNH with toned perf tips]	\$53.05	\$10.00	_____	18
19	Hungary Sc#198-202 (Sov Republic) mh f/vf	\$13.00	\$5.20	_____	19
20	India Sc#227 (Republic) used(m-cxl) vf	\$0.60	\$0.25	_____	20
21	Ivory Coast Sc#167-69 (Republic) mlh f/vf	\$3.60	\$1.50	_____	21
22	Jamaica Sc#181-84 (Independence mnh f/vf	\$9.65	\$4.35	_____	22
23	Jamaica Sc#185 (Independence) used(l-cxl) f/vf	\$0.80	\$0.35	_____	23
24	KUT Sc#148 used(m-cxl) f/vf	\$0.25	\$0.10	_____	24
25	Liechtenstein Sc#11-16 (National Postal Admin) mh/mhr f/vf	\$16.50	\$6.20	_____	25
26	Panama Sc#179 (Gen Issues) mng f/vf	\$0.60	\$0.20	_____	26
27	Panama Sc#179 (Gen Issues) used f	\$0.40	\$0.15	_____	27

Continued on page 8

Mail Bid Auction 98 (continued from page 7)**Change of Government #1s (cont'd)**

28	Spain Sc#478 mnh fvf + #481 mhr f/vf (Republic)	\$3.75	\$1.30	_____	28
29	Syria Sc#300-305, C117-23 (Constitutional Govt) mlh f/vf	\$26.60	\$10.65	_____	29
30	Tunisia Sc#312 (Republic) used(m-cxl) f/vf	\$20.00	\$8.00	_____	30

#A1s/K1s/L1s/N1s/Z1s

31	PR China Sc#5L1 mngai mh f/vf	\$2.00	\$0.80	_____	31
32	Germany Sc#12N1-12 (Meck-Vorp) mhr avg-f/vf	\$10.05	\$3.00	_____	32
33	Luxembourg Sc#N1-16 mng f/vf	\$9.45	\$3.30	_____	33
34	Luxembourg Sc#N1-16 mnh (N8 is MLH) f/vf	\$23.60	\$10.50	_____	34
35	Romania Sc#3N1-3 mlh f/vf	\$19.50	\$8.00	_____	35
36	Russia Sc#N1-12 mh f/vf	\$22.00	\$9.00	_____	36

BOB (Back of Book) #1s

37	Burkina Faso Sc#O1 used(l-cxl) f/vf [stuck to card]	\$0.25	\$0.10	_____	37
38	Thailand Sc#C1 used(m-cxl) f/vf hr	\$0.50	\$0.20	_____	38

Misc Stamps from First Issue Sets

39	Azerbaijan Sc#4A mh 4-mrgn [grey paper]	\$0.25	\$0.10	_____	39
40	PR China Sc#5L5 mngai f/vf	\$2.50	\$1.00	_____	40
41	PR China Sc#5L9 mngai f/vf	\$75.00	\$30.00	_____	41
42	German States - Meck-Strelitz Sc#4 mng f/vf [signed]	\$65.00	\$19.50	_____	42
43	Indonesia - West Irian Sc#5a mnh f/vf	\$0.25	\$0.10	_____	43
44	Italian Colonies Sc#2-3,5-8 mhr f/vf	\$7.50	\$2.50	_____	44
45	Jamaica Sc#195-96 (Independence) used(l-cxl) f/vf [#196 missing a perf in UR corner]	\$7.75	\$3.00	_____	45
46	Mongolia Sc#4 used(light red cxl) f/vf	\$16.00	\$6.50	_____	46
47	Mozambique Sc#2 mng hr f (perf 12.5)	\$10.00	\$3.00	_____	47
48	Mozambique Sc#2 used(m-cxl) f/vf (perf 12.5)	\$5.00	\$2.00	_____	48
49	Mozambique Sc#3 mhr f/vf (perf 12.5)	\$1.50	\$0.50	_____	49
50	Mozambique Sc#6 mh f (perf 12.5)	\$0.85	\$0.35	_____	50
51	Mozambique Sc#7 mhr f/vf (perf 13.5)	\$4.25	\$1.25	_____	51
52	Mozambique Sc#8 mng f/vf (perf 12.5)	\$22.50	\$6.75	_____	52
53	Mozambique Sc#9 mh f/vf (perf 13.5)	\$3.75	\$1.50	_____	53
54	Mozambique Sc#10 mlh f/vf (perf 12.5)	\$225.00	\$90.00	_____	54
55	Mozambique Sc#10 used(m-cxl) f/vf (perf 12.5)	\$110.00	\$45.00	_____	55
56	Mozambique Sc#12 mhr f/vf (perf 12.5)	\$1.50	\$0.45	_____	56
57	Mozambique Sc#12 mhr f/vf (perf 13.5)	\$1.50	\$0.45	_____	57
58	Mozambique Sc#12 used(m-cxl) f/vf (perf 12.5) [thin]	\$0.90	\$0.20	_____	58
59	Mozambique Sc#13 used(l-cxl) f/vf (perf 13.5)	\$2.00	\$0.00	_____	59
60	Mozambique Sc#13a used(l-cxl) f (perf 12.5)	\$4.50	\$1.80	_____	60
61	Mozambique Sc#14 mhr f/vf (perf 13.5) [paper adh]	\$3.50	\$1.25	_____	61
62	Panama Sc#9,10,13 (Dept of Panama) mhr f/vf [9 stamps: #9, 4x#10, 4x#13]	\$13.20	\$2.50	_____	62
63	Panama Sc#10-13 (Dept of Panama) used f/vf [9 stamps: 5x#10, #11, 2x#12, #13]	\$3.15	\$1.00	_____	63
64	Pitcairn Sc#2 mvlh f/vf	\$1.15	\$0.45	_____	64
65	Singapore Sc#14 used f/vf	\$0.60	\$0.35	_____	65
66	Singapore Sc#2a,4a,9a,11a,12a,17a,18a used f/vf	\$7.70	\$3.00	_____	66
67	South Russia Sc#6 mnh 4-mrgn	\$1.50	\$0.50	_____	67

#1 Twins

68	Argentina Sc#4 mhr 4-mrgn	\$3.25	\$1.15	_____	68
69	Argentina Sc#4 used 4-mrgn	\$100.00	\$35.00	_____	69
70	Bermuda Sc#19 used(l-cxl) f hr [Crown CA wmk]	\$0.30	\$0.10	_____	70

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. 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 #98




 Bidding Deadline is February 28, 2019
 



(email bids to 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>

First Issues

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FIRST CLASS MAIL

