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2009 STANDARD POSTAGE STAMP

CATALOGUE VOLUME 3



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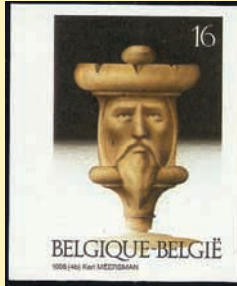


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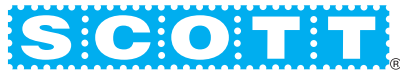
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2009 STANDARD POSTAGE STAMP CATALOGUE

ONE HUNDRED AND SIXTY-FIFTH EDITION IN SIX VOLUMES

VOLUME 3 COUNTRIES OF THE WORLD G-I

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Released June 2008

Includes New Stamp Listings through the June 2008 *Scott Stamp Monthly* Catalogue Update

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911 Vandemark Road, Sidney, OH 45365-0828

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SCOTT

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Dear Scott Catalogue User:

Large numbers of value changes continue.

We noted in this letter for both Volume 1 and Volume 2 of the 2009 Scott Standard Postage Stamp Catalogue that there had been more value changes in each of those volumes than in any single volume since the Standard catalogues went to six volumes in 1996. More than 58,000 value changes were recorded in Volume 1, and 59,217 values were changed in Volume 2. This Volume 3 continues the trend, with just short of 50,000 values changes having been recorded within its pages.

If you have purchased Volume 1 and Volume 2 for 2009, please bear with us while we repeat some important information for those whose first contact with the 2009 Scott Standard catalogue is this Volume 3. (We are well aware that not all collectors buy all six Scott volumes each year, though they should, of course.) It is important for collectors as well as dealers to understand the reasons for these huge numbers of value changes. If you have read the Volume 1 or Volume 2 Letter From The Editor, please just skip over the next few paragraphs. On the other hand, it may be useful to review their contents as a reminder of what is happening in the stamp market in 2008-2009.

One of the main reasons for the enormous quantity of upward value changes this year is the same phenomenon that we witnessed when we prepared the 2006 catalogues: worldwide currency fluctuations that have seen the U.S. dollar drop against other strong currencies. We suspect that almost all Scott catalogue users have read reports concerning the significant devaluation of the U.S. dollar in relation to virtually every other major currency in the world during the past year. The euro, British pound, Australian dollar, New Zealand dollar, Canadian dollar, Swiss franc and Japanese yen all have gained significant strength in relation to the U.S. dollar.

The market for stamps denominated in euros, British pounds, Canadian dollars and other various foreign currencies is largely made in the home countries, and anyone who wants to compete for those stamps must compete with those home-country buyers who are using their own strong currencies. This means that it will take more U.S. dollars to buy those stamps, and it will take more U.S. dollars for U.S. dealers to replenish their stocks.

Being a retail value catalogue, Scott must react to this situation. Catalogue values for a great many better stamps (not to mention the values for many recent issues that are generally valued at about double face value) must rise to the correct retail level in U.S. dollars in order to reflect the actual market and to ensure that the U.S. and international stamp markets mesh properly for the benefit of all concerned.

Of course, there are many value changes made throughout the catalogue based on the basic laws of supply and demand rather than currency fluctuations. Each year, thousands of value changes are made that are not tied in any way to currency questions. These additional changes in stamp values will help to swell the total number of value changes in this year's catalogues.

Where are the value changes in Volume 3?

Value changes in large numbers have been made in countries from all parts of the globe. The value-change leader is Great Britain, with 4,543 changes in G.B. and Offices Abroad and another 5,756 changes in Guernsey, Alderney, Jersey and Isle of Man. Other countries in Volume 3 with large numbers of value changes are Guyana (4,043 changes), India (3,806), German Democratic Republic (3,787), Italy (3,242, plus 678 changes in Italian Offices Abroad and 1,107 more in Aegean Islands), Gabon

(2,545), Greece (2,543), Ivory Coast (2,441), Guinea (2,264), Haiti (2,004), Indonesia (1,771) and Iceland (1,525).

An active market and a strong British pound combine to push Great Britain values considerably higher overall. Some increases are moderate, such as the value of the used 1840 1p black, Scott 1, moving to \$300 from \$275 in the 2008 Volume 3. Other increases are considerably larger, such as the value of the unused 1841 1p red brown, Scott 3, moving to \$450 from \$325 last year. Increases in values are almost universal in the classic 19th century issues.

While Great Britain 20th century issues are quieter, noticeable and frequent increases are often evident there as well. There are some significant value increases in some of the semi-modern error listings. Many very modern issues show increases based on the actual face values of the stamps involved, resulting from the strength of the British pound in relation to the United States dollar. A few modern issues do show value increases based on demand, such as the 2003 £1 dark green Queen Elizabeth II booklet stamp, Scott 2126, which jumps to \$65 mint never hinged and \$55 used, from \$50 mint never hinged and \$50 used in 2008.

The 3,800 value changes in India represent a thorough review of the country for 2009. Value changes are fairly scattered in the earlier issues but are almost universal from the 1930s to date. Increases of 20 percent are common, and many stamps move much more than that. Scott 150-167, the 3p-25r King George VI set from 1937-40, climbs to \$270 unused and \$122.85 used, from \$229.70 unused and \$103.25 last year. Additionally, a value for the set never hinged, at \$580, has been added. While India used to have many modern stamps valued at the minimum value of 20¢, such is not the case any more. Collectors of India will want to pay special attention to this year's Volume 3.

The most interesting areas for value changes in Italy are those in the back of the book. Semi-Postals, Air Posts of all types, Special Deliveries, Authorized Deliveries, Postage Dues, Military Stamps, Officials, Parcel Posts and Offices Abroad all see significant upward adjustments.

Some final thoughts.

A short time ago, in response to our appeal for color scans or loaned stamps from collectors or dealers to bring our color image project closer to a successful conclusion, dealer George Holschauer of Colonial Stamp Co. loaned Scott a very significant group of British Commonwealth stamps. He has now come through again, this time coming up with more than 120 valuable stamps which were needed for color representation in the catalogues. Some of these items replace old black and white images, some are unused stamps replacing current used examples, while still others are new images of items not previously pictured in the catalogues. These stamps have now been scanned, and they will make it into the catalogues this year and next. We wish to express our deep appreciation to George Holschauer for his generous support of our color image project.

As usual, there are new footnotes and notes modified for clarity and accuracy throughout the catalog to aid collectors. See the Volume 3 Number Additions, Deletions & Changes listing on page 1305 for listing changes, including many new lettered minor numbers in several countries, and 28 new major numbers for the Indian Feudatory State of Durgapur.

A hobby is a great gift. Enjoy.

James E. Kloetzel
James E. Kloetzel/Catalogue Editor

Acknowledgments

Our appreciation and gratitude go to the following individuals who have assisted us in preparing information included in this year's Scott Catalogues. Some helpers prefer anonymity. These individuals have generously shared their stamp knowledge with others through the medium of the Scott Catalogue.

Those who follow provided information that is in addition to the hundreds of dealer price lists and advertisements and scores of auction catalogues and realizations that were used in producing the catalogue values. It is from those noted here that we have been able to obtain information on items not normally seen in published lists and advertisements. Support from these people goes beyond data leading to catalogue values, for they also are key to editorial changes.

A special acknowledgment to Liane and Sergio Sismondo of The Classic Collector for their extraordinary assistance and knowledge sharing that has aided in the preparation of this year's Standard and Classic Specialized Catalogues.

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Bellefonte PA 16823-1367
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E-mail: apsinfo@stamps.org

American Stamp Dealers Association
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www.asdaonline.com
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International Society of Worldwide Stamp Collectors
Terry Myers, MD
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Benbrook TX 76126
www.iswsc.org
E-mail: executivedirector@iswsc.org

Royal Philatelic Society
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www.rpsl.org.uk
E-mail: secretary@rpsl.org.uk

Royal Philatelic Society of Canada
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www.rpsc.org
E-mail: info@rpsc.org

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Groups focusing on fields or aspects found in worldwide philately (some may cover U.S. area only)

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www.americanairmailssociety.org
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E-mail: afdcs@aol.com

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www.revenuer.org
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www.efo.org
E-mail: cwouscg@aol.com

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jointissues.ovh.org
E-mail: jointissues@yahoo.com

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E-mail: bclemjr@yahoo.com

United States Stamp Society
Executive Secretary
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U.S. Cancellation Club
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6160 Brownstone Ct.
Mentor OH 44060
www.geocities.com/athens/2088/uscscheme.htm
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www.uspcs.org
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