

THE DE LA RUE OVERPRINTS

TYPE D9

Page 41. A misprint states that this overprint is normal on the Jamaica 1819 1½d pictorial stamp! Apart from this stamp and the Tonga 1920 2d, others with this overprint are so sparse that there could not have been more than a very limited U.P.U. distribution. The check lists have been amended accordingly.

TYPE D12

Page 43. The broken 'M' variety has been identified by D.H. Vernon and Ken Holt as No. 41 on the setting of sixty. They have also plated other constant type flaws.

TYPE D12a

Page 45. Double overprints have been recorded on the Barbados 1897 Diamond Jubilee ½d and on the St. Kitts-Nevis 1922 1d deep violet.

TYPE D14

Page 46. A double overprint has been recorded on the Gibraltar 1912 2s.

TYPE D15

Page 46. A similar handstamp, 2 mm shorter (Type D15a), was later used, to a very limited extent, on items in the De La Rue archives.

RECEIVING AUTHORITY SPECIMENS

Page 57. Two further instances are known of local handstamps having been used to cancel specimen stamps which had been supplied for U.P.U. distribution with or without overprints. In both cases the purpose of the defacement was, no doubt, to avoid taking unwanted stamps on charge and having to account for their value.

In October 1976 a whole-world collection of specimen stamps, of the period 1890 to 1937, was sold by auction at Basle. The collection was clearly formed from U.P.U. distributions, but while stamps of the Crown Colonies showed the normal specimen overprints or perforations, any stamps of Great Britain, the British Dominions, India and of foreign countries, which had been supplied uncanceled were, until about August 1912, defaced by a 'SPECIMEN' handstamp in serif capitals measuring 22.5 x 2.75 mm, which James Bendon has identified as the local Type BEC2 of Bechuanaland Protectorate. This handstamp could have been applied there to the