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THE EXHIBITION

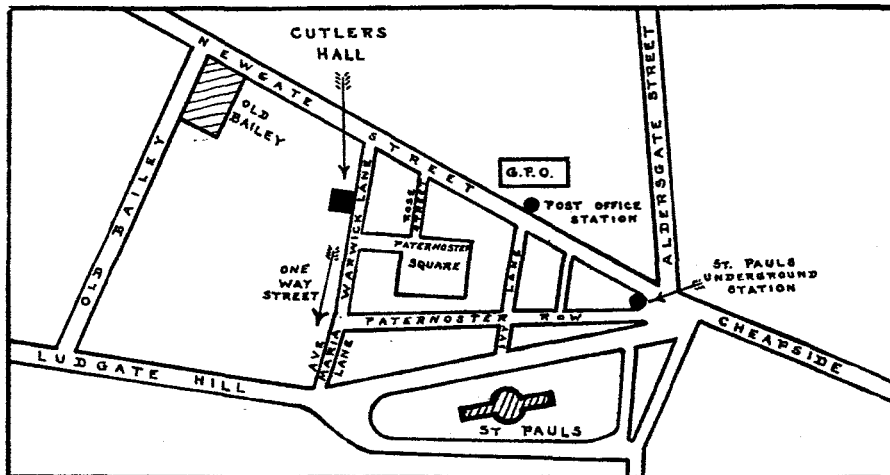
at the Cutlers' Hall

Warwick Lane, E.C.4

April 28th—May 5th

Ludgate Hill buses—4a, 6, 6a, 9, 11, 13, 15, 18b, 60, 96

Newgate Street buses—7, 8, 17, 22, 23, 25, 74



*The British Philatelic Association exists for the protection
of philatelists and the promotion of the hobby.*

SPERATI'S REPRODUCTIONS of France 1849-52 1fr. carmine, 1853 1fr. and 1870 30c., Spain 1850 10r., 1851 2r., 1852 6r., 1853 Madrid 3c., 1860 19c. and 1872 10p. unused.

Philippine Islands 1863 1r. unused.

Baden 1862 18k., Bavaria 1849 1K. unused, Bremen 1856 5sgr., Oldenburg 1859 1/3gr., 1861 1/2g. and 2g., Saxony 1850 3pfg., Naples 1860 1/2T., Luxembourg 1859 37 1/2c.

Switzerland—Geneva 1850 5c., Brazil 1843 60r.
Buenos Ayres 1858 2p., Uruguay 1858 60c. and 1r.

These twenty-five stamps catalogue £823



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**SPERATI'S REPRODUCTIONS
OF BRITISH EMPIRE STAMPS**

Great Britain 1880 2/- brown,
Australia 1913 £2, Ceylon 1885 5c.
on 24c. purple brown, Cyprus 1903
45 piastres, Gibraltar 1886 1/-,
Lagos 1886 2/6 olive-black, Mont-
serrat 1884 4d. blue, Newfound-
land 1857 4d., 6½d. and 1/- scarlet-
vermilion.

These ten stamps catalogue £535

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THE SPERATI EXHIBITION

THE President of the British Philatelic Association, Mr. G. Leonard Hearn, opened the Sperati Exhibition at Cutlers' Hall, as had been planned, on Wednesday, April 28th at 12 noon.

There had been a certain amount of criticism in some quarters on the grounds that such an Exhibition would discourage and even frighten collectors in the pursuit of their hobby. In fact, however, the B.P.A. received resignations from only two firms in the trade since the Exhibition was announced, and these have already been recorded in the philatelic press, and despite the fact that statements have been made that wholesale resignations would be received from collectors, the Association has received no such resignations; in fact, since it has been announced the B.P.A. was going to hold this Exhibition 24 applications from Collectors have been received and 9 applications from members of the Trade!

In the afternoon of the opening day a Collectors' Meeting was held when the Chairman of the B.P.A. Expert Committee described the Sperati material on display.

Among the visitors to the Exhibition were a number from overseas, including Belgium, France, Italy, Sweden, Netherlands, Australia and the U.S.A. In addition to philatelists, representatives from Government printing works, the G.P.O., the Police and the Crown Agents, were among the interested viewers.

One of the most interesting sidelights was

the reaction of the press. Before the Exhibition opened the *Daily Mail* produced a report that could almost be described in that classic phrase coined by the philatelic Mayor of Bath—"a garbled version of something that never happened." Several papers published brief notices and generally the press reception was extremely tranquil. Overseas, the press rallied to greater effect. In Paris, however, an ill-informed commentator caused considerable upheaval in trade circles in France. In the Netherlands careful and accurately-written articles on Sperati's work and an appreciation of the action taken by the B.P.A. filled many columns while the B.B.C. put over the Sperati story on the opening day.

The B.P.A. are anxious to give collectors every possible help and where affiliated societies would like to include a lecture and display on the subject during the forthcoming season, secretaries are advised to approach the Association for the necessary arrangements to be made.

It has also been suggested that the B.P.A. should hold an additional series of lectures in the Autumn on Sperati's work and for the syllabus to be arranged according to the requests received from members. Will members let the Association have their views upon this proposal as soon as possible.

Many readers, we feel sure, would like to know the actual items reproduced by Sperati and the following is a list of the stamps he copied:

BRITISH EMPIRE

Great Britain ...	1880, 2/- (4).
Australia ...	1913, £2.
Bahamas ...	1884/98, £1; 1902, £1.
Barbados ...	1882, 5/-.
Bermuda ...	1884, 1/-.
Br. Columbia ...	1862, 5c. (2), and 10c.
Br. East Africa ...	1890/94, 4 as., 8 as., and 1R.
Br. Honduras ...	1882/87, CA 6d. and 1/-.
Cape of Good Hope ...	1882/83, CA 5/-.
Ceylon ...	1883, 4c., rosy-mauve. 1883/98, 16c. mauve and 24c. 1885, 5c. on 4c., SG.177, and 5c. on 24c. SG.181.
Cyprus ...	1888/90, 2c. on 4c., SG. 206, 208 and 210. 1894/96, 45p. 1903, 9p., 18p., and 45p.
Dominica...	1887/88, CA 1/-.
Gibraltar ...	1886, JAN., 2d., 6d., and 1/-. 1886 DEC., 4d., 6d., and 1/-, also 1/- value only.
Gold Coast ...	1883, CA 4d. olive and 1d. blue. 1889/94, 20/-.
Hong Kong ...	1863/74, 96c. olive, (A) and (B).
India ...	1854, 1A. red. 1856/64, 2as. imperf.

India	1882/88, 9 pi. rose, and 1R. grey. 1885/96, 9 pies.
Gwalior ...	1884/86, 2/6d., 5/-, and 10/-.
Lagos ...	1860, 4d. orange.
Malta ...	1848, 1d. worn plate.
Mauritius ...	1863/72, cc. 9d. 1879/80, cc. 13c. and 38c. 1884/85, CA 4d. blue.
Montserrat ...	1876, 6d. and 1/- litho.
Nevis ...	1883, 6d. green.
Newfoundland ...	1857, 4d. (2), 6d., 6½d., and 1/- (2). 1860, 2d., 4d. (2), 6d. (2), and 1/-. 1901, 2/6d. frame.
Papua ...	1882/90, 6d. olive.
St. Christopher ...	1882, 6d. and 1/-.
St. Lucia ...	1859, 6d.
Sierra Leone ...	1901, 5/-.
S. Nigeria ...	1904, £1. 1892/99, £1.
Tasmania ...	1882/84, CA 4d. and 6d., stone.
Tobago ...	1893, 4d., 8d. and 1/-.
Tonga ...	1900, V.R.I. £5.
Transvaal ...	1896, 5Rs.
Uganda ...	1902-11, £1.
W. Australia ...	

Argentina ...	Buenos Aires
Austria—Newspaper	
Belgium ...	
Belgian Congo ...	
Bolivia ...	
Brazil ...	
Colombia—New Grana	
U.S.	
Antioquia	
Bolivar	
Tolima	
Dominican Republic	
Finland ...	
France ...	
German States—	
Baden	
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Mecklenburg	
Schwerin	
Oldenburg	
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Greece ...	
Guatemala ...	
Hungary ...	
Italian States—	
Modena ...	
Naples	
Neapolitan	
Province	
Parma	
Roman States	
Sardinia ...	
Sicily ...	
Tuscany ...	
Italian Levant ...	
Luxemburg	
Mexico ...	
Mónaco ...	
Panama ...	
Paraguay ...	
Peru ...	
Persia ...	
Portuguese Colonies—	
Mozambique	

FOREIGN

Argentina	1862, 15c. 1910, 10p. and 20p.	Rumania	1858, 108p.; 5p. and 80 p. 1869, 50b. 1871, 10b. yellow.
" Buenos Aires	1858, 2p. blue, 3p. green (3), 4p. red, 5p. (3), and 4r. 1859, 1p. blue (4) and tête-bêche pair, 2p. red, and 4r. green (2).	Russia—Wenden	1863, 2k. 1864, 2k. 1871, 2k.
Austria—Newspaper	"Mercury" (3). Imperial Journal (1) and ditto "Tax" (1).	Russian Levant	1865, 2k.
Belgium	1875/81, 5f. (2).	San Marino	1903, 1 l and 5 l.
Belgian Congo	1889/94, 10f.	Spain	1850, 12c., 5r., 6r. (2), and 10r. 1851, 12c.; 2r. (2) and pair; 5r.; 6r.; 10r.; also errors of colour 2r., 2r. and 6r., and 5r. 1852, 12c., 2r. (2) and pair and strip of three, 5r., 6r., single and pair. 1853, 12c., 2r., 5r., and 6r. 1853, Madrid 1c., single, horizontal and vertical pairs, and horizontal strip of three; 3c. (2), also horizontal and vertical pairs. 1854, 2c., 1r (3), 5r., and 6r. 1860/61, 19c. brown. 1864, 19c. lilac. 1865, 4c. blue imperf.; 12c. inverted centre; 19c. (2), and 1r. 1865, perf. 19c. and 1r. 1866, 19c. brown. 1867, 19c. rose. 1868, 19c. brown (2). 1870, 1.600 e., 2e., and 19c. 1872/73, 4p. and 10p. 1873, 4p., and 10p. (2). 1874, 4p., and 10p. 1875, 4p. and 10p. 1878, 20c., 40c., 4p. and 10p.
Bolivia	1866/67, 10c., two halves and a pair. 1868, 9 stars, 500c. 1843, 60r. and 90r.	Spanish Colonies—	
Brazil	1861, 2½c., 5c., 10c., 20c., and 1 peso (2). 1862, 10c. (2), 50c. and 1p. 1864, 1 peso.	" Cuba	1870, 5c. blue. 1878, 10c. black. 1879, 10c. ochre. 1906, 3c., 5G. 51.
Colombia—New Granada	1861, 2½c., 5c., 10c., 20c., and 1 peso (2). 1862, 10c. (2), 50c. and 1p. 1864, 1 peso.	" Elobey	1868, 20c.
" U.S.	1862, 10c. (2), 50c. and 1p. 1864, 1 peso.	" Fernando Po	1854, 10c.
" Antioquia	— 5c.	" Philippines	1855, litho, 5c. (2). 1863, 1r., and 2r. 1872, 16c. blue. 1874, 1p., 25c. 1875/79, 25c., 100m., 200m. 1890, 4m., 6m., 8m., 40c. and 80c. 1897, 80c. 1907, 4p.
" Bolivar	1863/66, 10c. — 5p.	" Puerto Rico	1890, 4m., 6m., 8m., 40c. and 80c. 1897, 80c. 1907, 4p.
" Tollma	— 5p.	" Rio de Oro	1855, 3s. (3) and 24s. (2). 1862/69, 17s grey. Official 1889 surcharge.
Dominican Republic	1865, ½r. and 1r. (3). 1905, 1p.	Sweden	1843, Zurich 4r. (10), 6r. (10). 1843, Double Geneva, 5c. and 5c., single and three halves. 1845, Small Eagle 5c. 1847/48, Large Eagle 5c. " Geneva 5c " Vaud 4c. (2), and pair. 1850, 5c. 1850, Neuchatel 5c. (2). 1850, Winterthur, 2½c. (2). 1850, Poste Locale, 2½r. (8) and pair. 1850, Orts Post 2½r. (5) and pairs (2). 1850, Rayon I, 5c. (2). " Rayon II, 10c. (2), and strips of three (2). 1852, Rayon I, 5c. (2). " Rayon III, 15c. (4).
Finland	1867, 1 m. brown.	Switzerland	1884, 5p., brown. 1886, 5p., lilac, and 25p. black (2). 1901, Internal 50p. " External 25p. and 50p. 1905, 50p. violet. 1908, 50p., brown.
France	1849, 10c. (5) and tête-bêche pair; 15c. (6); 20c. (1) and tête-bêche pair; 40c. (4); 1 fr. vermillion (4) and pairs (2); 1 fr. rouge-terne (4) and pairs (2); 1 fr. carmine (4), also pairs and tête- bêche pairs; 1 fr. carmine-brown, also pair; 1 fr. verville. 1852, 10c. (2). 1853/61, 20c. tête-bêche; 1 fr. carmine (11), also pairs and tête-bêche strip of three; 1 fr. carmine-brown. 1870, Bordeaux 2c. (2), also block of four. 1870, 4c., 20c. type I; 30c. (2); 80c. (2). 1870, Postage Due—10c. litho. 1871 " —40c. (3); 60c. (2). — Telegraph 1 fr., orange.	U.S.A.	1845, New York Postmaster, 5c. (2). 1846, Providence 5c. 1847, 10c. black. 1862, Confederate States, 10c. rose. 1863, TEN CENTS (2). — New York City Despatch, 3c. grey
German States—		" Hawaii	1863, 1c., 2c. (3). 1865, 5c. blue. 1883/86, 50c. orange.
" Baden	1862, 18k. (2), and 30k.	Uruguay	1856, Dilligencia, 60c. I. (5), 60c. II (1); 80c. (2), 1r. (3). 1858, 120c. (2), 180c. (2), 240c. (4). 1859, 60c. (4), 80c. (2), 100c. (4), 120c. (2), 180c., 240c. (2). 1860/62, 60c., 80c., 100c., 120c., 180c. (2). 1864, 6c. and 8c.
" Bavaria	1849, 1k (3), also pairs, tête-bêche pairs, and tête-bêche strip of three.		
" Bergedorf	1861, ½s.		
" Bremen	1855, 3g. (2), vertical and horizontal. 1856/61, 5g; 7g.; and 5 sgr. (5).		
" Brunswick	1852, 2 sgr.; 3 sgr.		
" Hanover	1859/61, 10 g. (2). 1860, ½ g. 1863, 3p. 1859, 2s., brown error.		
" Lubeck	1856, 5s. blue.		
" Mecklenburg- Schwerin	1855, ½g. (2). 1859, ½g. (2); 2g.; and 3g. 1861, ½g. (2); ½g.; ½g. (2); 1g.; 2g. (3); and 3g. (2).		
" Oldenburg	1850, 3p. (2), also pair. 1851, 3p. (2). 1855/56, 10 ngr. blue. 1852/58, ½ sgr. 1851/52, 18 k. 1875/79, 2 m. yellow.		
" Saxony	1850, 3p. (2), also pair. 1851, 3p. (2). 1855/56, 10 ngr. blue. 1852/58, ½ sgr. 1851/52, 18 k. 1875/79, 2 m. yellow.		
" Thurn and Taxis Wurtemberg	1850, 3p. (2), also pair. 1851, 3p. (2). 1855/56, 10 ngr. blue. 1852/58, ½ sgr. 1851/52, 18 k. 1875/79, 2 m. yellow.		
Greece	1861, 1 l., Paris print. 1896, Olympics 5d. and 10d. 1881, 2c. inverted centre.		
Guatemala	1871, litho. 2k, 3k, and 15k.		
Hungary	1871, litho. 2k, 3k, and 15k.		
Italian States—			
" Modena	— newspaper 10c., and ditto Tax, 9c. lilac.		
" Naples	1860, ½ T. Savoy Cross (3).		
" Neapolitan Provinces	1861, 2g. (2). 1859, 5c. (2); 40c., and 80c. (3). 1852, 50 b. (2), and 1 scudo.		
" Parma	1851, 5c. and 40c.		
" Roman States	1855/61, inverted heads, 5c. (3); 10c., 20c., and 80 c.		
" Sardinia	1859, ½gr., 5gr., 10gr., 20 gr., and 50 gr. (2).		
" Sicily	1851/52, 1s. and 2s. 1857/59, 1s. yellow.		
" Tuscany	1874, "ESTERO" 20c. blue.		
Italian Levant	1859/63, 2c. and 37½c.		
Luxemburg	1867, ½r. grey.		
Mexico	1895, 5p. orange and 10 p. blue. 1885, 75c.		
Mónaco	1878, 10c. blue.		
Panama	1870, 3r. black.		
Paraguay	1858, ½p. (2).		
Peru	1870, 2k. green. 1875, 2 ch.		
Persia	1875, 2 ch.		
Portuguese Colonies—			
" Mozambique	1881/85, 20r.		

"THE WORK OF JEAN DE SPERATI"

THE production of this B.P.A. publication is proceeding rapidly but the completed work will not be available by September 1st as was originally planned. In the meantime it will interest readers to know what is being included in the £20 volume.

Part I of the book comprises the text and after a foreword explaining the background of the Sperati affair and an introduction which deals with the technical side of the book, the ensuing twelve chapters are arranged as follows:

In the first chapter is included "How Sperati learned his Craft", his autobiography, as well as a detailed review of his book "La Philatelie sans Experts" and extracts from a number of articles that have been written on his life and his work.

The second chapter contains extracts from the law case reports when Sperati was prosecuted by "Le Procureur de la Republique" and, in addition, includes the transcript of the famous document signed by the French criminologist, Dr. Locard, in which the latter certified as genuine eighteen stamps made by Sperati. In this document the criminologist gives detailed reasons why, in his opinion, all the stamps were genuine and the B.P.A. has been fortunate in securing the actual exhibit shown to the French courts and this is illustrated on the opposite page. Each of these stamps is signed on the back by Sperati and in addition has been stamped by the French courts with the word "Copie". Among the other exhibits that have been secured from the courts are a number of pieces and covers bearing the reproductions, including the Cross of Savoy (which is also illustrated) and it will be noticed that, in this case, the courts have tied the stamp to the newspaper with their little protective hand stamp "Copie".

With the first 400 copies of the B.P.A. publication, a copy of Sperati's book "La Philatelie sans Experts" is being included.

In chapter III is a complete list of the stamps

which Sperati reproduced and showing in what form they were made, "die" proofs in black and/or colour, unused and/or used, used on pieces and/or cover. In addition the earliest known date recorded on his negatives or clichés is given and a note as to the time when the stamps were being sold. Mention is made if the reproduction is represented in Sperati's "Livre d'Or" (his volume of reproductions bearing the guarantees of genuineness applied by individual experts or with certificates of genuineness issued by expert bodies) as well as his selling price unused and used. This chapter is being used as an index to the main work.

The fourth chapter deals with the basic tests by which Sperati's work may be judged in comparison with the genuine. These ten tests are essential for the proper understanding of Sperati's work and have been reprinted in a separate folder so that the reader may have the basic tests open in front of him at the same time as he is studying the specific tests.

Chapters V to XII give the specific tests for each of Sperati's reproductions and they are divided into the following eight groups—British Empire, France, German States, Italian States, Spain and Colonies, Switzerland, The Rest of Europe and Colonies, The Rest of the World. The section fills some 250 pages.

The second part of the work comprises the illustrations which are shown in actual size and wherever necessary enlarged four times. On the enlargements, arrows have been superimposed so that the positions of the specific tests may be readily located. There are also a number of specific tests illustrated by line drawings enlarged ten times. The cancellations are shown in such a way that comparison and identification are simple. In all, there are over 3,000 illustrations on some 200 heavy art paper plates. This section of the work is unbound (but housed in a case) printed on one side of the paper only, and is of the same size as the

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above are illustrated the Sperati reproductions certified by Dr. Locard genuine stamps.

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SOUTHEND - ON - SEA. On the occasion of "President's Night" Mr. L. E. Britnor displayed part of his collection relating to the postal history and stamps of the British West Indies. The initial portion of the display comprised a number of Ship Letters carried by the Packet Services from the West Indies to many parts of the world, the lengthy period for delivery being indicated by the departure and receiving cancellations. Several of the letters made interesting reading, dealing with the purchase and disposal of slaves and inventories covering the produce of plantations, whilst others dealt with the activities of privateers and the seizure of ships. Postage stamps were introduced from 1860 and in this section Mr. Britnor had concentrated on the postmarks employed at the smaller post offices. Owing to the limited amount of mail passing through these offices, mainly a small general store dealing with a multitudinous assortment of wares, the postmarks were often of a temporary character only and in consequence scarce. The final portion of the display was devoted to a selection of attractive modern issues with the original photograph or design employed in the finished stamp shown in many cases.

WEST CORNWALL. At the November meeting Mr. F. H. Thompson gave a talk and display of the Stamps of India used abroad, mainly Aden. The second part of the display concerned Tasmania, mainly local postmarks and embossed stamps of the Island.

WILLESDEN. There was a record number of entries for the "Beales" Cup this year and when the judge, Mr. E. W. Bishop, announced his decision he said the standard was extremely high throughout, thus making his task a very difficult one. The award was made to Mr. S. G. Yates for his entry entitled "The History of the Stamps of India".

WIMBLEDON AND DISTRICT. Mr. R. C. Agabeg, who is a member of the Society, gave a most instructive display and talk of the stamps of "Niger Coast". His display, which is recognized as being one of the finest in the country, was greatly appreciated.

WOKING AND DISTRICT. Members were most interested to hear Mr. Kenneth F. Chapman give an enlightening talk on how a philatelic magazine is produced. During his talk Mr. Chapman related some amusing extracts from "Letters to the Editor" and incidents of philatelic "scoops", and described the preparations involved from the time "copy" is received until it appears in printed form.

WOOLWICH AND DISTRICT PHILATELIC SOCIETY. In December the Society was pleased to welcome the Eltham Philatelic Society led by their President, Mr. T. L. Simmons who, together with Messrs. Johnson, Fabb, Gallon and Orridge, gave a very interesting and varied display that was much appreciated.

NEW ENGLAND DEALERS APPROVE B.P.A. ACTION

The New England Chapter of the American Stamp Dealers Association adopted the following resolution at its meeting held on December 1st, 1954:—

RESOLVED: That the New England Chapter of the American Stamp Dealers' Association go on record as supporting and approving:

- (1) the recent action taken by the British Philatelic Association in buying out the French forger, Jean de Sperati, to prevent the further sale of his works
- (2) the raising of necessary funds to accomplish this purpose
- (3) the plan to make available for reference purposes books describing the distinct features of these reproductions along with actual examples
- (4) the action as a major stride toward removing Sperati reproductions from philatelic channels and providing a means to detect those in circulation.

SPERATI MATERIAL TO BE DEFACED

Now that the careful study of the various methods employed by Jean de Sperati in making his reproductions is practically complete, the B.P.A. will deface the cliches used for his work.

The object of the B.P.A. in obtaining the control of these forgeries and equipment was to prevent the existing stock being used to defraud philatelists and to prevent any further copies from being produced.

Contrary to some opinions that have been expressed, Sperati did not produce his imitations by one of the normal processes associated with stamp production. It would not be wise, in the interests of philately, to describe in detail the method he used. It should be pointed out, however, that no reproductions have been made from these cliches since they left Sperati's possession and passed into the hands of the B.P.A. In some instances, the B.P.A. has had made black and white photographic prints (often considerably enlarged) in order that philatelic students requiring information for comparison may see the flaws that will enable them to detect Sperati's work.

THE STORY OF JEAN DE SPERATI

FOR over forty years the reproductions of Jean de Sperati, the well-known craftsman from Aix-les-Bains, have often completely deceived the experts when they have been confronted with examples of his work. He is an unusual craftsman, a master printer with a profound knowledge of colour chemistry, a great photographer and an expert in the manipulation of paper, and combined with all these talents he has an outstanding knowledge of philately. Now at the age of 71 Sperati has retired from business as failing eyesight prevents him from executing his work with the degree of efficiency he considers to be necessary.

In pursuing the "Protection" side of its policy the British Philatelic Association has now obtained control of the whole of Sperati's stock and equipment and in consequence thousands of these specimens of his work have been removed from the market. These are being carefully studied to ensure that other Sperati reproductions already in circulation can be recognised and marked as being what they are.

When examples of Sperati's work first came on the market the source was not known. The fact that only a few were included among hundreds of genuine stamps meant that, more often than not, they went unrecognised. An alleged breach of the French Finance Regulations in 1943 brought Sperati's name before the public, and in successfully defending himself against the charge of illicitly exporting valuable postage stamps which the French Government Expert had certified as genuine, Sperati became known to the philatelic world.

Since then, he has copyrighted his "reproductions" in France, published a price list, and sold his wares (each signed on the reverse in soft pencil) to those who wanted to study his work and to collectors who wished to possess a fine reproduction of a genuine stamp that they could not afford to buy.

The Expert Committee of the British Philatelic Association naturally took a keen interest in Sperati's work, although few of his forgeries were to be found in the United Kingdom (they were mainly sold in Europe,

North and South America). However, their duty was clear. For fifty years London has been the greatest centre in the world for rare postage stamps, and in the course of time it was inevitable that Sperati's reproductions would reach this country in a quantity that could prove a danger to the hobby.

When it was known that Sperati proposed to retire and to sell his business "as a going concern" it became possible for Sperati's stock of reproductions as well as his materials and plates from which the reproductions were made, to pass into the hands of those who would ensure they could not in future become a source of danger to the unsuspecting collector.

The British Philatelic Association is organising an Exhibition at the Cutlers' Hall, Warwick Lane, London, E.C.4 when an extensive portion of the recent acquisition will be on view together with genuine stamps for comparison. The Exhibition will be opened on April 28th at noon when members of the British Philatelic Association and members of the Royal Philatelic Society are invited to attend. During the same afternoon the Exhibition will remain open to members of the B.P.A.—including members of the Royal Philatelic Society—and the day's programme will close with light refreshments from 5.30 to 6.15, and at 6.15 a talk on Sperati's work will be given by a member of the B.P.A.'s Expert Committee.

The Exhibition will also be open to the general public from April 29th to May 5th (Sunday excepted), from 11 a.m. to 7 p.m. (admission 2/6d. inclusive of catalogue).

The purpose of this Exhibition is to demonstrate part of the B.P.A. reference collection of these stamps and to show them in their proper perspective. To know that Sperati made a reproduction is the surest safeguard against being misled and it is to give this knowledge to philatelists that this Exhibition has been organised by the B.P.A.

The Book on Sperati Reproductions

The B.P.A. are publishing a book listing all the stamps and cancellations reproduced by Sperati.

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Supplement to
Philately
March/April 1954
Whole No. 53

Jean de Sperati

In this supplement are illustrated examples of the reproductions of British Empire and Foreign postage stamps made by Jean de Sperati which will be displayed at the Exhibition to be held at the Cutlers' Hall, from April 28th—May 5th.

These stamps form part of the 2,000 illustrations which will appear in the chronicle of Sperati's work to be published by the B.P.A. on September 1st, 1954.

BRITISH PHILATELIC ASSOCIATION · 3 BERNERS STREET
LONDON W.1. MUSEUM 7564

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The edition will be limited to 500 copies and with each book examples of Sperati's imitations to the value of £20-£30 will be supplied, the general selection being at the choice of the subscriber so far as the stock permits. This offer is restricted to members of the B.P.A. and Fellows and Members of the Royal Philatelic Society, whose applications will be received up to September 1st, 1954. Orders for a Sperati book and collection will, subject to supplies available, be accepted if accompanied by a cheque for the purchase price of £20. Should there be any copies available after September 1st, the price for each volume will be £25.

The 500 numbered books will contain reference material from the following groups—i.e. the Sperati reproductions included will contain as many from that group as possible but may not be all from that group.

Of those groups marked*, larger reference collections can be made to suit individual requirements. The figures in parenthesis are the number of volumes available in each group.

BRITISH EMPIRE		EUROPE	
I Europe	(20)	*XIV France	(20)
II Africa	(20)	*XV Oldenburg	(20)
III Asia	(20)	*XVI Other German States	(20)
IV Australia	(10)	*XVII All German States	(20)
V B.N.A.	(20)	*XVIII Italian States	(20)
VI B.W.I.	(20)	*XIX Spain and Colonies	(20)
*VII General	(20)	*XX Switzerland	(20)
		XXI Other Europe	(20)
		*XXII All Europe	(20)
THE AMERICAS		GENERAL	
VIII Argentina	(20)	*XXIII All Foreign	(30)
*IX Uruguay	(30)	*XXIV Whole World	(30)
X Other South America	(20)		
*XI General South America	(20)		
XII U.S.A.	(20)		
XIII " (with Mexico and Hawaii)	(20)		

The following is a list of countries of whose stamps Sperati is known to have made reproductions. The figures indicate the number of different reproductions he is known to have made but, in some cases, he reproduced more than one sheet position of the same stamp.

BRITISH EMPIRE

Great Britain (4), Australia (1), Bahamas (2), Barbados (1), Bermuda (1), British Columbia (3), British East Africa (3), British Honduras (2), Cape of Good Hope (1), Ceylon (8), Cyprus (4), Dominica (1), Gibraltar (7), Gold Coast (3), Hong Kong (2), India (5), Lagos (3), Malta (1), Mauritius (4), Montserrat (1), Nevis (3), Newfoundland (12), Papua (1), St. Christopher, St. Lucia (2), Sierra Leone (1), Southern Nigeria (2), Tasmania (1), Tobago (2), Tonga (3), Transvaal (1), Uganda (1) and Western Australia (1).

FOREIGN

Argentina (3), Buenos Aires (18), Austria (5), Belgium (2), Congo (1), Bolivia (3), Brazil (2), Colombia and States (14), Dominican Republic (5), Finland (1), France (89), Baden (3), Bavaria (10), Bergedorf (1), Bremen (9), Brunswick (2), Hanover (4), Lubeck (1), Mecklenburg-Schwerin (1), Oldenburg (17), Saxony (7), Thurn and Taxis (1), Wurtemberg (2), Greece (3), Guatemala (1), Hungary (3), Modena (2), Naples (3), Neapolitan Provinces (2), Parma (6), Roman States (3), Sardinia (8), Sicily (6), Tuscany (3), Italian Levant (1), Luxembourg (2), Mexico (3), Monaco (1), Panama (1), Paraguay (1), Peru (2), Persia (2), Mozambique (1), Roumania (5), Wenden (3), Russian Levant (1), San Marino (2), Spain (80), Cuba (3), Elobey (1), Fernando-Poo (1), Philippine Is. (10), Puerto Rico (6), Rio de Oro (1), Sweden (7), Switzerland (73), Turkey (9), U.S.A. (5), Confederate States (3), Hawaii (5), and Uruguay (41).

RUSSIAN AIR MAILS

For some time the B.P.A. has been gravely concerned by the large number of forgeries of Russian Air Mails which have reached the British market. There has been no question that the dealers who imported this material and who were responsible for its sale in bulk accurately described it and that no attempt was made to conceal the fact that the stamps were not a genuine issue. Unfortunately, however, some others, into whose hands they passed, did not make this clear and before very long these "stamps" were being sold without any description being attached, to junior philatelists who unfortunately thought, of course, that they were genuine. They were also offered in some quarters as "reprints".

After considerable discussion with those who were responsible for the handling of the bulk sales, the B.P.A. is now able to report that it has arranged for supplies of this "stamp" to be printed on the back with the word "facsimile". Unfortunately it was not possible for this to be done before quite a quantity had reached the open market and the fact that the "stamp" does not have a printed note on its back does not mean that it is necessarily genuine.

The B.P.A. has been further successful in persuading those who were handling the "stamps" in quantities not to deal with any further supplies. It recently came to the notice of the B.P.A. that these Russian Airmail items were being offered for sale in Australia and the B.P.A. accordingly contacted the appropriate Stamp Dealers Association in Australia urging its Council to take similar action to that taken by the B.P.A. in the U.K.