



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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Social Media Director Position Filled

In the last issue we made a request for a volunteer to create a Facebook page and serve as the Social Media Director. I am pleased to announce we had a volunteer step forward to build and maintain a page. I would like to introduce Joseph Morris as our new Social Media Director. Joseph, FICC #277, recently joined FICC after viewing the First Issue APS Stamp Chat.

I have had the opportunity to interact with Joseph on Twitter through his personal account and an account he manages for the International Society of Worldwide Stamp Collectors @ISWSC1. Through Twitter, Joseph shares his personal collecting interests and advocates for the ISWSC in a similar way to our FICC account.

The Facebook account was opened in late September. The account pulls our Twitter feed as content and Joseph adds additional related content. We started with a soft opening to build content. Now that the content is growing, we are ready for visitors. You can find the page at:

<https://www.facebook.com/FirstIssuesCollectorsClub>

We will advertise the page on Twitter and add the link to our website. If you are a Facebook user, I encourage you to like the page and please start viewing, liking and sharing content. Likes and shares on the page turn into greater outreach for FICC.

The use of YouTube and Twitter along with the revitalized website have helped us add 8 new members through October. Over the past 5 years we had added 3 members per year, so this has been a banner year for new membership.

Thank you again to Joseph for helping us to further expand our social media reach.

Kurt Streepy, Secretary/Treasurer

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The First Issues of Brazil

<< No One Remembers Who Came in Second >>

By Louis Laflamme, FICC #210

{Note: For additional information, members are encouraged to also re-read an earlier article on the forgeries of Brazil #1 by Bob Sylvester that appeared in the V6N1 edition of First Issues.}

The quote from the famous American pro golfer Walter Hagen (1892-1969) is mostly associated with sports, but it can also certainly apply to stamp collecting. Most collectors can identify Great Britain as the first stamp issuing country, but few are aware that Brazil came in second.

The large South American territory that would become Brazil was claimed by Portugal in 1500 and colonization began in 1534. After an uneasy union as a single country with Portugal that began in 1814, an attempt to return Brazil to the status of colony was made by the Portuguese government. Unhappy with that turn of events Pedro, the local regent and son of the King of Portugal, declared independence in 1822 and became Pedro I emperor of Brazil. By 1843, the country was ruled by his son Pedro II.

The adoption of postage stamps by Brazil came as part of a complete makeover of the postal system simplifying the rules and introducing the system of prepayment. This occurred at the instigation of Jakob Sturz, a German national serving as Brazilian consul to Prussia. He saw the vast benefits that a similar reform had produced in Great Britain and wanted Brazil to profit from that system. Postal rates would no longer depend on the distance traveled but were calculated according to weight and method of travel (land or sea), a major change in a country as vast as Brazil. As the Emperor once said, "No subject of the Empire shall be punished for living away from court."

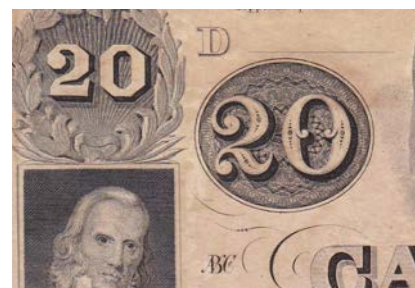
Three denominations were needed to satisfy the new rates: 30, 60 and 90 reis. The postal authorities decided against using the emperor's portrait in the design because they thought that having it defaced by obliteration was disrespectful. They opted to simply display the numeral value over an elaborate engine-turned design with no mention of the country or currency. The first stamps, Scott #1-3 (125%), are shown below.



The stamps came to be known as Brazil's Bull's Eyes or *Olho de Boi* in Portuguese. They were produced locally using a printing press and engraving material that had been seized by customs – and which served to print currency at that time by the Brazilian mint. The lathework was used as an anti-forgery measure and was a common feature at the time for security printing.



Very similar designs are shown in contemporary banknotes from Brazil (at left) and from an American bank in Louisiana (at right).

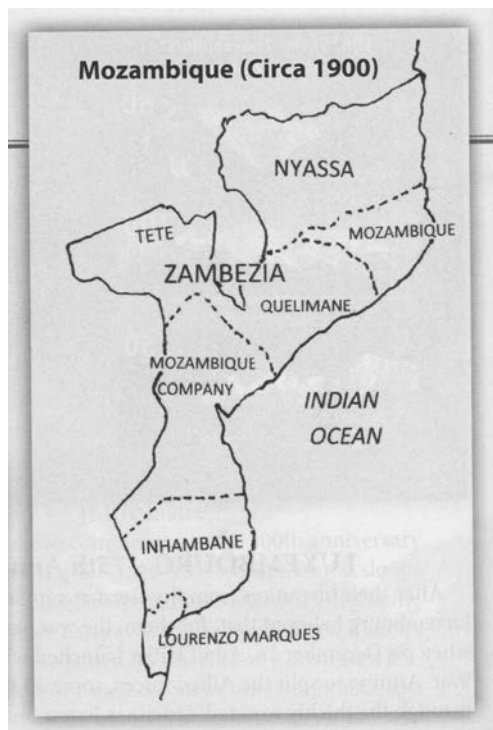


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Geography of Mozambique and Neighboring Countries [circa 1900]

By Tim Balm, FICC #91



After the map of the Comoro Islands was published in the last issue, I found another map that was of great use in my album of first issues. This map was found in Bob Lamb's "World in a Nutshell" column published in the May 2020 issue of *The American Philatelist*. As with the Comoro Islands map, there was no citation as to where the map originated. So, I again presume it is in the public domain.

This map provides an excellent overview of the Portuguese areas in the eastern part of Africa. A copy of this map has been placed in my album with each of the countries shown.

Very useful – to me.

FICC 

Republic of Macedonia Changes Name to North Macedonia

By Tim Balm, FICC #91

The Republic of Macedonia was formed as one of the new countries after the break-up of Yugoslavia in 1991 (following the death of Tito). Greece, however, objected to this name for the new country because a northern area of Greece is also known as Macedonia. Greece immediately requested the Republic of Macedonia to include a geographic qualifier (like Northern Macedonia) to distinguish it from the Greek area. [Editorial comment: wouldn't Greece calling their area "southern Macedonia" have achieved the desired differentiation without international discord?]

The issue continued to escalate until both countries agreed to negotiations under the auspices of the United Nations. On 12 June 2018, Greece and the Rep of Macedonia reached an agreement whereby the name “Republic of North Macedonia” would be adopted. Referendums were placed on voting ballots in both countries and approval of this solution was obtained. The new name became permanent on 12 Feb 2019.

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Auction #105

Welcome to FICC Auction #105. The auction closes on Nov 30, 2020. 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

Lot	Description	CV	Min Bid	Your Bid	Lot
1	Bermuda Sc#1 (wmk CC) used(l-cxl) hr f	\$1.75	\$0.75	_____	1
2	Bosnia&Herz Sc#1a mhr vf	\$16.50	\$6.50	_____	2
3	Chad Sc#1mlh f/vf	\$0.40	\$0.15	_____	3
4	Comoro Islands Sc#1 mnh vf [red ink transfer on gum]	\$0.30	\$0.15	_____	4
5	Congo Dem Rep Sc#323 mnh vf	\$0.25	\$0.12	_____	5
6	Costa Rica Sc#1 mhr f	\$0.40	\$0.10	_____	6
7	French Morocco Sc#1 used(SON l-cxl) f	\$4.00	\$1.60	_____	7
8	Gr Brit - Guernsey Sc#1 mhr f/vf	\$0.35	\$0.12	_____	8
9	Gr Brit - Jersey Sc#1 mhr vf	\$0.35	\$0.15	_____	9
10	Gr Brit - Wales Sc#1 mnh f/vf	\$0.25	\$0.10	_____	10
11	Gr Brit - MEF Sc#1 mhr f/vf	\$3.50	\$1.25	_____	11
12	Greenland Sc#1 mnh vf [sl gum dist]	\$5.00	\$2.25	_____	12
13	Italy - Aeg Isl - Calchi Sc#1 mhr f/vf [rnd UL crnr]	\$7.25	\$2.25	_____	13
14	Italy - Aeg Isl - Caso Sc#1 mhr f/vf	\$7.25	\$2.50	_____	14
15	Italy - Aeg Isl - Lero Sc#1 mhr f	\$9.50	\$2.85	_____	15
16	Italy - Aeg Isl - Lero Sc#1 mhr f/vf	\$8.00	\$2.80	_____	16
17	Italy - Aeg Isl - Nisiro Sc#1 used(l-cxl) avg	\$9.50	\$3.80	_____	17
18	Italy - Aeg Isl - Piscopi Sc#1 mhr f	\$8.00	\$2.40	_____	18
19	Italy - Aeg Isl - Scarpanto Sc#1 mh f	\$9.50	\$3.30	_____	19
20	Italy - Aeg Isl - Scarpanto Sc#1 mh f/vf [perf flt LR]	\$9.50	\$3.25	_____	20
21	Italy - Aeg Isl - Simi Sc#1 mh f	\$16.00	\$5.50	_____	21
22	Italy - Aeg Isl - Stampalia Sc#1 mh f [trop gum]	\$9.50	\$3.30	_____	22
23	Lebanon Sc#1 mh f/vf	\$1.60	\$0.65	_____	23
24	Leeward Islands Sc#1 mpg f/vf	\$3.75	\$1.50	_____	24
25	Macau Sc#1a mng hr f/vf [rnd LR corner]	\$20.00	\$5.00	_____	25
26	Malaysia Sc#1-3 used(l-cxl) f/vf	\$1.10	\$0.50	_____	26
27	Malaysia - Kelantan Sc#81 used(m-cxl) vf	\$1.10	\$0.50	_____	27
28	Marionwerder Sc#1 mvlh f/vf	\$0.65	\$0.25	_____	28

Continued on page 8

Mail Bid Auction 105 (continued from page 7)**#1s (cont'd)**

<u>Lot</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>CV</u>	<u>Min Bid</u>	<u>Your Bid</u>	<u>Lot</u>
29	Morocco Sc#1-7 used(l-cxl) vf	\$2.30	\$1.15	_____	29
30	Niger Coast Prot (Oil Rivers) Sc#1 mng f/vf	\$22.50	\$6.75	_____	30
31	Orange River Col Sc#1 used(l-cxl) f/vf	\$0.75	\$0.25	_____	31
32	Pitcairn Sc#1-8 (incl 5a,6A) mhr/mlh f/vf	\$66.75	\$25.00	_____	32
33	Russia Off in China Sc#1-8 [#1-7 used, #8 mng with ink spot on front] f/vf [#7 rnd LL crnr, #8 sl crnr crease]	\$167.50	\$5.00	_____	33
34	Schleswig Sc#1 mhr v/vf	\$0.25	\$0.10	_____	34
35	Spain Sc#1a used(l-cxl) 4-mrgn [red town cancel]	\$25.00	\$15.00	_____	35
36	Spain Sc#1b used(m-cxl) 4-mrgn [black spider cancel] [paper adh]	\$20.00	\$9.00	_____	36
37	Spain Sc#1c used(l-cxl) 3+ mrgns [black spider cancel]	\$32.50	\$14.60	_____	37
38	St Vincent - Gren Sc#1-2 mnh vf [MAYREAU inscr in bttm selvage]	\$0.50	\$0.25	_____	38
39	Tonga Sc#1a used(m-cxl) f/vf perf 12.5	\$7.00	\$2.80	_____	39
40	Tuvalu - Niutao Sc#1 mhr vf [vert pr cars]	\$0.25	\$0.10	_____	40
41	Tuvalu - Vaitupu Sc#1 mnh vf [vert pr cars]	\$0.25	\$0.12	_____	41
42	Upper Silesia Sc#1-6 mhr f-f/vf	\$2.00	\$0.75	_____	42
43	Wallis & Futuna Sc#1 mnh f	\$0.55	\$0.25	_____	43

Change of Government #1s (cont'd)

44	Egypt Sc#322-40 (Republic) MNH f/vf	\$53.05	\$23.00	_____	44
45	Egypt Sc#337-40 (Republic) MNH f/vf (high values)	\$41.75	\$7.50	_____	45
46	Kuwait Sc#155-72 (Independent State) mvlh f/vf	\$111.50	\$45.00	_____	46
47	Kuwait Sc#72-81A (Brit Postal Admin) mlh f/vf	\$122.75	\$50.00	_____	47
48	Macedonia Sc#801 (North Macedonia) MNH vf	\$1.90	\$3.50	_____	48
49	Maldives Sc#20-28 (Sultanate) mlh/mnh f/vf [#21-22 mnh]	\$59.00	\$23.50	_____	49
50	Papua New Guinea Sc#122-36 (Papua and New Guinea) mvlh f/vf [many MNH]	\$160.00	\$65.00	_____	50

BOB (Back of Book) #1s

51	Ajman Sc#C1 used(CTO-mnh) f/vf	\$0.25	\$0.10	_____	51
52	Austria Sc#B1-2 (B1: mh f/vf, B2: used(m-cxl)f/vf)	\$2.00	\$0.50	_____	52
53	Cuba Sc#J1 used(m-cxl) f/vf	\$5.25	\$1.75	_____	53
54	Estonia Sc#B60-62 (Republic) (blocks/4) used(FDC SON cxi) vf	\$11.80	\$5.00	_____	54
55	French Sudan Sc#J1 mhr f/vf	\$0.40	\$0.15	_____	55
56	Germany Sc#C1 used(m-cxl) f/vf	\$2.75	\$1.10	_____	56
57	Greece Sc#C1-4 mhr/mh f/vf	\$27.20	\$9.50	_____	57
58	Wallis & Futuna Sc#C1 mnh vf	\$2.25	\$1.10	_____	58

Misc Stamps from First Issue Sets

59	Georgia Sc#3,4,6,7,10,11 (3,6 used(m-cl), 4,7,10,11 mh/mhr)	\$4.80	\$1.00	_____	59
60	North Ingermanland Sc#2,3,4 mnh f/vf	\$7.50	\$1.50	_____	60
61	North Ingermanland Sc#3 mlh f/vf	\$2.50	\$0.50	_____	61
62	North Ingermanland Sc#4 mdg f/vf	\$2.50	\$0.50	_____	62

Forgeries/Reprints

63	India - Hyderabad Sc#1 [Reprint - perf 12.5] mhr f		\$1.00	_____	63
64	Samoa Sc#3d,5a,6,7a,8a [Reprints]		\$3.00	_____	64

Stamp on Stamp #1s

65	Dominica Sc#389 mnh vf [shows Dominica #1]	\$0.25	\$0.10	_____	65
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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. 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: FICC, PO Box 228, Smithville, IN 47458, USA



BID SHEET FOR AUCTION #105



Bidding Deadline is November 30, 2020
(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>

IT'S RENEWAL TIME

Check your address label on this newsletter. If it has an expiration date of V28#4, that means your FICC membership expires with this issue. Please send in your dues renewal by December 15, 2020 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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