

The PhilateliKid

The newsletter for Stamp Collecting Clubs for Kids (SCCFK)

Collect Stamps (The Most Educational Hobby)

www.stampcollectingclubsforkids.org

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Catalogs, Part 10

In the May 2022 issue of *The Philatelikid*, we began brief descriptions of various “Back of the Book” (“BOB”) listings in the Scott Catalogues. We looked at stamps which begin with the letter “B,” “C,” “CE,” “CL,” “CM,” “CB,” “CO,” “E,” “D,” “F,” “FA,” “J,” “K,” “O,” “PR,” “PN,” “PS,” “WS,” “BK,” “Q,” and “JQ.” This month we look at stamps with the prefix “QE,” and “CVP.”

Stamps Beginning with the prefix “QE.” The prefix “QE” is used by Scott to identify Special Handling stamps.



In order to understand Special Handling, one first must understand that there are several classes of mail categorized by the USPS (and the USPOD prior to 1971.) In 2004, USPS redesigned its mail classes and gave them new names. There were several categories of **fourth-class mail** back then, including Library Mail, Bound Printed Matter, Media Mail, and Parcel Select (a service eventually replaced with Parcel Post).

The 15¢ Special Handling stamp above is given the Scott Catalogue number QE2.

The cheapest class of mail was 4th class. In the 1920's through the 1950's the USPOD would allow a piece of mail to be sent by 4th class but receive 1st class treatment by paying an additional fee which was called Special Handling. The effect of Special Handling was to deliver the mail faster than 4th class would normally be delivered. Four stamps were issued by the USPOD in the 1920's: 10¢, 15¢, 20¢, and 25¢. These stamps are very inexpensive today to purchase in used condition, and even mint copies are not very pricey. So, if you want to obtain a complete set of a certain type of stamps, here is one type that you can get one of every denomination ever issued, in used condition, for less than \$10.00 !

Stamps Beginning with the prefix “CVP.” The prefix “CVP” is used by Scott to identify Computer Vended Postage stamps. Computer Vended Postage stamps were different from metered mail labels (or prints) because metered mail had the name of a city printed on it, and could be mailed only



from a post office in that city. CVP stamps could be used at any post office in the United States. However, at first, only a very select few post offices sold CVP stamps.

King George V.

King George the Fifth ascended the throne of the United Kingdom on May 6, 1910 upon the death of his father King Edward VII. The “V” after “King George” is a Roman numeral for the number “5.” The “VII” after “King Edward” is a Roman numeral for the number “7.” King George V celebrated his 25th anniversary as king in 1935. To stamp collectors, he was a very interesting monarch



because he loved stamp collecting. The 25th anniversary, commonly called the “Silver Anniversary” was celebrated by the many colonies, commonwealths, and dominions under his rule by issuing colorful stamps that featured the left profile of King George V wearing a large crown. However, each of the colonies featured scenes from their own area, making a collection of these stamps a lot of fun. Almost all of these stamps can be easily obtained for a very modest price in mint condition. Here are just a few from that group. Stamp collectors call a group like this “Common Design Types.” 44 different “countries” used this common design to commemorate the Silver Anniversary of King George V.

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