

PO'OLEKA O HAWAII



The Quarterly Journal of the Hawaiian Philatelic Society

Number 62

APRIL 2000

Quarterly Calendar of Collector's Events

APRIL 2000

04/02	First Sunday Bourse	Queen Kapiolani Hotel, 150 Kapahulu Ave. 10AM - 4 PM
04/10	H.P.S. Regular Meeting	Nuuanu YMCA, Doors open around 7 PM
04/15	H.P.S. Stampers Youth Club	Manoa School, 3155 Manoa Rd. 1 PM - 3 PM
04/17	Winward Oahu Philatelic Soc.	Lois Opedal, 241 Kaha St., Kailua, 7:30 PM
04/24	H.P.S. Executive Board Meeting	Nuuanu YMCA, Doors open around 7PM, Board Meets around 7:15 PM

MAY 2000

05/08	First Sunday Bourse	Queen Kapiolani Hotel, Waikiki
05/13	H.P.S. Regular Meeting	Nuuanu YMCA, Doors open around 7 PM
05/15	H.P.S. Stampers Youth Club	Manoa School, 3155 Manoa Rd. 1 PM - 3 PM
05/22	Winward Oahu Philatelic Soc.	Lois Opedal, 241 Kaha St., Kailua, 7:30 PM
05/28	H.P.S. Executive Board Meeting	Nuuanu YMCA, Doors open around 7PM, Board Meets around 7:15 PM

JUNE 2000

06/04	First Sunday Bourse	Queen Kapiolani Hotel, Waikiki
06/12	H.P.S. Regular Meeting	Nuuanu YMCA, Doors open around 7 PM
06/17	H.P.S. Stampers Youth Club	Manoa School, 3155 Manoa Rd. 1 PM - 3 PM
06/19	Winward Oahu Philatelic Soc.	Lois Opedal, 241 Kaha St., Kailua, 7:30 PM
06/26	H.P.S. Executive Board Meeting	Nuuanu YMCA, Doors open around 7PM, Board Meets around 7:15 PM

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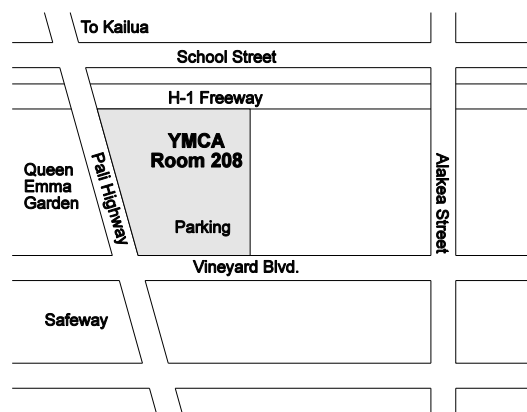
Articles and information for the publication should be sent to the editor. Send a #10 SASE to the Editor for guidelines for preparing text and illustrations for submittal. It's easy to do.

Cover Illustration: Forged six cent bisect cover. Philatelic Foundation Collection

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Monthly Meeting and Monthly Swapmeet

The Hawaiian Philatelic Society meets at 7:30 PM on the second Monday of each month at the Nuuanu YMCA in central Honolulu. Each meeting includes a short business session, a program or slide presentation and an auction of about 125 lots. A board meeting is held at 7:00 PM on the fourth Monday of each month at the same location. We invite you to attend, meet your fellow members, enjoy the program, and talk stamps. The public is welcome at all our meetings and we encourage you to become a member.



PO'OLEKA O HAWAII

The Quarterly Journal of the Hawaiian Philatelic Society

Number 62

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Editor's Notes

By Greg Chang, Editor

Aloha! Once again here on the mainland it is daylight savings time (not observed in Hawaii). This means loosing an hour of sleep and waking up with the birds. So please excuse any grammatical and syntax errors you may find. Hopefully, with this issue, the release of the PO'OLEKA will be closer to being out on time.

The main featured article in this issue is a reprinted item courtesy of the Philatelic Foundation on imperforated Hawaiian stamps by the late Dr. Wallace R. Beardsley. It is presented in two parts. So, the second half will appear in the July issue. Since the author had passed away several years ago, August 1991, there has not been any update on the article. Also, there has been no evidence of anybody else working in this area.

The second article features the new American Samoa commemorative postage stamp. Hawaii's Herb Kane illustrated it. The final article describes a set of stamps featuring Pacific Volcanoes of Vanuatu.

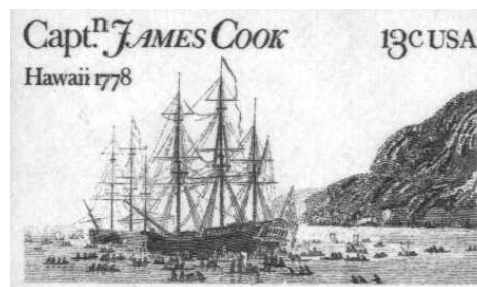
I appreciate feedback from those who have e-mailed, called, or written to me regarding articles or the publication in general. A few members have asked about the town postmark series that was featured in the PO'OLEKA a few years ago by Louis Loucks. Unfortunately, Mr. Loucks has not been available to continue on

with the series. Here is an opportunity for someone to continue on with his work on Hawaiian town cancellations.

Anyway, take care and the best of health to all. Until next time...

Mahalo!

Greg Chang
Editor



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"Hawaiian Headache: Is This Stamp a Genuine Imperf?"

Part One of Two

By Wallace R. Beardsley, Ph.D.

Reprinted from The Philatelic Foundation Bulletin, Volume 7, Number 2, July-Dec., 1989, Pages 3 to 7



Figure 1. A partial sheet reconstruction of the 2¢ carmine rose issue. Both left and right panes are represented. Shown is the wide placement of the perforation combs at the sheet edges and the wide straight edges of LAYOUT V.

A scan of the Scott Catalogue suggests that regularly issued US definitives before 1890, printed either by the National Bank Note Company or the American Bank Note Company, have an imperforate variety existing about one in eight instances. If this ratio should also be valid for the Hawaiian Bank Note issues before 1890, and printed by the same companies, then about three issues might be expected to have imperforate varieties. Surprisingly this is very nearly the case. At least two instances are verified in this study. The principal difference between the imperforate varieties

may be that the US imperforate stamps were recognized as collectable, hence they exist primarily unused and often in pairs. Thus identification is greatly facilitated. In Hawaii (with one exception) there was little concern regarding missing perforations. The imperforate sheets were distributed to post offices and the stamps incuriously used for postal purposes. Thus identification of imperforate Hawaiian issues can lead to many a headache for philatelists. Few pairs exist and one must look for and study used single copies. These invariably prove to be stamps that have had the perforations trimmed away.

Much of the headache derives from the fact that both companies, for some unexplained reason, set the perforation combs at the edges of the sheets much farther apart than normally. Thus stamps along the edges of every sheet usually contained at least one very wide margin (Figure 1). Many collectors, confronted with stamps having a very large margin (often this is the wide straight edge margin characteristic of LAYOUT V) have succumbed to the temptation to trim the perforations. Having done so they believe they have contrived a convincingly imperforate stamp. Thus in almost every case, used imperforate Hawaiian stamps have this telltale wide margin.

Besides wide margins the National Bank Note Company (and to a lesser extent the American Bank Note Company) placed plate layout dots within these wide margins and close to the outside perimeter of the stamp. These dots may be located at the corners or at the mid-perimeter of the stamp. The presence then of a wide margin and the layout dots, or even the dots with the margin trimmed, is strongly suggestive of a stamp from which the perforations have been trimmed. But this in itself does not negate the validity of a stamp suspected to be imperforate. The frequency of such stamps, however, should be only about 50% since for each sheet of 50 stamps, 26 stamps lie on the edges. In actual fact *every* suspected imperf examined by the author has had the margin and the dots. This frequency is much too high and thus becomes a criterion for the rejection of such imperforate copies.

The Scott Catalogue does not list imperforate varieties of the Hawaiian Bank Note issues. The "Detailed List" in the Meyer-Harris book on the stamps of Hawaii lists five possible such varieties. As will be shown, the evidence for several of these remains inconclusive.

2¢ Vermilion (Scott No. 31)

The official records of the Hawaiian Post Office Department contain no information on this variety. No reference to it appears in the letterbooks of the Postmaster General or the Daily Journals of the Post Office. Nor does the philatelic literature refer to it. Yet this variety does exist, confirmed by the existence of a vertical pair (Figure 2). This pair is the rosy vermilion shade, thus it dates from the late 1860's or early 1870's. It was originally in the Frank C. Atherton collection and is now in the Honolulu Advertiser Collection. The paper measures 0.0035 inches thick. This distinguishes it from the proofs on India which are 0.0025 inches thick. It is the only known example. The remaining 48 copies from that sheet may have been used on mail and now are lost.



Figure 2. A genuine pair of 2¢ vermilion issue imperforate variety. Honolulu Advertiser Collection

In the tenth edition of the *Kohl Priced Catalogue* there was entered a listing and price for an imperforate pair identified as being from one of the later printings of the 1880's. No verification of the existence of this item has occurred in the years since then.

Two interesting imperforate varieties are a part of the Tapling Collection of the British Museum. There they are identified as "[plate] proofs on card." One bears what appears to be the Meyer-Harris Handbook listed cancellation M-H #171, a target divided into four sections enclosing the letters PO. This cancellation is considered to date from the 1880's. Plate proofs were distributed to public officials in the 1860's and conceivably some could have been used for postage. However, usage of a proof in the 1880's must be considered extremely unusual. A critical examination of these

proofs should be made.

An interesting example of a fraudulent imperforate 2¢ vermilion stamp is presented in Figure 3. Note the presence of a wide margin as seen on the left and the layout dot close to the mid-perimeter of the stamp within that margin. The cover in itself possesses sufficient reason to brand it counterfeit. As so there can be no question as to the fraudulent nature of the 2¢ stamp. For example, it lacks a Honolulu CDS and the San Francisco CDS is improper for the year 1870. Also its color is anomalous. The cancellation on the 5¢ stamp does not actually tie to the cover or to the 2¢ stamp. The extensions of that cancellation appear to have been drawn in suggesting that neither stamp is original to the envelope. The trimmed corner of the 2¢ stamp is also very suspect.



Figure 3. A forgery of a six cent rate bisect cover of 1870 now in The Philatelic Foundation Reference Collection. The perforations of the 2¢ vermilion stamp have been trimmed away. Note also the presence of a wide margin.

6¢ Green (Scott No. 33)

This variety is verified by full documentation. Furthermore the copies known to exist have an impeccable pedigree. The story of its discovery is interesting and is presented here in detail because it has never been accurately reported before.

Postmasters of outlying post offices in the Hawaiian Postal System submitted requisitions for their stamp supplies to the Honolulu Post Office. These supplies included the stamps needed to frank letters destined to a foreign country such as the United States. Such letters were forwarded to the Honolulu Post Office where the stamps were canceled and the letter placed on the appropriate outgoing ship. Thus the postmaster of Wailuku on the island of Maui received a shipment of 6¢ stamps from Honolulu in June 1878. One of the sheets of 6¢ stamps lacked perforations. Soon thereafter Postmaster General Brickwood in Honolulu began noticing letters addressed to the United States from Wailuku franked with imperforate 6¢ stamps. He was aware that foreign-made forgeries of earlier Hawaiian stamps existed. Seeing these imperforate stamps he became concerned that chicanery might have come to the Hawaiian Islands. On June 28 he wrote to William P. Mossman, the Wailuku postmaster:

*Pr "Kamoi" this morning, a letter was rec'd at this office directed to Wm A. Coutts, Galveston News Office, Galveston, Texas, on which were two, six cent Hawaiian Stamps, **which had never been perforated**. I have never noticed any stamps of late issues, Sold from this office **without** perforations, and have now examined the balance of my package -- over 200 sheets, & find where these stamps were procured, as it is the 2d or 3d time it has occurred.*

I wish you would take pains to try and explain this matter, as in other respects

besides perforation, the stamps seem perfect.

Should they have come from this office by any oversight, please return, to be replaced by perfect ones, and do not accept letters for the mail unless with perfect stamps.

Evidently no reply was received to this letter. Now extremely perturbed, PMG Brickwood sent this letter to Postmaster Mossman on July 2:

CONFIDENTIAL

Since writing on the 28th inst. there have been rec'd from your office several other letters with 6¢ stamps not perforated.

*I wish you to give me any information you can of this, **without letting anyone know we are seeking an investigation** -- and if possible reply by return of the "Kalama Hou."*

Please do not receive any doubtful stamps in payment of postage, unless you can explain satisfactorily their origin.

These stamps from the addresses on the letters probably came from the family of Dr. Enders -

And again on July 15 he wrote to Mossman:

In mine of June 28 I asked you to return any of the 6¢ stamps not perforated to this office to be replaced by me with perfect ones -- Will you please attend to this --

Assured that he would not be charged for those stamps, Mossman returned the remaining imperforate 6¢ stamps sometime after July 15. How many there were is not known. In the meantime the Postmaster General sent this letter to the National Bank Note Company July 8:

*I do myself the honor to call your attention to the fact, recently there have been found in this Kingdom six cent Hawaiian postage stamps **not perforated**,*

but evidently from the die belonging to this office.

I enclose these stamps which look to be a facimile [sic] of the genuine --

If you can give me any informatin of this matter, or if there has been any wrong doing, assist me to detect it, you will confer a great favor.

Unfortunately there is no record of the reply to this letter.

It is evident that PMG Brickwood removed at least some of the imperforate stamps from their envelopes and replaced them with normal stamps. The imperforate stamps sent to the National Bank Note Co. were some that had been removed. An intriguing question thus arises. Do these stamps still repose in the files of the American Bank Note Co. (successor to the National Bank Note Co.)? If by chance they do they should be deposited with the Hawaiian collection of the Smithsonian Institution.

The story was augmented years later upon the sale in 1899 of the Thomas G. Thrum collection to Mr. Charles Bishop of Honolulu. The newspaper story reporting this sale stated that after the broken sheet was returned, PMG Brickwood, himself a stamp collector, divided the stamps among his stamp collector friends in Honolulu. Thomas G. Thrum was a friend and a leading collector in the city. He received his copy directly from PMG Brickwood. Today that stamp is part of the collection of the Bishop Museum (Figure 4a). It does possess the layout dots of a sheet edge copy, but it has without question a pedigree that guarantees authenticity.

In addition a pair exists in the Honolulu Advertiser collection identified as having formerly been in Brickwood's personal collection (Figure 4b). The authenticity in this case is guaranteed by the fact that it is a

pair. It too has an impeccable pedigree.

Both the Bishop Museum copy and the Advertiser pair are the bluish-green shade of the last National Bank Note Co. printing. Again the thickness of the paper differs from that of the India proofs. The most obvious difference between the imperforate variety and the proofs is the obvious plate wear evidenced by the imperforate variety. (*To be continued next issue.*)

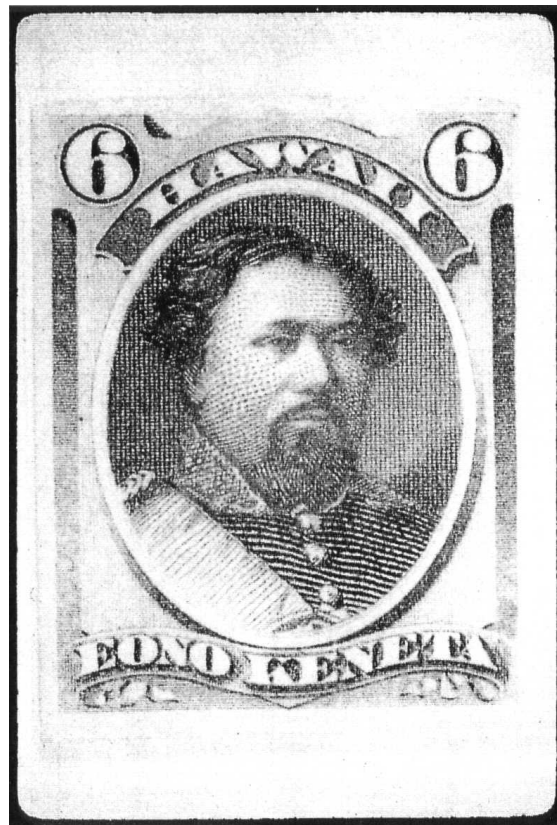


Figure 4a. A genuine single copy of the 6¢ green issue imperforate variety, position 5 from the sheet Bishop Museum Collection.



Figure 4b. A genuine pair of the 6¢ green issue imperforate variety. Honolulu Advertiser Collection

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American Samoa Commemorative Postage Stamp

By Greg Chang



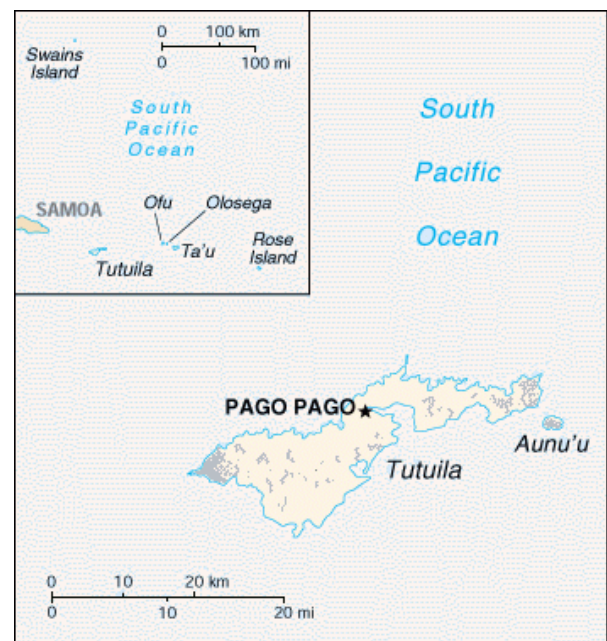
To commemorate the 100th anniversary of the union between the United States and the territory of American Samoa, the United States Postal Service issued a postage stamp on April 17, 2000. The stamp features an ‘alia, the traditional double canoe, sailing with an easterly wind near Sunuit Peak on the island of Ofu. The stamp is illustrated by Herb Kane of Captain Cook, Hawaii and designed by Howard Paine of Delplane, Virginia.

The U.S. territory of American Samoa lies in the South Pacific more than 2,000 miles southwest of Hawaii and about 2,700 miles northeast of Australia. American Samoa consists of five volcanic islands with rugged peaks and limited coastal planes (Tutuila, Aunu’u, Ofu, Ta’u, and Olosega) and two coral atolls (Rose and Swains Islands). The largest and most populated island is Tutuila on which is located the capital of Pago Pago.

The islands were first discovered by the western world by Dutch navigator Jacob Roggeveen in 1722. Before then, Polynesian people populated the islands for centuries. In 1899, the island group was split into two following an agreement between the United States and Germany. In 1900 the western islands fell under German domination (Now known as the

independent nation of Western Samoa) while the eastern half which consist of Tutuila, Aunu’u, and Rose were ceded to the United States by their respective chiefs. By 1904, Ologosa, Ta’u, and Ofu fell under the control of the U.S. followed by Swains Island in 1925.

Presently, American Samoa is an unincorporated and unorganized territory of the United States, administered by the U.S. Department of the Interior. The American Samoan Constitution provides for an elected governor, lieutenant



Map of American Samoa

governor, and legislature. The people are United States nationals who owe allegiance to the United States. American Samoa has a tropical marine climate moderated by southeast trade winds. Year-round temperature is from 70 to 90 degrees Fahrenheit.

Herb Kane, an art historian and author with a special interest in the islands of the South Pacific, has illustrated several other U.S. postal issues. His first was the 1979 10¢ postal card commemorating the Iolani Palace. Kane included native sailing vessels were in three other U.S. postage stamps he illustrated, the

Hawaii Statehood stamp of 1984 and the Republic of Marshall Islands / Federated States of Micronesia stamps issued in 1990.

In closing, there are a couple of items of interest to note. First, this issue has printing of 16 million stamps. This is relative small compared to a typical printing of 100 million stamps for letter rate commemoratives. Second, first day requests are to be sent to the Postmaster in Honolulu, Hawaii. However, a first day cancellation with a Pago Pago postmark will be applied.



Three other stamps illustrated by Herb Kane depicting native vessels

Technical Data:

First Day: April 17, 2000

Location: Pago Pago, American Samoa, 96799

Design: Illustrator - Herb Kane
Designer - Howard Paine
Modeler - Joseph Sheeran, Ashton Potter USA Ltd.

Printing: Process - offset-lithography
Microprinting - "SAMOA"
Printer and Processor - Ashton Potter USA Ltd.
Press - Stevens Security offset
Colors - process cyan, magenta, yellow, black
Gum - Water-activated
Print Quantity - 16 million stamps
Format - Pane of 20, from 120-subject sheet
Size - 1.4 inches by 0.84 inch (image); 1.56 inches by 0.991 inch (overall); 7.24 inches by 5.946 inches (pane)
Plate Numbers - four digits preceded by the letter "P"
Marginal Markings - "© USPS 1999" pane position diagram, price, bar code

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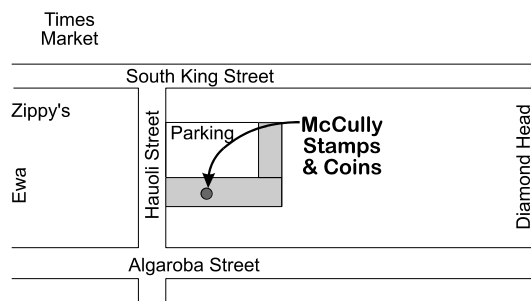
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Vanuatu Pacific Volcano Stamps

Vanuatu lies on the Pacific 'Ring of Fire' the activity volcanic zone around the rim of the Pacific tectonic plate. The geology of the islands, the type of lava produced in the depths of the earth to make the volcanoes and the presence of the sea make Vanuatu particularly prone to dramatic volcanic eruptions.

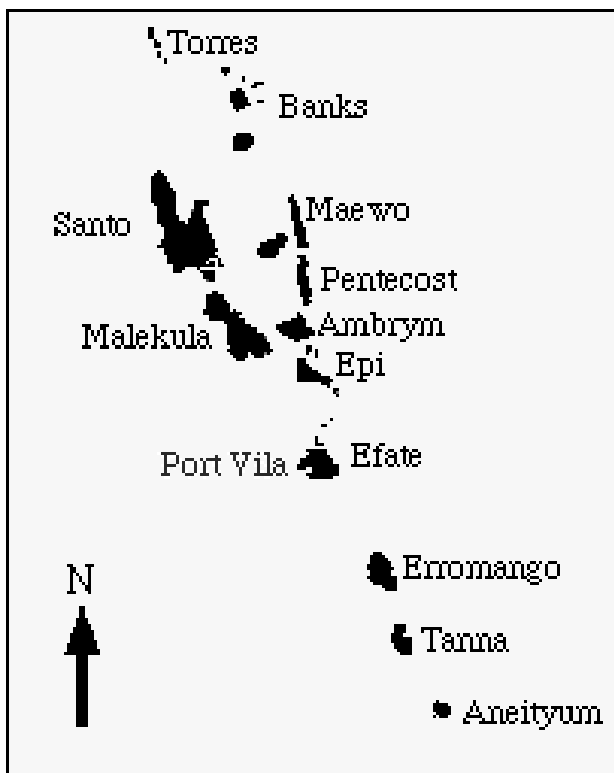
Vanuatu Post issued five stamps on October 23, 1998 depicting the active land volcanoes in the Vanuatu archipelago.



30 vatu Yasur, Tanna – Yasur is known as the most accessible active volcano in the world and is continuously active with frequent powerful explosions and emissions of ash. An interesting ash plain mostly to the north west of the volcano, surrounds a lake that was created about 70 years ago as a result of land movement from an eruption.



60 vatu Marum and Benbow, Ambrym – Marum and Benbow are separate vents within the twelve kilometre wide caldera on the island of Ambrym. Lakes of lava fill both craters and continuous gas emissions cause the lava to



Map of the Vanuatu Island Group

bubble constantly and throw spectacular showers of incandescent magma high in the air.



75 vatu Gaua –The active cone of Mount Garete on the island of Gaua is situated in the large crater lake in which giant eels are known to be found. Volcanic activity raises the temperature in some parts of the lake close to boiling point, though around the edges of the lake the water is cool enough for swimming.



80 vatu Lopevi – Lopevi is a volcanic cone that rises dramatically out of the sea to the height of 1400 metres. The volcano has shown little activity during the past 10 years and is one of the rare volcanoes of the archipelago not to have a crater.



145 vatu Ambae – There are two crater lakes, Manaro Voui or Lake of the Spirits, and Manaro Lakua. The stamp shows Manaro Voui, an acid lake which has been known to boil.






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Casual review of the early stamps of our country indicate that the American Flag was seldom shown on postage stamps, and then only as marginal decorations, not as main topic.

The first stamp showing THE FLAG as the main theme is the 4-cent stamp of 1957 which shows the 48-star flag. We wonder why did it take 110 years before we



4 JULY 1957

had a postage stamp showing the complete flag - in all its glory? However - BETTER LATE THAN NEVER.

OTHER "FLAG" STAMPS

Yes, a glance through the pages of stamp collection reveals that FLAGS are included in several of the early commemorative stamps as part of the design. These include

- 2 ¢ of 1931 Gen Pulaski
- 3 ¢ of 1933 Newburgh
- 3 ¢ of 1944 Trans. R R
- 3 ¢ of 1948 F S Key
- 3 ¢ of 1945 Iwo Jima
- 3 ¢ of 1952 Betsy Ross
- 3 ¢ of 1952 Lafayette

WE KNOW how popular THE FLAG has become on more recent stamps, all very colorful and historically impressive.

THE VERY EARLY POSTAGE STAMPS of our nation, beginning in 1847, generally pictured George and Ben as national heroes up until Thomas appeared on a 5-cent stamp

in 1856. Not until 1869 did OUR FLAG appear on a postage stamp on the 30-cent bi-color Shield and Eagle stamp. The flags are shown as decoration in the two lower corners of the stamp.



30¢ 15 MAY 1869

Apparently, from 1847 to 1869, it was over twenty years before postal people prepared and issued this first stamp showing flags included in the design. However, Better Late Than Never.

The delightful 5-cent FREMONT stamp of 1898 shows a flag flying high over the Rocky Mountains, but we are too far away to see if it is a 36-star flag (Michigan became the 36th state in 1837, and John Fremont was mapping these mountains in 1842.)



17 JUNE 1898



3 MARCH 1919

The 48-star FLAG presumably is shown on the 3-cent VICTORY stamp of 1919, but the FLAG is not the main theme of this important stamp.

LANDING AT WAIMEA, KAUAI
JANUARY 20, 1778



The replica of
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visits Hawaii
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