# PO'OLEKA O HAWAII



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#### "PO'OLEKA O HAWAII"

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#### HAWAII SESQUICENTENNIAL ISSUE - August 13, 1928

(Scott #647-8 - Issued in commemoration of the 150th anniversary of the discovery of the Hawaiian Islands by Captain Cook.)

On August 13, 1928, the <u>Honolulu Advertiser</u> reported the following:

Approximately 100,000 of the 6,000,000 special surcharged stamps in commemoration of the discovery of Hawaii by Captain Cook were disposed of yesterday at the local post office, it was announced by Postmaster J. Frank Woolley last night.

Of this number about 75,000 of the two-cent stamps and 25,000 of the fives were disposed of, it was stated by the postmaster, explaining that the demand for the first day covers with special stamp was extremely brisk.

Since this is the first time in history that the United States government has issued a surcharged stamp and the fact that Hawaii has been so signally honored makes the stamps of especial value to stamp collectors throughout the world, the postmaster explained.

Early yesterday morning a line formed in front of the stamp window as eager purchasers of the souvenirs sought to be the first to make the purchase. To Delegate Victor K. Houston went the honor of making the first purchase. Postmaster Woolley personally sold to him 200 stamps, 100 of the twos and another of the fives. The sheets were also endorsed by the postmaster signifying that they represented the first purchase.

Stamp collectors from all over the world have filed application for purchase of the stamps it was stated. One collector in Washington has sent 1100 special covers to be stamped and mailed to him while others have sent groups ranging from a dozen to a hundred

with special directions for mailing. Practically all of these are air mail letters. One batch is to be sent to Seattle for cancellation for delivery in Los Angeles while another destined for Switzerland is to be sent to San Francisco for cancellation.

The highest local purchaser yesterday was C. W. Best who bought \$300 worth. Many purchases of \$100 and \$200 worth were also made.

Honolulu was the only place in the territory as well as in the entire United States where the stamps were on sale yesterday. They will go on sale today in the outside islands, the postmaster stated.

When one considers that there are some 375,000 professional stamp collectors throughout the United States and several million amateurs, it is easy to realize the ultimate value of this special issue and likewise the value of first day covers, said the postmaster in discussing the sale.

These stamps, one collector told me, are worth at their face value after cancellation, two cents, and working from this basis, he declared that within a couple of years they will have a market value of at least 10 cents.

Incidentally their sale means invaluable publicity for Hawaii, as much perhaps as that provided by the tourist bureau advertisements. And it will be lasting publicity because the stamps will always be in demand after the issue has been disposed of by the post office.

The postmaster stated that more than 2,000 air mail letters alone with the special stamps on had been sorted yesterday and indications are that a record shipment of first class mail will be made from here Wednesday when the Matsonia leaves for the coast.

Many persons had specially prepared covers, and the postmaster spent a busy day autographing them and signifying to the fact that they are first day covers.

#### THE EARLY STAMPS OF NAURU

Up to the outbreak of the Great War (1914), stamps of the German Marshall Islands were in use with a "NAURU" postmark.

In 1916, British stamps overprinted "NAURU" came into use. There are several errors in the overprinting plates, and the high values of this issue (overprinted on the famous "Seahorse" stamps) are now Nauru's most valuable stamps, with high prices being asked for the rarest varieties. Six of these stamps are reproduced on the 1976 set marking the 60th anniversary of Nauruan stamps, while the recent issue honoring the centenary of the death of Sir Rowland Hill reproduces both a German Marshall Islands stamp with Nauru postmark and the rare 10/- indigo-blue Waterlow Seahorse.

The 1924 ship designs remained in use, with numerous reprintings, including a complete change of paper in 1937, up to the Second World War when the Japanese invaded the island and interned the inhabitants on Truk.

Although fewer than 800 Nauruans returned home in 1946, the event is remembered on the set of stamps issued in 1976 to mark the 30th anniversary of their return to Nauru, which took place on January 31st, the date that is now celebrated as Independence Day. It was on that date in 1968 that Nauru became an Independent Republic (and an Associate Member of the Commonwealth).

After the war, the ship stamps came back into use until replaced by a pictorial set in 1954. This nine-value set was augmented by eight more values in 1963-65, and with the exception of a single ANZAC commemorative issue in 1965, there were no other stamps until decimalization in 1966 brought a reissue of the same designs in the new currency.

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#### SOME INTERESTING FACTS:

- The first American who took up stamps as a means of livelihood was James Brennan, 37 Nassau Street, New York, who began business early in 1862.
- The first stamp to receive a surcharge was the 4p Mauritius. The issue of these stamps was authorized on September 3, 1853, and the official date of issue was April 8, 1854.
- In 1818-1819, Sardinia issued stamped paper to be used for correspondence, the stamps thereon franking the letter to its destination. They were of three values, embossed plain, without color, 15, 25 and 50 centesmi and were withdrawn in 1836.
- Spain issued postal stamps in 1716, their use being restricted to letters on public business.
   The idea seems to have survived only a short time.
- The first nation in the Western Hemisphere to use postage stamps was Brazil. They issued stamps in 1843 with the designs resembling targets.
- The likeness of King George V has appeared on 2,254 varieties of postage stamps.
- Canada was the first country in the world to picture an animal on a postage stamp, the 3d Beaver, in 1851.
- The first post was organized by Cyrus the Great, of Persia, about the year 438 B.C.

#### UNITED STATES AIR MAIL BOOKLETS

Few other forms of specialized philately provide such variety. From the beginning student philatelist locating a single pane of each issue to the research philatelist plating position panes or pursuing plate numbers, an infinite variety abounds.

From the many air mail booklets issued since 1928, numerous varieties have resulted: perfins, precancels, overprints, experimental vending booklets, experimental gummed panes without interleaving to the more recent combination booklets.

Booklet cover changes, public service message tabs with many different slogans, luminescent tagging have all infused renewed interest in booklet issues.

Perfin varieties were authorized by Congress for companies to control employee stamp thefts. The "RF" hand-stamped overprint was legitimately applied to a stamp after it was received in the post office for mailing to indicate censorship and/or cancellation.

Decreased and increased postage rates, color changes, from zone numbers to zip codes, plate layouts, lumin-escent tagging, untagged, "Special" gummed panes are studied by the more serious philatelist.

Marginal markings - thick vertical EE dashes, thin horizontal dashes, process marks, joint lines, fold-overs, mis-cuts, and partial plate numbers are just a few of the varieties available.

Some of these are more easily located than others.

#### SHIPS ON STAMPS

#### By G. S. Anand

Collecting ships on stamps is as vast as an ocean. Today, ships and shipping are most popular themes with stamp collectors.

There are numerous possibilities of collecting ships on stamps. You can collect all ships of the world, shipping ports, harbors, navigational instruments, even anchors, or you can collect ships of a particular period - wooden ships, sailing ships, warships, or ships of a particular type like liners, cruisers, ice-breakers, or Antarctica Expedition ships.

There are several thousand stamps listed by the "Watercraft Philately" by the Ships on Stamps Unit of the American Topical Association.

Even the early costly stamps of British Guiana depict ships!

To limit your collection is your choice entirely. However, the aim of this article is to give a history of watercrafts.

It is not known who built the first floating crafts and where. But it is believed that man got the idea of crossing streams from floating logs, and stamps of several countries depict logs (Nigeria, Gabon, etc.) The barks of trees were later used to make rafts, canoes and other crafts.

The Phoenicians are believed to have been the great seafarers of the ancient world who built large sea crafts - see stamps from Poland for example. The Egyptians are also credited with large crafts with sails and oarsmen on either side. Egyptian ships are depicted on stamps from Egypt, Qatar and Poland among others. The Roman Empire owed much of its successes to its sturdy vessels that are depicted on stamps from

Italy, Poland, Libya, and Cuba.

The long men with their long ships, the Vikings, came from the North and reigned supreme in the 11th century. Their ships had huge sails with stripes on them and ceremonial prows. Most of these Vikings are naturally depicted on stamps from the Nordic countries, but the most colorful of these came from the Isle of Man, Great Britain and France.

The 'lateen sail' craft (the dhow) of the Mediterranean are still to be seen on the waters of the Arabian Sea and rivers like the Nile. These are depicted on the stamps of Aden, British West Africa, Kuwait, Qatar, and Dubai.

The seafaring Portuguese made huge ships with great sails called caravels. It was in one of these caravels that Columbus discovered the New World. His ship, the Santa Maria was one of the most famous caravels of all times. Another was the San Gabriel in which Vasco da Gama discovered the new route to India. Not surprisingly, Portugal and the Portuguese colonies have had the largest share of caravels on their postage stamps.

A new brand of ship, the galleon, was built for long voyages. Southwest Africa, Poland, India, and Cuba have depicted galleon ships on their stamps.

The 16th century saw the development of the schooner, an early version of the yacht of today. They were lightweight ships suitable for fast voyaging. Many Caribbean countries' stamps abound in schooner ships.

Frigates, with guns on their decks, most renowned for their role in the Battle of Trafalgar, were the early 19th century contribution to the development in ships. HMS Victory of Admiral Nelson and the USS Constitution of the American War of Independence are perhaps the most interesting of all and are depicted on the stamps of Great Britain, British colonies, and the United States.

It was at this juncture that wooden men and iron ships replaced iron men with wooden ships. Robert Fulton built the first steamboat, The Clermont, depicted on stamps of the United States.

Ironically, side-by-side with this development, the sailing craft reached its pinnacle with the building of clipper ships especially for the tea-routes to China. These were fast ships of gleaming sails, depicted on issues from Great Britain, Tristan da Cunha, and several other British colonies.

The battleship, as a class of ship, is next in line. It was a period that saw both sail and steam being used in war. The United States, Russia, and India are amongst several countries that have featured this class of ship on their stamps.

Frigates, the small ships, were designed by the French for purposes of naval warfare, but the British name honored most of their ships of this class. Most of the British colonies, and now members of the Commonwealth, have vied with one another in honoring frigates.

The beginning of the First World War necessitated a new craft that could surprise the opponent's naval ships. The world's first submarine is depicted on a stamp of Ireland. Today, submarines have gone nuclear and are an important part of naval warfare. Most countries of the world with good naval capabilities have honored this arm of their naval operations.

Around this time, cruisers, fast attacking small ships, were made. And many of these became legendary in their roles in World War II. (For example, Germany's Admiral Graf Spee.)

Destroyers are featured on the stamps of Russia, Germany, Poland, and Italy, among others.

The development of ships in the 20th century has mostly been in the naval warfare field. World War II also saw air power increasingly being used to coordinate in naval efforts. It necessitated large ships with aircraft landing facilities. It was on one of these aircraft carriers, the <u>USS Missouri</u>, that the surrender of Japan was signed, signalling the cessation of hostilities in the eastern sector. The United States, Russia, Brazil, Chile, Argentina, and Antigua are some of the countries that have depicted aircraft carriers on their stamps.

1959 brought in the nuclear-built ships. Russia designed and built the world's first nuclear ship, the Lenin, an ice-breaker, honored on several stamps from Russia, Poland, Czechoslovakia, and Cuba.

This is the story of ships - philatelically.

There are other ships like oil-tankers, liners, freighters, yachts, and research ships, all commemorated on stamps from all over the world.

The Antarctic exploration story can be depicted in a presentable display with stamps from countries like Russia, Japan, Germany, France, Argentina, Chile, and India - but the most beautiful set, a delight to look at, was brought out by the Falkland Island Dependencies.

Then there are stamps on ports and harbors - the collector has several choices - even navigational instruments.

Being one of the most popular themes, there are special societies for ship stamp collectors in the United States, England, Germany, and France. Then there are special journals for ship stamp collectors published in the United States, England, Germany, and Switzerland.

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rockets took place at the first All India Scout Jamboree in 1937. 71 covers An experiment in sending mail by were flown by Rocket No. 139 "Lord Baden-Powell". ALL INDIA BOY SCOUTS JAMBOREE - 1937;

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A few hours spent in "the archives" of philately can be rewarding to the postal history collector.

We found an article by Henry J. Crocker, F.R.P.S.L., which he published himself in 1909, and we quote it, in part:

#### HAWAIIAN NUMERALS

Ву

Henry J. Crocker, F.R.P.S.L.

The first printing of the type-set stamp authorized by the Legislature of 1859 took place early in that year, and, while they were not actually put in use until August 1st, they were distributed among the various islands and postoffices long before that. I have seen a cancelled pair which were sent on a letter from Honolulu to Lahaina on April 27, 1859, as evidenced by a letter contained in the envelope dated at that time.

I have many other covers of the same correspondence, the recipient being in the habit of endorsing on the outside of the envelope the date of the written letter, and the cancellation stamp of the Honolulu postoffice is confirmatory.

The list I have with authentic dates is as follows, from Plate I, Plate III (IB), Plate VI (III), and Plate IX (IIC):

#### KNOWN DATES OF USED HAWAIIAN NUMERALS

- Apr. 27, 1859 Pair 2¢ black on greyish Cliches Nos. 3 and 4, Plate IB
- Aug. 21, 1859 2¢ light blue on bluish Cliche No. 6, Plate I
- Oct. 1, 1859 2¢ black on greyish Cliche No. 4, Plate IB
- Dec. 8, 1859 2¢ black on greyish Cliche No. 7, Plate IB

- Jan. 11, 1860 2¢ black on greyish Cliche No. 6, Plate IB
- Jan. 24, 1860 2¢ black on greyish
  Cliche No. 8, Plate III
- Jan. 29, 1860 2¢ black on greyish Cliche No. 10, Plate III
- Feb. 18, 1860 2¢ black on greyish Cliche No. 3, Plate IIC
- Mar. 20, 1860 2¢ black on greyish Cliche No. 9, Plate III
- Mar. 28, 1860 2¢ black on greyish Cliche No. 2, Plate IIC
- Apr. 2, 1860 2¢ black on greyish Cliche No. 10, Plate IIC
- Apr. 7, 1860 2¢ black on greyish Cliche No. 3, Plate IB
- Apr. 12, 1860 2¢ black on greyish Cliche No. 6, Plate IIC
- May 2, 1860 2¢ black on greyish Cliche No. 2, Plate IIC
- June 9, 1860 2¢ black on greyish Cliche No. 4, Plate IIC

The first printing was evidently of a very small number of stamps, for we have the letters of Post-master Jackson showing that some of the principal offices received only ten and twenty sheets of twenty-five stamps to each sheet, or from 250 to 500 in all.

The stamps were printed in plates of ten cliches, set in two vertical rows of five each. Each cliche was 20 mm., and there was no variation in the size of the plates, excepting where the two vertical rows were separated by one piece of furniture or strip about 4 mm. wide, or by two pieces of furniture which separated the vertical rows to twice the distance

or 8-1/4 mm. The only reason I can give for this change is that the stamps, being imperforate, probably tore into each other, and the wider space was deemed more satisfactory.

H. M. Whitney used ordinary letter paper for the Numerals, and the impression of the plates of ten stamps would go on each sheet five times, making fifty stamps to the sheet. Subsequently the sheet would be cut in two, making a sheet of twenty-five.

The horizontal stamps were separated by a space of 2 mm. throughout all the printings.

It is interesting to hear from the printer; and we have an extract of a letter written by Mr. Charles Hustace of Honolulu, as follows:

"Knowing the man who printed the stamps, I went to him and asked him all kinds of questions. He was in charge of the 'Polynesian' printing office when the stamps were printed, and says that the plates were set up by hand and contained ten to twenty stamps. The printing was done on what he called English wove, and they were not particular what kind of paper was used. The plates were set up, the stamps printed, Then he would gum them, and hang them up in the loft to dry, under lock and key. When dried, he would press them and deliver them to the Minister of the Interior - not the Postmaster. The plates he would put in his safe, where no one could get at them but himself, and he says he destroyed the plates himself."

We now know that the Numerals were set up in plates of ten, and that the same material was used for the printing of all the Numerals until the year 1866, when their use was discontinued.

"Filatelic Facts and Fallacies" published in 1898 some interesting letters regarding Hawaiian Postoffice affairs. I have taken some notes from the same that are pertinent to the Numeral issue.

Many of the local postmasters throughout the islands at this time were missionaries. The stamps referred to in the following letters are the Numerals.

- July 5, 1859 Postmaster-General Jackson sent to Kohala Postoffice 20 sheets of 25 each, or 500 2-cent stamps, "to commence with", noting in letter the "1-cent paper stamp are not yet ready for distribution, and will not be much used".
- July 5, 1859 He sent to Kawaihae Postoffice 20 sheets of 25 each, and states: "I should send more but that our supply is limited".
- July 5, 1859 He sent to Laupahoehoe Postoffice 20 sheets of 25 each, "To begin with".
- July 8, 1859 He sent to Hilo Postoffice 20 sheets of 25 each, and states: "To be used after August 1st on all Inter-island letters, and from that date you will please decline receiving any letters for the mail that are unpaid. I will furnish the other postmasters on your island, presuming the list as published in the 'Advertiser' is correct. Your mail carriers should be instructed that after August 1st they will not be permitted to carry unstamped letters outside the mail, and also captains of coasters".
- July 8, 1859 He sent to Hamakua Postoffice 20 sheets of 25 each.
- July 8, 1859 He sent to Kua. Postoffice 20 sheets of 25 each. With the same instruction as given Hilo Postoffice.
- July 9, 1859 He sent to Waimea Postoffice 20 sheets of 25 each.
- July 9, 1859 He sent to Makawao Postoffice, Maui, 20 sheets of 25 each.
- July 14, 1859 He sent to Kaneohoe Postoffice 10 sheets of 25 each.

- July 12, 1859 Postmaster Jackson answered an inquiry from the postoffice at Lahaina by stating:
  "The new postoffice law makes provision for Inland Postage. The term 'Inland Postage' being used in contradistinction to foreign postage and it is meant to embrace all letters conveyed over any mail route within the kingdom".
- July 14, 1859 He sent to Waialua Postoffice 10 sheets of 25 each.
- July 14, 1859 He sent to Lahaina Postoffice 100 sheets of 25 each "which you will have the kindness to distribute among the various post-masters in Maui according to the size of the district in which they severally reside".
- July 15, 1859 He sent to Hanelei Postoffice, Kaui, 20 sheets of 25 each.
- July 15, 1859 He sent to Nawiliwili Postoffice, Kaui, 20 sheets of 25 each.
- July 29, 1859 He sent to Hilo Postoffice a second remittance of 50 sheets of 2-cent stamps, 25 to each sheet; 10 sheets of 1-cent stamps, 25 to each sheet.
- Aug. 9, 1859 He sent to Lahaina Postoffice a second remittance of 100 sheets of the 2¢ and 20 of the 1¢, amounting to \$55.00.
- Sept. 16, 1859 Postmaster-General Clark writes to Rev. I. Lyons, postmaster at Waimea, as follows: "You can receive postage on letters in money and forward the letters down to us to be charged to your account on our books, excepting Inter-island postage of 2 cents per halfounce: the latter postage must be paid by a stamp placed on the letter. As we have no seals to forward to different postmasters, you will be under the necessity of crossing the Hawaiian stamp on letters sent by you through the mail with ink. I herewith enclose the stamps you order, and would say 5 cents will pay the postage to California on single letters".

- Jan. 17, 1860 Postmaster-General Clark wrote to
  Postmaster Bartow at Lahaina: "I have not
  ordered any obliterating stamp for Lahaina,
  as I am unwilling on uncertainties to incur
  any expense that may be useless. It is a
  question whether the coming Legislature will
  continue the postage law. If it is abolished,
  stamps of any kind will be of no use. If they
  continue the law I will procure a stamp for
  Lahaina at once".
- May 14, 1860 Postmaster-General Clark wrote to Postmaster Bartow at Lahaina: "One-cent Hawaiian stamps are intended only for mailing papers between the islands. If used on papers for the United States three are necessary, as postage on papers to the United States must be prepaid or they will not be forwarded. I enclose \$5.00 of 1 cent stamps".
- Nov. 4, 1863 Postmaster Kalakaua ordered first engraved 2-cent stamp.
- June 24, 1864 Kalakaua, Postmaster, acknowledges to National Bank Note Co. receipt of two cases of stamps (2¢ vermilion engraved), "Not good portrait", etc.
- Sept. 19, 1864 Postmaster Kalakaua advises the
  United States Postmaster Perkins at San Francisco that he has received his letter advising
  a change in postage, so that the United States
  postage is 10 cents. "Have published same in
  the "Commercial Advertiser" and sent posters
  to the various island postoffices to be displayed". (Kalakaua was wrong and misinterpreted the letter of Perkins.)
- Nov. 13, 1864 Perkins writes answer to above and calls attention to the mistake.
- Dec. 14, 1864 Postmaster at Honolulu writes to Perkins. He has received the above and has "Issued printed notice (enclosing copy) notifying the public of the change from 10 cents United States postage to 3 cents in the future".

- Pending this error Kalakaua ordered the 5¢ and 13¢ (1853 design) to meet the change, and then found the 13¢ useless.
- Feb. 24, 1865 William Irwin from Honolulu Postoffice writes Moens: "We are out of the 5-cent stamps. We issued the enclosed 5¢ while awaiting fresh supply from the United States".
- Mar. 6, 1865 Postmaster-General Kalakaua dictated the following letter to J. H. Coney, postmaster at Hilo: "Your order for 5-cent Hawaiian and 5-cent United States stamps I am unable to furnish, being entirely out of them, and having been obliged to send to the United States for a fresh supply. The 3-cent and 2-cent United States are the only kinds we have, and which I forward you by this mail in place of the 5-cent stamps. You will have to collect the Hawaiian postage of 5¢ in money until the stamps can be procured".
- Apr. 5, 1865 A. P. Brickwood orders more 2¢ and a new engraved 5¢ with head of Kam. V to replace the old type, with head of Kam. III.
- May 13, 1866 Postmaster-General A. P. Brickwood wrote to the National Bank Note Company, enclosing \$140.00, and ordering (as they retain the plate) 2,000 impressions (sheets?) 5¢, portrait Kam. V, 4,000 impressions 2¢ Kam IV.
- Apr. 27, 1867 Postmaster-General Brickwood wrote to Postmaster at Ulupolakua: "Enclosed herewith please find 4 sheets of 5-cent Hawaiian stamps amounting to \$10.00. We have no American stamps. Two Hawaiian fives affixed to a single letter is the same as paying postage through in cash, and when sent to this office will be forwarded to its destination with the impression of our office stamp in red ink, 'United States postage paid' upon it. We account for all foreign postage received on letters and papers to the San Francisco Postmaster".

This same advice is given to W. L. Conway, postmaster at Kawaikae, and mentions "make use of the Hawaiian 5-cent and 2-cent stamp".

Apr. 16, 1868 - A clerk in the Honolulu postoffice wrote to the Postmaster-General of Peru acknowledging receipt of Peruvian stamps and states: "I enclose you herewith specimens of each denomination of Hawaiian Postage Stamps now in use and out of use. The two 5-cent stamps with head, and the two with figure '5' in the center are out of use, and are the last of that issue remaining in this office".

Thus the Honolulu Postoffice was out of 5-cent stamps on March 6, 1865, but there were 5-cent stamps of 1853 on hand up to this latter date.

The Hawaiian Government had no coinage of its own in the early 60's. All foreign coins were in circulation. Five-cent pieces or silver of that value were practically unknown, 10-cent values were scarce. The Spanish bit (12-1/2¢) and 25-cent values were more common. It is reasonable to suppose parties purchasing stamps would buy a sheet or more at a time.