

UPU British Empire Security Protected Specimen Stamps 1884 - 1948

Purpose - The exhibit shows the evolution of British Empire UPU distributed protected specimen stamps sixty-four year journey, sharing key specimen examples, iconic sets & UPU specimen history.

Scope - Earliest distributed specimens by UPU member showing high values wherever possible. All distributed examples from all five British printers, the Inland Revenue & all distributed specimens never issued. Distributed local overprints & handstamps, scarce Omnibus examples & the last distributed UPU specimens.

Background - On May 18, 1878, the Universal Postal Union (UPU) met in Paris & adopted regulations that UPU members transmit "a collection of their postage stamps" to one another. From December 1878 - June 1884, between 70 - 80 specimens of the Crown Colonies were distributed to UPU members as normal, unused stamps.

In 1884, the British General Post Office, which controlled the issuance of specimens, decided that all specimens would be distributed with an overprint protective marking. For sixty-four years, between 1884 & 1948, 100 to 756 stamps per issue were overprinted, stamped, or perforated SPECIMEN, & sent to Bern, Switzerland, where they were distributed to the postal administrations of UPU members. From 1884 - 1928, stamps were overprinted or hand stamped SPECIMEN in various shapes & sizes from type set forms. From 1928 - 1948, all stamps were punched with holes forming the word SPECIMEN. There were also locally produced specimens that were overprinted or hand stamped in country.

Philatelic Importance - British Empire UPU protected specimen stamps came into existence to keep member members informed of another's officially issued postal paper. A very limited number of specimens were distributed, with many remaining in postal museums & archives.

Plan - Organized by distribution history with earliest issues, all distributed printer examples, all distributed specimens never issued and all locally produced specimen examples. Where known, UPU distribution dates are shown, with the number of specimens required for distribution. The exhibit does not highlight watermarks or paper type, but focuses on the overprints, perforations, handstamps and rubber handstamp varieties. Perforation varieties are illustrated showing the front and back of the stamp. Where there are multiple stamps in a set, the high values are represented **Rare specimens, multiple strips and 100 distributed specimens are highlighted in RED.**

Plan	Frame/Page
1. Specimen Stamps Distribution	
1.1 1884 - 1886	1.2 - 1.4
1.2 1886 - 1892	1.5 - 1.9
1.3 1892 - 1907	1.10 - 1.14
1.4 1907 - 1948	1.15 - 2.3
2. The Printers	
2.1 De La Rue	2.4 - 2.14
2.2 Bradbury Wilkinson	2.15 - 3.5
2.3 Waterlow	3.6 - 3.14
2.4 Harrison	3.15 - 4.1
2.5 Perkins Bacon	4.2 - 4.3
2.6 Inland Revenue	4.4 - 4.5
3. Distributed but never issued	4.6 - 4.7
4. Local specimens	4.8 - 5.11
5. Omnibus	5.12 - 5.14
6. Last distributed specimens	5.15 - 5.16
Epilogue	5.16

1.1 Specimen Stamps Distribution (1884-1886)

Specimens distributed from **June 1884 to March 1886** are difficult to find. **Only a single copy was sent to each UPU member (100 specimens in total)**. The specimen distribution process started with the Printer sending stamps to Crown Agents, who then sent to the London General Post Office (GPO). The GPO sent to the UPU authorities in Bern, Switzerland who in turn distributed the specimens to the UPU member. During this twenty-two month period, all overprints are the Samuel Type D12, with the exception of the first set shown below. The following, in chronological, order are the **first protected specimens from each UPU member**.

Sierra Leone – First Empire protected specimens distributed by the UPU



Samuel Type D11 overprint - Distributed June 19, 1884

Malta



*Distributed
June 23, 1884*

*Distributed
July 5, 1884*

The following table outlines the specimen distribution history:

Time Period	Specimens distributed to each UPU member	Total Specimens required for distribution	Specimen Type
Dec, 1878 - June, 1884	1	70 - 80	Uncanceled
June, 1884 - March, 1886	1	100	Overprint/Hand Stamp
April, 1886 - June, 1892	3	345	Overprint/Hand Stamp
July, 1892 - Sept, 1907	5	716 - 756	Overprint/Hand Stamp
Oct, 1907 - Dec, 1928	3	369 - 451	Overprint/Hand Stamp
Dec, 1928 - Sept, 1938	3	395 - 423	Perforated
Sept, 1938 - July, 1948	3	351 - 395	Perforated
After July, 1948			Uncanceled

1.1 Specimen Stamps Distribution (1884-1886)

Ceylon



Distributed June 23, 1884

Straits Settlements



Distributed June 23, 1884

British Honduras



1d distributed October 2, 1884

*1/- distributed October 28, 1886
345 Specimens required for
distribution*

Barbados



3d, 4d distributed November 1, 1884

*6d, 1/-, 5/- distributed September 9, 1886
345 Specimens required for distribution*

Jamaica



Distributed February 10, 1885

1.1 Specimen Stamps Distribution (1884-1886)

Montserrat



Distributed February 10, 1885

Hong Kong



Distributed July 13, 1885

Labuan



2c, 8c distributed November 1, 1884

*10c, 16c distributed September 9, 1886
345 Specimens required for distribution*

Cyprus



Distributed January 11, 1886

1.2 Specimen Stamps Distribution (1886-1892)

In 1885, the 3rd UPU Congress in Lisbon decided to increase the number of stamps sent to each UPU member from one to three. The number required for distribution was **345 stamps**, sent in strips of three, with very few strips left intact today. This continued from **April 1886 until June 1892**.

New South Wales

**Strip of three –
One known to date**



*Samuel Type 18 overprint
Distributed November 6, 1889*

All overprints are the Samuel Type D12, unless marked otherwise. The following, in chronological, order are the **first protected specimens from each UPU member**.

Dominica



*4d distributed May 24, 1886
1d distributed July 9, 1886*



1/2d, 2 1/2d, 6d distributed 1888

Antigua



*1/- distributed May 24, 1886
2 1/2d, 4d distributed May 28, 1887*

1.2 Specimen Stamps Distribution (1886-1892)

Gambia



6d distributed June 8, 1886

1/2d, 1d, 2d distributed April 1, 1887

St. Christopher



*1/- distributed September 9, 1886
6d issued March 1890*

Lagos



Distributed October 28, 1886

Grenada



*Distributed
December 16, 1886
D12x Overprint*

Natal



*Distributed
September 7, 1887*

1.2 Specimen Stamps Distribution (1886-1892)



Strip of two – One known to date

St. Lucia



Distributed September 26, 1887



Strip of two – One known to date

British Virgin Islands



4d distributed September 25, 1887
6d distributed March 27, 1888



1d, 1/- distributed January 16, 1889
Type D12x Overprint



Bahamas



2 1/2d distributed February 1, 1888
6d distributed July 19, 1890



Nevis



6d distributed October 29, 1888
1/- distributed March 19, 1890



1.2 Specimen Stamps Distribution (1886-1892)



St. Vincent

Strip of three – One known to date



6d distributed September 13, 1888
2 1/2 pence on 1d distributed July 10, 1889

Gold Coast

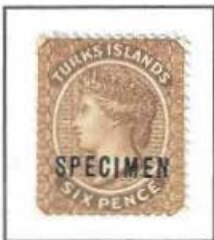


1/-, 2/- distributed October 29, 1888



2 1/2d, 3d distributed July 10, 1889

Turks



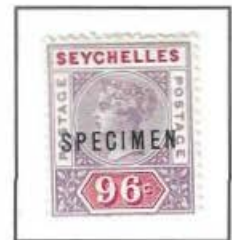
6d distributed February 1, 1889

British Guiana



Issued September, 1889

Seychelles



Issued February 22, 1890

1.2 Specimen Stamps Distribution (1886-1892)

St. Helena



Issued March 20, 1890

Bechuanaland



Distributed October 30, 1890
Type BEC2 Handstamp

Leeward Islands



Issued December, 1890

Bermuda



Samuel Type D12 overprint distributed May 19, 1892

1.3 Specimen Stamps Distribution (1892-1907)

In 1891, the 4th UPU congress in Vienna decided to increase the number of stamps sent to each country from three to five. They were sent in strips of five, with very few strips remaining intact today. Five stamps were sent to each UPU member from **July 1892 to September 1907**. During this time, between 716 and 756 specimens were distributed globally.

SG6 1s (x5) Samuel Type D12x overprint
Distributed in 1895 - 730 specimens required for distribution

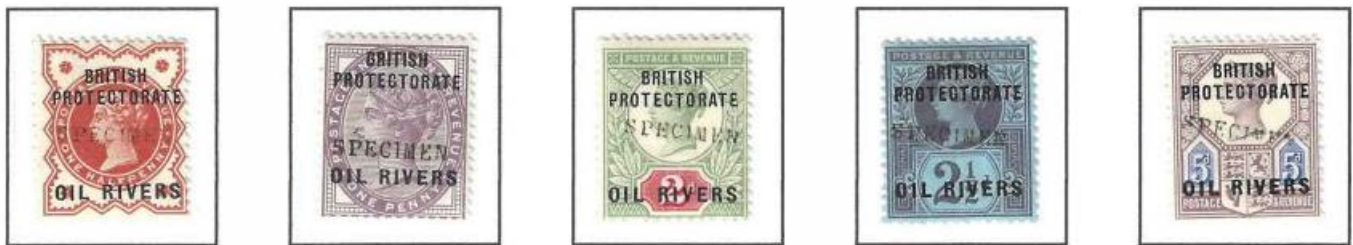
Malaysian States – Selangor



Strip of five – One known to date

All overprints are the Samuel Type D12, unless marked otherwise. The following, in chronological order are the first protected specimens from each UPU member.

Niger Coast Protectorate



Type GB9 handstamp - Distributed July 20, 1892 - 730 specimens required for distribution

North Borneo



Type NB2 Overprint - Distributed November 9, 1894 - 730 Specimens required for distribution

1.3 Specimen Stamps Distribution (1892-1907)

British Central Africa

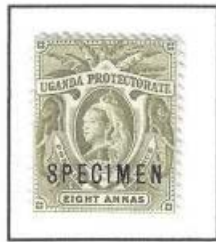


Type D2x Overprint - Distributed July 26, 1895 - 730 Specimens required for distribution

Uganda

Type D12a

Type D12a



Issued March 20, 1898 - 730 Specimens required for distribution

Morocco Agencies – Gibraltar issues



Distributed January 28, 1898 - 730 Specimens required for distribution

1.3 Specimen Stamps Distribution (1892-1907)

Cayman Islands



Distributed September 1, 1900 - 730 Specimens required for distribution

Northern Nigeria



Issued April 1900 - 726 Specimens required for distribution

Turks and Caicos



Issued November 10, 1900 - 716 Specimens required for distribution

Southern Nigeria



Issued March, 1901 - 726 Specimens required for distribution

1.3 Specimen Stamps Distribution (1892-1907)

British Levant



Type GB17 Overprint - Distributed August 15, 1902 - 721 Specimens required for distribution

Fiji



Issued February 1, 1903 - 721 Specimens required for distribution

Orange River Colony



Issued July 6, 1903 - 726 Specimens required for distribution

East Africa and Uganda



Issued July 24, 1903 - 721 Specimens required for distribution

1.3 Specimen Stamps Distribution (1892-1907)

St. Kitts



Issued 1903 - 721 Specimens required for distribution

Somaliland



Issued September 3, 1904 - 721 Specimens required for distribution

Brunei



Type D12a Overprint - Issued February 26, 1907 - 756 Specimens required for distribution

1.4 Specimen Stamps Distribution (1907-1948)

In 1906, the 6th UPU congress in Rome decided to decrease the number of stamps sent to each UPU member from five to three. The effective date was **October 1, 1907**, and it remained at three stamps per nation for the Empire until specimens ceased to be printed in 1948. During this time, between 339 and 451 specimens were distributed globally.

Samuel Type D12 overprint

Distributed in 1911 - 400 specimens required for distribution

British Honduras



Strip of three – One known to date

All overprints are the Samuel Type D12, unless marked otherwise. The following, in chronological, order are the **first protected specimens from each UPU member**.

British Solomon Islands



Issued November 1, 1908 - 408 Specimens required for distribution

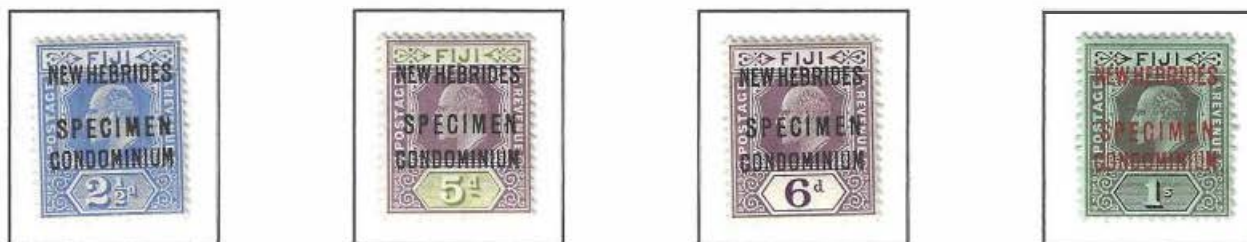
Nyasaland



Type D12a Overprint - Issued July 22, 1908 - 454 Specimens required for distribution

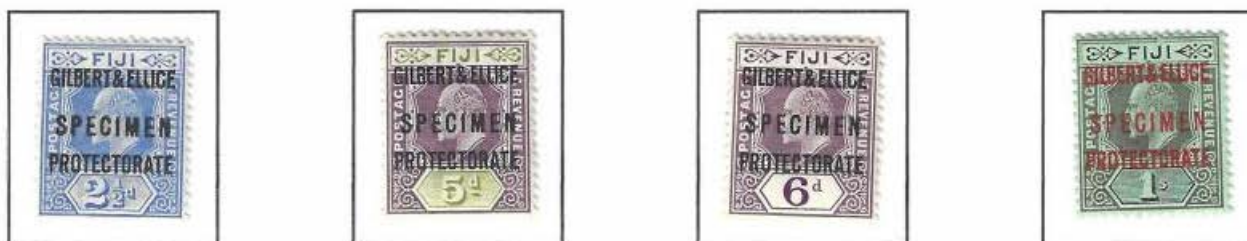
1.4 Specimen Stamps Distribution (1907-1948)

New Hebrides



Issued December 15, 1910. 409 Specimens required for distribution

Gilbert and Ellice Islands



Issued January 1, 1911. 400 Specimens required for distribution

Nigeria



Issued June 1, 1914. 395 Specimens required for distribution

Nauru



Type GB23 Overprint - Distributed November 27, 1915 - 372 Specimens required for distribution

1.4 Specimen Stamps Distribution (1907-1948)

Togo



Distributed August 11, 1917. 375 Specimens required for distribution

Tanganyika – British Occupation of German East Africa



Issued October, 1917. 400 Specimens required for distribution

Sarawak



Issued August 7, 1918. 381 Specimens required for distribution

1.4 Specimen Stamps Distribution (1907-1948)

Tonga



Type D12a Overprint - Issued April 1920 - 382 Specimens required for distribution

Ascension



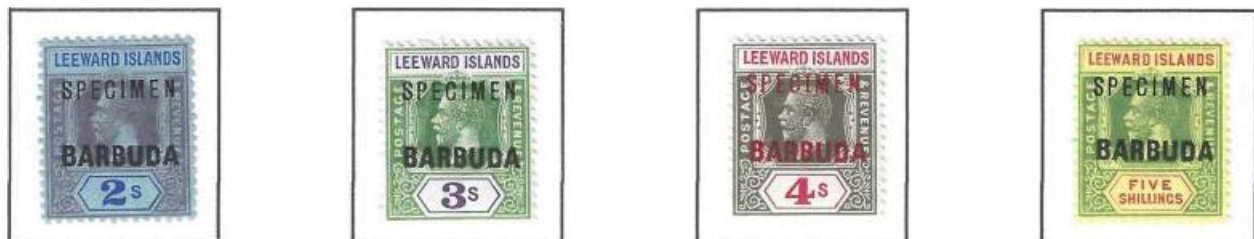
Type D16 Overprint - Issued November 2, 1922. 422 Specimens required for distribution

Kenya and Uganda



D12a Overprint - Issued 1921 - 396 Specimens required for distribution

Barbuda



Issued July 15, 1922. 407 Specimens required for distribution

1.4 Specimen Stamps Distribution (1907-1948)

Newfoundland



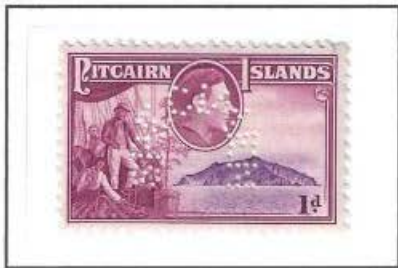
Type B9 Overprint - Issued May 6, 1935 - 409 Specimens required for distribution

Aden



Type D20 Overprint - Issued April 1, 1937 - 406 Specimens required for distribution

Pitcairn Islands



Type B9 Overprint - Issued October 15, 1940 - 362 Specimens required for distribution

Falkland Island Dependencies



Type B9 Overprint - Issued February 12, 1944 - 354 Specimens required for distribution

2.1 The Printers: De La Rue Specimen Types

De La Rue and Co. was a printer for UPU specimens from their inception. From 1884 to 1928, De La Rue Overprinted or Handstamped Specimen Stamps for UPU British Empire members. The following table lists the Samuel Specimen Type, overprinted (Optd), Handstamped (H/S), or Rubber Handstamped (RH/S), measurement (Width x Height) in millimeters, protected distribution years, & frame page number. The specimen types are approximately 100% larger than the actual measurement, for ease of viewing, with the individual type also enlarged on each page. There are eleven varieties of the De La Rue Overprint and Stamped Specimens. The following are specimen examples from each of the varieties.

SPECIMEN	D9	Optd	15 x 2	1884 - 1920	2.4
SPECIMEN	D11	H/S	14.5 x 2.5	1884	2.5
SPECIMEN	D12	Optd	14.5 x 2.5	1884 - 1922	2.6
	D12x	Optd	14.5(±0.5) x 2.5	1889 - 1922	2.7
SPECIMEN	D12a	Optd	13.5 x 2.5	1897 - 1922	2.7
SPECIMEN	D13	Optd	14 x 2.5	1885 - 1887	2.8
SPECIMEN	D14	Optd	15 x 2.5	1903 - 1927	2.9
SPECIMEN	D16	Optd	15.5 x 1.75	1922 - 1928	2.10
	D16x	Optd	15.5(±0.5) x 1.75	1922 - 1928	2.10
SPECIMEN	D17	Optd	13.75 x 3.25	1922	2.11
SPECIMEN	D18	RH/S	16.5 x 2.75	1922	2.11

D1 to D8 & D10 were from 1857 to 1883, before the UPU required protective markings.
D15 was only used by De La Rue to cancel file copies of stamps.

De La Rue D9 Overprint

SPECIMEN

The D9 overprint was used from 1919 to 1920 and measures 15 x 2 mm. Only two British Crown Colony stamps with normal use have the D9 overprint. They are the 1919 Jamaica 1½d and the 1920 Tonga Queen Salote 2d.

Distributed July 1919
381 specimens required for distribution

Distributed 1920
382 specimens required for distribution

Jamaica



Tonga



2.1 De La Rue - D11 Handstamped

SPECIMEN

The first British Colony stamps to be handstamped Specimen by De La Rue prior to distribution was the 1884 Sierra Leone 1/2d, 1d, 2d and 4d set, distributed on June 19, 1884. They were perforated 14, with a very small number perforated on a 12-gauge single-line perforating machine.

Samuel explains that De La Rue, after having dispatched a supply of stamps to Sierra Leone in May 1884, were left with an inefficient stock to supply the required number of specimens, and had to complete the 100 required specimens with 40 stamps from an imperforate sheet on the 12-gauge machine.

The D11 overprint measures 14.5 x 2.5 mm. The 1/2d & 1d are Perf 14 and are displayed on Page 1.2. The 2d and 4d are Perf 12 shown below. Eight stamps have the D11 handstamp.

Sierra Leone – First Empire protected specimens distributed by the UPU



**One of six examples of perforated 12
known to date**

2.1 De La Rue - D12 Overprint

SPECIMEN

The D12 overprint was the most used type (2255 specimens), with the longest duration, and was utilized on stamps from June 1884 until it was replaced with a smaller type in 1922. The dimensions of the D12 overprint are 14.5 x 2.5 mm. It was the overprint used on the standard small size stamps (22 mm wide x 24.5 mm high).

Issued December 18, 1902

721 specimens required for distribution

Bahamas



Issued January 1912 to January 19, 2016

372 specimens required for distribution

Fiji



5/-, 10/-, 20/- distributed January 10, 1889

20/- dull mauve and black issued April 1894

730 specimens required for distribution

Gold Coast



Issued November 9, 1912

400 specimens required for distribution

Hong Kong



2.1 De La Rue - D12a Overprint

The D12a overprint (465 specimens) was used from 1897-1922. The D12a format is the same as D12, but the spacing width is 13.5 mm, one mm less than D12. The overprint was used on high values, called the "Revenue Size" stamps. Examples are the Malaysia Straits Settlements \$25 and \$100, issued in 1912.

Distributed in 1912

400 specimens required for distribution

SPECIMEN

Malaysia Straits



De La Rue D12x Overprint

The D12x overprint (79 specimens) was used from 1889 -1922. Stamps were printed slightly different than the D12 format. The width could vary from 14 - 15 mm, as opposed to the D12 14.5 mm. De La Rue re-spaced the D12 type metal as required for certain sets, to apply the overprint uniformly on each sheet. An example is the British Guiana Queen Victoria Jubilee, issued July 18, 1898.

The 1c, 5c and 15c are D12x, with the "N" in SPECIMEN sloping to the right. The 2c and 10c are D12a (13.5 x 2.5 mm) and have the "N" in SPECIMEN upright.

Distributed July 1898

730 specimens required for distribution

SPECIMEN

British Guiana



2.1 De La Rue - D13 Overprint

SPECIMEN

The D13 overprint was used from 1885 -1887. The D13 format is the same as D12, but with a width of 14 mm, 0.5 mm less than D12. The nine stamps that have the D13 overprint are the 1885 Ceylon set of seven, the Ceylon 1887 1R12c and the Malta 1886 5/- stamp. Eight are shown here.

Ceylon



Distributed in March 1885 - 100 specimens required for distribution

Malta



Distributed in January 1886 - 100 specimens required for distribution

2.1 De La Rue - D14 Overprint

SPECIMEN

The D14 overprint was used from 1903 - 1927. The D14 format is the same as D12, but the spacing width is 15 mm, 0.5 mm more than D12. Fourteen stamps have the D14 overprint. They are the twelve high values of the four definitive sets from Gibraltar from 1903 to 1937, and the two high values from the Trinidad 1914 definitive set.

Gibraltar 2/-, 4/-, 8/-, £1 issued May 1, 1903 - 721 specimens required for distribution

Gibraltar 2/-, 4/-, 8/- issued between April 1910 and 1911 - 400 specimens required for distribution

Gibraltar 2/-, 4/-, 8/-, £1 issued July 17, 1912 - 400 Specimens required for distribution

Gibraltar £1 issued November 16, 1927 - 416 specimens required for distribution

Trinidad and Tobago issued in 1914 - 386 specimens required for distribution



May 1, 1903



May 1, 1903



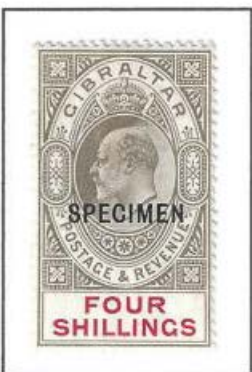
May 1, 1903



May 1, 1903



April 1910 - 1911



April 1910 - 1911



April 1910 - 1911



July 17, 1912



July 17, 1912



July 17, 1912



July 17, 1912



November 16, 1927



1914



1914

2.1 De La Rue - D16 Overprint

The D16 overprint replaced D12, D12x, and D12a in 1922, and was widely used across the colonies (473 specimens). The D16 overprint specimen is longer at 15.5mm, and shorter at 1.75 mm.

2/6d issued April 1927
413 specimens required for distribution
10/- issued December 1924
414 specimens required for distribution

Issued October 1, 1925
412 specimens required for distribution

SPECIMEN

Bermuda



Kenya and Uganda



De La Rue D16x Overprint

The D16x overprint (70 specimens) was used from 1922 -1928. Stamps were printed slightly different than the D16 overprint. The length varied from 15 - 16 mm, as opposed to the D16 15.5 mm. Examples of these are the five Gibraltar high values.

2/- issued June 20, 1924
409 specimens required for distribution

2/6d, 5/-, 10/-, £5 issued October 15, 1925
413 specimens required for distribution

SPECIMEN

Gibraltar

June 20, 1924

October 15, 1925



October 15, 1925

October 15, 1925

October 15, 1925



2.1 De La Rue - D17 Overprint

The D17 overprint was only used on two stamps both issued in 1922, measuring 13.75 x 3.25 mm

Issued December 5, 1922

413 specimens required for distribution

SPECIMEN

Jamaica



Malta



Issued August 28, 1922

410 specimens required for distribution

SPECIMEN

De La Rue D18 Rubber Handstamp

There was only one UPU distributed stamp with the D18 type. It was the rubber handstamp on the 1922 Gambia 5/- stamp. This stamp was part of a series of four. The 4d and 7 1/2d were overprinted with type D12, and the 1/- was overprinted with type D12a. De La Rue neglected to overprint the required number of specimens of this stamp in the normal way, and when the omission was discovered, they used this handstamp to obtain the required supply.

Issued in Sep 1, 1922

404 specimens required for distribution

Gambia



2.1 De La Rue - Perforation Specimen Types

From 1928 - 1948, De La Rue perforated Specimen Stamps for UPU British Colony members. The following table lists the Samuel Specimen Perforation Type, number of perforated holes, Protected Distribution Years, and Frame page number for reference. The specimen types are approximately 100% larger than the actual measurement, for ease of viewing, with the individual type also enlarged on each page.



D19

Perf

65 Holes

1928 - 1936

2.12



D20

Perf

65 Holes

1936 - 1940

2.13



D21

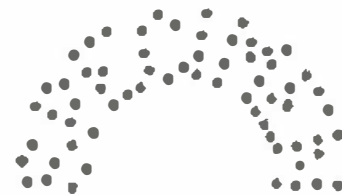
Perf

65 Holes

1941 - 1948

2.14

De La Rue D19 Perforation



In September 1928, in alignment with other security printers, De La Rue and Company changed their process from overprinting to perforating the word "SPECIMEN". The perforations were applied sideways on stamps until 1931, after which it was applied horizontally. The D19 perforation type continued until 1936, with 268 specimens having the D19 perforation.

Examples of the D19 perforation applied sideways:

4d issued September 1930

422 specimens required for distribution

£1 issued September 1928

421 specimens required for distribution



St. Vincent

Examples of the D19 perforation applied horizontally

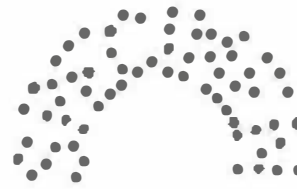
Issued July 2, 1934

413 specimens required for distribution



K.U.T.

2.1 De La Rue - D20 Perforation



The D20 perforation specimen is a narrower version of the D19 punch. It was widely used from 1936 to 1940 (387 specimens). Examples of the D20 perforation specimen are shown below.

Ascension

Issued May 12, 1938
399 specimens required for distribution



Bermuda

Issued January 2, 1938
400 specimens required for distribution



Leeward Islands

Issued November 25, 1938
395 specimens required for distribution

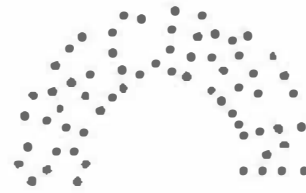


Malaysia Straits Settlements

Issued January 26, 1938
405 specimens required for distribution



2.1 De La Rue - D21 Perforation



The D21 Perforation (231 specimens) is very similar to the D20 perforation, but with smaller holes. It replaced the D20 punch and was used from 1941 - 1948, after the De La Rue Bunhill Row works in London was bombed at the end of 1940. In early 1941, a new perforator was put into service. All De La Rue UPU specimens from 1941 onwards had the D21 perforation.

Issued October 12, 1942
351 specimens required for distribution

Bahamas



Malaya (British Military Administration)

Issued October 19, 1945
357 specimens required for distribution



Falkland Islands Dependencies

Issued July 12, 1946
354 specimens required for distribution




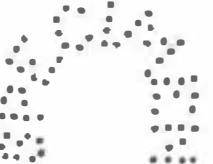
Hong Kong

Issued April 8, 1946
357 specimens required for distribution



2.2 The Printers: Bradbury Wilkinson Specimen Types

Bradbury, Wilkinson, and Co. was a printer for UPU specimens from 1890 to 1948. The majority of the specimens were overprinted. The following table lists the Samuel Specimen Type, if they were overprinted (Optd) or Perforated (Perf), the measurement (Width x Height) in millimeters, the number of perforated holes, the Protected Distribution Years, and the Frame page number for reference. After 1928, all examples were perforated.

	B1	Perf	80 Holes	1890 - 1920	2.16
SPECIMEN.	B2	Optd	12 x 2.5	1891 - 1898	3.1
SPECIMEN.	B3	Optd	12.5 x 1.25	1921 - 1927	3.1
SPECIMEN	B4	Optd	15.75 x 1.5	1922	2.15
SPECIMEN.	B5	Optd	29 x 3.75	1922	3.2
SPECIMEN.	B6	Optd	12.25 x 2.5	1923 - 1925	3.3
SPECIMEN	B7	Optd	16 x 1.5	1927	3.2
SPECIMEN.	B8	Optd	16 x 1.75/1.5	1928	3.4
	B9	Perf	67 Holes	1928 - 1948	3.5

Bradbury Wilkinson B4 Overprint

SPECIMEN

The only specimen distributed by the UPU with the B4 overprint was the 1922 1a on 20pa Iraq British Occupation overprint on Turkish issue Official stamp

*Distributed December 14, 1922
410 specimens required for distribution*

Iraq



2.2 Bradbury Wilkinson - B1 Perforation



Thirteen stamps distributed by the UPU have the B1 perforation include the 1913 - 1914 Turkish issues, including the two sets shown, and the 1918 issue of Turkey with the Iraq overprint. Even though Turkey at the time was part of the Ottoman Empire and not a British Colony, it illustrates the B1 perforation.

*Distributed October 25, 1913
389 specimens required for distribution*

Turkey



*Distributed February 5, 1914
392 specimens required for distribution*

Turkey



2.2 Bradbury Wilkinson - B2 Overprint

SPECIMEN.

Ten stamps have the B2 overprint. They are the 1891 - 1898 Falkland Islands set shown below and the 1922 British Occupation of Mosul Official stamps. The overprint measures 12 x 2.5 mm and has a period after the "N".

1/2d distributed June 9, 1891 - 345 specimens required for distribution.
2d distributed November 1895 - 730 specimens required for distribution
2 1/2d distributed June 9, 1891 - 345 specimens required for distribution
6d distributed December 2, 1891 - 345 specimens required for distribution
9d distributed November 1895 - 730 specimens required for distribution
2/6d and 5/- issued October 5, 1898. - 730 specimens required for distribution

Falkland Islands



Bradbury Wilkinson B3 Overprint

SPECIMEN.

The B3 overprint was only utilized in 1921 and 1927, in Iraq, after the League of Nations issued a Mandate, effective April 25, 1920, that the United Kingdom would administer Iraq. The B3 overprint was 12.5 x 1.25 mm, with a period after the "N". Seven stamps have this overprint, including four 1921 official stamps.

Issued April 1, 1927
413 specimens required for distribution

Iraq



2.2 Bradbury Wilkinson - B5 Overprint

SPECIMEN.

This overprint was the largest of any UPU Colonies British printer's standard type. It measures 29 x 3.75 mm and has a period after the "N". Six stamps have the B5 overprint. They are from the British Mandated Territory of Tanganyika 1922 Giraffe definitive set top values.

Issued 1922

398 specimens required for distribution

Tanganyika



Bradbury Wilkinson B7 Overprint

SPECIMEN

Only one stamp was distributed with the B7 overprint. It was the Barbados 1d 1927 Tercentenary of Settlement. The overprint measures 16 x 1.5 mm.

Issued February 17, 1927

415 specimens required for distribution

Barbados



2.2 Bradbury Wilkinson - B6 Overprint

SPECIMEN.

The B6 overprint is a larger version of the B2 overprint, measuring 12.25 x 2.5 mm and has a period after the "N". Seventeen stamps have the B6 overprint. They were in use from 1923 to 1925, and are the Jamaica 1923 Child Welfare League set, the Malta 1925 Postage Due set and the Tanganyika 1925 set of 4 Giraffes set.

Issued November 1, 1923 - 412 specimens required for distribution

Jamaica



Issued July 20, 1925 - 412 specimens required for distribution

Malta



Issued 1925 - 412 specimens required for distribution

Tanganyika



2.2 Bradbury Wilkinson - B8 Overprint

SPECIMEN.

The Cyprus 1928 set of ten is the only set of stamps which has the B8 overprint. The overprint measures 16 x 1.5-1.75 mm and has a period after the "N".

Issued February 1, 1928

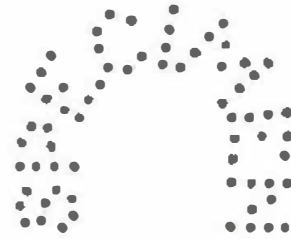
416 Specimens required for distribution

Cyprus



2.2 Bradbury Wilkinson - B9 Perforation

The B9 Perforation was widely used on British Colonial Stamps between 1928 and 1948 (521 specimens). It is the only Bradbury, Wilkinson perforation used on UPU specimens.



Issued February 26, 1941

405 Specimens required for distribution

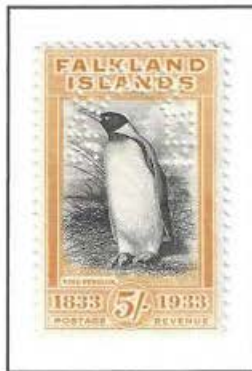
Hong Kong



Issued January to April 1933

415 specimens required for distribution

Falkland Islands



Issued March 1, 1932




422 Specimens required for distribution

Sierra Leone



2.3 The Printers: Waterlow Specimen Types

Waterlow & Sons was a printer for UPU specimens from 1898 to 1948. All Waterlow specimens prior to 1928 were overprinted. After 1928, all examples were perforated. The following table lists the Samuel Specimen Type, if they were overprinted (Optd) or Perforated (Perf), the measurement (Width x Height) in millimeters, the number of perforated holes, the Protected Distribution Years, and the Frame page number for reference.

SPECIMEN	W1	Optd	19.5 × 1.75	1898	3.6
SPECIMEN	W2	Optd	12 × 1.25	1913 - 1926	3.7
SPECIMEN	W3	Optd	17 × 2	1918	3.8
SPECIMEN	W4	Optd	19.75 × 2.5	1922 - 1931	3.9
SPECIMEN	W5	Optd	15 × 2	1925	3.10
SPECIMEN	W6	Optd	15.25 × 1.75	1926	3.10
SPECIMEN	W7	Optd	12.5 × 2	1928	3.11
	W8	Perf	70 Holes	1928 - 1944	3.12 - 13
	W8a	Perf	69 Holes	1938 & 1942	3.12 - 13
	W9	Perf	70 Holes	1944 - 1948	3.14

Waterlow W1 Overprint

SPECIMEN

Only 3 stamps have the W1 overprint. They are the 1898 Niger Cost Protectorate set. The overprint measures 19.5 x 1.75 mm. Below are examples of the three stamps in pairs.

*Distributed June 28, 1898
730 Specimens required for distribution*



Strip of two – One known to date

The W2 overprint was used on five sets, totaling forty-six stamps. They were used on eighteen of nineteen of the Rhodesia 1913 Admiral set, issued except for 1½d Admiral, which is the only known W3 overprint. The W2 overprint measures 12 x 1.25 mm. The W3 overprint measures 17 x 2 mm. The other the issues with the W2 overprint are the Federated Malay States 1924 Postage Due set of six stamps shown below, the 1925 Transjordan set of fifteen, and the Malta 1926 low value definitive set of seven stamps.

*Issued December 1924 to 1926
414 specimens required for distribution*

Federated Malay States



Distributed on October 6, 1913 - 400 Specimens required for distribution

1 1/2d Distributed on Dec 6, 1918 - 375 Specimens required for distribution



2.3 Waterlow W4 - Overprint

SPECIMEN

The W4 overprint was used from 1922 to 1931. Nineteen total stamps have the W4 overprint. Twelve of the stamps are from North Borneo, with nine shown below, and seven were the 1928 high value definitive set from Malta. The overprint measures 19.75 x 2.5 mm.

North Borneo

*3 cent on 4 cent distributed on April 28, 1924
421 specimens required for distribution*



*3c to \$5 distributed on December 30, 1930
422 specimens required for distribution*



2.3 Waterlow W5 - Overprint

SPECIMEN

The only example of specimens with the W5 overprint is the 1925 Northern Rhodesia Definitive set. Sixteen of the seventeen stamps have the W5 overprint, except for the 3/- violet and blue, which was issued in 1929 and has the W8 overprint. The overprint measures 15 x 2 mm.

Issued April 1, 1925

419 specimens required for distribution

Northern Rhodesia



Waterlow W6 Overprint

SPECIMEN

The six 1926 Malta Definitive set high values are the only stamps distributed with the W6 overprint. The overprint measures 15.25 x 1.75 mm.

Issued April 6, 1926 to September 2, 1927

412 specimens required for distribution

Malta



2.3 Waterlow W7 - Overprint

SPECIMEN

This W7 specimen was only used in 1928, on two sets, on sixteen stamps. Twelve are the low values from the Malta 1928 Definitive set. The other four are from the Kenya and Uganda 1928 Postage Due set. Four of the six stamps have the W7 Type. The 30c brown and the 1/- grey-green were issued in 1931 and 1933 respectively and have the W8 perforation. The type measures 12.5 x 2 mm.

*Issued October 1 to December 5, 1928
423 specimens required for distribution*

Malta



Issued September 1928 - 421 specimens required for distribution

Kenya and Uganda



2.3 Waterlow - W8 Perforation



This specimen type was the first Waterlow Perforation and was widely used for UPU specimens (325 specimens), from 1928 to 1944. It was usually applied diagonally sloping upwards. The following 1932 Antigua Definitive examples illustrate the W8 perforation.

Issued Jan 27, 1932

422 specimens required for distribution

Antigua



Waterlow W8a Perforation

Missing a perforation on the S, in the word SPECIMEN.



The pins of the Waterlow "SPECIMEN" perforator type W8 started to wear out in 1937. Specimen stamps produced between August 1937 and October 27, 1937, have a mixture of types W8 and W8a (113 specimens), which was the first indicator that the Waterlow perforator was starting to fail. From November 4, 1937, until May 1938, all specimen stamps show type W8a. Below are the Basutoland definitive high values, with every stamp perforated with the W8a type.

Issued April 1, 1938

400 Specimens required for distribution

Basutoland



2.3 Waterlow - W8a/W8 perforations the first time in the same set

On May 2, 1938, the George VI Sierra Leone definitive specimen set of sixteen were perforated, with eight values showing type W8a and eight showing type W8, indicating that the perforator pins must have been repaired that day. After this date, with all pins fixed, all specimen stamps reverted to type W8 until mid-1941. After mid-1941, under war conditions, it was difficult to get non-essential equipment repaired or replaced. The result was that many sets had both W8 and W8a perforations. Below are six examples missing the "S" punch, and six having the complete "S".

1/2d, 1d, 1 1/2d, 2d, 3d, 5d shown
399 Specimens required for distribution



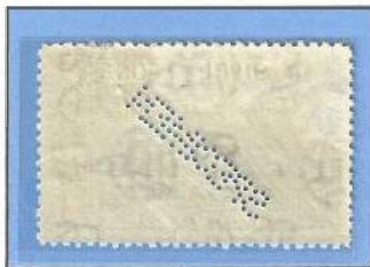
Sierra Leone missing the "S" punch



4d, 1/-, 1/3d, 2/-, 10/-, 1£ shown
399 Specimens required for distribution



Sierra Leone with complete "SPECIMEN" punch



2.3 Waterlow - W9 Perforation



This W9 perforation (53 specimens) replaced the W8/8a perforation in 1944 and was used until 1948. The subtle differences between W8 and W9 is that W9 has a larger "P", and a different "M" pattern.

British Guiana

\$2 issued June 11, 1945

\$3 issued July 2, 1945

357 specimens required for distribution



Issued October 15, 1947

374 specimens required for distribution

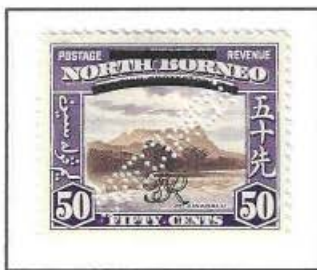
Dominica



Issued December 22, 1947

380 specimens required for distribution

North Borneo



St. Lucia


Issued February 4, 1946

357 specimens required for distribution



2.4 The Printers: Harrison Specimen Types

Harrison & Sons was a printer for UPU specimens from 1927 to 1947. In 1927 and early 1928 the stamps were handstamped. From late 1928 until 1948, all stamps were perforated. The following table lists the Samuel Specimen Type, if they were handstamped (H/S) or Perforated (Perf), the measurement (Width x Height) in millimeters, the number of perforated holes, the Protected Distribution Years, and the Frame page number for reference.

SPECIMEN	H1	H/S	15 × 1.75	1927	3.15
SPECIMEN.	H2	H/S	14 × 1.5	1928	3.16
	H3	Perf	58 Holes	1928 - 1947	4.1

Harrison H1 Handstamp

SPECIMEN

The 1927 Palestine definitive set of fourteen are the only stamps issued with the H1 handstamp. The dimensions are 15 x 1.75 mm.

3m and 13m distributed July 5, 1927 -

Remainder of the series distributed August 29, 1927

419 specimens required for distribution

Palestine



2.4 Harrison - H2 Handstamp

SPECIMEN.

The 1928 Gold Coast Christianborg Castle set of ten are the only stamps distributed with the H2 handstamp. The dimensions are 14 x 1.5 mm, with a period after the "N".

*Issued August 1, 1928
419 specimens required for distribution*

Gold Coast



2.4 Harrison - H3 Perforation



The H3 perforation was used from 1928 - 1947. Forty-seven stamps were perforated with the H3 type. In addition to the three sets shown below, they include the 1932 - 1942 Palestine set, the 1938-1941 Seychelles set and the 1928 Kelantan \$1.

Issued August 1, 1938 - 398 specimens required for distribution

Issued December 1, 1947 - 377 specimens required for distribution

British Virgin Islands



Issued April 15, 1940 - 362 specimens required for distribution

Issued July 12, 1937 - 406 specimens required for distribution

Dominica



Grenada



2.5 The Printers: Perkins Bacon Specimen Types

Perkins, Bacon & Co was a printer for UPU specimens from 1927 to 1934. Three sets from Transjordan and the Falkland Islands 1929 - 1932 definitive set were the only specimens distributed.

SPECIMEN

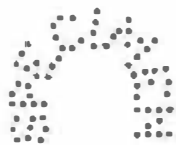
P4

Optd

14.25 x 2.25

1927

4.2



P5

Perf

67 Holes

1929 - 1934

4.3

Perkins Bacon P4 Overprint

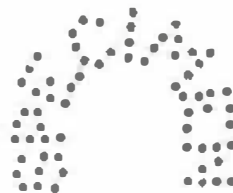
SPECIMEN

Thirteen stamps were issued with the P4 overprint. They are the 1927 Transjordan definitive set shown below.

Issued November 1, 1927, to May 1929 - 416 specimens required for distribution



2.5 Perkins Bacon - P5 Perforation



There are thirty-five stamps with the P5 type perforation. Twenty-four are from Transjordan distributed from 1929 to 1934. The other eleven are the Falkland Islands 1929-1932 whales and penguins set shown below.

4d issued February 18, 1932 - 422 specimens required for distribution

Remainder of the set issued September 2, 1929 - 423 specimens required for distribution


Falkland Islands



2.6 The Printers: Inland Revenue Specimen Types

Seven different stamp entities had protected specimen examples on stamps from Great Britain, overprinted by the Inland Revenue. After 1900, only stamps with a face value of one shilling or more were protected with the "SPECIMEN" overprint, except for the Bechuanaland half pence and one pence shown below.

UPU Member	Specimen Type and number					
	GB9	GB15	GB17	GB23	GB26	GB32
Niger Coast Protectorate	6					
Bechuanaland Protectorate		1	1	4		
British Levant			2	1	4	
British Occupation of Italian Colonies				4	3	
British Post Offices in China				6	1	
Morocco Agencies (British, French and Spanish)			4	7	1	6
Nauru				3		
Total	6	1	7	25	9	6

SPECIMEN	GB9	H/S	14.75×1.75	1892	4.4
SPECIMEN	GB15	Optd	14.5×2.25	1901	4.4
	GB17	Optd	16×2.75	1902 - 1909	4.4
SPECIMEN	GB23	Optd	10×1.5	1915 - 1943	4.5
SPECIMEN	GB26	Optd	12.5×2	1917 - 1947	4.5
SPECIMEN	GB32	Optd	10.5×2	1932 - 1937	4.5

GB9 Handstamp

*Distributed July 20, 1892 -
730 specimens required for
distribution*

Niger Coast Protectorate



GB15 Overprint

*Distributed April 22, 1901 -
716 specimens required for
distribution*

Bechuanaland Protectorate



GB17 Overprint

*Distributed August 24, 1904 -
721 specimens required for
distribution*

Bechuanaland Protectorate



2.6 Inland Revenue - GB23 Overprint

SPECIMEN

Inland Revenue GB26 Overprint

SPECIMEN

The GB23 overprint measures 10 x 1.5 mm.

The GB26 overprint measures 12.5 x 2 mm. Below is the only issuance that uses both.

*1/-, 2/6d (GB23) issued 1943. No record of actual distribution date
351 - 354 specimens required for distribution*

*5/-, 10/- (GB26) distributed March 31, 1947
363 specimens required for distribution*

British Occupation of Italian Colonies



Inland Revenue GB32 Overprint

SPECIMEN

The G32 overprint was only used on the high value Morocco Agency specimens between 1932 and 1937. The GB32 overprint measures 10.5 x 2 mm.

*Distributed November 8, 1932
418 specimens required for distribution*

Morocco Agencies French Currency



3. Distributed specimens that were never issued

Throughout the course of the UPU distributing specimens, there were specimen examples that were either returned, were never issued, or were destroyed.

Ceylon 1884 24 cents, Samuel Type D12 overprint distributed July 26, 1884. 100 specimens were distributed by the UPU to all members. They were prepared for use and sent to Ceylon but were not issued.



Gold Coast 1913 10 shilling, Samuel Type D12 overprint distributed in 1913 but never issued. 389 specimens required for distribution



Jamaica 1921 6d, Samuel Type D12x overprint distributed April 20, 1921. The specimens were sent to Jamaica, but due to political reasons were not issued, and all stocks destroyed. The first two shipments were destroyed on July 2, 1921, and the third shipment in October 1921. As the stamp was so close to issuance, 398 specimens were sent to the UPU for distribution. Only one example of the Multiple Crown CA (left) and 4 examples of the Multiple Script CA (right) exist.



Malaysia Straits Settlements 1921 8d carmine, Samuel Type D12 overprint distributed August 1, 1922, but never issued. SPECIMEN examples were distributed through the UPU, with few overprinted examples known. 410 specimens required for distribution.



Malta 1918 3d with white back, Samuel Type D12 overprint distributed June 29, 1918, SPECIMEN examples were distributed through the UPU. The stamp was never issued, presumably because a large stock of King Edward VII stamps of this denomination remained on hand, even though he passed away on May 6, 1910. 381 specimens required for distribution.



3. Distributed specimens that were never issued

Labuan and North Borneo 1899 4c on 1c, 4c on 2c, 4c on 3c, Samuel Type NB5 overprint distributed October 26, 1899. Referenced in Gibbons with the 1899 sets respectively. 730 specimens required for distribution. The stamps were never issued.



St. Helena 1911 1d red, Samuel Type D12a overprint distributed September 22, 1911. Marcus Samuel called this stamp the "all red error", printed by mistake, as a result of a misunderstanding between the local Postmaster and De La Rue in London. When the Postmaster requested a further supply of the one pence Carmine and Black, specimens were supplied to the UPU for distribution, and a shipment was sent to St. Helena. On arrival, the "all red error" was discovered, and the stock was destroyed. Specimens were distributed to UPU members. 400 specimens required for distribution.



Transvaal 1909 2d grey, Samuel Type D12 overprint distributed September 22, 1909, by the UPU, but the entire supply sent to Transvaal was destroyed. There is one 2d grey non-specimen stamp that exists in the Mosely Collection in the British Library. 409 specimens required for distribution.



Trinidad 1899 3d on 5d dull purple and mauve, Samuel Type D12 overprint distributed December 9, 1899. This stamp prepared for use but was never issued. It was distributed by the UPU to all members. 5 copies were reserved for the Trinidad Official Album. 726 specimens required for distribution.



4. Local Specimens

Thirty-five different UPU members produced protected specimen stamps locally, using local overprints, metal handstamps and rubber handstamps. Of 6326 total distributed UPU specimen stamps, 664 were produced locally. The distribution years were between 1884 (Trinidad) to 1932 (Papua). The Australian States, Labuan, North Borneo, Rhodesia, South Africa and South-West Africa and made up 80% of the locally produced specimens. The following nineteen pages are examples, in alphabetical order, from all thirty-five UPU members. Also included is an "ULTRAMAR" example, added by Portugal Ministry when sent to the Portuguese colonies.

UPU Member	Local Specimens Distributed	Distributed Dates	Specimen Types
Bechuanaland Protectorate*	22	1890 - 1891	BEC2
British East Africa*	4	1894	BEA1
Canada	8	1897, 1906	[1], [2]
Ceylon*	11	1891 - 1927	CE4, CE6, CE7
Dominica*	1	1918	D01
East Africa and Uganda*	1	1919	K2
Fiji*	2	1916	FJ1
Grenada*	2	1892, 1916	GR3, GR5
Hong Kong*	2	1897 - 1898	HK4
India	2	1888 - 1890	[15]
Kenya, Uganda & Tanganyika*	8	1941	K4
Labuan**	71	1894 - 1900	LA2, NB2, NB3, NB4, NB5
North Borneo	84	1894 - 1922	NB2, NB3, NB4, NB5, NB6, NB7, NB8, NB9, NB10
Malta*	1	1902	MAL1
Mauritius*	3	1925	MAU2
Natal*	4	1890 - 1895	NA1
Zululand*	11	1893	NA1
New South Wales	65	1889 - 1904	4,6,12,15,16,16a,18,19
Nyasa-Rhodesia Force - Tanganyika	5	1916	NY4
Orange River Colony*	1	1900	SAA
Palestine	2	1918	PA1
Papua	2	1932	PAP1
Queensland	15	1889	[1]
Rhodesia	52	1902 - 1910	R5, R6, R7
Seychelles*	14	1896 - 1902	SY2, SY3, SY4, SY5
South Africa	22	1910 - 1928	SA1, SA3, SA4, SA5
South Australia	67	1889 - 1895	[1], [2], [3], [4]
South West Africa ***	47	1923 - 1927	SWA1, SA5
St Vincent*	2	1892, 1897	SV5, SV10
Sudan	8	1906	SU1
Tasmania	33	1892 - 1904	[2], [3], [4]
Transvaal*	4	1900	SAA
Trinidad*	6	1884	TRI1
Victoria	52	1891 - 1897	[2], [3]
Western Australia	30	1889 - 1891	WA1
Portugal ****		1899 - 1952	ULTRAMAR

*Also used British printer types **Used North Borneo types ***Used South Africa type ****ULTRAMAR example

4. Local Specimens

British Bechuanaland and Bechuanaland Protectorate BEC2 Handstamp

Thirty stamps have the BEC2 protected specimen handstamp, used from 1888 to 1892, The BEC2 type measures 22.5 x 2.75 mm.

SPECIMEN

Distributed October 1, 1892 730 specimens required for distribution

Bechuanaland Protectorate



British East Africa Company BEA1 Rubber Handstamp

SPECIMEN

The British East Africa Company first four protected specimens have the BEA1 rubber handstamp. It measures 13.5 x 2.75 mm and was probably applied by the London office of the BEA Company. After 1895, all protected types were applied by De La Rue.

5 annas and 7 ½ annas overprint distributed December 3, 1894 - 716 specimens required for distribution
5 annas and 7 ½ annas distributed January 11, 1895 - 721 specimens required for distribution

British East Africa



4. Local Specimens

Canada [1] Rubber Handstamp

SPECIMEN

Canada [2] Rubber Handstamp

SPECIMEN

Eight Canadian stamps had protected specimens distributed by the UPU. Seven of them are the top 1897 Diamond Jubilee values. The twenty-cent has the Canada [2] rubber handstamp which measures 13.5 x 2 mm. The other six have the Canada [1] rubber handstamp which measures 15.5 x 2.5 mm. Presumably because of their high face value, it was decided to protect the top values with a local handstamp before sending to the UPU for distribution.

Distributed October 5, 1897 - 730 specimens required for distribution

Can [2]



Can [1]



Can [1]



Can [1]



Can [1]



Can [1]



Can [1]



Ceylon CE4 Overprint

SPECIMEN

Only two stamps have the CE4 overprint, measuring 20.5 x 2.5 mm.

*Distributed December 15, 1891
716 specimens required for distribution*

Ceylon



Ceylon CE7 Overprint

SPECIMEN

Only two stamps have the CE7 overprint, measuring 16.5 x 1.75 mm.

*Distributed January 24, 1927
415 specimens required for distribution*

Ceylon



4. Local Specimens

Dominica DO1 Handstamp

Specimen.

One stamp has the DO1 type handstamp. It is the 1918 1/2d war tax overprint, and measures 18.5 x.3.25/2.25mm.

*Distributed May 31, 1918
375 specimens required for distribution*



East Africa and Uganda K2 Rubber Handstamp

SPECIMEN

One stamp has the K2 type rubber handstamp. It is the 1919 4c locally surcharged on the 6c, and measures 12.25 x.1.75 mm.

*Distributed September 10, 1919
380 specimens required for distribution*

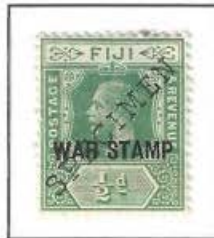


Fiji FJ1 Handstamp

SPECIMEN

Only two stamps have the FJ1 Handstamp, measuring 22.5 x 2.75 mm.

Distributed October 16, 1916 - 378 specimens required for distribution



Grenada GR3 Overprint

Specimen

Grenada GR5 Handstamp

SPECIMEN

The one stamp that has the GR3 overprint measures 12.75 x 2 mm is the 2 1/2d on 8d. The one stamp that has the GR5 handstamp measures 17.25 x 2.5 mm is the 1d war tax .

*Distributed February 24, 1892
345 specimens required for distribution*

*Distributed October 16, 1916
378 specimens required for distribution*

GR3



GR5



4. Local Specimens

Hong Kong HK4 Handstamp

SPECIMEN

Many stamps have the "SPECIMEN" type HK4, but only two stamps, the 1897 \$1 on \$2 bluish green and the 1898 10c on 30c grey black without the Chinese handstamp were distributed to members of the UPU. The HK4 handstamp measures 21.5 x 4 mm.

*Distributed September 16, 1898
730 specimens required for distribution*

Hong Kong



India [15] Rubber Handstamp

SPECIMEN.

India only has two protected specimen stamps distributed by the UPU. They are the 4 annas 6 pies and the 12 anna with a rubber handstamp applied in country, measuring 16 x 2 mm.

*4 anna 6 pies distributed March 5, 1888 - 345 specimens required for distribution
12 anna distributed July 19, 1890 - 345 specimens required for distribution*

India



India



Kenya, Uganda & Tanganyika K4 Rubber Handstamp

SPECIMEN

Eight stamps have the K4 handstamp, measuring 26 x 3 mm. They were the four bilingual pairs of 1921. Two pairs are shown below.

Issued July 1, 1942 - 351 specimens required for distribution



4. Local Specimens

Labuan and North Borneo Handstamps and Overprints

Labuan was a UPU member as a British Colony from April 1, 1877, with their first protected specimen distributed October 22, 1885. North Borneo joined the UPU as a British Protectorate on February 1, 1891, with the first protected specimen distributed November 9, 1894. Many of Labuan's stamp from 1894 to 1904 are North Borneo stamps with a Labuan overprint.

Labuan LA2 Handstamp

SPECIMEN.

The LA2 Labuan handstamp was used on seven stamps. The dimensions are 15 x 3.25 mm. The stamps were printed by De La Rue.

Distributed April 5, 1894

730 specimens required for distribution

Labuan



North Borneo NB2 Overprint

SPECIMEN

Fifteen stamps have the NB2 overprint. They are the set of nine from Labuan, with the top four values shown below and the 1894 North Borneo set. The overprint measures 18.5 x 3 mm. Stamps from May 1894 onwards were printed by Waterlow and the overprints were applied by them.

Distributed July 14, 1894

730 specimens required for distribution

Labuan



4. Local Specimens

Labuan Specimens with North Borneo Overprints

North Borneo NB3 Overprint

SPECIMEN

Ten stamps have the NB3 overprint including the 3 high values of Labuan below and the identical set from North Borneo. The overprint measures 25.25 x 3 mm.

Distributed July 18, 1895

730 specimens required for distribution

Labuan



North Borneo NB4 Overprint

SPECIMEN

Forty-nine stamps have the NB4 overprint. This overprint was used from 1895 to 1902, and measures 20.5 x 3.25 mm.

Distributed July 16, 1898

730 specimens required for distribution

Labuan



North Borneo NB5 Overprint

SPECIMEN

Twenty-nine stamps have the NB5 overprint including the examples below, the identical set from North Borneo, as well as six unissued examples, shown in Frame 4.11. The overprint measures 17 x 2.5 mm.

Distributed October 26, 1899

730 specimens required for distribution

Labuan



4. Local Specimens

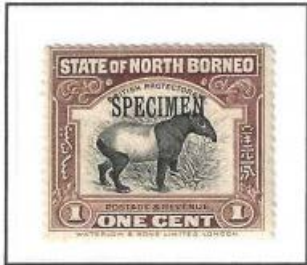
North Borneo NB6 Overprint

SPECIMEN

Twelve stamps have the NB6 overprint, measuring 12 x 2.75 mm. The Jesselton Railway black & green (new color) has the W4 overprint, with 404 specimens required for distribution on May 27, 1922

Distributed July 6, 1909

409 specimens required for distribution



North Borneo NB7 Overprint

SPECIMEN.

Seven stamps have the NB7 overprint, three of which are shown below. The overprint measures 21.75 x 3.25mm.

Distributed February 7, 1911

400 specimens required for distribution



4. Local Specimens

North Borneo NB8 and NB9 Overprint

NB8 SPECIMEN. 22 x 3mm

NB9 SPECIMEN 18.75 x 3mm

The only stamp with the NB8 overprint is the 2c on 3c. The 4c on 6c and 10c on 12c are the only two stamps have the NB9 overprint. 18.75 x 3mm respectively.

Distributed September 12, 1916

378 specimens required for distribution



North Borneo NB10 Overprint

SPECIMEN

Fourteen stamps from the 1922 Malaya-Borneo Exhibition 1922 have the NB10 overprint measuring 15.25 x 2mm. The top four values are shown below.

Distributed September 8, 1922

409 specimens required for distribution



Malta MAL1 Overprint

SPECIMEN

One stamp has the MAL1 overprint, measuring 14.75 x 2mm.

Malta

Distributed June 21, 1902

721 specimens required for distribution



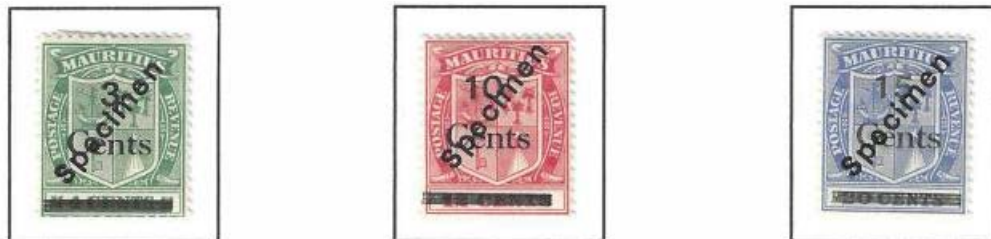
4. Local Specimens

Mauritius MAU2 Overprint

Specimen

Three stamps have the MAU2 overprint, measuring 19.75 x 2.75/2.25 mm.

Mauritius



Distributed January 6, 1926 - 413 specimens required for distribution

Natal and Zululand NA1 Rubber Handstamp

SPECIMEN

The Natal NA1 Rubber handstamp was used on a total of fifteen stamps from Natal and Zululand, from 1890 to 1895, and was applied in Durban. The rubber handstamp type measures 16 x 3 mm.

Natal

*1/- distributed January 23, 1890
345 specimens required for distribution*

*4d and 2 1/2d distributed July 31, 1891
716 specimens required for distribution*

*1/2d on 6d distributed April 10, 1895
726 specimens required for distribution*

*HALF on 1d distributed July 18, 1895
726 specimens required for distribution*



*6d to 5/- and the 1d fiscal stamp distributed November 2, 1893
730 specimens required for distribution*

Zululand



4. Local Specimens

New South Wales Overprints

New South Wales had eight different locally applied specimen types, from 1885 to 1904, on sixty-five stamps. Five examples are shown below.

NSW[4] Overprint

SPECIMEN 13.25x1.75

*Distributed November 2, 1892
730 specimens required for
distribution*



NSW[15] Overprint

Specimen 11.5x2/1.25

*Distributed December 9, 1891
345 specimens required for
distribution*



NSW[16] Overprint

Specimen 13x2.25/1.5

*Distributed December 9, 1891
345 specimens required for
distribution*



NSW[16a] Overprint

Specimen 13.5x2.25/1.5

*Distributed November 2, 1892
730 specimens required for
distribution*



NSW[19] Overprint

Specimen 16x2/1.5

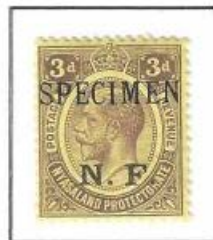
*Distributed August 26, 1897
730 specimens required for
distribution*



Nyasaland-Rhodesia Force - Tanganyika NY4 Overprint **SPECIMEN**

The Tanganyika Nyasaland-Rhodesia Force NY4 Overprint was applied on the Nyasaland 1913 definitive set. It measures 18 x 3 mm and was utilized only on this set.

*Distributed June 9, 1917
375 specimens required for distribution*



Orange River Colony SAA Rubber Handstamp **SPECIMEN**

One stamp has the SAA Rubber Handstamp, measuring 12.5 x 2.25 mm.

Distributed September 27, 1900 - 716 specimens required for distribution



4. Local Specimens

Palestine PA1 Rubber Overprint

SPECIMEN

Palestine

Two stamps have the PA1 overprint, measuring 18.75 x 3 mm.

Distributed October 5, 1918 - 375 specimens required for distribution



Papua PAP1 Overprint

SPECIMEN

Two Papua stamps had protected specimens distributed by the UPU. They were the 9d and the 1/3, printed in 1932. The PAP1 Overprint measures 15.5 x 1.75 mm. It was applied by J. Ash in Melbourne, Australia, the printer of the stamps.

Papua



Distributed August 1, 1932 - 418 specimens required for distribution

Queensland [1] Handstamp

SPECIMEN

Queensland

Fifteen stamps have the [1] Handstamp, measuring 21 x 2.5 mm.


Distributed November 6, 1889 - 345 specimens required for distribution



4. Local Specimens

Rhodesia Perforations and Overprints

Rhodesia (British South Africa Company) joined the UPU on March 1, 1901. Specimens were distributed by the UPU from 1902 until 1919. Three specimen types that are only known on stamps of Rhodesia were distributed from 1902 to 1910.

	R5	Perf		1902 - 1909	5.4
SPECIMEN	R6	Optd	28.5x2	1905	5.4
SPECTMEN.	R7	Optd	12x2	1910	5.5

R5 Perforation



Twenty-nine stamps have the Rhodesia R5 perforation, including examples shown below, the 5d 1905 Victoria Falls stamp, and eighteen specimens distributed in 1909. Examples below are the only perforated specimens distributed by the UPU before 1928.

*£1 distributed December 18, 1902
721 specimens required for distribution*

*3/-, 7/6, 10/-, £2, £5 and £10 distributed December 4, 1908
409 specimens required for distribution*



Rhodesia R6 Overprint

Five stamps have the Rhodesia R5 Overprint that measures 28.5 x 2 millimeters. All five are from the 1905 Victoria Falls set, with three shown here.

SPECIMEN

*Distributed August 17, 1905
409 specimens required for distribution*



4. Local Specimens

Rhodesia R7 Overprint

SPECIMEN.

This set of eighteen stamps is the only example using the R7 overprint type. They were issued to celebrate the Coronation of George V. The overprint was applied vertically, so as not to obscure either King George V or Queen Mary. The overprint measures 12 x 2 mm, with a period after the "N".

Distributed November 30, 1910

409 specimens required for distribution



4. Local Specimens

Seychelles Locally Overprinted and Handstamps

SY2 SPECIMEN 14.25x2.25/1.5

SY4 Specimen 12.75x3.5/2.5

SY3 SPECIMEN 19x2.75

SY5 Specimen 14.75x2.5/1.75

Seychelles had 4 different locally applied specimen types, from 1896 to 1904, on fourteen stamps. All examples are shown below

Seychelles SY2 Overprint

*Distributed September 19, 1896
730 specimens required for distribution*



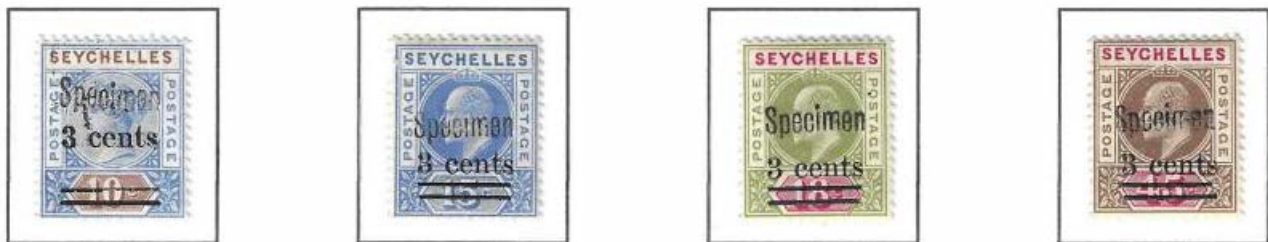
Seychelles SY3 Handstamp

Distributed August 28, 1901 716 specimens required for distribution



Seychelles SY4 Handstamp

*3c on 10c distributed December 19, 1901 - 716 specimens required for distribution
3c on 15c distributed August 24, 1903 - 721 specimens required for distribution
3c on 18c distributed July 7, 1903 - 721 specimens required for distribution
3c on 45c distributed January 18, 1904 - 721 specimens required for distribution*



Seychelles SY5 Overprint

Distributed July 22, 1902 - 721 specimens required for distribution



4. Local Specimens

Union of South Africa SA1 Rubber Handstamp

Specimen.

The South Africa 1910 2 1/2d Union Parliament stamp is the only stamp with the SA1 Handstamp. It measures 13.75 x 21 mm.



*Distributed December 19, 1910
400 specimens required for distribution*

Union of South Africa SA3 Local Overprint and SA4 Rubber Handstamp

SA3

SPECIMEN

SA4

SPECIMEN

The South Africa 1913 - 1924 George V definitive set uniquely utilizes the SA3 overprint and SA4 rubber handstamp. The SA3 overprint measures 13.75 x 2 mm and is applied to eleven of the stamps. The SA4 rubber handstamp measures 18 x 3.25 mm and is applied to three stamps. The 1 1/2d and the 1/3 are diagonally handstamped in violet, with the one pound diagonally handstamped in green. All were applied by Des B. Mackennal, the printers in Pretoria, South Africa.

1/2d, 1d, 2d, 2 1/2d, 3d, 4d, 6d, 1/-, 2/6d. 5/- and 10/- distributed November 14, 1913 - 389 specimens required for distribution

1 1/2d and 1/3d distributed March 10, 1921 - 400 specimens required for distribution

£1 distributed September 12, 1916 - 378 specimens required for distribution



4. Local Specimens

Union of South Africa SA5 Handstamp

SPECIMEN

The South Africa SA5 handstamp was applied on the 1927 Bilingual pairs and South West Africa stamps from 1927 to 1928. The SA5 handstamp measures 14.5 x 2.25 mm and was utilized on twenty-four bilingual pairs and two singles.



Distributed July 30, 1927 - 413 specimens required for distribution

South Australia Overprints

South Australia had three different locally applied specimen types, from 1886 to 1896, on twenty-one stamps. Examples are shown below.

South Australia SA[2] Overprint

SPECIMEN

*Distributed December 20, 1886
345 specimens required for distribution*

12.25x2



South Australia SA[3] Overprint

SPECIMEN

*Distributed April 10, 1894
730 specimens required for distribution*

15x2



South Australia SA[4] Overprint

SPECIMEN

*Distributed 1896
730 specimens required for distribution*

15.25x2



4. Local Specimens

South West Africa SWA1 Overprint

SPECIMEN

The South West Africa SW1 overprint was applied on the 1923 definitive set. It measures 16.25 x 2 mm and was utilized only on this set.

Distributed March 23, 1923

408 specimens required for distribution



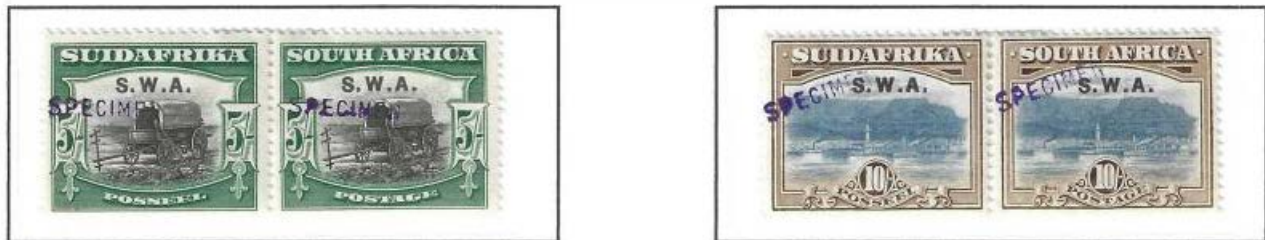
South West Africa SA5 Handstamp

SPECIMEN

The South Africa SA5 handstamp was applied on the 1927 Bilingual pairs and South West Africa stamps from 1927 to 1928. The SA5 handstamp measures 14.5 x 2.25 mm and was utilized on twenty-four bilingual pairs and two singles.

Distributed April 27, 1928

413 specimens required for distribution



Sudan SU1 Overprint

SPECIMEN

Eight stamps have the SU1 overprint, measuring 17.75 x 2.5 mm.

Distributed December 26, 1905 - 726 specimens required for distribution



4. Local Specimens

St. Vincent SV5 and SV10 Overprint

One stamp (5 pence on 4d) has the SV5 overprint measuring 16.25 x 2.5mm (5d on 4d)

One stamp (Three pence on 1d) has the SV10 overprint measuring 17.5 x 2.5mm (3d on 1d)

Five pence on 4d chocolate distributed November 23, 1892 - 730 specimens required for distribution

Three pence on 1d mauve distributed July 30, 1897 - 730 specimens required for distribution

St. Vincent

SV5
specimen



SV10
SPECIMEN



Tasmania TAS[2] Overprint

The top five values of this set of ten was distributed over seven years. The overprint is 18.25 x 2.5 mm, with 730 specimens required for distribution. In the UPU circular 616/38 dated January 27, 1893, it states that only four examples not the normal five were enclosed, with 584 sets distributed.

Distributed between July 5, 1892, until March 29, 1899. Distribution dates shown each stamp



SPECIMEN

Tasmania TAS[3] Overprint

Specimen.

Eight stamps have the TAS [3] Type Overprint. The two high values of the set shown. The overprint is 18 x 2.5 mm.

Distributed between January 24, 1900, to July 21, 1900. 726 specimens required for distribution



Tasmania TAS[4] Overprint SPECIMEN

Fifteen stamps have the TAS [4] Type Overprint. Two are shown. The overprint is 17 x 2 mm.

Distributed between August 24, 1904. 721 specimens required for distribution



4. Local Specimens

Transvaal SAA Rubber Handstamp

Four stamps have the SAA Rubber Handstamp, measuring 12.5 x 2.25 mm.

Distributed September 27, 1900 - 716 specimens required for distribution

Transvaal

SPECIMEN



Trinidad TRI1 Overprint

SPECIMEN

Only 100 sets were distributed. Some postal authorities received complete sets with the D12 overprint. The Royal Swedish General Post Office UPU collection have the 2 1/2d and the 4d overprinted with the D12 Type and the other four with the TRI1 locally applied overprint. The set below all have the TRI1 overprint except for the 6d value (D12). The TRI1 overprint measures 11.5 x 2 mm. **One of five examples known to date.**

Distributed August 30, 1884. 100 specimens required for distribution



Victoria [3] Overprint

Specimen 12x2.5/1.5

Distributed March 22, 1898

730 specimens required for distribution



Western Australia [WA1] Handstamp

SPECIMEN. 15.75x2.75

Distributed December 15, 1891

345 specimens required for distribution



Distributed September 20, 1907

Portugal ULTRAMAR Handstamp

Portuguese Ministry provided an additional protective marking, as a security against theft in transit to the Colonies. **Estimated 25 specimens distributed.**



5. Omnibus - 1935 Silver Jubilee

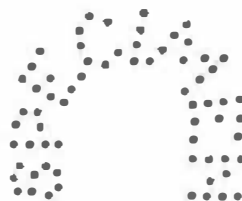
Sixty UPU members issued 1935 Silver Jubilee stamps commemorating the 25th Anniversary of George V as King of Great Britain, the Colonies and Dominions. Forty-four members issued the same set of four on May 6, 1935, with a common design of George V and Windsor castle, but with different colors and denominations. 409 specimens were required for distribution by the UPU, for all forty-four sets, with the following printer breakdown:

- De La Rue & Co (D19 Perforation) - Fourteen UPU members
- Bradbury, Wilkinson & Co (B9 Perforation) - Fifteen UPU members
- Waterlow & Sons (W8 Perforation) – Fifteen UPU members

De La Rue Example D19 British Solomon Islands

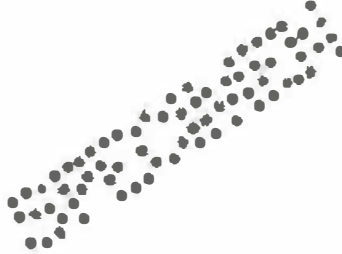


Bradbury, Wilkinson & Co Example B9 Gilbert and Ellice Islands



5. Omnibus - 1935 Silver Jubilee

Waterlow & Sons Example W8 Nyasaland



5. Omnibus 1937 Coronation

Fifty-nine UPU members issued stamps commemorating the 1937 Coronation of George VI and Queen Elizabeth, as King and Queen of Great Britain and the Colonies and Dominions. Forty-five members issued the same set of three, on May 12, 1937, with a common design of the King and Queen together, but with different colors and denominations. 406 specimens were required for distribution by the UPU, for all forty-four sets, with the following printer breakdown:

- De La Rue & Co (D20 Perforation) - Twenty-two UPU members.
- Bradbury, Wilkinson & Co (B9 Perforation) - Twenty-three UPU members.

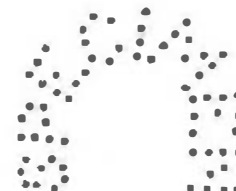
De La Rue Example D20 British Honduras



Strip of two – One known to date

5. Omnibus - 1937 Coronation

Bradbury, Wilkinson & Co Example B9 Falkland Islands



Strip of two – One known to date

5. Omnibus 1946 Victory

Sixty-two UPU members issued stamps commemorating the end of World War II. Forty-five d members distributed specimens, with forty-three members issuing the same set of two, between August 8, 1946, and December 16, 1946. They had a common design of George VI with parliament in the background, and with different colors and denominations. The other two sets were from the Aden Protectorate States of Kathiri and Qu'aiti. De La Rue perforated all of the specimens, with 360 required for distribution by the UPU.

De La Rue & Co Example D21 Pitcairn Islands

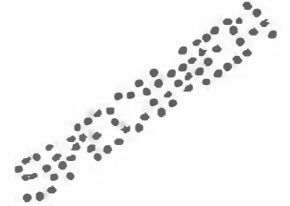


6. Last distributed UPU British Empire protected specimens

The last UPU protected specimen stamps to be distributed were between January 4, 1948, and July 1, 1948.

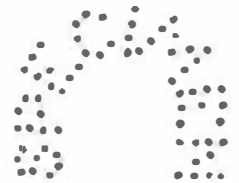
*Antigua Issued January 4, 1948.
Samuel Type W9 Perforation diagonal
380 specimens required for distribution*

Antigua



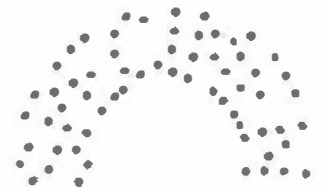
*Mauritius issued March 22, 1948
Samuel Type B9 Perforation
380 specimens required for distribution*

Mauritius



*Montserrat issued January 4, 1948
Samuel Type D21 Perforation diagonal
380 specimens required for distribution*

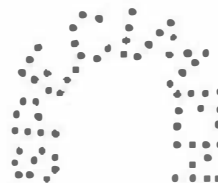
Montserrat



EPILOGUE - The decision to cease using the SPECIMEN perforation was communicated to all Empire UPU members in a circular letter from the Colonial Office dated July 15, 1948, mainly due to cost.

The final British Empire protected set distributed by the UPU was the Gold Coast Definitive set of twelve issued July 1, 1948. All stamps distributed by the UPU after this were uncanceled.

Samuel Type B9 Perforation
379 specimens required for distribution



Gold Coast

