

INTRODUCTION

This catalogue is being published in the hope that it will prove of assistance to those collectors who are making a study of Commonwealth stamps; and an endeavour has been made to put a fair market valuation on every stamp. At the same time, it should be noted that the publishers do not claim to have all priced stamps in stock; in fact, many scarce items can be sold within half-an-hour of their purchase. Where a price is really a matter of negotiation an * has been inserted.

In order to suit the convenience of readers we have found it necessary to divide the issues into various sections, prefixing a special letter to each section. These prefixes are:

- K = Kangaroo series.
- E = The engraved stamps of 1913-4.
- GS = King George 5th Heads, single line perforation.
- G = King George 5th Heads, comb perforation.
- O = Other ordinary issues.
- S = Commemoratives and special issues.
- A = Air stamps.
- P = Plate numbers.
- C = Controls (Monograms and Imprints).
- D = Postage Due stamps.
- UAB = Australian Stamps used Abroad.

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In ordering from this catalogue, it will be necessary always to give the prefix letter, otherwise confusion will result.

The system of listing adopted is to give all marked shades of colours of a stamp; then to follow on with varieties, the latter being lettered a, b, c, etc. The prices for the varieties are for the cheapest shades.

The extreme right column gives a description of the variety and also a list of what varieties are known in a certain shade.

A dash (—) signifies that such a stamp does not exist as far as our present knowledge goes; but we shall be grateful if any reader will inform us if he has a copy of any so marked.

It is necessary that a distinction be drawn between major varieties—which should be listed separately—and minor varieties—which can be grouped together. Major varieties, in our opinion, include shades, retouches, re-entries and the more noticeable plate flaws, etc. Minor varieties consist mainly of electro flaws and faults. We consider it undesirable to inflate this catalogue by including these separately, especially as their philatelic interest is small.

All prices are subject to alteration without notice.

Increasing interest is being shown in official stamps; owing to lack of space, we have been compelled to omit stamps punctured OS, NSW, T, etc., but selections will be willingly sent on approval. Prices of these are roughly twice that of the normal stamp.

ORLO-SMITH & CO.,

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Melbourne.