

half of the cachet was retained by the Philatelic Center of Guayaquil, and the other part was sent to the archive of the Post Office in Quito.

Endnotes:

1. Translated from *Actualidadfilatelica*, Quito, January 29, 2017, with permission.

Use of the Postage Due Jubilee Overprints of New Caledonia

by Edward Grabowski

During July 1903 the French colony of New Caledonia overprinted the current Group Type stamps and colored Duval postage due stamps with a design featuring the island's famous Kagu bird. These overprints were ostensibly created to celebrate the fiftieth anniversary of the French presence (1853 – 1903) on the island. In fact, they were created with an eye to the philatelic market and the opportunity of making much-needed money. Authorities in Paris immediately restricted the use of the Group Type overprints to local mail, to limit the exploitation of the philatelic market.

Examples of the Group Type overprints properly used on local mail can be found with diligent searching, but examples of the proper use of the Duval postage due overprints are, in my experience, extremely rare. I saw an example of the use of the 5c Duval overprint in the Paris international of 1989, but questioned its authenticity. The datestamp on the due stamp preceded the mailing date of the item on which it was on.

Recently, the Cavendish firm in England sold the Eastgate New Caledonia collection. This collection contained what I believe the only example of a cover showing the proper use of the Jubilee Duval due stamps and is shown in the Figure. The letter was posted from Sydney, Australia, on December 4, 1904, and incorrectly franked with a 2d stamp in lieu of a proper 2½d stamp. The shortage was noted by the post office in Sydney, and an N.S.W. T 5 shield-encased handstamp was applied, indicating that the letter was 5 centimes short in postage. On arrival in New Caledonia, two of the 5 centime Jubilee Kagu due stamps were added and canceled on December 10, 1904, to collect the 10 centimes due from the addressee. I have seen philatelic covers with these stamps, and off-cover canceled stamps, but no other cover suggesting the proper use of these issues. Possibly this note will bring other examples forward.



Figure. Letter showing proper use of the Kagu Jubilee due stamps of New Caledonia.