

THE WEST AFRICA STUDY CIRCLE

(The Gambia, Sierra Leone, Gold Coast, Nigeria, St. Helena, Ascension)

N I G E R I A

EMBOSSSED ENVELOPES, POSTCARDS, REGISTERED ENVELOPES, STAMP BOOKLETS - 1914 - 1936

Details based on the notes of the late H.G. Porter with amendments and additions supplied by our Circle members.

The printing quantities have been checked with records held at the National Postal Museum.

N.M. JONES
EDITOR 1983

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POST  CARD

NIGERIA

THE ADDRESS ONLY TO BE WRITTEN ON THIS SIDE.



SPECIMEN

THE ANNEXED CARD IS INTENDED
FOR THE ANSWER.
LA CARTE CI-JOINTE EST DESTINÉE
À LA RÉPONSE.

SPECIMEN



N I G E R I A

EMBOSSSED ENVELOPES - KGV

Envelopes embossed with 1d and 2d stamps of KGV were issued at the end of 1927. They were followed by a 1½d value in 1931. All envelopes are of white paper and of the same size. Approximately 5¼ in. x 4½ in., being printed by Thos. De La Rue & Co. of London.

The colours of the stamps were:-

- 1d red, selling for 1½d each or 1¼d each in packets of 24
- 1½d orange, selling for 2d each or 1¾d each in packets of 24
- 2d chestnut, selling for 2½d each or 2¼d each in packets of 24

ESSAYS

1d photographic essay of a partly hand painted design affixed to card (91 x 112mm) dated '25 March 1927'.

2d similar essay but marked 'not this crown, 'same as 1d duty'.

Die Proof in vermilion on laid paper (58 x 63mm) dated '21-8-27' and marked 'Appd 26/8'.

1d in red and 2d chestnut, two complete envelopes of each, one of each marked 'Appd for colour 29-8-27'.

1½d vermilion, embossed die sunk proof on brown board (105 x 118 x 3½mm) with hand painted 'Nigeria postage three half pence' and super-imposed head and crown dated '10th March 1931' and marked 'G Nigeria 4970' and 'Appd 12-3-31'.

1½d die proof in orange on laid paper (112 x 68 mm) marked 'Nigeria Req 4973' and dated '9-4-31', also the complete envelope marked 'G Req 1973 Appd for colour 15-4-31'.

(Robson Lowe Ltd. 21-12-1978)

PRINTINGS

<u>DATE</u>	<u>1d</u>	<u>1½d</u>	<u>2d</u>
9 SEPT 1927	12,040 422 (Specimen)	-	30,240 422 (Specimen)
21 FEB 1928	24,800	-	-
29 FEB 1928	-	-	60,720
22 JUNE 1928	11,520	-	11,520
27 JUNE 1928	-	-	24,960
29 JUNE 1928	36,960	-	-
25 OCT 1928	-	-	55,800
17 SEPT 1929	57,600	-	-
27 SEPT 1929	46,080	-	-
28 DEC 1929	42,192	-	42,240
21 JUNE 1930	-	-	18,048
8 MAY 1931	-	17,616 411 (Specimen)	-
24 JULY 1931	14,400	50,256	-
25 AUG 1931	40,560	-	-

N I G E R I A

POSTCARDS - KGV

Three different postcards were on issue from 1914 i.e., (Printed by De La Rue & Co. London).

½d green (Die I) printed on white card. Size 4¾ in, x 2⅞ in.

1d carmine (Die I) printed on buff card. Size 5½ in, x 3½ in.

1d reply paid card (Die I) printed on buff card. Size 5½ in. x 3½ in.

Postcards are seldom seen. The Nigerian Postal Authorities recognise postcards but do not now sell stamped cards. The rates for postcards were ½d inland and 1d abroad.

In May 1918 it was announced that Southern Nigeria postcards would be treated as current but that postcards superscribed Lagos, Oil Rivers etc. should be considered obsolete. Southern Nigeria postcards of King Edward VII postally used in 1923 have been seen.

The Posts and Telegraphs Dept. used a printed postcard (about 5 in x 3¾ in) to acknowledge receipt of letters but it is without a stamp. On the address side is printed 'on his Majesty's Service'.

PRINTINGS

<u>DATE</u>	<u>½d</u>	<u>1d</u>	<u>1d (Reply Paid)</u>
21.3.14	2136 393 (Specimen)	-	-
21.8.14	-	2136 396 (Specimen)	960 396 (Specimen)
27.4.15	2532	7212	-
16.12.19	3060	-	-

N I G E R I A

R E G I S T E R E D E N V E L O P E S

KGV

Registered envelopes with a registration fee of 2d were introduced early in 1914. Printed by Thos. De La Rue & Co, the registration stamp, printed on the flap, was of the same design as the adhesives (Die I) but surrounded by a frame containing the words 'Registration Fee'.

They were printed in three sizes:-

<u>TYPE</u>	<u>APPROX SIZE</u>	<u>COLOUR</u>	<u>SELLING PRICE</u>
G	6 in x 3 $\frac{3}{4}$ in	ultramarine on white	3d
H	8 in x 5 in	ultramarine on white	3 $\frac{1}{2}$ d
H2	9 in x 4 in	blue on white	3 $\frac{1}{2}$ d

'Thos De La Rue Patent' printed under the flap.

The registration fee was raised to 3d as from 1 January 1922. The old envelopes bearing 2d registration stamp were not withdrawn but postmasters were instructed to convert them to new stock by affixing a 1d stamp and taking them on charge at the new rates. New registered envelopes, also printed by De La Rue & Co and bearing a 3d registration stamp, were issued in July 1923.

These were printed only in two sizes:-

G	6 in x 3 $\frac{3}{4}$ in	selling for 4d
H2	9 in x 4 in	selling for 4 $\frac{1}{2}$ d

The 3d registration stamp was printed from Die II, also in blue, and also on the flap of the envelope. A change of design of this envelope resulted in the flap being folded over onto the front of the envelope when sealed and not onto the back as for the 2d value envelopes.

'Thos De La Rue Patent')
or 'Thos De La Rue') Printed under the flap.

1914 2d REGISTRATION FEE

<u>DATE</u>	<u>SIZE OF ENVELOPE</u>		
	<u>G</u>	<u>H</u>	<u>H2</u>
11.3.1914	16,405 393 (Specimen)	6,000	3,000
23.4.15	10,067	7,500	4,500
14.6.17	10,293	5,000	10,150
26.6.18	10,100	9,975	9,950
16.7.19	10,250	14,356	-
11.9.19	-	-	5,256
7.5.20	15,000	15,000	5,000
11.5.20	15,250	15,000	5,186
30.8.20	-	-	10,232
28.1.20	19,950	20,300	20,275
5.10.21	20,725	-	-

1923/37 3d REGISTRATION FEE

23.1.23	60,100 410 (Specimen)		40,477 410 (Specimen)
3.9.24	-		20,688
17.8.25	-		20,160
5.2.26	15,360		-
12.7.26	7,680		-
6.10.26	9,120		-
26.1.27	43,920		12,240
19.7.27	45,840		21,048
1.5.28	50,400		-
2.5.28	-		20,880
9.11.28	52,320		-
7.1.30	-		22,320
17.1.30	53,280		-
17.7.30	25,200		-
8.9.31	15,360		-

<u>DATE</u>	<u>G</u>	<u>H2</u>
19.9.31	- 60,960 (Described in Invoice Book as size 'F' !)	-
3.6.32	46,080	-
9.6.32	24,480	-
16.12.32	32,640	-
25.10.33	-	9,600
31.10.33	7,680	-
15.11.33	56,400	3,504
31.5.35	96,000	-
17.6.35	30,720	-
6.7.35	23,040	-
10.7.35	8,160	-
18.8.36	9,600	4,800
2.9.36	10,560	7,380
2.9.36	23,040	-
26.9.36	23,040	-
27.10.36	36,672	-
23.12.37	11,520	-

S T A M P B O O K L E T S

Towards the end of 1913 a requisition was sent to the printers for the preparation of 10,000 stamp books each containing 18 1d and 12 $\frac{1}{2}$ d stamps with double interleaves between stamps making 12 interleaves with advertisements. The advertising matter was finally agreed and on 21 March 1914. The printers were instructed to proceed with their printing in black on wax paper for incorporation in the booklets.

Abverts appearing in the first booklet were as follows:-

- | | |
|--------------------------|-------------------------------|
| 1.) Nestle's Anglo-Swiss | 7. Bank of B.W. Africa Ltd. |
| 2.) Condensed Milk Co. | 8. Compagnie Francaise |
| 3. Groves and Lindley. | 9. J. Piggott Ltd. |
| 4. Fortnum and Mason. | 10. Elder Dempster & Co Ltd. |
| 5. England Clothing Co. | 11. Army and Navy Stores |
| 6. Miller Bros. | 12. Griffiths, McAlister & Co |

The front cover had the title 'Nigeria' printed in black sans-serif block capitals, also the Royal Crown and cypher flanked by the letters P.O., the number of stamps in the booklet and the price. On the back was a table of poundage on postal orders. All the printings will be found with the covers wired right and left hand to make use of the sheet margins of the stamps from both sides of the panes.

SPECIMENS

- 1920 (May) 2/- booklet exploded and each pane and advertisement mounted at one side to album page, the two $\frac{1}{2}$ d and three 1d panes of six and all overprinted 'specimen' (D9A).
- 1925 (Feb) 4/- booklet similarly exploded and mounted, the outer covers creased, the two panes of six 1d and three of 2d values diagonally handstamped 'specimen' (D18).
- 1931 (Jan) 4/- booklet similarly exploded and mounted, the two panes of six of the 1d and four panes of the $1\frac{1}{2}$ d values each overprinted 'specimen' (D16a).

(Robson Lowe 21-12-1978)

S T A M P B O O K L E T S

<u>DATE</u>	<u>$\frac{1}{2}$d</u>	<u>1d</u>	<u>NO. OF BOOKLETS</u>	<u>VALUES</u>
5 MAY 1914	123,480	185,220	10,290	12 x $\frac{1}{2}$ d 18 x 1d
28 JUNE 1915	120,000	180,000	10,000	"
16 DEC 1919)	48,000	72,000	4,000	"
22 DEC 1919)	72,000	108,000	6,000	"
5 AUG 1920	61,200	91,800	5,100	"
	<u>1d</u>	<u>2d</u>		
5 APR 1921	120,840	-)	10,070	12 x 1d 18 x 2d
25 APR 1921	-	181,260)		
25 FEB 1924	36,360	54,540	3,030	"
4 FEB 1925	38,640	57,960	3,220	"
30 NOV 1925	60,000	90,000	5,000	"
3 NOV 1926	24,720	37,080	2,060	"
30 SEPT 1927	60,600	90,900	5,050	"
2 MAY 1928	61,560	92,340	5,130	"
8 DEC 1928	73,200	109,800	6,100	"
13 NOV 1929	120,600	180,900	10,050	"
15 JULY 1930	48,720	73,080	4,060	"
	<u>1d</u>	<u>$1\frac{1}{2}$d</u>		
29 JAN 1931	91,200	182,400	7,600	12 x 1d
2 SEPT 1931	60,000	120,000	5,000	24 x $1\frac{1}{2}$ d "