

MEMBERS COMMENTS ON PREVIOUS BULLETINS

Query 1. - Postmark on KEVII 1/- Stamp - Bulletin 344/16

Jim Lays has written with the following additional information:-

“I can add some information to Rosemary Smith's Query 1 regarding the postmark. A number of years ago I acquired a King Edward 5/- with a similar postmark (not perfined, however). The full postmark reads "Deutsch-Amerikanische Seepost/Bremen/ New York/date/roman numeral (could be any I-X, indicating the ship)". I wrote to Edwin Drechsel about it, author of - "1886-1986, A Century of German Ship Posts." He replied,

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"Under U.S.-German agreements, only stamps of the two countries were to be used on board. German Seapost cancels on non-German stamps are infrequent. I'd guess 90% plus are philatelic. If somebody legitimately, i.e., a passenger after leaving Britain, had a British stamp and happened to use it, then normally the stamp would be invalidated by pen etc., the Seapost cancel applied to the cover, and postage due charged, but not always collected." The ships did stop in Southampton."

“The Norddeutscher Lloyd, Bremen line was founded in 1857 to improve shipping connections to England as well as trans-Atlantic passenger, freight, and mail service to America via New York. In 1847 the US had established Bremen as its continental mail agency. That Rosemary's stamp has the AL perfin of the American Line, makes it all the more interesting!”