

Religion

Melvyn Green

Perfin Society

September 2022

Church Missionary Society for Africa and The East



King George V airmail cover with 1/2d green SG418 and 4d grey-green SG424, both perforated CMS/D (C5090.01M) and identity of The Church Missionary Society for Africa and the East, Salisbury Square, London EC4. Sent to Auckland, New Zealand 25th April 1933 with double ring London handstamp cancels.

The Church Mission Society (CMS), formerly known as the Church Missionary Society, is a British mission society working with the Christians around the world. Founded in 1799 at a meeting of the Eclectic Society, supported by members of the Clapham Sect, a group of activist Anglicans who met under the guidance of John Venn, the Rector of Clapham. In 1829, the CMS began to send medical personnel as missionaries. Initially to care for the mission staff, these missionaries could also care for the physical well-being of local populations.

During the early 20th century, the society's theology moved in a more liberal direction under the leadership of Eugene Stock. In 1995 the name was changed to the Church Mission Society and there was a significant swing back to the Evangelical position, probably in part due to a review in 1999 at the anniversary and also due to the re-integration of Mid Africa Ministry. The position of CMS is now that of an ecumenical Evangelical society and is based in Oxford.

CMS has attracted over nine thousand men and women to serve as mission partners during its 200-year history. The society has also given its name "CMS" to a number of daughter organisations around the world, including Australia and New Zealand, which have now become independent.

London Central YMCA



Receipt cancel



George Williams



King George V & King Edward VIII cover with 1/2d green SG439, 2 x 1d red SG440, 1/2d green SG457 and 1d red SG458, all perfined CYM/CA (C8780.01) and identity of London Central Young Men's Christian Association, 13 Great Russell Street, London, WC. Cover sent to Amboise, France on 16th December 1936 with London WC handstamps. This die was in use from 1920 to 1939

On 6 June 1844, 22 year old draper George Williams, concerned about the welfare of his fellow workers, joined 11 friends to organise the first Young Men's Christian Association (YMCA), a refuge of Bible study and prayer for young men seeking escape from the hazards of life on the streets of London.

Today, YMCA has grown to serve more than 65 million people in 120 countries regardless of age, race, gender, sexual orientation or socio-economic background.

Other YMCA dies



Y0710.01 In Use 1920 - 1945



Y0710.01a In Use 1915 - 1922



Y0710.01b In use 1915 - 1939



Y0720.01 In use 1945 - 1970



Y0720.02 In use 1895 - 1903



Y0720.03 In use circa 1915



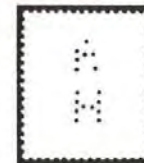
Y0720.03a In use circa 1914

Archbishops House



John Power, Esq.,
Borough Education Officer,
County Council of Middlesex,
Education Offices,
Philip Lane,
Tottenham, N. 15.

FROM ARCHBISHOP'S HOUSE,
WESTMINSTER, LONDON, S. W. 1.



Queen Elizabeth II cover with 3 x 1/2d orange SG570 and 3d lilac SG575 all perfined A/H (A2745.02) and identity of Archbishop's House, Westminster, London SW1. Sent to Borough Education Office, Middlesex County Council, Tottenham N15 in December 1959 with circular London SW1 and "Post Early for Christmas", machine cancels. Die in use 1945 to 1968. Archbishop's House is the residence of the Roman Catholic Archbishop of Westminster, designed in the 1890s by John Francis Bentley and built between 1902 and 1903. Archbishop's House is both the official and private residence of the Archbishop and his personal staff.

J Wippell & Co



J. WIPPELL & CO LTD
CLERICAL OUTFITTERS
 & CHURCH FURNISHINGS
 SINCE 1780



King Edward VIII cover with 11/2d brown SG459 perfined JW/&Co (J8420.03M) and identity of John Wippell & Co Ltd, Clerical Clothing, Church Furniture and Graduation Gown Manufacturers, 4 & 5 Duncannon St, London WC2 and still trading today, now at 11 Tufton St, Westminster, London SW1. Also in Exeter, Devon. Cover sent to Howe, Indiana, USA 15th October 1936 with horizontal Exeter, Devon and wavy lines, machine, cancels. This die was in use 1924 to 1937. Note the missing pin on the "W" from c1935 onwards. They used 4 different perfins in all from 1885 to 1937



J8420.01
1885 - 1922



J8420.02
1905 - 1915



J8420.03a
1900 - 1922



J8420.05
1915 - 1920

Church of England Zenana Missionary Society



King George VI cover with 21/2d light blue SG489 perforated Z (Z0011.02) and identity Church of England Zenana Missionary Society, 19 & 21 Conway Street, London W1. Cover sent 2nd June 1942 to Dublin, Eire with circular London W1 "B" and wavy line, machine cancels. It has been opened by censor and marked 216 in blue crayon. Currently this is the only known use of this die. The die itself appears to be a truncated 13 pin "N" on its side. See Perfin Society Bulletin 371. There are 6 other known Church of England Zenana Missionary Society dies which have been used over the period 1939 to 1957.

The Anglican Church was inspired to create the Church of England Zenana Missionary Society by the example of the Baptist Missionary Society, which had inaugurated zenana missions in India in the mid-19th century. Women in India at this time were segregated under the purdah system, being confined to a women's quarters, known as a zenana, into which it was forbidden for unrelated men to enter. The zenana missions were made up of female missionaries who could visit Indian women in their own homes with the aim of converting them to Christianity.

The purdah system made it impossible for many Indian women, especially high status women, to access health care, and many were dying and suffering needlessly. By training as doctors and nurses, the women of the zenana missions were accepted by the women of India into their homes in a way that men would not have. The zenana missions expanded from just home visits to open mobile clinics in rural areas, women only hospitals and all girl schools. They were all staffed and run by women both recruited in Britain and those recruited and trained locally in India.

The success of the Baptists in gaining local acceptance would lead to the creation of Anglican zenana missions in 1880, and the adoption of similar tactics in countries which practised segregation of men and women, the society became active in Qing dynasty China in 1884, Japan in 1886, and Sri Lanka (at that time known as Ceylon) in 1889. The work of the society was supported by the endowment of trusts by notable people of Victorian England. The activities of the society in India were wound up in the years following Indian independence and came to an end in China in 1950 shortly after the establishment of the People's Republic. In 1957 the Church of England Zenana Society was absorbed into the Church Mission Society, an organisation it had worked alongside for many years.

The Poor Clergy Relief Corporation



King George V cover with 11/2d brown SG420 perfined PC/RC (P1190.01) and identity of The Poor Clergy Relief Corporation, 38 Tavistock Square, London WC1. Cover sent to Budleigh Salterton, Devon, 11th June 1934 with circular London "G" and wavy lines, machine, cancels. This die in use 1899 to 1934.

The Poor Clergy Relief Society was established in 1856 by the Revd W G Jervis, a curate in Kingston, Surrey. Its purpose was to make monetary grants to 'impecunious' clergy, many of whom were struggling on low incomes. This was a challenge to the Sons of the Clergy and the Friend of the Clergy Corporation, whose main focus was to support the widows and children of clergy, not clergy themselves. The charity was incorporated by Royal Charter in 1867.

THE POOR CLERGY RELIEF CORPORATION

ESTABLISHED 1856. INCORPORATED BY ROYAL CHARTER 1867. President: THE LORD BISHOP OF LONDON.

THE ONLY SOCIETY of the kind which gives **Immediate Assistance** to the Clergy, their Widows and Orphan Daughters, **IN ALL PARTS OF THE EMPIRE.**

At each **Fortnightly Meeting** of the Committee some **Hundreds of Pounds** are distributed (besides valuable gifts of Clothing), and a large fund is required to meet the ever-increasing appeals for help. The Society has aided over **38,000** cases of Clerical Distress.

The Late **ARCHBISHOP OF CANTERBURY**, at the 46th Annual General Meeting of Members of the Corporation, said: "**There is no other Society, so far as I am aware, which deals so immediately and with such care with cases of the kind.**"

DONATIONS AND ANNUAL SUBSCRIPTIONS,

and Gifts of Clothing of every description, will be most gratefully received by

MANDEVILLE B. PHILLIPS, Secretary, 38, Tavistock Place, Tavistock Square, London, W.C. 1.

Queen Anne's Bounty



Bounty Office,
3, Deans Yard, Westminster, S.W.1.

27th October 1931

Benefice of West Derby

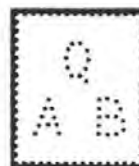
Dear Sirs

I have to acknowledge the receipt
of your communication of the 24th inst. (with
enclosures), which is receiving attention.

Yours faithfully,

F. G. Hughes,
Secretary and Treasurer.

[465]



King George V trade post card with 1/2d green SG418 perfined Q/AB (Q0070.01M) and identity of Queen Anne's Bounty, Bounty Office, 3 Deans Yard, Westminster, London SW1. Sent 27th October 1931 to Liverpool with triangular SW1 handstamp plus small double ring London SW1 and wavy lines, machine cancels. This die was in use from 1882 to 1940.

Queen Anne's Bounty was a scheme established in 1704 to augment the incomes of the poorer clergy of the Church of England through a Board of Governors.

Originally the bounty was funded by the monies (annates – "first fruits" – the first years income of a cleric newly appointed to a benefice and "tenths", a tenth of the income in subsequent years) traditionally paid by English clergy to the Pope until the Reformation, and thereafter to the Crown. Henry VIII on becoming the recipient of these monies had them carefully valued and specified as sums of money. In 1947 the functions and assets of Queen Anne's Bounty were merged with the Ecclesiastical Commissioners to form the Church Commissioners.

Waifs & Strays Society



Founders in 1932



King George VI cover with 1d pale red SG 486 perfined W&S (W6680.05M) and identity of Waifs & Strays Society, later known as The Church of England Children's Society, Old Town Hall, Kennington, London SE11. Sent 10th December 1949 to Maidstone, Kent with single ring Hitchin, Herts and "Post Early for Christmas", machine cancels. This die was in use from 1941 to 1969.

The Waifs and Strays' Society was founded in 1881 by Edward de Montjoie Rudolf (1852 -1933). He was a civil servant. He also worked with his brother, Robert, as Sunday School teacher, in the parish of St Anne's, South Lambeth, London. This was a poor area with many needy children. One day in 1881 two brothers who attended the Sunday School suddenly stopped coming. They were later found in a neglected state begging for food from workers at a local gasworks. Their father had died, leaving their mother with seven children to look after. She was unable to support the boys, but she did not want the family to go into a Workhouse. The boys had to fend for themselves. The Rudolf brothers tried to find a Church of England Home for the boys to go into, but they could not find one that would take them without requiring a payment. The boys were eventually admitted free of payment into a Home which was not allied to any particular Church. Edward Rudolf decided that there was a need for Church of England Homes for destitute children that didn't necessarily require payment. The Archbishop of Canterbury, Dr Archibald Tait, became President of the Society on 24 August 1881. From this date on the Society became an officially recognised organisation of the Church of England. It was known as the "Church of England Central Home for Waifs and Strays".

Other Religious dies



O1710.01 In use 1890 – 1905



Order of Saint Benedict, St Augustine's Monastery, Ramsgate.



S6840.01 In use 1895 – 1920



Sunday School Union, 55-56 Old Bailey, London EC.



N3120.01M In use 1920 – 1945



National Sunday School Union, 55-56 Old Bailey, London EC.
and 57 & 59 Ludgate Hill, London EC4.



M1525.01a In use 1900 -1915



A R Mowbray & Co Ltd, Church Printers & Publishers, Oxford.



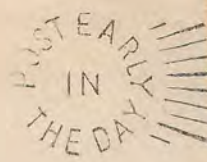
B1720.01 In use 1930 – 1937



Broadway Congregational Societies, Brook Green Rd,
Hammersmith, London W6.

United Society for Christian Literature

EXAMINER 6762



Emory Ross Esq.,
Africa Committee,
156 Fifth Avenue,
NEW YORK, U.S.A

4, BOUVERIE STREET,
LONDON, E.C.4.



King George VI censored cover with 2½d blue SG466 perfined USCL (U1750.01M) and identity of United Society for Christian Literature, 4 Bouverie Street, London EC4, Publisher of Periodicals and Books. Sent to New York City, USA on 17th February 1941 with single ring Reigate & Redhill, Surrey and "Post Early in the Day", sunrise, machine cancel. Die in use from 1930 to 1941 when the multiheaded die was presumed to be destroyed in the "Blitz" in May 1941. It was replaced by die US/CL (U1760.01) which was used from 1941 to 1957.



Die U1760.01

Originally known as The Religious Tract Society it was a British evangelical Christian organization founded in 1799 and known for publishing a variety of popular religious and quasi-religious texts in the 19th century. The society engaged in charity as well as commercial enterprise, publishing books and periodicals for profit. Periodicals published by the RTS included Boy's Own Paper, Girl's Own Paper and The Leisure Hour. The society also published the notable novel, Pilgrim's Progress, by John Bunyan.

As the society entered the 20th century, its operations contracted. In 1935, the society merged with the Christian Literature Society for India and Africa, later also incorporating the Christian Literature Society for China in 1941. The resulting entity was the United Society for Christian Literature, which, as of 2006, was continuing its mission, largely in the form of overseas missionary work.