

## Stamps & Postal History

of China, Hong Kong, Thailand, and other Asian Countries

China including the fine collection formed by William P. Geddis, Jr., with Early Customs Post, Specialized Large Dragons, 1885-88 Small Dragons, 1894 Dowagers, 1897 New Currency Surcharges and Red Revenues, Republic of China rarities, People's Republic of China, Taiwan, and Foreign Post Offices. Hong Kong and Treaty Ports including the second portion of the Lee Scamp collection of postal history. Asia features Thailand with a further part of the J.M.S. Roberts collection of cancellations.

## Auction in Hong Kong

<b>Thursday</b>	<b>28 June 2007</b>	
<b>Morning Session</b>	<b>10:00 am</b>	<b>Lots 1 - 800</b>
<b>Late Afternoon Session</b>	<b>6:00 pm</b>	<b>Lots 801 - 1223</b>
<b>Evening Session</b>	<b>10:00 pm</b>	<b>Lots 1224 - 1379</b>

at The Excelsior, Hong Kong  
Harbour View Room I & II  
Level 3  
281 Gloucester Road  
Causeway Bay  
Hong Kong  
Tel : (852) 2894 8888  
Auction telephone (on day of the sale) : (852) 2521 2883

## Pre-Sale Viewing

Monday	25 June 2007	From 10:00 am to 6:00 pm
Tuesday	26 June 2007	From 10:00 am to 6:00 pm
Wednesday	27 June 2007	From 10:00 am to 5:00 pm

at The Excelsior, Hong Kong  
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Front Cover Illustration Lots 233, 234, 249, 356, 367 & 393  
Back Cover Illustration Lots 129 & 705

## Conditions of Sale

1. The auction will take place publicly and voluntarily. Participation means acceptance in full of the Terms of Auction, considered as known, of ZURICH ASIA (hereafter referred to as the auctioneer) by the Purchaser (hereafter also referred to as the Bidder or Buyer).

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6. Upon the fall of the Auctioneer's hammer, a sales contract is entered into between the Auctioneer and the Bidder. The Buyer is obliged to accept the goods. The risk passes to the Buyer with the fall of the hammer; title of ownership, however, passes to the Buyer only after full payment of the total amount due.

7. The auction will be conducted in Hong Kong dollars. Where a currency converter is operated it is for convenience only. Zurich Asia is not responsible for any errors which may occur.

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10. Payment of lots is due on the day following the auction unless the Auctioneer has granted terms of payment of 5 days thereafter. Postal or Commission Bidders are obliged to transfer the amount due immediately on receipt of invoice. The handing over of lots can only be claimed after payment in full. Upon delay of payment the Auctioneer reserves the right either to sue the Buyer for payment or to cancel the sales contract without granting any further grace period and to claim for damages for breach of contract together with the costs of such proceedings on a full indemnity basis. If the payment is more than 30 days overdue, **a surcharge of 5% and interest in the amount of 4% above The Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation Limited base rate will be payable.**

11. The lots sold to Postal or Commission Bidders will be forwarded by mail or by other means of transport at the Bidder's risk and expense.

12. Any Bidders acting on account and behalf of a legal person must submit proof of their representation right (power of attorney, certificate of registration). They are personally liable, especially regarding the obligation entered into during the auction. Bids made for unnamed persons or for persons named later or for not yet legally existing persons cannot be considered.

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**ARRANGEMENT OF THE SALE**  
**28 June 2007****Morning Session at 10:00 am**

CHINA	1 - 800
Postal History of the Customs Post	1 - 15
Stamps of the Ching Dynasty and Republic of China	16 - 391
Chinese Provinces	392 - 397
Manchukuo	398
Japanese Occupation	399
Northeastern Provinces	400 - 401
Collections	402 - 404
Postal Formulars	405 - 406
Postal Stationery	407 - 419
Covers and Cancellations	420 - 583
People's Republic of China	584 - 626
Taiwan	627 - 643
Local Post	644 - 656
Foreign Post Offices	657 - 793
Tibet	794 - 799
Mongolia	800

**Late Afternoon Session at 6:00 pm**

HONG KONG AND TREATY PORTS	
Early Postal History	801 - 837
Issued Stamps	838 - 865
Postal Stationery	866 - 908
Covers and Cancellations	909 - 979
Branch Offices	980 - 997
Maritime Mail	998 - 1036
Military Mail	1037 - 1092
Japanese Occupation	1093 - 1094
British Post Offices in China	1095 - 1112
Treaty Ports	1113 - 1223
Philippines	1203 - 1208
Macau	1209 - 1216
Incoming Mail to Treaty Ports	1217 - 1223

**Evening Session at 10:00 pm**

ASIA	
Japan	1224 - 1231
Korea	1232
South East Asia	1233
Thailand	1234 - 1379

## Introduction

Once again, we have tried to put together a diverse selection of postal history and stamps, which will appeal to the widest possible audience of collectors. One of our favorite subjects is the early Customs Post, and the 1878 (29 March) cover from Newchwang to Paris with a spectacular franking cancelled at the French Post Office in Shanghai to make up the 80 centimes rate for overseas mail is a fine illustration of the working of the recently established regular Customs courier service. The first postage stamps were issued in late July of the same year, and there are lovely examples of the Large Dragon essays with the “extra circle” (these eventually became the issued stamps following the removal of the middle pearl under the left claw of the dragon on each value), as well as a set of complete sheets and usages on cover. There are fine cameo sections of the Small Dragons and Dowagers. We are again pleased to present many 1897 New Currency surcharge rarities and varieties, including the legendary “Red Ruby.”

The ever-popular Red Revenues have a number of highlights, including a pristine mint never hinged example of the original unsurcharged 3c. red in the true deep rich colour and a splendid example of the famous Small One Dollar surcharge. Of the 32 recorded examples of this great rarity, I have been privileged to handle seven. The magnificent example in this auction was in the Edwin Finegan collection. Auctioned in London in 1937, the Finegan collection boasted impeccable provenances. Finegan purchased both the George H. Worthington and W.H. Gardner collections intact. When Scott Stamp and Coin Company broke up the John Luff collection for sale, Finegan had first pick. He had also acquired numerous items from the accumulation of Sir Robert Hart, the Inspector General of the Imperial Chinese Customs.

Among the rarities of the Republic of China are the Hall of Classics \$2 inverted centre and the American Bank Note Company Dr. Sun Yat-sen \$2 inverted centre, following the world record realization we achieved in last November’s auction. The postal history includes a fine representation of dollar chops, which also appear throughout the Foreign Post Offices. In addition, there are two important historical letters. One is an 1857 (April) envelope from the French Legation in Canton (with its cachet and official wax seal), which had only been recently established following the seizure of Canton on 27 December 1857 by the joint British and French expeditionary force. The other letter was written on 29 December 1884 on board the French warship “Eclaireur” lying at anchor off Tamsui during the French blockade of Formosa and occupation of Keelung.

The second part of the Lee Scamp collection of Hong Kong and Treaty Ports forms the major part of the more than four hundred lots in the Hong Kong section. In addition to the classic postal history, there is emphasis on the later nineteenth through twentieth century. Nearly every subject conceivable is covered. It is hoped that the lots will appeal to all categories of collectors, since these have been broken down into many individual and small group lots. Once again, we have been able to take advantage of Lee’s research and encyclopedic knowledge by incorporating as much information as possible in the descriptions.

Finally, the Asian countries conclude with another offering from the extensive J.M.S. Roberts collection of the cancellations of Thailand.

J.S.S.