

# ROYAUME (DE) BELGIQUE CINDERELLA

## PREGRAPHIC

“They were people whose lives were slow, who did not see themselves growing old, or falling sick, or dying, but who disappeared little by little in their own time, turning into memories, mists from other days, until they were absorbed into oblivion.” — Gabriel García Márquez

## CONTENTS

### PREAMBLE

### PART 1 : The “FILATELIC PHANTASY”

#### ROYAUME (DE) BELGIQUE CINDERELLA: THE IMAGE

#### ROYAUME (DE) BELGIQUE CINDERELLA: WHAT DO WE THINK WE KNOW ABOUT THE SUBJECT?

#### BELGIUM'S ROYAUME (DE) BELGIQUE CINDERELLA: A / The AETIOLOGY of the ORIGINAL DOCUMENT is UNKNOWN

#### BELGIUM'S ROYAUME (DE) BELGIQUE CINDERELLA: The TRANSCRIPTION of DOCUMENT [A] and an ERRATUM

#### BELGIUM'S ROYAUME (DE) BELGIQUE CINDERELLA: a further critique of DOCUMENT [A]

- THE TYPEFACE suggesting a plausible VINTAGE of the DOCUMENT
- EXAMINING the quoted WWI EARLY TIMELINE
- THE BISHOP OF DOVER
- HYMN # 12

#### ROYAUME (DE) BELGIQUE CINDERELLA: A COMMENTARY on "WHAT IS THIS ENGLAND -BELGIUM CINDERELLA STAMP?" JANUARY 2013 BLOG TITLE and DISCOURSE

#### OSTENDE - DOVER FERRY SERVICES: A BRIEF BUT PERTINENT HISTORY

#### SY MARGARITA, ALBERTA, RAZSVET, SURPRISE: ref. Lloyd's Register Marine and yacht logbook

#### GAMES OF CHANCE and the OSTEND CASINO

### PART 2: PHILATELIC CONSIDERATIONS PRE-1920

#### BELGIUM'S HERALDRY: THE STATE OF BELGIUM

#### BELGIUM'S HERALDRY: KING LEOPOLD II

## **BELGIUM'S ROYAUME (DE) BELGIQUE CINDERELLA: A BACKGROUND to the PRE-1920 PHILATELIC CONSIDERATIONS**

- THE LANGUAGE and SPECULATED DESIGN, PRINTING AND PERFORATION
- HERALDRY
- THE ENGRAVERS and ENGRAVER's MARK
- CHARLES WIENER, DESIGNER and ENGRAVER
- What then of the ROYAUME (DE) BELGIQUE CINDERELLA?

### **ROYAUME (DE) BELGIQUE CINDERELLA: The EPILOGUE**

- The ORIGINAL ESSAY, DOCUMENT [A]
- LINGUA FRANCA
- EXPLORING known COMMERCIAL INSTRUMENTS extant pre-1918

A Promissory note

A Voucher

A Waybill

A Ticket

### **ROYAUME (DE) BELGIQUE CINDERELLA: The SUMMATION**

- Designer and Etcher
- Likely dates when the stamp was designed and executed
- Ostende Casino and English Gambling Law
- Commercial Instruments
- Shipping Vessels
- Specimens 1 and 2

### **APPENDIX 1: SY ALBERTA: A BACKGROUND to the OWNERS**

### **APPENDIX 2: GAMBLING, A BACKGROUND to that in the UNITED KINGDOM**

### **APPENDIX 3: THE KINGDOM of DEH SEDANG**

### **APPENDIX 4: PAQUEBOTS DE L'ETAT BELGE LIGNE OSTENDE-DOUVRES (STEAMERS OF THE BELGIAN STATE OSTENDE-DOVER LINE PRE-WW II)**

### **APPENDIX 5: BELGIUM PHILATELIC ISSUE 15 JUNE 1946: MARKING THE 100TH ANNIVERSARY OF OSTENDE-DOVER MAILBOAT SERVICE**

## PREAMBLE

In recent years, at least three similar Cinderellas have appeared on the international market, commanding widely divergent prices but with little evidence as to their aetiology and the market forces that drive the merchants' estimated values.

To quote a well-known philatelic dealer:

"As far as I am aware the stamp was issued as an envelope seal to promote the Dover-Ostend ferry service (three times a day) not sure where the yacht fits in... "

My purpose is to explore that which is lost, to apply some interdisciplinary research to the topic in an attempt to deliver pertinent context to the subject and help dissipate some of the mental fog that surrounds these fascinating objects.

## PART 1 : The "FILATELIC PHANTASY"

### ROYAUME (DE) BELGIQUE CINDERELLA: THE IMAGE



Specimen 1

Specimen 2



Specimen 1



Specimen 2

**DESIGN, PRINTING and PERFORATION:**

Both items are in the author's possession.

Specimens 1: The design is etched very proficiently. The printing is Line-engraving ("recess", taille-douce / intaglio) or half-tone (arguably "the cheapest reproductive medium" often used for mass printings). The paper is wove ? gm; the perforation is of the meticulous comb-type, gauge ? with the perforations well defined, suggesting a different type of operation and of a differing vintage to that above.

Specimen 2: The design is etched quite proficiently. The printing is Typography (En épargne) or Collotype ("it has been the medium for so plausible forgeries"). Typography was the favoured means of printing Belgium stamps until circa 1915. The paper is wove ? gm and blued (bleute) though that may be an aberration related to creating the photographic image. The perforation is crude line-type and partially blind, gauge unknown, with most perforations "nibbed" suggesting the use of a private perforation process.

**HERALDRY:** In both cases, the centre of the label is occupied by a simple COAT OF ARMS consisting of a belt buckled and knotted, with the belt in annulo with an end pendant; its charge bears a Belgian lion, and all is ensigned with the Royal Crown of Belgium. This suggests to the author a link to the state and/or the Royal family.

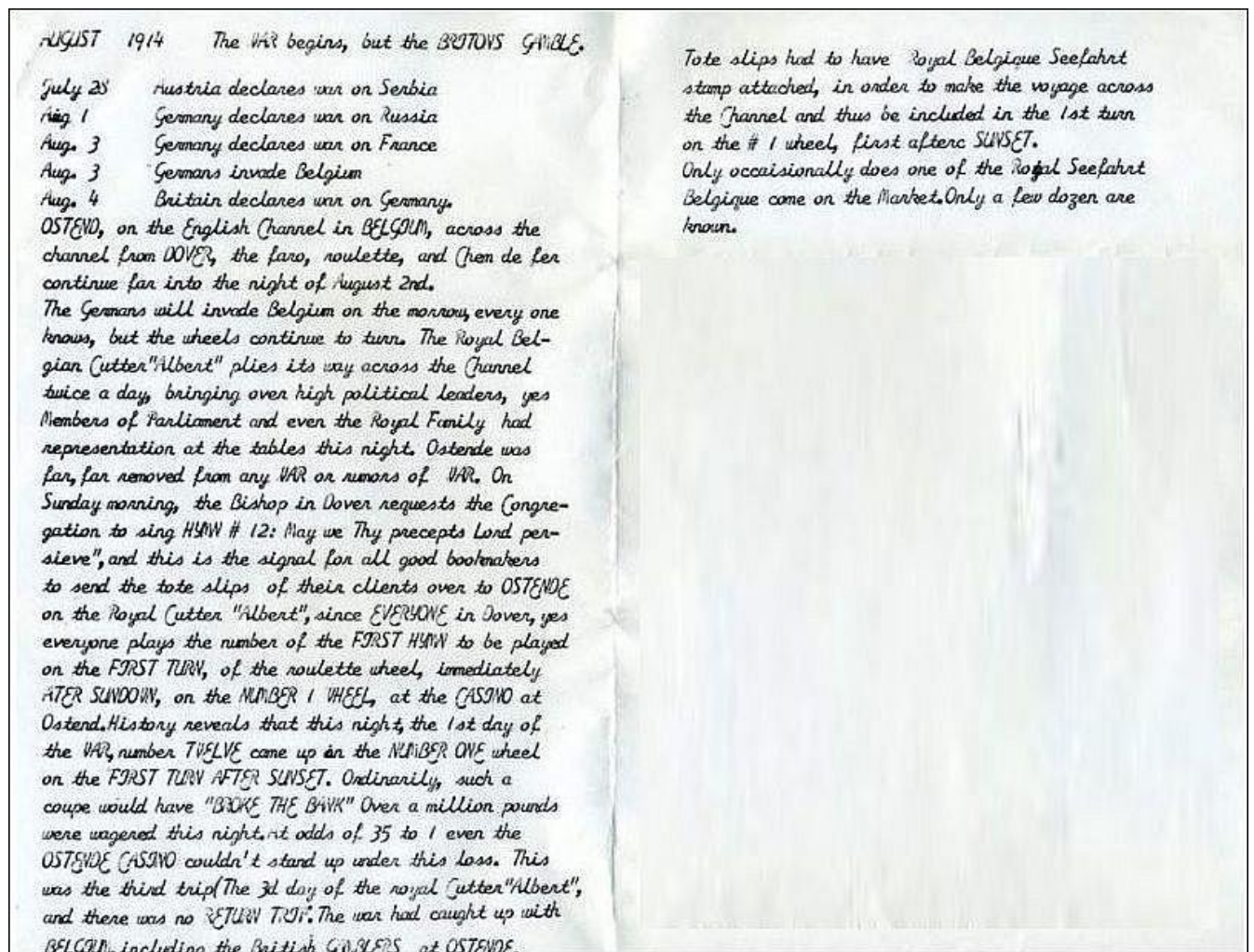
ROYAUME (DE) BELGIQUE CINDERELLA: WHAT DO WE THINK WE KNOW ABOUT THE SUBJECT ?

The author notes two documents relevant here. These are:

A/ An oft quoted original document aetiology unknown

B/ "What is this England - Belgium Cinderella stamp?" January 2013 Blog Title and Discourse

BELGIUM'S ROYAUME (DE) BELGIQUE CINDERELLA: The AETIOLOGY of the ORIGINAL DOCUMENT [A] is UNKNOWN



Document A

AUGUST 1914

The WAR begins, but the BRITONS GAMBLE

July 28 Austria declares war on Serbia

Aug 1 Germany declares war on Russia

Aug 3 Germany declares war on France

Aug 3 Germans invader Belgium

Aug 4 Britain declares war on Germany

**OSTEND**, on the English Channel in BELGIUM, across the channel from DOVER, the faro, roulette, and **Chem de fer** continue far into the night of August 2nd.

The Germans will invade Belgium on the morrow, every one knows, but the wheels continue to turn. **The Royal Belgian Cutter "Albert"** plies its way across the Channel twice a day, bringing over high political leaders, yes Members of Parliament and even the Royal Family had representation at the tables this night. Ostende was far, far removed from any WAR or **rumors** of WAR. On Sunday morning, the Bishop in Dover requests the Congregation to sing **HYM # 12**: "May we Thy precepts Lord **persevere**". And this is the signal for all good bookmakers to send the tote slips of their clients over to **OSTENDE** on the Royal Cutter "Albert", since EVERYONE in Dover yes everyone plays the number of the **FIRST HYM** to be played on the **FIRST TURN**, of the roulette wheel, immediately **AFTER SUNDOWN**, on the **NUMBER 1 WHEEL** at the **CASINO** at Ostend. History reveals that this night, the 1st day of the WAR, number **TWELVE** came up in the **NUMBER ONE** wheel on the **FIRST TURN AFTER SUNSET**. Ordinarily, such a coupe would have "**BROKE(N) THE BANK**" Over a million pounds were wagered this night at odds of 35 to 1 even the **OSTENDE CASINO** couldn't stand up under this loss. This was the third **trip(The 3d day of the royal Cutter "Albert"**, and there was no **RETURN TRIP**. The war had caught up with **BELGIUM** including the British **GAMBLERS** at **OSTENDE**.

Tote slips had to have Royal Belgique Seefahrt stamp attached, in order to make the voyage across the Channel and thus be included in the 1st turn on the # 1 wheel, first after **SUNSET**.

Only occasionally does one of the Royal Seefahrt Belgique come on the market. Only a few dozen are known.

## ERRATUM

The use of differing spellings of OSTEND / OSTENDE suggests an unfamiliarity with language conventions. **Chem** de fer should read Chemin de fer. **The Royal Belgian Cutter “Albert”** should read Belgian Royal Yacht “Alberta”. **Rumors** is an American spelling of rumours. **HYM** spelling should read **HYMN**. The word **PERSIEVE** is spelled incorrectly, and in the original hymn text the word is “fulfill” ... third **trip**(**The 3d** day of the **royal** Cutter “Albert”, should read trip on the 3rd day ... **royal** should be Royal Yacht “Alberta”. **GAMBLERS** should read GAMBLERS’.

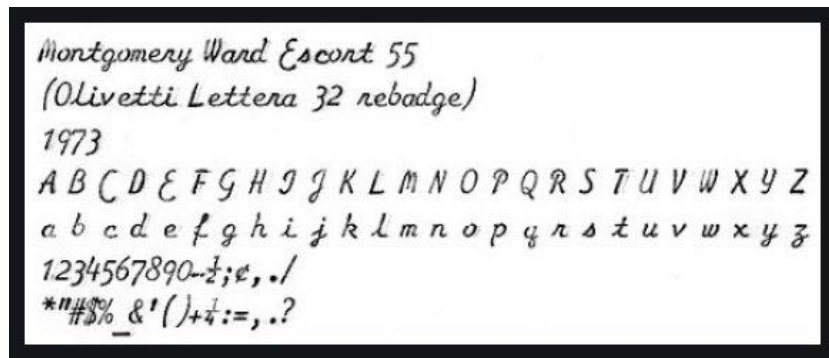
## BELGIUM'S ROYAUME (DE) BELGIQUE CINDERELLA: a further critique of DOCUMENT [A]

The document is **undated** (but known to be pre-2013) and **no author** is **named**.

When first seen, this author’s immediate sense was that this essay was die große Lüge, that is mythical marketing material written by an unschooled hand.

### THE TYPEFACE suggesting a plausible VINTAGE of the DOCUMENT

Without access to the original, the following is an attempt to date the document. The research revolves around the distinctive typeface. Several sources have volunteered it as being Olivetti Script.



This script was used in models manufactured between 1961 and 1974. Further, the document is quoted in a blog in 2013, with the author quoting a previous communication on eBay, the which is since deleted.

The font was used in the following typewriters:

- Manufacturer - the German Deutsche Triumph Fahrradwerke AG established 1896, first made typewriters 1909, the relevant model the Triumph Perfekt, 1961/1962 Ref: Mark Martin
- Manufacturer - Olivetti of Barcelona, Spain, made Olivetti Lettera 32 rebadge 1965/1973 Ref: Alan Seaver:
- Manufacturer - Montgomery Ward Escort 55 (portable) and rebranded Lettera 32 Manufacturer Underwood-Olivetti of Barcelona, Spain 1970-1974 Ref: Greg Fudacz

Thus, this author suggests that the vintage of the document to be between 9 and 57 years.

## EXAMINING the quoted WWI EARLY TIMELINE

This is represented correctly in the text.

July 28, 1914. Archduke Francis Ferdinand is assassinated. Austria-Hungary declares war on Serbia, beginning WWI

August 1, 1914 Germany declares war on Russia. France and neutral Belgium begins full mobilization.

**August 2, 1914 a night at the Ostend Casino** (see the essay)

August 3, 1914 Germany declares war on France and invades neutral Belgium.

August 4, 1914 Great Britain declares war on Germany, binding on all Dominions within the British Empire including Canada, Australia, New Zealand, India and South Africa.

August 6, 1914 - The Austro-Hungarian Empire declares war on Russia.

August 10, 1914. Austria-Hungary invades Russia.

## THE BISHOP OF DOVER

Between 1898 – 1916 (the period best likely to be pertinent in this discussion, William Walsh (\* 1836 – † 1918) was the Anglican Bishop of Dover.

[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/William\\_Walsh\\_\(bishop\\_of\\_Dover\)](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/William_Walsh_(bishop_of_Dover))

## HYMN # 12

An examination of some 40+ hymnals prior to 1979 reveals the following:

1/ the hymnals in use in The Diocese of Canterbury of the Church of England at the time were Hymns Ancient and Modern (the Complete Edition Ed. Charles Steggall, 1906) and The English Hymnal (Eds. Percy Dearmer and Ralph Vaughan Williams 1906).

2/ Neither hymnal publishes this hymn. For the most part, this hymn appears in Lutheran hymnals. There were no Lutheran Congregations in south-east England during the period under review.

3/ The hymn in question is “May we thy precepts, Lord, fulfill”

Author: Edward Osler (\* Falmouth 1798 – † Truro Cornwall 1863) in 1836

Composer: Lowell Mason, (\* Medfield, Massachusetts 1792 – † Orange New Jersey 1872) in 1839

Tune: MERIBAH (Mason)

The image shows a page from a hymnal with the title "May We Thy Precepts, Lord, Fulfill" and the number 412. The score is in 3/4 time and G major. It includes the following lyrics:

1 May we Thy pre-cepts, Lord, ful - fil And do on  
2 So may we join Thy name to bless, Thy grace a-  
3 Spir - it of Life, of Love, and Peace, U - nite our  
earth our Fa - ther's will As an - gels do a - bove; Still  
done, Thy pow'r con - fess, From sin and strife to flee. One  
hearts, our joy in - crease, Thy gra - cious help sup - ply. To  
walk in Christ, the liv - ing Way, With all Thy chil - dren  
is our call - ing, one our name, The end of all our  
each of us the bless - ing give In Chris - tian fel - low -  
and o - bey The law of Chris - tian love,  
hopes the same, A crown of life with Thee.  
ship to live, In joy - ful hope to die. A - men.



## ROYAUME (DE) BELGIQUE CINDERELLA: A COMMENTARY on "WHAT IS THIS ENGLAND - BELGIUM CINDERELLA STAMP?" JANUARY 2013 BLOG TITLE and DISCOURSE

**LANGUAGE:** Belgium has three official languages, Flemish, French, and German. By convention Belgium postage stamps reflect Flemish; Belgian Railway stamps typically use French stamps. With regards to the Cinderella, one language is represented, namely German.

The "fractured French" "ROYAUME BELGIQUE" missing the "de" suggests (to some) that it was not produced in Belgium. However, this might represent a pragmatic "artistic licence", as in represented thus "Kingdom Belgium".

"ENGLAND" is "England" in German and would be "Angleterre" in French.

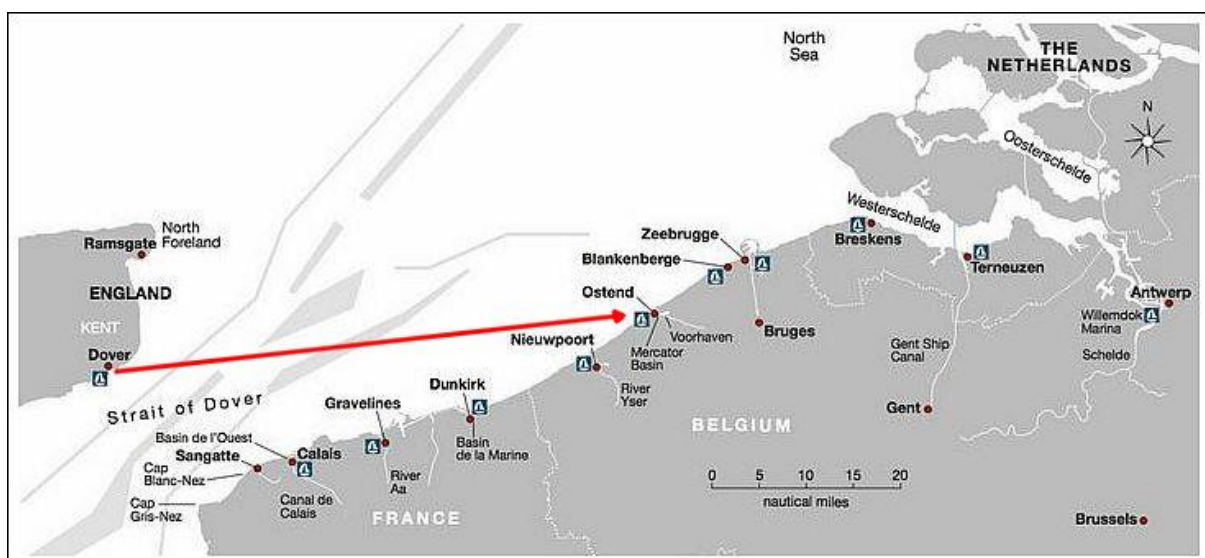
3 ST den SEEFAHT 3 UBERFAHTEN TAGL translates to 3 hours of seafaring 3 crossings daily. It does not support the contention that 3 return trips were pre-paid and acknowledged with the label. OSTENDE is German and French, Ostend English and Oostende Dutch.

The prominence of ENGLAND suggests Dover as the port of origin, the proprietorship possibly German.

## OSTENDE - DOVER FERRY SERVICES: A BRIEF BUT PERTINENT HISTORY

4 March 1846 saw the inauguration by the Belgium Government of Regie voor Maritiem Transport, a state-owned ferry service, operating passenger and mail services on the 3½-4 hours, 113.5 kms (70.5 miles) Ostende-Dover route under the name Oostende Lines. A paddle steamer, the Chemin de Fer (later renamed Diamant), was the first vessel pressed into service, followed by six others 1846-1866.

In 1880, the Belgian Railways took over the operation of the ferry service.



Through the years, owing to the great competition with lines serving Calais, Dunkirk, Zeebrugge, Antwerp, Rotterdam and Hoek van Holland, RMT upgraded their fleet from steam-sail to paddle steamers to turbine. On 28 February 1997, the Belgian state terminated the service of 151 years. (Ref: <http://www.belgian-navy.be/t6386-history-of-the-rmt-1815-1997>)

King Leopold II chartered the Princesse Clementine in 1863 and became a regular traveller on the Prince Baudouin. The latter was withdrawn from service in 1896 and it seems likely that that prompted him to pursue ownership of his own vessel, the SY MARGARITA (later renamed the BRY ALBERTA).

**SY MARGARITA, ALBERTA, RAZSVET, SURPRISE: ref. Lloyd's Register Marine and yacht logbook**

Though extremely difficult to accurately ascertain the information, understanding the historical ownership of the SY Alberta was thought likely to be important when attempting to date the Cinderella.

**1896.6.13** commissioned by A J Drexel, Registered Port of London, Official No. 106004 Yacht: Steel Screw Steamer. USA flag Built by Ailsa Shipping & Engineering Co., Troon, Scotland. Designer George Lennox Watson, first named MARGARITA

**1899** hired later bought King Leopold II of Belgium, UK flag, UK registered agent Little and Johnson, re-named ALBERTA probably after his nephew and eventual successor Albert I or else Queen Victoria's HMS Albert. Oostenders called it "De boot van Keunienk Leiepol" (Le Carillon D'Ostende. Journal quotidien).



He established the Yachting Club de Bruxelles on 25 April 1906 close to the Royal palace at Lueken. Together with Father Benvenutus Karel Lams (\* 1867 – † 1940), 23 July 1907, he inaugurated the Solennelle des Ports de Bruges et Zeebrugge. Circa 1909 Commander Count of Borggreve of Altena was recruited to draw the plans for an "armed royal yacht". Nothing further officially is known of this matter. December 1909 Leopold II died.

For a long while, no one enquired as to the whereabouts of the Alberta or took the initiative to dismiss the crew, which of course would have entailed expenses. One of the most difficult points to settle in the liquidation of the king's estate was who was responsible for Alberta for, apparently, the exact conditions of the financing and the hiring of the yacht were never detailed. During this hiatus it is suggested that Belgian Railway hired this yacht (and one other) and used it as a ferry.

Apparently, Albert I had no desire to own the yacht, and 1 August 1910 saw it leaving Ostende for Southampton, destined for a career prior to it being sold.

**1912** bought by J D Cohn. It was docked in Portsmouth where it caught fire 8 May 1912

**1914** bought by F G Bourne who, it is variously reported, stripped her of armaments in Halifax, Nova Scotia or armed her for coastal defence in Halifax, Nova Scotia.

**1916** bought and added to Russian Arctic Ocean Flotilla, renamed RAZSVET (Dawn), re-armed, Russian flag.

**1917-1923** January 1917 The Mensheviks called for nation-wide revolution in Russia 1918. Razsvet, en route to the White Sea, was intercepted by British cruiser HMS Attentive off Archangel on 24th September 1918 and escorted to Liverpool. There she was requisitioned manu militari by the British Government to be used as a submarine hunter and renamed HMS ARMoured YACHT SURPRISE.

Documentary history is fractured from here on out. The Lloyd's Yacht Register does not mention it until 1928.

**1923** sold to a private owner as SY SURPRISE 4 June 1923; in 1927 recorded as being in the possession of in 1927 G H J Williams Esq. of Welsh extraction in St Lawrence, Jersey (Channel Islands).

**1930 / 1933** sold to J A McCandlish (of London) Colonial Lands Improvement Co., St. Lawrence, (New) Jersey.

**1939/42** requisitioned as HMS SURPRISE, returned to service as an Auxiliary Patrol Yacht and Flagship Mediterranean Fleet but still owned by Axa Investment Co. Ltd. Alderney. 1942 anchored off Lagos Harbour caught fire and sank.

The documented Maritime history of SY Alberta again is fractured from here on out until the vessel disappears for good in 1950.

## GAMES OF CHANCE and the OSTEND CASINO

GAMES OF CHANCE: Faro is a late 17th-century French gambling card game involving a banker ("the house") and several players. Chemin de fer is a 19th century French card game related to baccarat and where players bet one at a time against each other instead of against the house. Roulette is a casino game named after the French word meaning little wheel. In the game, players may choose to place bets on either a single number or various groupings of numbers. To determine the winning number, a croupier spins a wheel in one direction, then spins a ball in the opposite direction around a tilted circular track running around the outer edge of the wheel. The ball eventually loses

momentum, passes through an area of deflectors, and falls onto the wheel and into one of 37 (single zero French/European style roulette). The winnings are then paid to anyone who has placed a successful bet. Odds. In the case related, a straight or single number "12" was chosen, the odds against winning in this the French/European style roulette was 36 to 1, and the payout would have been 35 to 1 as stated.

THE OSTEND CASINO: The Casino Kursaal Oostende was established in 1875; the original building (below) destroyed during WWII and rebuilt in 1953 to a hideous design by Léon Stynen (\* 1899 – † 1990), a Belgian modernist architect and city planner.



The Ostend Casino established in 1875

For the sake of completeness, and preceding the **Bibliography, Image Library and Reading Guide**, the following are included:

APPENDIX 1 : BACKGROUND to the OWNERS of the SY ALBERTA

APPENDIX 2 : BACKGROUND to GAMBLING in the UNITED KINGDOM

APPENDIX 3 : The KINGDOM of DEH SEDANG

APPENDIX 4 : PAQUEBOTS DE L'ETAT BELGE LIGNE OSTENDE-DOUVRES (Steamers of the Belgian State Ostende-Dover Line pre-WW II)

APPENDIX 5 : BELGIUM PHILATELIC ISSUE 15 JUNE 1946: MARKING the 100<sup>th</sup> ANNIVERSARY of the OSTENDE-DOVER MAILBOAT SERVICE

## PART 2 : PHILATELIC CONSIDERATIONS PRE-1920

This journey begins with the acquisition of a Cinderella stamp / seal. It makes sense to attempt to reflect on the nature of early Belgium stamps in relation to this Cinderella when seeking for some direction regarding its "nature, origin and vintage".

### BELGIUM'S HERALDRY: THE STATE OF BELGIUM



### BELGIUM'S HERALDRY: KING LEOPOLD II

The coat of arms of Belgium and King Leopold II bears a lion or, known as Leo Belgicus (Latin for the Belgian lion), as its charge Sable, a lion rampant or, armed and langued Gules charged on the shoulder with an escutcheon of House Wettin. The shield is surmounted by a golden helm with the Royal Crown of Belgium and lambrequin Or and Sable. The shield surrounded by the necklace of the Order of the Golden Fleece & ensigned with the Royal Crown of Belgium.



**BELGIUM'S ROYAUME (DE) BELGIQUE CINDERELLA: A BACKGROUND to the PRE-1920 PHILATELIC CONSIDERATIONS**

The subject of **LANGUAGE** and speculated **DESIGN, PRINTING and PERFORATION** are elaborated on above.

An analysis of Belgian stamps, postal and railway, issued between 1879 and 1929, with a national arms and related motifs similarly presented has revealed the following:



1879 - 1882 State Arms in Oval - Railway Stamps  
Chemins de Fer Cinquante C(enti)mes 50      Railways Fifty Centimes 50

Design: Charles Wiener (\* 1832 – † 1887)

Engraving: Charles Wiener    Process: Typography, Gouweloos Brothers, Brussels



1882 - 1894 White Numerals in Oval - Railway Stamps  
Chemins de Fer Cinquante C(enti)mes 50 (proof)      Railways Fifty Centimes 50

Design: Charles Wiener (\* 1832 – † 1887)

Engraving: Charles Wiener    Process: Typography, Atelier du Timbres in Malines. (Government Printing Works, Mechelen)

**HERALDRY:** The centre of the stamp is occupied by a simple COAT OF ARMS consisting of a belt buckled and knotted, with the belt in annulo with the end curled; there is no charge, but the centre bears a Belgian lion, and all is ensigned with the Royal Crown of Belgium. This suggests a link to the

Belgium state. The label reads “ne pas livrer le Dimanche” (French/Flemish) “niet bestellen op Zondag” (Dutch) : “Do not deliver on Sunday” (French/Flemish) “Don't order on Sunday” (Dutch)



Belgium 1912 National arms. 2C purple- brown.

Design: Eduardus (Édouard / Edward) Petrus Florentius Pellens (\* 1872 – † 1947)  
Engraving: Léon Evely (\* 1848 – † 1937) Printing Process: Bookprint/typography



1921, 2 April State Arms in Oval - Railway Stamps

Designer and Engraver: uncertain Process: Line (recess), Enschedé and Sons, Haarlem



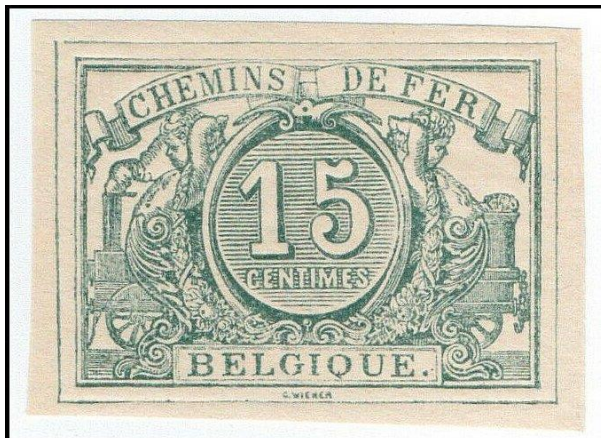
1929, 25 January Heraldic Lion Design: Hubert Mauquoy (\* 1878 – † 1945)

Engraving: Hubert B Mauquoy Process: Maarten, Hubert and Alphonse Mauquoy, Typography

**The ENGRAVERS and the ENGRAVER'S MARK:** In Belgium, in the late 19<sup>th</sup> century, the rarity of such skilled persons as engravers cannot be over emphasised. These professionals either owned stand-alone companies or worked anonymously for large trusted private companies or state-owned enterprises that are often active in the field of printing banknotes.

With the passage of time, many countries have permitted philatelic engravers – artists in their own right - to personalize their work, their names, initials, or personal symbol of appearing on the selvedge. Belgium has been no different. Illustrated is the Belgium 1912

Famously, just such persons were the Belgian designer and engravers Charles Wiener and Edw(ard) Pellens with their prominently engraved autographs in the lower margin of the stamp.



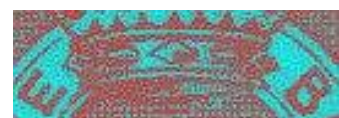




**CHARLES WIENER, DESIGNER and ENGRAVER:** Charles (\* 1832 – † 1888) was the third and youngest of the Wiener talented brothers (Jacob/Jacques, Charles and Leopold). He studied at the Royal Academy of Fine Arts of Brussels (*The Académie Royale des Beaux-Arts*) 1844-1852, and in Paris where he was a student of Eugene Andre Oudiné, 1852 – 1856. Thereafter, he settled at The Hague as engraver to William III King of the Netherlands; moving to London in 1860, where he was an associate of the famous William Joseph Taylor (\*1802 – † 1885) and Assistant Engraver at the Royal Mint. In 1864, he went to the *Casa da Moeda* (The Lisbon Mint) as chief engraver. Returning to Brussels in 1867, Charles devoted himself to the creation of state-of-the-art medals, some in conjunction with his brother Jacques (\* 1815 – † 1899). It was during this time that he was involved in the design and engraving of the first two issues of Belgium Railway Stamps. He died in Brussels on 15 August 1888

### What then of the ROYAUME (DE) BELGIQUE CINDERELLA?

Intuition suggests an artistic relationship between this Cinderella and the 1879-1882 State Arms in Oval – Railway and the 1882 - 1894 White Numerals in Oval - Railway Stamps, designer Charles Wiener. Though the presence of an engraver's mark was not assured, close examination of the Cinderella appeared warranted.



With significant magnification, a “W” is distinctly evident within the design inferior to the crown.



Additional to this finding is the distinct and self-evident similarity between the basic design of the 1879-1882 State Arms in Oval - Railway and 1882 - 1894 White Numerals in Oval - Railway Stamps. The designer of both entities appears thus to be Charles Wiener.

#### ROYAUME (DE) BELGIQUE CINDERELLA: The EPILOGUE

**The ORIGINAL ESSAY, DOCUMENT [A]:** for all the reasons presented or implied above, taken as a whole, the author believes this original document to be a "*Filatellic Phantasy*" with little historical merit.

**LINGUA FRANCA:** What of the vernacular used in the design of the Royaume (De) Belgique Cinderella?

We have drawn attention to the great competition facing Regie voor Maritiem Transport (RMT) by foreign shipping lines serving Calais, Dunkirk, Zeebrugge, Antwerp, Rotterdam and Hoek van Holland. We have drawn attention to three official languages of Belgium, French, Flemish and German. In terms of ethnicity, the Flemish community is a majority in the country followed by the French-speaking Walloons and a pocket of German-speaking residents living near the Belgian-German border.

Just as it was conventional to use French in the design of railway postage stamps, I think it legitimate to speculate that the use of German in the design of this Cinderella, satisfied both politically correct and a masterful marketing move directed at an influential and wealthy neighbour. The so-called "fractured French" mentioned above was purely a consequence of artistic (design) licence.

#### EXPLORING known COMMERCIAL INSTRUMENTS extant pre-1918:

**A Promissory note:** this is a short-term credit instrument consisting of a written promise by one person to pay a specified amount of money to another on demand or at a given future date. Early

January 1900, the Mafeking Mail Special Siege Slip gave notice of Baden-Powell's ("BP") intention to issue exchangeable monetary instruments in the face of diminishing stocks of gold and silver coinage. The paper currency was issued through the "Garrison Deposit Bank" (in happier times the Mafeking branch of the Standard Bank). The scarce Mafeking Siege £1 "Good For" was photographically produced by Edward Ross and signed by R Urry, manager of Standard Bank and Capt. H Greener, Baden-Powell's Chief Paymaster.

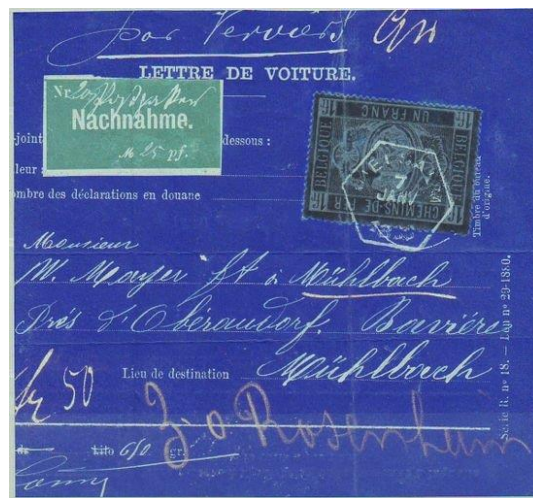


**A Voucher:** this a piece of paper or card gifted to a party, entitling that party to request a service of a third party, and vouches for the payment thereof by the donor making the gift. The food voucher illustrated states the following: Voluntary War Care: This card will be taken in payment at the designated points. Quedlinburg 1915, (By order of) the committee.

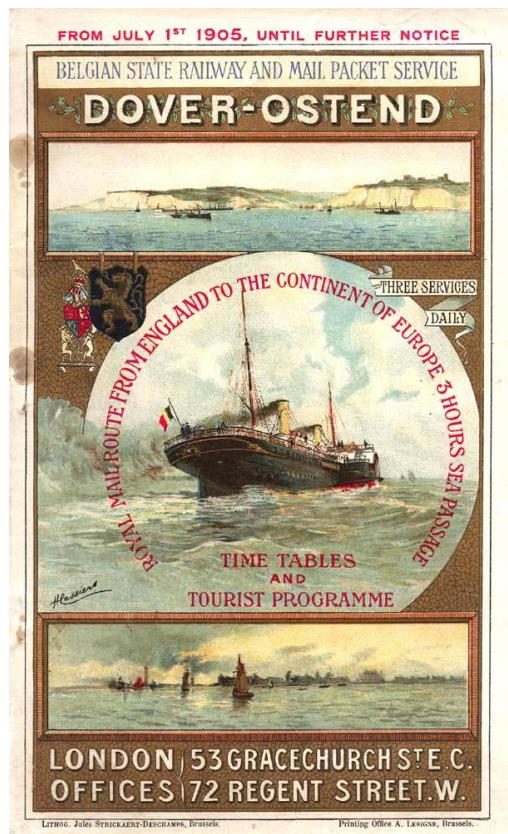


**A Waybill:** this is a document issued by a carrier giving details and instructions relating to the shipment of a consignment of goods. The Lettre de voiture (Waybill partial) illustrated and dated the January 1883 defines the goods being conveyed by Belgium Rail from Vielsalm, Belgium to

Rosenheim Bavaria; it carries a 1 Fr Hexagone (1879 - 1882) State Arms in Oval railway stamp as proof of payment for the service.



**A Ticket:** *inter alia* is a piece of paper or card that gives the holder a certain right, for instance to enter a place, travel by public transport, or participate in an event. Usually, a fee is payable on receipt of the ticket. The ticket may be held separately or attached to some supporting document such as seen in the 1883 waybill (above) or conceivably to the 1905 Belgium State Railway and Mail Packet Service Time Tables and Tourist Programme presented below.



## ROYAUME (DE) BELGIQUE CINDERELLA: The SUMMATION

**Designer and Etcher:** CHARLES WIENER (\* 1832 – † 1888)

**likely dates when the stamp was designed and executed:** this occurred between his returning to Brussels in 1867 and 1888 his death, with an emphasis on his designing the **1879** State Arms in Oval - Railway Stamps, the **1882** White Numerals in Oval - Railway Stamps and the Belgian Railways taking over the operation of the ferry service in **1880**. Thereafter, his main occupation to which he was devoted was the creation of state-of-the-art medals of which he was *sans pair*.

**Ostende Casino and English Gambling Law:** The Ostende Casino was established in 1875. English Gambling Law would favour “off shore” betting; and the well-documented existence of bookmakers supporting miscreant punters would facilitate the practice in that group of people who found the cost of travelling to and fro Dover-Ostend-Dover prohibitive.

**Commercial Instruments:** it seems reasonable to assume that the reason d’etat for creating the stamp was to facilitate commercial activities requiring a ticket. Once used they would most likely be destroyed, hence their rarity. Periodically, they may have served a dual purpose as suggested in the essay and ended up as 21<sup>st</sup> century collectors’ salvage.

**Shipping Vessels:** two Belgium vessels were similarly named, the RSY Alberta and SV Prince Albert. The RSY Alberta was in use from 1899 - 1909, moored in Ostende until August 1910 when it was sent to Portsmouth where it was refitted following a fire and sold in 1914. The Prince Albert was commissioned in 1885 and sold in 1908. Neither match the description of activities described in the initial essay.

**Specimens 1 and 2:** though not having access presently to the material, the author suspects that Specimen 1 is the original stamp. Specimens 2.1 and 2.2 (both are illustrated) suggest a further printing using a different method. Whether this was part of a legitimate commercial process or done for nefarious reasons only time will tell.

## APPENDIX 1: SY ALBERTA: BACKGROUND to the OWNERS of SV ALBERTA

**Jefferson Davis Cohn** (\* 1881 – † 1951) was a British entrepreneur, racing stable owner and horse breeder. He worked in the railroad business, where he held the majority of the shares in the Compagnie Internationale des Wagons Lits in France, promoted the development of Thomas Cook in England, bought exotic jewellery and traded works of art. He was one of the most successful horse breeders and racing team owners of his time.

**Anthony Joseph Drexel Jr.** (\* 1864 – † 1934). His father of the same name was an American banker who played a major role in the rise of modern global finance after the American Civil War. As the dominant partner of Drexel & Co. of Philadelphia, he founded Drexel, Morgan & Co (later J.P. Morgan & Co.) with John Pierpont Morgan as junior partner. A J Drexel Jr. left banking 4 months after his father died, thus effectively retiring. He had homes in Philadelphia, London, and Paris; and at various times owned the steamer, Avenel and SY Alberta, and being a keen yachtsman owned

several famous yachts including Sayonara and Aloma. A philanthropist he was a close friend of King Edward VII

**Commodore Frederick Gilbert Bourne** (\* 1851 – † 1919) was an American businessman. He served as the 5th President of the Singer Manufacturing Company between 1889 and 1905. He made the business "perhaps the first modern multinational industrial enterprise of any nationality". He became one of the wealthiest men in the world with extensive commercial interests outside of Singer. His property portfolio was staggering even by today's standards. A sailing enthusiast, Bourne served as a Commodore of the New York Yacht Club. He was also a member of the famous Jekyll Island Club (aka The Millionaires Club) on Jekyll Island, Georgia. Bourne owned many boats that he frequently used in New York City and at his summer home in the Thousand Islands. Among his better-known yachts were the Delaware, the Colonia, the ALBERTA, and the Artemis. This snippet does little justice to an extraordinary man.

**Russian Arctic Ocean Flotilla aka. the Russian Imperial Arctic Sea Flotilla** was a Russian military flotilla established in 1916 to protect the White Sea during World War I. It was developed into a full fleet of the Soviet Navy in the 1930s and stationed in Aleksandrovsk (today's Polyarny) at the mouth of the Kola Gulf, Iokanga, and Arkhangelsk.

**Leopold II** (\* 1835 – † 1909) was **King of the Belgians** from 1865 to 1909. Born in Brussels as the second but eldest surviving son of Leopold I and Louise of Orléans. He succeeded his father to the Belgian throne in 1865 and reigned for 44 years until his death – the longest reign of any Belgian monarch. He died leaving 3 daughters but without recognised surviving sons, though one of two sons by his mistress, Baroness de Vaughan. Though his official residence was the Castle of Laeken (Château de Laeken) in Brussels, for the most part he lived on his yacht or at the Villa des Cèdrers in Saint-Jean-Cap-Ferrat, France.

**Godfrey Herbert Joseph Williams** (\* 1875 – † 1956) Welshman born in London to wealth, buried Aberpergwm, Saint Cadoc Churchyard Glynneath, Neath Port Talbot, Wales

**John Alexander McCandish** (\* 1872 – † 1947) company director; lost his wife CIVILIAN MARY ETHEL McCandish née (SIMPSON) in the bombing of London on night of 17 April 1917.

## APPENDIX 2: GAMBLING, a BACKGROUND to that in the UNITED KINGDOM.

**THE LAW:** With the promulgation of the English 1823 Lottery Act and the UK Street Betting Act of 1906, middle class reformers tried to shield the working class from "evil and harmful effects" of betting. However, it was said that the working-class were more comfortable with aristocratic and wealthy upper-class citizens who gambled heavily in exclusive private clubs in the St. James district of the West End of London and foreign casinos than with middle class "do-gooders, clergymen and philanthropists". The Betting and Gaming Act of 1960 finally legalized "off-course betting" issuing 13,000 licenses for betting shops and legitimising Bingo.

**THE TOTE:** The Tote is a bookmaker (or "bookie", an individual or commercial entity) in Britain which offers parimutuel betting. Parimutuel betting is a betting system in which all bets of a particular type are placed together in a pool; taxes and the house-take or "vigorish" are deducted, and payoff odds are calculated by sharing the pool among all winning bets. Vigorish is the fee charged by a

bookmaker for accepting a gambler's wager. Tote slip replaces cash and is a contract in that it represents the quantum wager placed with the bookmaker for an event.

### APPENDIX 3: THE KINGDOM of DEH SEDANG

An eccentric Frenchman, Marie-Charles David de Mayréna, (\* 1842 – † 1890) (aka. Charles-Marie David de Mayréna and self-styled Marie I, King of Deh Sedang) created a postal service issuing two stamp series - Ber-Math stamps possibly printed and issued in Indochina in 1888 and a second, Ber Math, printed not issued in Paris in 1889.

Wolfgang Baldus, in his book *The Postage Stamps of the Kingdom of Sedang* discusses the design similarities between the stamps of Sedang and contemporary stamps of Belgium.



1889 Deh Sedang (second series) moi (= 1) mouk and moi \$



**APPENDIX 4: PAQUEBOTS DE L'ETAT BELGE LIGNE OSTENDE-DOUVRES (Steamers of the Belgian State Ostende-Dover Line pre-WW II)**

For comprehensive details thereof please consult the references below.

**References:**

1. The centenary of the Ostend-Dover Line, 1846-1946; a contribution to the history of the Anglo-continental maritime relations by Mailboat Service since its Origins.  
Author: Wesembeek, Albert De Burbure De, Publ: Imprimeries Generales Lloyd Anversois Ltd., and Belgian Marine Department, Antwerp 160 pgs, 1946
2. <http://www.belgian-navy.be/t6386-history-of-the-rmt-1815-1997>
3. Les Paquebots de l'Etat belge mis en service sur a ligne Ostende-Douvres. Les cartes illustrées officielles des Paquebots Belges émisesa des 1899 a 1924 et leurs obliterations (Belgian State steamers put into service on the Ostende-Dover line. The official illustrated cards of the Belgian steamers issued from 1899 to 1924 and their cancellations) Author: François Van Heesvelde. Internationaal Congres van de Zee 1936: 431-450

**APPENDIX 5: BELGIUM PHILATELIC ISSUE 15 JUNE 1946: MARKING THE 100TH ANNIVERSARY OF OSTENDE-DOVER MAILBOAT SERVICE**



**Prince Baudouin**

**Marie-Henriette**

**Le Chemin de Fer**



DECLARATION: this author is without access to a philatelic library and thus published material which may address many of these topics. All reference material is derived from the internet, using standard search engines.

## WEB SOURCES

<http://machinesoflovinggrace.com> (Alan Seaver)  
<http://royalementblog.blogspot.com/2012/11/le-yacht-alberta-du-roi-leopold-ii.html>  
<http://tilife.org/BackIssues/Archive/tabid/393/articleType/ArticleView/articleId/1129/>  
<http://typewriterdatabase.com>  
<http://typewriters.byethost4.com> (Nick Beland)  
<http://warshipsresearch.blogspot.com/2011/11/belgian-royal-yacht-alberta-underway-to.html>

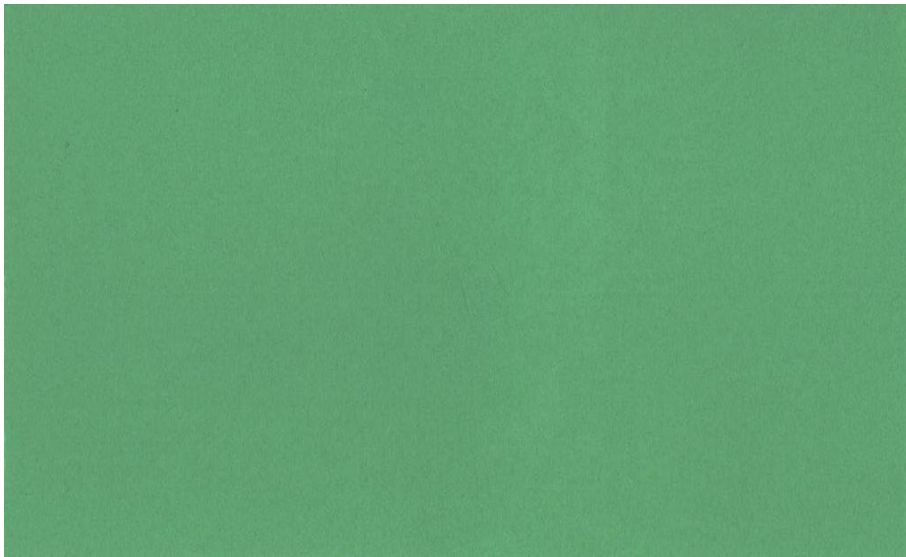
<http://www.belgian-navy.be/t6386-history-of-the-rmt-1815-1997>  
<http://www.clydeships.co.uk/view.php?ref=175>  
<http://www.engravedstamps.net/>  
<http://www.mrmartinweb.com> (Mark Martin)  
[http://www.navypedia.org/ships/uk/brit\\_aux\\_ay1.htm](http://www.navypedia.org/ships/uk/brit_aux_ay1.htm)

<https://archive.org/details/theenglishhymnal00milfuoft/mode/2up>  
<https://alphabetilately.org/TOC/belgium.html>  
<https://core.ac.uk/download/pdf/45442228.pdf>  
[https://de.wikipedia.org/wiki/Jefferson\\_Davis\\_Cohn](https://de.wikipedia.org/wiki/Jefferson_Davis_Cohn)  
[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Coat\\_of\\_arms\\_of\\_Belgium](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Coat_of_arms_of_Belgium)  
[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/HMS\\_Surprise](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/HMS_Surprise)  
<https://ezstamp.com/line-vs-comb-perforations-tell-difference/>  
[https://hymnary.org/text/may\\_we\\_thy\\_precepts\\_lord\\_fulfill](https://hymnary.org/text/may_we_thy_precepts_lord_fulfill)  
<https://hymnology.hymnsam.co.uk/m/mitre-hymn-book>  
<https://mistolme.com/dictionary/belt/>  
<https://quod.lib.umich.edu/c/clementsead/umich-wcl-M-3177bou?view=text>  
<https://rareearthsite.wordpress.com/2017/01/21/alberta-surprise/>  
[https://ru.wikipedia.org/wiki/Alberta \(Russian with translation\)](https://ru.wikipedia.org/wiki/Alberta_(Russian_with_translation))  
<https://site.xavier.edu/polit/typewriters/contact.html> (Richard Polt)  
<https://stampengravers.blogspot.com/>  
<https://stamps.org/Portals/0/Reference%20Collection/Ref-Printing-Methods-2.pdf>  
<https://translate.google.com/translate?hl=en&sl=nl&u=http://www.ostendferry.be/&prev=search>  
<https://worldstampsproject.org/croatia-ndh-error-type-postage-stamp/>

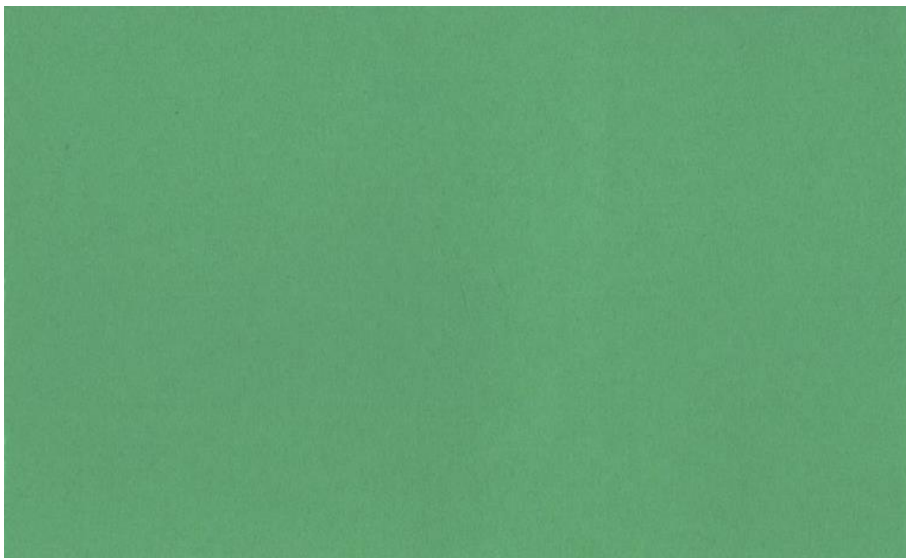
<https://www.alamy.com/>  
<https://www.antikeychop.com/montgomery-ward-escort-55-typewriter> (Greg Fudacz)  
<https://www.chicagotribune.com/news/ct-xpm-1987-11-08-8703240172-story.html>  
[https://www.delcampe.net/en\\_GB/collectables/stamps/belgium-railway/1879-1894/](https://www.delcampe.net/en_GB/collectables/stamps/belgium-railway/1879-1894/)  
<https://www.historyplace.com/worldhistory/firstworldwar/index-1914.html>  
<https://www.npg.org.uk/collections/search/sitA-Z/sitm>  
<https://www.stampboards.com/viewtopic.php?f=10&t=43346&p=3219426&hilit>  
[https://www.stampcommunity.org/topic.asp?TOPIC\\_ID=9106](https://www.stampcommunity.org/topic.asp?TOPIC_ID=9106)  
[https://www.stampprinters.info/SPI\\_country\\_belgium.htm](https://www.stampprinters.info/SPI_country_belgium.htm)

[http://www.stampsoftheworld.co.uk/wiki/Belgium\\_1921\\_State\\_Arms\\_in\\_Oval\\_-\\_Railway\\_Stamps](http://www.stampsoftheworld.co.uk/wiki/Belgium_1921_State_Arms_in_Oval_-_Railway_Stamps)  
<https://www.tadcaster-ww1-memorials.com/aberfordww2.htm>  
<https://www.timeanddate.com/calendar/?year=1914&country=9>

**IMAGES OF BRY ALBERTA BRY Alberta: a pictorial gallery 1899 – 1912**



PC Ostende, "Alberta", Yacht de S.M. le Roi des Belges  
(Bartko-Reher 8.217.186)



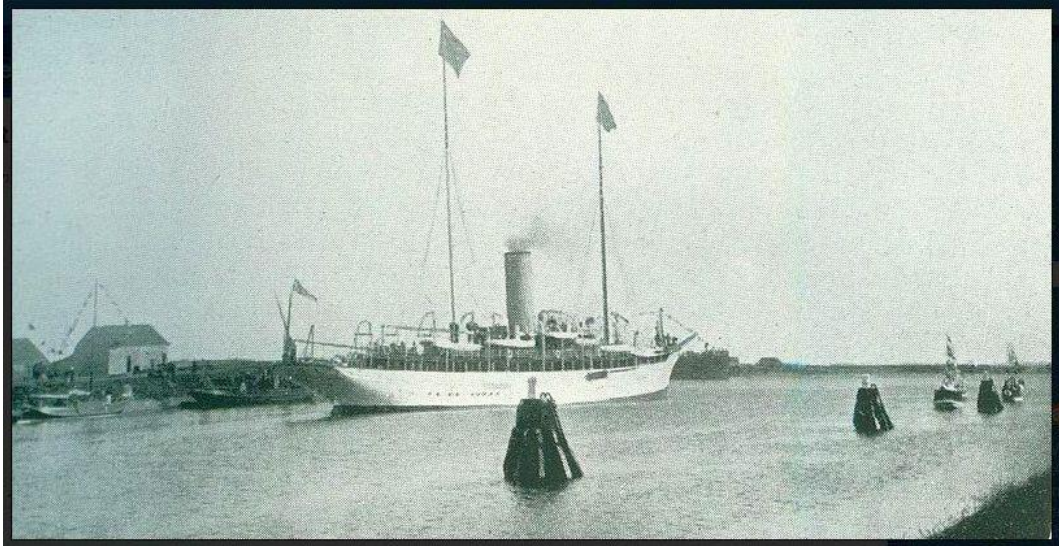
PC Passagierschiff "Alberta" am Hafen  
(Bartko-Reher 9.265.937)



Belgian Royal Yacht Alberta underway to Brugge in 1907: De Prins (Dutch); 10.8.1907: 81  
<https://www.alamy.com/the-alberta-king-leopold-royal-yacht-image260063609.html>



The arrival of the yacht Alberta in Zeebrugge 23 July 1907

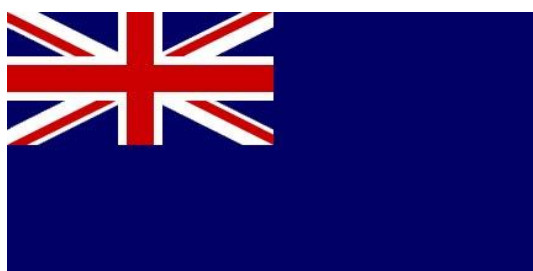


Inauguration Solennelle des Ports de Bruges et Zeebrugge



The Titanic passing Cowes, Isle of Wight, on 10 April 1912.

## BRY ALBERTA: Leopold II's yachting burgee and ensign and UK Royal Yacht Club ensign



## BIBLIOGRAPHY

- Belgian Royal Yacht Alberta underway to Brugge in 1907. De Prins (Dutch); 10.8.1907: 81
- Dictionary of Hymnology. John Julian Publ: 1907 (2 volumes Dover Publications, Inc. 1957)
- Dr Charles William Hunter and his duplicate Queen's South Africa medal. R M Pelteret 2010
- King Leopold's Ghost: a Story of Greed, Terror and Heroism. Publ: 1998. Adam Hochschild Publ: Mariner Books
- King Leopold's Imperialism and the Origins of the Belgian Colonial Party, 1860–1905. Publ: 2008. Vincent Viaene
- L'Alberta: le yacht royal de Léopold II. Neptunus Marine 2005;(1):8-15
- Mafeking "Good Fors" and 1d. Revenue Surcharge. R M Pelteret 2006
- Royal Yachts. Chapter: Royal Yachts of Europe: Belgium ALBERTA ex Margarita. Publ: 2011 Alan P Major
- The Journal of Modern History 2008; 80(4); 741-790. Special Issue on Metropole and Colony. Publ: The University of Chicago Press
- The Postage Stamps of the Kingdom of Sedang. Publ: private. Wolfgang Baldus, Munich 2005

## PERSONAL COMMUNICATIONS

- Chris Eyles, <https://rareearthsite.wordpress.com/2017/01/21/alberta-surprise/>
- Mike Bending, IB Stamps Ltd, Leominster, United Kingdom

R M Pelteret January 2020 and January 2022