

*The*

# SOUTH AFRICAN PHILATELIST

*Proprietors and Publishers:*

The Philatelic Congress of Southern Africa

*Hon. Editor:* A. E. BASDEN, P. O. Box 238, Pretoria

*Hon. Business Manager:* WILLIAM REDFORD, 88, Fox Street, Johannesburg

Subscription: Five Shillings per annum, post free to any part of the World

Vol. 10

JANUARY, 1934

No. 1

## EDITORIAL

The Compliments of the Season to all our Readers; a very Happy and Prosperous New Year; and may you all find a few rare ones to make your hearts glow.

The printers let me down badly in the December number by filling the paper with scraps supplied to make up possible shortage of copy. We particularly regret the omission of the continuation of Major Harrington's notes on "Rhodesia" from both the November and December issues, and also Mr. Wyndham's Air Mail Notes. The trouble is mainly due to the printers being in Johannesburg and the Editor in Pretoria. This difficulty will soon be overcome, if it anticipated, by the appointment of a well-known Johannesburg collector as editor, who, being on the spot, will be able to regulate these things better.

As a swan-song we would voice a grouse of our own. One hears a lot about "South Africa First," but how few appear to attempt to give effect to the motto? Not only is this fact in ordinary daily affairs, but also, sad to relate, in philately as well. The SOUTH AFRICAN PHILATELIST should be the outstanding journal for news and information concerning the stamps of Southern Africa, particularly the Union, Southern and Northern Rhodesia, S.W.A., and the Protectorates—Bechuanaland, Swaziland and Basutoland. We have endeavoured to maintain the standard in this respect, but

lately have dismally failed through lack of co-operation. It is a shame that we should have to get our news regarding new issues, etc., from overseas journals. Why should full particulars of the new Basutoland issue, for example, be handed to the philatelic press in London and not supplied to us in South Africa? And we sought information from the authorities, too. We feel that the postal authorities could usefully and beneficially use our journal as a medium of notification. These authorities do not yet appreciate the value of stamp-collecting, not merely as a hobby and thereby a source of revenue, but as the best means of advertising a country there is. We would blame, too, those collectors who could but do not pass on information to us. Could we not put this right in the New Year and place the SOUTH AFRICAN PHILATELIST on the map as the outstanding journal for first news and information of the stamps of the Union, etc.? We urge the postal authorities and our correspondents and readers to act up to "South Africa First."

## APEX.

The syllabus of the International Air Post Exhibition, to be held in the Royal Agricultural Hall, London, May 7-12, 1934, is to hand and is a delightfully got-up production. Air Mail enthusiasts and prospective exhibitors may obtain copies from Mr. Fred J. Melville, Organising Director, 10a, Ardbeg Road, Herne Hill, London, S.E.24. It is possible that supplies may have been sent out to some of the philatelic societies. We hope South African collectors will give their full support.

## REVIEWS

Messrs. Whitfield, King & Co., Ipswich, England, have sent us a copy of their price list of Air Mail Stamps, No. 3. It runs to twenty-four pages, and can be obtained free on application. If you are interested in Air Mails, you should get a copy.

We are glad to mention the receipt of the Philatelic Societies' Handbook, compiled and published at 3d. by Sidney A. R. Oliver, 16, Strand, Torquay, England. Club secretaries especially will find this little book of great value; they will get many useful tips for the programmes for their meetings.

## CORRESPONDENCE

*The Editor,*

SOUTH AFRICAN PHILATELIST.

*Re "CORRESPONDENTS."*

As a collector of more than a few years' "sitting," may I through your Journal, draw the attention of the corresponding philatelist to a few "points" which I am sorry to say a large number of stamp collectors ignore.

Having correspondents in various parts of the little "wart," I do NOT speak without knowledge.

That when writing to a stranger, the following be remembered:

- (1) To state what stamps he or she collects.
- (2) To enclose postal order for MINT stamps, if desired.
- (3) To give SG numbers of their wants. This saves MUCH unnecessary trouble, and the sending of stamps NOT wanted.
- (4) The realisation of distance! That if interest is to be kept alive, sufficient "sending" must accompany "WANTS."
- (5) That to send common and everyday stamps, and ask for them to be returned "REGISTERED" savours not only of thoughtlessness, but a philatelic selfishness which will not gain in exchange.
- (6) Pause to consider what you ask for! I have had "applications" from DEALERS to send MINT stamps of present and past issues, with nary a SXPENCE.
- (7) Typewrite your name and address, and give BOTH in full.

Tom Smith of Timbuctoo may be well known in his own Village, but in Northern China he may be unknown.

Yours philatelically,  
L. L. BURTON.

*The Editor,*

SOUTH AFRICAN PHILATELIST.

You may be interested to know that I intend holding an exhibition of First Flight Air Mail Covers during Visitors' Week (January, 1934) at Stuttafords' Stores, Capetown. Although the SOUTH AFRICAN PHILATELIST made no mention of my "exhibit" at last Congress, I have sufficient faith in the future of Aero-philately to stage a show on my own, with the idea of eventually starting an Air Mail Society here.

Yours faithfully,  
PARK SMITH.

*The Editor,*

SOUTH AFRICAN PHILATELIST.

I recently purchased a mint copy of Rhodesia 1910 S.G. No. 161, and find the word British of British South Africa Company is BRITISA. As the title is uncoloured on a ground of colour, it can hardly be a printing defect. I shall be glad to know if this variety is known to any of your readers as I have not hitherto heard of it.

Yours truly,  
H. K. OSBORN.

## SOCIETY NEWS

### CAPETOWN PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

At the meeting of the Society held on the 23rd November, a most interesting display of the stamps of the Gold Coast was given by Mr. G. B. Heydenrich.

All issues were exceptionally well represented, and the condition of the early issues of Queen Victoria occasioned very favourable comment. The surcharged issues of 1889 and 1901 were also shown, together with varieties. A full range of the Georgian issues was shown with watermark varieties, and, as can be expected, the pictorial issue of 1928 (photogravure) with its handsome design was much admired.

The exhibitor was accorded the thanks of the members, in a few words spoken by Mr. Boutwood.

\* \* \* \* \*

The Annual Dinner of the Society was held in the Collingwood Restaurant on the 25th November, and a most enjoyable evening was spent by the members and friends present. Conjuring tricks, card tricks, songs and piano resulted in the evening's entertainment going with a swing without any dull periods, and a small exhibition of stamps was made for the interest of non-collectors.

The thanks of the Society are due to Mr. Gutterson, upon whose shoulders the arrangements rested, for the excellent way in which the Dinner and Social was organised and also for the most interesting philatelic menu which was prepared. The latter consisted of replicas of Union stamps—the postmark indicating the fare provided.

# British African Rarities

*I hold the Finest Stock in the World*

Only stamps in the finest possible condition and at reasonable prices will be found in my books.

**Selections sent on approval to any part of the world.**

Deal direct with the firm that actually has the stamps in stock and so save money.

**Want Lists will receive my prompt personal attention.**



## T. ALLEN

5, BLAKE HALL ROAD . WANSTEAD  
LONDON, E. 11 . ENGLAND

### PHILATELIC SOCIETY OF NATAL.

The Monthly General Meeting was held in the Publicity Bureau, on Wednesday, 6th December, and was very well attended, in spite of the thunderstorm that kept away many of our stalwarts.

There was an interesting discussion raised in trying to find any members who owned a Id. Red Anchor Watermark, Transvaal. Although we drew a blank so far as our Society was concerned, it seems that in London philatelic sales copies come up for disposal at least twice in a year. There were many interesting stamps shown by members, including a block of six blue Cape triangulars, and many of the higher values of past issues of Rhodesians.

The display was that of South-West Africa from 1916 to the present issue by Mr. A. S. Maskell. These were mostly acquired during his residence there, and of the eighty-seven varieties of postage and air stamps issued between January, 1923, and the present issue, there were seventy shown, those missing being some of the higher values. The Union pictorial overprints were very nearly complete, and there were specimens of the errors, and dotless (no stop after the "A") varieties. From an interesting point of view, the most outstanding pictorial is the 10s., depicting the "Welwischia" plant. It is only to be found in the Namib desert, and is protected on account of its rarity. Being of the Cactus family, it is said that it takes 100 years for one of its leaves to mature.

With philatelic greetings and best wishes to our affiliated societies for a bright and prosperous New Year.

G.P.

### PHILATELIC SOCIETY OF JOHANNESBURG.

Mr. R. H. Morley was the convener of the Meeting at the Carlton Hotel on the 12th December, a clever notice detailing the arrangements being prepared and distributed by him. As the hour of meeting drew near, steady rain set in, but members responded to the appeal and there was a record attendance of fifty-six members and friends. Of this number, eleven came over from Pretoria and several from the East Rand.

Mr. Morley conceived the idea that, with the approach of the festive season, the closing meeting of the year might well be brightened by combining philately with social amenities, and the innovation was an unqualified success. The meeting went with a swing from start to finish.

Dr. J. H. Harvey Pirie presided, whilst the formal business of the meeting received attention and Major Milligan's "Notes of the Month" were read, when Mr. Morley took charge for the remainder of the evening. Many members brought gifts of stamps, and these were auctioned by Mr. Mark Rose, the Honorary Auctioneer, to the benefit of the Society's funds.

The exhibits of the evening consisted of selected items from members' collections and ranged from the earliest to present day issues. This form of display made a pleasing change from the usual exhibition of a specialised collection.

Mr. Schofield exhibited superb copies of Cape of Good Hope Woodblocks and blocks of four and eight of the engraved series. Notable items among

those shown by Mr. Houbert were the 1s. violet New Brunswick, pence Ceylon and French Colonial rarities and a used block of four Rhodesia Die III on toned paper, perforated 15. Rare errors of Bechuanaland were provided by Dr. Pirie; Gold Coast by Mr. Redford; double printings and freak varieties of Union by Mr. Ritchie; Charity stamps by Mrs. Robertson; and Rhodesian rarities by Mr. Morley.

All branches of philately were displayed. Mr. Klagsbrun showed Rhodesian revenues and divided stamps of the first issues used on native tax receipts. Mr. Hawke exhibited South Australian revenue with head of sovereign inverted. Mr. Watson brought some Great Britain essays and Mr. Glasser an essay for a Union Air stamp. Mr. Thomas, Mr. J. Robertson, Major Milligan and others contributed items of exceptional interest.

An excellent musical programme has been provided. Mr. L. R. Glenton's concert party delighted the audience and Miss Morley charmed her hearers with her beautiful singing.

A hearty vote of thanks to Mr. Morley for arranging such a pleasant evening's entertainment was proposed by Mr. Hawke and seconded by Mr. Klagsbrun.

C.H.

### THE PRETORIA PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

The attendance was quite good at meetings on the 4th and 18th December, one new member being elected.

Major Harrington at the first meeting read a portion of an interesting paper he has written on the Origin and Development of Postal Services, and there was an exhibit of stamps of Bechuanaland. The collection contained some outstanding items, specimen stamps with the various types of overprint being well represented.

At the later meeting, a discussion on the Regent Catalogue was arranged in lieu of the usual paper. The recording and pricing of specimen stamps, proofs and essays was favourably commented upon, but the catalogue otherwise received a very mixed reception. The exhibit scheduled for the evening was North America and Dr. Broughton favoured the members with a number of pages of fine items from his Canadian, Newfoundland and United States collections.

C.H.

\* \* \* \* \*

No reports from East London, Bloemfontein or East Rand.



## AIR MAIL NOTES

The following information is furnished by Mr. L. A. Wyndham of Cape Town.

### ACCELERATED AIR MAIL TO INDIA.

Commencing with the departure of the "Amalthea" from Cape Town on Wednesday, 4th October, Imperial Airways now cover the distance between Cape Town and Nairobi (2,980 miles) in three days instead of in four. Cairo is reached on Tuesday afternoons, one day earlier than previously, and immediate connection is made with the Indian service which departs the same evening. This results in a "speeding-up" of six days in the service from South Africa to India by avoiding a six days' wait over at Cairo. It is now possible to correspond with Calcutta or even Rangoon and receive a reply within twenty-five days (twenty-three in the case of Johannesburg), which, when compared with the two months taken by ordinary land and sea route, illustrates once again the advantage of Imperial Airways service to South Africa.

### SPECIAL DE AAR AIR MAIL.

The following particulars regarding the special air mail to and from De Aar are taken from the Report of the Postmaster-General for 1932-1933: "On the occasion of the opening of the aerodrome at De Aar on the 18th May, 1932, special arrangements were made for air mails to be conveyed by the *City of Delhi*, one of the Imperial Airways liners, from Cape Town and Victoria West to De Aar, and from De Aar to Johannesburg and destinations on the Imperial Airways route beyond the Union. The *City of Delhi* was due to leave Cape Town on its ordinary weekly journey, and the arrangement made for the call at De Aar on that individual trip was authorised solely in order to mark the occasion of the opening of the new aerodrome. On the day in question, the Cape Town to De Aar Mail contained twenty registered letters and approximately thirty-nine unregistered articles. The total weight of the mail was 11lb. 1½oz. The Victoria West to De Aar air mail contained four registered and six unregistered letters, and the total weight was 3oz. The mail from De Aar to Johannesburg contained eighteen registered articles for distribution as follows:—Delhi, India, 8; England, 8; Moscow, Russia, 1; and Germany, 1; and forty unregistered articles. The total weight was 11lb. 6½oz. There were no other articles of any kind carried to or from De Aar." (The majority of the air mail from De Aar northwards was private and commercial correspondence.) The fact that one of the two South African pilots attached to Imperial Airways, viz., Capt. F. C. Elliot-Wilson, piloted the *City of Delhi* (the plane that force landed and was marooned in Rhodesia with the first Cape-London mail) adds a South African interest to these De Aar covers.

## JOHANNESBURG-DURBAN AIR MAIL SERVICE.

The latest Report of the Postmaster-General gives the following information: "A direct air mail service between Durban and the Rand Airport commenced on Monday, the 2nd January, 1933, with the flight from Durban. . . . The quantity of mail matter conveyed on the first flight from Durban was:—

To Johannesburg: 416 articles (94 registered), 6lb. 8½oz.

To Germiston Station: 21 articles (3 registered), 2½oz.

On the first flight from Rand Airport to Durban the quantity of mail matter conveyed was:—

From Johannesburg: 352 articles (114 registered), 5lb. 7½oz.

From Germiston Station: 71 articles (5 registered and includes mail sent by rail from Pretoria), 1lb. 1oz.

(The numbers in respect of the registered mail inserted by Mr. Wyndham.)

## EXTENSION OF EMPIRE AIR MAIL SERVICE TO RANGOON.

Last month reference was made to the extension of the Empire Air Mail Service from Calcutta to Rangoon, which was inaugurated with the mail which left London on 23rd September. Imperial Airways issued a special souvenir envelope showing the route on a map of India in yellow on a dark blue background and suitably inscribed. (The special envelopes issued for the opening in July of the through service to Calcutta had the map in red.)

The first west-bound flight left Rangoon on Monday, 2nd October, and mail despatched from Rangoon received a very attractive commemorative cachet in purple inscribed between two parallel lines "First Air Mail. Indian Trans-Continental and Imperial Airways. Rangoon-Karachi-London" in four lines with two circles on either side of the inscription, one depicting a large monoplane in flight and the other being the postmark "Rangoon, 2 Oct. 33." It would appear that this cachet was applied to the back of the souvenir type covers, the stamps on which were cancelled with the ordinary postmark, whereas the cachet was used in its dual rôle as a postmark and cachet on all plain covers. Mail despatched from the intermediate stopping centre, Akyab, bears the postmark of 2nd Oct. 33 10 a.m., but no cachet was applied.

Mail from Rangoon, the new terminal of the Indian Service, reached Cape Town, the terminal of the African Service, twelve days after despatch, on Saturday, 14th October, having completed an unbroken air journey of 10,515 miles with no night flying. No better tribute can be paid to this fine performance, which will be a regular weekly one, than to say "Hats off to Imperial Airways."

All mail from Rangoon and Akyab for centres on the African route was back-stamped in transit at Cairo "Caire Par Avion 6 Oc. 32 6-7 P." The mail received at Capetown is believed to be ten pieces from Rangoon and five from Akyab.

## FURTHER EXTENSION TO SINGAPORE.

The further extension of the Empire Service to Singapore was opened with the mail which left Croydon on the 9th December, and was due to reach Singapore on the 19th. Mail despatched from Africa by the service which left Cape Town on the 6th December should connect. Westbound, the first Empire mail is scheduled to depart from Singapore on 31st December.

## New Issue News

The following chronicle is kindly furnished by Mr. R. Roberts, 430, Strand, London:—

**BARRAIN ISLANDS.**—Current Indian stamps. Nasik printing, mult. star wmk., overprinted "BARRAIN" in sans serif block capitals, overprint measuring 13½ x 2 mm. ½a, deep green; 9 pies, slate; 1a, brown; 2a, pale vermilion; 3a, pale blue; 3a 6ps, deep blue; 4a, sage green; 8a, reddish mauve; 12a, claret. High values, overprint measuring 19½ mm. x 4 mm. 1R, brown and green; 2R, carmine and orange; 5R, ultramarine and violet.

**BARBADOS.**—S.G. 19, script watermark, perf. 14. 1½d., orange.

**ESTONIA.**—Tuberculosis set, with network over the face of the stamps. 5+3s, vermilion, pale green network; 10+3s, blue, mauve network; 12+3s, carmine, pale green network; 20+3s, ultramarine, red network.

**GERMANY.**—Charity stamps. Line engraved, new designs, depicting Wagner operas. New wmk., mult. swastika, perf. 14. 3+2pf, brown, Tannhauser; 4+2pf, blue, Flying Dutchman; 5+2pf, emerald, Rheingold; 6+4pf, deep green, Meistersingers; 8+4pf, orange, Valkyrie; 12+3pf, carmine, Siegfried; 20+10pf, sky blue, Triston and Isolde; 25+15pf, ultramarine, Lohengrin; 40+35pf, magenta, Parsifal.

**GREECE.**—General Air Mail set. New line engraved issue, large format. No wmk., and there are three designs: (A) Plane in flight over Map of Greece (upright), perf. 13 x 12½. (B) Plane in flight

1934—First advance list of—1934

**BARGAIN OFFERS**  
FOR 1934 NOW READY

Something good for everyone!  
FREE AND POST FREE

Write:—

**C. F. SKINNER, (B.P.A.),**  
Box 5887,  
JOHANNESBURG

## COLLECTORS' WANTS AND OFFERS

(Twopence per word per insertion with minimum of 2/- per insertion).

**Nevis and Virgin Islands.**—Stamps, Literature and Information wanted.  
*A. F. Johnstone, P.O. Box 6006, Johannesburg.*

**Columbia.**—Scadta Air Mail, used or on entire wanted.  
*Charles Hand, P.O. Box 1018, Pretoria.*

**"Specimen Stamps."**—Great Britain, British Colonial and Foreign wanted.  
*Saul A. Klagsbrun, P.O. Box 846, Pretoria.*

**Wanted.**—Cape, Natal, Transvaal, Orange Free State, Griqualand West, Swaziland, Portuguese East Africa, Brazil, Greece, including covers and postal stationery.  
*A. E. Basden, P.O. Box 238, Pretoria.*

**Wanted.**—Specimens, mint and fine used, of Gambia, Gold Coast, Seirra Leone and Nigerian Colonies.  
*T. V. Green, P.O. Box 4967, Johannesburg.*

**Early European Stamps on cover.**—Stamps and covers used in Basutoland.  
*Dr. A. J. Broughton, 13/14, Bourke Trust Buildings, Pretoria.*

**Gold Coast.**—Early issues, fine used. Special Postmarks. Mint. Wanted.  
*William Redford, 88, Fox Street, Johannesburg.*

**Rhodesian Rarities.**—Wanted. Mint or used.  
*R.H. Morley, P.O. Box 7573, Johannesburg.*

**Great Britain.**—Wanted early issues line engraved and surface printed—and items of interest.  
*J. A. Bremmer, 12, Ashford Rd., Parkwood, J'burg*

**PENNY REDS 71-224,** the set 7/6, post free. Some re-constructed plates 7/- each.  
*Wrigley, Ecton, Northampton, England.*

**1899-1902.**—British used in South Africa and South Africa used in British Army P.Os.  
*J. H. Harvey Pirie, P.O. Box 1038, Johannesburg*

**Canada Offered.**—In exchange for African Colonies from Medium Collectors.  
*D. Barclay, 429 Darisville Avenue, Toronto.*

**Exchange.**—For 200 Africans will send North-Americans. Equal value.  
*K. Blumensaadt, 6221, Addison, Chicago*

COLLECTORS!! STUDY THE STAMPS OF YOUR COUNTRY!

over Mediterranean Islands (upright), perf. 13 x 12½. (C) Plane in flight over Acropolis (transverse), perf. 12½. 50L, green; 1Dr, claret (A); 2Dr, lilac (B); 5Dr, bright ultramarine (C); 10Dr, rose (B); 25Dr, dull blue (A); 50Dr, brown (C).

**NABHA.**—India S.G. type 71, Nasik print. 4a, olive green.

**PORTUGUESE INDIA.**—S.G. type 42, wmk. type 18 of Angola, perf. 11½ x 12. 6 reis, grey green.

**PARAGUAY.**—Columbus Commemorative. Large format; pictorial types. The frame is in the first colour, the vignette in second, and the crosses in the three corners, on the sail of the ship and on the flag, are in mauve. No wmk., perf. 11. 10c, brown, green and mauve; 20c, orange brown, sky blue and mauve; 50c, blue green and salmon and mauve; 1P, blue grey, pale brown and mauve; 1P50c, pale blue, yellow green and mauve; 2P, sepia, blue green and mauve; 5P, olive, red brown and mauve; 10P, sky blue, sepia and mauve.

**PATIALA.**—India S.G. type 61, Nasik print, overprinted

"PATIALA STATE"  
SERVICE

S.G. type 25. 2a6ps, orange.

**PORTUGAL.**—Provisionals, St. Anthony type. 40c/25c, green; 15c/40c, brown.

**SALVADOR.**—Columbus Commemorative Air Mail issue. Lithographed, large upright oblong format. Watermarked "REPUBLICA DE EL SALVADOR" in sans serif single line capitals, repeated in horizontal lines. The design is a hybrid one of Spanish galleon fleet riding towards the setting sun, with aeroplane hovering above. Value tablet in lower corners, in top corners, the date "1492" and "1933." Perf. 12½. 15c, vermilion; 20c, blue green; 25c, violet; 40c, ultramarine; 1 Colon, olive black.

**TURKEY.**—Commemorating 10 years Turkish Republic. Large format. No wmk., perf. 10. There are two designs. 1½K, deep green; 2K, pale brown; 3K, claret; 6K, pale blue; 12½K, deep blue; 25K, deep brown; 50K, red brown.

Messrs. Whitfield, King & Co., Ipswich, England, notify the issue of the new pictorial Basutoland stamps on 1st December.

The design shows a vignette of H.M. the King surmounted with the crown placed centrally towards the top of the stamp and flanked on the right and left with the denomination. At the top appears the name of the territory in a semi-circle with the words "POSTAGE-REVENUE" in scrolls immediately beneath and intersected by the crown. Beneath the vignette is a pictorial scene depicting the Maluti mountains and the Orange River.

Also that **SOUTH AFRICA**, without any warning whatever, the current 3d. pictorial stamp has changed its colour from red and black to blue, presumably to comply with the regulations of the International Postal Union.

## Southern Africa's Philatelic Roll of Honour.



THE LATE MR. A. J. COHEN.

Posthumous fame has befallen the late Mr. A. J. Cohen, of Johannesburg, by the inclusion of his name in Southern Africa's Philatelic Roll of Honour. It would have been a source of great joy and pride to the deceased philatelist to be granted such a distinction during his lifetime, for perhaps there was no contemporary of his in the Transvaal who displayed a keener enthusiasm for everything pertaining to our hobby. From his boyhood in England to the time of his death in this country, in 1913, he was a constant devotee of philately. He made and parted with many collections, and the latest and greatest of them—that which formed part of his estate at his death—was generally considered to be one of the most remarkable general collections ever formed in South Africa.

Mr. Cohen was a member of the British Civil Service until 1894, in which year he migrated to South Africa, settling in the Transvaal. He was for many years an enthusiastic member of the old Transvaal Philatelic Society. In my old journal, *The Stamp Collectors' Fortnightly*, there was published in the issue dated January 17th, 1914, a portrait of appreciation of Mr. Cohen, who was then but recently deceased. In that notice, it was recalled that Mr. Cohen's year of office as President of the Johannesburg Philatelic Society has been marked by great progress, that his collection was famous throughout the sub-continent, and that his chief delight had been to show his stamps to anyone interested in the subject.

Indeed, in this last trait in his character the deceased philatelist personally emphasised in the course of a series of punning verses which he read

to his fellow-members at the annual dinner of the Transvaal Philatelic Society in 1906. The lines referring to himself ran as follows:—

*Then there's your humble servant,  
Whose collection is his pride;  
He's always proud to show it—  
With that you'll COHEN-cide!*

Mr. Cohen always considered general collecting the ideal form of philately. Personally, he was not merely a generalist; he was absolutely omnivorous in his philatelic tastes. He took everything, British, Colonial and Foreign, used and unused; and also included in his albums entries, "cut-outs," locals, proofs and essays, reprints and forgeries, whenever such items came his way..

He bought many collections, merging them with his own, the result being a really extraordinary accumulation of the world's postage stamps, in which the older issues were richly represented. He was elected in 1907 a Fellow of the Royal Philatelic Society, London.

Apart from philately, Mr. Cohen was a keen book-collector and a lover of choice editions. Many of his books are now in the possession of his daughter, Mrs. Greenberg, of Durban, whose husband, Mr. Charles L. Greenberg, is himself a former philatelist and a Past President of the Johannesburg United Philatelic Society. On the principle "once a philatelist, always a philatelist," Mr. Greenberg will probably be lured back to his former hobby at no distant date. That is a matter for the Philatelic Society of Natal to attend to!

PERCY C. BISHOP.

## Divided Stamps Employed in Rhodesia.

Among unusual items displayed at a recent meeting of the Philatelic Society of Johannesburg were various fractions of postage stamps of Rhodesia employed for the payment of native pass fees. These were attached to portions of passes, and their use by Revenue Officers makes it evident that shortages of certain values of postage stamps occurred at the points at which these novelties originated.

On one, diagonally cut halves of 2s. of 1891 and 4s. of 1893-4 made up the three shillings charge, which was cancelled British South Africa in circle with FIFE across the centre. In another instance, diagonally cut halves of one shilling and five shillings of 1896 were utilised, the cancellation being indistinct, but apparently the same as the former. In the third case the left top quarter of ten shillings of 1896 was cancelled Revenue North Eastern Rhodesia within the circular British South Africa canceller.

Upon description of these to a Pretoria philatelist, he produced a copy, bisected diagonally, of the fourpenny Die I of 1896, well tied on piece of envelope with date stamp of BULAWAYO Matabeleland, May 2, 99.

C. HAND.

## Notes from the Philatelic Press

*Mekeel's Weekly Stamp News*  
(Nos. 2231/2233).

"The Land of Ararat" describes that country and the 1920 emission, while "Philatelic Biographies" is continued. "Bisects of Dominican Republic" are explained in detail, and there are articles on "U.S. Stamp Illustrations," "Sierra Leone Honours William Wilberforce" and "Leonardo da Vinci," while papers on "Papua, Engraved and Lithographed" and "The Aguinaldo K K K Stamps" have been reprinted. There is much new issue and other news.

*Linn's Weekly Stamp News*  
(Nos. 258/260).

Copernicus' life is described owing to Poland's philatelic tribute to him, and there are notes on "Around the World for Five Cents" and "Witten Honduran Expedition." "Stamp Studies" each week give plate varieties on U.S.A., and there is "Stamp News this Week." The usual "World in Review," "Precancels," "Air Mail Flashes," etc., appear each week.

*Stamp Collectors' Fortnightly*  
(Nos. 1007/1008).

"The Aim of Apex" is explained by Mr. Melville, and a report on "The American Air Mail Show" tells of exhibits and winners. "The Pioneer Air Post of the City of Allah" describes the early Indian experiments, and articles on "Belgium" and "Recent New Guinea Issues" are reprinted. "Notes from Near and Far," "Between Ourselves" and "Notes on New Issues and Varieties" cover a large field.

*Scott's Monthly Journal*  
(No. 164).

"The Boyd-Lyons Commemorative Stamp" gives philatelic news regarding the non-stop flight from New York to Haiti and "N.R.A.—No Racketeering Allowed" expresses Scott's views on speculative issues of postal administrations. There are articles on "The Ivory Stamp Club" which broadcasts philatelic talks, and "Heraldic Emblems Used on Many Issues." "Notes of the Month" and "Of Special Interest" give the latest news and discoveries.

*The Collectors' Club Philatelist*  
(No. 4, Vol. XII).

"Horsley and Braston's Scott River Express" mail service is explained, and the "Initial Variations on the 5c New York" are given. There are large instalments of the specialised articles on "The United States Postage Stamps of the 20th Century" and "The History of Free Franking of Mail in the United States," while "Baltimore Cancellations Colonial to 1861" commences. Mr. C. J. Phillips writes on "The Bissell Find" and "United States, 1857-61."

*Philatelic Magazine*

(No. 480).

"Rhodesia Admiral Issue" treats with the new die discovery and there is a "Rejoinder by Mr. Rang." Other articles are entitled "Stamps of Sad Memory" and "Eclipse of the Penny Black." "Our Stamp Catalogue Supplement" is good and there is "The Market in British Colonials" and numerous "Reviews."

*The Australian Stamp Journal*  
(No. 10).

A list of "New South Wales Early Post Offices" shows their opening dates, and "Philatelic Nomenclature" criticises the new glossary of philatelic terms. Many subjects are treated in "Items of Interest," "Island News" and "Commonwealth Notes."

*Stamp Collecting*  
(No. 1049).

"Countries and Stamps" deals with issues of Nyasaland Protectorate, and there are articles on "Celebrities of the Stamp Album" and "When Stamp Artists Err." It is said "There's a Good Time Coming" in the stamp market, and the publication on Ascension is reviewed. The Air Mail Supplement is of interest.

*The Airpost Journal*  
(No. 42).

Aero-philately only is treated. News is entitled "Dedication and Unofficial Air Mail Covers," "Tenth Anniversary Convention and Exhibition a Great Success," "Cams," "Crash Cover News," "Airs of the Month," "Canada," "Greek Air Mails" and "Pacific Coast News."

**NOW READY**

**WHITFIELD KING'S  
1934 PRICE LIST . . .**

—of—

**SETS AND PACKETS.**

148 PAGES - - 4,400 QUOTATIONS

Covers practically all the stamp issuing countries of the world, and is a most valuable aid to stamp collecting.

*Sent free on Request.*

For the earliest offers of the latest new issues, see the

*PHILATELIC BULLETIN  
Published Monthly*

Other features include Notes and News, Special Bargains and items of interest to all collectors. Subscription only 1s. 6d. per annum.

*Specimen Copy Free.*

**WHITFIELD KING & CO., IPSWICH  
Established 1869. - - England.**



*Philatelic Journal of Great Britain*

(No. 541).

In "The First Adhesive Postage Stamp," the editor tells of a find of early Greek labels. He continues his "Impressions of the Vienna 1933 Exhibition," and there is a further instalment of "Notes on the Stamps of the Protected States of the Straits Settlements." Roumanian issues figure in "Varieties Unchronicled, Uncatalogued or Not Generally Known" and there is the usual New Issue, Market and Club News.

*Stamp and Cover Collecting*

(No. 1).

This paper is the successor of the New Southern Philatelist. The editor writes on "Confederate Multiple Rates and Express Mail," and there are articles entitled "Then What," "Beginning of Precancels," "The Stamp Collector and the Postmaster," "Specialised United States," "A Newfoundland Study" and "How to Start a Collection of Stamps." Information will be given monthly under "Air Mail News of the Month," "Along Stampway," "Washington News," New Issues and "Naval Cancellations."

Other papers received are *Emco Monthly Journal*, *Airplane Stamp News*, *Magazine Filatelica Mexicano*, *Die Postmarke*, *L'Exchangiste Universel*, *Berliner Briefmarken Zeitung* and *Le Philatelist Belge*.

## REPORT OF THE PERMANENT CONGRESS EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE.

(Abridged).

**MEETINGS.**—Meetings of the Executive were called alternately in Johannesburg and Pretoria, and seven formal meetings have taken place since last Congress. Apart from this, individual members have been called upon to investigate matters and perform various duties.

**EXECUTIVE CHANGES.**—On leaving for Port Elizabeth in January, Dr. Pirie was replaced by Mr. J. W. Kayton Schofield. Dr. Pirie was co-opted as a member when he returned in September. Mr. Morley took the place of Mr. Kupferman, who resigned for business reasons. Mr. Kupferman's decision was received with regret.

**ANNUAL CONGRESS.**—The suggestion that Congress should be held annually was submitted to affiliated Societies, and, on being received favourably, was adopted.

**NEW CONGRESS REGULATIONS.**—Regulations did not cover many Congress activities and Rules and Regulations were entirely revised. They are submitted for the approval of Congress.

To show the need for revision, it may be mentioned that the right of publishing papers read at Congress was questioned. Then the publication of an official Journal, the institution of a Roll of Honour of Distinguished Philatelists of Southern Africa, the holding of local Philatelic Exhibitions in connection with Congress, etc., needed regulations for control and guidance.

**PLAQUE.**—This was designed by the Royal Mint, Pretoria, on suggestions made by the Executive. Congress will be asked to approve. The issue of plaques has been restricted, not more than one being awarded to any individual at a Congress.

**LOCAL PHILATELIC EXHIBITIONS IN CONNECTION WITH CONGRESS.**—This has become quite a feature of each Congress gathering, and as classes are few, restrictions have been placed on exhibits securing first awards in the interests of exhibitors.

**REFERENCE LIBRARY.**—On hearing that Mr. Emil Tamsen's library was for sale, the Committee endeavoured to obtain a contribution towards securing the works for inclusion in the Reference Library of the Witwatersrand University, but was not successful.

Scientific Societies know what information is in the country, and with the object of preparing a general catalogue, a copy of the library catalogue of each Philatelic Society was asked for, but up to the present only two have been received.

**COLLECTORS' NAMES AND SPECIALITIES.**—A special "Collectors' Wants and Offers" column appears in the SOUTH AFRICAN PHILATELIST where advertisements can be inserted at the modest rate of twopence a word. This should meet all reasonable requirements, and may I stress its adoption.

**SKINNER CUP.**—The Executive had no recommendation and desired Congress to indicate for what purpose the Cup should be employed. Mr. Skinner left it open, merely suggesting it might be utilised for publicity or research work.

**BETTER PROTECTION OF EXHIBITS.**—The better protection of exhibits at Exhibitions in connection with Congress has been given consideration. At the frequent exhibitions in the U.S.A., a standard stand and frame has been adopted, of which particulars have been secured. Sketches for process blocks are in hand, and full information will appear in the SOUTH AFRICAN PHILATELIST.

**ROLL OF HONOUR.**—Comments appeared in regard to the title, but the official name "Roll of Honour of Distinguished Philatelists of Southern Africa" is sufficiently distinctive.

**OFFICIAL JOURNAL.**—On purchasing the SOUTH AFRICAN PHILATELIST, the following contributions were received from Societies, viz., East London, £5; East Rand, £5; Johannesburg, £20; and Pretoria, £20. To the contributing Societies thanks are expressed. The expense and work in forming a small company was not thought justified.

From 1st January, the format of the paper was enlarged, and it is maintained that the publication is quite a creditable production. You will hear the Business Manager's report, but I must express the Committee's disappointment at the poor support given by organised philatelists. The paper is their own and they should take pride in its well being. It should not be too much trouble also to secretaries to keep the Editor posted with news and happenings. Then might I ask those entrusted with research work to provide news of interest that may be discovered and could be advantageously used.

**AFFILIATION WITH PHILATELIC CONGRESS OF GREAT BRITAIN.**—If the Philatelic Congress of Southern Africa were accepted by the Philatelic Congress of Great Britain as an affiliated body, it should be possible to select a really representative person to voice the views of organised philately here. The Hon. Secretary in London is advising the Committee how his Executive views this proposal.

C. HAND,

*Hon. Secretary,*

*Permanent Congress Executive  
Committee.*

## Are Stamp Collectors Wise ?

Read what Mr. G. A. Higlett says in the introduction to the Philatelic Societies' Handbook :—

"The Stamp Collector who does not belong to any Philatelic Society does not know what he is missing by keeping aloof. Instead of the old saying that where ignorance is bliss 'tis folly to be wise being true, in this case the alleged blissful ignorance is unmitigated folly. To belong to some Society, to attend its meetings and see and hear what transpires, to learn how others do things will fully recompense him for the small annual cost, and convert the folly of ignorance into the wisdom of knowledge, will convert him from a mere hoarder of little bits of paper into a philatelist."

The name of Mr. Higlett is very well known in philatelic circles. "A confirmed propagandist," is how he describes himself, and "a collector of over sixty years' standing." We heartily commend his advice to all collectors who do not enjoy and, therefore, cannot appreciate the benefits of membership of a philatelic society. Why, the friendships made are alone worth the sub.

---

### A NEW GADGET.

A most useful accessory to philatelic description has just been put on the market by Stanley Gibbons, Ltd. It is called "The Thirkell Philatelic Position Finder" for indicating in correspondence or press-writings, the position of flaws, retouches, re-entries, etc. The gadget consists of a stout transparent film, on which is printed a grille of small squares, reference to which is made by quoting the figure which stands at the top of the column and the letter beside the horizontal row in which the wanted square appears. *E.g.*, the seventh square in the eleventh horizontal row is K7. Just like map references. The Position Finder is laid over the stamp and the flaw or other variation is then indicated by giving the number of the square or squares through which it is visible. The price of the Position Finder is 1s. 2d., post free, and is the most valuable accessory introduced to philately for many years. It will be found invaluable by every writer, correspondent, collector, and reader of philatelic literature.

# RHODESIAN POSTAGE STAMPS

By W. J. HARRINGTON.

(Continued from page 147 of October issue.)

(Note.—Correspondence is invited with a view to correcting errors of omission or commission.)

## CHAPTER XII

### “ RHODESIA ” ISSUE OF 1909.

Though the territory of the British South Africa Company was officially given the name of “ Rhodesia ” by a proclamation dated the 3rd May, 1895, it was only in 1909 that, to meet a generally expressed wish and also to overcome the inconvenience caused by the omission of the official designation of the country from its postage stamps, it was decided to place that name thereon. As, however, there was a large supply of the 1898 issue still available, instructions were given that these were to be overprinted with the word RHODESIA instead of ordering a fresh issue at once. The stocks in hand in the Company’s office in London were overprinted accordingly, but when in course of time certain values became exhausted, special printings thereof were made for the later overprintings. These values were the ½d., 1d., 2d., 6d. and 1s., which are to be found in shades and on a white paper very different from those of the original printings of 1898. In one of these special printings of the 1d. value can be found a diagonal coloured line across the upper part of the left numeral, which is not to be found in the original printings.

1. *Date of Issue* : 15th April, 1909.

2. *Overprinted by* Messrs. Waterlow & Sons of London.

3. *Description and Measurements* : The stamps were overprinted on the issue of 1898 in black from stereotypes with the word “ RHODESIA ” in fancy capitals measuring from  $16\frac{1}{2}$  to  $17\frac{1}{2}$  mm. The “ R ” is  $3\frac{1}{4}$  to  $3\frac{1}{2}$  mm. high, and the other letters  $2\frac{1}{4}$  mm. high. The word is followed by a round or a square stop.

4. *Denominations* : Twenty from ½d. to £5, including four surcharges necessary to meet new local requirements.

5. *Setting of Overprint* : As the overprinting was done from stereotypes, there are innumerable minor constant as well as occasional varieties. The overprint was applied to sheets of 240 stamps (four panes) except in the case of the 7s. 6d. and “ pound ” values, which were in sheets of sixty.

It would seem that sufficient type was set up to cover a column of ten stamps, and that from this six stereotypes were taken. There are minor constant differences in each column of this overprint.

In the case of the 7s. 6d. and “ pound ” values, however, it is believed that sufficient type was set up for a row of six stamps, and that from this ten stereotypes were taken.

6. *Setting of Surcharge* : (Information is required as to whether in this case the overprint and surcharge were done in one or two operations, and also how the surcharge was made up).

7. *Perforations* : As in the case of the 1898 issue, there are a number of perforations and combinations thereof from  $13\frac{1}{2}$  up to 15.

8. *Varieties* :

(a) *Perforation*—

½d. value—

Imperforate between pair (? horizontal or vertical).

Imperforate between stamp and right margin right pane.

1d. value—

Imperforate between horizontal pair.

Imperforate between stamp and top margin (? pane).

6d. value—

Imperforate between stamp and bottom margin top pane.

(b) *Major Overprint Varieties :*

- (i) *Missing stop.* In the first printings of all values (except the 3s., 7s. 6d., the "pound" values and the surcharges) the stop after the word RHODESIA is missing from every stamp in the third column. In some panes, however, in the same column there is a faint indication of a stop which is still entirely absent from one stamp. In later printings, this defect was rectified.
- (ii) *Dropped RHODESIA.* In the first printings of the ½d. and 1d. values, the word RHODESIA is dropped 1 mm. in one stamp in each pane. (The position of this stamp is required.)
- (iii) *Dot under "D."* In each stamp in the fourth and eighth columns in the 7½d. value, there is a dot under the "d."
- (iv) *Overprint Missing.* A rare variety is the £1 value from which the overprint is missing. This is from the bottom row of Sheet No. 182.
- (v) *Violet Overprints.* A large proportion of the 5d. (dull purple), 7½d. and 10d. were overprinted in violet aniline ink. This variety can easily be distinguished as the ink usually penetrates through the back of the stamp. It is believed that some of the 2s. value were also overprinted in violet ink.

It is authoritatively known that some sheets of the £1 value were overprinted in violet ink by a Mr. Crowther, at Fort Jameson, and later sent in to stock at Kalomo. In 1923, this stock was returned to the London office of the Company, and was included in the remainders purchased by Stanley Gibbons.

(c) *Constant Minor Varieties.* Taken from a sheet of the 2½d. value.

- Column 1. Top serif of A turned up and merged stop.  
 Column 2. Thick top to R and merged stop.  
 Column 3. Damaged top serif to A on right.

Column 4. Dot after tail of R and "cut off" stop.

Column 5. No characteristic.

Column 6. Left serifs of R missing.

Column 7. Twisted A and turned up right bottom serif of R.

Column 8. Similar to Column 4.

Column 9. Flat pointed tail to R.

Column 10. Turned up right bottom serif to R and no left bottom serif to A.

(d) *Other Minor Varieties :*

Curly R. 2½d.

Flat tail R. 1d., 2d., 2½d., 4d., 6d., 10s.

Flat tail R and no serif to A. 1s.

Turned up serif to R. ½d., 1d., 3d.

Line under R. 10d.

DE joined. ½d., 2½d.

No serif right top of A. ½d., 1d., 2½d., 6d., 1s.

Curly serif to A. 1d., 2½d., 6d.

Merged stop. ½d., 1d., 2d., 2½d., 5d., 10d., £2.

Long stop. 1d.

Raised stop. 2d.

Comma after "s." 2s.

Dot after A. 1s.

Short bar to 5. 5d.

Slanting cross bar to A. 4d.

"Q" in Rhodesia. 3d.

Comma instead of stop. 2½d.

- (e) *Paper.* The £2 value is to be found on paper of a decidedly bluish tinge. These were sold over the counter in several Post Offices in Rhodesia.

9. *Remainders :* Of this issue, 271 sets were sold.

**COLLECTIONS OF  
POST CARDS AND ENVELOPES**

21	<b>Orange River Colony</b> post cards with V.R.I. issues and the rare 1½d. V.R.I. unused ... ..	10/-
18	<b>Orange River Colony</b> (without the 1½d. V.R.I.) unused ... ..	6/6
27	<b>Great Britain</b> post cards Queen Victoria, from 1870, unused ... ..	5/6
16	Post cards and envelopes of <b>Great Britain</b> , King Edward and King George, unused ... ..	2/3

**WALTER MORLEY**  
"Cornaways," RIVERHEAD, KENT, England

## STAMP COLLECTORS WE DISLIKE!

### *No. 1. The Indicator.*

The collector who, during an exhibition at a Society meeting, finds it necessary, when pointing out to a friend an outstanding and generally valuable item, to place his finger firmly on the stamp. Usually the finger in question does not look too clean, particularly to the alarmed exhibitor.

This type we would have doubly or trebly perforated on all sides.

### *No. 2. The Grouser.*

The collector who never does anything to help philately, and does his best to discourage those who do. When he attends meetings, he says they are slow and uninteresting and are badly conducted. He never exhibits and deprecates all collections which are shown. If he is asked to pay his subscription, he "ticks off" the Treasurer, and if he is not so asked, wants to know why the Treasurer is not doing his job. As a critic of matters brought forward at meetings, he is always destructive—never constructive.

This type we would obliterate heavily.

### *No. 3. The Substitutor.*

The collector who "substitutes" in exchange packets—and here words fail us. When we discover the despicable work of the man who has sunk so low as to steal a fellow collector's stamps and replace them with inferior copies of his own, we are reminded of the London costermonger who, on having his barrow overturned and his wares scattered over the street, scratched his head and exclaimed: "There ain't no words for it."

We would like to see the effect of a "double strike" on this type.

### *No. 4. The Junk Merchant.*

The collector who hands in to the Exchange Superintendent booklets filled with the cheapest type of European and

American stamps together with dirty and damaged specimens of better class stamps, the whole being crowded together without any attempt being made to arrange them decently.

This type we would cancel to anyone's order.

### *No. 5. The Deprecator.*

The collector who describes as "junk" the cheaper varieties of stamps in the other man's collection, or the items the other man is trying to dispose of. The only "junk" there is in the stamp world is the dirty, torn, or damaged stamp, such as is often placed in exchange booklets by the afore-said collector.

This type should have his mind re-engraved.

### *No. 6. The Boaster.*

The collector who, during the exhibition at a Society meeting, explains to anyone he can buttonhole that he has blocks or sheets at home of this or that item, and goes to great lengths to show what a wonderful hand he is at securing rarities at low prices. His tremendous stocks are, however, never brought to meetings, and no one ever sees them.

This type we would sur-charge every time he speaks.

### *No. 7. The Smoke Fiend.*

The collector who must smoke while examining an exhibition at a Society meeting, and allows cigarette ash or chunks of burning tobacco to fall on the sheets.

This type we would "grille."

W.J.

## British Stamps used in South Africa *and* South African Stamps used in British Army Post Offices.

### A STUDY IN POST MARKS.

BY DR. J. H. HARVEY PIRIE.

Port Elizabeth Philatelic Society (read 14th March, 1933).

(Continued from December issue, page 192.)

*Variety C.*—ARMY POST OFFICE at the top, name of town at the bottom, date in one line in the centre, blank, letters or numbers above the date.

- (a) VOLKSRUST. Blank above date. In purple, blue, violet or black.
- (b) VOLKSRUST. Two letters or numbers (undecipherable), above the date. In purple on British 1d. A new record from my collection.
- (c) MODDERSPRUIT. 7B above the date. In blue.

*Variety D.*—(a) SOUTH AFRICAN at the top, FIELD FORCE at the bottom, date in one line in the centre, AD above the date. In blue.

It is interesting to note that no Edwardian stamps are known with Type 4 cancellations. The earliest date is 5th March, 1900, and the latest 27th June, 1901.

#### TYPE 5.

The fifth type brought into use consisted of a single line circle of the same size as Type 2, having at the top ARMY BASE, and at the bottom P.O.CAPETOWN, with the date in the centre in two lines. Obliteration in black. This mark was used only in the base office at Capetown. Mr. Kricorissian does not give the date of its introduction, and I have not personally seen any specimens of this type. I wonder if it was introduced when there was, as I have shown under Type 1a, a partial shift of the base Post Office to Bloemfontein in March or April, 1900.

I must now depart from Mr. Kricorissian's numerical order of classification as his Type 7 certainly, and his Type 6 probably, should not be included under the heading of Army Postmarks.

His Type 7 he describes as an almost circular obliteration, consisting of the letters P.O.A. in one line, with a number below; a single-line bracket on each side, and two thick bars, above and below, completing the circle. He has been apparently misled into thinking that the letters stand for Post Office Army, whereas (and I have it on the authority of Mr. Watson, Mr. C. Hand and Mr. Basden) this is in reality a very common Natal civil postmark, the letters standing for Post Office Agency. British stamps with such postmarks, which Mr. Kricorissian chronicles, should, therefore, not be listed as used in Army Post Offices, but as British used in South African Civil Post Offices.

His Type 6 is described as different from any used during the war, in that, it is in white on a black ground, and consists of two concentric circles, the outer being double-lined. At the top are the letters POA with a star on each side, and at the bottom, BRONKHORSTSPRUIT. In the inner circle is a crown. He further states that the only copy he has is on a piece of blue official envelope, stamped "On Her Majesty's Service," and bears the G.P.O. Capetown postmark dated 2nd February, 1901.

He begs the question by inferring that the letters POA stand for Post Office Army.

I cannot place this postmark. It obviously is not of the same order as the Natal POA's, as an old Transvaal P.O. Agency mark (if there were such things, which I doubt) would not have a crown. It seems more probable that it was an emergency mark made somewhat after the plan of the Natal marks, but, in any case, until better proof is forthcoming of its being an Army postmark, I think it should be removed from that category.

## TYPE 6.

(Mr. Kricorissian's Type 8.) This type consists of a regular double-framed octagon, 28 mm. across, containing between the lines ARMY POST OFFICE at the top, and NATAL FIELD FORCE at the bottom. In the panels at the sides are the letters V and R respectively. The date is in two lines in the centre, with the name of the town immediately below. This mark was used at Heidelberg, Standerton, Volksrust, and Wakkerstroom. The number 81 was also used instead of a name and sometimes the mark was used without name or number.

*Additions* (from Mr. Watson's collection):—

Wakkerstroom.	British, 6d.	Transvaal, 1d. (542).
Heidelberg.	British, 3d.	Transvaal, $\frac{1}{2}$ d., 1d., 2d., 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ d., 3d., 4d., 6d. and 1s. (501-508).
Standerton.		Transvaal, $\frac{1}{2}$ d. (501), 1d. (542); Natal, 1d. (99), and $\frac{1}{2}$ d. (125).

In my own collection I have an "81" on entire with no stamps, from Delagoa Bay, and addressed to Middelburg, and marked "Per Consul-General's Mail Bag." This would suggest Middelburg as the location of Office No. 81.

The earliest date seen of this type is 3.7.1900 (1d., Volksrust, Mr. Watson's), and the latest recorded is 6.12.1901.

## TYPE 7.

(Mr. Kricorissian's Type 9.) The seventh type of obliteration consists of a single line circular mark, similar to Type 3, but having thinner lettering; at the top NATAL, and at the bottom FIELD FORCE 2. The date is in three lines in the centre, and the cancellation is in violet. Extremely rare. Mr. Watson has this on Natal 1d. (99) and 3d. (108).

## TYPE 8.

(Mr. Kricorissian's Type 10.) According to him, it is a newspaper cancellation, consisting of a large circle in which the letters NFF (Natal Field Force) appear in white on a black background. The mark is a rare one.

Mr. Watson informs me that although he has no copies of this mark, he has seen it on a set of Natal Nos. 97-102 and 106-113, and he understands that it was the first

Army postmark used by the Natal Field Force, and not purely a newspaper cancellation.

## TYPE 9.

(Mr. Kricorissian's Type 11.) A very thick line circle, 28 mm. in diameter, containing the letters FPO and the number 43 above, both in very thick type. Mr. Kricorissian states that the only copy he has seen was used in conjunction with Type 2, Office No. 43, which was at Bloemfontein, and that it was used on newspaper matter, the cancellation being in black. I have not personally seen either Type 8 or Type 9.

## TYPE 10.

(Mr. Kricorissian's Type 12.) This type is described by him as "hitherto unknown," and as consisting of a large single line circular rubber cancellation, 44 mm. in diameter, having at the top FIELD POST OFFICE and at the bottom BRITISH ARMY S. AFRICA. The date is in one line across the centre, and has a number above. The office numbers are 92 and 93, and the cancellation is in violet. Specimens are exceedingly rare, and it is not known where these offices were situated.

In my collection I have an entire British registered envelope with two 1d. lilac stamps, cancelled by a "93" mark. The mark is not quite circular, being 43 mm. in horizontal diameter and 41 mm. in vertical diameter, but otherwise agrees with Mr. Kricorissian's description. What might be a clue to the locality of this office is the fact that it was posted by a private in the Royal West Kent Regiment on 6th July, 1901. A "92" mark in my collection is practically circular, being approximately 42 mm. in each diameter.

## TYPE 11.

(Mr. Kricorissian's Type 13.) Travelling Post Offices. These used special postmarks consisting of two concentric circles, the outer one being 24-25 mm. in diameter. Between the lines, ARMY POST OFFICE at the top, the designation of the travelling Post Office at the bottom, and, one on either side, the letters E and R with dotted lines above and below them. The date is in one line across the centre, with an index letter above it, except in the case of T.P.O.—EAST—No. 1 and No. 2, which have no index letter.

Although these travelling Post Offices handled enormous quantities of mail, the postmarks are not common. The earliest date of a T.P.O. cancellation recorded by Mr. Kricorissian is 9th April, 1901 (East No. 1, in violet); the latest I have seen is 10th July, 1902 (Eastern).

The following is a list of the different T.P.O.'s:—

- (1) T.P.O.—EAST—No. 1. This ran between Pretoria and Komatipoort. An addition, in Mr. Watson's collection to the stamps known with this cancellation, is a British 6d. He also has one specimen of this mark in violet on a British 1d.
- (2) T.P.O.—EAST—No. 2. This T.P.O. is mentioned in *St. Martin's-le-Grand* magazine for January, 1903, but Mr. Kricorissian has never seen or heard of a copy of the postmark, and suggests that it is merely another name for No. (3), which is not mentioned in that magazine, but whose postmark is well known. This suggestion is ingenious, but it is not correct, for the mark does exist and I have two copies of it. One, moreover, is plainly marked by the sender as at Komatipoort, so the run of this T.P.O. must have been the same as that of East No. 1. The dates of my copies (both on 1d. lilac) are 10th November, 1901, and 10th February, 1902.
- (3) EASTERN T.P.O. Index letters A, B, C and D. This ran between Elandsfontein (Germiston) and Natal.
- (4) MIDLAND T.P.O. Index letters A, B and C. Ran between Pretoria and Naauwpoort.
- (5) WESTERN T.P.O. Index letters(?) Elandsfontein and Klerksdorp.
- (6) NORTHERN T.P.O. Index letters(?) Pretoria and Pietersburg.

Note that the stops after T and P are on the line in the case of (1) and (2) and raised in (3) to (6).

Covers which have been sent by the main line of rail through the Free State and southward towards Port Elizabeth or East London frequently show backstamps such as N.E., T.P.O., DOWN.; NORTH

EASTERN T.P.O. DOWN.; MIDLAND T.P.O.; MIDLAND DOWN.; or EASTERN T.P.O. DOWN. These, however, I have only seen as backstamps on war covers, never as actually cancelling stamps. I am informed that they are not the marks of Army T.P.O.'s, but of Civil T.P.O.'s, which were purely sorting vans and not complete Post Offices like the Army T.P.O.'s.

#### TYPE 12.

(Mr. Kricorissian's Type 14.) This was introduced towards the end of 1901, when fixed Army Post Offices were established in various towns in the newly annexed Orange River Colony and Transvaal.

The marks consist of two concentric circles, the outer 25 mm. in diameter, with ARMY POST OFFICE between the lines at the top, and the name of the town at the bottom, with dots (or, sometimes, stars) between the upper and lower letterings. The date is in two lines in the centre with an index letter (A-D) above. These letters apparently indicated different stampers as the letters C and D are only found on stamps used at the large towns such as Pretoria and Bloemfontein. The marks are always in black. The earliest date recorded for this type is 2nd October, 1901, and the latest I have is 13th August, 1902 (Naauwpoort), nearly two and a half months after peace was established on 31st May, 1902.

*Additions.* Partly Mr. Watson's, partly mine.

Bloemfontein	..	British, 1d. K.E., on a Transvaal registered envelope with the 4d. embossed stamp overprinted E.R.I.; O.R.C., 1d. (157).
Elandsfontein	..	British, 1d. K.E., embossed envelope; Transvaal, ½d. (544).
Klerksdorp	..	British, 3d., 6d. and 1s. (green and carmine).
Kroonstad	..	O.R.C., 1d. (157), 21.3.1902.
Lydenburg	..	British, 6d.
Middelburg	..	British, ½d. K.E.
Naauwpoort	..	British, 1d. K.E.
Pietersburg	..	British Q.V., 2d. registered envelope and 1d. letter card.
Potchefstroom	..	British, ½d. and 1d.
Standerton	..	British, 3d., and 1d. K.E., embossed envelope.
Volkstrust	..	British, ½d. and 1d., and 1d. K.E. Volkstrust, it may be noted, is an addition to the list of places with fixed Army Post Offices.
Waterval Onder	..	British, 1d. K.E.
Wonderfontein	..	British, 1d. K.E.



*The*

# SOUTH AFRICAN PHILATELIST

*Proprietors and Publishers :*

The Philatelic Congress of Southern Africa

*Hon. Editor :* A. E. BASDEN, P. O. Box 238, Pretoria

*Hon. Business Manager :* WILLIAM REDFORD, 88, Fox Street, Johannesburg

Subscription : Five Shillings per annum, post free to any part of the World

Vol. 10

FEBRUARY, 1934

No. 2

## EDITORIAL

We heartily reciprocate cordial greetings for the New Year received from many Societies and dealers. The card sent out by Francis J. Field was delightfully tasteful and apropos. Mr. H. R. Harmer's card had for illustration a photograph of a herd of elephant being startled by a London-Cape air liner, and reproduced in the form of an enlarged Sudan air mail, with the engaging description "A rare Sudan Air Stamp Essay."

We are well over the effects of the Christmas and New Year festivities, and the new editor will, it is hoped, take over the production of the March issue, which will contain, *inter alia*, a very interesting article from the pen of Mr. C. Hand on the extraordinary "seven-country" covers of Swaziland and Basutoland, illustrated by examples of each.

We are informed by the Secretary, Philatelic Congress of Southern Africa, that he has been advised by the Cape Town Philatelic Society that it regrets it cannot entertain Congress this year, but hopes to do so in 1935. The 1934 Congress will, therefore, be held at Pretoria under the invitation of the Pretoria Philatelic Society. We hope to be in a position to make a further announcement in March.

### AIR MAIL NEW ISSUES.

7 Greece (Italy-Rhodes) $\frac{1}{2}$ to 50 Dr.	6/-
7 Greece (General Issue) $\frac{1}{2}$ to 50 Dr.	6/-
1 Holland (Pandar)	1/1
26 N. Caledonia (Paris-Noumea) complete	17/6
2 Mexico (Statistical)	1/-
5 Salvador (441st Ann.) complete	6/-

*The above are the latest Air Issues. I have many more sets, packets and single stamps.*

### AIRS FOR INVESTMENT

**C. F. SKINNER, (B.P.A.),**  
Box 5887, JOHANNESBURG.  
(Shop at 17 Old Arcade)

## CORRESPONDENCE

*The Editor,*  
SOUTH AFRICAN PHILATELIST.

SIR,

A meeting was held on the 22nd September, to consider the question of reviving the Bloemfontein Philatelic Society. Present were Messrs. F. Carter, W. Dickie Clark, J. B. Levy, S. Levitt, J. Lewis, F. Mattei, and H. G. Ulyate.

It was resolved that the Society be revived, and that the name be changed to the Orange Free State and Basutoland Philatelic Society.

The following officers were appointed:—

*President :* Mr. F. Carter, P.O. Box 95, Bloemfontein.

*Vice-President :* Mr. J. Lewis.

*Secretary and Treasurer :* Mr. H. G. Ulyate, 3, Exton Road, Bloemfontein.

*Committee :* Messrs. J. B. Levy, W. Dickie Clark and S. Levitt.

Subscriptions were fixed as follows: Entrance fee, 2s. 6d.; annual subscription, 2s. 6d. for country members and 5s. for town members. Country members being those resident outside a ten miles radius from Bloemfontein.

It was resolved to hold meetings on the first Friday in each month, at 8 p.m., at present held in Mr. Carter's office, 124, Maitland Street, Bloemfontein.

At a committee meeting held on the 28th September, rules and by-laws of various clubs were read and the rules and by-laws of the O.F.S. & B. Philatelic Society were drawn up.

At a meeting on the 6th October, the rules were read, confirmed and adopted. Mr. J. Lewis was proposed and seconded as Exchange Superintendent. The rules and by-laws are in the course of preparation in booklet form.

It was proposed, on the 6th inst., by Mr. J. B. Levy that the SOUTH AFRICAN PHILATELIST be subscribed to and appointed as the official organ of the Society.

A fine collection of the stamps of Denmark was exhibited by Mr. E. C. Hansen, a visitor from Pretoria. Mr. F. Carter also exhibited a portion of his collection—non-British. The displays were appreciated by all, and a vote of thanks was accorded the exhibitors.

H. G. ULYATE,  
*Secretary.*  
O.F.S. and Basutoland  
Philatelic Society.

*The Editor,*

SOUTH AFRICAN PHILATELIST.

SIR,

May I crave the use of your columns again to ask any collector of Unions who may have the control strip of the B control, roto ld., showing the retouched Mast on No. 12, Row 5, if he would be kind enough to get in touch with me.

I particularly want some information on this issue for my work on the roto issues, and shall be very grateful for the loan for a few days of any such strip or sheet.

Thanking you,

G. N. GILBERT.

Box 15,

Westminster, O.F.S.

*The Editor,*

SOUTH AFRICAN PHILATELIST.

SIR,

I have just returned from overseas and should like to congratulate your paper on the good impression it has created abroad. It is time South African collectors woke up to the fact that a first-rate stamp periodical is available at their doors! I was agreeably surprised to find such interest displayed in a South African emission, and consider the SOUTH AFRICAN PHILATELIST is doing more publicity work overseas than most official departments. It was also my privilege to meet two keen Union philatelists in England, viz., Messrs. Lancelot A. B. Sharpe and G. Hope Wilson, who are doing a great pioneering work in boosting South Africa. I was impressed with what I saw and heard at a sitting of the recent British Congress, and renewed friendships there. Mrs. Field and Mr. Kolsen have wished me to convey greetings to all their South African friends.

Further, I must apologise for taking up your valuable space and time, I wish to remove certain misapprehensions.

I. *Re* Mr. Gilbert's opening paragraph, page 91, SOUTH AFRICAN PHILATELIST of June last, I quite agree that the "dragon" variety is on an "Afrikaans" stamp, No. 9, Row 17. It appeared in two forms in the "black arrow" issue, first in the form of a shoe buckle and then as a burst bomb or searchlight. Thus, the "dragon" evolved:—

- (a) From Mr. Lichtenstein's "rigging on fire."
- (b) Mr. Gilbert's "retouch in mast."
- (c) Mr. Solomon's "small headed dragon."
- (d) Mr. Simenhoff's "buckle," and
- (e) "Searchlight" or "burst bomb."

So now we are all agreed! But I must blame Mr. Gilbert for having caused me to go "off the rails," for, in paragraph 4 of his letter, page 45, SOUTH AFRICAN PHILATELIST of March last, he referred to the "retouch in mast" variety of the *previous* 1d. roto issues, i.e., the control letter series. As the only then recorded retouch and mast variety occurred on No. 12, Row 5 of the D. and E. controls, I naturally concluded that that was the stamp to which he referred.

II. *Re* Mr. Solomon's letter, page 92, SOUTH AFRICAN PHILATELIST, June, 1933, I used the word "retouches" as a *general* term before I had the pleasure of seeing Mr. Solomon's stamps. The quotation marks will prove this.

L. SIMENHOFF.

[The three letters above were sent to the printers months ago, but were apparently mislaid.—Ed.]

*The Editor,*

SOUTH AFRICAN PHILATELIST.

In view of the fact that the rotogravure process of printing stamps goes through five separate stages, each of which may produce minor errors and varieties, would it not be advisable to give each stage a simple name, so that one could refer to it without any danger of misunderstanding on the part of a hearer or reader.

A full explanation of the process was published in the SOUTH AFRICAN PHILATELIST a few months ago, but a brief summary will not be out of place, and is as follows:

- 1st Stage: Artist's Drawing.
- 2nd Stage: Photographic negative of 1st Stage.
- 3rd Stage: Multiple settings of 2nd Stage to form full size plate.
- 4th Stage: Positive photographic contact-print from 3rd Stage on Carbon Paper.
- 5th Stage: Printing plate or cylinder etched from 4th Stage on Copper.

Perhaps some technician will oblige with the correct term for each stage, failing that I think readers' suggestions should be invited and a set of the best terms selected for general use.

My own suggestions are:

- 1st Stage: Artist's Drawing.
- 2nd Stage: Master Negative.
- 3rd Stage: Plate Negative.
- 4th Stage: Carbon Print.
- 5th Stage: Plate, or Cylinder.

I. L. SOLOMON.

COLLECTORS!! STUDY THE  
STAMPS OF YOUR COUNTRY!

# British African Rarities

*I hold the Finest Stock in the World*

Only stamps in the finest possible condition and at reasonable prices will be found in my books.

**Selections sent on approval to any part of the world.**

Deal direct with the firm that actually has the stamps in stock and so save money.

**Want Lists will receive my prompt personal attention.**

——  
**T. ALLEN**

5, BLAKE HALL ROAD . WANSTEAD  
 LONDON, E.11 . ENGLAND

## Stamps in Schools

By MISS A. E. GOULD.

For many years past stamps have played an important part in the work of my class. Many lessons are made more interesting by the display of pages from my own or scholars' stamp collections.

A recent term's work included Africa, and we found that stamps of the Belgian Congo, Mozambique and French Colonies provided a wealth of information and first-rate illustrations. A class collection was enthusiastically formed, and classified under the headings of animals, native types, productions and so on. The appropriate stamps were mounted on cards and "written-up," the "writing-up," of course, being chiefly geographical information.

History, too, benefits by stamp collections. The travels of Columbus, Vasco de Gama and Henry the Navigator have all been made more fascinating by a display of the stamps portraying incidents in their lives. Romulus and Remus and the head of Julius Caesar on the Labour Celebration stamps of Italy make useful illustrations for Roman history. In fact many of them adorn the margins of our history notebooks.

In connection with more recent history, the page of Penny Blacks from my own collection always ensures rapt attention for a lesson on "The Introduction of Penny Post," as do those of the Transvaal and Orange Free State when the Boer War is part of the syllabus.

Current events, too, have more significance when stamps can be produced to illustrate one's statements. The Swiss Disarmament Conference issue and the Washington Bicentenary issue were very useful in this respect, while some few years ago the ungummed emergency stamps issued in 1923 after the Japanese earthquake were objects of great interest while on view in the class-room.

The latest idea among my class collectors is the formation of a stamp atlas. They have been surprised to find how many stamps bear maps, especially among those of the Americas.

It is obvious that much general knowledge is pleasantly acquired, for everyone wants to find out the story behind the stamp when a new specimen is obtained. In short, we have proved stamp-collecting in school to be an absorbing royal road to knowledge.—(Reprinted from "Gibbons' Stamp Monthly," January, 1933.)

## COLLECTORS' WANTS AND OFFERS

(Twopence per word per insertion with minimum of 2/- per insertion).

**Nevis and Virgin Islands.**—Stamps, Literature and Information wanted.

*A. F. Johnstone, P.O. Box 6006, Johannesburg.*

**Columbia.**—Scadta Air Mail, used or on entire wanted.

*Charles Hand, P.O. Box 1018, Pretoria.*

**"Specimen Stamps."**—Great Britain, British Colonial and Foreign wanted.

*Saul A. Klagsbrun, P.O. Box 846, Pretoria.*

**Wanted.**—Cape, Natal, Transvaal, Orange Free State, Griqualand West, Swaziland, Portuguese East Africa, Brazil, Greece, including covers and postal stationery.

*A. E. Basden, P.O. Box 238, Pretoria.*

**Wanted.**—Specimens, mint and fine used, of Gambia, Gold Coast, Sierra Leone and Nigerian Colonies.

*T. V. Green, P.O. Box 4967, Johannesburg.*

**Early European Stamps on cover.**—Stamps and covers used in Basutoland.

*Dr. A. J. Broughton, 13/14, Bourke Trust Buildings, Pretoria.*

**Gold Coast.**—Early issues, fine used. Special Postmarks. Mint. Wanted.

*William Redford, 88, Fox Street, Johannesburg.*

**Rhodesian Rarities.**—Wanted. Mint or used.

*R.H. Morley, P.O. Box 7573, Johannesburg.*

**Great Britain.**—Wanted early issues line engraved and surface printed—and items of interest.

*J. A. Bremner, 12, Ashford Rd., Parkwood, J'b'burg*

**PENNY REDS 71-224,** the set 7/6, post free. Some re-constructed plates 7/- each.

*Wrigley, Ecton, Northampton, England.*

**1899-1902.**—British used in South Africa and South Africa used in British Army P.Os.

*J. H. Harvey Pirie, P.O. Box 1038, Johannesburg*

### COLLECTIONS OF POST CARDS AND ENVELOPES

- |    |   |      |
|----|---|------|
| 21 | Orange River Colony post cards with V.R.I. issues and the rare 1½d. V.R.I. unused | 10/- |
| 18 | Orange River Colony (without the 1½d. V.R.I.) unused                              | 6/6  |
| 27 | Great Britain post cards Queen Victoria, from 1870, unused                        | 5/6  |
| 16 | Post cards and envelopes of Great Britain, King Edward and King George, unused    | 2/3  |

**WALTER MORLEY**

"Cornaways," RIVERHEAD, KENT, England

## SOCIETY NEWS

### EAST LONDON PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

The December meeting of the above was held on the 18th at Mr. Courlander's house, whose guests for the evening the members were. The usual proceedings were gone through, and we were entertained by our host royally. The stamps displayed were a very good collection of British African specimen stamps, one of Mr. Courlander's side lines.

Amongst those present was Mr. A. O. Hoppe, a foundation member of the Society and a past president.

A few stamps were auctioned, realising fair prices.

A real hearty vote of thanks was passed to Mr and Mrs. Courlander.

I. F. PAVIOUR.

### PRETORIA PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

The first meeting of the month fell on New Year's Day. This affected attendance, but the holiday spirit prevailing, made the meeting most pleasant. Mr. Hand's paper on the One Penny Commemorative Stamp of the South African Republic, based upon the report of the Republic's Postmaster-General, detailed the department's difficulties through wild speculation in this issue—a stamp now almost valueless. As a display, Mr. Giovanetti gave a fine showing of surcharged Queen's Head Transvaal issues. He also exhibited a number of sheets containing German issues employed in South-West Africa and some covers used during the Herero Campaign.

The Annual General Meeting took place on 15th January. The reports of officers show satisfactory work performed during the year, the report of the Exchange Superintendent being particularly gratifying, for packet sales during 1933 reached £366.

Office bearers for 1934 are as follows: President, Mr. A. E. Basden; Vice-President, Major W. J. Harrington; Hon. Secretary, Mr. N. L. Watson; Hon. Treasurer, Mr. J. W. Gehle; Exchange Superintendent, Dr. A. J. Broughton, with Messrs. A. E. Basden and W. J. Harrington as assistants; Librarian, Dr. A. J. Broughton; Curator of Forgery Collection, Mr. J. Roos; Curator of Society's Collection and Press Correspondent, Mr. C. Hand.

It was left to the Committee with Mr. Obermeyer to arrange for the annual dinner, which takes place on 19th February next.

C.H.

No other Reports received.

**OSWALD MARSH'S**

EFFICIENT EXPEDITIOUS **10%** WRITE FOR PARTICULARS

**NEW ISSUE SERVICE**

NORWOOD, LONDON, S.E. 9

# RHODESIAN POSTAGE STAMPS

By W. J. HARRINGTON.

(Continued from page 12 of January issue.)

(Note.—Correspondence is invited with a view to correcting errors of omission or commission.)

## CHAPTER XII

### DOUBLE HEAD ISSUE OF 1910-13.

Until the year 1910, neither the King's head nor the official title of "Rhodesia" had been incorporated in the design of the postage stamps of the territory of the British South Africa Company. These omissions were, however, remedied when a new issue was introduced bearing the portraits of both King George V and Queen Mary following their accession. Although the advent of this "double-headed" series on the 11th November, 1910, coincided with the visit of H.R.H. the Duke of Connaught to Rhodesia, it cannot be regarded as a commemorative issue in the strict sense of the term, as it remained current for a number of years.

### DEPARTMENT OF POSTS AND TELEGRAPHS, SOUTHERN RHODESIA.

Postal Notice No. 28 of 1910.

#### NEW ISSUE OF POSTAGE STAMPS.

It is hereby notified that a new issue of Postage Stamps bearing the effigies of Their Gracious Majesties King George V and Queen Mary will be made on the 11th November, 1910.

The stamps are of the following denominations, viz.,  $\frac{1}{2}$ d., 1d., 2d., 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ d., 3d., 4d., 5d., 6d., 8d., 10d., 1/-, 2/-, 3/-, 4/-, 7/6, 10/- and £1.

G. H. EYRE,  
Postmaster-General.

General Post Office,  
Salisbury, 10th November, 1910.

It will be observed that in the above notice, the 4/- value was included. This, however, was never issued, the 2/6 value being substituted therefor.

1. *Date of Issue*: 11th November, 1910.

2. *Printed by Messrs. Waterlow & Sons., Ltd., London.*

3. *Method of Printing*: Line engraved and recess printed.

4. *Design*: The design is an oblong format measuring 35 by 23 mm. The portraits of King George and Queen Mary (from photographs by Downey) are contained in an ornamental frame, the heads being separated by a perpendicular ornamental partition. The words "BRITISH SOUTH AFRICA COMPANY" in two lines, are inscribed in an arched tablet at the top between two circular tablets, which contain the value in figures. The

word "RHODESIA" is inscribed on a tablet at the bottom. All the letters and figures are uncoloured. The backgrounds of the tablets are composed of diagonal crossed lines of shading and the background of the heads consists of horizontal lines, each head also being framed by perpendicular lines, which in the case of the bi-coloured stamps, are of the colour of the duty plate.

5. *Denominations and Numbers Printed*:  $\frac{1}{2}$ d., green, 7,885,100; 1d., red, 14,100,100; 2d., black and grey, 551,950; 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ d., blue, 189,050; 3d., purple and ochre, 269,050; 4d., black and orange, 169,050; 5d., purple and olive, 96,050; 6d., brown and purple, 590,050; 8d., black and purple, 58,050; 10d., red and purple, 42,050; 1/-, black and green blue, 885,050; 2/-, black and blue, 235,050; 2/6, black and red, 17,050; 3/-, blue green and purple, 13,050; 5/-, red and green, 13,050; 7/6, red and blue, 10,550; 10/-, green and orange, 9,550; £1, red and black, 43,030.

The numbers given are stated to be those printed between the 15th October, 1910, and the 1st August, 1913.

6. *Paper and Gum*: Soft thick white wove paper with yellowish gum.

7. *Plates and Dies*: The  $\frac{1}{2}$ d., 1d. and 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ d. values were printed in both fast and fugitive colours from a single working plate in one operation. The other values were printed in fugitive colours from double working plates—one head plate for all values and a separate duty plate for each denomination.

For the preparation of the above plates, dies were used as follows:—

- (a) A border die for all values.
- (b) A head die for all values.

Examination of the border and head designs will reveal certain characteristics which appear in all values.

- (c) A right and left value die for each denomination. If these value labels are examined, it will be found that there are distinct differences between the right and left in each value. The following is an authoritative statement as to how these dies were prepared: "The original die from which the value dies were made carried the double circle. The relief background of the values was produced by ruling a sable tint omitting as nearly as possible the white portion which represented the figures and reaching the inner circle also as nearly as possible. The approximation thus produced was corrected by hand engraving, and consequently this hand work is responsible for the slightly differing width of the white circle."

8. *Setting of Sheets*: The two lower values ( $\frac{1}{2}$ d. and 1d.) were printed in sheets of 100 (10 rows of 10 stamps) and the rest in sheets of 50 (10 rows of 5 stamps).

9. *Perforation*: The perforations were made by a single line machine, and are as follows:—

*Perf. 14.*—All values.

*Perf. 13 $\frac{1}{2}$ .*— $\frac{1}{2}$ d., 1d., 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ d. and 8d.

*Perf. 14 by 15.*—3d. and 1/-.

*Perf. 14 $\frac{1}{2}$ .*— $\frac{1}{2}$ d., 1d. and 4d.

*Perf. 15.*— $\frac{1}{2}$ d., 1d., 2d., 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ d., 3d., 4d., 5d., 6d., 1/-, 2/- and £1.

*Perf. 15 by 14.*—4d. (only 100 issued).

The distances between the lines of perforation are irregular and vary from 25 to 27 mm. in breadth, and from 14 $\frac{1}{2}$  to 15 $\frac{1}{2}$  in depth. This irregularity has given the faker an opportunity of cutting off the real perforations and of making scarce or unknown perforations on single specimens which should always be examined with great care.

10. *Margins*:

(a) Perforated at the top only.

(b) The imprint "Messrs. Waterlow & Sons, Limited, London Wall, E.C." appears in the centre of the top and bottom margins. In the 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ d. value, a dot appears under the word "Limited" of the top imprint.

(c) Sheet numbers are printed in black horizontally in the top right corner or downwards in the lower right corner of the sheets. (Information is desired as to the values in which these numbers are at the top or bottom of the sheets.)

(d) Horizontal guide lines are printed at the extreme top of the sheets on the right and left.

(e) For the first time a mark, composed of a dot either over or under a vertical dash, appears on the head plate of the bi-coloured values only. The official reason given for the appearance of these marks is, I understand, as follows: "These dot and dash, or plain dash, guide lines indicate the centre of the sheet especially for the bi-coloured stamps. The marks were made by the various men so that each might know his own mark. These marks signify nothing." In view, however, of the discoveries made by Messrs. Rang and Saunders in respect of similar marks on the 1913 issue and published in *Gibbons' Monthly* for May, 1933, it is possible that it will be found after further research that these marks have some definite meaning.

(f) There are no jubilee lines.

11. *Varieties*:

(a) *Perforation*:

$\frac{1}{2}$ d. Value. Imperforate. (One sheet was sold over the counter at Umtali.)

Perforation hole third from the bottom missing.

1d. Value. Imperforate between vertical pair. (Sold over the counter at Bulawayo.)

Imperforate between stamp and top margin.

£1 Value. Imperforate.

At one time, in 1925, a number of bogus perforation varieties of this issue were placed on the market in England, but a specialist soon tracked the culprit down, and his activities came to an end. There are still extant, however, specimens of his handywork and any varieties of perforation, especially any which are not recorded, should be regarded with suspicion.

(b) *Colour*. In this issue, two errors of colour were made by the printers. In the 5d. value, the colours of the 3d. value were inadvertently used for one printing, and a similar occurrence took place in the £1, which was printed in the colours of the 10d. value. In connection with the latter error, it is stated that as the colours in use for the £1 value were thought to be somewhat dull, the printers were asked to use brighter colours, and in accordance with that request, eleven sheets (550 stamps) were printed. Ten sheets were sent to Rhodesia, but shortly after despatch, the officials in London noticed that the colours of the 10d. value had been used, and a cable was sent recalling the issue. This was done, but only 499 stamps arrived in London. The company eventually destroyed 450 of these stamps, the other ninety-nine being sold as remainders.

(c) *Major Varieties of Design*.

(i) *Double dot* under the "d" in the right value label of the  $\frac{1}{2}$ d. value, No. 29 in the sheet. This is to be found in perforations 13 $\frac{1}{2}$ , 14 and 15. As this occurs only in the early printings, it has been stated by some authorities that it was probably caused by the adherence of some substance to the plate. Traces of the dot can, however, be found on later printings of this stamp.

(ii) *Broken line under RHODESIA* is found only in the 1d. value. Nos. 71, 72, 73, 74 and 75 in the sheet. No. 71 has also a nick over "D" in "RHODESIA." No. 72 has also a mark on the King's nose. No. 73 has also a small mark to the top left of the King's head. No. 75 has a smaller break than the others, and, in addition, the lower serif of the "D" in "RHODESIA" is missing. This variety is to be found in perforations 14 and 15.

(iii) *Line in Queen's Ear*. This is No. 2 in the sheet in all the bi-coloured values, and takes the form of a short heavy line across the lower part of the Queen's ear, caused it is thought, by the dropping of some sharp object on the plate. The flaw was at one time supposed to have been soon rectified, as in May, 1911, it was recorded that this variety had quite disappeared in some values. As, however, it can be found in many of the different shades of most denominations, it would seem that some time must have elapsed and several printings made before all the values had been retouched. This variety is found in perforation 14 only, except in the case of the 8d. value, in which it is also found in perforation 13 $\frac{1}{2}$ .

The retouch was not too well done in some values (2d., 3d. and 2/-) as the first effort resulted in the—

(iv) *Hook in the Queen's Ear*, which appears to be very scarce. A further retouch was, therefore, necessary, but traces of this operation can generally be recognised by the shading in the lobe of the ear, which differs from that of the normal.

(v) *Solid Colour in the Background of Name and Value Labels*.—In the 2d. value, perforation 14.

(To be continued)

## Purpose of Stamp Collecting

Recreation is one of the legitimate and necessary activities of life. To be complete, life must include within itself not only education, religion, the exercise of citizenship, money making and the like, but also one or more avocations. To the extent that anyone of the first mentioned are excluded, life becomes incomplete, and will fail to be significant both to others and the individual himself. If worthy recreations are omitted, life in addition, becomes monotonous and lacking in refinement.

In America we have been slow in recognising this necessity for recreation. One reason for this is the already mentioned failure to realise that it forms a part of complete living. There are, however, two other causes which have operated to bring about the curious attitudes we have toward hobbies. One is found in the fact that Americans have until lately been so occupied with subduing the land and building a nation, that they actually have had no leisure to devote to recreation.

The other reason is that Puritanical ideas are still with us. Colonial America left an almost indelible impression on our minds. Whether we are direct descendants of the Puritans or not, we have through contact acquired a notion that there is something wrong in engaging in avocational activities for their own sake. We have taken on the attitude that our hobby needs to be defended. We are just a little afraid that our friends will misunderstand us, if we tell them that we collect stamps just because we like to do so. The golfer is in the same mental state. He will not tell you that he likes golf for its own sake, but will offer as an excuse that he feels he needs the exercise. The movie-goer in certain circles will tell you that the picture was educational, though if he were frank, he would say that he went to the show for the fun of it.

The stamp collector, similarly, will give various excuses. The hobby is an investment, it teaches geography, or it gives practice in distinguishing colours. Whether these outside values accidentally come from practising, the avocation is immaterial. My contention is that they must not deliberately be injected as objectives of the hobby. Insofar as they are, a part of its real value as a recreation is lost.

There is only one real value of stamp collecting as a hobby, and that is the recreation and the pure enjoyment one gets out of it. If one has other motives, it is no longer a hobby but a business or an educational agency.

Europe, as is well known, long ago learned how to play. In America we do not know how. We are not only inhibited by historical accidents, but we have become so imbued by the prevailing spirit of the times that we cannot recognise values except in the form of financial return. Examples of how we have lost, or perhaps never gained, the ability to accept recreation at its face value are found on all sides. Baseball, racing, and games of various kinds fail to satisfy unless betting and prizes are added as ulterior motives. And the worst of it is that some of us do not realise that these motives interfere with a complete enjoyment.

The same is true of stamp collecting. The sooner the devotee of this hobby ceases to ask him-

self, What money is there in it? How educated will I become? the more enjoyment and recreation he will receive from his stamps. The money he spends on it will become an incident to be forgotten. His whole attention will be on his avocation. Its value will be the same whatever form it may take. The man or woman who spends small sums, accumulating the cheaper varieties, will get as much enjoyment as the one who spends large sums on unusual items. There is no difference between them. Both get out of stamp collecting the only value it can give, namely, absorbing and wholesome recreation.—Mr. A. R. WALLIN, in *Mekel's Weekly Stamp News*.

## AIR MAIL NOTES

The following notes are supplied by Mr. L. Wyndham, of Cape Town:—

### S.W.A. AIR MAIL STAMPS.

In the December issue, Mr. J. Allom Nesbett enquires about the number of Union Air Mail stamps that were overprinted "S.W.A." Union Air Mail stamps were overprinted on the 5th June, 1930, at the request of the S.W.A. Administration, in order to have Air Mail stamps ready for the inauguration of the "feeder" service Windhoek-Kimberley, connecting with Imperial Airways' England-South Africa service, originally expected to be started in April, 1931, and to give prospective users of the service the opportunity of acquiring their needs. The stamps were released in South-West Africa on 17th November, 1930. The demand for these stamps necessitated five issues being made, the issues being as follows: (1) 12,000 fourpenny and 2,400 shilling; (2) 1,200 fourpenny and 7,080 shilling; (3) 6,000 fourpenny and 6,000 shilling; (4) 3,000 fourpenny and 3,000 shilling; and (5) 51,000 fourpenny and 21,000 shilling. The above information is extracted from *Hansard* of 13th February, 1931.

### NEW ZEALAND-SOUTH AFRICA AIR MAIL DESPATCHES.

As there appears to be a great deal of conflicting information regarding the first air mail despatch from New Zealand to South Africa under the London Air Mail Convention, the following particulars, extracted from the *New Zealand Stamp Collector* for June, 1932 (page 27), is submitted: "The first despatch from New Zealand to connect with these services (Imperial Airways Karachi-London and Cairo-Cape), left Auckland on June 30th, and the second despatch left Wellington on July 15th. Correspondence by these despatches, addressed to countries south of Egypt, received a special rubber-stamp cachet. The official figures in respect of the first despatch from Auckland are as follows: . . . Kenya, Uganda and Tanganyika, 175; N. and S. Rhodesia, P.E.A. and Nyasaland, 202; South Africa and South-West Africa, 153

(of the latter, it is believed that fifty were for Johannesburg, fifty-one for Cape Town and the balance between the other Union air centres, and about half a dozen to Windhoek). The figures in respect of the mail which left Wellington on July 15th are as follows: Kenya, Uganda and Tanganyika, 55; N. & S. Rhodesia, P.E.A. and Nyasaland, 46; and South Africa and South-West Africa, 155.

#### UNION AIRWAYS: CHANGE OF ROUTE.

The licence for the Port Elizabeth Aerodrome was cancelled at the end of 1933, necessitating Union Airways planes landing at Uitenhage instead. No alteration in the mailing arrangements was made consequent upon this change. The first flight Cape Town-Durban *via* Uitenhage was made on New Year's Day; the return flight by the new route being made on 4th and 5th January.

#### EXTENSION OF EMPIRE AIR MAIL TO SINGAPORE.

The conveyance of mails 12,000 miles in a few hours over twelve flying days is the latest performance put up by Imperial Airways. The *Artemis*, which arrived at Cape Town on Saturday afternoon, the 13th January, brought to the African terminal the first "Empire Flown" Air Mails from Singapore, Alor Star, the F.M. States and Tavoy; these left Singapore on the afternoon of the 31st December, and waited over a day at Cairo for the African connection. Special souvenir envelopes were issued by Imperial Airways in London and Singapore (different types) to commemorate this further 1,500 miles extension from Rangoon. No cachets were applied.

### NOW READY

## WHITFIELD KING'S 1934 PRICE LIST . . .

—of—

### SETS AND PACKETS.

148 PAGES - - - 4,400 QUOTATIONS

Covers practically all the stamp issuing countries of the world, and is a most valuable aid to stamp collecting.

*Sent free on Request.*

For the earliest offers of the latest new issues, see the

*PHILATELIC BULLETIN*  
*Published Monthly*

Other features include Notes and News, Special Bargains and items of interest to all collectors. Subscription only 1s. 6d. per annum.

*Specimen Copy Free.*

**WHITFIELD KING & CO., IPSWICH**  
**Established 1869. - - - England.**

## Notes from the Philatelic Press

#### *Mekeel's Weekly Stamp News* (Nos. 2234/2237).

The "Orval Abbey Issue of Belgium" is illustrated and described, and then there are "Sudan—Its History and Posts," and an article on "Earl Kitchener—Stamp Producer," which deals with Sudan's first pictorials. "2d. 1921 Jamaica Pictorials," "The Stamps of Bulgaria" and "The Stamps of Zanzibar" are treated, then there is "Gibraltar Post Office" and notes on "France and French Engravers." Short articles appear on "Canal Zone on U.S.A.," "Lord Hawke Island Provisionals," "Rubber Cement Mounting" and "Tierra del Fuego Local," while reprinted articles include "Something Quite Unique," and "Every Man his own Expert," "The Philatelic Zoo" appears in each number.

#### *Linn's Weekly Stamp News* (Nos. 261/266).

"Little Journeys with Stamps" tells of Count Szechenyi, who appears on a stamp of Hungary, and the "New Orval Abbey Stamps" are described. A Togo Occupation with inverted overprint is called a "New World War Rarity," while there are articles on "Lithuania's Latest Air Mails," "The Big Shot" and "New York State Revenue Stamps." "Air Mail Flashes," "Stamp News this Week," "Buro Prints" and general items complete the numbers.

#### *Stamp Collectors' Fortnightly* (Nos. 1009/1011).

"Science *versus* the Forger," tells of achievements with ultra-violet photography. "The Early Posts of Scotland" are detailed, as are the portraits of "Simon Bolivar" shown on stamps. "The First Postage Stamp" describes a Greek discovery, and there are articles on "A Junior Champion on Persia," "South Seas served by Pigeongrams" and "The South African Stamp Congress," "Between Ourselves" and "News from Near and Far" cover a large range of items of interest, and there are "New Issue Notes" and "Societies and Clubs" reports.

#### *Gibbons' Stamp Monthly* (No. 3).

"The British Postal Agency at Bangkok" commences, and there are "Christmas Stamps" from many lands. The new Admiral die of Rhodesia is exhaustively dealt with "Through the Magnifying Glass," and "Great Britain" is continued. Readers are enlightened as to "The Designs of the Month," and there are the usual "Topical Notes," "Air Mail Notes" and "Stamp News in Brief." In the latter, particulars of the return to Die II for colonial issues is recorded.



*Scott's Monthly Journal*  
(No. 165).

"A New Map Projection in Philately," describes the Byrd Map Stamp of U.S.A., and "The Philatelic Litany of the Saints," illustrates the grand prize exhibit at the convention of the Society of Philatelic Americans. "Notes of the Month" and "Of Topical Interest" cover issues of many lands, while "Notes on General Issues of United States" show varieties, cancellations and stitch watermarks.

*The Philatelic Journal of Great Britain*  
(Nos. 515/516).

"The First Adhesive Postage Stamp" treats with the Greek discovery, as does "A Sidelight on the Black Greek Stamp of 1831." There is also the "Discovery of the Original Greek Plates." Mr. Sefi writes on "Jhind: the Plating of No. 1" and "Photo Process Engraving." "Notes on the Stamps of the Protected States of Straits Settlements" and "Impressions of the Vienna 1933 Exhibition" are continued, and stamps of Norway, Newfoundland and Oldenburg are considered in "Varieties Unchronicled, Uncatalogued or not Generally Known." "New Issues and Varieties," "Stamp Market Gossip" and Club News completes the numbers.

*Philatelic Magazine*  
(Nos. 481/482).

"Rhodesia—The Fourth Die Enquiry" is the subject of correspondence, and there are articles on "Germany's Christmas Tribute to Wagner" and "France—A Retouch of 50c Algerian Centenary Stamp." Many works are reviewed, and "The Market in British Colonials" and "Stamps at Auction" is given.

*Stamp Collectors' Annual*  
(Christmas number of Philatelic Magazine).

The editor writes on "The Stamp Collection of His Majesty King George V" and "Great Britain Private Automatic Postal Franks." There are articles on "Sobieski—Saviour of Christendom," "Afghanistan" and "A Pigeon Mail of 1933." "The Radio Stamp" is described as a stamp story of the future.

*The Australian Stamp Monthly*  
(No. 47).

"The New Issues of Papua" are exhaustively treated, and "Catalogues and Market Values" are considered. There are "Air Mail Notes," "New Zealand Notes," "Our South American Letter" and a North American letter entitled "The Stamp Spotlight." "Fiscal Philately" has its columns, and Society News is full.

*The Australian Stamp Journal*  
(Nos. 11/12).

"Papua: Three Mystery Stamp" discusses 3d. and 1/- Air Mail varieties, while the 9d. broad star South Australian overprinted OS is reported upon in "A South Australian Rarity." There are many "Items of Interest," "Commonwealth Notes" and "Island News," while short articles deal with "Victoria Centenary Exhibition," "Philatelic Exhibition in Brisbane," "Air Mail Exhibition in New Zealand" and "Romance in Philately."

*Stamp Collecting*  
(Nos. 1050/1053).

Notes on the Southern Africa Congress appear under "South African P.M.G. thinks Stamp Collectors a Queer Lot," while "Countries and Stamps" figure in each number. Mr. Huber tells about "Nicaragua Postal Overprint, 1931," and the circular in regard to "Army in Egypt Postal Seal" is published. "Not in the Catalogue" gives notes on varied items, and there are seasonable writings entitled "Old Stamps that rode in Coaches," "Christmas Island," "Saints and Stamps," "The Stamp of Fear" and "Christmas in the Stamp Album," while "The Christmas Message of the Postage Stamp" is reprinted. There are articles on "This Year in Stamp Novelties of 1933," "The Air Post Year," "The Stamp Market in 1933" and "The Stamp Auctions of 1933."

*The Airpost Journal*  
(No. 43).

"Peru's Little Sailor Stamp" is a treatise on the rare Peruvian air mail and its counterfeits. "CAMS," "Airs of the Month," "Dedication and Unofficial Air Mail Covers," "Crash Cover News," "Pacific Coast Notes" and "Forthcoming Canadian Flights" give air news from all parts.

Other papers received are *Calcutta Philatelist*, *Emco Monthly Journal*, *The West End Philatelist*, *La Revue Postale*, *Le Philatelite Belge*, *L'Echangiste Universel*, *De Philatelist*, *Die Postmarke*, *Sieger Post*, *Das Postwertzeichen*, *Berliner Briefmarken Zeitung*, *Philatelia*, *Filatelia Pentru Toti* and *Pul Mesheri*.

## New Issue News

The following chronicle is kindly furnished by Mr. R. Roberts, 430, Strand, London:

**BAHRAIN.**—1½a, mauve. India S.G. type 80, overprinted "BAHRAIN" as other values.

**BRAZIL.**—Strength and Energy. Design of workman wielding the hammer. Small transverse oblong, wmk. Southern Cross, S.G. type 114, thin paper, perf. 11. 200r, purple; 200r, vermilion.

**BELGIUM.**—1933 Anti-tuberculosis. Line engraved, large upright oblong format. No wmk., perf. 14×13½. All same design. 10+5c, black; 25+15c, violet; 50+10c, red brown; 75+15c, deep olive brown; 100+25c, pale claret; 175+25c, ultramarine; 500+500, lilac.

**COCHIN.**—S.G. type 18. Line engraved, wmk. Umbrella, S.G. type 8a, perf. 13×14. 1a8ps, rose; 3a4ps, purple; 6a8ps, sepia; 10as, blue.

**DUTCH INDIES.**—Triangular air stamp, perf. 12½, no wmk. 30c, deep blue. Charity, transverse oblong, perf. 12½, no wmk., inscribed "1933 NED. INDIE" at top and at the foot "CRISISWERK A.M.V.J." 2c+1c, bright magenta and drab; 5c+2½c, green and drab; 12½c+2½c, red orange and drab; 15c+5c, blue and drab.

**FRANCE.**—New designs and portraits. 30c, blue green, portrait A. Briand, "FR" (monogram) at left bottom corner; 75c, violet, portrait P. Doumer; 1f25c, pale claret, portrait Victor Hugo.

**HOLLAND.**—Triangular Air stamp, design of nose of an aeroplane. Wmk. circles, perf. 12½. 30c, deep green. Charity, new design of a child holding a huge star on a pole, and "VOOR HET KIND." Perf. 12½, wmk. circles. 1½c+1½c, slate purple and red orange; 5c+3c, deep chocolate and orange yellow; 6c+4c, deep green and gold; 12½c+3½c, deep blue and silver.

**MALDIVE ISLANDS.**—The rest of the set, of which three low values were distributed in February last, has now appeared. As before, they are printed in photogravure on plain paper watermarked with maker's name "Harrison & Sons London" in script letters, repeated all over the sheet. Perf. 14½×14. 6c, red; 15c, slate; 25c, red brown; 50c, mauve; 1R, deep blue.

**NORWAY.**—New Officials, large oblong format. All same design. Wmk. posthorn, perf. 14×13½. 2ö, golden brown; 5ö, dull mauve; 7ö, bright orange; 10ö, deep green; 15ö, drab; 20ö, scarlet; 25ö, red brown; 30ö, ultramarine; 40ö, slate; 60ö, blue; 70ö, deep brown; 100ö, violet.

**PORTUGAL.**—1933 St. Anthony set overprinted in black. 40c on 75c, scarlet; 40c on \$1.25, grey; 40c on \$4.50, purple. Red Cross of 1927, consisting of the Camoens stamps overprinted "CRUZ VERMELHA Porte franco 1927" have been overprinted in red with large cross and the date "1934" in large thick type, similar to that of last year's S.G. type P.17. 40c, ultramarine; 48c, brown lake; 64c, green; 75c, violet; \$4.50, black on orange; \$10.00, brown on rose.

**RODI.**—1929/32 issues, same colours, but with inscription at foot of each stamp "OFFICINA CARTE-VALORI ROMA," perf. 14, wmk., crown as before. 5c, claret; 10c, sepia; 20c, rosine; 25c, green; 30c, deep ultramarine; 50c, chocolate; 1L25c, deep indigo; 5L, claret; 10L, deep olive.

**RUSSIA.**—Fifteenth Anniversary of the Badge of the Red Banner. 1918-1933. Upright oblong, photogravure printing, thicker paper, no wmk., perf. 14. 20K, purple black, red and yellow. Stratosphere, 19,000 metres altitude Commemorative. Large upright oblong, photogravure printing, thin paper, wmk., S.G. type 103, perf. 14. 5K, deep ultramarine, Balloon type; 10K, carmine, Balloon type; 20K, violet, Balloon type. Large transverse oblong, photogravure printing, wmk. S.G. type 103, perf. 12. 1K, myrtle green, Worowsky; 3K, slate, Woladarsky; 5K, sepia, Uritzky. Portrait in oval vignette at left.

**SWEDEN.**—Commemorative of the Founding of the Post Office Savings Bank. 5 ore, green, line engraved. They are printed by rotary press, the printing surface being a cylinder consisting of two plates of 170 (10 rows 17) bent round and joined in two places, making a complete printing surface of 340 stamps on the cylinder, thus making ten rows of thirty-four to the complete sheet.

These stamps are printed on endless rolls of paper, ten stamps wide, and there is a plate join every seventeen stamps, consisting of a coloured line vertically between the two columns, sometimes coinciding with the perforation, but always discernable.

They are issued:

- (1) In rolls, of which there are two kinds, *i.e.*, imp.×p. 10 and imp.×p. 13.
- (2) Booklet form, perforated ten all round.
- (3) Sheets of 100, being divided every ten columns, also p. 10 all round.

The design is a peculiar one, and it is difficult to follow exactly the artist's interpretation of a pair of hands holding, in a very inconvenient position, some receptacle in which the sun's rays are being caught.

There are two different types and obviously two different complete plates of 340, *i.e.*, two plates of 170 of Type I, and two plates of 170 of Type II.

I have been informed that "after a small number of sheets had been printed from the first plates, it was found that the engraving was too deeply cut, and two new plates were made, after the engraver had lowered the lines of the mother die by rubbing down or polishing the surface. Also that one plate has been retouched, by hand, all over, making a cut between the figures '3' and '4' of '1934'." This, my informant tells me, is the second type, but I do not subscribe to this theory myself, and am rather dubious of the probability of it, and I have called it Type I.

The differences are as follows:—

#### Type I.

- (a) Seems to be very much heavier cut, there is a distinct line of colour between the figures "3" and "4" of "1934."
- (b) The second and third fingers on the left hand holding the pan are quite distinct, and the nail on the second finger is clearly defined.
- (c) The lines signifying the rays falling into the pan are generally speaking unbroken throughout the sheet.

#### Type II.

- (a) Figures "3" and "4" of 1934 are touching, and almost merge into each other at the angle of the "4."
- (b) The second and third fingers are almost indistinguishable, and no finger nail is apparent on the second finger.
- (c) Some of the rays falling into the pan are often broken just after passing over the brim and the whole sheet bears more the resemblance of a worn plate.

I am rather sceptical about the retouching between the figures "3" and "4"; although this has been done in a few instances, they are few and far between, and I believe the absence of this cut between the two figures in the second type is due to the wearing down or rubbing down of the metal. Whether it is done on the die or the plate itself, I am quite of an open mind, but it is quite certain that the finger nails on the left hand are clearly engraved on the die, and no amount of rubbing or wearing

down of the die could make Type II into Type I, whereas it is well within the region of possibility of rubbing down Type I into Type II.

I cannot, however, at present understand what material disadvantage of the deep cut plate was, or the reason for altering it. Did it cut right through the thinner 60 gramme paper? This is possibly the explanation, but I cannot say on the present information.

If what my informant tells me is correct, why should the Swedish Post Office go to the trouble and expense of:—

- (1) Altering the mother die.
- (2) Making a new transfer roller (which would be essential to make a new plate).
- (3) Making two new plates of 170 subjects each.
- (4) Removing the old plates from cylinder and attaching two new ones to it.

One would have thought that a simpler, less expensive and troublesome remedy would have been to rub down the original plates evenly all over with emery, rotating it against a soft pad; but on the other hand, the difference in the fingers and finger nails is so uniform all over the plate, on every stamp, that it seems impossible this could have been done, and this feature alone points to a new die or rather the original die having been altered.

Besides this, I have the definite information that the mother die has been rubbed down, and I do not see any reason to doubt this.

There are certainly signs of retouching on the plate of Type I, especially round the figures "4" of "1934," but only as I mention above in a few places, and not generally all over the sheet.

I have seen the following varieties:—

Rolls:

- Imperf. × p. 13, Type I, thick paper.
- Imperf. × p. 10, Type I, thinner paper.
- Perf. 10 all round, Type I, thick paper.
- Perf. 10 all round, Type I, thinner paper.

The thick paper is what is generally known as 70 gramme, and the thinner paper 60 gramme.

**SWITZERLAND.**—Pro Juventute, 1933. Off-set printing on granite paper. No wmk. 5c+5c, green and buff; 10c+5c, purple and buff; 20c+5c, red and buff; 30c+10c, blue, line engraved on plain paper, wmk. cross. Inscription at the left side margin reading up "FRANCOBOLLI PRO JUVENTUTE 1933." All perforated 11½. S.G. type 16, printed on new chalky surfaced paper with ribbed pattern impressed on the gum. Water-marked crosses. 40c, purple and yellow; 60c, yellow brown.



NEW ISSUES

# British Stamps used in South Africa *and* South African Stamps used in British Army Post Offices.

## A STUDY IN POST MARKS.

BY DR. J. H. HARVEY PIRIE.

Port Elizabeth Philatelic Society (read 14th March, 1933).

(Continued from January issue, page 14.)

### TYPE 12A.

Some registered matter in a few of the larger stations was cancelled by an obliteration similar to Type 12, but with the word REGISTERED in a "sausage" concentrically above ARMY POST OFFICE, and no index letter above the date. This mark has been recorded from Johannesburg and Kroonstad, but I believe it was also in use at Pretoria, Bloemfontein and Harrismith, although I have not actually seen these marks. From Kroonstad I can record, from both Mr. Watson's collection and my own, this mark on British 1d. K.E., and it may be noted that the Kroonstad circle is 27 mm. in diameter instead of the usual 25 mm. The earliest date I have seen is a Johannesburg mark of 21st October, 1901. Along with Mr. Watson's 1d. K.E. with the Kroonstad mark is an O.R.C. 1d. (157).

### POSTMARK A, 1901.

Mention may just be made of this mark, recorded by both Mr. McGowan and Mr. Whitehead, although whether it is to be regarded as truly an Army postmark, I am not prepared to say. It is a mark generally accepted as having been used only at Kingstown, Jamaica, but in the instances quoted, it appears to have emanated from the camp for prisoners of war at Green Point.

### BRITISH STAMPS USED IN SOUTH AFRICAN CIVIL POST OFFICES.

Herewith follows a list of these from the collections of Mr. Watson and myself. In some instances, the British stamps are used along with South African stamps, but there seems to be no particular interest in listing the latter; there might be if any of them happened to be used outside of their own particular territory, but in the present

instance, none of them happen to be so. The dates are given where available, and it is interesting to note that several of them are after the cessation of hostilities.

#### (1) *In Cape Colony.*

Capetown: 1d. on piece, showing postmark "Pretoria Z.A.R. 7 Jun 00" (the occupation was on the 5th), but the actual mark obliterating the stamp is "G.P.O. Capetown 27 JUN 00." Another, 23.3.1902.  
Conway Station, 1d.  
Port Elizabeth: 1d. Army official, 9.11.1899 (Mr. E. Bentley Wood). This is, so far, the earliest recorded "Boer War" postmark.  
Stormberg Junction: 1d., 17.8.1901.

#### (2) *In Natal.*

Dundee: Q.V. registered envelope with extra Natal stamps, 7.3.1902.  
Newcastle: 1d., 24.3.1902.  
Pietermaritzburg: 1d., 27.4.1902; 1d. K.E., 2.7.1902.  
P.O.A. 43: ½d., 1d., 6d., ½d. (1900); 1d. K.E. (Mr. Kricorissian).

#### (3) *In Orange River Colony.*

Bethlehem: 1d., 16.8.1901.  
Bloemfontein: 1d., 26.6.1900 (this is the old Republican mark O.V.S.—the occupation was on 13.3.1900). Another, 16.2.1901 (O.R.C. mark).  
Harrismith: ½d., 1.10.1901; 1d., 9.7.1901; 1d. K.E., 11.6.1902.

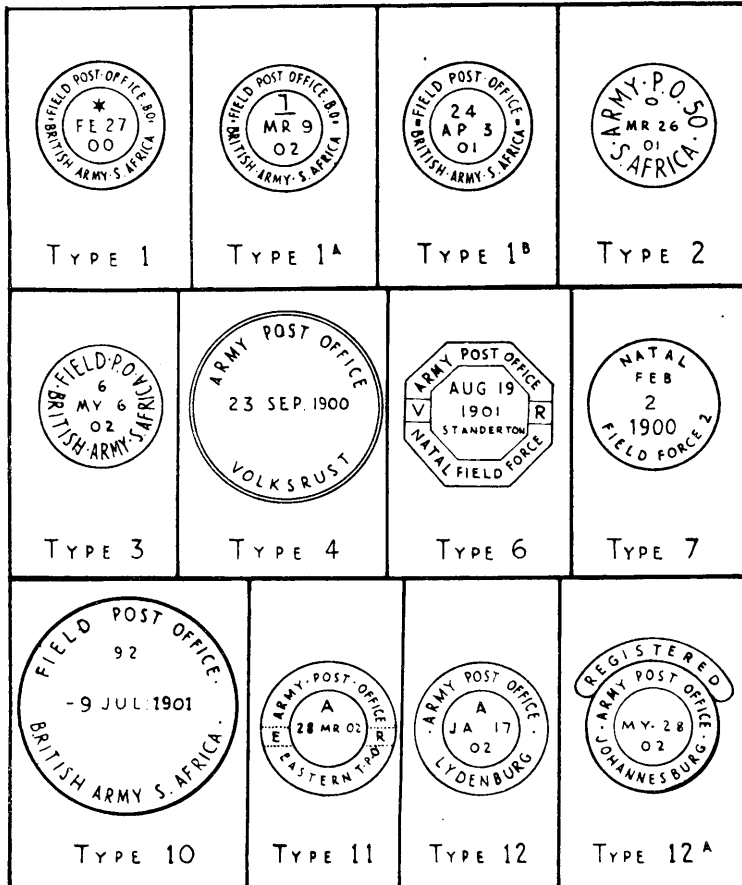
#### (4) *In Transvaal.*

Belfast: 1d., 5.1.1901 and 25.3.1902.  
Eerste Fabriek: 1d., 23.5.1901.  
Johannesburg: 1d., 18.6.1901 and 10.3.1902; ½d. K.E., 11.6.1902, and 25.7.1902. It may be mentioned that I have a Johannesburg Z.A.R. mark on V.R.I. stamps of date 5.3.1901; the occupation was on 31.5.1900.  
Machadodorp: 1d., 4.3.1902.  
Middelburg: 2d., 8.9.1901.  
Nelspruit (really Nelspruit, R.S.O.), 1d., 21.5.1901.  
Potchefstroom: ½d., 11.1.1902; 1d., 10.7.1902; 1d. K.E., 5.7.1902.  
Pretoria: 1d., 13.9.1901 and 9.9.1902 (the latest usage noted); 2d., 1.5.1901 and 8.3.1902; 2½d. K.E. (a violet, rubber cancellation? postal).  
Standerton: 1d., 24.10.1901; 1d. K.E., 7.6.1902 and 7.8.1902.  
Vereeniging: 2d.  
Volksrust: 1d., 5.6.1901.

A complete Check List has been compiled of all stamps recorded up to date coming under the following four categories :

- I. British stamps used in British Army Post Offices in South Africa.
- II. South African stamps used in British Army Post Offices.
- III. British stamps used in South African Civil Post Offices.
- IV. Stamps of other countries used in South Africa.

This list has been deposited with the Port Elizabeth Philatelic Society and the Hon. Secretary thereof (55, Sherlock St., Port Elizabeth) will welcome additions to the list. There must be many of these stamps tucked away in collections in South Africa, and it is to be hoped that collectors will go through their material and send in their records, giving all the information available—stamp, type of postmark, date and locality. Arrangements will be made for the publication of new records when a sufficient number are available, and, naturally, all credit will be given to the recorders for their observations.



PRINCIPAL TYPES OF POSTMARKS DESCRIBED IN THE TEXT.

Types 5, 8 and 9 have not been illustrated, as no specimens were available from which to make drawings.

## Air Mails as an Aid to Airmindedness

The Press daily notifies its readers of the arrival and departure of air mails—oversea, coastwise and internal flights—and I wonder how many readers could guess correctly the actual record of the first delivery of a message by air. Presumably few would consider that there was such a thing as a Biblical record (when the dove returned to the ark with a green leaf), although many would guess that the pigeon post was the forerunner of the air mail of to-day.

### AFRICA'S AIRWAYS AND AIR MAILS.

Wonderful progress has been made during the last year or two, quite apart from record-breaking flights, and as is well known Africa's airmen have been amongst both the pioneers and also the record breakers. I have before me a cutting from the *Cape Times* of twenty-two years ago, advertising the flight by John L. Weston on his Bristol Bi-Plane. "Under the patronage of the Right Hon. General Louis Botha, Lord Methuen, The Automobile Club, and the Cape Town City Council at Kenilworth (Cape). 'Special Trains' stopping at all stations from Worcester, have been arranged for at Pagent Prices. The Course will be open from 3 p.m., to-day. Actual flights will take place at 5 p.m." Those of your readers who happened to be there, will remember the thrill of seeing a heavier than air machine doing the trip round the Kenilworth Race Course, including a few hops over the hurdles; and imagine an "Atlanta" Imperial Airways machine doing 6,000 miles in ten days, and a possibility of nine days' flight from the Cape to London with the regularity of a Mail Boat, regarding times of arrival and departure.

I think I can safely say that not in their wildest flights of imagination, did anyone visualise the wonderful progress that would be made in Africa, twenty-two years later; and it is written that a "People without imagination shall perish." Therefore, Air Mails creates airmindedness, and is both a stimulus and aid to imagination (*i.e.*, thought).

### THE CAPE'S FIRST AIR MAIL.

1911 was a great year, it saw the first Trans-American flight by Rodgers in the "Vin Fiz," and the Coronation First U.K. flight by aeroplane of the first aerial post from London to Windsor, and in that same year, sanctioned by the Minister of Posts and Telegraphs (Sir David Graaf), E. F. Driver, a South African, made two flights from Kenilworth to Muizenberg during the New Year Holidays, the first flight was advertised to start at 7.30 a.m. on 27th December, 1911, but, owing to inclement weather, the start was made at 6.30 p.m. that evening by Captain Livingstone and Pilot Driver on a Blériot Monoplane. The mail was contained in a green, sealed canvas bag addressed as follows:—

ON HIS MAJESTY'S SERVICE.  
To the Postmaster, Muizenberg,  
Conveyed by first Aerial Post in  
South Africa, from Kenil-  
worth, Cape.

### THE SECOND AERIAL POST OF SOUTH AFRICA.

Was made in 1918, during the "Our Day" Campaign in order to augment the Red Cross Society's funds, the cards were cancelled with a special date stamp, and made up into mail bags which were carried by Lieut. A. H. Gearing, R.A.F., on 17th October, 1918, during the Influenza Epidemic (Black October), and on the 16th December, Lieut Gearing carried

THE FIRST AND ONLY AERIAL NEWSPAPER in aid of the Cape Town funds, the cost of the paper being 1s. Then came the Pigeon Post of 1919—the Handley Page flight on 15th February, 1920, left Cape Town for Johannesburg where she was expected the same evening. She carried ten passengers, mails and cargo, but owing to shortage of fuel and engine trouble, the flight was abandoned near Beaufort West, Cape Province, and the mails were sent from that place to Johannesburg by rail.

## EXPERIMENTAL AIR MAIL (Official).

In March, 1925, an Experimental Aerial Mail Service was undertaken by the Union Government. Trial flights were successfully made by members of the South African Air Force under the direction of Sir Pierre van Ryneveld, K.B.E., D.S.O., M.C., Roberts Heights, Pretoria. The first official flight took place from Cape Town on Monday, 2nd March, 1925, at 6 a.m., and the first return flight from Durban on the 5th March, 1925, at 6 a.m.

After failure in 1927 to establish a regular air mail and passenger service between Johannesburg and Durban, Major A. M. Miller, D.S.O., eventually succeeded in promoting "The Union Airways (Pty.) Co., Ltd.," which was registered in Pretoria on 24th July, 1929, with a capital of £5,000.

## THE IMPERIAL AIRWAYS.

Cape Town to London, the S.W.A and other feeder services by Wilson's Airways, Kenya, Zanzibar, Davies' Durban-Lourenco Marques and the India-Africa "Tata" flights, as air mail services quite apart from the record-breaking efforts of Victor Smith, Gayford and others, are all more or less fresh in the memory of your readers, but are none the less concrete evidence of the fact that young South Africans must take its eyes off the earth and look skywards, as fliers. They rendered wonderful service during the Great War; to-day, the place of many will be to follow in the airways of those pioneers to whom reference has been made. Many school boys are interested in stamp collecting; it is the "King of Hobbies," but the collecting of first flight air mail covers keep fresh in the mind the efforts of those early air pioneers, and help us also to indulge in "flights of imagination."

For the details given in connection with the 1911, 1918, 1925 and 1929 flights, I make acknowledgment to L. Simenhoff, that well-known authority on philately of South Africa.

PARK SMITH.

## The Shy Collector.

The shy collector is the backbone of philately. His few pounds, multiplied by tens of thousands, contribute not a little to the revenue of the stamp trade. The dealer knows him, by name or by sight, but the philatelic society does not. Those who know least have most to learn from joining a philatelic society. In the New Year I would strongly urge upon all secretaries of philatelic societies the desirability of enlisting the services of their local papers to the end that the shy philatelist should become an active rather than a passive force in the union of philatelists, not only for their own ultimate advantage, but for the strengthening of the whole philatelic structure of our country, the support of Congress, and all those bodies striving so earnestly to encourage and protect the collector and the trader. The shy collector must be coaxed out of his shyness and lured to the philatelic societies in preparation for a powerful union, which it seems impossible to contemplate at the present time.

G. SEYMOUR THOMPSON  
(in *Stamp Collecting*).

---

## Union of South Africa.

Considerable variation in the clouds is very noticeable in the current sheets of the 2d. It will be noticed that in the first two or three rows the clouds are well defined. As you descend the shading gradually diminishes and almost disappears from the stamps in the middle rows; gradually increasing again to the bottom of the sheet. The outer frame lines on this particular printings show considerable wear. There are a number of tiny plate flaws in the plates now being used; one noticeable item being a couple of coloured dots in the r.h. top corner of stamp 6, row 6. I guess new plates will be used for the next printing. In one printing the centre of this stamp is in a distinct blue-black, or some might call it slate-grey.

Thinking of postmarks, have you noticed that some post-offices are using the 24-hour clock? I wonder if the policy of the G.P.O. in this regard has been announced.

I think the current 3d. blue (roto) a very striking stamp and about the best-looking of Pretoria-printed stamps. It is at present printed from two plates, the duty-plate at least being the same as used for the bi-coloured 3d., as can be proved by the continued occurrence of the "blind-window" variety on the fourth stamp, bottom row. I should like to know if this variety occurred on the English-printed stamp. The duty-plate of this printing is pretty worn and I should not be surprised to see a new plate in use very shortly when, no doubt, the hyphen will be inserted, as in the 5/- roto.

*Ex Unilate.*

## President Roosevelt's Stamp Collection

In common with the rulers of our own and other nations the President of the United States finds relaxation and distraction from affairs of State in the collecting and study of postage stamps.

From an interesting impression of the philatelic activities of America's Chief Executive, lately contributed to the *North American Newspaper Alliance* and the *Washington Evening Star* by Jas. Waldo Fawcett, we take the following illuminating extracts:—

All members of the White House "family" agree that Mr. Roosevelt is wholeheartedly devoted to philately. It is a universal opinion that "there is a good deal of sentiment" in his attachment to his stamps. One motive for his reticence, it has been suggested, is that the first specimens he ever owned were the gift of his mother. They have a sacred quality.

Mrs. James Roosevelt, it seems, began to collect stamps when she was a girl. A few early issues were part of the childhood possessions which she carried with her from her father's house when she was married. Included were some Hong-Kong stamps of 1856 to 1870, which had served the postal purpose of carrying letters home from China during her parent's residence in that country. When the President was eight years old the entire accumulation was presented to him, and he has guarded it ever since.

Naturally an acquisition so interesting stimulated the boy to further enterprise. He became a systematic collector, adding stamp by stamp, set by set to his galaxy of philatelic stars. His taste was catholic; he had few preferences and, apparently, no prejudices. Each specimen had its own significance; every stamp was a stamp.

By the time he was ready to enter Harvard, in 1900, he had a good representative amateur collection. The thought of abandoning the hobby does not seem to have occurred to him. Other concerns crowded upon him, but "once a philatelist, always a philatelist" was an essential doctrine in his philosophy. Throughout his university career he was "picking up" stamps. If he did not have immediate opportunity to study them with care, he "saved" them in convenient packages until chance afforded proper inspection and classification.

Mr. Roosevelt early formed the habit of cogitating over each specimen. His approach to philately was that of a true scientist. The mere possession of a stamp meant little to him; careful examination of design, inscription, and history meant everything. From the beginning he was a keen student of the basic elements of philately, a connoisseur in his appreciation of details; not merely a casual collector. Hence his thorough knowledge of stamps and his ardent enthusiasm for them. With more than forty years' experience he easily could qualify as a stamp expert.

An especially interesting portion of his collection is composed of stamps of Hayti, gathered while the President was Assistant Secretary of the Navy, 1913-1920. Examples of most of the early issues of the Haitian Government are included, and Mr. Roosevelt has been endeavouring to plate the 1 and 2 centime productions of 1881.

Two albums are devoted to Santo Domingo and one volume to the Danish West Indies. Other

volumes are filled with stamps from the Argentine, Brazil, Chile, Peru, Uruguay, Paraguay, and Bolivia; Salvador, Honduras, Costa Rica, Nicaragua, and Guatemala; Colombia and Panama; Cuba, Puerto Rico, Trinidad, Bermuda, and the Bahamas; British, French, and Dutch Guiana; Canada, Newfoundland, and Nova Scotia. Of the stamps of Mexico there is said to be an especially fine display.

The President's United States collection is not entirely complete, but it is exceedingly choice. Post-master General Farley recently presented him with a folio of die-proofs handsomely mounted and bound.

Twelve albums contain what Mr. Roosevelt calls "general material" of both nineteenth and twentieth century date—stamps of Great Britain and her colonies; France, Italy, Germany, Austria, Russia, Turkey, China, Japan, and many smaller countries. There are four albums of miscellaneous "scrap material" acquired during the past few years.

Since 1923, however, the President has been specialising in the postal issues of the Americas—North, South, and Central. He hopes to be able to "complete" some of the countries included in that geographical classification.

In his cover collection are many envelopes bearing naval and army post cancellations. Three albums of covers from high Government officials, Navy officers, diplomats, and other celebrities are included. The President is constantly alert for cancellation of the Civil, Spanish, and World Wars.

Mr. Roosevelt never has collected for speculation. He is not interested in the money value of his stamps. On the contrary, he insists that "they are only a hobby, a pastime, a recreation," and "they are not exceptionally precious."

During his long illness, from August, 1921, to June, 1924, the President's stamps, his intimate friends say, were "a life-saver." Sorting them, studying them, mounting them in his albums, he found an occupation which "gave him something to do." He had his collection at Hyde Park and at Warm Springs during the months when he was fighting his way back to health.

The significance of stamps to Mr. Roosevelt is demonstrated by an anecdote current at the White House. According to the tale, he had completed a conference with one group of visitors and was awaiting the arrival of another. One of his secretaries, thinking he might be disturbed by the delay, opened the door and glanced in. The President was sitting at his desk peering through a magnifying glass at a half-a-dozen stamps spread out before him. His countenance manifested the depth of his interest. For several minutes he sat perfectly still, utterly oblivious of the world outside.

The secretary did not speak. Instead, he closed the door as quietly as possible and left his chief alone with his absorbing game. When the expected callers appeared, they found him putting the stamps away in a side drawer of the desk. Refreshed by the brief relaxation, the President turned again to his duties as the nation's leader.

(From *Mekeel's Weekly Stamp News*.)



*The*

# SOUTH AFRICAN PHILATELIST

*Proprietors and Publishers:*

The Philatelic Congress of Southern Africa

*Hon. Editor:* J. H. HARVEY PIRIE, P.O. Box 7012, Johannesburg

*Hon. Business Manager:* WILLIAM REDFORD, 88, Fox Street, Johannesburg

Subscription : Five Shillings per annum, post free to any part of the World

Vol. 10

MARCH, 1934

No. 3

## EDITORIAL

### AVE SED NON VALE!

At a meeting of the Permanent Executive Committee of the Philatelic Congress of Southern Africa, held in December, 1933, Mr. A. E. Basden, who had been editing the SOUTH AFRICAN PHILATELIST since it was taken over by Congress, intimated his desire to retire from the editorship on account of pressure of other work and frequent absences from Pretoria making it very difficult for him to give sufficient attention to the routine duties of the post. He expressed his willingness, however, to carry on until a successor could be found.

This intimation came as a bombshell to the Committee, as they had had no previous hint of it and had counted on Mr. Basden being good for many years' work as editor. There was no one in contemplation or training for the job.

On consideration of the problem of finding a successor, the Committee was unanimously of the opinion that it would be advantageous if the new editor were resident in Johannesburg, and thus in closer touch with the business management and publishers. Consultation as to the get-up of each number would be easier, and there would be much less delay in sending of copy and proofs back and forth between editor and publisher, so that publication on a fixed date at the beginning of each month should be made easy.

Hence the present writer. In his first editorial (SOUTH AFRICAN PHILATELIST, October, 1932), A.E.B. announced that he made his bow with considerable personal diffidence; on this occasion we make ours with great trepidation, for unlike the first editor, we have no previous journalistic experience. As a philatelist, we are scarcely more than out of swaddling clothes, and we cannot lay claim to Mr. Basden's wide personal acquaintanceship with fellow collectors throughout the country.

These are serious drawbacks, but time may cure them. To start with, all that we lay claim to is a big stock of enthusiasm for organized philately, and we hope that this will make up for the multitude of deficiencies.

Fortunately for our readers, they will not be left entirely at the mercy of an inexperienced editor. The Permanent Executive has appointed Messrs. Basden, Hand and Harrington as an Editorial Committee to advise and help in the editing of our Journal. It is particularly gratifying that although we are losing Mr. Basden as editor, we are not saying farewell to him, nor he to us. In fact, he himself has stated that as a freelance, he hopes to be able to write more than he did as editor, and, in particular, to keep us well informed on all developments in Union philately.

So far as we can gather from Mr. Basden, his greatest difficulty as editor was in getting a sufficiency of short notes and articles—"newsy items"—to fill up each month. The major articles did not present the same difficulty. We are particularly anxious that the SOUTH AFRICAN PHILATELIST should be the first in the field with news relating to Southern African philately, whether it deals with old or new issues, personalities, or society notes, and we feel that we cannot begin better than by repeating a few of the requests made by A.E.B. in his first editorial.

Will secretaries of all affiliated societies be good enough to furnish us with reports of meetings and doings not later, if possible, than the 15th of each month?

Will all our readers send us particulars of any discoveries and novelties they may come across, especially, but not exclusively, any dealing with Southern African issues?

We would like to have a short "personalities" column containing information of philatelic interest relating to stamp collectors; news of acquisition of rarities; domestic news; and the like. Send such items along.

Correspondence on philatelic subjects will be welcomed, and we are prepared to furnish replies. If the replies cannot be given personally, we will seek out the information desired from the best available source.

There should be no lack of material to maintain our Journal at a high standard of merit, but no editor can supply it all himself. It is largely a matter for co-operation and this should be easily obtainable in the case of the SOUTH AFRICAN PHILATELIST, seeing that so many of the subscribers thereto are part owners thereof. We invite all our readers, whether part owners or not, to be not merely subscribers, but contributors also. The better you keep our post-bag filled, the more we will keep you well informed.

J.H.H.P.

## The Postal Services of Basutoland and Swaziland

By CHARLES HAND.

### BASUTOLAND.

Basutoland was annexed to the Cape of Good Hope in 1871, but was disannexed in 1884, and brought under direct Imperial Government control. The territory covers an area of 11,716 square miles, and the last taken census of 1921 disclosed a population of approximately half a million—this probably is quite fifty per cent. more by now.

A special Basutoland issue of stamps was utilized in accounting for fiscal collections, but separate postage stamps were not introduced until 1st December, 1933, although the supply of specially overprinted ones was mooted more than ten years back.

As an integral part of the Cape of Good Hope between 1871 and 1884, issues of that colony naturally were current, and their use was continued for postal purposes until the formation of the Union of South Africa. Like all other points, offices in Basutoland had indiscriminate distributions of emissions printed for the Cape of Good Hope, Natal, Orange Free State and Transvaal until South African stamps were introduced, and from 31st May, 1910, all stamps available throughout the Union became valid for postal use in Basutoland.

It is perhaps advisable to recapitulate here the extent of the valid postal issues. Fresh supplies of King's Head Transvaal continued to arrive from the printers until the Union issue was arranged, and the main supplies to Basutoland for a period of over three years, therefore, would have been Transvaal stamps. V.R.I. overprints and King Edward Orange Free State had not been demonetized, nor had any issues of Natal. The Cape of Good Hope furnished many, for the triangular stamps were the only ones no longer available for postage, and under this colony the overprints of Griqualand West have to be included, for such stamps were finally distributed as normal stamps. This was during the period Basutoland formed part of the Cape of Good Hope and under Union of South Africa until 31st December, 1933.

On 1st December, 1933, a series of stamps running from ½d. to 10s., printed on paper water-marked multiple Crown and script C.A., were placed on sale. The design presents a profile vignette of King George placed centrally towards the top. Below the portrait is a pictorial scene of the Maluti Mountains and the Orange River, and in the foreground is a picture of a crocodile, the emblem of the ruling house of Moshesh. Two postage due labels in the numeral type were also provided. From the month end, only these stamps remained current, but during December, 1933, all issues enumerated in the preceding paragraph could be utilized, and as a consequence it was possible to make up postal rates *with stamps of seven countries*, viz., Cape of Good Hope, Griqualand, Natal, Orange Free State, Transvaal, South Africa and Basutoland, and covers illustrating this fact appear in this Journal.

Figures showing the quantity of mail matter handled in Basutoland are not procurable, but

Post Office revenue for the financial year 1930-1 (the latest obtainable), was £8,883, showing that postings must be considerable and, when it is intimated that no less than thirty-six post offices are required to serve the inhabitants of Basutoland, the scope of its postal service will be appreciated.

Readers will be in error if they imagine that native inhabitants are a negligible factor when considering postal services, for an official in any native area will tell of the bulky mails for natives. This is not surprising, for many go out to work and they never lose touch with their homes.

Postmarks, of which there are at least three classes, are interesting, and with thirty-six offices are worthy of study. There are the initials C.G.H. in addition to town in dater (Leribe is an instance); others have town name with cancelling bar at bottom in circle, and a third class has the names of town and territory.

### SWAZILAND.

Swaziland is a territory of 6,704 square miles with a population according to the last census (in 1921) of 112,951—it will be considerably more now. The South African Republic undertook the administration of the Post Office in 1889, the first published reference to the country being in the yearly Postal Guide, published in January, 1890, when the time table from the South African Republic to Embekelweni was advertised. Unfortunately, Postal Guides for 1891 and 1892 are not filed in the General Post Office Library, Pretoria, and I am unable to give the fate of Embekelweni, but 1893 commenced with two post offices, the existing Bremersdorp and one at Darkton. The latter was at the gold diggings across the border from the Republic. In 1896, Embabaan—now spelt Mbabane—was opened, and in 1898, N'Dimba was added to the list. There was no further expansion under the Republican régime.

At this stage it may be of interest to record that Mr. Isaac Nicolaas van Alphen, who had been Postmaster-General of the South African Republic since 1st April, 1885, was given the title of Postmaster-General of Swaziland with effect from 1st November, 1889, but there is no reference in Republican reports to the date upon which the Swaziland stamps were placed on sale.

The revenue from postage stamp sales during 1889 was only £44 12s. 2d. In 1890 it had risen to £1,024 17s. 4½d., and in the next five years it was as follows: 1891, £773 14s. 9d.; 1892, £409 4s. 1d.; 1893, £691 11s. 8d.; 1894, £440 11s. 4½d.; and 1895, £586 18s. 3½d. In 1895, of course, the stamps were ordinary South African Republic issues.

Coming to the annual report for 1894, we find the Postmaster-General advising the Government that overprinted issues for Swaziland were no longer necessary, and that he had published a notice in the State Gazette of the 5th September, 1894, a translation of which reads as follows:—

"It is hereby made known for general information that all postage stamps of the South African Republic overprinted with the word 'Swaziland' are hereby recalled, and after 7th November, 1894, are no longer legal payment for letters, papers, etc., or will be acknowledged or accepted for telegrams. Everyone, however, holding the demonetized stamps will be permitted to change them before the 7th November with the Postmaster of Bremerdsorp for the usual stamps of the South African Republic, these stamps alone being valid."

Copies of South African Republic stamps employed in Swaziland during the currency of the overprinted stamps are known, and it is evident that the use of Swaziland stamps was not strictly enforced.

I give an interesting extract from some notes forwarded to the *London Philatelist* for July, 1895, by Captain Norris Newman, who had called upon the Postmaster-General of the South African Republic, which reads as follows:—

"Referring to the Swaziland error, Mr. van Alphen could also give no explanation, except that they were noticed after it was too late to alter them as the stamps were urgently needed for use at Bremerdsorp. He admitted that the omission of the "d" in the one corner stamp of each sheet of most varieties was somewhat peculiar, and that the inverted surcharges and stops after some, viz., the  $\frac{1}{2}$ d., 1d. and 2d., were only noticed after the lot had been struck off. The remainder of these stamps were all sold by public tender some time ago, and are getting scarcer every day."

From the official report of their withdrawal and the above extract, it will be seen that too long a term of currency is shown in Messrs. Stanley Gibbons' catalogue.

In 1902, Swaziland was taken over by the Governor of the Transvaal, and in 1907, the present arrangement took effect, whereby the High Commissioner administers the country on behalf of the Imperial Government.

Stamps of the Transvaal were on sale until the Union of South Africa was established, when, like in the case of Basutoland, indiscriminate distributions of stamps printed for the Cape of Good Hope, Natal, Orange Free State and Transvaal took place until South African stamps were introduced.

On 2nd January, 1933, a series of stamps with denominations from  $\frac{1}{2}$ d. to 10s., printed on paper watermarked multiple Crown and script C.A., were placed on sale. The design presents a profile vignette of King George within a circle above a mountain scene with the value enclosed in an outline map of Swaziland within a tablet. There are two postage due labels in the numeral type also.

From 3rd February, 1933, only Swaziland stamps are available, but before then all issues which might be used in South Africa were valid and, like Basutoland, it was possible to utilize stamps of seven countries to make a postal rate, and a cover used on the last day of availability is illustrated.

There are twenty-seven post offices now to serve the inhabitants of Swaziland, and the postal

revenue is considerably over £4,000 per annum. Returns taken at Bremerdsorp, Mbabane and Stegi recently, show that at these three points within one week 4,484 articles were posted and 7,142 received for delivery. These are the main offices it is true, but the figures indicate that postal business is considerable.

Postal date stamps contain the name of town and territory or name of town only, and it is possible to make an interesting collection of stamps bearing Swaziland postmarks which were employed during the period no separate issues were provided.

C.H.

*Durban, March, 1895.*—Readers will remember that in March, 1895, there was a shortage of  $\frac{1}{2}$ d. stamps in Natal, and that on the 12th, the 6d. violet was issued with the overprint "Postage Half-Penny" in red with a nice little crop of varieties in the way of long tails to the letters, etc. This stamp proved so popular that the whole lot was bought up in four days, and the situation was as bad as ever, so that on the 18th the 1d. rose appeared with the overprint HALF, in black.

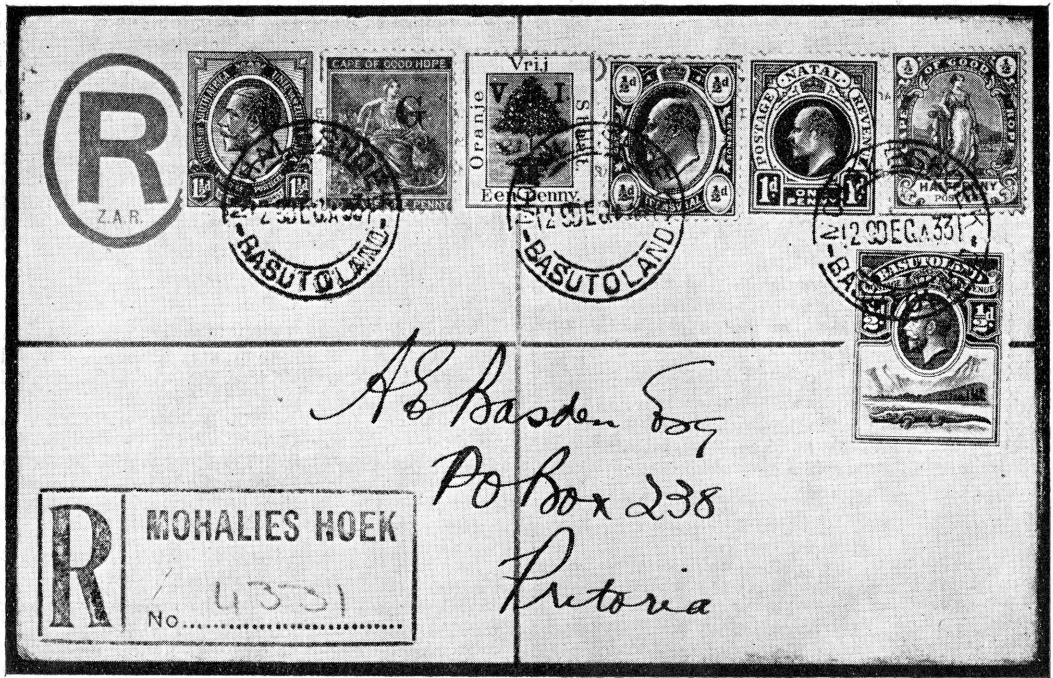
We have just had submitted to us for inspection two interesting items of this period.

One is a cover addressed to Pietermaritzburg, with the date stamp "Durban Natal MR 18 95" over an inscription "One half penny received in money" followed by a signature and a rubber stamp: POSTMASTER OF DURBAN.

The other is a block of four of the 6d. violet overprinted "Postage Half-Penny" with the overprint double, one overprint being vertical. This variety was first catalogued by S.G. only in 1931. We understand that a stack of sheets which had been hoarded since 1895 came to light then, and in the stack was found one sheet with this double overprint. This particular block includes the ordinary variety Half-Penny for Half-Penny, and is thus probably unique, but we doubt if this really increases its value very much because, of course, it would be difficult to find any two blocks of four which included identical varieties from one of these sheets.

*Temporary Union Postmarks.*—Collectors of Union Postmarks may be interested to know that during the sitting of the South African Medical Congress at Cape Town during the last week of September, 1933, a special post office was provided for them in the University Buildings at Groote Schuur. The postmark reads "CONGRESS RONDEBOSCH." This information is somewhat belated, but it does not seem to have been made public in philatelic circles so far.

Mr. J. Robertson has sent for our inspection a cover posted on the Royal Train. The design of the postmark is similar to that used on the occasion of the tour of the Prince of Wales. It consists of the Union Arms on top of a large, rather flattened elliptical single line mark having inside it, on top in two lines, ROYAL TOUR H.R.H. PRINCE GEORGE and SUID AFRIKA; at the bottom, SOUTH AFRICA and KONINKLIKE TOER S.K.H. PRINS GEORGE; the date being in one line in the centre.



Covers from Swaziland and Basutoland during the transition periods. Each cover shows the stamps of the seven different territories available for postal use.

# RHODESIAN POSTAGE STAMPS

By W. J. HARRINGTON.

(Continued from page 22 of February issue.)

(Note.—Correspondence is invited with a view to correcting errors of omission or commission.)

(d) *Minor Design Varieties.*

*½d. value :*

Small triangular white patch in lower left shading in earlier printings. Retouched later. Nos. 9 and 10. Perf. 14 and 15.

Smudge over right value label. Perf. 13½, 14 and 15.

Flaws in left value label. Nos. 71, 81 and 97.

Diagonal line above left figure "1." Perf. 14.

Spot over A in Rhodesia. Perf. 14.

Spot left of crown. Perf. 14 and 15.

Spot on King's forehead. No. 21.

Spot on left frame. Perf. 14.

Short diagonal line running SW from right value label.

Spot over right label. Perf. 14.

Top left serif of H in Rhodesia missing.

Spot over crown. Perf. 15.

White dot with green centre pinpoint over C of Africa.

Dot below right value label.

Dot in right crossbar of T in British.

Dots in circle left of right value label.

Top left serif missing in A of Rhodesia.

Mark to left of crossbar in A of Rhodesia. Serifs missing at bottom of right stroke of A in Rhodesia.

Flaw above "wing" ornament in right value label.

*1d. value :*

Spot over T of British. No. 2.

Dots in S of Rhodesia. No. 3.

Two dots right of centre column. No. 5.

Flaw under right side of King's moustache. No. 15.

Four dots to right of Queen's head. No. 15.

Marks to left of King's head. No. 22.

Dot to right of King's head close to frame. No. 28. Perf. 13½, 14 and 15.

Spot to left of right value label. No. 35.

Dot close to left frame. No. 36. Perf. 13½, 14 and 15.

Dot between King's head and frame. No. 38. Perf. 13½, 14 and 15.

Dot over King's eyebrow. No. 39.

Heavy line in centre of King's forehead. No. 43.

Broken shading line upper left, and second line turned up. No. 44.

Spot to right of Queen's head. No. 48.

Small perpendicular line in top of centre column. No. 49.

Short diagonal line on left "1." No. 55.

Line near Queen's shoulder near frame. No. 56. Perf. 13½, 14 and 15.

Dot on right frame. No. 58. Perf. 14.

Line across top centre ornament. No. 60.

Down stroke close to lobe of Queen's ear. No. 63.

Dot by King's left shoulder. No. 64.

Bottom line broken. No. 81.

Dot left of Queen's head. No. 86.

In early printings there was a dot under the King's right eye. This was retouched crudely and a further retouch was necessary. No. 87. Perf. 13½, 14 and 15.

Dot on inner left frame. No. 93. Perf. 13½, 14 and 15.

Dot on Queen's temple. No. 97. Perf. 13½, 14 and 15.

Spot left of right spandrel.

Dots in left figure "1."

Spot on King's forehead.

Dot under centre ornament to the left.

Dot to right of Queen's head.

Dot over U of South.

Flaw on Queen's nostril.

Spot in left value label.

Break over T in British.

Two dots left of King's head.

Dots right of King's neck.

Short line left of Queen's ear. Perf. 14 and 15.

- Dot above Queen's head. Perf. 14 and 15.
- Dot under right of left spandrel.
- Dot in SW corner of inner frame.
- Dot on Queen's cheek.
- Dot left of Queen's hair.
- Dot left of Queen's crown near frame.
- Dot left of King's forehead.
- Dot on King's cheek.
- Dot in centre of right margin frame.
- Three dots over King's left epaulette.
- Shading line turned up over B in British.
- Diagonal line in right figure "1."
- Broken line over SIA of Rhodesia.
- Dot in O of Rhodesia.
- Long diagonal line right of King's head. Perf. 15.
- Short upright line over left value label. Perf. 15.
- 2d. value :*  
Diagonal line in I of Rhodesia.
- 2½d. value :*  
Dot between frame and Queen's head. No. 2. Perf. 13½, 14 and 15.
- Small dot right of Queen's head. No. 18. Perf. 14.
- Small dot over King's head. No. 22. Perf. 14.
- Dot on King's forehead. No. 27. Perf. 14.
- Dot over bud of left lower spandrel. No. 28. Perf. 14.
- Dot SE of right value label. No. 42. Perf. 14.
- 3d. value :*  
Thin vertical line through left "3."
- 4d. value :*  
White spot on Queen's left cheek.
- (e) *Retouches—*  
*½d. value :*  
Right half of top line recut.  
Top line strengthened right across (three types).  
Second shading line from top on left recut and left value label retouched at top.  
Diagonal line from SW of left value label. No. 1 in a row.  
In value labels (various).  
Lines above Africa—both sides.  
Thin inscriptions and values.

- 1d. value :*  
Top line strengthened.  
Five vertical lines under CA of Africa recut.
- 2d. value :*  
In value labels (various).
- 5d. value :*  
Thin 5. Perf. 14.  
At top of A in Rhodesia. Perf. 14.
- 6d. value :*  
In value labels (various). Perf. 14 and 15.  
Horizontal lines in bottom right corner strengthened.
- 1/- value :*  
Left vertical stroke of 1 in left value label recut and very small serifs at bottom.
- (f) *Re-entries—*  
*½d. value :*  
Doubling of vertical lines to left of Queen's head, right and left value labels and figures, the letters of the word British, shading over "rica" and in the bottom left spandrel.  
Doubling or trebling of scrolls, value labels, etc., on either or both sides.  
Doubling of "DES" at top.  
Doubling of B in British.  
Doubling of left figure 1.
- 1d. value :*  
Doubling of most letters in British South Africa Company. A coloured line projecting from the last A in Africa into the white value circle. A coloured line projecting into the top of the scroll to the right of the word Rhodesia. Doubling of the shading lines at the top. No. 53. Perf. 14 and 15.  
Doubling of the left figure 1 and label. Doubling of inner frame lines. Shading lines run into Queen's neck on left. Doubling of letters RHO. No. 63. Perf. 14 and 15.  
Doubling in F of Africa at the top, under the letters ANY and R of Rhodesia. Perf. 14 and 15.  
Doubling in right and/or left spandrels.  
Doubling of letters in Africa and in the arc above.
- 2d. value :*  
Doubling of right vertical lines and both corner scrolls.  
Right vertical lines and right bottom scroll doubled.

# British African Rarities

*I hold the Finest Stock in the World*

Only stamps in the finest possible condition and at reasonable prices will be found in my books.

**Selections sent on approval to any part of the world.**

Deal direct with the firm that actually has the stamps in stock and so save money.

**Want Lists will receive my prompt personal attention.**

——  
**T. ALLEN**

5, BLAKE HALL ROAD . WANSTEAD  
 LONDON, E.11 . ENGLAND

**8d. value :**

- Left inner vertical lines doubled.
- Slight doubling all along top of design.
- Portions of shading on left reproduced in margin. Perf. 13½.
- Right outer vertical lines doubled.
- Lower part of figure 8 doubled.

**1/- value :**

- Doubling of letters in Africa and of right value label.
- Doubling of right stroke of A in Africa.
- Bottom line doubled.
- Top R in Rhodesia doubled.
- Doubling of vertical outer lines and under value label on right.
- Top of figure 1 and stroke in right value label and top of letters of British South Africa Company doubled.

**5/- value :**

- Diagonal line parallel with stroke across figure 5.

(To be continued.)



*A New Combined Issue for Kenya, Uganda and Tanganyika.*—It is announced in the East African Press that a competition has been initiated for the best designs for the new combined issue of stamps for the three East African Territories. Following are some of the particulars of the competition :—

(1) The competition shall be open to all persons ordinarily resident in Kenya, Uganda or Tanganyika Territory.

(2) Each design must

(a) embody the King's head ;

(b) be in proportion, and be capable of being reduced to a size not exceeding 1 3/16" x 15/16" nor less than 7/8" x 3/4" ;

(c) contain the words " Kenya, Uganda, Tanganyika." These words may be arranged in any order ;

(d) space for a clear indication of the value.

(3) Subject to embodying the King's head, designs may be " pictorial " in character and may consist of any prominent physical feature, animal or scene typical of any one or of all the three territories. Designs may include features appropriate for denominations used in connection with Air Mails, but the words " Air Mail " must not form part of a design.

The number of designs which will ultimately be selected for use over the whole range of the denominations to be included in the new issue has not yet been finally settled, but it is unlikely that the number will be less than four.

(4) Preference will be given to coloured designs. These, however, must be capable of being printed in not more than two processes.

Entries for the competition close on 26th March, so presumably the preparation of this new issue is to be proceeded with fairly soon.

## New Issue News

Mr. R. Roberts, 430, Strand, London, kindly furnishes the following notes. His list has been cut short from lack of space this month.

**GERMANY.**—Charity. 5pf, deep green, Hungry shall be fed; 10pf, scarlet, Thirsty shall drink; 20pf, blue, Naked shall be clothed; 50pf, brown, Sick shall be healed. These are printed in sets in a row of four, in centre of a large sheet of paper. The stamps themselves are watermarked lozenges S.G. type 23, perf. 14, and there is a watermark in old German characters at top of the stamps in two lines:

10 Jahre  
Deutsche Nothilfe

at foot:

1923-1933

The set commemorates ten years of German charity stamp issues. These are sold at Mk3.50 in complete sheets and cannot be bought in single values. 1pf, black, Hindenburg type. New Service, Swastika type, on new ribbed paper, with watermark multiple Swastika, perf. 14. 3pf, yellow brown; 4pf, dark blue; 5pf, emerald; 6pf, dark myrtle; 8pf, vermillion; 10pf, chocolate; 12pf, carmine; 15pf, maroon; 20pf, pale ultramarine; 30pf, olive green; 40pf, magenta; 50pf, orange. New colours, S.G. type C.10, watermark mesh, S.G. type 45, on ribbed paper, perf. 14. 4pf, grey blue; 10pf, dark brown.

**NEW ZEALAND.**—Health stamps for Christmas, 1933. Line engraved, large upright oblong, wmk. single line N Z and star, perf. 14. This stamp was placed on sale on 8th November and remained in issue until 28th February, 1934. The design represents the "Path to Health." 1d+1d, carmine.

**URUGUAY.**—Ordinary postage stamp. 7c, dull blue, containing portrait in laurel oval of Juan Zorrilla de San Martin. **Pan American Conference, 1933.** Triangular, design of map, with overprint:

"VII CONFERENCIA 3C"  
INTERNACIONAL T  
AMERICANA S

or whatever value printed in last colour. Printed in small sheets of six, with wide margins and net work of perforations all round. Perforated 11½. The sheets contain six stamps in a hexagon shape. 3c, deep green, black and brown; 7c, turquoise, brown and black; 12c, deep blue, grey and red; 17c, vermillion, grey and deep blue; 20c, yellow, blue and green; 36c, deep red, black and yellow.

**Pan American Conference, 1933.** AirMail. The following values chronicled above have been overprinted with a circular surcharge reading "SERVICIO POSTAL AEREO" with date in centre "L-1-1934." 17c, vermillion, grey and deep blue; 36c, deep red, black and yellow.

Messrs. Whitfield, King & Co., Ipswich, England, kindly furnish the following notes:—

**DANZIG.**—The current 5, 10 and 15 pfennig postage stamps have been overprinted "5 W.H.W.," the initials standing for "Winterhilfswerk," meaning in English "Winter-help." These stamps are sold at a surtax of 5 pfennig on each stamp, which goes towards assisting the needy during the winter.

**DUTCH INDIES.**—We are informed by the Chief of Posts, Telegraphs and Telephones, Bandoeng, that the current issue Air Mail stamps are to be surcharged for ordinary postal use, and that they will be placed on sale early in 1934. From this we take it that the sale of Air Mail stamps will be discontinued altogether. The two highest values, 4½ gulden and 7½ gulden, will not be surcharged, we therefore assume that the stock of these is practically exhausted.

**HEJAZ AND NEJD.**—A set of twelve stamps are issued on 3rd January to commemorate the proclamation of the Crown Prince, which took place on 17th May, 1933, when the Emir Saud assumed the title. These special commemorative stamps will be on sale for three months only, and we understand they will be obtainable perforated and imperforate. The denominations are as follows: ¼, ½, 1½, 3, 3½, 5, 10, 20 and 30 piastres, £¼, £½ and £1. These stamps are sold for gold currency and the £1 is approximately equal to £1 12s. 0d. We hope to make a full distribution of these stamps through our new issue service.

**ITALY.**—A new set of Air Mail stamps has been issued to commemorate the occasion of the first direct flight from Rome to Buenos Aires, the denominations are: 2, 3, 5 and 10 lire. These stamps were on sale for only a few days and were withdrawn from use on 25th January.

**PHILIPPINE ISLANDS.**—We are informed that a set of three stamps will be placed on sale on 2nd April next to commemorate the Tenth Far Eastern Championship Games, the values and designs are as follows: 2 centavos, orange, landscape type, showing a baseball batter and catcher; 6c, purple, tennis player; 16c, dark blue, two basket ball players jumping at centre for the ball. We are further informed that the stamps will be of an unusually large size and the designs made by Fernando Amorsolo, one of the leading Filipino artists.

Send one American Dollar or equivalent by Air Mail and receive a beautiful series of new Air Mail C.S.R. on letter flown. If you are looking for a trustworthy man in any other line in Europe, write in full confidence to **GEIRINGER, Turnerstr. 33, Reichenberg, Czecho-Slovakia Republic.**

COLLECTORS!! STUDY THE  
STAMPS OF YOUR COUNTRY!



## Will the Boom in Air Covers Last?

A Natal Speaker on the Philatelic "Booms" of the Past.

Mr. Percy C. Bishop, president of the Philatelic Society of Natal, at that Society's first meeting of the year, held on 7th February at the Publicity Bureau, Durban, gave an address on "The Future of Philately," in the course of which he dealt with certain set-backs the hobby had sustained in the past, as conveying a lesson to the philatelists of to-day on possible changes in the future. In particular, the speaker voiced a doubt as to the permanence of the boom in Air Mail covers.

"I am not personally," said he, "a collector of air mail covers, but I can well understand the widespread interest taken in this new by-way of philately. That interest has been heightened considerably in these days of disastrous storms, floods and wash-aways by the knowledge that many places in the Union and South-West Africa have been so completely marooned, that no communication with the outside world has been possible save by aerial mail.

"I may mention as an instance an envelope brought to me the other day by its recipient, a Durban lady, who received it by air mail from her son, who is stationed at Okahandja, South-West Africa.

"Covers such as this do certainly emphasize the wonderful value of air mail services as a public utility; and the fact that only by air could many places, situated like Okahandja, communicate with the outside world, will undoubtedly give a big fillip to the collecting of air stamps and air mail covers.

"For my own part, however, I have never felt that air mail covers, except for a few outstanding historical instances, are likely to be of permanent value in the philatelic market. That is only my own personal view, but it is supported by a life-long experience of the changing conditions of our hobby.

"One by one I have seen the side-lines of philately dropped and discredited. I can remember when entires—cards, envelopes, newspaper wrappers—were collected almost with the same avidity as adhesives. To-day, they are very much at a discount, and apart from the few specialists who like to include postal stationery in their collections with a view to presenting a complete picture of a nation's postal activities, the value of such things as collectible items has vanished. Their end was probably hastened by the decision of Messrs. Stanley Gibbons, Limited, to discontinue their separate catalogue of Entires, and to sell off, lock, stock and barrel, the whole of their holdings in that department.

"Nor was that the only section of philately which Messrs. Gibbons in their wisdom decided to jettison. That firm's complete catalogue, at the time I have in mind, consisted of four volumes: vol. i, British Empire; vol. ii, Foreign Countries; vol. iii, Entires; vol. iv, Locals. Their decision

was to abandon, not only vol. iii (Entires), but also the comparatively thin vol. iv, in which local stamps were listed. Here was another department of philately—and one not without its fascinations—doomed practically to extinction by the fiat of the leading firm of stamp dealers and cataloguers.

"In banning local stamps, however, Messrs. Gibbons were not entirely consistent. They still retained, and retain in their catalogue to this day, certain notable exceptions such as the Lady McLeod local of Trinidad. The other locals, like the By-Posts of Scandinavia, the Russian Rural or "Zemstvo" stamps, and a whole host of shipping locals, went by the board and are heard of no more.

"The steady trend of events, in fact, has been to offload from philately all issues save *bona fide* adhesive postage stamps issued by accredited Governments. If I remember rightly, Mr. Charles J. Phillips, the then head of the Stanley Gibbons business, announced the firm's decisions in the course of an article entitled "Pruning the Philatelic Tree." Certainly the effect of such pruning was to deprive a great deal of philatelic fruit of its commercial flavour.

"Now, the question that often occurs to my mind is this: Has the process even now reached finality? Will the pruning knife again be brought into requisition with a view to keeping the range of collectible stamps within a manageable compass? It is significant that Messrs. Gibbons, while publishing separate lists of Air Stamps and even providing albums for air covers, have made no provision for air mail envelopes in their catalogue, but in every case, even in the rare Newfoundland flights, have listed the stamps purely as adhesive issues.

"And as adhesive issues, these stamps, of course, taking their legitimate place alongside other adhesives. Nothing can rob them of that status. Air stamps, in that sense, have come to stay—except where the decision has been taken, as in South Africa, to substitute ordinary postage stamps for air mail purposes. But except as curios or historical mementoes, I can personally see no future for the air mail cover. It tells us nothing of a philatelic character that is not contained within the four corners of the adhesive stamp or stamps that the cover bears; and it has the additional disadvantage of being cumbersome, difficult to handle, and especially difficult to display in an album with due justice to its postmarks back and front. There are, of course, notable exceptions, which have a museum interest as illustrating the first valiant efforts of the aerial pioneers.

"Experience has taught me to beware of booms and ephemeral crazes in philately. I am old enough to remember how philatelic London went mad over the Siege stamps of Mafeking, which to-day I should not hesitate to describe as a very dull market. The Livingstone provisional of Rhodesia is another instance. This stamp was probably never worth the price originally put upon it, and its market

has been weakening ever since. And then there is the melancholy chapter headed "War Stamps." Many fingers have been burned in that connection. Of the stamps of the next boom after that, the 'New Europe' boom, perhaps the less said the better."

While re-affirming his faith in the philatelic hobby, the speaker sounded a note of warning concerning the grave menace to philately represented by charity stamps sold at a premium.

[Mr. Bishop here sounds the cautious note. Mr. Park Smith, of Somerset Strand, who had an Air Mail article in the February number of the SOUTH AFRICAN PHILATELIST, strikes a more optimistic chord. He writes demanding "at least a dozen copies of our February number" to satisfy overseas requests for information about South African Air Mails, and continues "The surprising thing is that apparently collectors in the Union have not woken up to the fact that South Africa is attracting attention in this respect. I should not be at all surprised if a big proportion of the interesting South African Air Mails have gone overseas. It is noteworthy that very few dealers advertise South African Air Mail covers for sale, presumably because they have not got them. The time appears to be ripe for forming an Air Mail Society here." Are there sufficient enthusiasts in South Africa to keep such a Society alive? Opinions of those interested are asked for.—EDITOR, SOUTH AFRICAN PHILATELIST.]

## AIR MAIL NOTES

Mr. L. A. Wyndham, of Cape Town, furnishes the following:—

### STATE TAKES OVER UNION AIRWAYS.

With effect from Thursday, 1st February, 1934, the Government took over Union Airways, and the operation of the domestic air mail services of South Africa passed under the control of the Railways and Harbours Administration. The new State airways service will be under the general direction of the Director of Civil Aviation, who will be responsible to the Railway Administration.

It will be recalled that Union Airways was promoted by Major A. M. Miller, D.S.O., the pioneer of civil aviation in South Africa, and that the weekly air mail service from Cape Town to Port Elizabeth, with extensions therefrom to Durban *via* East London and to Johannesburg *via* Bloemfontein, run in conjunction with the European mail, was inaugurated on the 26th August, 1929, and return services from Durban and Johannesburg, respectively, commenced on 29th August. In January, 1934, the daily Durban-Rand air mail service was inaugurated, and a few months afterwards the Port Elizabeth-Bloemfontein-Johannesburg section was discontinued.

### ELISABETHVILLE-BROKEN HILL "FEEDER" SERVICE.

Although this "feeder" service came into existence as long ago as August, 1932, it is believed that particulars regarding it from the aerophilatelist's point of view have not yet been adequately recorded. The service was inaugurated by the Aero Klub du Katanga on 26th August, 1932, at very short notice, and sooner than expected as a regular weekly feeder service to Imperial Airways. The flight was not an experimental one, as has been recorded. Mr. J. H. Veasey was the pilot. The mail, which is believed to have been largely non-philatelic (*i.e.*, commercial), conveyed on the first forward flight, weighed 4,820 kgs., and was mostly for towns in Belgium. There was actually no mail for Broken Hill itself or for any Northern Rhodesia centre. Approximately twenty-five letters are said to have been addressed to places in Southern Rhodesia and South Africa, but the writer has not yet seen copies of these, and as this number did not exceed the previous average weekly despatch by rail to Broken Hill for connection with the south-bound air mail, it is presumed that these were also entirely commercial letters.

The first return flight from Broken Hill was made on the same day (26th August). The weight of the mail was 2,495 kgs., being almost entirely the average weekly commercial mail brought by Imperial Airways to Broken Hill, which, in the ordinary course, would have been sent on by rail to Elisabethville. Only mail from England, Egypt, Kenya and Tanganyika was back-stamped at Broken Hill, the larger portion from Belgium being in direct bags which were not opened. In this connection, it should be noted that as the service was started at very short notice, all air mail arriving at Broken Hill and addressed to Elisabethville was, for a period of almost three months (during which the International Postal Union at Berne notified its various member countries of the establishment of the service) conveyed to destination by air, although only prepaid to Broken Hill. After receipt of this notice from Berne, several countries raised the fee for air mail correspondence to Elisabethville. The English rate being raised from 10d. to 1s. 3d., and the South African rate from 5d. to 10d.

The mail from Broken Hill itself is believed to have been under twenty letters, and only those addressed to "Poste Restante," were back-stamped at Elisabethville, 26th August. Mr. J. H. Veasey was also the pilot on the return flight.

### "By Air."

The development and splendid achievements of civil aviation in the British Empire are admirably recorded and dealt with in Sir Harry Brittain's new book "By Air." As would be expected a large portion of the book deals with the great air routes of Imperial Airways, particularly the forging of the Cape to Cairo section. Sir Harry Brittain flew over this section in one of Imperial Airways' "Atalanta" class machines for the purpose of obtaining first-hand knowledge of its operation, and his accounts of the difficulties experienced in the conquering of the "Dark Continent," afford most enjoyable reading. The aerophilatelist whose "covers" bear silent testimony to the development and achievements of aviation will welcome this new work of reference, but one need not be an aerophilatelist to read, appreciate and enjoy Sir Harry Brittain's vivid story.

## THE "APOLLO" DISASTER.

The disaster, which occurred in Belgium on the 30th December last to the Imperial Airways liner "Apollo," which, while flying low through a particularly dense fog, collided with an aerial of a large wireless station and crashed in flames, incinerating all ten occupants, has removed one of the pilots associated with the inauguration of the first Cape Town-London air mail, viz., Mr. J. M. Gittins. Mr. Gittins was the pilot of the old "City of Delhi," which, after leaving Salisbury on the 29th January, 1932, ran into a violent Rhodesian storm which necessitated Mr. Gittins force-landing the machine in the only clearing, a marsh. The machine became bogged, and the ground relief party only succeeded in getting the mails to Broken Hill on the 4th February, from where they continued their north-bound journey with the second Cape-London air mail (see Fields' "The Air Mails of British Africa" for a description of this unfortunate mishap).

## Forthcoming Exhibitions

**APEX.**—Readers may just be reminded of the International Air Post Exhibition which is to be held in London, England, in the Royal Horticultural Society's Hall, Vincent Square, Westminster, on May 7th to 12th. Entries have already closed, and exhibits must be in the hands of the Organizing Director, Mr. Fred J. Melville, by May 1st.

A Stamp Dealer's Bourse will be held after the Air Post Exhibition on the three days, May 14th to 16th.

**VICVI.**—This year sees the State of Victoria, Australia, celebrating the conclusion of the first century of settlement. As part of the celebrations, the Victorian Centenary and Sixth Australasian Philatelic Exhibition (VICVI, 1934) will be held in the Melbourne Town Hall, from November 8th to November 17th, 1934, at the height of the Centenary celebrations.

The Exhibition will be of an international character, and several entirely new features are being introduced. Prominent among these is the division of collections into three grades, Honour, Research and General. The first two will include all collections which have received a gold medal or its equivalent at any previous exhibition, and all collections which their owners consider of similar quality. The "General" grade will include the general run of collections not considered up to Championship standard.

Entries must be in the hands of the Hon. Secretary by July 15th, 1934. Further particulars can be given by the Editor to any one thinking of exhibiting from South Africa.

Mr. E. Mosely, of Parktown Mansions, Johannesburg, has left for New York to attend the Hind sale at the end of the month. He hopes to add considerably to his Cape and Mauritius collections. Good hunting to him! We would like to see at least one 1d. and one 2d. POST OFFICE Mauritius come back to Africa.

*Errors in the Union Coat of Arms.*—The orange tree which is familiar to all philatelists on the stamps of the Orange Free State and, more recently, on the Union 6d., is apparently, from articles and correspondence which have recently appeared in the Johannesburg *Star*, heraldically and botanically all wrong. The tree in the original coat of arms of the O.F.S., as adopted by the Volksraad in 1856, was probably intended to be a wild olive tree; certainly it had no fruit and was not an orange tree. The coat of arms and great seal were redrawn by Mr. Hochapfel in 1891, and he was admittedly responsible for the crop of oranges on the tree of the coat of arms, and it has continued to bear them ever since.

But a much earlier wrong impression of the coat of arms took place when, in 1868, the tree thereof appeared on the new postage stamps of the Republic and also on public buildings as an orange tree with fruit. This mistake has been perpetrated in the stamps of the O.F.S. and carried over into those of the Union.

Then it would appear that there is also an error in the Transvaal coat of arms. The design approved of by the Volksraad was a central silver field with trek wagon and golden anchor thereon, surmounted by an eagle and supported on the left by a lion and on the right by an armed Boer. But when this approved design appeared on the coins and stamps, the supporters appeared on the central field, and were replaced on either side of it by three half-furled flags.

What is going to be done about it? So far as the past is concerned, of course, nothing. As regards the future, it seems to us that at any rate in the case of the orange tree, it is now so firmly associated with the O.F.S. in particular and South Africa in general, that no fruitless tree, no matter what its original historical significance might be, would ever have the same appeal. Olive branches may be all right in politics occasionally, but we do not need them in philately.

Many hundreds of quotations  
for  
**AIR MAIL STAMPS**

including

the latest and most interesting items, errors  
and out-of-the-way varieties, first flight and  
other flown covers will be found in our new

Air Mail List No. 3

**JUST PUBLISHED.**

Every collector of Air Mails should write for  
a free copy of this enlarged and compre-  
hensive list of these popular stamps.

**Whitfield King & Co.,**  
**IPSWICH, ENGLAND.**

(Established 1869.)

## CORRESPONDENCE

*The Editor,*  
SOUTH AFRICAN PHILATELIST.

SIR,

Mr. L. Wyndham, in your issue of February, p. 23, raises again the interesting point of quantities issued of the various S.W.A. Air Mail overprints, and as considerable confusion seems to exist in regard to these, it may not be out of place to give a brief analysis of the figures mentioned in Mr. Wyndham's article.

According to "Hansard," of 13th February, 1931, quoted by Mr. Wyndham, there were five separate printings of the S.W.A. Air Mail provisionals, which are generally known as (a) first small o/p; (b) second small o/p in much clearer type and practically without errors and varieties; and (c) large o/p. Of the five printings specified by Mr. Wyndham, the following quantities represent the three distinct kinds named by me, viz.: (a) First printing, of 12,000 fourpenny and 2,400 shilling stamps, represents the first small o/p, Gibbons Nos. 70 and 71; (b) Third printing of 6,000 fourpenny and 6,000 shilling stamps represents the second small o/p, Gibbons Nos. 70b and 71b; (c) Second, fourth and fifth printings are all the large type o/p aggregating 55,200 fourpenny and 31,080 shilling stamps, Gibbons Nos. 72 and 73.

### ALBUMS & ACCESSORIES

My 12 page illustrated LIST  
should be on your desk for reference

*It is sent free on request*

**ORDER NOW**  
**GIBBONS NEW**  
**SIMPLIFIED CATALOGUE**  
5/9 (postage 9d. extra).

**C. F. SKINNER (B.P.A.) P.O. Box 5887,**  
**17, Old Arcade, Johannesburg.**

### COLLECTIONS OF POST CARDS AND ENVELOPES

- |    |   |      |
|----|---|------|
| 21 | Orange River Colony post cards with V.R.I. issues and the rare 1½d. V.R.I. unused | 10/- |
| 18 | Orange River Colony (without the 1½d. V.R.I.) unused                              | 6/6  |
| 27 | Great Britain post cards Queen Victoria, from 1870, unused                        | 5/6  |
| 16 | Post cards and envelopes of Great Britain, King Edward and King George, unused    | 2/3  |

**WALTER MORLEY**  
"Cornaways," RIVERHEAD, KENT, England

Expressed in terms of full sheets of 120 stamps, we arrive at the following totals, viz.:—

First small overprint, 100 sheets fourpenny, 20 sheets shilling stamps.

Second small overprint, 50 sheets fourpenny, 50 sheets shilling stamps.

Large overprint, 460 sheets fourpenny, 259 sheets shilling stamps.

In Field's Air Mail Catalogue, 1932, entirely different figures are given, but whereas three out of the five printings are allotted to the small overprint, I believe that only two printings bore the small overprint, and the remaining three had the large overprint, and the relative scarcity of the respective varieties fully bears out my contention. Coming back to Gibbons, we find the anomalous position that the 4d. second small overprint (S.G. 70a), which on quantities issued is twice as scarce as the first 4d. (S.G. 70), is actually priced at a *quarter of the more common stamp*. I have no doubt that this anomaly will be rectified in the catalogue, in due course. A fair valuation, on quantities issued, would be 2s. 6d. for No. 70, and 5s. for No. 70b. On the other hand, there seems to be some disproportionate pricing with Nos. 71b and 73, the former being five times as scarce as the latter. A reasonable figure for No. 71b (*i.e.*, the 1s. second small overprint) would be 7s. 6d., which brings it more into line with the prices of the other two shilling stamps, and which does justice to the small quantity printed.

Messrs. Whitfield King, the well-known Ipswich firm, have just published a special Air Mail price list, and among them are the following quotations for S.W.A. Air Mail errors, viz.: (figures in brackets denote actual quantities in existence of each item, on the basis of the above-mentioned total printings):

- 4d. first small overprint pair, one stamp, large serif "W" (100), at 30s.
- 4d. first small overprint strip, one stamp, short A<sup>1</sup>R (200), at 40s.
- 4d. first small overprint pair, one stamp, blob on W (100), at 15s.
- 4d. first small overprint pair, one stamp, no stop after A (300), at 40s.
- 1s. first small overprint pair, one stamp, large serif "W" (20), at £10.
- 1s. second small overprint pair, one stamp, bar on "W" (50), at 30s.
- 4d. large overprint, strip of three, one stamp, short A<sup>1</sup>R (920), at 40s.

Incidentally, the same firm quote for a set (pair) of the first small, second small, and large overprint as follows: 21s., 6s., and 4s. respectively, while I find the short "A<sup>1</sup>R" variety on the ordinary Union 4d. Air Mail on pair with normal, priced at 16s. All these prices are quoted "nett, cash with order, postage extra." (Nothing doing here for the "quarter-catalogue brigade.")

To enable collectors to form an opinion with regard to the *relative* scarcity of the different varieties occurring on the S.W.A. air provisionals, both of overprint and of the original stamps, the following tables may be useful, numbers being quoted as occurring per full sheet of 120 stamps, viz.:

- (a) No stop after "A" first small overprint, three times per sheet.
  - (b) No stop after "A" second small overprint, not constant—unknown.
  - (c) Large serif "W," first small overprint, once per sheet.
  - (d) Blob on "W," first small overprint, once per sheet.
  - (e) Solid "A" first small overprint, twice per sheet.
  - (f) Broken "W.A." first small overprint, once per sheet.
  - (g) Broken "S" first small overprint, once per sheet.
  - (h) Bar on "W" second small overprint, twice per sheet.
  - (i) Thin right arm "W," large overprint, fifth printing only, twice per sheet.
  - (j) Broken top left "W," large overprint, fifth printing only, six times per sheet.
- Plate varieties on the original stamps, all printings.
- (k) Short "A<sup>1</sup>R," twice per sheet on the 4d.
  - (l) "AOFRICA" for Africa, once per sheet on the 4d.
  - (m) Retouch under G of Lugpos, once per sheet on the 4d.
  - (n) White blob under G of Lugpos, once per sheet on the 1s.

As regards Item (b) of the above list, the position of the "no stop" is stamp No. 9, Row 4, both panes, but whilst I have seen a clear "no stop" in this position, the great majority of panes show either the full stop or the stop in various stages of breaking away, until only the minutest of specks is visible. This, of course, has happened with most of the "no stop" varieties on the S.W.A. postages and dues and is a bone of contention among collectors.

With reference to the notes on current Unions, contributed by "Ex Unitate," I beg to state that the first batch of the 2d. from a new plate (or rather cylinder) was placed on sale last month. It can be distinguished from the printings of the previous plate by the *absence* of the following varieties, which had characterized previous printings, viz.: No. 1, row 1, dot in top left corner shaded; No. 4, row 1, retouch to left inside frame (this, in the very first printings, showed the inside frame broken, and was later on retouched); No. 5, row 19, ball in centre of left-hand frame; No. 6, row 20, "parachute descending on Union Buildings." All the varieties just named are corrected in the new plate, which, however, now shows a variety on No. 4, row 9, in the shape of an oval blob, resembling a large bird over the Union Buildings. I have seen the new 2d. with the head plate printed in greenish grey as well as in slate-purple-grey.

The current 3d. blue, is printed from both the old head and duty plates, as is evident from the presence of the identical minor varieties which occur on the bi-coloured as well as on the new blue stamps. Your correspondent mentions the "blind window" (or "solid gable" variety), which occurs on the head plate. On the other hand, the duty plate shows the following constant varieties, *inter alia* "broken line under Postage," No. 1, row 5; "Broken R of Africa," No. 2, row 20, and numerous other minor flaws. Another flaw, the "comet variety" of the duty plate, which occurred already

in the bi-coloured issue, comes out much more prominently in the blue printing than hitherto. It extends over three stamps in a semi-circle, the "head" of the "comet" starting on No. 4, row 5, and extending *via* No. 4, row 6, its "tail" ending in the trees of No. 3, row 6. Your correspondent's query as to whether the "blind window" variety exists on the Bradbury Wilkinson printed stamps, must be answered in the negative, as the latter was printed from entirely different plates, under an entirely different printing process.

Yours faithfully,

A. LICHTENSTEIN.

## CATALOGUES

### CATALOGUE OF THE "HIND" COLLECTION.

The catalogue of the second portion of the collection of the late Arthur Hind, of Utica, New York, to be put up for sale, has just reached us from Messrs. Charles J. Phillips and William C. Kennet. It is such a magnificent production, that we feel it deserves rather more notice than we would usually devote to a sale catalogue.

The first portion of the Hind collection, consisting of the stamps of the U.S.A., was sold a few months ago. The present portion, consisting of the stamps of Great Britain, British Dominions and Colonies, is to be auctioned in the Waldorf Astoria Hotel, New York, on 31st March and 2nd April to 10th April. There are 3,506 lots in all, and the catalogue of these is accompanied by a book of sixty plates with photographs of 726 items, practically every stamp valued at \$100.00 each and upwards being illustrated.

Mr. Hind's great love was the early stamps of Mauritius, and no less than 240 of these are illustrated. Included in these are four POST OFFICE, 1d. and 2d. unused, and a unique envelope with 1d. and 2d. used together thereon. This cover cost Mr. Hind \$42,000. The POST PAID stamps run into many hundreds, and are certainly unmatched anywhere, especially in the earliest impressions.

The Cape triangulars are also very fine, Mr. Hind having bought the specialized collection of Mr. Gray, of Bradford, and many fine items also from the Ferrari and Duveen collections.

In Great Britain, perhaps the most outstanding piece is the 1865 9d., plate 5, from the collection of H.M. King George V, with his signature on the card upon which it is mounted.

In British Guiana, there are several stamps considerably rarer than any POST OFFICE Mauritius, but the unique 1c black on magenta, is not included in the sale. It is understood that the ownership of this stamp is in dispute, Mrs. Hind claiming that it was given to her as a personal gift.

Pages might be taken up describing the many fine stamps from practically every country coming within the list, the collections even of New Republic and the Pietersburg issue being said to be the most complete in existence.

To save much printing, perfect centring, full gum, and brilliant conditions are stated to be taken for granted unless the contrary is specifically stated.

The third Hind sale, of European countries, will be held in October or November of this year. The remaining portions of the collection will not be disposed of before 1935.

#### STOP PRESS

The Hind Sale of British Empire Stamps has been transferred from New York to London.

See our advertisement columns.

#### STANLEY GIBBONS' SIMPLIFIED STAMP CATALOGUE.

This year must be regarded as a boom year for catalogues. First we had the new Regent catalogue, now, as will be seen from our advertisement pages, Messrs. Stanley Gibbons, Ltd., are providing us with a first-class sensation. Without a word of previous warning, they have announced the appearance early this month of an entirely new *simplified* catalogue, on which their staff have been secretly working for the last two years.

As its name implies, this new volume will be drastically simplified in its contents, as compared with the existing "big Gibbons" (which will, of course, still continue to be published); in fact, simplification could hardly go further than it does in the new catalogue.

There will, in effect, be NO VARIETIES WHATEVER in this catalogue. Watermarks will not be mentioned, gauges of perforations will not be distinguished, there will be no shades of colour, no minor varieties or errors, and only major types of overprint and surcharge will be shown.

Even on this reduced scale, the new *Stanley Gibbons' Simplified Catalogue* will list over 50,000 different stamps, of which more than 10,000 will be British Empire issues.

As simplicity is the basis of the whole work, special attention has been paid to illustrations, of which there will be no less than 6,000, practically all of them in the full size of the stamps, as in the big "Gibbons."

Generally speaking, overprints and surcharges will be indicated by descriptions in the headings of the issues where they occur, and these descriptions are in a specially bold type so that they can be easily seen.

Reference to illustrations is just as easy, as each of them has its "type number," and these type numbers appear in a separate column against the description of each issue. Identification of a particular stamp is still further facilitated by the fact that, in most cases, all stamps of a particular type are grouped together, chronological order being considered less important than the convenience of the collector. The subjects of the designs are described below the illustrations.

Messrs. Stanley Gibbons, Ltd., emphasize that the *Simplified Catalogue* is not intended to be in any way a substitute for their present world-famous volume. Their object in publishing it is to cater for the enormous demand which they have found to exist for a stamp catalogue which gives clear and intelligible lists, satisfactorily illustrated, of postage stamps which are easily distinguishable from one another, and at a price so low as to place the volume within the reach of every collector.

## COLLECTORS' WANTS AND OFFERS

(Twopence per word per insertion with minimum of 2/- per insertion).

**Nevis and Virgin Islands.**—Stamps, Literature and Information wanted.

*A. F. Johnstone, P.O. Box 6006, Johannesburg.*

**Columbia.**—Scadta Air Mail, used or on entire wanted.

*Charles Hand, P.O. Box 1018, Pretoria.*

**"Specimen Stamps."**—Great Britain, British Colonial and Foreign wanted.

*Saul A. Klagsbru, P.O. Box 846, Pretoria.*

**Wanted.**—Cape, Natal, Transvaal, Orange Free State, Griqualand West, Swaziland, Portuguese East Africa, Brazil, Greece, including covers and postal stationery.

*A. E. Basden, P.O. Box 238, Pretoria.*

**Wanted.**—Specimens, mint and fine used, of Gambia, Gold Coast, Sierra Leone and Nigerian Colonies.

*T. V. Green, P.O. Box 4967, Johannesburg.*

**Early European Stamps on cover.**—Stamps and covers used in Basutoland.

*Dr. A. J. Broughton, 13/14, Bourke Trust Buildings, Pretoria.*

**Gold Coast.**—Early issues, fine used. Special Postmarks. Mint. Wanted.

*William Redford, 88, Fox Street, Johannesburg.*

**Rhodesian Rarities.**—Wanted. Mint or used.

*R.H. Morley, P.O. Box 7573, Johannesburg.*

**Great Britain.**—Wanted early issues line engraved and surface printed—and items of interest.

*J. A. Bremner, 12, Ashford Rd., Parkwood, J'burg*

**PENNY REDS 71-224,** the set 7/6, post free. Some re-constructed plates 7/- each.

*Wrigley, Ecton, Northampton, England.*

**1899-1902.**—British used in South Africa and South Africa used in British Army P.Os.

*J. H. Harvey Pirie, P.O. Box 1038, Johannesburg*

## SOCIETY NEWS

### EAST RAND PHILATELIC SOCIETY

The February meeting of this Society was held at the Transvaal Hotel, Boksburg, on Thursday 1st, at 8 p.m.; Mrs. G. Wood in the chair.

The subject of the paper for the evening was New Brunswick, by Messrs. A. F. Johnstone and T. Wood. A short review of the history of the province from the time of the first settlement to the date of its joining the Canadian Federation was followed by notes on the system of communications and a detailed description of the stamps.

The paper was illustrated by a fine show of the stamps of the province. The idea of two collectors collaborating in this way was fully justified, as the two collections shown contained between them copies of all the stamps issued with the single exception of the 1s. value. The writer noted a particularly nice copy of the 6d. olive-yellow among some very fine specimens.

Stamps of Southern Rhodesia were shown by Mr. A. P. Lynn; Swaziland (used) by Mr. C. L. Larsen; Seychelles in blocks of four and six with controls, by Mr. C. E. Donne; and Swiss *Pro Juventute* and Air Stamps by Mrs. Wood.

J. DOYLE.

### PORT ELIZABETH PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

An anonymous contributor has sent us the following cutting from the *Eastern Province Herald*, referring to an exhibition held by this Society about Christmas and New Year time. We presume, therefore, that the Society is alive and active, but why, oh! why, is it so bashful that it never lets us and fellow collectors throughout the country know anything of its doings? We feel sure that if a non-resident of Port Elizabeth found this of sufficient interest to forward to us, philatelists in general throughout the Union would much prefer to have an official report from the Society of their doings:—

“For the eighth year in succession the Port Elizabeth Philatelic Society is holding its annual Exhibition of the postage stamps of the world.

“Through the courtesy of the Librarian, Mr. F. W. Cooper, the exhibits will be shown in the large glass case in the vestibule of the public library, commencing Tuesday, 19th instant. Admission is free, and the Society extends a cordial invitation to all visitors, and the public generally, both old and young, to pay the exhibition a visit and inspect the beautiful specimens displayed.

“All tastes will be catered for, and repeated changes will be made in the exhibits, so that interest will be sustained throughout.

“Any information desired concerning the hobby can be obtained from the secretary, whose address will be found in the show-case.”

### O.F.S. AND BASUTOLAND PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

The first general meeting of the year of the Orange Free State and Basutoland Philatelic Society was held in the Arcade Tea Rooms, Bloemfontein, on Friday, 2nd February, at 8 p.m.

Mr. J. B. Levy exhibited a part of his collection of the Union (King's heads) and the display was much appreciated. Mr. Levy has spent much time in the study of the early issues and has a good collection, showing many varieties in plate flaws.

Mr. White exhibited some of his treasures. They include pages of unused Cape triangulars and early Capes, showing wide margins and many other items of interest, including some covers with O.V.S. fiscals used postally.

Some cards, sent in by Mr. Lichtenstein, of Rouxville, of the latest new issues were handed round for inspection and comment.

Mr. F. Carter closed the meeting with a short address, thanking the exhibitors for the displays. He extended a cordial welcome to all interested in postage stamps to attend the next meeting on March 2.

### PHILATELIC SOCIETY OF NATAL.

The first meeting of the year was held on 7th February in the Durban Publicity Bureau. The address given by the President, Mr. P. Bishop, is published separately on another page of this issue.

### PRETORIA PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

The meeting of the 5th February, under the Presidency of Mr. A. E. Basden, was well attended. Membership of the Society is continually increasing, and this steady growth is very gratifying, particularly as His Excellency the Governor-General has graciously consented to become Honorary President of the Society.

Notification was received from Congress Executive of the inability of the Cape Town Philatelic Society to stage the next Congress gathering at Cape Town, which will in consequence take place in Pretoria. The matter is receiving keen attention.

Mr. Klagsbrun read a paper on methods of stamp collecting generally, raising many points of interest and subjects for subsequent discussion. The exhibit of the evening was Mr. A. P. Obermeyer's Rhodesians.

On the 19th February, philatelists and their friends, to the number of forty-three, attended the annual dinner at Polley's Hotel, Pretoria, arranged to commemorate the Thirty-seventh Anniversary of the Pretoria Philatelic Society. This total included some members of the Johannesburg and East Rand Philatelic Societies, who braved the heavy downpour.

After the toast of The King, those present stood in silence in sympathy with the Royal House of Belgium, the late King Albert having been a keen philatelist. The President then proposed the toast of the Earl of Clarendon, who is Honorary President of the Pretoria Philatelic Society.

Three applications for membership were now the subject of a ballot, and the three applicants were unanimously elected.

Mr. Klagsbrun, in proposing the toast of the Pretoria Philatelic Society, pointed out that the real value of a society is judged by its service to philatelists and philately generally, and, after detailing some of the Society's activities, he maintained that it had not been found wanting. Mr. Basden, the President, replied, pointing out the world-wide appeal of the hobby. He said the Society can be proud of its strength with a membership approaching two hundred.

Major Harrington proposed "Kindred Societies, The Ladies and Visitors," to which Mr. R. H. Morley replied on behalf of "Kindred Societies," expressing the appreciation visiting philatelists had in meetings other collectors. Mr. Rhodes, Assistant Secretary of Department of Posts and Telegraphs, replied on behalf of the visitors.

The final toast of "The Press" was in the hands of Mr. Obermeyer and Dr. J. H. Harvey Pirie, who has just taken over the Editorship of the SOUTH AFRICAN PHILATELIST, spoke in reply. Philately enjoys great publicity in the world's great newspapers, apart from the philatelic Press, and all collectors throughout South Africa should support their paper by subscribing to the SOUTH AFRICAN PHILATELIST and forwarding philatelic contributions.

Before terminating the gathering, small displays of stamps of interest were made by a number of philatelists. Mr. Basden exhibited six sheets. Transvaals on view were 6d. of 1876 bisected and used with six-penny on piece; 6d. Queen's Head on piece with 4d. Griqualand and two one-penny Capes; £5 revenue with two 6d. postage on piece, numeral 4 cancellation; 1d. Anchor and pane of one penny 1883. Griqualands were on covers, in strips and with double, treble and quadruple overprints. Brazils contained 30, 60 and 90 Bulls eyes and fine 1845-54 issues. There were two pages of embossed Natal.

Dr. Pirie brought a stampless cover posted Durban, March, 1895, endorsed and signed by Postmaster, and a block of Half-penny on Sixpence Natal, showing horizontal and vertical surcharges.

Mr. J. W. Kayton Schofield displayed Moldavia (Roumania) No. 12 and Moldo-Wallachia (Roumania) S.G. No. 22 used on pieces. There were four copies of Great Britain No. 1 with outstanding postmarks on the entires, and the Transvaals were magnificent copies. S.G. 257 was a superb copy, showing all roulettes, a stamp that has not been priced for years; numbers 112, 153 (overprint inverted), 154 and 173 (1d. and 1s. respectively with wide-spaced V.R.TRANSVAAL) were all in brilliant mint condition. These are all of great rarity, the last named cataloguing £100. It was an exceptional display. Major Harrington gave a couple of sheets of Rhodesian re-entries and two Bechuanaland stamps postmarked Gubulawayo Bechuanaland and with the cancellation with Bechuanaland erased respectively.

Dr. A. J. Broughton tabled the first issues of British New Guinea, a Queensland on cover postmarked BNG and a pair of 12 cents black U.S.A. on cover.

Mr. A. Watson brought Great Britain: Essays, die proofs, some fine mint line engraved, specimen stamps and Parliamentary covers.

Mr. A. P. Obermeyer showed Indian Native States, and Mr. Hand Colombia varieties.

C.H.

## PHILATELIC SOCIETY OF JOHANNESBURG.

The usual monthly meeting of the Philatelic Society of Johannesburg was held on Tuesday, 9th January, 1934. The President, Dr. J. H. Harvey Pirie, was in the chair, and there was a good attendance.

The membership of the Society is steadily increasing and during the evening Mr. F. E. Ingham was unanimously elected a member. Major Milligan furnished the monthly notes of philatelic interest.

An interesting announcement was made by the President, who informed the members present that it had been decided that in future all members of the Society, except country members who were town members of any other South African Society, would receive monthly a copy of the SOUTH AFRICAN PHILATELIST, without any increase being made in their dues to the Society.

Mr. R. E. King read an interesting paper, and displayed his collection of early French stamps, proofs and essays. A brief discussion followed on the extreme difficulty of detecting the very clever forgeries of the stamps of France.

The feature of the monthly meeting of the Philatelic Society of Johannesburg, held on Tuesday, 13th February, 1934, was the visit of members of the East Rand Society who had kindly agreed to supply the paper and exhibits.

After the ordinary business had been transacted, Dr. J. H. Harvey Pirie vacated the chair and called upon Mrs. Wood, President of the East Rand Society, to preside.

Mr. W. Wood read an interesting paper on the stamps of Siam, and subsequently gave a display of the stamps of this country, including the first issue complete, the numerous provisionals and all the higher values. Mr. Donne exhibited his well-known collection of St. Helena, set out and written up in an exceedingly effective manner. Mr. Lynn showed a choice lot of the stamps of Turks and Caicos Islands, particularly good in the War Tax varieties, and Mrs. Wood displayed a small collection of the Griqualand stamps of the Cape. The meeting was well attended, and all present spent a most enjoyable evening.

The March meeting will be held at the Carlton Hotel on 13th March, and the programme for the evening will be provided by visiting members of the Pretoria Philatelic Society.

*Christmas Stamp Sales in 1933.*—Mr. L. B. Maggs, Postmaster of Johannesburg and Treasurer of the Transvaal Provincial Christmas Stamp Fund, states that the sale of Christmas stamps in the Transvaal during 1933 brought in £1,533 11s. 0d., being an increase of £1,000 over 1932. Sales in Johannesburg amounted to £736 13s. 9d., and in Pretoria to £237 0s. 10d. Figures for the whole country are not yet available, but the amounts collected in Durban and Cape Town were given as £846 11s. 2d. and £217 12s. 3d. respectively. Well done, Durban!

The Christmas stamp is, of course, not a postage stamp; the money derived from its sale is devoted to a fund to fight tuberculosis.



*The*

# SOUTH AFRICAN PHILATELIST

*Proprietors and Publishers :*

The Philatelic Congress of Southern Africa

*Hon. Editor :* J. H. HARVEY PIRIE, P.O. Box 7012, Johannesburg

*Hon. Business Manager :* WILLIAM REDFORD, Cor. Market and Kruis Streets, Johannesburg

Subscription : Five Shillings per annum, post free to any part of the World

Vol. 10

APRIL, 1934

No. 4

## A CONTEMPORARY

In assuming the editorship of the SOUTH AFRICAN PHILATELIST, we fondly imagined that the position was an unique one in South Africa, but our complacency has received a rude shock through the receipt of a some months old copy of a rival philatelic publication—*The Schweizer Reneke Stamp Journal*.

This paper is run by a junior stamp club, and we heartily congratulate them on their enterprise. The Journal is in manuscript, and to show our appreciation of their enthusiasm for philately, we reproduce below the number in full. We trust that the, perhaps, somewhat wide publicity thus given them will help them on in pursuit of the cause which we both serve.

SCHWEIZER RENEKE STAMP JOURNAL.

Price : For Stamp Club Members, 1d. For non-members, 2d.

### STAMP NEWS.

1. The other day a firm in Bloemfontein franked a postcard with two V.R.I.  $\frac{1}{2}$ d. stamps. It seems as if the firm had them from 1900, and having no knowledge of the value of the stamps, used them instead of the usual stamps.

2. Most countries are very particular in drawing attention to their national exploits. We all remember Professor Picard, who ascended in his balloon. Belgium has now issued a 75 cent. stamp on which is shown Professor Picard's balloon in the air. The stamp is obtainable from Showell Bros.

### NEW ISSUES.

Italy has issued a new set of ten stamps in honour of Mussolini's speeches. They are beautiful pictorials, and on each is a phrase from his speeches, with a suitable design. For instance, on the 1-lire stamp is the phrase "Our destiny has been and always will be on the sea." The design shows two of Italy's huge modern ships with Columbus' ships in the background.

### WATERMARKS.

Every serious collector ought to get a watermark detector and study watermarks, because they are very interesting and also sometimes change the value of the stamp.

### GERMANY.

This is a country whose stamps have been greatly ignored by collectors and especially by those who collect valuable stamps. However, this country has issued many beautiful pictorials, stamps all worthy of a serious collector's interest.

### ADVERTISEMENTS.

Sets of Cape stamps can be supplied at 3d. The scarce C.A. and C.C. watermarks, 1s. 6d. each.

*Apply—*

G. MURRAY, Esq.,

Box 15.

Schweizer Reneke.

## Notes on Union Stamps

### NEW OVERPRINT 2s. 6d. "OFFICIAL."

The first "official" overprint on the 2s. 6d. rotogravure was printed in dull ink and measures about  $17\frac{3}{4}$  mm. between the two lines of overprint—"Official" and "Offisiel." This overprinting was done in forms of sixty on the top halves of sheets, the sheets of 120 being severed by guillotine. There are no stops and no varieties of overprint.

The second overprint is now on sale ; the overprint is in bright ink, and measures nearly  $20\frac{1}{2}$  mm. between the lines of overprint. This overprint was also done in forms of sixty, but this time on the bottom halves of sheets, being severed by guillotine as before. There are no stops and no varieties of overprint.

The first overprint can still be obtained from the Pretoria Post Office.

EX UNITATE.

In the 1d. Postage Due, the figure "1" in recent printings has lost a lot of its stoutness. It is now quite slender, and looks much more elegant than did the former issue.

E. TAMSEN.

The latest printings of the Union  $\frac{1}{2}$ d. and 1d. postages are of unusually neat appearance and obviously from cleaned plates. The  $\frac{1}{2}$ d. value

is now printed in a dull green shade for the frame, and a pale grey-black for the centre. The usual plate flaws remain the same, as before, but in addition, one finds numerous "broken horns" due to the lines of the design being printed much finer than heretofore. The change of printing is most noticeable in the 1d., however, which appears now with a pale red frame and a bluish grey centre. In the previous printings, were dozens of small plate flaws, specks, dots and spots, and all of these have now been corrected with one solitary exception, viz., the variety "red line through KA of Afrika," the position on the sheet being Row 12, No. 8. New to this plate is a variety "black blob to left of ship," Row 13, No. 3, but save for these two items, the new printing is remarkably free from flaws. As reported already, a new plate has been taken into use for the 2d. postage, and in addition to the "big bird" variety, there is one major flaw consisting of a "white leaf" in the right bottom corner of stamp No. 6 of Row 18. Of rather minor importance are the following constant varieties on the same value, viz.: Row 3, No. 6 "oblique line rising from ridge of left-hand roof"; Row 11, No. 2, "flag hung out to left of left-hand tower"; Row 20, No. 6, "flag-staff from left hand tower to the right" a.o.m. All these varieties are constant in both printings, with the grey-green as well as the slate-purple centres. The latest issue of the 4d. postage shows signs of wear of the printing plate, the general effect of the new printing being of much lighter shade than before. This plate will probably have to be either heavily retouched before long or to be replaced by a new one.

Stamp No. 6 of Row 20 of the current 2d. Postage, shows a "horn" at the top right of the tablet of value. The "flag-pole from left tower" variety, on the same stamp, does not occur on the very first printing from the new Plate III, but appeared in later printings.

Mr. J. B. Levy, of Bloemfontein, recently showed me a highly interesting variety on the new 5s. roto—interesting because of its illustrating the particular process by which the "roto" stamps are being printed. It appears that a tiny portion of the "gelatine transfer" forming the second yoke-pin broke off and got lodged in the left-hand tablet of value just above the flag of the 5. This variety is—to my mind—analogueous to the "shifted gelatine transfer" variety occurring in the first printing of the 2d. postage roto (Row 17, No. 3), where a "bit" of the inside frame between the left-hand bottom corner and the scroll was lifted by a scratch, etc., and stuck down again a little higher up. The position on the sheet of the 5s. variety just mentioned is Stamp 5, Row 18.

A. LICHTENSTEIN.

Collectors of Great Britain will be interested to learn that the translation of the British section of the Kohl Catalogue undertaken by Mr. J. B. Seymour, on behalf of the Royal Philatelic Society, is finished, and that the book may be expected any day, if, indeed, it has not already appeared by the time we go to press.

### "PROVISIONALS."

It is remarkable that most of the provisionals issued during the past few years in the various Pacific Islands of Australasia have recently been offered at much lower prices than ever before. Doubtless speculators have held them up until now, but they would have done very much better for themselves if they had sold earlier, say, within a year or two of their issue, when interest was keenest and demand greatest.

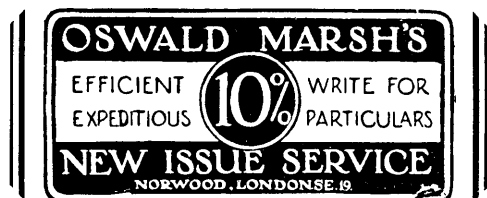
Owing to the somewhat suspicious circumstances surrounding these provisionals, they have not been in such eager demand as surcharged stamps which were created to meet a genuine shortage of essential values. Such occasions are very rare under modern conditions, and every provisional should be looked upon with suspicion, as it is only at extremely rare intervals that several unexpected circumstances occurring together render surcharge absolutely necessary.

Such an item was the Falkland Islands 2½d. on 2d. provisional of 1928; almost the only one of late years caused by a genuine shortage of an essential value under very unusual conditions.

Earlier in the present reign we had the St. Vincent 1d. on 1s. and in Rhodesia the ½d. on 1d. surcharges at Livingstone. If any reader has evidence proving these to have been essential, I should be interested to hear it, as I have never had first hand evidence to prove they were necessary.

Of all Colonial provisional surcharges of the present era, none have caused more heartaches than the Livingstone provisionals, as this is one of the cases where speculators got the bulk of the supply, and were able to force collectors and dealers in Great Britain to pay far more than the stamps were worth on quantities issued. There were issued 60,000 of each type, and although 120,000 may not be a large figure for a ½d. stamp, still it was for use in practically one town only, and should have been sufficient to last for several weeks if the speculators had not got to work and bought up sheet after sheet.

None appeared on the British market for many months. One would have expected that the stamp would have been sold at 1s. at the most, but those first advertised were sold at 2s. apiece and later on the prices were raised to 4s. and even 5s. for either type. Some writers actually recommended them and many collectors of that period probably paid 5s. each for them. Despite their long run at an absurdly false price, it is remarkable that speculators have held on to sheets until this last year, when prices have come down with a run.—From the *Philatelic Magazine*.



## Prince George's Tour in Southern Africa

We have to thank several correspondents for covers bearing the special postmark in use on the Royal train carrying the Prince on his tour through Southern Africa. From these we have illustrated herewith both the ordinary postmark and the cachet used for registered matter.



It has been suggested that the itinerary of the tour should be given, and, as it may be a matter of some interest for owners of these covers to know at what stage of the journey they were posted, we give it below.

The Prince arrived in Cape Town on 5th February, and left by the Royal train on 13th February. The itinerary shows definitely or approximately the furthest point reached on each date mentioned, so that it will be possible to tell from the date on the postmark at what stage the cover was posted.

Worcester .. .. .	February	13
George .. .. .	"	14
Oudtshoorn .. .. .	"	15
Port Elizabeth .. .. .	"	16
Grahamstown .. .. .	"	17
Port Alfred .. .. .	"	19
Alicedale .. .. .	"	21
East London .. .. .	"	22
Umtata .. .. .	"	23
Graaff-Reinet .. .. .	"	26
Bloemfontein .. .. .	"	27
Maseru (Basutoland) .. .. .	"	28
Harrismith .. .. .	March	2
Pietermaritzburg .. .. .	"	3
Durban .. .. .	"	5
Ladysmith .. .. .	"	8
Newcastle .. .. .	"	9
Johannesburg .. .. .	"	10
Pretoria .. .. .	"	14
Klerksdorp .. .. .	"	16
Kimberley .. .. .	"	17
Gaberones (Bechuanaland) .. .. .	"	19
Bulawayo .. .. .	"	21
Fort Victoria .. .. .	"	23
Salisbury .. .. .	"	24
Umtali .. .. .	"	27

Gwelo .. .. .	March	28
Bulawayo .. .. .	"	29
Victoria Falls .. .. .	"	31
Livingstone .. .. .	April	2
Broken Hill .. .. .	"	3
Luanshya .. .. .	"	4
Ndola .. .. .	"	5
Elisabethville .. .. .	"	5
Lobito Bay .. .. .	"	9

As in the case of the tour of the Prince of Wales in 1925, it will be possible to have a bilingual Union postmark on the stamps of other territories—the Rhodesias, Bechuanaland, and, in this instance, Basutoland. We understand, however, that the train P.O. will not be in use in the Belgian Congo or Angola.



Two of our prominent collectors, in Messrs. And. Watson, of Pretoria, and Courlander, of East London, have recently left on overseas trips. We wish them each a pleasant holiday, and hope at the same time that they will be able to make some philatelic finds.

### NEW ISSUES

Our Speciality for more than  
Half a Century

Our New Issue Service Organisation is world-wide and complete, and ensures the earliest receipt of New Stamps at the minimum expense. It is the surest and most satisfactory method of keeping a collection up to date.

Ask for Descriptive Circular.

### THE PHILATELIC BULLETIN

Contains offers of all New Issues as received, together with interesting information concerning them, and provides a convenient alternative for collectors who prefer to make their own selections.

Specimen copy free.

**WHITFIELD KING & Co., Ipswich**  
Established 1869 ENGLAND

# RHODESIAN POSTAGE STAMPS

By W. J. HARRINGTON.

(Continued from page 39 of March issue.)

Note.—Correspondence is invited with a view to correcting errors of omission or commission.)

## 12. Rouletted Stamps.

One explanation of the existence of the co-called rouletted stamps is as follows: At some very early period during the time when this issue was being printed, an employee of Waterlows managed to have seven of the values printed from the genuine plates. He was not able, however, to get a supply of the proper paper and, therefore, had to do the gumming himself, as can be seen from the crudity of his efforts in this direction. The "stamps" then got into the hands of a German dealer in London, but all efforts to find out where the stock was kept failed. Although strong suspicion existed, it was not possible to proceed against the employee who was, however, at a later date convicted for a similar offence in respect of matter printed for another country. In 1929-30, a certain firm of London auctioneers commenced to put these "stamps" on the market, stating that they had been obtained from a reliable firm in France. It is not definitely known how, where or why the rouletting was done.

A well-known expert committee in Great Britain on the 31st May, 1933, expressed the opinion that "this variety was not issued and is probably a proof."

The paper used is thicker than that of the regular issues. The gum is applied patchily, particularly near the margins of the sheets. There are no numbers on the sheets and all the margins are rouletted through.

It is believed that only one sheet (50 copies) of the 6d. value and less than six sheets each of the other values were produced.

This variety consists of the following seven values—2½d., 3d., 6d., 3/-, 5/-, 10/- and £1 all roughly rouletted 10½ T shaped.

The plates used were the same as for the regular issue as the gash in the ear variety appears, as well as the marginal imprint in the centre of the top and bottom margins.

2½d. value. Dull blue. The usual marks appear in the left value label.

3d. value in two shades. Some of the stamps on the bottom two rows are very crudely printed, particularly on the lower labels.

6d. value. Brown and purple. This has the usual crude background in the left value label. Only one sheet known. Double roulette in top margin.

3/- value. Purple and purple and also purple and red-purple. This has the usual scratch running diagonally from the SE corner of the right value label. Bottom row is not rouletted between the stamp and the margin.

5/- value. Vermillion and deep green and also scarlet and yellow green.

10/- value. Deep myrtle and orange.

£1 value. Carmine red and blue black and also rose scarlet and blue black. The ink used for the duty plate was of an aniline character, as the colour appears strongly on the back of the stamps.

13. *Remainders*.—In addition to various values only 174 complete sets were sold as the stock of the 2/6 value was limited.

## CHAPTER XIV

### ADMIRAL'S HEAD ISSUE OF 1913.

1. *Date of Issue*: September, 1913.

2. *Printed by* Messrs. Waterlow & Sons, of London.

3. *Method of Printing*.—Engraved in *taille douce* and recess printed.

4. *Design*: For this issue an entirely new design measuring 18½ by 23 mm., was prepared. The full face, head and shoulders of King George in Admiral's undress uniform appears on a background of horizontal and vertical lines, within an ornamental border. The value in figures appears at the top of either corner and in between are the words BRITISH and SOUTH AFRICA COMPANY in two curved lines. At the bottom is a straight tablet on which is the word RHODESIA.

5. *Denominations*: Nineteen from ½d. to £1.

6. *Paper and Gum*: The paper is toned wove with yellowing gum. In the report of the Postmaster-General for the year 1921, it is stated that "numerous complaints were received from the public regarding the non-adhesive qualities of the mucilage on postage stamps, more particularly of the penny and three halfpenny denominations." It was not, however, stated what was done in the matter.

7. *Plates and Dies*:

(a) *Plates*: Single working plates were used for the ½d., 1d., 1½d. and 2½d. values, and double working plates for all the other values.

In *Gibbons' Stamp Monthly* for May, 1933, is published an article by Mr. C. P. Rang, in which he states that in the double plate printings, a plate mark consisting of a dot and dash appears on the head plates. This mark is repeated twice on each sheet between the third and fourth horizontal rows—on the left side of the sheet there is a dot and a dash under the third and fourth stamps and on the right is a dash and a dot under the seventh and eighth stamps. After 1921, the marks were reversed, *i.e.*, a dash and a dot on the left and a dot and a dash on the right. The plates are indicated by the length of the dash and by its closeness to

the dot, the overall length of the two varying from 3 mm. in Plate 1 to 9 mm. in Plate 10. Plate 4 may be distinguished by the marks being vertical instead of horizontal.

At the time of the publication of the article in question, the plates which had been identified in the various values were as indicated hereunder:—

Values.	DIE I.		DIE II.		White shoul- der.	DIE III.	WHITE PAPER.	
	P.14	P.15	P.14	P.15		P.14	P.14	P.15
2d.	1	.	3	2	6	4, 9	10	10
3d.	1	.	3	—	.	7, 9	9, 10	—
4d.	1	.	3, 5	2	.	7, 9	10	10
5d.	1	.	5	—	.	9, 10	—	—
6d.	.	1	3	—	.	7, 10	10	10
8d.	—	—	5	—	.	7, 9	9	10
10d.	—	—	2	2	.	7, 8	9	9
1/-	—	—	4	—	.	7, 8, 9	10	10
2/-	1	1	5	—	.	8, 9	10	10
2/6	—	—	.	—	.	7	9	9
3/-	—	—	3	—	.	.	9	.
5/-	—	—	4	—	.	7, 9	9	9
7/6	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
10/-	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
£1	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.

The dash indicates the stamps which do not exist in that die or perforation.

The underlined figures have been inserted since publication of the original schedule.

(b) Dies :

- (1) In each value of the single working plates there are two dies as follows —

$\frac{1}{2}$ d. value.—Die 1. Left ear white. Issued 1915. Perforations 14, 15 x 14, 15.

Die 2. Left ear shaded. Issued 1913. Perforations 14 and 15.

1d. value.—Die 1. Left ear white. Issued 1914. Perforations 14 and 15.

Die 2. Left ear shaded. Issued 1913. Perforations 14 and 15.

$1\frac{1}{2}$ d. value.—Die 1. Right ear white. Issued 1914. Perforations 14 and 15.

Die 2. Right ear shaded. Issued 1917. Perforations 14 and  $14\frac{1}{2}$  x 14.

- (2) In the double working plates there are three dies each showing certain main distinguishing features. These dies were recorded for the first time in "Stamp Collecting" in February, 1920.

Die I. The King's cap has no outline and the left ear is neither shaded nor outlined.

Die II. The cap is faintly outlined and the left ear is shaded but not outlined.

Die III. The cap is more distinctly outlined, and has two shading lines on the right instead of one and the ear is outlined as well as shaded.

In *Gibbons' Stamp Monthly* for November, 1932, Mr. C. P. Rang claimed that there is an additional die between Dies II and III. This new intermediate die is mainly characterized as follows:—

*Cap*: The dots of shading are weak and long, as in Die II. The outline is uneven in thickness, and shows weak places at the top on the left.

*Background*: As in Dies II and III. The lines on the right do not touch the coat collar and leave a distinct white area above the shoulder. The three horizontal lines on the right below the moustache do not overlap where they are broken.

The Die III, as illustrated in the catalogues, shows the following main differences from the new die:—

*Cap*: The dots of shading are thick and short and the outline is even in thickness all round.

*Background*: The lines touch the coat collar, beard and moustache and the white area is no longer in evidence. The three horizontal lines below the moustache on the right overlap where they are broken.

Mr. Rang's article gave rise to considerable discussion in the *Philatelic Magazine* during the last quarter of 1933, and the arguments used against the theory of an intermediate die are briefly—

- The printers state that there were never more than three dies used;
- The so-called new die can be found *se tenant* with the normal Die III;
- The variations are the result of uneven pressure of the roller Die III on the plates; and
- There are a number of gradations between the extreme type of the so-called new die and the normal Die III.

Dies I and II were used concurrently from the date of issue, but Die III was brought into use late in 1917 or early in 1918.

8. *Setting of Sheets* : Printed in sheets of 240 in four panes of sixty (ten rows of six) separated by plain margins in the case of unicoloured stamps, and in sheets of sixty (ten rows of six) in the case of the bi-coloured stamps.

9. *Perforations* by comb machine as follows:—

- (a) *Single working plates*—  
 14 :  $\frac{1}{2}$ d., 1d.,  $1\frac{1}{2}$ d. and  $2\frac{1}{2}$ d.  
 $14\frac{1}{2}$  : 1d. on thick paper.  
 $14\frac{1}{2}$  by 14 : 1d. and  $1\frac{1}{2}$ d.  
 15 :  $\frac{1}{2}$ d., 1d.,  $1\frac{1}{2}$ d. and  $2\frac{1}{2}$ d.  
 15 by 14 :  $\frac{1}{2}$ d. (Die 2),  $1\frac{1}{2}$ d.  
 14 by 15 :  $\frac{1}{2}$ d. (Die 1).

It is believed that the  $1\frac{1}{2}$ d. value, perforated 15, was issued in Salisbury only.

- (b) *Double working plates*—

Perforation 14—  
 Die I.—2d., 3d., 4d., 5d., 6d., 8d. and 2s.  
 Die II.—All values.  
 Die III.—All values.

Perforation 14 by  $14\frac{1}{2}$ —  
 Die II.—2/6.

Perforation 15—  
 Die I.—3d., 4d., 6d. and 2/-.  
 Die II.—2d., 4d., 8d., 10d., 1/-, 2/6, 3/- (issued only at Essexvale?), 5/-, 7/6, 10/- and £1.  
 Die III.—2d.

The spacing between the lines of perforation both horizontally and vertically varies considerably, and this permits of the faker manufacturing varieties of perforation.

10. *Margins* :

- (a) Perforated at the top only and through the margins dividing panes.
- (b) The imprint "Waterlow & Sons, Limited, London Wall, E.C." appears in the centre of the bottom margins of each pane or sheet as the case may be. It is also printed in the top margins of each pane or sheet, but is almost invariably trimmed off before the sheets leave the printer.
- (c) The sheet number is printed in black, reading downwards, in the bottom right corner.
- (d) *Guide lines, etc.* :
- (i) Guide lines are printed in the corners of the sheets in the colours of the duty plates.
- (ii) Small guide lines about  $\frac{1}{2}$  mm. in length appear between the rows above the centre of the stamps in both dies of the 1d. value.
- (iii) Small guide crosses or parts thereof in the colour of the head plates are to be found over the bi-coloured stamps. A prolongation of the vertical line will touch the left of the lower coil on the anchor in the cap badge. Such prolongation can sometimes be traced downwards from the tie. As the thicker horizontal lines (which are about 25 mm. apart) are spaced at a regular distance from the head, it would appear that these were on the die itself, and were used for spacing the

heads along the thin vertical lines drawn on the plates. It would also suggest that the plates were laid down sideways as in the case of the early issues. Generally these guide lines, both vertical and horizontal are cleaned off the plate, but many traces of them can be found, especially in the later printings, due, doubtless, to the less skilled labour available during the period of the Great War.

- (e) *Jubilee lines* were not used.
- (f) *Plate numbers*: The plate numbers, which are on the duty plate, are printed about a quarter of an inch above the centre of the printer's imprint in the top margin, but are almost invariably trimmed off before the sheets leave the printer.

(To be continued.)

Mr. H. R. Harmer was recently successful in helping to bring to justice the forger of the faked "Balbo" and "De Pinedo" overprints on Newfoundland air stamps. This individual was found guilty on three charges of attempting to obtain money by false pretences, and was sentenced to two years' imprisonment with hard labour.

Mr. Harmer now issues a warning of the existence of a really dangerous forgery of the rare 10s. Malta Crown C.A. He states that a wonderful forgery of this stamp was sent him nearly a year ago, and that he had now received another, and thought a warning advisable.

# British African Rarities

*I hold the Finest Stock in the World*

Only stamps in the finest possible condition and at reasonable prices will be found in my books.

Selections sent on approval to any part of the world.

Deal direct with the firm that actually has the stamps in stock and so save money.

Want Lists will receive my prompt personal attention.

——  
T. ALLEN

5, BLAKE HALL ROAD . WANSTEAD  
LONDON, E.11 . ENGLAND

## Nyasaland - S. Rhodesia Air Mail Service

Mr. J. Robertson, of Johannesburg, furnishes the following :—

On 8th March, 1934, the first flight took place of a new weekly air mail service from Blantyre (Nyasaland) to Salisbury (Southern Rhodesia), the first flight from Salisbury taking place the following day. The service is operated by the Rhodesia and Nyasaland Airways, and connects at Salisbury with the weekly north and south bound Imperial Airways Cape-London services. Hitherto, air mail from Nyasaland had to be railed to Salisbury, and the new service effects a big saving in time.

The first air mail from Blantyre was large, but the first load from Salisbury to Blantyre was small, due to the fact that administrations other than those of Nyasaland and Southern Rhodesia were unaware officially of the existence of the new service until after it had started. Thus, those interested had to rely on news from private sources, and although less than seven days' notice of the date of the first flight was given me, it was possible to arrange for covers from the Union of South Africa, South-West Africa, Northern Rhodesia, Southern Rhodesia, Bechuanaland, Swaziland and Basutoland. Those posted in Southern Rhodesia are not scarce, nor are those from the Union, but only a very small quantity of covers was received from the other countries. The most desirable covers are those posted on Prince George's train while it was in Basutoland, and in the Union. The former are franked with Basuto stamps and all the covers posted on the Royal train bear the special attractive postmark used thereon. As the train was only in Basutoland one day, even ordinary covers from the Royal train while it was there are scarce.

Although between 3,000 and 4,000 covers were carried by the first flight from Blantyre, the number estimated to have been carried by the first flight to that point is between 700 and 750, mostly posted at Salisbury.

The official figure for the first load from Blantyre is given as 3,639, but the following details taken from the local newspaper give a slightly different total :—

To U.K. and I.F.S. . . . .	1,720
Portugal, Belgium, France, Spain . . . .	34
U.S.A. and Cuba . . . . .	36
Canada and Bahamas . . . . .	11
Northern Rhodesia . . . . .	80
Kenya, Uganda and Tanganyika . . . .	181
Egypt . . . . .	66
Sudan . . . . .	54
European countries not mentioned above . . . . .	84
Registered articles to various addresses . . . . .	192
Parcels . . . . .	3
Southern Rhodesia . . . . .	595
Union of South Africa, South-West Africa and other countries served through South Africa . . . . .	626
	3,682

The first flight from Salisbury to Blantyre carried 131 letters from the U.K. and 1,353 from Salisbury. The Salisbury figure includes the letters and cards posted in Union, S.W.A. Bechuanaland, Basutoland, Swaziland, N. Rhodesia, Belgian Congo, Kenya and S. Rhodesia and as most of the letters carried by the first flight to Nyasaland originated in S. Rhodesia and the Union the separate figures for the other countries are small.

First flight covers from Nyasaland bear a large rectangular cachet in black-inked "FIRST FLIGHT/Regular Air Mail Service/Nyasaland-Southern Rhodesia." Covers from all countries carried by the first flight into Nyasaland received, at Salisbury, a violet one-line cachet worded FIRST OFFICIAL AIR MAIL (apparently the same cachet as was applied to the first south-bound Imperial Airways flight), also a crude black cachet S. RHODESIA/NYASALAND. The action of the post office in thus distinguishing the first flight service is welcome.

Mr. Park Smith forwards a letter from Mr. Godfrey of Bulawayo, from which the following additional information is taken :—

The Plane in use on this service is a three-engined Westland Wessex, previously the property of H.R.H. the Prince of Wales. The pilot on the first flight between Blantyre and Salisbury was Mr. W. H. Phillip.

Special commemorative envelopes were printed in Salisbury by the Rhodesian and Nyasaland Airways, Ltd., for the first flight from Salisbury to Blantyre. Envelopes bearing the emblem of Nyasaland—a leopard on rock with the sun in the background—were printed on various shades of paper by a local printing firm, but, so far as can be ascertained, these were purely a private venture.

According to the *Rhodesian Herald*, the total weight of mails carried on the first flight from Blantyre to Salisbury was 61 lbs., and on the return flight, 21½ lbs.

A number of the envelopes posted at Blantyre bear the postmark "Blantyre 8-3-34 6 P.M." and are backstamped "Salisbury 8-3-34 11 A.M." An interesting error in the Blantyre mark of "P.M." for "A.M."

### ALBUMS & ACCESSORIES

My 12 page illustrated LIST  
should be on your desk for reference

*It is sent free on request*

**ORDER NOW**  
**GIBBONS NEW**  
**SIMPLIFIED CATALOGUE**

5/9 (postage 9d. extra).

**C. F. SKINNER (B.P.A.) P.O. Box 5887,**  
**17, Old Arcade, Johannesburg.**

## Notes from the Philatelic Press

### *Mekeel's Weekly Stamp News* (Nos. 2238/2243).

"The Hind Auction Sale" is described as is "The Roosevelt Collection," and a retired American official writes on "Suggested Stamp Designs." "A Mexican Portrait" tells of Hidalgo, who appears on many Mexican issues, while there are articles on "Saul Newbury Night," "Kosciuszko," "Irish Experimental Coils," "Rubber Cement for Mounting Stamps," "Christmas Stamps," "Departmental Covers" and "China Air Mail Provisionals." "Philatelic Biographies" are continued, and the "Philatelic Zoo" appears in each number as well as many interesting notes. Articles reprinted are "First Adhesive Postage Stamps" and "Greece First to Issue Stamps," which treat of the Greek discovery.

### *Linn's Weekly Stamp News* (Nos. 267/271).

"Canada—Dies of the 1930-1931 Issues" is well illustrated and useful, and "The Slave of Hessian Pasha" deals with Cervantes. "A Stamp-fest in Paris" describes a visit to an anniversary gathering, and "Argentine Officials" tells of postal restrictions on these issues. There are notes on "The Plate Variety Collection," "Our Near Neighbour, Russia," "The President's Stamp Collection," besides the usual "Air Mails," "Precancels," "Naval Cancellations" and "Christmas Seals" sections.

### *Stamp Collectors' Fortnightly* (Nos. 1012/1014).

"The Story of the Hind Sale" tells of prices and incidents, and "The South African Stamp Congress" is reported upon. "Newfoundland" details the dangerous Balbo forgeries, and "Prus' Little Sailor Stamps" the genuine and counterfeit first airmails. There are articles on "Greek Air Mails" and "Sweden's New Commemorative," while "Between Ourselves" and "News from Near and Far" have their usual interest.

### *Collectors' Club Philatelist* (Vol. 13, No. 1).

We are given all "The Numeral Cancellations on the Stamps of Dutch Indies" and "Baltimore Cancellations Colonial to 1861." "The History of the Free Franking of Mail in the United States" continues and deals with the twenty-fourth and twenty-fifth Administrations. "The United States Postage Stamps of the Twentieth Century" has reached the Washington Bicentennial issues. "Evenings at the Collectors' Club" tells of the club's activities during the quarter.

### *Scott's Monthly Journal* (No. 166).

"Tibet—The Forbidden Kingdom" posts and stamps are treated, as is "1933 Christmas Seal." "Notes of the Month" and "Of Topical Interest" are chatty general notes, and "Specialized United States" records the latest variety discoveries.

### *Australian Stamp Monthly* (No. 49).

"Some Philatelic Links with Earlier Civilization and Vanished Peoples" covers designs on Egyptian, Crete and Greece and "Czechoslovakia" is a study on the Sh. Hradschin design. "Shadows Before" describe forthcoming issues, and there are articles on "The Falkland Islands Centenary Set," "Philately as the Key to History," "Dead Countries in Philately" and notes on the "World's First Stamp," "Notes from Nippon," "British News and Views," "Random Notes" and "Meter Issuing Countries of the World." News of all Australian Societies is given.

### *The Australian Stamp Journal* (Vol. 24, No. 1).

"The Postage Stamps of Victoria" gives notes from the archives and there are the usual "Items of Interest," "Commonwealth Notes," "Island Notes" and "New Zealand Notes," while "The Stamp Collector's Wife" is reprinted.

### *The Stamp Lover* (Vol. 26, No. 6).

There is a "Stamp Exhibition in Tokyo," and Mr. Higlett writes on "Philatelic Fantasies Concerning Columbus," who is depicted on the stamps of so many countries. "A New Stamp Projection in Philately" treats with World Map stamps, and there are articles on "Stamp Collecting under Difficulty," "The British Occupation Stamps of Iraq," "New South Wales for the General Collector" and "Personal Preferences" together with the excellent "New Issue Chronicle."

### *Stamp and Cover Collecting* (No. 2).

"The Petersburg and Pleasant Shade Locals Plated" by the editor, who gives a fully illustrated description, and Col. Lindbergh's flying record is shown in "The Lone Eagle's Flight." Earl Curtis writes on "The Man behind the Bars" at the P.O., and "The Reprints of U.S. 1847's" are described. A story entitled "The Dramatic Story of a Hawaiian 2 Cent. Postage Stamp" commences, and there are general notes, "Air Mail and Cachet News," "New Issues," "Naval Cancellations" and "1933 Christmas Seal."

### *Stamp Collecting* (Nos. 1054/1058).

"Celebrities of the Stamp Album" and "Ring-up Stamp Portraits—General Wolfe" deal with persons depicted on stamps, and there are "Auction Room Anecdotes" in the numbers. There are articles on "Nicaragua 2/10c Cordoba 1931," "Notes on Nicaragua," "Blazing the Air Post Trail," "Turkey, Its History on Stamps" and "The Great Barrier Pigeongrams." Different phases of "The Stamp Market" are dealt with and reprinted papers include "Where Ireland's Stamps are Printed," "Three Mystery Stamps of Papua" and "China Air Mail Provisionals."



## The Stamps of Swahililand (Sultanate of Witu)

### Query: A Phantom Issue ?

On seeing this title, many of you will probably say, in effect: "Where on earth is Swahililand or Witu? I have never heard of them or of their stamps." Well, that is scarcely to be wondered at, seeing that the stamps have never been recognized as a regular issue in British catalogues, although they have figured continuously in German catalogues for about forty years.

Behind this difference of viewpoint is an interesting story, and as fresh information regarding these stamps has recently been made public in the German philatelic Press, the time seems appropriate for a short consideration of them.

Witu is situated in what is now Kenya Colony, on the mainland, nearly opposite the island and town of Lamu, about 150 miles north of Mombasa, and lying just south of the equator. It may be considered, therefore, as lying on the extreme edge of that portion of Africa coming within the special purview of the South African philatelist, and as once (perhaps) a stamp issuing territory, should be known about in South Africa.

Prior to 1889, this area was a semi-independent Sultanate, although there was a long-standing dispute as to the degree of the suzerainty over it of the Sultan of Zanzibar. At this period, the dominion of the Sultan of Zanzibar definitely included the coastal strip of the mainland at least as far north as Lamu.

About 1888, the African traveller, Herr Clemens Denhardt, acquired an area of land from the Sultan of Witu, part of which he sold to a German Colonial Company, and shortly afterwards Germany proclaimed a protectorate over this territory.

Between July 10th and August 18th, 1889, there are catalogued as issued five different series of ordinary stamps, and three series of "officials," altogether ninety-six different stamps inside of five weeks!

The stamps are imperforate, and all show Swahili (Arabic) inscriptions in black on various coloured papers.

They were, presumably, to meet the correspondence needs of the half-dozen or so European traders in the area, and of the officials, of whom there was only one, namely, the Sultan himself, and he was entitled to send his correspondence free!

It should be mentioned also that at this period there was a German Postal Agency in Lamu which served the needs of the neighbourhood admirably.

In 1890, an agreement was come to between Great Britain and Germany as to the delimitation of their respective spheres of influence in East Africa. Zanzibar, and what is now Kenya Colony, was recognized as a British Protectorate, and, of course, Witu was included in this area. The German Postal Agencies in Lamu and Zanzibar also ceased to function when these were recognized by Germany as definitely in the British zone.

These Witu (or Suaheliland, to use the German term) stamps were listed as "Locals" in the catalogue of locals once issued by Messrs. Stanley Gibbons, but have never been regarded in Britain as a properly authorized issue, although, as stated above, they have figured continuously in the German catalogues. In recent editions, moreover, they have been priced at anything between 25 and 50m. apiece.

Herr Denhardt died in 1928. After his death, for the first time, these Witu stamps began to be seen in considerable numbers. Enquiries about them naturally were made, and, as a result, their status has been sharply called into question in the pages of *Germania-Berichte*, the philatelic paper of the "Germania-Ring" (various Nos. of Bd. XXX, 1933).

Enquiry of various persons still living who were in Witu or its neighbourhood during the years 1888-90, elicited the information that none of them had ever heard of such stamps or seen any correspondence bearing them.

In philatelic circles, the stamps were first heard of in 1892, nearly three years after Denhardt had returned to Germany. It was announced in the *Illus. Briefmark Jour.* that a cover with two Swahililand stamps had been sent to the Editor, and that the sender thereof had supplied the information that there were six values of these stamps, viz., 1, 2, 3, 4 and 5 pesa and 1 rupee. Gradually the existence of ninety-six different varieties was made known.

Denhardt presented small numbers of stamps at various times to dealers and private individuals, and not only stamps but also covers bearing stamps cancelled with what were presumed to be Witu cancellations. No accusation has ever been brought against him of having sold even a single stamp.

After his death, "ten ponderous chests" are said to have been found full of stamps, and it appears from documentary evidence that these stamps had been printed at an establishment in Leipzig where phantom stamps and forgeries were known to have emanated.

Apparently there are still those who would assert the validity of the Witu stamps, but the general impression gained from the discussion which has taken place regarding them is (1) That there was no justification for any such issue in Witu, the possible users of a postal service being exceedingly few in number, and already sufficiently well served by the Agency in Lamu; and (2) that, as a matter of fact, the stamps never were issued in Witu, but made their first appearance in Germany two years after the territory had passed from German to British protection.

The full story may perhaps never be known, but it seems probable that Denhardt had had these stamps printed with the genuine intention of start-

ing a postal service in the territory, which he was the first to exploit. This project was, of course, knocked on the head by the transference of the overlordship of the Sultanate from Germany to Great Britain. The fact that the stamps were made in an establishment of doubtful reputation goes for nothing, because it seems perfectly clear that he never exploited the philatelic public by the sale of the stamps, even although he had them in great numbers for many years, and was financially hard hit during the inflation period in Germany. His only act which cannot be condoned is the putting into circulation of stamps apparently used in Witu. Perhaps it was done to gratify his *amour propre*, and to feel, even if spuriously and vicariously, that his project had not entirely come to naught, for there is no suggestion that he benefited in any other way by his action.

It would seem, therefore, that the stamps of Swahiland or Witu cannot even have the status of "Locals," but must be regarded as an abortive or phantom issue. It will be interesting to see how they are dealt with in future editions of the German catalogues.

J. H. H. P.

## New Issue News

Mr. R. Roberts, 430, Strand, London, kindly furnishes the following new issue chronicle:—

**AUSTRIA.**—Winter Charity stamps. Various stamps overprinted "WINTERHILFE" with additional premium value in black. 60,000 sets were printed, and these were sold out the first day. 5+2gr, deep sage, S.G. type 71; 12+3gr, pale blue, S.G. type 90; 24+6gr, orange buff, S.G. type 90; 1Sch+50gr, bright orange, S.G. type 85.

**BELGIUM.**—Surcharges: 10/40c, mauve; 10/70c, red brown. Lion type with the inscription: "BELGIQUE"

1933  
BELGE  
10c

enclosed in black frame, with original values obliterated with three short horizontal bars.

**BRAZIL.**—Issue Commemorating the visit of the Argentine President. Design of allegorical figure dancing on the globe. A rather imposing line-engraved set. 200r, blue; 400r, green; both perf. 12. 600r, red; 1,000r, purple, both perf. 11. The 200r is 50 set (5 rows of 10) inscribed in top margin, over fifth and sixth stamps "CASA DA MOEDA I." In the margin, above left corner of the first stamp at left, is a small letter "B," and above the right corner of right corner stamp, a small letter "S." Wmk. large stars and the lettering "CASA MOEDA" in single line capitals between them, reading sideways. The 400r, 600r and 1,000r are printed on thick horizontally laid paper, and the sheet formation is most peculiar and reminiscent of some of the sheets of old Roumania, when one or two stamps were missing out of one row. They are printed 7 rows of 8 across, but in the top row there are only two stamps in the middle of the sheet, and there are six spaces

(three each side) which are perforated, but are filled in with the lettering "ESTA ESTAMPA" at top, and an oval engine turned design extending over the three spaces, and at the foot the lettering "CONTEM 50 SELOS." Surrounding the sheet of the higher values, of which the six stamps are blank at the top, there is a marginal design of three squiggly parallel lines, interrupted at the top by the letters "CASA DA MOEDA I."

**CHINA.**—Sun Yat Sen, type II, solid circle in sun. 15c, red. Also overprinted for Szechuan, Yunnan and Sinkiang.

**COCHIN.**—S.G. type 18, wmk. umbrella, perf. 13×14. Engraved and printed by Messrs. Perkins Bacon. 6 pies, claret; 1a, orange.

**COLOMBIA.**—Air Mail stamps of 1932, overprinted "1533 CARTAGENA 1933" and new value in black. 10/50c, sepia and deep myrtle, small format; 15/80c, chocolate and green, small format; 20/1P, olive bistre and blue, transverse oblong; 30/2P, olive bistre and lake, transverse oblong. In the large format stamps, the two dates are parallel at top, "Cartagena" horizontally in centre, the figures of value obliterate original denomination and the word "centavos" is printed over the word "PESOS." In small format, the word "CARTAGENA" is diagonal reading up from left bottom corner, the dates "1533" at top left, "1933" bottom right (both horizontal).

**EGYPT.**—International Aviation Congress, Cairo, 1933. Large format, transverse oblong, wmk. S.G. type 48, crown and crescent, perf. 13½. Printed by photogravure, depicting various classes of aeroplanes, etc., in different frames, with inscription at top "EGYPTE" in English and Arabic capitals. The value is also in English and Arabic figures, at foot in all values, except 20m, where it is in top corners. In label at foot of each stamp is inscription:

"CONGRESS INTERNATIONAL  
D'AVIATION-LE CAIRE-1933"

5m, red brown, G-ABPI; 10m, bright violet, G-ABPI; 13m, terra-cotta, D-1929; 15m, dull purple, D-1929; 20m, bright blue, Zeppelin.

**ERITREA.**—New pictorial postage stamps. Printed in photogravure, perf. 14, wmk. crown. Printed on new paper with ribbed gum, somewhat similar to the Swiss. They are large oblong format, upright and transverse, various designs of camels, elephants, natives, sharks, fishing, etc. 2c, deep blue; 5c, sepia black; 10c, brown; 15c, orange brown; 25c, deep green; 35c, bright purple; L1.00c, black; L2.00c, deep olive; L5.00c, carmine; L10.00c, orange.

**ECUADOR.**—Provisional Independence Centenary stamp, overprinted with new value "5" in black on 6c carmine and orange. Fancy double lined figure and also in words "CINCO CENTAVOS" white letters on black tablet right across the stamp. The original value is supposed to be obliterated on each side by small black design of the Arms of the country, but it often misses the figure. Perf. 12½, no wmk.

**FINLAND.**—1934 Red Cross. Large transverse oblong format, line engraved, perf. 14. On no wmk. paper, which has wmk. in the margin "FINLANDS STAMPELKONTOR" and "SOU-MEN LEIMAKONTORI" as before, in double

line block capitals. 1½Mk+10p, brown and red; 2Mk+20p, lilac and red; 2½Mk+25p, grey blue and red.

**ITALIAN COLONIES.**—Decennale Commemorative. Ten years celebration of Fascisti rule, both upright format. 25L, slate, Postage; 50L, blue, Air Mail.

**JUGO SLAVIA.**—Overprinted "JUGO-SLAVIJA" in Russian and English. Flood Relief, 25p, green, perf. 12½, clean cut, previous one was 13 rough. 5D, orange, perf. 11½.

**KUWAIT.**—Nasik print, multiple star wmk. India 12a, mauve, overprinted "KUWAIT."

**LIECHTENSTEIN.**—New postage stamps. 3fr, blue, with portrait of the Prince, perf. 12½, no wmk., thin paper. Engraved by F. Lorber, designed by R. Junk.

**LUXEMBURG.**—Charity, 1934. Photogravure printing, bearing portrait of Count Henry VII in crown and robes; no wmk., perf. 12½. 10+5c, bistre; 75+10c, Royal purple; 1f00+25c, carmine rose; 1f25+75c, pale bistre; 1f75+1f50, deep blue.

**PANAMA REPUBLIC.**—20c, brown, S.G. type 77, overprinted in red "HABILITADA" in Roman capitals, 20×5mm.

**POLAND.**—15gr, claret, S.G. type 65, wmk. trumpets, S.G. type 66. 30gr, scarlet, large format. Design of Iron Cross, with date "1918" on left and "1933" on right, being issued to commemorate Fifteenth Anniversary of the Polish Independence.

**PORTUGAL.**—Geographical Society, 1934, S.G. type P.22. Blue and carmine.

**PORTUGUESE INDIES.**—S.G. type 42, wmk. cross (Angola, type 18), perf. 11½×12. 1 real, bistre; 5 Tangas, pale red.

**RUSSIA.**—Fifteenth Anniversary of the execution of the twenty-six Soviet Commisars. Large format, photogravure process, no wmk., thick paper, perf. 14. 4K, brown; 5K, black; 20K, violet; 35K, blue; 40K, red.

**S TOME E PRINCIPE.**—Angola, Ceres type S.G. type 17, wmk. cross (Angola type 18), perf. 11½. 15c, black; 20c, grey; 30c, slate grey; 45c, turquoise; 50c, bistre brown; 80c, emerald; 85c, carmine; 2E, purple; 5E, pale yellow green; 10E, olive bistre.

**SPANISH MOROCCO.**—New designs, printed by photogravure, with inscription at foot of each stamp "WATERLOW & SONS LIMITED LONDRES," perf. 14. 20c, myrtle; 30c, brown lake; 40c, deep blue.

**SWEDEN.**—Savings Bank Commemorative. 5ö, green. **The two different types:** Since writing description last month with regard to the two types of this stamp, I have received further supplies of what I call Type I, the examination of which rather inclines me to reverse my idea of the order of the types. The anomaly of my Type I or the rubbed down die, having more lines in it than the original, rather points to the fact that the die has been also retouched at the same time; hence the finger nail feature on the left-hand may have been a retouch of my Type II and not a rubbing down of my Type I. This stamp in my latest supply shows decided

signs of wear on the plate, and if this variety persists and the other goes out of use, I must reverse my previous conclusion in thinking that the stamp showing greater detail was the first type (a very natural conclusion, though perhaps rather a hasty one), and that the one which I designated Type II was, in fact, the first type to appear, but as I received both together, it was difficult to ascertain. Therefore, I now call my previous Type II the "original die," and my previous Type I the "retouched die." I shall be interested to learn later the technical reason of the "rubbing down" of the die, which I believe is a rather unusual proceeding in stamp manufacture.

**SWITZERLAND.**—Printed on new paper, as previously described, but 35c, 90c, 2fr only have chalky surface. 3c, deep ultramarine on buff, S.G. type 20; 5c, slate green on buff, S.G. type 20; 10c, purple on buff, S.G. type 21; 20c, carmine on buff, S.G. type 21; 30c, blue on buff, S.G. type 21; 35c, yellow and green on white, S.G. type 17; 90c, green and red on green surfaced paper, S.G. type 38; 2fr, black and red on drab surfaced paper, S.G. type 38.

**VENEZUELA.**—New provisionals issued to meet the revision of reduced rates from Venezuela to U.P.U. countries. These were issued on 4th January, 1934. Reduced for 40c to 37½c for 20 grams; overweight reduced from 25c to 22½c; newspaper reduced from 10c to 7½c. Overprinted in black "1933" in small figures and new value in large figures. 7½/10c, green, S.G. 447; 22½/25c, scarlet, S.G. 511; 37½/40c, blue, S.G. 457.

# SOUTH AFRICA

Specialists in the Stamps  
of the Union

Wants Lists of all British Colonials personally attended to.

Full range of Approval Books, arranged in sections, King's Heads, London Pictorials, Pretoria Pictorials, Rotogravures, Postage Dues, Officials and Air Mails.

BOOK TYPES

A. Items to 10/-; B. Items to 100/-.

Sent against deposit or references.  
Specify Section and Type A or B.

Interprovincials. Wants Lists only. Stamps on approval, correctly dated.

# SUIDAFRIKA

PROOFS  
VARIETIES  
AIRS.

G. HOPE WILSON (B.P.A.)  
6, CONDUIT STREET,  
LONDON, W.1.

POSTAGE  
OFFICIALS  
DUES.

Messrs. Whitfield King & Co., Ipswich, kindly furnish the following notes and news:—

**DUTCH INDIES.**—We have now received the Air Mail stamps overprinted for ordinary postage, the values being as follow:—2c. on 10c., 2c. on 20c., 2c. on 30c., 4½c. on 75c. and 4½c. on 1g.50c. The two highest denominations, 4½ and 7½ gulden, will not be overprinted, but their sale will be continued and the stamps will be used for prepaying postage on parcels, etc.

**GERMANY.**—The current 3, 4, 6 and 12 pfennig stamps with portrait of President Hindenburg have appeared on a new paper watermarked swastika. A new Air Mail set has been issued comprising the following denominations:—5, 10, 15, 20, 25, 40, 50, 80, 100 pfennig, 2 and 3 marks. The values from 5pf. to 100pf. are all of the same design, showing the German eagle flying round a globe, with the sun in the background, on which is imposed the Nazi swastika emblem. The 2 marks shows a portrait of Otto Lilienthal, with a picture of his glider in the background. The 3 marks shows a portrait of Count Zeppelin, with his airship in the background. A new set of official stamps has also been made:—3, 4, 5, 6, 8, 10, 12, 15, 20, 30, 40 and 50 pfennig, all of the same type, showing the swastika design in the centre, under which is inscribed "Dientsmarke Deutsches Reich."

**NEW ZEALAND.**—The 7d. Air Mail stamp, type 22 in our catalogue, has been printed in a new colour, blue, and overprinted "Trans-Tasman Air Mail, Faith in Australia." We understand that these stamps were issued expressly for prepaying the postage on mail carried on a special flight by the "Faith in Australia." The stamps were placed on sale on 18th January, and we are informed that their sale was discontinued on the 7th or 9th of February.

**RUSSIA.**—Two more commemorative sets have recently appeared, two stamps of 20 and 40 kopeks have been issued to commemorate the 350th anniversary of the death of the first printer, J. Fodorow, also a set of five stamps showing the mausoleum of Lenin and dated "1924-1934," the values being:—5, 10, 15, 20 and 35 kopeks. A third set is due to appear about the middle of March to commemorate the tenth anniversary of the Air Mail of the U.S.S.R., the values of this set will be:—5, 10, 20, 50 and 80 kopeks.

**SARAWAK.**—We are informed that in May next a new set of twenty denominations, ranging from 1 cent to \$10, and bearing a portrait of H.H. The Rajah, Sir Charles Vyner Brooke, G.C.M.G., will be issued. This will be the first time that Sarawak has issued postage stamps above the \$1 denomination.

**SPANISH MOROCCO.**—The 10 pesetas brown stamp of Spain, type 41 in our catalogue, overprinted "Correo Espanol Marruecos," was recently placed on sale in Tangier by error, a small supply having been mixed up with the current 10 pesetas stamp overprinted "Marruecos" only. The stamps were immediately withdrawn from sale, but we have been fortunate in obtaining a small supply sufficient for distribution through our New Issue Service, and these stamps were included in our last month's distribution.

**TRANS-JORDAN.**—The pictorial issue of 1933, Nos. 177 to 190 in our catalogue, were withdrawn from use on 28th February and the previous series was re-introduced, but a 1 mil stamp has been added to the set and the 3 mils is now printed in green instead of pink and the 4 mils in rose instead of green. The latter two changes are due to alterations in the postal rates and the necessity of complying with the Postal Union regulations.

**UNITED STATES.**—On 10th February at the National Stamp Exhibition in New York the recently issued 3 cents Byrd commemorative stamps were issued in miniature sheets of six, imperforate and ungummed; the stamps were actually printed at the Exhibition.

## COLLECTORS' WANTS AND OFFERS

(Twopence per word per insertion with minimum of 2/- per insertion).

**Nevis and Virgin Islands.**—Stamps, Literature and Information wanted.

*A. F. Johnstone, P.O. Box 6006, Johannesburg.*

**Columbia.**—Scadta Air Mail, used or on entire wanted.

*Charles Hand, P.O. Box 1018, Pretoria.*

**"Specimen Stamps."**—Great Britain, British Colonial and Foreign wanted.

*Saul A. Klagsbrun, P.O. Box 846, Pretoria.*

**Wanted.**—Cape, Natal, Transvaal, Orange Free State, Griqualand West, Swaziland, Portuguese East Africa, Brazil, Greece, including covers and postal stationery.

*A. E. Basden, P.O. Box 238, Pretoria.*

**Wanted.**—Specimens, mint and fine used, of Gambia, Gold Coast, Sierra Leone and Nigerian Colonies.

*T. V. Green, P.O. Box 4967, Johannesburg.*

**Early European Stamps on cover.**—Stamps and covers used in Basutoland.

*Dr. A. J. Broughton, 13/14, Bourke Trust Buildings, Pretoria.*

**Gold Coast.**—Early issues, fine used. Special Postmarks. Mint. Wanted.

*William Redford, 88, Fox Street, Johannesburg.*

**Rhodesian Rarities.**—Wanted. Mint or used.

*R. H. Morley, P.O. Box 7573, Johannesburg.*

**Great Britain.**—Wanted early issues line engraved and surface printed—and items of interest.

*J. A. Bremner, 12, Ashford Rd., Parkwood, J'h'burg*

**PENNY REDS 71-224,** the set 7/6, post free. Some re-constructed plates 7/- each.

*Wrigley, Ecton, Northampton, England.*

**1899-1902.**—British used in South Africa and South Africa used in British Army P.Os.

*J. H. Harvey Pirie, P.O. Box 1038, Johannesburg*

**Canada Offered.**—In exchange for African Colonies from Medium Collectors.

*D. Barclay, 429 Davisville Avenue, Toronto.*

## THE REGENT STAMP CATALOGUE

There was much written about the "Regent" before it made its appearance and more after; and the opinions expressed were very diverse. At society meetings, the new catalogue was severely criticized, mainly on account of the pricings. Anything new is certain to be severely criticized—even philatelists are very conservative. But talk is changing, and quite a number are beginning to appreciate the good points of Robson Lowe's new venture.

After careful perusal, my opinion, for what it is worth, is that the new catalogue is a giant stride in the right direction. There are some curious errors and anomalies and many unaccountable pricings, which I shall refer to later; but there is much food for thought in the book for the serious philatelist. After all, there is something to criticize in all other catalogues—anomalies, errors, over elaboration, lack of information, etc., not to mention pricings.

There is one famous catalogue that we all appreciate very highly, that many treat with the respect and reverence and touching faith usually reserved for sacred writings, that could do with the pruning knife; and the space saved used most advantageously in listing telegraph stamps, stationery, "stamps used abroad," and the like (all of which are necessary to an advanced or specialized collection of any state), and is furnishing additional valuable information for every collector.

But when chatting about catalogues, one needs to remember that they are not handbooks (although they furnish a wealth of information and provide details of issues), but are house price-lists; and are primarily issued by the proprietors with the object of selling the stamps listed. The proprietors of catalogue-issuing firms naturally appreciate the indirect value to themselves of furnishing the most useful and interesting list within their power, and not merely a list of the stamps actually in stock and available to customers.

As a South African collector, I may mention some of the more obvious anomalies and errors. Under "Union of South Africa" are grouped (and, I think, correctly) the four colonies which formed the Union, and also the various territories, at one time or another, annexed to those colonies. Then why is British Bechuanaland, which was annexed to Cape Colony in 1895, shown under "Bechuanaland" instead of under "Union"?

Under the heading "Bechuanaland," we find this extraordinary statement: "The northern part (a protectorate since 1885) is now administered by the British South African (sic) Company with the exception of the territories of the Bechuana Chiefs Khama, Bathria and Sebeti." Now, I wonder where Mr. Stocken, or whoever else was responsible for the statement, got this information? Surely not from the Colonial Office!

There are a couple of misstatements under the heading "South-West Africa." It is asserted that "used stamps are practically unobtainable and even then are usually cancelled to order." The facts are that used stamps are freely obtainable, but are generally scarcer than unused, because larger quantities of most values were collected unused than were used. *No stamps were cancelled to order.* That is not done anywhere in South Africa, and the authorities are very strict. In order to obtain used copies, many collectors addressed letters to themselves, but these cannot be classified under the disparaging term "cancelled to order." (Why mess your own nest?) I should also like to correct the wrong information about South African stamps used between 1915 and 1923. High values are pretty scarce, but there are plenty of the lower values obtainable at from 6d. apiece.

Under the heading "Orange River Colony," the following statement is made: "A few copies of the 1d. red brown and 1/- orange were surcharged in error, but were not issued to the public." The statement should read something like this: "Any person holding republican stamps could hand them in for overprinting. Among those handed in were a few lots of the 1d. brown and 1/- orange—both obsolete, but not demonetized."

The market note under Natal (Nineteenth Century) reads: "Generally weak except for blocks and pairs of 1869 overprints." Is there in existence a block of these stamps?

Generally speaking, the common stamps of Southern Africa are fairly priced. I cannot quite see the object of underpricing scarce stamps and stamps of great rarity when the declared intent is to give the current market price, e.g., South-West Africa D.10 is priced at £15. I doubt if it can be supplied at ten times that price. Union double paper varieties are noted at 20.N mint and 40.N used; which is to say the ½d. at ¾ and 1/8 respectively, the 6d. at 25/- and 6/8 respectively, and the 1/- at 50/- and 13/4 respectively per pair. Who would not gladly take all the ½d., 1d. and 2d. used and mint, and 6d. and 1/- used offering at those prices? Union postage due 6d. and 1/- (D.7. and D.8) are priced 1/3 mint, 1/6 used, 10/6 mint, 12/- used, respectively. The total printings of these stamps amounted to 100 sheets of 1/- and 300 sheets of 6d., of which 100 sheets were overprinted for S.W.A. I consider the 1/- underpriced, but what about the 6d.? I should like to buy some fine used copies of both values at the prices quoted. I notice Rhodesia 1896, Die I, 6d. quoted at 6d. used. This is a scarce stamp and worth five times the price. On the other hand, the prices for Southern Rhodesia imperf. between, are about ten times higher than they should be. Incidentally, one of the reasons I have given up collecting Rhodesias is the imperf. between variety—their prevalence leaves a nasty taste in the mouth. Their history is pretty well known, and it is a pity they even have to be noted in catalogues.

While quite logical, I am sorry the "Regent" does not catalogue the republican stamps of Transvaal, O.F.S., etc., since those states form part of a British dominion. Why be logical, anyway?

Strangely enough, the "Regent" follows other catalogues in some respects, and again not in others. Because one or more firms do not catalogue C.S.A.R. overprints on Transvaal and O.F.S., why should the "Regent" bar them? They are absolutely official and legitimate.

It must not be adduced from this gentle criticism that I am opposed to the new catalogue. On the contrary, as stated earlier, I think it a stride in the right direction; it is a move towards the production of informative catalogues for philatelists instead of mere price-lists of stamps. I hope the "Regent" will keep going and go further, and to this end, I hope that every stamp collector will buy a copy in his own interests and to ensure future still more informative and improved editions.

A.E.B.

## SOCIETY NEWS

### O.F.S. AND BASUTOLAND PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

The monthly general meeting of the Society was held on Friday, 2nd March, in the Arcade Tea Rooms, Mr. Carter in the chair.

Two new members were elected, and the membership of the Society is steadily growing. It was decided that the Society should subscribe to both *Stamp Collecting* and *Gibbons' Stamp Monthly*.

Mr. Levy exhibited some photos of stamps from the forthcoming "Hind Collection" sale, and read the introduction to the catalogue.

Mr. Mattei exhibited another volume of his collection of S.W.A., this time the pictorials. His collection is very complete, and all items are shown in singles, pairs and blocks, all in mint conditions. The collection includes six stamps overprinted "Specimen" with a rubber hand-stamp, and Mr. Mattei has certificates to vouch for their genuineness. The display was a very fine one. This was the first time it had been shown publicly.

H.G.U.

### PORT ELIZABETH PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

The usual monthly meeting was held on Tuesday evening, the 13th March, in the Public Library. The attendance was good. One new member, Mr. L. Potgieter, received a very cordial welcome; this is the third since the Annual Exhibition was held during the Christmas and New Year just past. As already reported, this annual feature was a great success, and attracted a large number of visitors. The exhibition was started to let the public know that such a Society existed in their midst, and, secondly, to increase the membership. The idea is an excellent one, and should be copied.

At this meeting, an auction was held for club funds and realized a good sum. The display was also excellent, Mr. C. W. Sheffield, showing his specialized collection of the Rhodesias, which called forth admiration from all, and a special vote of thanks from the Chair. The next meeting will be held on 17th April, and any philatelic visitors to the City will be very heartily welcomed.

C.W.S.

### PHILATELIC SOCIETY OF NATAL.

The monthly meeting of the Philatelic Society of Natal was held in the Durban Publicity Bureau on Wednesday, 14th March. This was a special general meeting to consider the alteration of some of the rules of the Exchange Section, so as to bring it into line with the other societies in South Africa.

Deep interest was shown in Mr. L. Petiet's display of "freak" stamps and errors of all kinds. The exhibits ranged from the well-known "Union Jack" re-entry on the penny red stamp of Great Britain, down to quite recent varieties like the 2d. Union stamp (King George) without watermark. Of this latter curiosity, only fifty-two copies are known to exist, and its value must be considerable.

Union stamps of the present rotogravure printing are rich in minor varieties such as philatelists love to detect; also the overprinted Unions issued for South-West Africa. The well-known short "i" variety of the 4d. Union Air Mail stamp is to be found also in the series overprinted "S.W.A.," but is rare thus. Marginal specimens of various Union stamps are very desirable finds if the lines of colour, generally known as "jubilee lines," are of equal length. A corner stamp of the 2½d. King George, Plate I, showing this characteristic, is catalogued at £20. Mr. Petiet showed many sheets of Union stamps, embracing all the better-known varieties, as well as others not so familiar. He was accorded a hearty vote of thanks for his display.

Some of the scarce stamps of the Mafeking siege issues were shown by a country member, Mr. Howat, and these were afterwards sold by private auction. Among them was a copy of the scarce penny on halfpenny Bechuanaland with the Mafeking overprint inverted.

G.P.

#### COLLECTIONS OF POST CARDS AND ENVELOPES

- |    |  |      |
|----|--|------|
| 21 | Orange River Colony post cards with V.R.I. issues and the rare 1½d. V.R.I. unused ... .. | 10/- |
| 18 | Orange River Colony (without the 1½d. V.R.I.) unused ... ..                              | 6/6  |
| 27 | Great Britain post cards Queen Victoria, from 1870, unused ... ..                        | 5/6  |
| 16 | Post cards and envelopes of Great Britain, King Edward and King George, unused ... ..    | 2/3  |

**WALTER MORLEY**  
"Cornaways," RIVERHEAD, KENT, England

### PHILATELIC SOCIETY OF JOHANNESBURG.

The March meeting was held at the Carlton Hotel on Tuesday, 13th, the president, Dr. J. H. Harvey Pirie being in the chair.

The Pretoria Philatelic Society has very kindly volunteered to furnish the papers and exhibits for the evening, and, as a consequence, the members from Pretoria turned up in force.

After the usual business of the evening had been transacted, Dr. Pirie vacated the chair for Mr. Basden, the President of the Pretoria Society.

The first item was a most interesting if somewhat provocative paper by Mr. Klagsbrun. He dealt with the first principles of stamp collecting, recommending the loose leaf album with plain sheets, in order to give the collector every opportunity to carry out his own ideas in the method of arrangement and the scope of his collection, suggested the selection of small countries for specialization, particularly those countries which had not gone in for issuing high value stamps, also the advisability of choosing countries which were not too popular at the moment, such countries affording more opportunities to collect the rarer varieties at a reasonable price. He also warned the beginner not to pay too much attention to the fetish of perfect "condition."

A discussion followed in which Dr. Pirie, Major Milligan, Messrs. Morley and Schofield and Dr. Kaplan took part. Mr. Klagsbrun replied briefly to certain criticisms. Mr. C. Hands then followed with a brief paper on the early post offices in Johannesburg.

Included with the exhibits for the evening, was a specimen glazed frame for displaying stamps at the annual Congress Meetings, provided by Mr. Basden. This is an article which is needed badly, and the frame appeared to be very suitable, being simple in design, of a convenient size, easy to manipulate, and solidly constructed.

Dr. Broughton displayed a very fine collection of the early stamps of St. Helena, well written up, and this was followed by a collection of the stamps of Denmark, including a set of the stamps of Greenland, available for parcel post, exhibited by Mr. Hansen. Mr. Basden showed a portion of his collection of the early stamps of Brazil, including some very choice items.

On behalf of the members present, Dr. Pirie, in a short speech, thanked the Pretoria Society and particularly the members who had contributed to the programme for the very instructive, interesting and enjoyable time. Altogether, a very pleasant evening.

The next meeting will be held on 10th April, when Mr. Johnstone will exhibit British Americans and a "spotting" competition will be held.

#### AFRICA WANTED

Any country. Any quantity. All issues, including current low values. Must be well centered and lightly cancelled. I offer in exchange United States Postage Stamps in like condition. All lots sent held intact and returned at once if my sending is unsatisfactory.

**F. H. ROE, MEMBER A. A. M. S. - 1222**  
DIXON - - ILLINOIS - - U.S.A.

### PRETORIA PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

A good attendance of members at the meeting at Polley's Hotel, Pretoria, on 5th March, enjoyed a fine programme. The new syllabus provides that at the first meeting of the month, there shall be short talks or short papers by a number of those present accompanied by small descriptive displays. At the second meeting, the usual paper or study is arranged for with a country display.

On this evening, there were five minutes' papers on "My Favourite Country and Why." Major Harrington was first attracted to the stamps of Rhodesia by the glamour of the new land and its possibilities for philatelic study has riveted his attention to them ever since. He showed retouches and re-entries.

Mr. Hansen chose the issues of the land of his birth, Denmark, and the minor types, varieties, etc., of the numeral design, current for thirty years, showed the interest possible in such inexpensive issues.

Dr. Broughton dealt with one of his favourites, the first type issues of St. Helena. The printings of all denominations from one plate over a period of forty years, enabled much of interest to be tabled in a beautifully written up collection.

Mr. C. Hand boosted the stamps of Colombia, South America, which so faithfully portrayed the historical changes and geography of the country in stamps of workmanship from the crudest to the best.

Mr. Klagsbrun, in cordially thanking those who had contributed, expressed the pleasure of all in this successful innovation.

Mr. J. W. Gehle, who had just returned from a trip to Europe, told of the Young Collector's Street Markets in Amsterdam, which he had attended. He also gave some particulars of collections seen, one particularly striking collection being a huge specialized South-West African one, wonderfully complete, containing issues used at each office in the territory.

There was a large attendance at the meeting on the 19th March, and again membership was increased by the election of three collectors.

Among novelties exhibited must be mentioned a cover dispatched from Bouvet Island during the recent cruise of the warship from Simonstown to the Antarctic. The letter in question is franked with three Norwegian stamps bearing the overprint, Bouvet Island and postmarked at Capetown with the Paquebot Capetown cancellation. Mr. A. E. Basden, the President, passed round a pair of one-penny South African Republic stamps postmarked POSTKANTOOR VRYHEID Nieuwe Republiek, May 1885, which he had discovered together with a couple of single copies bearing parts of the cancellation. This item owes its particular interest to the fact that, although the Nieuwe Republiek was formed in 1884, postage stamps were not provided until the beginning of 1886, and it indicates that stamps of the sister republic were utilized in the interim.

Canada and its stamps was the subject of a paper by Mr. N. L. Watson. To deal with the stamps fully in one paper, would make it too lengthy, so Mr. Watson paid attention to their main

features, and this he did in an interesting manner. Dr. A. J. Broughton made the display of Canadian stamps, and this was staged with the object of illustrating the numerous "Cork" cancellations employed. When it is mentioned that no fewer than nine hundred offices made use of "Cork" cancellations, and that the cancellers required frequent replacement, the magnitude of this field of collecting can be imagined. These "Cork" cancellers were cut by postmasters with designs ranging from the crudest to the most intricate.

Mr. Hand read notes from the philatelic press throughout the World at each meeting. The views of fellow hobbyists in other lands and their discoveries are thus brought to general notice.

C.H.

### EAST LONDON PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

The February meeting was held in the Toc H. Rooms on 8th February. The Chairman, Mr. Hoal, presided over a fair gathering.

After the correspondence had been dealt with, the Secretary, Mr. C. H. Thornton, gave one of the best displays the members of the Society have been treated to for a long time. He started his display with a collection of entires bearing stamps with the "Paquebot" cancellation of different ports in South Africa. It included cancellations from Luderitz, Capetown, Port Elizabeth, East London, Durban, Lourenco Marques and Beira, on stamps of various overseas countries as well as those of the Union. Such a collection is as unique as it is interesting, and was highly praised and commented on by all present.

Mr. Thornton then went on to show examples of what can be picked up in the by-paths of philately. Starting with a Sardinian cover bearing a stamped device dated 1822, regarded by experts as a "letter tax" and examples of the same on different papers, and embossed on white paper, he continued with several pre-postage covers and Mulready cover. Different varieties of roulettes and perforations followed in the next pages and included many of the Union pictorial issue. Freak perforations followed, and created a good deal of comment.

Then came specimens of bisects, many of the varieties being uncatalogued. Examples of tete-beche pairs were numerous, Switzerland, Portugal, East Africa, Afghanistan and the early Italian States being well represented as well as those almost classical examples of carelessness on the part of the printer, namely, a strip of Cabo Verde of the Crown type, showing the "Maocambique" error, and a tete-beche pair of the Egyptian sphinx issue.

Unfortunately space does not permit of further details of so varied a display. It was very much appreciated by all present, and Mr. Thornton was heartily thanked for the very enjoyable evening he had provided.

The March meeting was held in the Toc H. Rooms on 8th March. The Chairman, Mr. Hoal, presided, and there was a very good attendance of members. After correspondence, etc., had been

dealt with, Mr. R. W. Wilson gave a display of part of his collection of early imperforates. All the stamps he showed were choice specimens in good condition, and very lightly cancelled, enough to make any collector full of envy. Mr. Wilson very fittingly started with that "Queen of Stamps," the 1840 penny black, showing a superb pair. Then followed the 2d. blue and a long run of the 1d. red in different shades.

This fine page was followed by a selection of Sydney Views, that created a good deal of favourable comment. The majority were in very good condition. The gem of the display was undoubtedly a cover bearing two pairs and a single copy of these stamps. The Sydney Views were succeeded by copies of "Black Swan" issues of Western Australia, which were also much admired. From Australia, Mr. Wilson took his fellow collectors across the world to New Brunswick and Nova Scotia. Both were well represented, one choice item being an entire with one stamp bisected.

The early Mauritius issues were well represented, the best item being a pair of "Post Paid" from the Manus collection. Other early issues were also very strong.

The early issues of St. Helena were also very strong, being a particularly interesting section of the display.

The display concluded with a show of Cape triangulars, undoubtedly one of the best the Society has seen for some time. All the stamps were in good condition. Space does not allow of everything being mentioned, but the following were some of the choice items: A block of fourpenny red, mint, Perkins Bacon printing; fine single copies on blue and white paper; a fourpenny blue woodblock on entire; a fine copy of the one shilling green; a superb block of threepenny red, used, with wide margins and light cancellations. Mr. Wilson was heartily thanked by all for his excellent display.

Two new members were elected to the Society.

W.S.R.

## CORRESPONDENCE

*The Editor,*

SOUTH AFRICAN PHILATELIST.

SIR,

I have recently acquired a curiosity in the form of a Transvaal 2/6 revenue stamp, orange and black, watermarked Crown CC, overprinted "Bechuanaland Protectorate" in two lines, postmarked "FRANCISTOWN-BECHUANALAND" in a single-lined circle, with "A-AU 13-06" in the centre. This postmark is identical with the Francistown postmark of that period, and is not so carefully placed and imprinted as it would be if it were done to order.

Can any of your readers state whether the use of this stamp for postal purposes was ever officially authorised?

Yours faithfully,

W. J. HARRINGTON.



# The SOUTH AFRICAN PHILATELIST

Proprietors and Publishers :

## The Philatelic Congress of Southern Africa

Hon. Editor: J. H. HARVEY PIRIE, P.O. Box 7012, Johannesburg  
Hon. Business Manager: WILLIAM REDFORD, cor. Market & Kruis Streets,  
Johannesburg

Subscription: Five Shillings per annum, post free to any part of the World.

Vol. 10

MAY, 1934

No. 5

## EDITORIAL

### PRINTING AND PLATING.

With this number we give the first instalment of a paper by Mr. G. N. Gilbert on the current rotogravure issues of the Union.

This paper represents a vast amount of patient research by the writer and chronicles most, if not all, of the more important flaws and characteristics belonging to each plate and the stamps printed therefrom.

For those to whom "the stamp's the thing" and to whom one penny stamp is identical with, and as good as, any one of ten thousand other penny stamps of the same issue this sort of philately may not appeal. The fact that in the numerous exchange packets circulating round the country there are always numerous Union "varieties" is clear proof, however, that there is a considerable body of collectors who have tasted of sweeter joys than those in the menu of the one-stamp-of-a-kind man and are interested in the whole life-history of stamps, and, more particularly, in those of their own country. To those collectors Mr. Gilbert's paper will make an especial appeal and we can promise them, in the words of the psalmist, a feast of fat things.

Mr. Gilbert has done the spade work which will open up the possibility of indulging in the pastime of "plating" with a great deal more hope of successful accomplishment than was possible without his check-lists. You, Mr. Reader, will now be able to do something with those hundreds or thousands of Union stamps which you have, so far, just torn off letters and pushed into a drawer or envelope in the vague hope that someday they would come in useful for something. You will now

be able to reconstruct plates with them and, believe it or not, you will find it just as satisfactory a game with these as you would with Sydney Views or Q. V. 1d. Reds, and a great deal cheaper. We confidently look forward to a boom in the plating of Union stamps and a corresponding slump in the brain-fagging exercise of solving crossword puzzles.

The rotogravure process, like all other "tiefdruck" processes which are one and all anything but gravure in the proper sense of the word, lends itself to the production of minor varieties. We may deplore this and strive after the older and finer intaglio printing but we must accept the situation as it is for the moment and faithfully record the vagaries of the process. The time to do so, *par excellence*, is while the material is still fresh and available, not fifty years hence, and we are under a debt of gratitude to Mr. Gilbert for having done it here and now.

### NEXT CONGRESS.

In another column will be found a preliminary announcement of the next Philatelic Congress of Southern Africa, to be held in Pretoria on October 13th and 14th, 1934.

Intending exhibitors and readers of papers should therefore assume that worried look indicative of intense mental activity. That will help them to decide what to select out of the medley of projects seething under their topis, stetsons sunbonnets and berets. Decide to do something and then get on with it; six months is none too long for preparation.

Like Athens of old, we can always look to Pretoria for something new. This year it will be a London sale brought to your own door and we commend it to your notice. There must be many collectors who have items for disposal that they do not care to put in exchange packets or that are not suitable for these for various reasons. Here is their chance for a first-rate opportunity of disposal by the fairest of all methods—auction.

But give the auction committee at least half a chance to do its bit properly. As a seller you want the buyers to be well advised

about your wares. They can only be so if you give the committee reasonable time to describe them and to circularize prospective bidders. If everything is rushed on to the committee during the last month their task will be impossible. We could then only hope for descriptions of the type of one by Chas. J. Phillips in the American catalogue of the Hind collection, British Empire section, which reads "Lot 662, Cape of Good Hope, 4d. dark blue, almost unused." Which would not be a good thing!

## Fifth Philatelic Congress of Southern Africa

1934

Preliminary Announcement.

As previously reported, the venue of the 1934 Philatelic Congress of Southern Africa is Pretoria; Congress being held under the auspices of the Pretoria Philatelic Society. The Permanent Executive Committee has fixed October 13th and 14th as the date for Congress, at the invitation of the Pretoria Philatelic Society, on the assumption that a weekend about the middle of the month would best suit the majority of delegates.

Pretoria enthusiasts will do their best to make this the biggest, brightest and best Congress ever held; and hope that a large number of delegates will attend. In addition to the ordinary business of Congress, including competitive papers on subjects of philatelic interest and the annual stamp exhibition and bourse held in conjunction with Congress, the Society is undertaking a combined Public and Postal Auction Sale.

The Auction will be conducted by a committee of the Society consisting of Messrs. Baden, Broughton, Hand and Harrington, which should ensure a successful event and satisfaction to all. The procedure of such a sale is briefly as follows:—

- (1) Philatelic items of any description and stamp collections or lots may be sent in for sale by auction by members of affiliated societies, the member to place a reserve price on each lot he sends in for disposal.
- (2) Lists of the lots to be offered for sale will be distributed to all members of affiliated societies through their secretaries, from time to time.
- (3) The description of each lot to be offered will be drawn up by the Committee, and will be as clear and precise as possible to enable buyers who are

unable to attend the sale personally to send in their buying instructions and bids to the committee, one of whom will be appointed to bid according to such instructions.

- (4) All lots sent in will be deposited, for safe keeping till sold and paid for, in a fire-proof strong-room. Lots should be sent in as early as possible addressed to the Auction Committee, Pretoria Philatelic Society, P.O. Box 514, Pretoria, so that the committee may have ample time to prepare descriptions of the lots and circulate them in ample time for buyers to send in their bids.
- (5) All the lots offered for sale will be put up for auction at a convenient time during Congress; those present may bid as well as the committee representative bidding on behalf of absent members.
- (6) The usual rules for the conduct of auction sales will be observed; *and no lot will be handed or sent to the successful bidder until the purchase price has been paid.*
- (7) There will be a charge of 12½ per cent. made on all sales to cover the expenses of the auction, and should any profit accrue, it will be divided equally between the Philatelic Congress and the Pretoria Philatelic Society.

It is anticipated that a large number of fine stamps, lots and collections will be sent in for auction, and it is hoped that this fresh endeavour by the Pretoria Philatelic Society will meet with the great success it deserves. This timely notice of the Sale is made so that intending sellers may send in their lots as early as possible, so that the Committee may have ample time to prepare and circulate the catalogues, and to avoid a late rush.

Officers and members of all affiliated societies are urgently requested to make the Congress and Auction Sale known as widely as possible, and to do all in their power to make both a huge success.

The current Union 2d. shows yet another constant plate flaw not yet reported, viz., Stamp 6 of Row 6 has two coloured dots after Africa in addition to the normal white one.

The 4d. Roto from the cleaned plate has the watermark upright, whereas it has been inverted in previous printings. As a result of the cleaning much of the fine detail of the design, shading, etc., appears now very weak and on Stamp 1 of Row 3 the shading of the sky is entirely absent.

A. LICHTENSTEIN.

# The Rotogravure Stamps of the Union of South Africa

By G. N. GILBERT.

The installation of the rotogravure machine for printing the Union of South Africa's postage and revenue stamps in the Government Printing Works, Pretoria, early in 1930, marked an interesting departure from the method previously employed.

Prior to this, the Union's stamps had been printed by the "flatplate" process, either engraved or typographed as the case might be, the first issues being printed in London and later in the Pretoria Works, from the original and new plates.

The "flat-plate" process differs from the rotogravure process in that in the former case each sheet is printed separately on a flat surface or "blanket," while in the case of the rotogravure process the paper is fed through the machine in one long strip from a roll of paper, and the stamps are printed from plates in the form of cylinders. The machine prints, numbers, perforates, trims and divides the sheets all in one continuous operation.

The process used to etch the rotogravure cylinders is essentially a photographic one and is known as the Photogravure process. In this process, the design is etched on the plates in recess, i.e., the ink is held in minute hollows in the plate, and the design is not in relief as is the case with the typographic process.

A brief description of the process and the working of the rotogravure machine may not be out of place here.

The design from which the stamps are to be printed is first of all drawn considerably larger than the required stamp, and this is then photographed. In the case of the Union's stamps, which are printed alternately in English and Afrikaans, the design had of necessity to be more than one stamp or unit, and was almost certainly a block of four in the case of the ½d., 1d., and 6d. denominations. The reason for this statement will be explained in due course.

The design having been photographed, the resulting negative is placed in a special camera which is known as a "step and repeat" machine, which reduces the photographed design to the exact size of the required stamps, and duplicates it as many times as is required to make a complete sheet, on a large glass plate. At the same time, what is known as a "screen grain" is super-imposed upon this glass plate, this being necessary in recess printing to enable the resulting plate to "hold" the ink. In the South

African process in Pretoria a slightly different screen is used giving a more irregular grain.

This glass plate is now in reality a "positive," but it is used in the next part of the process as a "negative," as a print is taken from it upon "carbon" paper, which is a photographic paper coated with a mixture of colour pigment and gelatine, previously made sensitive to strong light by immersion in a solution of Bichromate of Potash. For the sake of clearness, this large glass plate will be referred to as the *positive* throughout this paper.

The carbon paper having been printed by exposure to a strong light, is then transferred to the copper plate or cylinder which is to be used in the printing machine, and is developed in warm water. This has the effect of dissolving the carbon gelatine which has not been rendered insoluble by the action of the light in the printing, and leaves the required design in a fine film of hard gelatine on the copper plate. This plate is then placed in an etching bath, usually of Ferric Chloride, which etches the design on the plate in recess, after which it is washed and polished and is then ready for use in the machine.

For the Union stamps, in all cases where the frames and centre designs are of different colours, two cylinders are required, one for the frames and one for the headplates or centre designs. The paper used is supplied in the form of large rolls, already gummed on the one side, and this is fed through the machine, passing first under the frameplate cylinder, then under the headplate cylinder and on to the numbering and perforating part of the machine. On its way, the strip passes under a row of jets which emit humidified air, which, strangely enough, has the effect of assisting the rapid drying of the ink and probably also helps to prevent the strip from curling in a dry atmosphere.

The numbering machine stamps the same number twice on the margin of the passing strip, and then changes the numeral for the next two strokes. The strip next passes under the perforator which perforates the whole width of the strip, and approximately half a sheet in depth at one stroke. The alignment of the perforator is adjusted by means of a screw handle at the side of the machine, and an operator keeps a close watch on this as the strip progresses.

From the perforator the strip passes to the trimmer which trims off the margins, and from this to the cutter which divides the strip into the required size of the sheet. These sheets then fall on to a tray at the end of the machine and are made up into lots of 500 sheets.

It must be mentioned that the two cylinder plates have a space between the top and bottom of the sheet design, exactly equal to the depth of two stamps. This gives the top and bottom margins of the sheets.

In the manufacture of the paper rolls, it is apparently found necessary to join several pieces of paper in order to get the required length. These joined pieces naturally pass through the machine and are printed in the usual manner, and this accounts for the "joined paper" varieties which are found in all the denominations of the stamps printed by this process. The number of the joins in a roll vary, but they are usually two or three. As each roll prints several thousands of sheets, and a strict check is kept on all damaged or partially printed sheets, including these joined sheets, it follows that there are not a great number which finally find their way into circulation.

The above is merely a bare outline of the rotogravure process, but from the description it will be seen that the glass positive acts as a sort of master record, and from it new plates can be made at any time by simply taking fresh carbon prints and etching another plate.

It follows therefore that any flaws or characteristics which are present in this glass positive will be faithfully reproduced in any plates made from it. This accounts for the numerous flaws and characteristics which re-appear through several issues of a denomination, despite the fact that there have been several changes of plates.

Of course, each new plate, in addition to having these "glass positive" characteristics, will always have its own minute flaws and characteristics, as the very nature of the process makes it impossible to avoid some small distinguishing marks, and it is by these individual characteristics that it is possible to determine when there has been a change of plates.

For instance, the "long R" variety in the 1d. denomination appears on No. 10, row 4, in every issue from the first A control up to and including the "black arrow" issue, also in the booklets and the first plate printings of the 1d. Roll stamps. This is obviously a glass positive characteristic, while the S.U.I.d. variety on No. 1, row 15, which appears in the A and B controls only, is just as definitely an individual characteristic of the plate from which the A and B control sheets were printed.

The various issues of the rotogravure stamps will now be taken in the order of their denomination, although the dates of their issue to the public vary considerably. These dates

will be given under each denomination, and in noting the various changes of plates, only outstanding flaws or characteristics which are necessary to prove any statement will be mentioned in the text.

The plethora of minute differences will be found in the tables following the descriptive matter for each denomination and it will be understood that these, in many cases, infinitesimal flaws or marks are only noted for the purpose of enabling the student of these stamps to decide when and where a change of plate occurred. Many of these minute characteristics will be found only in batches of sheets of a particular issue and are not constant throughout the issue, but there are sufficient constant ones to enable the student to decide pretty accurately when a change occurred.

### ROLL STAMPS.

#### *½d. and 1d. Roll Stamps.*

The first rotogravure stamp to appear was the 1d. roll stamp, which was issued in March 1930, and this was followed by the ½d. roll stamps in May 1930. These rolls were made up in 500 and 1,200 stamps, normally without joins, although a few have been found apparently joining odd pieces together. Perforations 15 by 14. Watermarks normal and inverted.

The cylinders from which these roll stamps are printed differ from the sheet cylinders in that the roll cylinders consist of 22 rows of 12 stamps, instead of the 20 by 12 rows of the sheet cylinders. In other words, two extra rows of stamps are etched in the place of the usual marginal spaces, and the result is that roll stamps are printed off in one long strip, with no break or margins. It was evidently while etching in these two extra rows in the case of the ½d. roll stamps, that the operator made a mistake and added two rows so that two English and two Afrikaans stamps came immediately under each other instead of alternately, and this accounts for the interesting strips showing the two English and two Afrikaans stamps together in this denomination. These two added rows are easily distinguishable by their difference in shade, which is lighter, due no doubt to the different depth of the etching when adding these rows to the cylinder.

Plating the various strips of the ½d. roll stamps has shown that the added two rows in place of the top and bottom margins are the two rows which correspond with rows 16 and 17 in the sheet plate, both frame and head-plate.

The margins between the two English and the two Afrikaans stamps are also a good ½ mm. wider and show where they were joined quite plainly.

The plates used to print these roll stamps are from the same glass positive as those used for the sheet issues, as the same characteristics can be found, plus of course a few of their own characteristics.

There have been two plates used to print the 1d. roll stamps the first being made from the original glass positive from which all the sheet plates up to plate 6 were made, and the second from the glass positive from which the sheet plate 7 was made.

As regards the added two rows in the case of the 1d. rolls I have not been able so far to trace their position on the positive plate which produced all the first plate issues up to plate 6; in the second printing, from the same positive plate as the fine red arrow inverted watermark issue (plate 7) the extra rows are Nos. 9 and 10, both frame and headplate.

### 2d. Roll Stamp.

The 2d. roll stamps were issued in November 1931, and were made up in rolls of 500 stamps. There are normally no joins. Watermarks, inverted. Perforations 14.

The plate used to print the 2d. roll stamps was also a sheet plate adapted by the addition of two extra rows, making a plate of 6 by 22 stamps. The usual sheet plate flaws appear plus some of the roll plate's characteristics. One such is the "rift in the cloud" which occurs on the stamp which would correspond with No. 5, row 20 in the sheet. This is a roll stamp plate flaw. This flaw, like all others appearing in the roll stamps, occurs on every 22nd stamp in the roll.

An interesting point has come to light through the plating of the 2d. roll stamps by Mr. Solomon. He has managed to plate most of the rows which comprise the ordinary sheet issues, and has found that the two added rows in the place of the top and bottom margins are similar to rows 3 and 4 of the sheet in the frameplates, but that the headplates of the added rows are from rows 2 and 3 of the sheet plate. Both the writer and he are at present working to complete the plating of this denomination.

It is understood that blank rolls, perforated and watermarked, are supplied to those Post Offices having machines in operation for the purpose of testing the machines.

(To be continued.)

#### FREE ON APPLICATION.

#### B. & K. SPECIAL OFFERS No. 9

This list of 16 pages gives upwards of 500 quotations for first-class British Colonial Stamps at advantageous rates. Also special prices for a large number of rare stamps worthy of attention by all serious collectors.

Our purchases of late have been very extensive, and our stock is now fully representative. We aim to be able to supply

#### ANY STAMPS OF ANY COUNTRY

and can generally offer most stamps of a want list, however difficult. Prices average half catalogue. Let us know your requirements. We never worry with unwanted selections.

#### BRIDGER & KAY, LTD.

170, STRAND, LONDON, W.C.2, Eng.

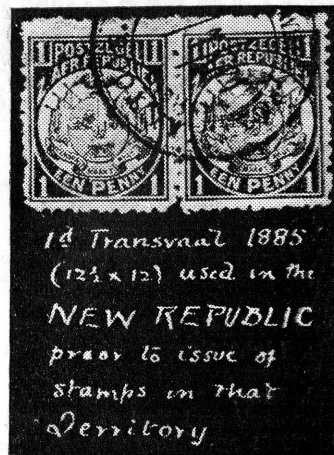
## Something New About The New Republic

By A. E. BASDEN.

At the Philatelic Congress held in Johannesburg in October 1932, I submitted a paper entitled "The Dead countries of Southern Africa" in which I indicated *inter alia* that there was much research work to be done into the stamps of the various territories in Southern Africa, and mentioned some of the items that might be looked for. Here is news of one that I did not expect, but had the good fortune to discover myself.

The New Republic, formerly a part of Zululand, was founded in August 1884, and first issued stamps in January 1886. It was annexed to the South African Republic in 1888; awarded to Natal after the Anglo-Boer war; and now forms a part of the Union of South Africa.

The find consists of a pair of Transvaal 1885 1d. used in New Republic (as will be seen from the photograph) in July 1885. The postmark reads:—"Post Kantoor, Vryheid, Nieuwe (Republiek) /7/85," the date being inserted by hand. I found two other single stamps of the same type with portions of the same postmark.



On making the discovery I shewed the item to a well-known collector of and authority on the stamps of the New Republic, who not only told me that he had not previously seen stamps of Transvaal used in New Republic, but also was able to say that he was quite sure that their use in this way had never been previously reported.

So that once again the old saying comes to mind—*semper aliquid novi ex Africa*.

## The All-Red King Edward One Penny Pictorial of St. Helena

BY CECIL DONNE

For some years I have been interested in the history of the All-Red King Edward 1d. pictorial stamp. We all know that this stamp was never sold for use, but it certainly was prepared for use and sent to the Island. I have a copy overprinted "Specimen," and I have seen another copy similarly overprinted. There is a short chapter on this stamp in Fred Melville's Handbook on St. Helena, from which I shall make a few extracts:—

"In May, 1911, the Postmaster issued the following leaflet:—

The Castle,  
St. Helena,  
April 19th, 1911.

Sir,

In case it may be of interest to you, I am instructed by His Excellency the Governor to state that the George V series of St. Helena stamps is on order and is expected to reach this colony about November. These stamps will be taken into use two months after receipt, when the entire stock of the Edward VII issues will be destroyed by fire. The only values of these stamps remaining are:

### Pictorial.

- 2s. Purple and Black.
- 1s. Yellow and Brown.
- 8d. Dark drab and Black.
- 2d. Light Green and Black.
- 1d. Red and Black.
- ½d. Green and Dark Drab.

3/11½

### Small Head.

- 10s. Light Green.
- ½d. Green.
- 2½d. Blue.
- 4d. Black and Red on Yellow.
- 6d. Dull and Rosy Purple.

11/1

I am,

Your obedient servant,

T. R. Bruce,

Postmaster.

Post Office Leaflet of

April, 1911.

This letter was followed by another.

Post Office,  
St. Helena,  
July 17th, 1911.

Sir,

Referring to my circular letter of April 19th last, in which I informed you that the King Edward VII issues of St. Helena stamps would probably be destroyed about August next, I am directed to inform you that, owing to some unforeseen delay which has occurred in London, in the printing of the George V issues of stamps, the Edward VII issues will, in all probability, remain in use till the end of the current year. Under the circumstances the Government has ordered a small stock of those values of the Edward VII issue which became exhausted early in the current year, viz., 1d., 2½d., 4d., 6d. These values, together with those given in my letter of April 19th last, will be in stock from September next till George V issue is received.

I am,  
Your obedient servant,  
T. R. Bruce,  
Postmaster.

Post Office Leaflet of  
July, 1911.

The two leaflets are, of themselves, of no great moment, but the sequel to the exhaustion of certain values as mentioned in that of July 17th is of considerable interest. Of the four values, the 1d. was then current in the small King's Head type, and also the large pictorial design, and a considerable stock of the latter was on hand, though it was not desired to further issue them.

The order for the supply referred to by the Postmaster included "One Penny Red," without specifying the type, and the order was filled from the bi-coloured plates of the pictorial stamps, the two impressions being in red, and the printing being on multiple Crown C.A. paper."

So much for Melville.

I met Mr. Moss, the present Postmaster, in May, 1932, showed him my "Specimen" of the 1d. All Red, and asked him for information. Subsequently I wrote to him, asking if he could find from his records the following information:—

- (i) Date of the order of the 1d. Red.
- (ii) The number ordered.

- (iii) The date of the receipt of the stock.
- (iv) The number received.
- (v) The date of the destruction of the stock.
- (vi) The number destroyed.

Mr. Moss' reply was most courteous and contained much valuable information; I quote those portions which throw light on the subject.

September 12th, 1932.  
St. Helena,

Dear Sir,

I had not forgotten our conversation on board Llangibby Castle.

I regret to say that I cannot trace the order for the particular stamps to which you refer in any of the official records, but I have just seen a small book on stamps called "St. Helena," by Fred S. Melville. There is nothing in the stamp account book that I can trace in support of this, but there is a certificate to the effect that stamps to the value of £34,504 were destroyed on October 14th, 1912, which, I think, represented the existing stocks at that date, and a further certificate to the effect that stamps of the King Edward VII issue to the value of £2,245 were "received and destroyed by fire" on October 15th, 1912.

I regret that I can find no further information for you, and I fear that this will not be of much use to you. I am not a collector.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your obedient servant,

B. Moss,  
Postmaster.

Let us now try to answer the questions which I asked Mr. Moss.

We know that there was no stock of the 1d. small head on April 19th, 1911, nor was it thought necessary to order any in view of the expected arrival of the King George issue. By July 19th, however, these stamps had already been ordered, for the Post Office leaflet of that date states this expressly. It is probable that the leaflet was issued on account of the indent for these stamps.

We can say for certain therefore that the All Red Penny was ordered between April 19th and July 17th, 1911, and that the probable date is during the first half of July.

The second leaflet quoted forecasts the date of arrival of the stamps as September, 1911, and there is no reason to suppose that delivery was delayed, for there were no new plates to make, and the indent was an urgent one.

Mr. Moss is quite definite as to the date of the destruction of the stamps. The dates given by him are October 14th and 15th, 1912. This latter date has the words "received and destroyed by fire," against it, implying that the stamps, valued at £2,245, destroyed on the second date was not part of the stock in the St. Helena Post Office. I submit that these

stamps may well have been the stock from the Post Office at Ascension, which were not to hand to be destroyed on October 14th.

We can thus be reasonably certain of the dates of order, delivery and destruction of this very interesting stamp. The number ordered is not of vast importance, since all, apparently, were burnt, but possibly Messrs. de la Rue or the Crown Agents could supply it, were the information required.

#### H.R.H. PRINCE GEORGE'S TOUR.

In last month's issue it was stated that the P.O. of the Royal train would not be in use in Belgian Congo or Angola. This statement was not entirely accurate so far as the former is concerned. The special postmark supplied by the postal authorities of the Union was discontinued after the train left Northern Rhodesia, but the Congo authorities provided a special mark of their own. Major Milligan has kindly submitted a cover for inspection, but unfortunately the mark is rather too faint for reproduction. It reads in two lines: "Train Royal S.A.R. Prince George d'Angleterre / SAKANIA-ELISABETHVILLE 5-4-1934." This runs across the stamps on the cover, in addition to the ordinary Elisabethville date stamp, and is more like a surcharge than a postmark. Sakania, it may be mentioned, is the first station on the line across the Congo border from N. Rhodesia.

## SOUTH AFRICA

**Specialists in the Stamps  
of the Union**

Wants Lists of all British Colonials personally attended to.

Full range of Approval Books, arranged in sections, King's Heads, London Pictorials, Pretoria Pictorials, Rotogravures, Postage Dues, Officials and Air Mails.

BOOK TYPES

A. Items to 10/-; B. Items to 100/-

Sent against deposit or references.  
Specify Section and Type A or B.

Interprovincials. Wants Lists only. Stamps on approval, correctly dated.

## SUIDAFRIKA

PROOFS.  
VARIETIES  
AIRS.

G. HOPE WILSON  
(B.P.A.)  
6, Conduit Street,  
London, W.1.

POSTAGE  
OFFICIALS  
DUES.

# RHODESIAN POSTAGE STAMPS

By W. J. HARRINGTON.

(Continued from page 54 of April issue.)

*Note.*—In this instalment it will be observed that a great deal of information is required in respect of the dies and perforations in which the following varieties are to be found, and correspondence is invited from all those interested with a view to making the lists as complete as possible.

## II. Varieties.

### (a) Perforation.

#### (i) $\frac{1}{2}$ d. value:

Imperforate between horizontal pair.  
Imperforate between vertical pair.

Imperforate between stamp and top margin in bottom pane. (Die 1, perfs. 14 and 15.)

Imperforate between stamp and right margin.

Imperforate between stamp and left margin in right pane. (Die 1, perf. 14.)

Imperforate between stamp and bottom margin in top left pane. (Die 1, perf. 14.)

#### (ii) 1d. value:

Imperforate between horizontal pair. (Die 1, perf. 14.)

Imperforate between stamp and right margin in left bottom pane. (Die 1, perfs. 14 and 15.)

Imperforate between stamp and left margin in right bottom pane. (Die 1, perf. 14.)

Imperforate between stamp and bottom margin in top pane. (Die 1, perf. 14.)

Imperforate between stamp and top margin in bottom pane. (Die 1, perf. 14.)

#### (iii) $1\frac{1}{2}$ d. value:

Imperforate between horizontal pair. (Die 2, perf. 14.)

Imperforate between vertical pair.

Imperforate between stamp and top margin in bottom pane. (Perf. 15.)

Imperforate between stamp and right margin.

Imperforate between stamp and left margin.

Imperforate between stamp and bottom margin.

#### (iv) 2d. value:

Vertical pair with double perforation between. (Die 3, perf. 14.)

Imperforate between horizontal pair. (Die 3, perf. 14.)

#### (v) 5d. value:

Imperforate (?).

#### (vi) 6d. value:

Imperforate. (Die 3. One sheet was issued at Shamva in February, 1924, and all with the exception of one copy were used on native passes.)

Imperforate between horizontal pair.  
Imperforate between vertical pair. (Die 3.)

#### (vii) 1s. value:

Imperforate between stamp and left margin.

#### (viii) 2s. value:

Imperforate between horizontal pair. (Die 3.)

### (b) Flaws in Design.

#### (i) $\frac{1}{2}$ d. value:

White spaces to the right and left of RHODESIA.

Lines on F and R.

Broken frame under right spandrel. (Die 1, perf. 14.)

#### (ii) 1d. value:

Marks on right "1" and "d" at bottom to left, right of right tablet thickened. Consistent on some printings.

Dot on bottom of left "d." Consistent on some printings.

Mark in top of each "1." Consistent in many printings.

Short perpendicular lines on right "1" and "d" at top. (Dies 1 and 2, perf. 14.)

Two lines of "F" in AFRICA and three lines of "C" of COMPANY. (Die 2, perf. 14.)

Short perpendicular line top of left "L," No. 52. (Die 1, perf. 14.)



- (iii)  $1\frac{1}{2}d.$  value:  
Figure "2" and bar of right fraction joined.
- (iv)  $2d.$  value:  
Head badly centred either left, right, high or low.  
Line from "C" in AFRICA to cap outline—No. 59. (Die 3.)  
Letter "I" in RHODESIA split at top. (Die 3.)
- (v)  $2\frac{1}{2}d.$  value:  
Dot on "O" of Rhodesia—No. 53—  
all printings.
- (vi)  $6d.$  value:  
No outline to left ear and faint outline to right ear. (Die 3.)  
Double impression of head. (Die 3.)
- (vii)  $8d.$  value:  
Right ear not outlined. (Die 3.)
- (viii)  $10d.$  value:  
Letter "I" of AFRICA broken and bent. (Die 2.)
- (ix)  $1s.$  value:  
Flaw on left side of cap. First row. (Die 2.)  
Broken outer frame line under right spandrel. (Die 2.)
- (x)  $3s.$  value:  
Mark on left forehead, close to hair. No. 41.
- (xi)  $\pounds 1$  value:  
Smudge left of nose. No. 28. (Die 1).
- (c) *Retouches.*  
All bi-coloured values. Retouch on right eye and spot on right eyeball. No. 41. (Die 2.)  
All bi-coloured values. Retouch on right eyeball. No. 58.
- (i)  $\frac{1}{2}d.$  value:  
Heavy retouch round BRITISH and over top curve on worn plate.  
Heavy retouch to bottom of letters of BRITISH.  
Heavy retouch round BRITISH and left value, causing curve over BRITISH to be very thin. Also with re-entries.  
Right value tablet heavily retouched. Also with re-entries.  
Heavy retouch over right " $\frac{1}{2}$ ," vertical lines overlapping "d." Also with re-entries.  
Retouches right of " $\frac{1}{2}$ ." Also with re-entries.  
Horizontal retouches round right value, overlapping into white line. Also with re-entries.  
Heavy retouch of right " $\frac{1}{2}$ ." Also with re-entries.  
Horizontal lines in shading over top curve and top line re-cut. (Die 1, perf. 14.)
- Upper line of top curve re-cut. (Die 1, perf. 14.)
- (ii)  $1d.$  value:  
Various retouches of lines above top curve and of top line. In some cases one or more re-cut lines run into the white space to the right or left. This was evidently done by hand on the plates, as blocks can be found containing both retouched and normal stamps. Also with re-entries.  
Retouch of horizontal lines above BRITISH, some overlapping white border. Top line retouched. (Dies 1 and 2, perf. 14, and Die 2, perf. 15.) Also with re-entries.  
Retouched horizontal lines in right corner inside curve beyond white margin to top right of "1."  
Retouched top line and mark on right "1."  
Slight retouch over right "1."  
Retouched five vertical lines right of "d." Also with re-entries.  
Retouched top line extended  $\frac{1}{4}$  mm. to right.
- (iii)  $1\frac{1}{2}d.$  value:  
Retouched top line.
- (iv.)  $2d.$  value:  
Retouched horizontal lines above left of curve at top.  
Outline of cap re-cut in places.  
Top line retouched.  
Retouched wings and left side of collar. (Die 3.)  
Retouch in lower curve of left "2." (Die 3.)
- (v)  $3d.$  value:  
Retouch in lower rim of left eye. No. 30.
- (vi)  $4d.$  value:  
There are a number of instances of re-cut perpendicular lines round the right "4d." in this value in all dies. As they occur in various positions in different sheets the retouching must have been done by hand directly on to the plates.  
The following retouches have been observed on three sheets of this value:—  
*Sheet No. 17. Die 2.*  
Retouches right of right "4d." Nos. 2, 3, 4, 5, 7, 13, 17, 22, 23, 24, 25 and 26.  
Retouch over BRITISH and corners of scroll. No. 11.  
Heavy retouch round right "4d." and over top curves. No. 18.  
Retouch left of top curve. No. 20.  
Retouch under right "4d." No. 51.  
Retouch under left "4d." No. 53.

Retouch over right "4d." No. 55.

Sheet No. 36. Die 2.

Retouch right of right "4d." No. 7.  
Retouch right of right "d." Nos. 12,  
16, 18, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26 and 42.  
Heavy retouch under right 4d. No. 50.  
Horizontal retouch under right "4d."  
No. 51.

Sheet No. 143. Die 2.

Slight retouch right of right "4d."  
No. 11.  
Strong retouch right of right "4d."  
No. 42.  
Retouch under right "d." No. 51.

(vii) 6d. value:

Ears redrawn, as well as rim of cap  
and peak. (Die 3.)

Die 2 retouched. In No. 51 of cer-  
tain printings of Die 3, the cap  
shading and the ear are Die 2, but  
the cap has been touched up in the  
outline. It would appear that this  
stamp was damaged at some time,  
and a Die 2 cliché was inserted  
after having been retouched to cor-  
respond approximately with the  
other stamps in the sheet.

(This value is worthy of special  
study, as there appear to be a  
number of cases of retouching, etc.,  
therein.)

(viii) 10d. value:

Retouched cap and peak. (Die 3.)

(ix) 1s. value:

Occasionally in cases where the head  
has been printed too low, the white  
patch has been painted over offi-  
cially before being sold.

(x) £1 value:

In the violet printings, the same as  
in the 1s. value.

(To be continued.)

**SMALL COLLECTION**  
Recently purchased. All quite  
good copies, comprising:—

36 Cape Cat. . . . .	£9 11 1	for	£1 10 0
32 Bechuanaland Cat. . . . .	£3 2 4	„	£0 12 0
44 Natal Cat. . . . .	£14 10 5	„	£2 5 0
46 O.R.C. Cat. . . . .	£5 1 8	„	£0 19 0
101 Transvaal Cat. . . . .	£8 11 4	„	£1 7 6
33 Rhodesia Cat. . . . .	£5 16 6	„	£1 0 0

or the whole collection of 292 Stamps  
for £6.

Order promptly.

**C. F. SKINNER**

P.O. Box 5887, JOHANNESBURG.  
(Shop No. 16 Old Arcade, Market St.)

## COLLECTORS' WANTS AND OFFERS

(Twopence per word per insertion with  
minimum of 2/- per insertion).

**Nevis and Virgin Islands.**—Stamps,  
Literature and Information wanted.  
*A. F. Johnstone, P.O. Box 6006, Johan-  
nesburg.*

**Columbia.**—Scadta Air Mail, used or on  
entire wanted.  
*Charles Hand, P.O. Box 1018, Pretoria.*

**"Specimen Stamps."**—Great Britain,  
British Colonial and Foreign wanted.  
*Saul A. Klagsbrun, P.O. Box 846, Pre-  
toria.*

**Wanted.**—Cape, Natal, Transvaal  
Orange Free State, Griqualand West,  
Swaziland, Portuguese East Africa,  
Brazil, Greece, including covers and  
postal stationery.  
*A. E. Basden, P.O. Box 238, Pretoria.*

**Wanted.**—Specimens, mint and fine used,  
of Gambia, Gold Coast, Sierra Leone  
and Nigerian Colonies.  
*T. V. Green, P.O. Box 4967, Johannes-  
burg.*

**Early European Stamps on cover.**—  
Stamps and covers used in Basutoland.  
*Dr. A. J. Broughton, 13-14 Bourke Trust  
Buildings, Pretoria.*

**Gold Coast.**—Early issues, fine used.  
Special Postmarks. Mint. Wanted.  
*William Redford, cor. Kruis and Market  
Streets, Johannesburg.*

**Rhodesian Rarities.**—Wanted. Mint or  
used.  
*R. H. Morley, P.O. Box 7573, Johannes-  
burg.*

**Great Britain.**—Wanted early issues  
line engraved and surface printed—  
and items of interest.  
and South Africa used in British  
*J. A. Bremner, 12, Ashford Rd., Park-  
wood, Johannesburg.*

**Rhodesia and South-West Africa Stamps**  
—Selections sent on approval against  
usual references. Large discount off  
catalogue prices.  
*A. Morgan, P.O. Box 596, Bulawayo,  
S.R.*

**Exchange.**—British African Protector-  
ates wanted in exchange for Hungary  
and Germany.  
*W. Hoffmann, O'Reilly House, 4, Fife  
Avenue, Johannesburg.*

## AIR MAIL NOTES

Mr. L. A. Wyndham, of Capetown, furnishes the following:—

### “ROMANCE OF THE FLYING MAIL.”

The above is the title of the latest book on air mail matters. It is written jointly by Messrs. Harry Harper and Robert Brenard and affords most entertaining reading. The dedication is: “It is to the Directors and Stac of Imperial Airways, who are now establishing our British mercantile air service with traditions as fine as those which inspire our British mercantile marine, that we take keen pleasure in dedicating this book, dealing as it does with the history of the flying mail from the earliest days to the present time.”

### IMPERIAL AIRWAYS SOUTH AFRICAN PILOTS.

Early in March it was announced that Mr. Gordon Store, the well-known South African airman, had accepted a position as pilot with Imperial Airways and would be leaving for England to undergo special training at Imperial Airways headquarters.

It will be remembered that in November, 1931, Mr. Store, with Peggy Salaman, accomplished the flight from England to the Cape in 5 days 6½ hours, beating the previous record put up by the late Commander Glen Kidston in March of that year by about 28 hours.

Other South Africans attached to Imperial Airways as commanders of air liners are Captains F. Caspareuthus and F. C. Elliot-Wilson. “Caspar’s” air record is such as to place him amongst the most famous air mail pilots in the world. In 1929 he took part in the inauguration of Union Airways weekly service between Capetown and Durban, being in charge of the Port Elizabeth-Durban section. In October, 1930, he set up a record of 8½ days for the flight from England to the Cape, and in January, 1932, he was in command of the old “City of Karachi” between Capetown and Johannesburg, when the regular Cape-London service was inaugurated.

Captain Elliot-Wilson was in command of the old veteran “City of Delhi” on 18th May, 1931, when she made a special visit to De Aar, and has the distinction of having carried the first and, so far, the only air mails direct to and from De Aar.

### SOUTH AFRICAN AIRWAYS.

The following are extracts from the Budget Speech delivered by the Minister of Railways on the 10th April:—

The taking over of Union Airways was the first step in connection with the Government’s policy that the regular internal services in the Union shall, in so far as the State controls the position by subsidy or otherwise, be run exclusively by the Railways.

The next step will be the taking over of the South-West Airways, with whom negotiations to that effect are pending at the present time.

In the third place details will be worked out for a number of new services. We have in contemplation, in addition to the existing coastal service from Durban to Capetown via East London and Port Elizabeth, the restoration of the daily Durban-Rand service.

Two new services are contemplated for next year, the first from the Rand to Lourencia Marques via the Kruger Park, and the second from Windhoek to Capetown via Alexandra Bay.

In both these cases much spade-work first have to be done and other interested parties, the Portuguese authorities, the Board of the Kruger Park and the South-West Administration, will have to be consulted. The nature and the frequency of the proposed services will be regulated by the demands of the travelling public.

Still further extension will take place after the expiration of our contract with Imperial Airways, when we shall institute Rand-Capetown and Rand-Salisbury services.

It is hoped that meanwhile Imperial Airways will decide to inaugurate their proposed East Coast service from East Africa to Durban, East London, Port Elizabeth and Capetown. Such a service should have the cordial support of the Union and might lead to our withdrawing our own existing competing service round the coast.

The speed we should aim at within the next few years should be one around 200 miles an hour. That will, for example, bring the Rand-Durban trip down to an average of two hours, including all stops, and the Rand-Capetown journey down to an average of five hours, including all intervening landings.

### “Stanley Gibbons’ Simplified Stamp Catalogue.”

“Stanley Gibbons’ Simplified Stamp Catalogue” is the latest addition to philatelic catalogues. It is briefly described as “a priced catalogue of the postage stamps of the whole world, excluding varieties of paper, perforation, shade and watermark,” and is published at 5s. net. It is profusely illustrated and well printed and bound, and has been specially produced to meet the needs of “the average general collector.” To such the new catalogue can be strongly recommended.

## Accelerated Services to S. Rhodesia and England

The Postmaster-General notifies, for general information, the following changes in the air mail service:—

**Southern Rhodesia—Additional Service:** Commencing to-day (Saturday, April 7th) an additional service will operate between Johannesburg, Pietersburg, Bulawayo and Salisbury, leaving the Rand Airport on Saturdays at 9 a.m., Pietersburg at 11.10 a.m., arriving Bulawayo at 1.45 p.m., and Salisbury at 4.35 p.m.

In the reverse direction the aeroplanes will leave Salisbury on Tuesdays at 8 a.m., Bulawayo at 10.35 a.m., Pietersburg at 2 p.m., reaching the Rand Airport at 3.45 p.m.

In the case of Salisbury in particular, the transmission of correspondence will be appreciably accelerated.

**Capetown - Johannesburg - London: Accelerated Service.**—Commencing on Tuesday, April 10th, the northbound timetable will be advanced one day between Capetown and Cairo. Air liners will leave Capetown at 7.30 a.m. on Tuesdays, Johannesburg at 6 a.m. on Wednesdays, and reach Cairo at 2 p.m. on Mondays. A saving of one day will be effected in the Mediterranean section, with the result that the machines will arrive in London on Thursday mornings, nine days after leaving Capetown.

Commencing on April 11, the south-bound service will leave London at 12.30 p.m. on Wednesdays, Cairo at 3 a.m. on Saturdays, reaching Johannesburg on Thursdays about 3.30 p.m., and Capetown on Fridays about 4 p.m.

Concurrently with the above alterations, the Johannesburg-Durban service will be revised to operate from Johannesburg on Mondays at 10 a.m., Thursdays at 8 a.m., and Fridays at 7.30 a.m., and from Durban at 10 a.m. on Tuesdays, Thursdays and Saturdays.

With effect from May 1 a week-end service will operate in both directions on this route.

**South-West Africa Service.**—Connections to and from Windhoek will be provided at Kimberley with the north-bound and south-bound Imperial Airways services.

### S. RHODESIA—NYASALAND SERVICE.

We understand the S. Rhodesia-Nyasaland air mail service has been suspended after being in operation for four weeks, but no information is forthcoming as to why or for how long.

## NEW ISSUES

Our Speciality for more than  
Half a Century

Our New Issue Service Organisation is world-wide and complete, and ensures the earliest receipt of New Stamps at the minimum expense. It is the surest and most satisfactory method of keeping a collection up to date.

Ask for Descriptive Circular.

### THE PHILATELIC BULLETIN

Contains offers of all New Issues as received, together with interesting information concerning them, and provides a convenient alternative for collectors who prefer to make their own selections.

Specimen copy free.

WHITFIELD KING & Co., Ipswich  
Established 1869 ENGLAND

### COLLECTORS' WANTS AND OFFERS

**Printing Press with Type.**—22s. 6d. Bargain. Particulars, *W. Webster, 291a, Normanton Road, Derby, England.*

**Airmail Covers.**—First Direct Official Airmail Covers from Nyasaland and from various points for sale. *L. Davidson, Limbe, Nyasaland.*

**Wanted.**—The following Booklet Stamps either in blocks complete with binding margins or in complete booklets:— (a) 1½d., (b) London Printing Pictorials ½d., 1d., (c) Pretoria Printing Pictorials ½d., 1d., (d) Roto Printing ½d. Several of the Roto ½d. blocks are required for plating purposes.

*G. N. Gilbert, Box 15, Westminster, O.F.S.*

**OSWALD MARSH'S**

EFFICIENT, EXPEDITIOUS **10%** WRITE FOR PARTICULARS

**NEW ISSUE SERVICE**

NORWOOD, LONDON S.E. 8

## SOCIETY NEWS

### CAPETOWN PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

At the meeting of the Capetown Society, held on March 8th, the display was provided by the joint contribution of sheets by all members. The inclement weather resulted in a smaller attendance than usual, but the evening was nevertheless most successful.

The largest display was given by Mr. Wyndham, with some outstanding covers illustrative of the extensions of Imperial Airways, and various items by other members all proved of interest.

Mr. G. W. Morris provided the greatest interest, however, with a display of the stamps of Bouvet Island, so recently in the news following upon the visit of H.M.S. "Milford" to that territory. Mr. Morris gave very full information as to the circumstances in which the stamps were overprinted, and also the manner of postings, and an illuminating discussion took place on the question as to whether the stamps justified "catalogue" rank. It seemed evident to many that no real necessity for stamps arose, and that the issue will be avoided by philatelists.

\* \* \* \*

It is very pleasing to report that the patronage of His Excellency the Governor-General has been extended to the Capetown Society, and it is hoped that a display will be given to His Excellency in the near future.

At the meeting held on March 22nd an exceptionally fine display was given by Mr. K. Alexander, who took as his subject the stamps of British Bechuanaland. The extent of the display may be gauged by the fact that this had to be shown in two sections.

Commencing with the first issues, the collection was practically complete, and some exceptionally fine items were to be seen, both mint and used. In the 1886 issue a nice pair of the 1s. used, and in the 1888 issue a block of 18s. of the 1s. value (unappropriated dies) were outstanding. In both of these issues varieties of overprints were shown, including a double overprint and inverted, and also the "BRITISH" errors.

In the 1888 issue (watermark orb) an exceptionally fine strip of four stamps— $\frac{1}{2}$ d. on 3d.—showing inverted surcharges was seen, and in the 1891 issue 1d. rose red, the overprint with the "British" omitted, was also shown.

The later issues were strong in varieties, and a block of thirty 1893-95 1d. Cape of Good Hope, showing the error of the omitted dot, a double overprint on the 2d. value, and pairs and blocks, mint and used, were much ad-

mired. In the Queen's head  $\frac{1}{2}$ d. overprint varieties included inverted, double, and inverted and double prints, together with a mint block of four of the latter.

Another item which was of interest was a cover bearing a bisected 4d. (Queen's Head) postally used, as was also a block of 24 Union (King's Head) overprinted "Bechuanaland Protectorate." The latter are indicated by Messrs. Gibbons as issued for Revenue purposes, but whether this is so or not Mr. Alexander showed a cover bearing one of these stamps which had done postal duty.

The Georgian issues were shown complete, both mint and used, the former being in large blocks. Controls were well represented also.

At the conclusion of the display, Mr. L. Simenhoff, speaking on behalf of the society, thanked Mr. Alexander for the splendid display, the latter replying in an interesting way.

J.R.

### EAST RAND PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

The March meeting of the East Rand Philatelic Society was held at the Transvaal Hotel, Boksburg, on Thursday, March 1st, at 8 p.m. Mrs. G. Wood was in the chair.

The programme for the evening was made up of pages of interest by all members, and some fine displays resulted.

New Zealand, 2d. value, showing the various states of the plate and the retouches—Mrs. Wood.

Cyprus, K.E. varieties, imperf. in blocks of four—Mr. Donne.

Mozambique, errors and varieties—Mr. Lynn.

Canada, Jubilee issue, complete mint—Mr. Gilmour.

Bhopal, 1876-81—Mr. Bricknell.

Sweden, early issues—Mr. Larsen.

Bahrain, mint set, with a description of the island and the reasons for issuing postage stamps—Mr. Wood.

The April meeting was held on Thursday, 5th, Mrs. G. Wood being in the chair. The subject of the paper for the evening was Venezuela, by Mr. T. Wood.

The postal history of the country from the time of the Spanish occupation to the present day was followed by detailed description of the stamps from 1859 to 1932.

The paper was illustrated by a fine collection of the stamps.

Mr. Donne showed Cyprus, No. 1, block of 16 (specimen), No. 117a (specimen), and the 50th anniversary issue, complete (specimen).

Mr Searle, H.R.H. Prince George's tour covers.

Mrs. Wood, British Guiana, 1882 issue.  
J.D.

### THE PHILATELIC SOCIETY OF JOHANNESBURG.

The monthly meeting of the Johannesburg Society was held at the Carlton Hotel on Tuesday, April 10th.

The President, Dr. J. H. Harvey Pirie was in the chair, and there was a good attendance.

In response to a call for volunteers to furnish the papers and exhibits for the coming half-year, commencing next July, a number of the members agreed to supply the special items, and the programme was almost completely filled, of which more later.

After Major Milligan had read his notes on current philatelic topics of interest, which were, as usual, most instructive and entertaining, Mr. A. F. Johnstone exhibited a portion of his collection of early Virgin Islands, both mint and used. He also included a fine collection of used stamps of the old Saxon Kingdom. Both collections were of outstanding merit regarding the particularly fine condition of every stamp displayed.

A special feature of the evening was a "spotting competition," arranged by Dr. Pirie. This item was a new one to the Society, and proved to be a kind of general philatelic knowledge test. Dr. Pirie had provided a series of sheets, on each of which were mounted two or three stamps. These stamps were either partially covered by paper masks or of peculiar interest due to some minor error or postmark.

The sheets were passed round to each competitor in turn and a short time allowed to describe the stamp, one mark being allowed for each correct answer.

The competition was a great success, and the interest keen; we can recommend the idea to other societies, but we would warn the member who undertakes the responsibility of arranging the competition that it will entail a considerable amount of work beforehand!

The next meeting of the Society will be held on Tuesday, May 8th, when Mrs. J. Robertson will give a short paper and display of Charity stamps.

T.V.G.

#### PHILATELIC SOCIETY OF NATAL.

The monthly meeting of the Philatelic Society of Natal was held in the Durban Publicity Bureau on Wednesday, April 4th, at 8 p.m.

The alterations to the rules in the Exchange section were ratified and will appear in those to be now reprinted.

An interesting display of modern issues of the United States of America and some Entires was shown by Mr. W. P. Angus. This comprised some 50 sheets of the stamps issued since 1917, and there were very few specimens missing. The commemoratives showed complete sheets of the first issue of the Chicago World Exposition, both used and unused, as well as the National Recovery Campaign issues. The entires were mostly "first day" covers, but it would seem that every day must be a first day somewhere over there.

Mr. Angus, who is a former secretary, explained that he was indebted to a young

American enthusiast of 12 years of age for the whole of the display. Seeing his name in a journal in Philadelphia, young Billy Irvine, 3rd, wrote asking for exchanges, and this was the outcome of two years of an interesting correspondence, for young Irvine turned out to be an unusually keen enthusiast. He is featured in the columns of the American stamp weekly journal, *Stamps*, where they give an account of the different awards that have been made to him, one in particular where he was awarded honours, consisted of six countries, South Africa having 40 sheets fully written up. This being mostly the result of his exchanges from "over there."

G.P.

#### EAST LONDON PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

The annual general meeting of the East London Philatelic Society was held on Thursday evening, April 12, in the Toc H. Rooms. The Chairman, Mr. Hoal, presided. After the minutes of the previous annual meeting had been read and confirmed, the officers for the forthcoming year were elected. After several proposals had been refused, all last year's officers were re-elected *en bloc*. Mr. Hoal is president; Mr. B. S. Wilson, vice-president; Mr. C. H. Thornton, secretary; committee: Messrs. Cowie, Gordon-Brown, Courlander and Harpur, and the president, vice-president and secretary, ex-officio.

The business of drawing up the syllabus for the year caused a good deal of discussion. A suggestion that met with approval was that as far as possible displays shall be accompanied by papers, dealing with the stamps exhibited. It was also decided that it would be advisable on occasion to depart from "one man" displays, and let each member bring along a page or two of what he considered his best stamps, or as an alternative for each member to bring along his collection of a certain specified issue.

The Chairman then introduced Mr. Sprighton, a member of the Johannesburg Society, who was paying a visit to the city. Mr. Sprighton read to the members a paper, by Mr. S. Klagsbrun, which he said had been read to the Johannesburg and Pretoria Societies, and which had caused a deal of discussion. This paper will be published in our next issue.

The paper, as Mr. Sprighton had suggested it would do, caused a good deal of discussion. Several members, while agreeing with the remarks about studying neglected countries, strongly condemned over-specialising, referring to the perforation fetish. Mr. Thornton summed up the remarks very ably in his statement that collectors collected stamps because they liked it, and thus each collector had his own individual tastes and fancies.

Mr. Sprighton followed the paper with a display. He first of all showed the members pages of modern stamps of Holland, Belgium

and Germany, to illustrate what could be done with stamps which did not receive favour with a large section of collectors on account of being foreign and modern. He certainly succeeded in making a fine display, which opened the eyes of a good many members to the possibilities of such collections. Mr. Sprighton had his collection written up a very good way, the details regarding date of issue, design, colour, etc., being typed on the interleaving tissue paper. He reserved the best for the last, his display of a made-up sheet of 240 "penny blacks" of Great Britain (1840) being superb. Of the 240 there were but three lacking, and the members of the society were full of admiration for the manner in which Mr. Sprighton had mounted the stamps. The penny black is the acknowledged "Queen" of stamps, and seeing them in such numbers only brought out more clearly what beautiful examples of the engraver's art they are. The penny blacks were accompanied by a made-up sheet of the penny reds, showing the two alphabets used, and the two sheets combined gave many members a better insight into the plating of these stamps than any amount of reading would have done.

Mr. Sprighton was cordially thanked by the President. In replying, he conveyed fraternal greetings from the Johannesburg Society.

W.S.R.

The Union 6d. pictorial has appeared with a new official overprint. This time, there are no stops; the overprint is regular, and closely resembles the overprint on the 1d. and ½d. The only minor variety noticed was a fine black line over the letter "L" of "Official" on Row 4, No. 1.

The word "Official" is 15 mm. and "Offisiel" 17 mm. in length, and the space between is 12½ mm. Vertically, the spacing between the words "Official" is usually 9 mm., and between the words "Offisiel" 7 mm.; but between rows 12 and 13 it is 11 mm.; and 9 mm. respectively; a difference of 2 mm., which is very noticeable on the sheet.

From the foregoing description it is clear that, although it closely resembles the overprint on the ½d. and 1d. values, the new overprint on the 6d. is from a new setting.

New plates are now being prepared of all values showing the new spelling of "Zuid-Afrika," with a hyphen, which has already appeared on the 5s. value, rotogravure printing.

EX UNITATE.

## Special Offers of Rare Africans

<b>BRITISH BECHUANALAND.</b>	½d. Superb Unused. S.G. No. 1a. . . . .	£2 15 0
	½d. Mint. S.G. No. 4a. . . . .	4 0 0
	1d. Mint. S.G. No. 38a. . . . .	2 0 0
	2d. Used. S.G. No. 39a. . . . .	8 0 0
<b>LAGOS.</b>	2/6. Fine unused. S.G. No. 27 . . . . .	6 10 0
<b>NATAL.</b>	1d. Mint IMPERFORATE BLOCK of 4 (S.G. No. 18) . . . . .	9 10 0
	1870-73. 6d. Mint IMPERFORATE PAIR . . . . .	6 0 0
	2½d. Se-tenant with normal stamp, Mint. S.G. No. 111 . . . . .	7 10 0
	2½d. Used. S.G. No. 112 . . . . .	5 0 0
	½d. Mint. S.G. No. 115 . . . . .	7 10 0
<b>SUDAN.</b>	1 M. Mint. S.G. No. 152 . . . . .	3 10 0
<b>TRANSVAAL.</b>	1d. Superb Used. S.G. No. 153 . . . . .	4 10 0
	1895/96. 10/- Mint IMPERFORATE BLOCK of 4 . . . . .	3 10 0
	1d. Mint. S.G. No. 532a. . . . .	1 0 0
	1905-9. ANCHOR WATERMARK. 1d. Superb Used. S.G. No. 579 . . . . .	14 0 0
<b>ZULULAND.</b>	½d. Mint Pair. S.G. No. 12d. . . . .	10 0 0
	£20. Mint. S.G. No. 58 . . . . .	23 0 0

I hold the finest stock of RARE BRITISH COLONIALS of all periods.  
 Want Lists will receive my prompt personal attention.  
**SELECTIONS SENT ON APPROVAL TO ANY PART OF THE WORLD.**  
 The Cheapest Dealer in the World for Rare British Colonials is:—

# T. ALLEN

5 BLAKE HALL ROAD, WANSTEAD, LONDON, E.11, ENGLAND.

## Correspondence

*The Editor,*

SOUTH AFRICAN PHILATELIST.

SIR,

In your March issue you invite opinions on the question of the formation of a S.A. Air Mail Society, and in the same issue prominence is given to views expressed by Mr. Bishop in support of his contention that "except as curios or historical mementoes" there is no future for the air mail cover, and that even covers which bear silent testimony to the "valiant efforts" of the early aerial pioneers are only items of "museum interest." Mr. Bishop of his own admission is not interested in aerophilately (air mail stamps collecting *per se* is philately), and his remarks and illustrations bear witness to the fact that he knows nothing about it. Despite this, he has completely ignored the sound adage, "Fools rush in where angels fear to tread." Under ordinary circumstances one would have ignored and regarded with contempt such ill-conceived and untimely utterances, and would only have deprecated your publishing them, but as Mr. Bishop thought fit to make his remarks in his capacity as president of the Natal Philatelic Society, they cannot be lightly passed over. In the first place, I submit that Mr. Bishop has abused the office he holds in making the address he did. In the second place, his remarks will be all the more surprising when it is known that he is the only South African representative on the "Committee of Honour" of the International Air Post Exhibition ("APEX") which is taking place in London during the second week in May, and which, from the point of view of interest, promises to dwarf any similar philatelic exhibition. South Africa has no representative body out of the 44 that have given their approval and support to this international organisation, and it is irony to think that the one single "Committee of Honour representative" that South Africa has out of the 279 should voice sentiments so directly opposed to the objects, aims and utility of that international organisation. I leave readers to draw their own conclusions.

Mr. Bishop says of the air mail cover, "It tells us nothing of a philatelic character that is not contained within the four corners of the stamps the cover bears." A very correct and harmless statement, if divorced from the rest of the implications with which his speech is permeated, as it does not require much intelligence to grasp that an air mail cover is not required to have a "philatelic character." May I here remind Mr. Bishop that the unit of the air post collector is the flown cover, whether it bears adhesive stamps or not, pro-

vided it has been carried by air and is recognisable as such. Does Mr. Bishop really believe that English postage stamps are sufficient emblems showing the rise, development and achievements of the aerial mail? Of course not, yet that is what his statement means. Naturally it is the actual cover, irrespective of the stamps it bears, that reflects the development of the Empire's air mail services, linking England with the rest of her far-flung possessions and Dominions.

Again, would Mr. Bishop have us believe that the current Nyasaland 4d. stamp "contains within its four corners" all that is required to give to posterity a suitable and collectable record of the extension of the air mail to Nyasaland, a country in which the means of communication are far from satisfactory, and to which the coming of the air mail has marked a definite development? Also, how is the development of the air mail in Rhodesia, Kenya, etc., to be pictorially recorded? Are these countries of less importance from an aerophilatelic point of view because of the fact that no special air mail stamps have been issued than, for example, some of the South American States?

Despite what Mr. Bishop may think to the contrary, air post collecting is one of the most fascinating and delightfully engrossing hobbies in the world to-day and has an ever-widening number of followers. It offers far more scope for initiative than does philately. It is only by means of a good collection of air mail covers that the story of aerial conquest, the splendid record of achievement and the pageant of progress made by aeroplane in the 31 years that have elapsed since the first heavier than air machine built by the famous Wright Brothers flew for 12 seconds, or 26 years since the first cross-Channel flight by Blériot can be pictorially displayed in a manner in which it is totally impossible to do by air mail stamps only. For this reason, if for no other, the air mail cover will continue to enjoy the world-wide popularity it so richly deserve.

It is a significant fact of our generation that men and women are turning their eyes to the sky, and a natural outcome of the growth of this air-mindedness has been the formation of air mail societies throughout the world, which aim at promoting the interests of the new great collecting vogue. An air mail society is urgently needed in South Africa to bring us into line with the other Dominions such as Canada, Australia, New Zealand and India.

Yours faithfully,

L. A. WYNDHAM.

(Mr. Wyndham is in error when he states that South Africa has no representative body out of the 44 societies that have given their approval and support to "APEX." The Philatelic Society of Johannesburg is one of the 44.—Ed.)



# The SOUTH AFRICAN PHILATELIST

*Proprietors and Publishers :*

## The Philatelic Congress of Southern Africa

Hon. Editor: J. H. HARVEY PIRIE, P.O. Box 7012, Johannesburg

Hon. Business Manager: WILLIAM REDFORD, cor. Market & Kruis Streets,  
Johannesburg

Subscription: Five Shillings per annum, post free to any part of the World.

Vol. 10

JUNE, 1934

No. 6.

## EDITORIAL

### *ANOTHER PRETORIA SURPRISE.*

The programme of the stamp exhibition, which the Pretoria Philatelic Society is staging during next Congress at Pretoria, appears in this number of the Journal. Bearing in mind the varied range of philatelic activities, the society has endeavoured to frame a programme, not only providing for large country and group exhibits as in the past, but one so comprehensive as to cater for every serious collector, and result in the display of many collections of sidelines and specialities which will be interesting and instructive.

In the programme the first five divisions give the large exhibit classes all are familiar with. Fortunately there are still general collectors who are members of affiliated societies and Class 6 shows that they are not being neglected.

Classes 7 and 8 call for collections of stamps on covers and collections of postmarks on stamps of any State respectively. The interest in covers is so general and full of philatelic importance that no comment on this is necessary, while the formation of a postmark collection is possible only after study and research, and the exhibit may be the source of display of much philatelic information.

Air mails comprise a large and separate field of philately, and in Class 9 collections of flown covers are asked for. The feeling is that mint issues could be grouped with ordinary postal emissions of the country.

Class 10: "Collections of sketches, proofs, essays, specimen stamps, reprints, and forgeries" are divisions of unauthorised stamps containing much of interest and lending themselves to display.

Class 11: "Collection of bisects." The bulk of these items were not the subject of postal proclamations, but they were largely accepted throughout the world, and the group is one worthy of study.

There are many collectors of "subject collections" to give displays of as great interest to the non-collector as the keen philatelist, and these can enter under Class 12, "Collections of pictorials in divisions."

Every collector covets the abnormal in stamps, and "Collections of Freaks and Curiosities" of Class 13 will be exhibits to attract all attending.

The fortunate owner of rarities will be able to air his treasures in Class 14, while those neglected branches of our hobby, viz., "Postal Stationery" and "Locals, Private Stamps and Telegraph Stamp," are given encouragement in Groups 15 and 16 respectively.

We all have our favourite stamps, and Class 17 enables us to display the pampered portion of the collection when a "Specialised collection of any one issue" is tabled. This should be a popular section of the public exhibit. To the philatelic student the next division will be equally interesting for research work is one of the great aims of organised philately, and "Research Collections of any issue" should disclose much philatelic news.

"Stamps of peculiar or exceptional interest" will be on view in Class 19; and in case the groups detailed have failed to cover one or other of the many ramifications of the hobby, such possibly neglected philatelists will be able to enter their exhibits in the last division. "Any other philatelic exhibit not provided for in the preceding classification."

Every South African philatelist will be able to find some group answering to his activities, and the Pretoria Philatelic Society trusts that entries from members of societies in Southern Africa will be numerous. Large collections not displayed will be kept in a strong-room, while the portions displayed under glass will not be left unattended by day or night.

## Fifth Philatelic Congress of Southern Africa

1934 Congress will be held under the auspices of the Pretoria Philatelic Society on Saturday and Sunday, October 13th and 14th, in the Council Chamber of the Pretoria Technical College. The National Philatelic Exhibition to be held by the Pretoria Philatelic Society in conjunction with Congress will be held in the College Hall.

Headquarters for Congress delegates and visitors will be Polley's Hotel, P.O. Box 193, Pretoria, where the annual banquet will be held on Saturday evening, October 14th.

### CONGRESS TIME-TABLE.

*Saturday, October 13th.*

10 a.m.: Congress assembles. Reading of minutes of 4th Congress. Notices of motion. Consideration of proposed amendment of rules. Reading and adjudication of papers entered for competition.

2.30 p.m.: Congress resumes. Postal auction.

*Sunday, October 14th.*

10 a.m.: Congress resumes.

2.30 p.m.: Congress resumes and concludes.

The time for the official opening of Congress and the National Philatelic Exhibition will be notified later.

### THE CONGRESS.

This is a meeting of delegates from the various Philatelic Societies of Southern Africa. Any philatelist present at Congress may speak with the permission of the Chairman, but only the official delegates, members of the local Congress Executive Committee, and members of Permanent Congress Executive Committee shall be entitled to vote, and such votes must be registered personally.

Plaques will be awarded for the best papers on the following subjects:—

1. The Southern Africa Philatelic Research Award for the best original Research Paper on any South African philatelic subject.
2. For the best original Research Paper on any subject not eligible for (1).
3. For the best Paper on any general philatelic subrect.

Congress has the right to withhold any plaque if the entries are considered to be of insufficient merit.

The method of deciding which paper is to be given the award in any of the above classes shall be by the vote of members of Congress present at the reading of such papers.

Any South African philatelist is eligible to compete for these awards.

All papers entered for competition must be the author's original work and never hitherto published. It is desired that competitors will attend Congress to read their own papers if practicable. Each paper submitted must bear the name and address of its author.

Papers must be typed on one side of the paper only.

They must reach the Hon. Secretary, Philatelic Congress of S.A., P.O. Box 1018, Pretoria, at least two days before the opening of Congress.

Congress reserves the right to refuse any entry.

N.B.—The following rules are quoted from the rules governing the Philatelic Congress of Southern Africa for general information:—

Rule 19: Not more than one plaque will be issued to any one competitor at a Congress, further awards being indicated by the attachment of bars to the plaque.

Rule 20: The award of a plaque to a stamp collection will render such collection ineligible for competitive entry *in the same class* during a period of two years following the award. It may, however, be exhibited "not for competition" or entered in a different class if available.

# SOUTH AFRICA

**Specialists in the Stamps  
of the Union**

Wants Lists of all British Colonials personally attended to.

Full range of Approval Books, arranged in sections, King's Heads, London Pictorials, Pretoria Pictorials, Rotogravures, Postage Dues, Officials and Air Mails.

**BOOK TYPES**  
A. Items to 10/-; B. Items to 100/-

Sent against deposit or references.  
Specify Section and Type A or B.

Interprovincials. Wants Lists only. Stamps on approval, correctly dated.

# SUIDAFRIKA

PROOFS.  
VARIETIES  
AIRS.

G. HOPE WILSON  
(B.P.A.)  
6, Conduit Street,  
London, W.1.

POSTAGE.  
OFFICIALS  
DUES.

# Rhodesian Postage Stamps

By W. J. HARRINGTON.

(Continued from page 74 of May issue.)

(d) *Re-entries.*

(i)  $\frac{1}{2}$ d. Value:

- On right "d" and bottom right corner. Horizontal shading lines partially reproduced in right margin. (Die 2, perf. 15).  
 Left side doubled 15 mm. (Die 1, perf. 14).  
 Left side doubled 20 mm.  
 Left side doubled at top.  
 Left side doubled entirely. (Die 1, perf. 14).  
 Left side doubled 7 mm. Heavy blurring round left value. Left side line enclosing value label almost obliterated.  
 Left side doubled at top. Very thin left value bar. BRITISH overlapped and letters smudged.  
 Left line doubled. Re-touch over right " $\frac{1}{2}$ d."  
 Left line doubled. Re-entries in "S" and "2."  
 Left side doubled 3 mm.—also "SO" and "2." Re-entries on "SIA."  
 Left line extended at top.  
 Left side doubled 12 mm. Top doubled 4 mm. on right. (Die 1, perf. 14).  
 Left side doubled, much broken line. Top right corner thickened.  
 Left side doubled, broken lines. Right value overlapped in top of "1" and "d." Top line thickened.  
 Left side doubled at top. Bottom line doubled at right.  
 Left side doubled and right line doubled 8 mm.  
 Left side doubled. Right side doubled 5 mm. Re-touches right of " $\frac{1}{2}$ ."  
 Left side doubled and right side doubled 10 mm.  
 Left side doubled 5mm. up. Right side doubled at top.  
 Left side doubled and right side doubled 10 mm. down. Top line doubled over left value. Thin bar. Vertical shading right of right value overlaps white edge.  
 Left side doubled and right side doubled 5 mm. Top doubled at left. Right value label heavily re-touched.  
 Portions of all four sides doubled.  
 Left and right lines doubled.

Top line thickly doubled. BRITISH badly blurred. Thin bars. Left " $\frac{1}{2}$ d." much blurred.

Top doubled at right. Thin bar. Heavy re-touch round BRITISH and left value causing curve over BRITISH to be very thin and letters to be rugged at the top. Right side doubled 7 mm.

Top doubled at left. Left " $\frac{1}{2}$ d." overlapped. Thin bar. Right side doubled 3 mm.

Top line doubled. Right side doubled to "Y."

Top thickened. Thin bar right value. Top of BRITISH, 1 and "d" overlapped. Bottom line thickly doubled. Right side doubled at bottom.

Right side trebled 5 mm. Top corner doubled. Heavy re-touch over right " $\frac{1}{2}$ d." and vertical lines overlapping "d."

Right side doubled 6 mm. Retouches right of " $\frac{1}{2}$ d."

Right side doubled half way down.

Right " $\frac{1}{2}$ d." overlapped by vertical lines.

Right side doubled 6 mm. Horizontal lines on value label overlap white margin.

Right line trebled at top. Blurred re-touch or re-entry on right value label.

Right line doubled at top. Heavy horizontal re-touches round right value, overlapping into white margin.

Right side doubled. "R" and "A" of RHODESIA and white line under "R" have marks like re-entries.

Right line doubled at top. Heavy re-touch right " $\frac{1}{2}$ d."

Bottom doubled at right 6 mm.

(The next instalment will deal with re-entries in the 1d. and higher values).

*Penny Postage.*—On Wednesday, April 11th, the Union returned to penny postage, but the change only affects the rates for ordinary letters and postcards. The letter rate is now 1d. per oz. for inland letters ("inland" including S.W.A., adjacent Native Protectorates, the Rhodesias and Mocambique) and for letters to overseas countries in the British Commonwealth, Egypt and Palestine. The postcard rate is  $\frac{1}{2}$ d. inland and 1d. to the aforementioned overseas countries. The rates to other countries abroad have not been altered.

New stamps of Nyasaland (seven values,  $\frac{1}{2}$ d. to 1s.) have been on sale from June 1st.

# The Rotogravure Stamps of the Union of South Africa

By G. N. GILBERT.

(Note.—Correspondence invited with a view to correcting errors of omission or commission.)

## HALFPENNY SHEET.

The halfpenny sheet rotogravure stamps were issued in January, 1931. They were printed in sheets of 12 by 20 stamps, with margins perforated top and bottom, but the side margins not perforated through. The sheets were divided into quarters by roughly etched green arrows in the margins, top, bottom and sides; control numbers, but no control letters, appeared twice per sheet in the right margin. The perforations were 15 by 14, and sheets appeared with both normal and inverted watermarks, in about equal numbers. Possibly the inverted watermark sheets were slightly scarcer.

It would appear that there have been only two frameplates used for printing the sheet stamps of this denomination, and the same headplate has been used throughout. Towards the end of the first frameplate printings, the shading between the horns on No. 5, row 9, of the headplate was getting very faint and worn, and this was retouched when the second frameplate printings came in. On the adjoining stamp, viz. No. 6, row 9, there is a black spot under the last A of Africa, and this spot is constant throughout all printings.

In the first printings there was also a white spot in the bottom left of the headplate oval on No. 11 row 4. This spot showed also in the first batch of the second frameplate printings, but was shortly after retouched. There are two other retouches which appear in the second plate printings, viz., the damaged label on No. 12, row 3, and the lines of shading under the buck's eye on the left on No. 12, row 1.

All the minor headplate characteristics remain throughout all printings and these, together with the headplate flaws and retouches mentioned above, prove that only one headplate has been used.

There are several differences to be detected in the two frameplates, notably the bottom of the downstroke of the R in Revenue on No. 1, row 20, in the first plate printings has a curved end like a J. This does not occur in the second plate, and also the central arrows are slightly different in shape in the

two plates. Frameplate 2 has a few notable characteristics, viz., the so-called "dollar" error on No. 9, row 10, and the damaged and retouched label on No. 12, row 3. The other minor differences will be found in the table of plate flaws.

The "dollar" error is interesting as it is probably a "gelatine" flaw and caused in the same way as the "misplaced portion of design" in the 2d. denomination, on No. 3, row 17. This letter flaw was illustrated in the "Philatelic Journal of Great Britain" of July, 1932, and was noted as being the first of this type of flaw to be discovered, due to the particular method used of making the plates by the photogravure process. There is an identical flaw in the 1s. denomination, on No. 1, row 4, under the A of Africa.

There are two flaws which appear in the various printings of the ½d. denomination requiring some explanation. The first is the convex line through the R in Africa on No. 2, row 3, which appears on some printings of the second frameplate, and not on others. Apparently this flaw appeared on some of the first printings of the second plate, and then sheets appeared without it. Finally, it has reappeared in the latest sheets with the lighter headplate.

There can only be one explanation of this, and that is the cylinder was damaged some time after printing a considerable stock of the second plate sheets, together with a stock of sheets showing this flaw. When taking the stocks from the works storeroom for distribution it is quite possible that some of the sheets showing the flaw were distributed before those without the flaw, and these went out later. Then when the latest printings were made, the flaw would naturally reappear, as the same headplate was used.

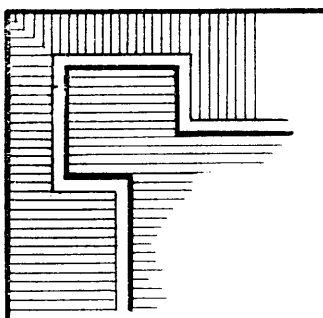
The other, at first rather puzzling flaw, is the convex white patch which shows in the second plate printings on No. 2, row 13, in the right of the oval.

This is due to the lines of shading on this particular stamp forming an oval shape, and if the headplate is shifted slightly more to the left when printing in the headplate, naturally this shows as a distinct white patch. But as only one headplate has been used throughout, the question as once presented itself—

how is it that this did not show in the first plate printings, or is it merely due to later damage? A careful examination of the first plate printings under a glass disclosed the fact that the lines of shading on this stamp are identical, but the headplate was printed in more to the right in all the first printings, with the result that these lines are printed over the green of the frameplate and therefore, do not show the white patch, which certainly would have been the case had the headplate been shifted a trifle to the left.

#### DESIGN CHARACTERISTIC.

The design characteristic\* of this sloping down denomination is extended fourth line of shading, the border into the white of the top left-hand ornamental square on every even Afrikaans stamp. It is illustrated here.



DESIGN CHARACTERISTIC.

*Note.*—A new issue of 1d. Sheets printed from new plates has just appeared. This necessitates some alterations and additions to the list of plate flaws which should have followed; it will appear next month.

\* For an explanation of the term "design characteristic" see under 1d. denomination later.

According to *La Revue Postale* (Brussels, April No.) Rands, Florins and Cents are to be the currency of the Union and Rhodesia.

The *British Philatelist* records the discovery of the 1d. red imperf. and the 2d. blue with white lines imperf. marked SPECIMEN. They were not previously known thus overprinted.

#### "TRAVELS 20,000 MILES FOR STAMPS."

Thus does *Mekeel's Weekly Stamp News* feature Dr. Mosley's pursuit of the Hind collection from Johannesburg to London via New York. Like sailors, he *don't mind*, the extra little bit of a trip to London, for that is his home town! We are even told how much he is willing to spend on the forty or fifty stamps he is anxious to purchase, but just which ones they are is still a secret.

## AIR MAIL NOTES

### NYASALAND-S. RHODESIA SERVICE.

We are indebted both to Mr. Davidson, of Limbe, and to Mr. McNeil of Harrismith, for sending notes and official figures concerning the loads carried on the first flight from Blantyre to Salisbury on March 8th.

The official figure given in our April number of 3,639 total items carried is correct. The detailed list should have added to it: Belgian Congo 29, and Asiatic countries 123. The figures for registered articles and parcels should be subtracted as they are already included under the country headings. Letters to Australia figure under both Asiatic countries and South Africa, depending on whether they were routed *via* India or Capetown. The total sum paid for postage, etc., of the load was £164 13s. 4d. The offices of origin of these 3,639 items in Nyasaland was as follows: Limbe 961, Zomba 569, Lilongwe 1, T.P.O., 64, Blantyre 1,862, other offices 175.

The interrupted service has been resumed. The route crosses Portuguese territory and it is understood that difficulties arose through a French company having a ten-year option on air services there. The obstacles have evidently been overcome.

### BULAWAYO-N'DOLA SERVICE.

A direct service from Bulawayo to N'dola was started on May 8th. So far this has not carried mails but we gather from an announcement in the *Star* that negotiations with the Rhodesian postal authorities for a mail service are under way.

The April *Airport Journal* is a special Canadian number and has some particularly interesting articles on Arctic airmails and on the semi-official air stamps of various of the Canadian flying companies.

Mr. Wyndham furnishes the following:  
"APEX."

The British Post Office was not found wanting in availing itself of the opportunity afforded by the International Exhibition of Air Posts ("Apex") held in London from May 7th to 12th of providing a large exhibition representing the stages of development in postal communication from the old coach days to the modern aerial mail, and including a display of philatelic and aerophiletic material of the greatest interest. A special post office was provided at the exhibition and all mail posted there received a special attractive postmark commemorative of this impor-

tant international event. Covers and special "Apex" souvenir postcards depicting some rare aerophilatelic items posted from the exhibition reached South Africa by air mail.

#### AUSTRALIA.

The Australian Government has accepted the tender of Quantas Empire Airways—a new company formed by Imperial Airways in association with the Quantas Group of Australia—for the final link in the air route from England to Australia, viz., that from Singapore to Brisbane. This means that the continuity of control and operation of the entire through route by Imperial Airways is assured. Various tenders for "feeder" services have also been accepted.

The main obstacle to the extension of the air route to Australia has been the question of negotiating the stretch of over 500 miles of the open shark-infested Timor Sea. This stretch will be flown in three hours, as with their usual foresight Imperial Airways have had specially built for use on this extension the fastest four-engined air liners in the world (the D.H.86), capable of a maximum speed of 170 miles an hour and cruising at 150 miles. One of these machines has already completed its Air Ministry trials with satisfactory results.

It is expected that the through route will be opened in December. The journey from the Australian terminal to Croydon will not occupy more than 14 days and after a while will be reduced to 12 days.

#### DEVIATION IN EASTERN ROUTE.

Coinciding with the speeding up of Imperial Airways African and Eastern services in April, a slight deviation was effected in the service to Singapore. The former stopping centres at Bandon (Siam) and Alor Star were abandoned and Penang and Kuala Lumpur substituted. Special souvenir envelopes were issued by Imperial Airways in Malaya on the occasion of the first flight via the new centres.

The new issue of St. Helena (½d. to 10s.) has arrived. It is commemorative of the centenary of the handing over of the island from the East India Company to the Colonial Office. The actual date of handing over was, we understood, April 30th, but letters with the new stamps reached here posted in St. Helena on April 23rd. Each value has a different picture and five of them, in addition, have portraits of the four monarchs reigning during the period — William IV., Victoria, Edward VII., and George V.

*A Canadian Stamp Romance.*—Sixty years ago, a black twelpenny Canadian postage stamp issued at Ottawa by the Government, because of its sombre appearance, received very little public favour, and only a few were set in circulation. One was sent to Hamilton Post Office, where it was sold to a gentleman who put it on a parcel which he was forwarding to a friend in the United States. The parcel wrapper was thrown into the waste-paper basket, when a office boy tore off the stamp and transferred it to his album. On the stamp fever passing off, this lad sold his collection to a dealer for £1, and the latter found that it was worth £5. Soon after the above twelpenny stamp was accidentally placed in a shilling packet, and sold to an expert residing in Hamilton. This gentleman was astonished to find such a rare stamp, but honestly wrote to the dealer apprising him of the mistake, and offering him £240 for the "Queen's picture in black." The offer was accepted, and the stamp was regarded as no small treasure. An English nobleman, hearing of the rare stamp, visited the possessor and bought it for £300. The new owner falling in love with an American heiress, presented the stamp to her brother by way of aiding his suit. In its new quarters, however, the "Queen's Head" had a sad end. It was left on the table one day, and an ignorant maid swept it into the fire, and in a moment there was nothing left of that which thousands would have gladly possessed. Happily, the accident tended to bring the English lord and the object of his affection closer together, and a happy marriage followed soon after.

The notorious unsolicited approval sender of Switzerland recently had the tables turned on him by one of the legal fraternity, who annoyed by repeated unasked for approvals, forwarded an opinion of the laws pertaining to unsolicited approvals and charged five dollars for it. The unsolicited opinion was paid for by stamps out of the unsolicited approval. While we do not advocate this course of action we do suggest that members return unsolicited approvals only at the expense of the sender or hold the selections until full postage is forwarded. If all members will follow this plan there should be an end to this abuse of the A. P. S. membership directory.—*The American Philatelist, May, 1934.*

## A Few Comments on Stamp Collecting

BY S. A. KLAGSBRUN.

(Read before the Pretoria Philatelic Society).

I propose this evening to present a few comments on Stamp collecting in the hope that they may result in some discussion if they serve no other useful purpose.

I would urge the housing of stamps in blank loose-leaf albums in preference to printed ones. The latter usually only provide for the standard issues as catalogued. No provision is made for pairs, blocks, shades, watermarked varieties and other interesting items which the collector in the course of his activities acquires. Furthermore, if the collector decides on accepting both used and unused specimens no provision is made in the printed album for these.

In a blank album the collector can arrange his stamps in such order as he deems will most advantageously display them. It affords him the opportunity of taking in (as he should) Proofs, Essays, Colour trials, reprints, forgeries, and "Specimen" copies.

The Collector should write up his collection as fully as possible. This adds to the attractiveness and enables those members who view the collection and have no knowledge of the issues of the country in question to understand and appreciate the display.

Other items of interest which should not be overlooked and which unquestionably add to the collection are covers used prior to the issue of postage stamps as also covers bearing interesting postmarks or stamps. Bi-sects, if used, should where possible be acquired on covers.

I do not propose to go into the merits of used as opposed to unused stamps or *vice versa*. To the collector who takes used or only collects used I would suggest that he endeavours to obtain copies with light and clear cancellation, showing date and town of despatch—where numerical cancellations exist—covers showing the town of posting should be kept and shown in order to identify the various numerical cancellations.

As regards used copies it is desirable, when possible, to obtain specimens bearing date of issue as also last date when the stamp was available for postage, and the same remark applies to distinctive shades (clearly indicative of new printings) as also to provisionals.

Frequently collectors are at a loss what stamps to collect.

In the selection of a new country, various factors should be borne in mind by the collector before he comes to a decision. What in-

terest have the stamps? What is their true value apart from their catalogue value? Has the country chosen been already over-specialised in which event there will be little left to discover apart from the prices being probably high.

For the collector of moderate means I strongly advocate the choice of a somewhat neglected country in preference to one of those popular and often high priced British Colonial possessions which frequently do not offer the interesting possibilities with sidelines, of proofs, essays, forgeries, curiosities, postmark varieties, paquetbots, etc., which naturally enhance the value of a collection and which never fail to add to its interest.

I would avoid those countries which require the purchase of high face value stamps, running into pounds cost to complete sets. I submit there is nothing so philatelically barren as a £20 or £50 mint stamp. Do not attempt to collect the country exhibited by some famous collector and for which he has been awarded prizes and honours. When he began it was probably quite unpopular and the stamps easily obtainable, but to-day his name will figure on every dealer's list and he will receive first choice of every good item as it comes along. Select the country with a large number of medium priced stamps having perforation and shade varieties. Take rather an interest in its postmarks, in preference to controls, large blocks, mint sheets. (Large blocks, of course, are invaluable for plating purposes or to ascertain the set up of an overprint or surcharge).

I would most certainly include entires, and stamps on covers have a good future.

The following is a list of countries which afford the best possibilities to-day, viz:—

Europeans, South and Central America, Far Eastern States, Malay Possessions, Indian Native States, Australians, New Zealand, French, Spanish, and Portuguese Colonies. Countries such as Roumania, Holland, Switzerland, Germany, Greece, Siberia, Turkey are ideal in interest for a moderate outlay.

Australians of all periods will be found worthy of study, the period just prior to the Commonwealth being replete with interest with the "stop-gap" printings before the Kangaroo stamps appeared.

Malay States, Borneo, Labuan are obtainable at attractive prices whilst China, Shanghai and Japan offer a fine field for research.

In submitting the above views, I do not wish it to be inferred that I am recommending members to abandon the countries they are collecting for these, I am merely pointing out to the member who wishes to take up some new or additional country, to take up a country in which he can do pioneer work rather than traverse the well worn paths where little remains to be discovered.

I should like in conclusion to make a few comments on condition.

The craze for condition never came from the true philatelist. The pioneers of the hobby never let condition stand in their way. Had they done so much that we know about stamps would have been irretrievably lost. They would have burnt or destroyed the stamps.

Most stamps of 30 and 40 years ago cannot be as fresh as those printed a few years ago.

Don't make centring a fetish.

The first issue of "Sweden" for instance when dead on centre is practically a "freak."

The alignment of the stamps on the sheets of early engraved British Colonials in most cases was so irregular that evenly margined copies cannot exist.

The majority of pin, rough, *percé en scie* perforations and roulettes were ineffective and scissors were used to separate the stamps.

A slightly thinned but lightly cancelled copy of a stamp may well take preference to a perfect copy with a heavy postmark.

Finally my recommendation is carefully examine and study your stamps.

The following table, taken from *Scott's Monthly Journal*, April, 1934, indicates that 1933 had numerically a considerably less output of stamps than 1932, and barely half that of the peak year, 1920:

	1920	1932	1933
Total . . . . .	3,153	1,918	1,574
Overprints . . . . .	1,971	686	322
Airmail . . . . .	45	292	276
Bisects . . . . .	2	0	0
Commemorative . . . . .	168	587	440
Inverts . . . . .	121	7	1
Newspaper . . . . .	48	0	0
Occupation . . . . .	377	0	0
Official . . . . .	213	180	120
Parcel Post . . . . .	62	4	1
Plebiscite . . . . .	354	0	0
Postage Due . . . . .	177	86	68
Semi-postal . . . . .	114	107	117
Special Delivery . . . . .	18	13	4
Registration . . . . .	13	1	0

The new Union 1d. with a hyphen in SUIDAFRICA is now on sale.

## COLLECTORS' WANTS AND OFFERS

(Twopence per word per insertion with minimum of 2/- per insertion).

**Nevis and Virgin Islands.—Stamps, Literature and Information wanted.**  
*A. F. Johnstone, P.O. Box 6006, Johannesburg.*

**1899-1902.—British used in South Africa and South Africa used in British Army P.Os.**  
*J. H. Harvey Pirie, P.O. Box 1038, Johannesburg.*

**"Specimen Stamps."—Great Britain, British Colonial and Foreign wanted.**  
*Saul A. Klagsbrun, P.O. Box 846, Pretoria.*

**Wanted. — Cape, Natal, Transvaal Orange Free State, Griqualand West, Swaziland, Portuguese East Africa, Brazil, Greece, including covers and postal stationery.**  
*A. E. Busden, P.O. Box 238, Pretoria.*

**Wanted.—Specimens, mint and fine used, of Gambia, Gold Coast, Sierra Leone and Nigerian Colonies.**  
*T. V. Green, P.O. Box 4967, Johannesburg.*

**Early European Stamps on cover.—Stamps and covers used in Basutoland.**  
*Dr. A. J. Broughton, 13-14 Bourke Trust Buildings, Pretoria.*

**Gold Coast.—Early issues, fine used. Special Postmarks. Mint. Wanted.**  
*William Redford, cor. Kruis and Market Streets, Johannesburg.*

**Rhodesian Rarities.—Wanted. Mint or used.**  
*R. H. Morley, P.O. Box 7573, Johannesburg.*

**Great Britain.—Wanted early issues line engraved and surface printed—and items of interest.**  
*J. A. Bremner, 12, Ashford Rd., Parkwood, Johannesburg.*



## REVIEWS

### KOHL'S HANDBOOK.

Kohl's Handbook, Part 33, has recently arrived; it is about equally divided between Heligoland and Honduras. The Heligoland section deals entirely with the various Reprints made at different times between 1875 and 1895 by printers in Berlin, Leipsig and Hamburg. The originals were considered in Part 32. The various reprints are considered in the greatest detail, and apparently collecting and plating of them is as popular as for the originals, and there is a great deal more variety to handle. With this as a guide there is no excuse for confusion between the reprints and Schiffner's originals.

The Honduras section deals with the period 1866-1924. It should be particularly welcome to collectors of that country, as the literature available on its stamps has hitherto been extremely small.

### ZEPPELIN-MAIL CATALOGUE.

The ninth edition of Sieger's Zeppelin-Mail Catalogue has just appeared, pp. 104. This is

a fascinating list of the flights of the Graf Zeppelin from 1928 to 1933, with illustrations of practically all the cachets and postmarks, and of the various Zeppelin stamps issued by different countries in connection with the flights. For a Zeppelin collector it is indispensable. Obtainable from the publisher, Sieger-Verlag, Lorch, Württemberg, Germany, price Rm. 2.50, plus postage.

On another page you are advised not to make a fetish of "condition," but if you indulge in the higher flights of philately, monetarily speaking, it would perhaps be as well to take a pinch of salt with this advice. For example: An immaculate pair of 12d. Canada from the Hind collection fetched £1,400 the other day, but at another sale a single copy, which, judging by the description given, had been through a beauty parlour for renovation on more than one occasion, fetched only £44. Even allowing for the difference between a pair and a single, "condition" apparently counted for something.

## Special Offers of Rare Africans

<b>BRITISH BECHUANALAND.</b>	½d. Superb Unused. S.G. No. 1a. . . . .	£2 15 0
	½d. Mint. S.G. No. 4a. . . . .	4 0 0
	1d. Mint. S.G. No. 38a. . . . .	2 0 0
	2d. Used. S.G. No. 39a. . . . .	8 0 0
<b>LAGOS.</b>	2/6. Fine unused. S.G. No. 27 . . . . .	6 10 0
<b>NATAL.</b>	1d. Mint IMPERFORATE BLOCK of 4 (S.G. No. 18) . . . . .	9 10 0
	1870-73. 6d. Mint IMPERFORATE PAIR . . . . .	6 0 0
	2½d. Se-tenant with normal stamp, Mint. S.G. No. 111 . . . . .	7 10 0
	2½d. Used. S.G. No. 112 . . . . .	5 0 0
	½d. Mint. S.G. No. 115 . . . . .	7 10 0
<b>SUDAN.</b>	1 M. Mint. S.G. No. 152 . . . . .	3 10 0
<b>TRANSVAAL.</b>	1d. Superb Used. S.G. No. 153 . . . . .	4 10 0
	1895/96. 10/- Mint IMPERFORATE BLOCK of 4 . . . . .	3 10 0
	1d. Mint. S.G. No. 532a. . . . .	1 0 0
	1905-9. ANCHOR WATERMARK. 1d. Superb Used. S.G. No. 579 . . . . .	14 0 0
<b>ZULULAND.</b>	½d. Mint Pair. S.G. No. 12d. . . . .	10 0 0
	£20. Mint. S.G. No. 58 . . . . .	23 0 0

I hold the finest stock of RARE BRITISH COLONIALS of all periods.

Want Lists will receive my prompt personal attention.

SELECTIONS SENT ON APPROVAL TO ANY PART OF THE WORLD.

The Cheapest Dealer in the World for Rare British Colonials is:—

# T. ALLEN

5 BLAKE HALL ROAD, WANSTEAD, LONDON, E.11, ENGLAND.

## New Issue News

Mr. R. Roberts, 430, Strand, London, kindly furnishes the following new issue chronicle:—

**BAHAMAS.**—K.G. S.G. type 8. 1½d. red brown.

**BELGIAN CONGO.**—Air mail. Line engraved, transverse oblong format. No wmk., perf. 13½ x 14. Plane over landscape design. Values: 50 c., black; 1 Fr., carmine; 1 Fr. 50c., deep green; 3 Fr., purple brown; 4 Fr. 50c., ultramarine; 5 Fr., red brown; 15 Fr., mauve; 30 Fr., orange; 50 Fr., purple.

**BULGARIA.**—3L, olive, overprinted in blue "2," large thick figure; 4L, orange S.G. type 101, without line at top and bottom.

**CANADA.**—Coil. 1 c, blue green, imperf. x perf. 8½, S.G. type 80.

**CHILE.**—Two new stamps have been issued commemorating the Centenary of the Chilean Constitution 1833-1933. Lithographed at the Mint, Santiago, perf. 13 x 14, wmk. S.G. type 68 (upright). Portrait of Mariano Egana. 30c., bright magneta.

**CIRENAICA.**—S.G. type 17, with same overprint as Tripolitania. 2L/5L, yel. brown; 3L/5L, sage; 5L, orange buff; 10L/5L, pale rose.

**COLOMBIA.** — Cartagena Commemorative, postage.

Lithographed locally, large upright format, no wmk., perf. 11½. They bear a portrait of P. de Heredia, inscribed "CORREOS DE COLOMBIA" at top. Value in lower corner tablets between which is the lettering:—

"IV CENTENARIO  
CARTAGENA.  
"1533      1933."

The inscription beneath each stamp "LIT. NACIONAL."

1 c, green; 5 c, brown; 8 c, deep blue.

**CUBA.**—1 c. green, S.G. type 18, overprinted in red, sideways, reading upwards:

"GOBIERNO  
REVOLUCIONARIO  
4 — 9 — 1933"

in block letters in three lines.

Gobierno measures 14½ mm.

Revolucionario measures 20½ mm.

The date measures 14 mm.

1 c. green—ditto—surcharge reading down.

2 c./3 c. purple, portrait Jose de la Luz, surcharged in black, vertically with figure "2" in the four corners, with two horizontal bars between each.

Same overprint, reading down.

2/3 c. purple—ditto—same overprint reading up.

**CURACAO.** — 1634-1934. Commemorating 4th Centenary of the colonisation of this Island. Line engraved, perf. 12½. 1 c. grey blue; 1½ c. violet; 2 c. orange; 2½ c. green; 5 c. sepia; 6 c. grey blue; 10 c. claret; 12½ c. bistre; 15 c. deep blue; 20 c. grey black; 21 c. brown; 25 c. blue green; 27½c. mauve; 30c. red; 50 c. orange; 1G50 indigo; 2G50 yellow green.

**DANZIG.**—Charity, S.G. type 39, overprinted in black:

"5"  
W.H.W.

in German capitals, signifying "Winter Hilfs Werk."

5+5 pf. orange.  
10+5 pf. green.  
15+5 pf. scarlet.

**DENMARK.**—Postage: Karavel type, no wmk., perf. 13. 25 ö. brown; 30 ö. dull blue. **Post Dues:** Type 2, but line engraved; no wmk., perf. 13; 1 ö. dark grey; 2 ö. carmine; 5 ö. yellow green; 10 ö. orange; 20 ö. grey; 25 ö. blue; 1 Kr. brown. **Late Fee:** Gebyr type, S.G. S.2, line engraved, no wmk., perf. 13. 10 ö. orange.

**EQUADOR.**—2 c. green, Fiscal stamp overprinted in blue:

"CASA  
de  
Correos y  
Telegrafos  
de  
Guayaquil"

Printed and overprinted in sheets of 100.

Centenary of the Republic.

20 c. blue and orange. Overprinted with same wording, in larger letters in red.

**EGYPT.**—Tenth Postal Union Congress Commemorative set. Values from 1 m.-200m. are large upright format, bearing portrait of Ismael Pasha the founder of the Egyptian Posts.

Values 500 m and £1 are large upright format bearing portrait of Ismael Pasha in uniform.

Printed by photogravure, wmk. crowns and crescents multiple, S.G. type 48, perf. 13½. 1 m. orange; 2 m. black; 3 m. sepia; 4 m. blue green; 5 m. red brown; 10 m. purple; 13 m. claret; 15 m. violet; 20 m. blue; 50 m. greenish blue; 100 m. olive; 200 m. purple; 50 Pt. brown; £1 steel blue.

**FEDERATED MALAY STATES.** — S.G. type 3, small format. 2 c. carmine and green on yellow, script wmk.

**FRANCE.**—1 f. 50 blue, new type Peace stamp No wmk.

**ITALY.**—Air Stamps: S.G. A7, in new colours, overprinted with an aeroplane and the date "1934 XII"

"PRIMO VOLO DIRETTO  
ROMA—BUENOS AYRES"

**TRIMOTORE—LOMBARDI—NAZZOTTI** and the figure of value, the old denomination being obliterated by a peculiar shaped device.

2 L. brt. yellow; 3 L. yel. green; 5 L. rose; 10 L. lilac.

**Postage Dues:** New type, small transverse oblong, printed on new Swiss paper with ribbed pattern impressed on gum.

Wmk. crown, perf. 14. The design consists of the Arms of Italy, similar to the centre of Type 21, in oblong frame with tablet "POSTE ITALIANE" at top and "SEGNATASSE" at foot. The word "CENT" is at left of Arms, and the figure of value at right; all in one colour.

Line values are of similar design, the centre Arms are a little larger, and there are ornamental columns at each side, left and right.

5 c. brown; 10 c. dp. blue; 20 c. carmine; 25 c. green; 30 c. orange; 40 c. sepia; 50 c. purple; 60 c. steel blue; 1 L. orange; 2 L. green; 5 L. purple; 10 L. deep blue; 20 L. carmine.

**ITALIAN SOMALILAND.** — Parcel Post, S.G. type P.4, overprinted with type 22.

20 L. purple.

**KUWAIT.**—Indian Postage and Air Mail stamps, overprinted in black "KUWAIT." Nasik print, multiple star wmk.

**Postage:** 2 a. vermilion; 3 a. carmine. New colours. (S.G. India types 70 and 62.)

**Air:** 2 a. blue green; 3 a. blue; 4 a. drab. (S.G. India type 72.)

**SPAIN.**—10 P. brown, S.G. type 69, No. 572, overprinted in blue "CORREOS ESPANOL MARRUECOS." Spanish Morocco type M.2. A few of this denomination were overprinted by error, together with the 30 c. lake, type 97, local surcharge.

**STRAITS SETTLEMENTS.**—Die I, script wmk. 5 c. brown.

**SWEDEN.**—King Gustav, S.G. type 24.

25 ö. bright ultramarine, imperf. x perf. 10. Printed by rotary press.

**TRIPOLI.**—S.G. type 23, Air stamps of 1931/2 overprinted in same manner, the original values being obliterated by the new values at left in Italian, at right in Arabic characters. 2 L./5 L. pale brn.; 3 L./5 L. sage; 5 L. orange buff; 10 L./5 L. pale rose.

VIII Fair, 1934. Photogravure printing, large upright and transverse oblong. Wmk. crown, perf. 14, new ribbed paper, various pictorial designs.

**Postage:** 10 c. brown (T); 20 c. carmine (U); 25 c. green (U); 30 c. dp. olive (T); 50 c. purple (U); 75 c. brt. rosine (T); 1 L. 25 dp. blue (T).

**Air:** 50 c. blue; 75 c. orange; 5 L+1 L. blue green, 10 L+2 L. purple (Transverse); 25 L+3 L. red brown (Upright).

**Air Express:** 2 L. 25 dp. olive; 4 L. 50+1 L. black (Transverse).

**TURKEY.**—10 Piastre green, red cross; overprinted for postage with crescent in carmine and surcharged in black with new value: "5"

Bes Kurus

Same stamp unsurcharged.

**GERMANY.**—Hindenburg type, with Swastika wmk. 1pf black; 3pf yellow brown; 4pf slate; 5pf emerald; 6pf myrtle; 8pf bright orange; 10pf dark brown; 12 pf carmine; 15pf claret; 20pf turquoise; 30pf olive; 40pf magenta.

**HOLLAND.**—Current issues of Dutch stamps overprinted in gold, as follows:—

COUR PER  
MANENTE  
DUSTICE  
EINTER  
NATIONALE

1½c magenta, 2½c green . . . . S.G. type 35  
7½c red, 15c orange yellow, 30c

mauve . . . . . S.G. type 36

12½c ultramarine . . . . . S.G. type 68  
Wmk. rings, perf. 12½—13.

**BAHRAIN.**—India S.G. type 55, overprinted in black "BAHRAIN," 3pies slate.

**BELGIUM.**—King Albert mourning stamp. 75 c black, S.G. type 80, perf. 14, photogravure.

Parcel post stamps. New photogravure design of railway train, transverse oblong. 3fr deep green, 4fr magenta, 5fr scarlet.

**BERMUDA.**—New 1½d. denomination, S.G. type 14, terracotta.

**FRANCE.**—Jacquard Centenary, 40 c. blue. Line engraved, perf. 14 x 13.

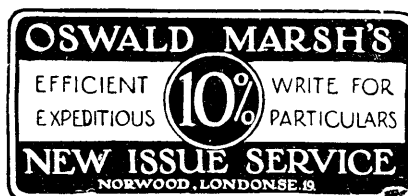
½  
"Centime" overprinted on 1c olive, Sower type. Surcharged in black.

**NEW ZEALAND.**—7d. blue Air mail stamp, S.G. type 75 overprinted in deep blue, in tall Roman capitals, in three lines:—

TRANS - TASMAN 20½mm long  
AIR MAIL 12½mm long

"FAITH IN AUSTRALIA" 33mm long  
(from comma to comma)

**ST. HELENA.**—Centenary Commemorative, line engraved, printed by Bradbury Wilkinson. Script work, perf. 12, centres in black: ½d. purple, 1d. green, 1½d. scarlet, 2d. orange, 3d. blue, 6d pale blue, 1s. sepia, 2s. 6d. carmine, 5s. sepia, 10s. purple.



## Rhodesian Postmark Varieties

BY W. J. HARRINGTON.

In "Stamp Collecting," dated 18th March, 1933, and 3rd February, 1934, Mr. W. Bernard Livermore has recorded a number of varieties and errors in the postmarks of Rhodesia.

In my collection of this sideline, I have several not yet described by Mr. Livermore which may be of interest.

At MELSETTER in 1912 the indicator over the date was used sideways, thus ↙

At MOUNT SELINDA, at the end of September 1900 (as proved by the date stamp of the receiving office), the year was omitted from the date and appears "SP 17"; the same mistake occurred at BULAWAYO on a 1d. 1898 issue—"FE 6," and again at UMTALI on a 4d. of the 1896-7 issue—"JA 11."

SELUKWE was much worse, however, as I have a 3d. of the 1896-7 issue without any date at all. This office on a 1d. and 2d. of the same issue had the date "JU 93."

The GUBULAWAYO postmark is often found with the year shown as "4" (this is 1894) or "9-."

I have the UMTALI postmark on an 8d. 1891 issue dated thus—"AU 26 8."

SHAMVA on a Southern Rhodesian stamp of the 1924 issue is shown with the date "9 AUG 19 7" and "9 SEP 19 7."

The 1896 issue must have been seventeen years old when it was issued, as I have a 2d. of that issue dated at BULAWAYO "JY.6.7 ∞ "

Some BULAWAYO official must have had a very hectic night on one occasion, as the following morning the date stamp was altered to read—

G dS  
02

It may surprise my readers to learn that Afrikaans was in vogue in BULAWAYO nearly 34 years ago, as I have a block of four of the 1d. 1898 issue very clearly postmarked "12 MEI 00."

From the above few examples, it will be seen that there is great interest to be obtained from the collection of the postmarks of one's favourite country.

### TRY THIS ON YOUR STAMP CLUB.

At the February 20th meeting of the Roosevelt Philatelic Society of Chicago, the subject for the evening was "My Most Interesting Stamp."

Each member was asked to pick the most interesting stamp from his collection, mount same on a page and bring it to the meeting with a 100 word article telling why that particular stamp was the most interesting one in his collection.

Prizes were awarded to the winners, and it would seem that such a plan ought to bring out a heap of interesting entertainment for any club.—*Linn's Weekly Stamp News.*

*Is It True?*—That only one mint copy of the 2d. grey K.E. Transvaal exists. A note appeared in the Johannesburg *Sunday Times* some time ago, and has since been copied into some of the philatelic press to the effect that the remainder of the printing was over-printed "Specimen," but the stamps were never issued. The unique copy was presented to the Governor-General, but has since passed into a private collection. That the stamp was never issued for use, but that "Specimen" copies are obtainable is, of course, well known. Can any of our readers vouch for the truth of the rest of the story?

*The Trinidad "Lady McLeod" Stamp.* The *Stamp Collectors' Magazine* of October, 1867, records the first seeing of this stamp and remarks: ". . . if genuine, the stamp at its best is but the mark of a private firm and never could have had any currency in Trinidad . . . The possessor asked the modest sum of five guineas for his copy, which, if genuine, half-a-crown ought to more than buy."

As it happens the sum was a fair price judged by to-day's value. The usual rate of interest for gilt edged securities at that time was 2½ per cent. and £5 invested in 1867 at 2½ per cent. compound interest would to-day have amounted to £62. Recent auction room prices in London for this stamp have just been a little over that figure.

## Read About Your Hobby

We have made up a number of parcels of books about stamps, all of which provide very interesting reading matter. There are old catalogues showing market prices of stamps in earlier years, handbooks on various countries, etc., etc. Each parcel contains about five different books published at from 15/- to 30/- the lot.

We are clearing them out at 4/- per parcel, post free. (Postage alone uses up about 1/- of this amount), and we will use Union tete-beche stamps on the wrapper.)

## C. F. SKINNER

P.O. Box 5887, JOHANNESBURG.  
(Shop No. 16 Old Arcade, Market St.)

# National Stamp Exhibition, 1934.

Held in Conjunction with Congress by the Pretoria Philatelic Society.

## 1. REGULATIONS.

Plaques, certificates, and/or other awards will be made in the discretion of the Society, based on the recommendations of the judges.

Open to all members of Philatelic Societies affiliated to Philatelic Congress of Southern Africa, except that the Committee of the Pretoria Philatelic Society reserves the right to refuse to accept entries and exhibits in its discretion.

One entrance fee of 5s. entitles any competitor to enter as many exhibits as he chooses.

In addition to entering exhibits for competition, collectors and others are requested to enter interesting exhibits for exhibition *hors concours*.

The utmost care will be taken of all exhibits, but the Society cannot take any responsibility for loss or damage while in its custody. The Society will endeavour to insure all stamps against fire, theft, etc., while in its custody.

Competitive entries close on October 6th.

Entry forms may be obtained from the Hon. Secretary, P.O. Box 514, Pretoria.

Otherwise than as stated above, the normal regulations for stamp exhibitions will apply, and by sending in a completed entry from each exhibitor agrees without reservation to these terms of entry.

Exhibitors are requested to forward their exhibits to the Exhibition Secretary, P.P.S. P.O. Box 514, Pretoria, to reach him by October 10th; but heavy exhibits (e.g., Classes 1 to 6) will be accepted up to 10 a.m. on October 13th.

## 2. SCHEDULE OF CLASSES.

1. Any State or group of States in Africa.
2. Any State or group of States in America.
3. Any State or group of States in Asia.
4. Any State or group of States in Australasia.
5. Any State or group of States in Europe.
6. Any general collection.
7. Collection of stamps on covers.
8. Collection of postmarks on stamps of any State.
9. Collection of air mails on flown covers.
10. Collection of sketches, proofs, essays, specimen stamps, reprints, and/or forgeries.
11. Collection of bisects.

12. Collection of pictorials in divisions (e.g., charity and other special issues; commemorative; architectural; zoological; historical; etc.).
13. Collection of freaks and curiosities.
14. Collection of rarities.
15. Collection of postal stationery of any country.
16. Collection of locals, private stamps and/or telegraph stamps.
17. Specialised collection of any one issue (e.g., Cape triangulars; Natal embossed; Great Britain black and blues, 1840; Transvaal imperfs. and roulettes, etc.).
18. Research collection of any issue.
19. Collection of stamps of peculiar or exceptional interest (not less than 25 or more than 50) on account of rarity, design, object of issue, or otherwise distinguishing them from the normal.
20. Any other philatelic exhibit not provided for in the preceding classification.

## ENTRY FORM.

*Note.*—Entries close and must be handed in or sent to the Hon. Secretary, P.O. Box 514, Pretoria, by October 6th.

I (full name in capitals) .....  
 ..... desire to enter exhibits in  
 Classes ..... at the National  
 Philatelic Exhibition, to be held at Pretoria  
 on October 13th and 14th, 1934, in terms of  
 the Regulations issued by the Pretoria Phila-  
 telic Society.

My exhibits will be sent by .....

Please return by .....

I enclose remittance for:

Entrance fee: 5s.

Return charges .....

Donation .....

(Signed) .....

Address .....

.....

## SOCIETY NEWS

### PRETORIA PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

On April 2nd some of the members, including the president, were away from Pretoria, and in consequence the number present at Easter Monday's meeting at Polley's Hotel, Pretoria, although good, did not come up to recent large attendances.

The desire of the Executive is to induce as many as possible to participate actively in the evening's proceedings and, with this in view, the syllabus provided for papers and notes and displays by members who had not previously exhibited. The result was a most successful evening. Mr. Gilbert was the first to lay out an exhibit comprising selected portions of his Rhodesian, South-West Africa and St. Helena collections, some of the main features being explained by him. The Rhodesias contained a mint pair of the Admiral sixpenny value, showing dies II. and III. se tennant, a most unusual item and one emphasising the need for further study of this value, while the pair of three-halfpenny of the same issue was unperforated between. Unsurcharged Union postage and postage due stamps used in South-West Africa were well represented, as were overprinted high values to the pound denomination, used on pieces of the original packages. A mint pair of the overprinted one penny showed the words "South West" missing in consequence of a paper fold during printing.

Dr. Mostert showed the Giraffe Head issue of Tanganyika, collected by him while in that territory. Special mention must be made of large mint blocks of 10c green, 10c yellow and 15c red printed on slightly blued paper. These have not yet found their way into catalogues.

Mr. Gass showed selected sheets from a number of foreign countries, and Mr. McGregor displayed his stamps of France.

Instead of his usual notes from the philatelic Press, Mr. Hand gave a paper illustrating the interest of the hobby when followed with understanding and imagination by referring to stamps and services of many parts.

April 16th.—The attendance was better at this meeting. Mr. Beyers read the paper of the evening dealing with the recent commemorative issue of the Falkland Islands. He dealt with his subject most interestingly, describing the designs and furnishing much historical and other information.

Mr. Basden's display of the small head issues of Greece contained many items of value and interest, perforation varieties being surprisingly numerous. Many of the surcharged stamps were tabled and these included inverted surcharges and figure varieties.

Dr. Broughton brought a number of old European issues, comprising fine showings of Brunswick, Hanover, Oldenburg, Saxony and Alsace Lorraine.

Mr. C. Hand gave his usual contribution of notes from the philatelic Press throughout the world.

C.H.

### CAPETOWN PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

During April two very successful meetings were held on the 12th and 26th. The displays were given by Mr. E. C. Smith and Mr. H. T. Jones respectively, the former showing "Georgians" and the latter "Rhodesia."

Mr. Smith is to be congratulated on the excellence of his stamps, and very great interest was shown in numerous specimens from all quarters of the world. Mr. Jones' collection of Rhodesia is an outstanding one, and the specimens shown, covering the period from the first issues to the "Admiral type," was examined with interest by all present.

The annual general meeting of the society was held on May 3rd at the Capetown Railway Institute, the attendance being very good.

Following upon the confirmation of the minutes of the special meeting and the last annual general meeting, the committee's report was put before the meeting and adopted.

The report shows the society to be in a healthier condition and recovering from the economic blizzard.

Office-bearers for the ensuing year were elected as follows: President, H. Meyer; vice-president, K. Alexander; hon. secretary and treasurer, G. W. Morris; hon. exchange superintendent, L. Simenhoff; committee, the above, with A. Guttonson, C. McKenzie, J. Daniel, L. G. Anderson and J. Richardson.

Mr. W. Ashmead, in thanking Mr. Guttonson, the retiring hon. secretary, for his work, pointed out that the post was no sinecure.

Mr. Morris, the newly-appointed hon. secretary, would find to his cost that no little time and labour would be involved in seeing that the wheels ran smoothly.

The amount of time taken up in society work was stressed by many, and the rules of the society were amended to provide for the additional office of hon. assistant secretary. Mr. C. McKenzie was appointed to fill the position pro tem. A further alteration to the rules was made, it being provided that a member of the committee shall act as press correspondent. This work has hitherto been carried out by Mr. Richardson in an ex-officio capacity and, in view of his re-election to the committee, will be continued.

The new hon. exchange superintendent, Mr. L. Simenhoff, gave some indication of his plans to reinstate this section of the society, which was discontinued on account of lack of support some time ago.

Before the close of the meeting a number of discussions took place on various matters pertaining to the good progress of the society, and the close interest taken augurs well for the future of the Capetown Society.

The office-bearers, in expressing their appreciation for election, each spoke of their desire to further the interests of the society and the necessity of catering for the interests of all.

J.R.

#### PHILATELIC SOCIETY OF JOHANNESBURG.

The usual monthly meeting was held on Tuesday, May 8th, at the Carlton Hotel, with a good attendance.

After the more formal business of the evening had been transacted, Major Milligan read his Philatelic Notes of the month and provoked an animated discussion by touching on the question of "unnecessary philatelic issues."

The usual arguments, for and against, collecting only old imperforates, classics, modern pictorials, etc., were introduced, but the general feeling was that, as it was manifestly impossible for the ordinary philatelist to attempt to collect the stamps of the whole world, it was necessary to limit the scope of the collection, and such limitation was a matter of taste and must be left to the individual choice, and that the fact that there was such a large field of selection formed one of the attractions of philately.

During the evening the president handed round for inspection a number of covers used during the recent Royal tour of Prince George, including a cover from the Belgian Congo, the latter provided by Major Milligan. Dr. Pirie also exhibited a very interesting postcard from Natal used in Ladysmith during the Anglo-Boer War with the "Ladysmith Siege" postmark.

The special feature for the evening was a paper and display by Mrs. J. Robertson of "Charity Stamps of the World." The exhibit was very attractive and consisted of a representative collection of these stamps, some of which, particularly those of Holland, were very fine in design and production.

After Dr. Pirie had expressed the thanks of all present to Mrs. Robertson, several members spoke in appreciation of the exhibit. It was the general opinion that novelty displays of this nature should be encouraged, as they were a welcome change from the ordinary specialised one country collection.

T.V.G.

#### PORT ELIZABETH PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

The annual general meeting took place on Tuesday evening, May 15th, and the attendance was excellent. Matters of vital interest

were amicably discussed, and it was very pleasing to note the loyalty of the members to their 22-year-old society and the optimistic spirit which was prevalent. Keen competition in the filling of offices was indeed gratifying, and the new year starts auspiciously with a fresh Cabinet. Mr. G. K. Forbes was elected president, and this gentleman's enthusiasm will no doubt prove beneficial to the others. The Exchange Superintendent is Mr. J. McGregor, of 12, Albert Street, Sydenham, and it is anticipated this department will resume its former activity under his efficient supervision. Correspondence is cordially invited from other centres, as well as from fellow-collectors, and items of interest for use at meetings will be extremely welcome. Communications may be addressed to the Hon. Secretary at 55, Sherlock Street, Port Elizabeth.

C.W.S.

The Falkland 1s. commemorative set of 1933 was supposed to have been all destroyed at the end of the year but evidently a few were kept over to meet demands which were made before December 31st although not received until early in 1934. Covers have been received with a note to that effect from the postmaster, Port Stanley.

*Gumbreakers.* Recent Canadian rotary press stamps show ridges on the back. These are caused by a series of rollers through which the stamps are passed. These rollers are called gumbreakers and are just what the name implies. They break the gum and bend the paper slightly, thus preventing to a large extent the tendency for sheets to curl when in a hot dry atmosphere. There have been several types of gumbreakers tried. The first produced four distinct ridges, the current ones show two on each stamp, of regular size.

—*Linn's Weekly Stamp News.*

#### APPROVAL BOOKS

Postage. Fiscal. Telegraph and Local Stamps—at 75% discount.

Pre-stamp old covers.

Hong Kong used in China Treaty ports, and interesting cancellations many countries.

Great Britain—Railway Stamps. Newspaper Tax—Postmarks, etc.

**WALTER MORLEY,**  
"Cornaways," Riverhead, Kent.

## Correspondence

### THE BOOM IN AIR COVERS.

*The Editor,  
South African Philatelist.*

SIR,

The opinion expressed by Mr. Percy Bishop as to the future of flown cover collecting—reported in your March number—was familiar in England between 1927 and 1930, as it was frequently voiced by philatelists who were not always closely in touch with the air-post market itself.

Inevitably, there are "fashions" in philately: groups such as Boer War, and Great War, and countries such as Irish Free State, Malta and Newfoundland have their days. But whereas those groups are influenced by ephemeral topicality, air mail carrying will obviously become more and more practised and its geographical extension results in the enlistment of new collectors in the countries effected.

Further, it should be remembered that all serious aero-philatelists consider—and consider rightly—that their speciality is a distinctly separate hobby, linked only loosely with orthodox philately. Philatelists who collect mint air stamps temporarily or as an investment are not aero-philatelists. Aero-philately attracts many "outsiders" who attach more importance to an Alcock cover than to a mint "Hawker"; they are votaries of the hobby because it has aero-historical and "human interest" appeal.

The analogy with philatelic entires and local stamps is therefore one that would occur only to philatelists.

Your readers may be interested to know that from my experience of twelve years actively associated with the air specialities, I find that in aero-philately the pendulum of fashion swings alternately between stamps and covers in two year periods.

Yours faithfully,

FRANCIS J. FIELD.

### THE ALL-RED ST. HELENA ERROR.

*The Editor,  
South African Philatelist.*

SIR,

As regards the date of arrival of these stamps at St. Helena, Mr. Donne may possibly be in error in supposing it to have been in September, 1911. In *The Postage Stamp* of 15th August, 1914, Mr. H. H. Harland, in an article on St. Helena stamps, after noting that he had a correspondent in the island whose information was official, writes with

regard to this stamp: ". . . The date of this arrival is quite easily fixed down to early in 1912, as my correspondent's letter, dated January 3rd of that year, called attention to the fact that the small King Edward type one penny value was out of stock and, there still being a demand for this small type, the printers were called upon for a further supply, the mistook the wording of the order "all red" to apply to the large stamp of which they also had the plate, and promptly filled it in with these printed in one colour only." He goes on: "Orders were immediately given that not under any circumstances were they to be supplied to the public, and from what I have recently heard it is possible that the only specimens that have escaped destruction are to be found in the collection of His Majesty King George V."

Yours, etc.,

"NAPOLEON."

The forthcoming new stamps of Great Britain are *not* being held up for a good photograph of the Loch Ness Monster, but merely till a sufficient stock of Rotogravure machines has been manufactured. Meanwhile Messrs. Harrison and Sons are printing certain values with the old Waterlow plates. It is probable that these printings will be recognisable in some way and, as their life will be short, they should be amongst "the best things of the month."

Many hundreds of quotations  
for

## AIR MAIL STAMPS

including

the latest and most interesting items, errors and out-of-the-way varieties, first flight and other flown covers will be found in our new Air Mail List No. 3.

**JUST PUBLISHED.**

Every collector of Air Mails should write for a free copy of this enlarged and comprehensive list of these popular stamps.

**Whitfield King & Co.**

IPSWICH, ENGLAND.

(Established 1869.)



# The SOUTH AFRICAN PHILATELIST

Proprietors and Publishers :

The Philatelic Congress of Southern Africa

Hon. Editor: J. H. HARVEY PIRIE, P.O. Box 7012, Johannesburg

Hon. Business Manager: WILLIAM REDFORD, cor. Market & Kruis Streets,  
Johannesburg

Subscription: Five Shillings per annum, post free to any part of the World.

Vol. 10

JULY, 1934.

No. 7

## EDITORIAL

### STAMP COLLECTOR'S BADGE

A "fraternity emblem" for philatelists has been issued by G. F. Rapkin, manufacturer of philatelic accessories. It is in the form of a tasteful gold-plated metal badge with dark blue enamel inscription; size, one inch in width, with stud behind for insertion in button-hole.

We illustrate an enlargement of it below:—



This emblem should appeal particularly to South Africans, as the "Cape Triangular" has been selected as the world-wide badge of philatelists.

A well-wisher of the *S.A. Philatelist* has been so struck with these emblems that he has given us 50 of them, and we will have much pleasure in presenting one to each of the first 50 of our readers introducing a new subscriber for a year to the *S.A. Philatelist*. Alternatively, if the reader so desires, the badge will be presented to the new subscriber.

### PROPOSED "JUNIOR" EXHIBITION IN DURBAN.

At the May meeting of the Junior Philatelic Society of Natal the proposal was put forward to hold an exhibition during October, if sufficient support from junior collectors be forthcoming.

There will be various classes of entries in which collectors may compete, e.g., specialised one-country collections; group-collections (e.g., France and Colonies); air-mails; or subject-collections (e.g., animals, ships, buildings, railways, etc.).

It is hoped that members of senior societies will do their best to encourage junior collectors to enter. Any further information may be obtained from: The Secretary, Junior Philatelic Society of Natal, Box 588, Durban.

### — EAST AFRICA'S NEW STAMPS. —

The "East African Standard" announces the result of the competition for designs for the new East African stamps. The first prize (£50) goes to Mr. L. R. Cutts, of Nairobi; the second (£25) to Mr. Alan Ross, of Kampala; and the third to Mr. G. G. Holmes, of Nairobi. All three designs are pictorial in character, and in each the King's head, in profile, has a prominent place. Those placed first and third both portray well-known physical features of one or other of the territories. In the first case it is Mount Kenya, and in the other Mount Kilimanjaro.

In all three the scenic effects typifying the territories are most pleasing, colouring in each case being distinctive. Appropriate animals figure in each, the first award having two elephant heads, the second a lion, and the third an elephant head and a giraffe. Three palm trees help to make the second design representative of all three areas. The words "Kenya, Uganda, Tanganyika" are embodied in each of the designs, which also provide spaces for a clear indication of the value.

The first design has, optionally, an aeroplane over Mount Kenya, making it suitable, if desired, for an air mail stamp.

These designs, and three others, were selected from over 400 submitted, and will be forwarded to the Secretary of State for the Colonies, who will consider them with any others which may have been submitted direct to the Crown Agents.

## Union of South Africa Notes

Postal markings are becoming increasingly prominent in the philatelic world—they are very popular in America—and Union collectors are recommended to pay more attention to this branch of the hobby, to both postmarks and slogans, as they will be expected to feature in all representative collections.

And, talking of slogans, did you know that the Dutch and Afrikaans renderings of "Buy-Union Loan Certificates" are to be found as follows:—

- (1) Koop Unie Lenings Certifikaten.
- (2) Koop Unie Lening Certifikaten.
- (3) Koop Unie Lenings Sertifikate.
- (4) Koop Unie Lening Sertifikate.

I confess I did not until I read it in "The Australian Stamp Monthly."

It is time some enthusiast gave us an article on Union slogans.

As I foreshadowed some time ago, the 1d. stamp has appeared with Suid-Afrika spelt with a hyphen, and all other values will follow. The printing from the new plate is very clear in carmine, with very pale centre, and I have not noted any varieties or blemishes.

I do not know whether I have mentioned the fact before, that all the postage due labels are printed from the same plate, the figures only being changed for the several values. There are minor varieties in the plate.

EX UNITATE.

\* \* \*

There has been a new printing of the 1d. Voortrekker stamps; the colour is a very much more vivid red than that of the first printing.

New registered envelopes are now on sale. The King's head has been replaced by a stamp similar in design to the 4d. adhesive. Suid-Afrika is spelt with a hyphen, as it now is also in the latest printing of the postcards and letter-cards.

\* \* \*

Mr. A. Morgan, Box 596, Bulawayo, has submitted for our inspection a specimen of S.G.

O1 (Pretoria printing), in which the O of Offisieel is either replaced by a G or the O is broken in such a manner as to give an almost perfect reproduction of a G. The stamp is one of a corner block of four.

\* \* \*

Mr. Stephen G. Rich, editor of "Postal Markings," kindly sends the following: A new inter-provincial of the Union of South Africa has just been reported to me by Commander J. L. Nielson, U.S. Naval Submarine Base, New London, Conn. I have not yet seen the stamp, but I have Commander Nielson's tracing of the cancellation. This stamp is £10 of Natal (Stanley Gibbons, No. 145), used at Johannesburg, August 19, 1910. It is cancelled with the double circle handstamp postmark of Johannesburg, with the date "19 Aug 10" in one line across the centre. Portions of two impressions of the cancellation shown on the stamp. I have never seen this stamp or heard of it as an interprovincial. Commander Nielson states that the stamp does not have perforated initials. I send you this information with the idea that you may care to run a brief mention of it in your journal.

\* \* \*

Mr. W. S. Robertson, East London, reports:

An interesting error has been found in the current shilling stamp. A collector went into a local post office for some shilling stamps and noticed that three rows in a sheet of 120 had failed to print properly. In the stamp concerned two gnu, or wildebeeste, are shown against a background of hills, both animals and background being in brown. In the error the background had failed to print altogether, and the wildebeeste are merely shown in outline. The second, third and fourth rows, 18 stamps in all, showed the error, while the rest of the sheet was perfect. The sheet bore no control number. The collector who made the discovery purchased a pair of the errors, and of the rest, four, I believe, were used on telegrams, and an enterprising collector, with an eye to a bargain, stepped in and bought up the remaining dozen.

The stamps, I believe, are printed by rotogravure, and it would be interesting to know how the error occurred. So far as is known the 18 stamps on that particular sheet alone exhibit the error.

**SCARCE STAMPS  
AT LOW PRICES**

FINE CONDITION. NO RUBBISH.

**MAJOR F. C. L. GRIEVE**

66, Oxford Terrace, LONDON, W.2

LISTS ON APPLICATION.  
REFERENCES REQUIRED.

# Rhodesian Postage Stamps

By W. J. HARRINGTON.

(Continued from page 83 of June issue.)

(d) *Re-entries (continued)*—

(ii) *1d. value:*

- Doubling of H in BRITISH, and also in "1."
- Left side doubled, broken in centre. Hatching round left value doubled.
- Left side line doubled at top and bottom. In the centre horizontal lines under SOUTH extend across margin. SO slightly doubled.
- Left side line doubled. Hook at top of right side line.
- Left side line irregularly doubled at top. Right side line doubled.
- Left side line doubled. Right side line doubled 5 mm. down. Die 1, perf. 14.
- Left side line doubled 5 mm. up. Right line doubled at top. Horizontal lines overlap the "d."
- Thin coloured line down whole of left side. Right side line doubled half way down.
- Left line doubled at bottom. Top of right line doubled. Retouch of lines right of "d."
- Left side completely doubled, including SO, and about 3 mm. of design. Right line doubled 10 mm. down.
- Both sides doubled. Die 1, perf. 14.
- Left line doubled half way down. Right line doubled up to 6 mm. from top.
- Both sides partly doubled.
- Both sides thinly doubled. Heavy shading over BRITISH.
- Left bottom corner thickened and right side line doubled.
- Left line doubled at bottom. Right line doubled at top. Die 1, perf. 14.
- Left side hook at top and doubled at bottom. Right side hook at top and doubled at bottom. Die 1, perf. 14.
- Left side doubled. Right side doubled almost to bottom. NY doubled and shading extended into margin. Die 1, perf. 14.
- Left line much thickened. Right side doubled at top.
- Left line doubled. Right side hook at top, MPANY, shading and inner line doubled. Die 1, perf. 14.

- Top line doubled and white margin of value label therefore narrow.
- Top line thick on right, and is also extended to the right.
- Top line trebled, almost obliterating white margin of value label. Top of "d" cut by hatching. Left of bottom line doubled. Die 1, perf. 14.
- Top line thickened at left. Bottom line doubled at right.
- Top line thickened.
- Right line doubled half way down. NY doubled.
- Right line doubled. Die 1, perf. 14.
- Right line doubled in places. Hook at top and NY doubled. Die 1, perf. 14.
- Right line hook at top. ANY doubled. Right line broken in three places.
- Right line hook at top. Hatching round right "1" doubled.
- Right line thickened. Narrow white margin in right value label.
- Right line doubled but broken 8 mm. down.
- Right line doubled at top. NY and hatching above and round "1d." double and thick.
- Right line doubled for 3 mm. down. NY doubled. Shading right of value label overlaps white border at top.
- Right line doubled at top. Top line extended.
- Right line doubled with heavy doubling over value. Thin "1."
- Right line doubled. Horizontal shading overlaps value.
- Doubling of right frame at top and of bottom curve in centre. Narrow "1" on right. Bottom corner doubled and crossed. Right scroll doubled, also IA. Die 1, perf. 14.
- Right side, portion of design about 3 mm. across, and also ball design doubled. Heavy retouch over curve over BRITISH, one line of which overlaps white margin.
- Doubling of right side of design and top and bottom corners IA doubled. Thin "d."
- Right side line doubled.
- Right line hook at top. Bottom line hook on right. Die 1, perf. 14.
- Right line doubled at top and down almost to bottom, and also horizontal lines in background of King's head.

(iii) *1½d. value:*

- Top line extended to left.
- Right line doubled. Die 1, perf. 14.
- Right line doubled at top. Doubling of "d."
- Right line doubled at bottom. Bottom line doubled at right.

- Left line doubled at top. Die 2, perf. 14.  
Faint doubling of top line. Die 1, perf. 14.
- (iv) *2d. value:*  
Left line hook at bottom. Die 2, perf. 14.  
Top line hook at right. Die 3, perf. 14.  
Bottom line hook at left. Die 2, perf. 14.  
Right line faintly doubled. Die 3.  
Both strokes of H in BRITISH doubled at bottom and vertical ornament right of head doubled.
- (v) *3d. value:*  
Left line doubled. Die 3, perf. 14.  
Left line doubled at top and right line doubled at bottom. Die 3 perf. 14.
- (vi) *4d. value:*  
Bottom line hook at left. Die 2, perf. 14, and Die 3, perf. 14.
- (vii) *6d. value:*  
Bottom portion of design doubled, also R of RHODESIA. Die 3, perf. 14.  
Right line doubled at bottom. Bottom line doubled at left. ESI doubled. Die 3, perf. 14.  
Bottom right corner doubled. Die 3, perf. 14.  
RHODESIA doubled. Die 3.
- (viii) *8d. value:*  
Top line hook at left. Bottom line with hook at left. Bottom right corner doubled. Die 3, perf. 14.  
Bottom left scroll doubled. Die 3, perf. 14.
- (ix) *1s. value:*  
Bottom line with hook at left, and left line doubled. Die 3, perf. 14.  
Left line doubled. Die 3, perf. 14.
- (x) *2s. 6d. value:*  
Left line doubled at top.  
Bottom line hook at left. Die 3, perf. 14.
- (xi) *3s. value:*  
Left line with hook at bottom. Die 2.  
Top line with hook at left. Die 2, perf. 14.
- (xii) *5s. value:*  
Bottom line with hook at left. Die 2, perf. 14, and Die 3.
- (xiii) *7s. 6d. value:*  
Left line with hook at bottom. Die 2, perf. 14.
- (xiv) *£1 value:*  
Bottom line with hook at left. Die 2, perf. 14.

(e) *Paper.*

The ½d. value is to be found on a yellowish buff paper.

## 13. GENERAL.

A very scarce stamp is the 8d., Die 1, perf. 14, of which only four copies were known in March, 1931. As all these four copies show the same characteristics, viz., the same displacement of the head and the overlapping green lines vertically over portion of the ear, it is probable that they all came from one sheet.

The rare shade of the 10s. value formed a consignment of 6,000 sent in September, 1923, to Livingstone for use in Northern Rhodesia.

Owing to the fact that a large proportion of the stamps of this issue were printed during the period of the Great War, when it was often difficult, and in some cases impossible, to secure exact colours, and further as experiments were being made with a view to obtaining satisfactory fugitive inks in certain colours, there is to be found a large number of shades of all values. The many irregularities and departures from the excellent workmanship generally shown in the emissions from Messrs. Waterlow & Son were mainly due to the scarcity of skilled labour and to the enforced employment of unskilled workers.

The unsold stock of this issue returned from post offices in Southern Rhodesia in 1924 and later from Northern Rhodesia were, together with the remainders on hand in the company's London offices, destroyed on the 31st March, 1925.

(The next instalment will deal with the "Livingstone Provisionals" of 1917.)

Sarawak has just issued a new set of 20 stamps (1 cent to 10 dollars), all with the portrait of the Rajah in uniform.

According to the Crown Agents, new pictorial sets are to appear soon from Ascension and British Guiana. British Colonies have been fairly busy just lately, but they are in the "also ran" class compared with Italian Colonies.

**APPROVAL BOOKS**

Postage. Fiscal. Telegraph and Local  
Stamps—at 75% discount.

Pre-stamp old covers.

Hong Kong used in China Treaty ports,  
and interesting cancellations many  
countries.

Great Britain—Railway Stamps.  
Newspaper Tax—Postmarks, etc.

**WALTER MORLEY,**  
"Cornaways," Riverhead, Kent.

## AIR MAIL NOTES

Mr. Wyndham furnishes the following:—  
BRITISH WINGED POSTMARK.

In last month's Notes reference was made to the postmark used at the special post office at "Apex." In this connection the following paragraph which appeared in the Press may be useful to those collectors who have specimens of the special cancellation:—

"The first winged postmark to be used in the British postal service has been sanctioned by the General Post Office exclusively for the International Air Post Exhibition (Apex), London. Although special lettering within the standard circle has sometimes been permitted for particular occasions, this is the first time that a new design of die stamp has been allowed. The postmark was designed by Mr. Fred. J. Melville, the philatelic authority and organising director of the exhibition, and will be used on all letters posted from the exhibition post office."—(Reuter.)

### THE MADAGASCAR LINK.

The following message from Paris was published early in June: "The trans-Atlantic air aces, Assclant and Lefevre, will proceed to Africa shortly to inaugurate a weekly air service, linking the Imperial Airways service at Broken Hill with Madagascar."

### LIEUTENANT "PAT" MURDOCH.

Lieut. "Pat" Murdoch, who for several years has been a pilot with Union Airways (now S.A. Airways), and mainly in charge of the Durban-Cape Town run, has taken up a new post, connected with flying, in the Police Department. Lieut. Murdoch, like Capt. Casparethus, of Imperial Airways, is one of South Africa's pioneer airmen.

In August, 1928, Murdoch halved the existing solo record of 26 days for a flight from England to the Cape established by Lieut. Bentley a year previously. After a miraculous escape from disaster when crossing the Mediterranean by night, and the gruelling time he encountered heading his little Avro Avian through the fearful duststorms encountered in Egypt and the Sudan, Murdoch, on arrival at Pretoria, was arrested for having overstayed his leave from the S.A. Air Force, thereby being guilty of an offence against military discipline. He was officially reprimanded but given an extension of leave to continue his flight. His original intention of doing the return trip in 24 days was frustrated by bad luck, but in September of the same year he attempted to lower his own record on a flight to London. He was beset by a multitude of misfortunes, culminating in a crash in the

Belgian Congo; the plane burst into flames, but Murdoch, with a frantic jump, managed to save his life.

### FIRST BRITISH ROCKET AIR MAIL.

At the recent International Air Post Exhibition ("Apex") the mail rocket apparatus exhibited by the German experimenter Herr G. Zucker created such interest (Lord Londonderry, the Secretary for Air and Sir Kingsley Wood, the Postmaster-General, being greatly impressed) that negotiations were successfully carried out with the British Post Office to institute the first mail-rocket flight in England. Rockets are in regular use for the transportation of mails in Austria, but no one had ever attempted to use one in England. The six different coloured labels issued in connection with "Apex," depicting an Imperial Airways liner approaching the Tower Bridge, London, were specially overprinted "Rocket Post—First British Flight." The rocket, containing approximately 1,000 letters for all parts of the world, including a set of six to H.M. the King, was fired from a hill-top near Rottingdean, Sussex, at dawn on Wednesday, 6th June and made a flight of about half a mile. The letters were then taken out, transferred to a mailbag and carried in a car to Brighton Post Office where they were posted. Envelopes received cachets worded: "Trial Firing—6.Ju.34. Sussex Downs" and "Zucker Rocket Post. Rocket Fee two shillings sixpence paid." It is anticipated that this trial marks the dawn of a series of similar attempts which will culminate in regular mail-rocket services between England and Ireland and the Continent. In this connection it should be remembered that it is barely 30 years ago that the first flight, 150 yards, was made in a heavier than air machine and that last year a non-stop flight of nearly 6,000 miles was made. Is the time coming when the aeroplane as a form of mail transport will be obsolete and rockets, controlled by wireless, reduce the time between London and South Africa to a matter of hours?

The list of awards at "Apex" has been announced.

In the championship class the Grand Trophy goes to Mr. John Aspinwaal, Newburg, N.Y.; the Ladies' Trophy to Miss W. E. Penn-Gaskell, Great Britain; and the Grand Gold Medal to Dr. Philip G. Cole, New York.

The Grand Gold Medal for air stamp collections was won by Mr. Roger Steffan, Larchmont, N.Y.

In Class G, Section 5 (Air Post Post Collections, Africa), the list of awards is: Silver Gilt Medal, Mr. L. A. B. Sharpe, Great Britain; Silver Gilt Medal, Dr. J. H. Harvey Pirie, Johannesburg.

Mr. Bishop's paper, "Will the Boom in Air Covers Last?" from our March number has

been reprinted in "Linn's Stamp Weekly," of May 12th

#### NYASALAND.

Mr. Davidson, of Limbe, reports:—

On the 1st inst. the new design of stamps for Nyasaland were placed on issue in the following values: ½d., 1d., 1½d., 2d., 3d. and 6d.; the 1s. value did not appear till the 6th inst. The new design is the same for all values, except in the 1s. value, where "Nyasaland" appears in different shaped letters, and also has stops before and after "Nyasaland." The colours are green, sepia, red, grey, blue, violet and black and orange respectively.

With the printing of the 1s. value the printers have apparently had some difficulty in centring, as the orange shading has in some positions overlapped into the rays of the sun slightly.

The mound or rock on which the leopard is poised has quite a good resemblance to the top of an iceberg! I expect others will duly remark on this likeness ere long.

It will also be noticed that the word "Protectorate" does not appear on this issue. I have not heard why this was omitted, unless it was with the purpose of giving prominence to NYASALAND, as the setting undoubtedly does.

The sheets are printed in ten horizontal rows of six, with printer's inscription in the middle at bottom of each sheet, and serial or sheet number at top left corner.

Slight shade variations are noticeable, but I am of opinion that this is caused through variation of inking of the very close shading of the background of the design.

### Read About Your Hobby

We have made up a number of parcels of books about stamps, all of which provide very interesting reading matter. There are old catalogues showing market prices of stamps in earlier years, handbooks on various countries, etc., etc. Each parcel contains about five different books published at from 15/- to 30/- the lot.

We are clearing them out at 4/- per parcel, post free. (Postage alone uses up about 1/- of this amount), and we will use Union tete-beche stamps on the wrapper.)

## C. F. SKINNER

P.O. Box 5887, JOHANNESBURG.  
(Shop No. 16 Old Arcade, Market St.)

## COLLECTORS' WANTS AND OFFERS

(Twopence per word per insertion with minimum of 2/- per insertion).

**Nevis and Virgin Islands.**—Stamps, Literature and Information wanted.  
*A. F. Johnstone, P.O. Box 6006, Johannesburg.*

**1899-1902.**—British used in South Africa and South Africa used in British Army P.Os.  
*J. H. Harvey Pirie, P.O. Box 1038, Johannesburg.*

**"Specimen Stamps."**—Great Britain, British Colonial and Foreign wanted.  
*Saul A. Klagsbrun, P.O. Box 846, Pretoria.*

**Wanted.** — Cape, Natal, Transvaal Orange Free State, Griqualand West, Swaziland, Portuguese East Africa, Brazil, Greece, including covers and postal stationery.  
*A. E. Basden, P.O. Box 238, Pretoria.*

**Wanted.**—Specimens, mint and fine used, of Gambia, Gold Coast, Sierra Leone and Nigerian Colonies.  
*T. V. Green, P.O. Box 4967, Johannesburg.*

**Early European Stamps on cover.**—Stamps and covers used in Basutoland.  
*Dr. A. J. Broughton, 13-14 Bourke Trust Buildings, Pretoria.*

**Gold Coast.**—Early issues, fine used. Special Postmarks. Mint. Wanted.  
*William Redford, cor. Kruis and Market Streets, Johannesburg.*

**Rhodesian Rarities.**—Wanted. Mint or used.  
*R. H. Morley, P.O. Box 7573, Johannesburg.*

**Great Britain.**—Wanted early issues line engraved and surface printed—and items of interest.  
*J. A. Bremner, 12, Ashford Rd., Parkwood, Johannesburg.*

**Wanted to Exchange Stamps.**—Send assortment.  
*Dr. Alfred Browne, Ferriday, Louisiana, U.S.A.*

# The Rotogravure Stamps of the Union of South Africa

By G. N. GILBERT.

(Continued from page 85 of June issue.)

(Note.—Correspondence invited with a view to correcting errors of omission or commission.)

## HALFPENNY SHEET—(Continued).

A new issue of the ½d. sheets has just appeared, printed from new frame and headplates. This will be frameplate 3 and headplate 2.

The plates have been made from the same glass positive as the previous ones, as the positive characteristics remain, but all the other individual plate flaws, of course, do not reappear, such as the "retouched shading between horns," the "dollar" error, and the nick on horn; also the line across the buck's nose. With the advent of this new headplate printing it is possible to determine the various headplate glass positive characteristics more fully, and these are listed in the table which follows, together with the minute frame and headplate individual characteristics of this issue.

### LIST OF PLATE FLAWS.

(Note.—In this and all similar subsequent lists a "x" indicates a known occurrence; a "—" indicates a definite non-occurrence; whilst a blank means that it is not definitely known whether the particular flaw occurs or not.)

Row	No.	Glass positive frameplate characteristics.	Pl. 1	Pl 2	booklets.
5	8	Green flaw through top left corner .. .. .	x	x	x
12	1	Tiny green spot bottom right of frame level with bar ..	x	x	—
15	8	Spot in bottom bar .. .. .	x	x	x
19	3	Spot under right bar .. .. .	x	x	x
<b>Glass positive headplate characteristics.</b>					
1	12	"Snail" on buck's breast .. .. .	x	x	—
3	3	Spot left of nose .. .. .	x	x	x
3	6	Spot between horns (middle).. .. .	x	x	x
4	2	Spot left of nose .. .. .	x	x	x
4	3	Spot right of right ear.. .. .	x	x	x
4	4	Spot base of left ear .. .. .	x	x	x
7	2	Spot between right horn and ear .. .. .	x	x	x
7	4	Spot between and nearer left horn .. .. .	x	x	x
9	9	Spot between horns .. .. .	x	x	x
11	8	Spot inside near top of right horn .. .. .	x	x	x
12	9	Line of spots in shading left of left eye .. .. .	x	x	x
14	7	Spot in shading above back .. .. .	x	x	x
16	8	Nick in tip of right horn .. .. .	x	x	x
17	3	Spot between horns (middle).. .. .	x	x	x
<b>Individual plate characteristics.</b>					
<b>Frameplate 1.</b>					
1	4	Green lines outside frame top left corner .. .. .	x	—	—
1	10	Two small green spots top right corner in opening of ornamental square .. .. .	x	—	—

The most obvious flaw in the new printings occurs on No. 3, row 11; it is a green flaw extending through the top bar down to the frameline surrounding "Suidafrika." The central arrows in the new printing also slightly differ from the last.

This printing from the new plates must not be confused with the issue which appeared recently with much lighter headplate impressions. The latter was printed probably from cleaned plates, but was undoubtedly still printed from the old headplate and from frameplate 2, as all the characteristics of these plates occur.

Note.—The description of the "design characteristic" of the ½d. sheet given at the end of last month's issue should read: "The design characteristic of this denomination is an extended line of shading sloping down into the white border of the top left-hand ornamental square on every even Afrikaans stamp," not as it was printed.

1	12	Missing line of shading, bottom left corner	.. ..	x	—	—
3	6	Green spot top left of right bar	.. ..	x	—	—
3	7	Missing shading left, next to bar	.. ..	x	—	—
3	8 & 9	White spot next to left bar	.. ..	x	—	—
7	8	Green hairline top left corner	.. ..	x	—	—
7	10	Green spot outside frameline, right	.. ..	x	—	—
11	1	Green hairline top left corner. (This flaw appears to be due to the tool slipping when engraving in the central arrow.)	.. ..	x	—	—
11	3	Green spot in 1 of 1d.	.. ..	x	—	—
12	5	Green spot left between bar and inside frame	.. ..	x	—	—
12	6	Green spot in A of Afrika	.. ..	x	—	—
13	4	Green spot outside right next to top bar	.. ..	x	—	—
14	1	Small green stroke, bottom left corner	.. ..	x	—	—
16	6	Hairline from bottom bar	.. ..	x	—	—
17	7	Green spot bottom left corner	.. ..	x	—	—
17	8	Green spot top bar at right	.. ..	x	—	—
18	1	White spot in top right corner of top right ornament	.. ..	x	—	—
18	5	Green spot in opening of top right ornamental square	.. ..	x	—	—
19	4	White spot between bar and scroll left	.. ..	x	—	—
19	12	Green spot top right corner	.. ..	x	—	—
20	1	R in Revenue has curled bottom down stroke	.. ..	x	—	—

## Frameplate 2.

1	1	Green spot outside right frameline near top	.. ..	—	x	
1	7	Green spot under r of Afrika	.. ..	—	x	
1	8	Green spot bottom right corner	.. ..	—	x	
3	1	Green line in outside left margin from bar	.. ..	—	x	
3	12	Right-hand top corner of bottom label broken and re-touched	.. ..	—	x	
5	5	Green spot just under top left ornamental square	.. ..	—	x	
5	12	Green spot under top bar on right	.. ..	—	x	
8	6	Slight cut in top bar	.. ..	—	x	
10	4	Dot in a of Africa and above it between frame and right bar	.. ..	—	x	
10	8	Dark spot in k of Inkomste	.. ..	—	x	
10	9	"Dollar" error	.. ..	—	x	
10	12	Spot between r in Afrika and bar	.. ..	—	x	
13	3	Cut in bottom of top bar	.. ..	—	x	
14	12	Flaw at end of bottom bar	.. ..	—	x	
17	1	Spot outside top corner of top left ornamental square	.. ..	—	x	
18	8	Green line bottom left corner	.. ..	—	x	
19	1	Green spot top right over ornamental square	.. ..	—	x	
20	1	White spot near top edge of oval just above right-hand horn	.. ..	—	x	
20	3	Two green spots bottom right level with bar	.. ..	—	x	
20	6	Spot under right bar	.. ..	—	x	

No Frameplate 2 in booklets.

## Frameplate 3.

1	5	Slight flaw under dash between postage and revenue.				
1	9	Hairline from right bar level with top of figure of value tablet.				
2	3	Mark in left edge of oval just below bottom level of S.				
2	10	Hairline under ornamental circle of label bottom left.				
3	2	Green spot in shading left, level with bottom of buck's jaw.				
3	8	Hairline in bottom left corner level with panel.				
3	10	Spot in outside edge of right frameline near bottom.				
3	12	Spot in spandrel above u in South and in top left outside margin near top bar.				
4	1	Two tiny spots in spandrel over ri in Africa.				
4	10	Spot in scroll, left middle.				
4	12	Green flaw above right end of label above e of Inkomste.				
5	2	Spot in base of top leaf below left scroll.				
6	1	Spot under nu in Revenue.				
6	7	Spot in top left edge of frame.				
6	9	Flaw in top bar and in frameline of label above r of Afrika.				
7	1	Spot above Af.				
7	5	Spot in outside bottom left shading level with bottom corner of label.				



8	4	Spot in top left edge of frame near bar and spot under top bar on right.
8	9	Spots in bottom bar.
9	7	Slight flaw in line under n of Inkomste.
11	3	Very distinct flaw in top bar extending to top of label over f in Afrika.
12	11	Green spot in edge of oval under A of Africa..
13	4	Spot between bar and scroll and touching scroll on right.
13	8	Two spots in top bar.
14	2	Flaw under first e in Posseel.
18	9	Hairline from top left square ornament.
19	1	Spots in shading top right above square ornament and in outside margin.
19	3	Spot below and near bottom of right bar.
19	5	Spot below right bar level with panel.
20	5	Flaw in bottom of 2 in 2d.
20	6	Spot outside bottom left corner of frame.

#### Headplate 1, appearing in frameplate 1 and 2 issues.

1 & 2	2	Vertical black line through headplate. (In the first issue this is plainer and shows also over the frameplate printing. The later issues show only the line in headplate and growing fainter.)
4	11	White spot bottom left of oval (retouched in later printings.
6	12	Spot between top of horns.
9	5	Spot between top of horns and shading worn later printings, finally retouched shading in second plate printings.
9	6	Black spot after a of Africa.
10	3	Two spots opposite left-hand eye.
10	4	One spot opposite left-hand eye.
10	6	White spot above shoulder on right.
10	7	Nick or dart in buck's ear and spot between horn and right-hand ear.
10	8	Spots left of left-hand ear and horn.
13	12	Spot left of left hand eye.
15	5	Vertical line through headplate.
16	2	Spot between horns, near base of right-hand horn.
16	3	Spot in left-hand horn.
18	7	Spot next to and below left-hand ear.
18	12	Line across buck's nose.
19	4	Spot near nose on left.
20	10	Spot near horn on left.

#### Headplate 2.

1	3	Spot above right horn.
1	4	Dark spots between horns and shading lines 5-6 from base of horns.
1	7	Spot left of left ear.
1	8	Spot in base of left horn (on the first white ring.)
2	12	Spots right of right ear.
3	8	Spot right of right ear.
3	10	Two spots between horns on shading lines 6-7 from base of horns.
10	10	Spot near tip of right ear.
11	12	Spot left and slightly below nose.
13	6	Spot right near edge level with bottom of scroll.
14	3	Hairline from left edge of oval to buck's breast.
14	8	Spot in shading right of right ear.

The following flaws appear in printings from the second frameplate, but in some batches only, and are probably due to damage to the cylinder during its use:

#### Frameplate 2.

3	2	Convex line through r in Africa.
---	---	----------------------------------

#### Headplate 1.

8	9	Shorter left-hand top of horn. (This only appeared apparently in a few sheets.)
13	2	Convex white patch on right of oval. (See text for explanation of this.)
20	1	Lighter shading in bottom left of oval. (This is much plainer in some printings than in others.)

(To be continued.)

## Some Reflections Upon the Commemorative Stamps of St. Helena

(By Dr. L. L. BURTON, St. Helena.)

You have come in by the Union Castle steamer, en route for the Cape. Looking out of the porthole, in the early morning, the precipitous cliffs of this rocky isle greet the eye.

And you wonder, in retrospect. You see in the roadstead many an East Indiaman: the port is busy, the island in the lap of the gods. A change comes, and the years roll on. The Boer War has come and gone. Way back in 1900, High Knoll, shown on the 5/0 stamp, was used for certain prisoners. I have stood within its walls, and looked down, through slitted openings, at Jamestown Valley far below. The barred gate and the drawbridge, what tales both might tell!

But you pick up the shilling. Mundens! What a world of romance lies behind the spot pictured on this stamp. Imagine 1693. The Dutch have taken the island, while under the governorship of Captain Anthony Beale. Their first attempt had resulted in being beaten off by showers of stones. Then, waiting for the night, a planter was found, whose slave conducted them up Swanley Valley to a spot close to High Peak. Five hundred English had to retreat, and Fort James was taken. The Governor and a few inhabitants made their escape on board ships then in harbour. On the way to Brazil they well in with Munden. ADVENTURE in capital letters was the ruling passion of those days. He sailed for the island, and, while Capt. Kedgwin, with 200 men, landed at Prosperous Bay, Munden with his men made his at the spot shown on this stamp. The Dutch were defeated.

The penny green. This gives a far better idea of Plantation House (Government House) surroundings than of the house itself, which is partly blotted out by a tree, BUT it does show something of a beauty which can only be described as idyllic.

The 3d. and 6d. are self explanatory. The one shows Jamestown from the sea, while the other gives a glimpse of the upper part of the town.

The 2d. shows where Napoleon landed.

The ½d. lilac, Lot and Lot's wife.

Lot, 1,444 feet above the level of the sea; its base is 100 feet thick. Altitude 290 feet.

Lot's Wife is 1,550 feet above sea level, and is 260 feet from the base. The upper portion of Lot's Wife is considerably thicker than the base, on which it stands.

Reverting to Plantation House, which was erected in 1791. It is 3½ miles from James-

town, and is over 1,700 feet above sea level.

A guide boys' tale is that a huge rock, at the side of the lawn, was the spot where Sir Hudson Lowe confined Napoleon in order that he might keep an eye on him from his front door steps!

St. Helena, the patron Saint of the island, is seen bearing a cross.

From my window, as I write, comes the sound of the February rollers, which occur at this time of the year.

Through the window I have just heard, from a wireless opposite, Big Ben, as clearly as if I were standing under her, or him, or it.

On one window-pane I read "Bazette Knipe, 1865." On another "J. Daly, 1801." The church clock at the foot of the street has just struck six, and Jamestown is in the shadow. If, however, I took my car, or climbed the ladder, 699 steps, I would find the sun again, which had not yet set.

The four Sovereigns, which was the particularly happy idea of the present Governor, Sir Spencer Davis, make several of these new stamps quite unique.

From my window I can see the house where Napoleon stayed on the first night of his landing, and where the Duke of Wellington lodged for three weeks in 1860.

And through the open window I can hear a lady singer, probably in a room of the B.B.C., in the old country, reaching out to the top C.

And, from my window, I can view the rush of the motor car, where five years ago there were only the horse-drawn vehicle and the ox wagon as means of transport and carriage.

Now every island lad longs to be seated at the wheel.

Recently one excitable driver shot over the wharf, turn to your new stamp, at a speed of thirty miles an hour on a dark night. The car and passengers were rescued, but since, that car is dubbed Submarine No. X.—*The Australian Stamp Monthly*.



## Orange Free State Cancellations

By A. E. BASDEN.

Do you read that fascinating little journal "Postal Markings," which is devoted almost entirely to postmarks? It is published by Stephen G. Rich (an old South African), of 170, Claremont Avenue, Verona, New Jersey, U.S.A., at a dollar a year. I appreciate it immensely, because for a long time now I have been particularly intrigued with the selection and collection of varieties of postmarks on the stamps of my favourite countries. On the front cover of the February number of "Postal Markings" there is reproduced a Griqualand West cover, postmarked, Diamond Fields, 1871 (before Griqualand West and Kimberley were named, according to the subscription). I find that very interesting.

Now let me tell you something about early O.F.S. cancellations in the hope that you may become interested in the cancellations of this and other of your favourite countries.

The earliest Free State cancellations were numerals and letters within a single line circle, surrounded by a horizontally lined oval. You will all know them, but have you ever made a list of them? Here is mine:—

- (1) Numeral cancellations: 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9 (?), 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 21, 22, 24, 25, 26, 27, 29, 30, 57 (?).
- (2) Literal cancellations: A, BE, C, D, G, K, O, P, X, Y.

Usually these cancellations were perpetrated in black ink, but I have the following.

- (3) Coloured numerals: Violet, 1, 13; purple, 1, 2; green, 1, 2, 3, 5; red, 1, 2, 4, 24.
- (4) Coloured letters: Bright violet, A.

Cork cancellations on Free State stamps are rare, and I have only found a few, all of the same type—broken-bars, spherical cancellation.

Then we come to dated town cancellations. Have you ever noticed that many of them are bilingual? Of course you have not. Never thought of such a thing. Of course not. Well, here are some you can look out for:—

Class 1.—"Bloemfontein — Orange Free State" for "Bloemfontein—Oranje Vrij Staat."

Class 2.—With "O.F. State" for "O.V. Staat" (O.V.S) in the following towns: Edenburg, Harrismith, Kroonstad, Wepener (?), Winburg

Class 3.—"Winburg Road P.O." for "Winburgweg P.K."

I have found the following coloured town cancellations:—

- Purple: Clocolan.
- Bright violet: Clocolan.
- Violet: Ficksburg, Ladybrand.
- Green: Heilbron, Kroonstad, Thaba Nchu.
- Red: Kroonstad.

And the following error (?): "P.A. Bloemfontein" for "P.K. Bloemfontein."

That exhausts my list, but I know at least one collector who, I believe, can add to it, and also give us many more particulars. I hope he will do so soon.

I would like also to suggest that the newly constituted O.F.S. and Basutoland P.S. furnish us with additional information and also a list of the name places corresponding to the numeral and literal cancellations.

### P.O. PAY-DAY.

The year 1934 means "pay day" to the postal authorities of every country in the world, for only once in every five years does each country receive payment for the delivery of foreign mail.

Few people know how stamp money is apportioned. If, for example, a letter is sent from London to Berlin, what proportion of the stamp money does Germany receive? The answer is none. In the same way, German mail is delivered in Great Britain, or any other country, without a share of the stamp money. A day of reckoning comes eventually, of course, and the world shares out its stamp money once every five years.

International harmony and co-operation among the world's post-offices was achieved only after indescribable chaos had forced the nations to an agreement, and the man who performed this great service was a German, Dr. Heinrich von Stephan, sometimes called "Father of the Postal Union." His efforts to create a World Postal State were crowned with success at Berne, Switzerland, in 1875, where representatives from twenty-two countries met and decided on a Postal League of Nations. To-day each country sends in its accounts and claims for stamp money to the International Bureau of the General Postal Union at Berne.—"Tit-Bits."

Can any reader give further details as to how the accounting between each country is

## REVIEW

Messrs. Whitfield, King and Co.'s "Philatelic Bulletin" for June is to hand, and contains the usual interesting particulars of new issues and contemplated emissions. A new 10 cent Canadian commemorative is foreshadowed. Denmark is about to issue a new air mail set, as well as new 4 and 10 ore ordinary postage stamps and a new 15 ore postage due. A special stamp was issued, and only on sale to purchasers of admission tickets, by Hungary for the Hungarian Philatelic Society's Exhibition. Italy announces another new set to be issued shortly, as also another set for the Colonies. Japan issued miniature sheets of air mail stamps to commemorate the postal anniversary. Poland issued two special stamps in connection with the Katowice Philatelic Exhibition. Russia is about to issue three more commemorative sets! Syria is issuing a new set to commemorate the first anniversary of the Republic. Switzerland is shortly issuing a set of pictorial stamps. And so they come! The "Bulletin" is posted monthly for 1s. 6d. per annum.

### BASUTOLAND "OFFICIALS."

Mr. J. Robertson has forwarded the following letter received from Basutoland:—

Maseru,  
Basutoland,  
13th June, 1934.

Dear Sir,

I beg to advise you that, after giving the matter full consideration, the Secretary of State has now decided that Basutoland stamps overprinted "Official" are not to be put on sale. The supply has been withdrawn.

Yours faithfully,  
J. P. JONES,  
Postmaster.

Mr. Morgan, of Bulawayo, reports the following:—

S. Rhodesia.—Current 1½d., perf. 12 x 12, formerly 11½ x 11½.

S.W. Africa.—½d. S.G. No 58. Top right pane, No. 85 on the sheet of 240, with 8.W.A. for S.W.A. (This appears to be a well, but not perfectly, closed S.—Ed.) ¼d. Rotogravure with overprint in centre with broken A in S.W.A. No. 176 on sheet of 240.

Cape 2d. bistre (Hope seated) overprinted in violet "Nautilus." Can any reader give information about this overprint?

# British African Rarities

*I hold the Finest Stock in the World*

Only stamps in the finest possible condition and at reasonable prices will be found in my books.

**Selections sent on approval to any part of the world.**

Deal direct with the firm that actually has the stamps in stock and so save money.

**Want Lists will receive my prompt personal attention.**

## T. ALLEN

5, BLAKE HALL ROAD - - - - - WANSTEAD  
LONDON, E.11 - - - - - ENGLAND

## Philately in Johannesburg 1894-95

By J. H. Harvey Pirie

In 1893, in the seven-year-old Johannesburg, still little more, really, than a mining camp, the first stamp dealing business was established under the name of "M. Z. Booleman & Co." Mr. M. Z. Booleman, a Hollander and a dealer of repute in Europe, met on board ship on his way to South Africa Mr. Sallo Epstein, a stockbroker with philatelic leanings. They formed a philatelic partnership and set up shop in Pritchard Street, opposite the North-Western Hotel. In the back parlour collectors used to foregather, for the man who collects stamps and thinks stamps also wants to talk stamps, and here was a convenient rallying point. In this coterie the idea germinated of a philatelic club or society, and the "Johannesburg Philatelic Society" came into being on Thursday, 19th April, 1894. On that date a 17-page long constitution was adopted, and the following office-bearers were appointed:—

Hon. President: I. van Alphen, Postmaster-General, Z.A.R.

Hon. Vice-President: Emil Tamsen.

President: A. A. Osborn, Postmaster, Johannesburg.

Vice-President: Leon Schuler.

Hon. Treasurer: A. Landau.

Hon. Secretary: Sallo Epstein.

Hon. Assistant Secretary: S. A. Klagsbrun.

Hon. Librarian: Samuel F. Epstein.

Superintendent of Exchange: M. Z. Booleman.

Ordinary Members of Committee: Messrs. L. Graumann, W. A. Nellist, G. Donovan and H. H. Nelson.

The total roll of foundation members was 22, inclusive of the hon. president and vice-president; 13 of these names I have given you on the committee. During 1894, 14 additional ordinary members and 6 corresponding members were elected.

Of those 42 there are to-day, 40 years later, so far as I know, only 4 still with us. Two of these, Messrs. Tamsen and Klagsbrun, are still active philatelists, the others, Mr. C. E. Lawson and L. Schuler, are no longer active in that line.

These data I have obtained mainly from a paper, "The Story of a Dead Society," by Mr. T. Henderson, read before the Philatelic Society of Johannesburg, on February 4, 1903, and published in the "J.U.P. Essays," No. 1, May, 1910. Fuller details are given there, but as the paper is difficult to obtain I have thought it worth while to condense the story and put it before you. I am indebted to Mr.

E. Tamsen for the loan of a copy of the paper, also for a copy of "The South African Philatelist," Vol. 1, from which the remainder of the story of the Johannesburg Philatelic Society is taken. This paper, which I think has the honour of being the first philatelic journal in South Africa, was edited by Messrs. S. A. Klagsbrun and S. F. Epstein and ran for six months (November, '95-April, '96), being succeeded by "The South African Philatelist Monthly Bulletin."

What happened to the society during the earlier part of 1895 is not recorded, but in "The South African Philatelist," No. 2, December, 1895, page 9, we read: "The Johannesburg Philatelic Society is a thing of the past. . . . We attribute this deplorable end of the society to a want of energy in the committee and a waning of interest by the members. It is a well-known fact that for a philatelic society to attain any success it must have an energetic and hard-working committee, and this, alas, was wanting in the defunct society. There are sufficient ardent philatelists here to support a good local society, and if it be established on a firm basis, with a programme offering some benefits to members, and a good committee, we have no hesitation in saying that success would be certain."

In No. 5, March, 1896, p. 33, we read: "The liquidators of the defunct Johannesburg Philatelic Society have at length wound up the affairs of that society, having realised the assets and distributed the proceeds. The members have good reason to be satisfied with the result, having received as their share something like £9 10s. (Scott's Catalogue value) in unused Swaziland stamps for about £1 5s. cash paid by way of subscription, besides the other benefits which they received during the existence of the society. The corresponding members also received their proportion of the assets.

Who will be the first to take the initial steps to promote another philatelic society?"

Here endeth the first chapter in the somewhat chequered history of philatelic societies in Johannesburg. I hope to be able to continue the chronicle at some future date.

A small but good Collection of Cape Colony Stamps in unused single specimens, with full gum, unmounted.

C C 1d. red. C A ½d. black, and 3d. claret.  
Anchor, sitting figure, ½d. black, ½d. green,  
1d. on 2d., 2d. bistre, 2d. choc., 2½d. green.  
Anchor, sitting figure, 2½d. on 3d., 2½d. blue,  
3d. magenta, 4d. blue, 4d. green, 6d. purple.  
Anchor, sitting figure, 1/- yellow, 1/- green.  
Anchor, standing figure, ½d. green, 1d. red, 3d. magenta.

Table Mountain 1d. carmine.

Anchor King Edward, ½d., 1d., 2d., 2½d., 3d., 4d., 6d.

The best offer over 25/- will secure this bargain.

GEO. CHIPP, MAHLANGULU, P.O. CALA, TEMBULAND.

## SOCIETY NEWS

### THE PHILATELIC SOCIETY OF JOHANNESBURG.

The annual general meeting of the Philatelic Society of Johannesburg was held at the Carlton Hotel on Tuesday, June 12th.. There was a good attendance, and we were glad to see some old members who had been absent for the last few months.

Reports were submitted by the honorary secretary, honorary treasurer, and honorary exchange superintendent, all showing substantial increases in membership, attendance, and a very favourable credit balance in the financial section, and the society can be congratulated on the steady growth in all departments.

The retiring president, Dr. J. H. Harvey Pirie, forsook the usual formal type of address and, instead, read a paper concerning the history of the first philatelic society to be formed in Johannesburg, possibly in South Africa.

This is printed elsewhere in this issue.

The election of office bearers and committee for the coming year resulted in the following members being selected:—President, Major J. Milligan; vice-president, Mr. R. H. Morley; hon. secretary, Mr. T. V. Green; hon. treasurer, Mr. G. J. Houbert; hon. exchange superintendent, Mr. J. G. Kupferman; hon. librarian, Dr. J. H. H. Pirie; additional committee members, Messrs. Redford, Sprighton and Mark Rose.

The exhibit for the evening was provided by Mr. Schofield, who displayed a varied but very choice selection of the early imperforates of several countries, each stamp being in immaculate condition.

T.V.G.

### ORANGE FREE STATE AND BASUTOLAND PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

One of the most successful meetings was held on Friday, the 1st June, in the Plaza Tea Rooms. The attendance was a record one and a most pleasant evening was spent.

The President opened the meeting with a short address of welcome to a visitor, Mr. F. Stephens, a former member of the old Bloemfontein Society, now of Nyasaland.

After the formal business of the evening had been completed, Mr. Stephens exhibited his collection of Rhodesians (Jubilee and Admiral types), showing a wonderful variety in shades, including the scarce errors of colour.

After this display, Mr. Stephens showed his collection of "Unions," with many items which are usually missing from most collections.

The exhibits were appreciated by all, and when everybody left it was with a feeling that an evening had been well spent.

The question of staging a "Junior Exhibition" to interest juniors was put forward, and it was decided that at the next meeting it would be fully gone into. Mr. Stephens offered a complete set of the new Nyasaland—in mint condition—as one of the prizes.

The meeting was closed with a vote of thanks to the chair and to Mr. Stephens.

H.G.U.

### EAST LONDON PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

The May meeting was held on Wednesday, 16th, owing to the usual meeting day being a holiday. The president, Mr. Hoal, presided over a fair gathering of members.

There was a good deal of business to be got through, and some interesting discussion resulted. As arranged at the general meeting, the committee had met and drawn up a syllabus for the year, which was presented to the meeting.

In accordance with the policy of making displays as attractive as possible, the evening had been set down for a general display by all members, each member bringing two or three sheets of what he considered his best stamps. The result was eminently satisfactory from all points of view, and was much better than the usual type of display. All the sheets on view were in excellent condition and some were exceedingly well written up. It is impossible to mention every exhibit, but perhaps two of the finest items on display were two pairs of East Africa and Uganda Protectorates King's head 6c. scarlet overprinted 4½. in black and with the previous value obliterated with black bars. The pairs shown had, owing to the sheet being folded over when the surcharge was being done, received the surcharge on the back of the stamps, the face being entirely free from all surcharge. These pairs are very scarce, as only one sheet is known to exist in this state. They are listed in Gibbons, but not priced.

Another interesting example of an error on the part of the printer was shown by the same collector in the form of a pane of the 1911-1912 issue of India, 1a. rose-carmine, which in 1921 were surcharged "nine pies" in black with a black bar obliterating the former value. In setting up the type the compositor made the error of making one whole row read "nine-nine" and consequently another row also read "pies-pies." The sheet on view showed both these errors next to the normal stamps.

The June meeting was held in the Toc H Rooms on Thursday evening, June 21, there being a very good attendance.

There was further discussion on the subject which had been brought up at the last

meeting of reviving an exchange club, and the exchange superintendent undertook to report progress at the next meeting.

The display for the month was "Air Mails," and two members, Messrs. Carter and Storey, were responsible for a display which was exceedingly interesting. Mr. Storey confined himself to covers alone and laid on the table twelve sheets of attractive first flight South African covers of the service which began in 1925. There were first flights for the trip between Port Elizabeth and East London, Durban and East London, East London and Capetown, Capetown and East London, and East London and Durban. An item of interest was a cover which, despite the fact that only letters bearing an air mail stamp would be taken by air mail, had nevertheless been carried by air with the postage paid by ordinary stamps alone.

Mr. Carter's display was, with the exception of two very interesting covers, confined to actual air mail stamps. One of the covers was a first flight Java to Amsterdam, and the other was undoubtedly the star piece of the evening, being absolutely unique. It was a cover, showing distinct signs of being burnt, that had formed part of mail from East London for Europe that was carried on that ill-fated Puss Moth plane which, piloted by Captain Davenport, who with the two passengers was killed, crashed in Sir Lowry's Pass on November 13, 1931. It was stated in the Press at the time that the mail was almost entirely destroyed. The letter displayed on Thursday night was from a local newsagent to a firm in England. That letter was not quite destroyed, the address and stamps on it being intact. It was forwarded to the firm in England, who, finding the order in the letter undecipherable on account of the conflagration it had been through, sent it back to the senders.

The rest of the display was very attractive, and undoubtedly served to convince some of the collectors who are sceptical of the charms of being an air mail "fan" that there may be something in it after all.

The American continent was extremely well represented. The stamps were all well mounted, and most of them in flawless mint condition. The United States were very strong, starting with the modest issue of 1918, followed by that of 1923, 1926, 1927 (the Lindberg commemorative), 1928 and 1930.

The 1931 issue of Newfoundland made a fine show, especially the high value showing famous Atlantic flights.

Mexico was also to the fore with sets ranging from 1922 to 1932, some of the issues being out of the ordinary and interesting.

Central America was represented by Hayti, Costa Rica and Cuba, and the 1930 Venezuela issue caught the eye with its pleasing design. Brazil completed the display of the Americas.

Europe was represented by Belgium and

Russia, and the issues of these countries shown were greatly in contrast. The beautifully designed Belgian set of 1930, showing a plane over the four Belgian cities of Ostend, St. Hubert, Namur and Brussels was the anti-thesis of the large and distinctly modernistic and crude labels issued by the Soviet, the Graf Zeppelin stamp, and the issue to promote aviation construction.

At the end of the evening, Messrs. Carter and Storey were heartily thanked for their display. The opportunity was also taken of wishing bon voyage to three members of the society, Messrs. Cowie, Hoal and R. W. Wilson, who are proceeding overseas.

W.S.R.

#### CAPETOWN PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

At the meeting of the Capetown Society, held on June 14th, a large gathering of members attended for the exhibition given by Mr. L. Simenhoff of "South African Air Mails." This collection was awarded the gold medal at the Durban Congress in 1928, but having since been considerably extended must now rank as the most complete of its kind extant.

The display given by Mr. Simenhoff had necessarily to be limited to selected items, and if the interest displayed by those present is held throughout the year a most successful session can be anticipated.

Commencing with the earliest days of South African aviation, the items covered the history of the period to date and opened with cards of the first flight in 1911 from Kenilworth to Muizenberg. In 1914 pioneer flights in South-West Africa took place and are recorded by a cover carried on the first flight from Swakopmund to Karibib. The well-known "Pigeon Post" held during the Peace celebrations in Capetown was represented by a "Pigeongram" and cover, and the ill-fated Capetown-Johannesburg air mail attempted in 1930 was represented by a flown cover. This flight, it will be remembered, was attempted in a large Handley-Page bi-plane, but unfortunately terminated at Beaufort West, the mails being transferred and carried for the remainder of the journey by rail.

In November, 1926, the first Switzerland-Cape flight took place, and here again a record is to be found in Mr. Simenhoff's collection in the shape of a flown cover. In 1927 Lieut. Bentley, flying the Johannesburg "Star" Moth, gained the admiration of the world, and this is again represented in Mr. Simenhoff's collection by a cover flown on the last leg of the flight from Broken Hill.

Of the service commenced by the South African Government in 1925, the collection is remarkably complete in the covers carried over the different routes, and in addition the mint stamps of the 1925 air mail issues were in themselves sufficient to form a not incon-

siderable display. All varieties were to be seen, including the imperforate issues.

The 1929 service was similarly represented to the full, and first flight covers from all routes were in evidence. Probably the most interesting and rare item of the two latter services was the cover flown in 1925 from Mossel Bay to Oudtshoorn.

Following upon the display, Mr. Wyndham expressed the thanks of members in a pleasing and most interesting way, indicating the progress of air mail services in Southern Africa and their representation in Mr. Simenhoff's exhibit. Mr. Simenhoff, in reply, made some explanatory remarks on his display, and also read a short paper on the "History of Aviation in South Africa." This proved of great interest to all and was proof—if any be needed—that the exhibitor is an authority on the subject.

The meeting, which was the first of the 1934-5 session of the society, was most successful and augurs well for the future of the society.

J.R.

PRETORIA PHILATELIC SOCIETY.—Great Postal Stamp Auction, October, 1934.

In the May number of the *S.A. Philatelist*, a full description is given of the Public and Postal Philatelic Auction being conducted by the Society in October in conjunction with Congress. The announcement has been well received and there is every reason to hope that it will be an unqualified success. Lots for auction are already flowing in; a large number of fine and interesting items will be offered for sale; and all that remains is that the philatelic public of South Africa will support the venture either by sending in their bids for the items that interest them or, better still, by attending Congress. The auction will be conducted by a committee of influential members of the Pretoria Philatelic Society, who will undertake the inspection and description of each lot offered for sale, so that philatelists may bid in the fullest confidence that each lot is as described.

If you have any useful stamps (or other items of philatelic interest) for sale, now is your golden opportunity. Send them *at once* to the Honorary Secretary, Pretoria Philatelic Society Postal Auction, P.O. Box 514, Pretoria, so that they may be described in the catalogue. The sale will take place on the 13th October, at Congress.

The catalogue will be issued in instalments as prepared periodically by the Committee, and will be distributed among all the philatelists in Southern Africa through the courtesy of the management of the "South African Philatelist" and by the Philatelic Societies and leading dealers in the country; or may be obtained on application to the Secretary, together with order forms.

Lots may consist of single items, pairs, blocks, etc., sets, collections, or anything philatelic that may be briefly yet adequately described.

The conditions of sale will be issued in pamphlet form, possibly as a supplement to the "South African Philatelist," accompanied by the first instalment of the catalogue. Please send in your lots as quickly as you can get them ready. Each lot should be put up in a separate envelope or other suitable container, numbered to correspond with the list which should accompany each batch of lots, a duplicate of which should be retained by the owner for future reference.

Pending the sale, all lots will be stored in a fire-proof strong room.

Mr. W. Bernard Livermore has an interesting article in "Gibbons' Stamp Monthly" for May on "Retouches, Re-entries and Flaws in the Double-Head Rhodesians."

According to the "Berliner Briefmarken Zeitung," the genuineness of the stamps of Swaheliland (Witu) is now the subject of litigation in the German Courts, and until their validity is established, or otherwise, discussion of the subject is "verboten."

# SOUTH AFRICA

**Specialists in the Stamps  
of the Union**

Wants Lists of all British Colonials personally attended to.

Full range of Approval Books, arranged in sections, King's Heads, London Pictorials, Pretoria Pictorials, Rotogravures, Postage Dues, Officials and Air Mails.

BOOK TYPES  
A. Items to 10/-; B. Items to 100/-

Sent against deposit or references.  
Specify Section and Type A or B.

Interprovincials. Wants Lists only. Stamps on approval, correctly dated.

# SUIDAFRIKA

PROOFS  
VARIETIES  
AIRS.

G. HOPE WILSON  
(B.P.A.)  
6, Conduit Street,  
London, W.1.

POSTAGE  
OFFICIALS  
DUES.



# The SOUTH AFRICAN PHILATELIST

*Proprietors and Publishers :*

**The Philatelic Congress of Southern Africa**

Hon. Editor: J. H. HARVEY PIRIE, P.O. Box 7012, Johannesburg

Hon. Business Manager: WILLIAM REDFORD, cor. Market & Kruis Streets,  
Johannesburg

Subscription: Five Shillings per annum, post free to any part of the World.

Vol. 10

AUGUST, 1934.

No. 8.

## EDITORIAL

### OFFICIAL STAMPS

The best bit of local philatelic news we have had for some time is the news of the withdrawal of the "Official" stamps from use in Swaziland and Basutoland. We hope the Union and South West Africa will follow their good example.

From the collector's point of view, such stamps are merely an imposition—a necessity to buy more varieties to make one's collection complete. When these stamps are produced by overprinting the ordinary postage stamps, as is commonly the case, there is as a rule such a crop of varieties in the overprint that the imposition becomes a real hardship.

It may be a justifiable plan on the part of the postal authorities to raise revenue from collectors in this fashion, but in the long run it will prove nearly as good a method of killing interest as that of issuing a flood of unnecessary commemoratives.

What is the point of view of governments in having official stamps? We presume it is to prevent fraud in the departments using stamps on their correspondence.

Does it do so? Certainly not! This was found out by Great Britain long ago and official stamps have been discarded there and in the colonies for more than 30 years.

Official stamps which are not available to the public are the strongest incentive to fraud. Stolen fruit is always sweetest and the desire to obtain stamps which are supposed to be unobtainable has frequently proven to be too great a temptation for collectors on the one hand and the authorized users of these stamps on the other.

"Official" stamps which are also available for use to the general public cease to have any *raison d'être* and the departments using them might just as well use ordinary stamps.

If it be the case that there is need for a check on the stamps used departmentally, why not adopt the method used by many

large commercial houses of perforating the stamps with initials? Or, the plan of "pre-cancels" might be used. Either method would still have an appeal for the specialist collector, but they would not impose the same hardships on the more general collector.

It may be said that there is no justification for considering stamps primarily from the collector's point of view. That is perfectly true—postal usefulness must be the first consideration, but when there is none, surely the collector has a right to voice his opinion. Most postal authorities nowadays find that it pays them (to put it on the lowest basis) to consider the collector.

With regard to the "officials" which have been withdrawn from use in Swaziland and Basutoland we understand that these stamps (the recent new issues of the territories, overprinted in Pretoria) were prepared without the approval of the Colonial Office, which to-day puts its foot down, and rightly, we think, on unnecessary issues. Hence the early withdrawal.

As the stamps were sanctioned by the local administrations they are, of course, regular emissions, and seeing their use was for such a limited period and the numbers used must have been few, they bid fair to be in the front rank of modern colonial rarities.

In both territories the stamps overprinted were of four values, viz., 3d., 1d., 2d. and 6d. None were sold by the Post Offices, so that any mint copies which may emerge can only have been obtained illegitimately unless it was by special favour of the administration concerned.

In Basutoland we learn from the postmaster, Maseru, that the stamps were in use departmentally from 24th January to 25th June, 1934.

In Swaziland, the Financial Secretary to the Administration has kindly informed us that the Official stamps have been withdrawn. They were never used and the whole stock is awaiting destruction by a Board.

Used Basutoland "Officials" will therefore be the only rarities.

## The Rhodesian 6d. "Admiral Head"

By W. J. HARRINGTON.

I have recently come across a horizontal pair of the 1913 issue, 6d., Die II of Rhodesia, which will, I think afford specialists an opportunity of reconsidering the question of the "fourth die," a controversy in respect of which took place in the philatelic press of Great Britain in 1932 and 1933.

The main points of difference between the two stamps are as follows:—

- | No. 1.   | No. 2.  |
|--|---|
| A and C.—Fairly strong continuous line round the cap.  | A. and C.—Weak line round the right side only of the cap.     |
| B.—Well defined shading on the left of the cap cover.  | B.—No shading on the left of the cap cover.                   |
| D.—Horizontal shading lines to right of beard overlap. | D.—Horizontal shading lines to right of beard do not overlap. |
| E.—Horizontal shading lines touch shoulder.            | E.—Horizontal shading lines do not touch shoulder.            |



No. 1.

No. 2.

It will be seen that the detail described under D and E in stamp No. 2 shows the principal characteristics of the so-called "new die" but the heavy shading lines on the right of the cap cover are as in Dies I and II, and the ear, which is shaded, is outlined only half way up. No. 2 is therefore not the Die

IIa or the "white shoulder" variety which has previously been recorded.

In view of the many variations of design which can be found in all the dies of this denomination of the 1913 issue, I am of opinion that specialists who have access to sufficient material should carefully study this particular stamp.

### SEVENTY-SIX YEARS A STAMP COLLECTOR.

Mr. J. D. Barnes, born at Devonport, England, in 1851, and resident in the U.S.A. since 1873, started collecting in 1858 at the age of seven and is still at it at the age of eighty-three. He claims the honour of being the oldest long-time collector.—"Mekeel's Weekly Stamp News."

A new issue of four Papua stamps has been made to commemorate the fiftieth anniversary of the declaration of Papua as a British Protectorate. The values are 1d., 2d., 3d. and 5d. The stamp will bear the portraits of Lowes and Chalmers, the missionaries.

# The Rotogravure Stamps of the Union of South Africa

By G. N. GILBERT.

(Continued from page 105 of July issue.)

NOTE.—Correspondence invited with a view to correcting errors of omission or commission.

## ½d. ROLL STAMPS.

Since the portion of this paper dealing with roll stamps was printed, the writer has had the results from Mr. I. L. Solomon of a complete reconstruction he has made of a sheet printed from the ½d. roll cylinders.

From a study of this reconstruction it would appear that the roll plates were the first to be made from the glass positive also used to make the sheet and booklet plates, as there are a few of the glass positive *sheet* characteristics which do not appear.

These, therefore, were probably developed on the positive after making the roll cylinders, as they appear throughout the various sheet and booklet issues made, of course, from the same positive. It appears that there have been at least two printings of the ½d. roll stamps, as there are differences of shade and gum to be found in the various roll strips examined.

The following is a list of the roll plate characteristics, and a list of the *sheet* glass positive characteristics is also shown with those characteristics which occur in the roll plates marked x:

### GLASS POSITIVE CHARACTERISTICS.

Row	No.	Frameplate.	Sheet.	Roll.
5	8	Green flaw through top left corner .. .. .	x	x
12	1	Tiny green spot bottom right of frame level with right bar .. .. .	x	x
15	8	Green blob in bottom bar .. .. .	x	—
19	3	Spot under right bar .. .. .	x	x
<b>Headplate.</b>				
1	12	“Snail” on buck’s breast .. .. .	x	—
3	3	Spot left of nose .. .. .	x	x
3	6	Spot between horns (middle) .. .. .	x	—
4	2	Spot left of nose .. .. .	x	x
4	3	Spot right of ear .. .. .	x	x
4	4	Spot base of left ear .. .. .	x	x
7	2	Spot between right horn and ear .. .. .	x	x
7	4	Spot between and nearer left horn .. .. .	x	x
9	9	Spot between horns, nearer right horn .. .. .	x	x
11	8	Spot inside near top of right horn .. .. .	x	x
12	9	Line of spots in shading left of left eye .. .. .	x	x
14	7	Spot in shading above back .. .. .	x	x
16	8	Nick or spot near tip of right horn .. .. .	x	—
17	3	Spot between horns (middle) .. .. .	x	x

### INDIVIDUAL CHARACTERISTICS OF THE ½D. ROLL STAMPS, RECONSTRUCTED SHEET.

Row	No.	Frameplate.
1	2	Green line through upper margin above FR.
2	2	Missing line in top left corner of frame.
2	4	Three broken lines forming white space in side of frame in top right corner.
3	1	White space due to broken frame below O of Posseel, broken lines of frame left of bottom bar.
4	1	White space due to broken lines in top left corner of frame.
5	1	Base of 1 in ½d. slightly thickened.
5	4	Green mark touching corner of bottom bar.
5	6	Short green stroke in frame at right above CA.

- |    |    |  |
|----|----|--|
| 6  | 5  | Green spot above right hand circle in bottom label.                                |
| 6  | 6  | Large white space due to broken frame adjoining top left corner tablet of value.   |
| 6  | 9  | Green mark above first E of Revenue.   |
| 10 | 1  | Large green spot at right of right ear.  |
| 11 | 2  | Long line below O of South. Green line between horns.                              |
| 12 | 4  | Line through margin below first S of Posseel.                                      |
| 13 | 3  | Green mark on buck's forehead.   |
| 14 | 1  | White stroke due to broken lines in side frame at right of circle in bottom label. |
| 17 | 1  | Large break in outer line of tablet of value above the figures.                    |
| 19 | 5  | Solid block or bar at left broken on level with S.                                 |
| 20 | 8  | Tiny green spot in first A in Suidafrika.  |
| 20 | 9  | Two green spots in right side margin on level with tablet of value.                |
| 20 | 12 | Frame retouched above second A of Suidafrika.                                      |

#### Headplate.

- |    |    |  |
|----|----|--|
| 1  | 3  | Black wedge in upper margin of top right corner.                           |
| 1  | 10 | "Cigar" falling out of buck's mouth.                                       |
| 1  | 11 | Black stroke joining two lines of background at top right of ear.          |
| 1  | 12 | Headplate very spotted.  |
| 2  | 1  | White hairline extending downwards from nose.                              |
| 2  | 10 | Black spot at right of eye.  |
| 2  | 12 | Black spot at right near edge of oval and close to second A in Suidafrika. |
| 3  | 2  | Two spots at left of nose.   |
| 7  | 1  | Large black spot above D of Suid.  |
| 7  | 6  | Black spot below buck's mouth.   |
| 10 | 5  | Black spot to left above nose.   |
| 11 | 8  | Black spot breaking T of Postage.  |
| 16 | 5  | Black spot at right of right eartip.                                       |
| 17 | 3  | Black curved hairline on buck's shoulder.                                  |
| 17 | 9  | Black hairline through ear and horn at left.                               |
| 21 | 9  | Spot at left of nose and white spot at left of headplate.                  |
| 21 | 10 | Extensive retouching to headplate.   |
| 22 | 12 | Hairline from mouth to corner of tablet of value.                          |

#### PENNY SHEET.

##### *A and B Controls.*

The first sheets of stamps issued by the roto-gravure process were of the 1d. denomination and these appeared on May 1st, 1930. The sheets were printed, as in the case of the 3d., in rows of 12 by 20, with the same margins. The first sheets issued, however, had control letters as well as numbers, which appeared in the right margin, twice per sheet. There were no central marginal arrows in the first issues, these arrows appearing only in the later issues, after the control letters had ceased to be used. The perforations were 15 by 14 and the watermarks normal in all the first sheets issues of this denomination.

##### *Plate 1.*

The first sheets printed from the first plate cylinders had the letter A with numbers from 0000 to 9999 twice in the right margins, and this was followed by the letter B with similar numbers.

The next letter should have been C, but no C controls have ever appeared, which has led to two suggestions for this omission. One is that C sheets were actually printed, but when the authorities discovered the broken mast on No. 12, row 5, which had appeared late in the

B series, they destroyed all the right hand marginal strips of this C series and issued the balance of the sheets to the various post offices, minus these control margins.

This theory is hard to believe, as this flaw occurred some time late in the B series, and *was retouched*, and sheets showing this flaw and retouch in the B series were issued, as also were the D and E series which followed, and which showed the flaw and retouch throughout. Therefore if the authorities were so bothered about it in the C series, they surely would have been consistent and have destroyed the B, D and E marginal strips showing this flaw!

The fact that some post offices are known to have received some sheets without the right hand margins and minus vertical rows 10, 11 and 12, need not be taken as a proof of this theory, as there might easily have been some other explanation of this, such as damage to a batch of sheets necessitating the removal of these rows.

The second theory appears to be the more likely one—it is that two lots of B control were printed, the later lot being in error for the C control, and it was in this second lot that the broken mast occurred and was retouched. There is, in fact, no doubt that there were two lots of B printed, as the writer

and Mr. Simenhoff both have blocks with and without the broken mast and retouch, and the blocks *showing no flow* have *higher* control numbers than those blocks showing the flaw. This proves that at least two lots of numbers 0000 to 9999 were printed in the B control.

*Plate 2.—B2, D and E Controls.*

Careful examination also leads to the conclusion that the second B sheets were from *another plate*, and that this plate is similar to the D and E series. It was probably in the making of this second plate that the damaged mast occurred and was then retouched.

There is no doubt that the A and the first lot of B control sheets were printed from the same plates, as the same flaws and characteristics appear in both, notable ones being the "S.UIDAFRIKA" variety on No. 1, row 15, and the "extra mountain peak" on No. 9, row 14. Unfortunately the writer has not been able to obtain a complete sheet of the second B series with the retouched mast, to enable him to say definitely whether these two varieties reappear in these later B control sheets. If they did not, it would definitely prove that the second B control was printed from new plates, as the varieties did not reappear in the D and E series.

However, from examination of the material obtained, there are certain characteristics in the second B series which agree with the D and E series and which do not agree with the A and B 1 series, and failing the discovery of a sheet of the B 2 series which would show the presence or lack of the two varieties above, the writer is inclined to place B 2 with the D and E series as being from the same plates.

*Plate 3.—F. control*

After D and E came the F control series, and here again there is proof of a change of plates, from the differing characteristics. There would appear to have been two printings of the F control as those sheets upon which the albino control letter and numbers are found differ in appearance and shade from those with the normal controls. There is nothing however to lead one to the conclusion that these two printings had different plates, nor has the writer obtained any proof that more than the one lot of numbers 0000 to 9999 were printed.

*Plate 4.—Fine red arrows.*

The F control series was the last to appear with control letters in the margin, and the issue which followed had only numbers but had the sheets divided into quarters by fine red arrows in the margins. These arrows appear to have been scratched or engraved by hand on the frameplate cylinder, as they are rough and unsymmetrical. By the various characteristics present in this issue and the lack of the previous plates' characteristics, it

is concluded that new plates were used.

*Plate 5.—Rough red arrows.*

Almost concurrently with the issue of the fine red arrow sheets came sheets with rougher red arrows. These arrows definitely differed from the preceding ones, and this fact together with other characteristic differences point again to a change of plates.

*Plate 6.—Fine black arrows (plate 3 re-used).*

Next came sheets with fine black central arrows, the arrows in this case being engraved on the headplate cylinder. The examination of the characteristics of this issue brought to light the fact that practically all the F control (plate 3) characteristics re-appear in this issue, and it would appear that the old F control plates were used again to print this issue. There is no doubt that the old glass positive was getting damaged. Such flaws as the "rigger ball," and the start of the "dragon in sail" varieties are obviously "positive flaws" and these appear in the plates made from it towards the end of its life only.

Probably new positives were being prepared but were not ready at the time the new issue was wanted, so the old F cylinders were brought into use temporarily, after being touched up (*vide* the retouched sea and sky on No. 1 row 10 in the black arrow issue). All the issues up to the black arrow issue had normal watermarks in the sheets, but with the black arrow issue, sheets were found with inverted watermarks as well, these being scarcer than the sheets with the normal watermarks. For the sake of clearness and continuity this issue with the black arrows is listed as plate 6.

*Plate 7.—Fine red arrows (inverted watermarks) and later Broad red arrows (inverted watermarks).*

The issue which followed the black arrow issue was quite definitely prepared from a new positive as far as the frameplate was concerned, as none of the flaws and characteristics which had appeared right through the various issues preceding it re-appeared, and it had its own new characteristics. The headplate however, was still produced from the old positive as the characteristics do re-appear, such as the "broken corner of mountain" on No. 3, row 17, and the lines in the sea above the small boat on No. 5, row 9.

The sheets had fine red arrows in the margins, and appeared only with inverted watermarks. Later sheets appeared with broad arrows in the margins but still only with inverted watermarks.

The fact of a change in the shape of the arrows in the margins would lead one to look for further evidences of a change of plates, as these arrows are engraved on the plates. But it does not always follow that a change of arrows means a change of plates, as a larger arrow could be engraved over a smaller one in the plate.

It appears that this was actually done in this case, and a careful examination of the

larger arrows, particularly the bottom one, reveals the suggestion of the outline of the old finer arrow. In any case no signs can be found suggestive of a change of plates, the only difference in the stamps themselves being a darker shade, due in most cases to over-inking. It was in this plate 7 issue, both fine and broad arrows, that the "dragon in sail" variety of the booklets, appeared re-touched on No. 9, row 17 of the sheet.

This flaw started as a spot in the black arrow issue, and was apparently due to a flaw developing on the positive. In the reproduction of the booklet plate, this flaw recurred enlarged, probably by further damage, and it then had the appearance of a "dragon."

This flaw was evidently retouched when headplate 7 was made. There are two other interesting flaws in this issue, viz., the raised and thickened lines of shading just above the third yardarm on No. 1, row 18, and the thickened lines of shading just under the bottom yardarm on No. 10, row 19. These are, in the writer's opinion, both gelatine flaws, i.e. they are due to portion of the gelatine shifting during the photographic process of making the plate. Anyone who has had to do with photography will know how easily the softened gelatine can be damaged, especially in hot weather. In the first case here, the two lines of shading have shifted up leaving a portion of the sky unshaded and have thickened in the process and by joining the lines of shading above, and in the latter case the gelatine has "distorted" and the lines instead of being straight are curved slightly, and have also thickened in so doing.

This latter flaw has been described elsewhere as a "retouch." In the writer's opinion there are no evidences of retouching but every sign of a gelatine flaw.

These gelatine flaws are interesting as they are an entirely new type of philatelic variety due to the process from which these stamps are made. The first to be noted was the "misplaced portion of design" in the 2d. denomination, on No. 3, row 17 of the first issue. This was reproduced in the *Philatelic Journal of Great Britain* (July 1932), and was described as being the first flaw of this type to be discovered in a stamp produced by the Photogravure process.

In this case, a tiny portion of the gelatine forming the lower frameline had been "nicked" up and the portion adhered to the plate just above, leaving a white spot below. There are several other flaws in the other denominations of the Union rotogravure stamps, which are probably also due to gelatine damage, viz., the so called "dollar" error in the 1d., also the "nick" below the tip of the right hand horn on No. 8, row 16, the line under F of Afrika on No. 1, row 4, in the 1s., and quite definitely the missing top of the yoke-skey on No. 5, row 18 in the 5s. denomination. This missing top of the skey will be found adhering to the top of the 5 of the left hand figure of value.

*Plate 8.—Broad red arrows. Oct., 1932.*

The next issue of the 1d. denomination to appear was interesting as it was at once obvious that not only were new plates used but that the stamps had been produced from an entirely new design.

Firstly, in the case of the frameplate, the design characteristic of the first roto issues of the 1d., which appeared in every new plate up to this, was missing. Secondly, the flaws and characteristics of none of the previous issues appeared, and there were an entirely new set of characteristics; and finally, in the case of the headplate, there is practically no defining of the horizon in the new design, the sea and sky being all more or less of the same depth of shading.

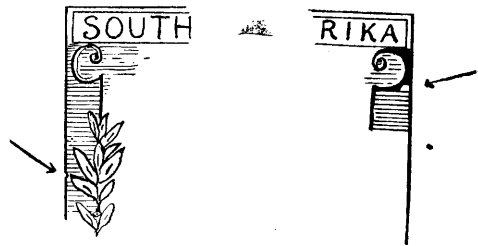
*Design Characteristic.*

It will be as well to explain here what is meant by the "design characteristic." It will be remembered that in the first place the design from which the stamps were to be made was photographed, and in the case of Union stamps, being printed in English and Afrikaans alternately, at least a pair had to be photographed. If, therefore, there was any slight difference in one of the design drawings, this would be reproduced in every stamp made from that design.

An examination of the various 1d. issues up to this new design issue, will show that there is a tiny "nick" in the middle of the outside left frameline on every *odd* English stamp. The fact that this appears in every odd stamp and not on every English stamp proves that more than a pair was taken for the design, and that at least a block of four must have been used. Every denomination has its design characteristic, and these go to prove that a block of four was used as the design for the 1d., the 1d., and the 6d., and a pair in the case of the larger pictorials.

There was another design—or possibly in this case a design-negative—characteristic of the first 1d. rotos, and that was a missing line of shading just under the top right ornamental scroll on every odd Afrikaans stamp.

These two "design characteristics" are illustrated here.



These various design characteristics will be given under the various denominations, where such can be discovered. So far the writer has not been able to note any design characteristic of this Plate 8 issue, nor in the case of the

Plate 9 issue which follows. The watermarks in the Plate 8 issue have appeared both normal and inverted.

*Plate 9.—Jan., 1934. Broad red arrows.*

The next issue to appear was, of course, also from the new design and the sheets had broad arrows, but these were more splayed than in the case of the preceding issue. There are a new set of characteristics, and the previous issue's flaws, etc., do not recur. With the appearance of this issue printed from new plates but from the new design and positive, it is possible to pick out the "positive" characteristics, which are listed under the "glass positive characteristics" of the 1d. denomination in the table to follow.

*Plate 10. New Design Suid-Afrika with hyphen.*

In May, 1934, there was still another change of frameplate, again from a completely new design. In this issue Suid-Afrika now appears with a hyphen, this being the second demonstration of the current Roto postage stamps to appear thus. Prior to this the hyphen appeared on certain postal stationery, and the Voortrekker Memorial stamps, the 5s. denomination being the first of the ordinary postage stamps to be printed with it.

The printing of this new issue is very clear and has a more finished appearance.

There are practically no flaws to mention, but there are several minute characteristics of course, which will be given in the lists. The headplate of this new issue remains the same as the preceding issue, viz., plate 9, and all the characteristics of that headplate recur. The printing of the headplate in the new issue is much lighter in shade, and this with new frameplate, makes the issue quite distinctive. Watermarks have so far been normal.

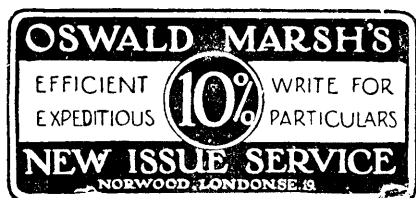
*Design Characteristic.*

The design characteristic of the new frameplate is a small white "pimple" on the left edge of the O in South, on every even English stamp.

This is illustrated here.



(To be Continued.)



## COLLECTORS' WANTS AND OFFERS

(Twopence per word per insertion with minimum of 2/- per insertion).

**Nevis and Virgin Islands.**—Stamps, Literature and Information wanted.  
*A. F. Johnstone, P.O. Box 6006, Johannesburg.*

**1899-1902.**—British used in South Africa and South Africa used in British Army P.Os.  
*J. H. Harvey Pirie, P.O. Box 1038, Johannesburg.*

**"Specimen Stamps."**—Great Britain, British Colonial and Foreign wanted.  
*Saul A. Klagsbrun, P.O. Box 846, Pretoria.*

**Wanted.**—Cape, Natal, Transvaal Orange Free State, Griqualand West, Swaziland, Portuguese East Africa, Brazil, Greece, including covers and postal stationery.  
*A. E. Basden, P.O. Box 238, Pretoria.*

**Wanted.**—Specimens, mint and fine used, of Gambia, Gold Coast, Sierra Leone and Nigerian Colonies.  
*T. V. Green, P.O. Box 4967, Johannesburg.*

**Early European Stamps on cover.**—Stamps and covers used in Basutoland.  
*Dr. A. J. Broughton, 13-14 Bourke Trust Buildings, Pretoria.*

**Rhodesian Rarities.**—Wanted. Mint or used.  
*R. H. Morley, P.O. Box 7573, Johannesburg.*

Attends to all want lists. Remnants a speciality. All African Stamps.  
*A. Strymes, 33, Avenue Dailly, Brussels, Belgium.*

## APPROVAL BOOKS

Postage. Fiscal. Telegraph and Local Stamps—at 75% discount.

Pre-stamp old covers.

Hong Kong used in China Treaty ports, and interesting cancellations many countries.

Great Britain—Railway Stamps.  
Newspaper Tax—Postmarks, etc.

**WALTER MORLEY,**  
"Cornaways," Riverhead, Kent.

## AIR MAIL NOTES

### BROKEN HILL—MADAGASCAR SERVICE.

On July 25th notice appeared in the public press that a new French service was mooted which would cut down the mail time between Paris and Madagascar from 30 days to 10 days.

The men behind the scheme at present are M. Rene Lefebvre and M. Jean Assolant, two of France's famous airmen. At first the service will be a feeder of Imperial Airways but it is intended ultimately to be part of a Franco-Belgian line serving the French and Belgian colonies in Africa independent of the British service.

The service at first will be fortnightly but as soon as it is properly established it will maintain a weekly connection. The mails will be transferred from Imperial Airways at Broken Hill and the route from there will be *via* Tete, Quelimane, Mozambique, then 350 miles across the Mozambique Channel to Majunga, and thence to Antananarivo.

On the 28th it was announced that the service would be introduced on the following day, i.e., in time to catch the connexion at Broken Hill on August 2nd. The first flight from Madagascar will already have arrived there.

The charges on letters posted in the Union will be 10d. per  $\frac{1}{2}$  oz. to Mozambique and 1s. 3d. per  $\frac{1}{2}$  oz. to Madagascar. Postcards at half letter rates.

"Sunny Days," the official organ of the Guiana Hobby Club, which runs a strong "stamp corner," by the way, has some candid criticism to make of the forthcoming issue of British Guiana stamps (12 values, 1 cent to 1 dollar, all pictorials, date of issue not yet fixed). Complaint is made of the indefinite decision as to design and format, and some of the designs tentatively adopted are regarded as not sufficiently attractive—it is felt that there should be more of a "Come to British Guiana" appeal about them. It is interesting to note that other recent emissions cited as adequate in this respect include Newfoundland, Falkland Islands, Union of South Africa, and Sierra Leone.

# British African Rarities

*I hold the Finest Stock in the World*

Only stamps in the finest possible condition and at reasonable prices will be found in my books.

**Selections sent on approval to any part of the world.**

Deal direct with the firm that actually has the stamps in stock and so save money.

**Want Lists will receive my prompt personal attention.**

## T. ALLEN

5, BLAKE HALL ROAD - - - - - WANSTEAD  
LONDON, E.11 - - - - - ENGLAND



# The Falkland Islands Commemorative Issue of 1933

By J. BEYERS.

Of all the Dominions, Colonies, Crown Colonies or Protectorates of the British Empire, the Falkland Islands have a philatelic record, and also a historical record in so far as the above-mentioned issue is concerned, which is unique in more ways than one. As regards the former, it is the only state in the world which portrays the whale and the penguin on its stamps. The historic interest is centred in Sir Doveton Sturdee's victory in December, 1914. Had he failed to destroy Admiral von Spee's squadron, the Falklands would have been lost to the Empire as a coaling station and untold damage would have been done to the British possessions elsewhere. Comprising East and West Falkland and several lesser islands, together with the dependency of South Georgia, this British possession has an area of 6,500 square miles and a population of some 2,000 souls. The islands were first discovered in 1501 by a Portuguese navigator, whose name has unfortunately lapsed into oblivion. The islanders are mainly descended from a hardy Scottish stock (English is to this day spoken there with a pronounced Scottish accent) and are principally engaged in sheep farming.

The halfpenny stamp shows the Romney Marsh ram, a descendant of one of the original stud imported from New Zealand towards the end of last century. The one penny stamp gives us the awe-inspiring picture of an iceberg, a common enough object, since the Falklands are well within the northern limit of the Antarctic icebergs. Another important industry is whaling. The 1½d. stamp of the series reflects a whale catcher, a small compact little vessel, very far removed from the stately whaler of our fathers' days, specially designed to chase the leviathan and to cut short his existence with the deadly harpoon gun. The vessel is a combination of strength and speed.

The twopenny stamp gives us a view of Port Louis, a coastal settlement in East Falkland, about 20 miles from Stanley, the capital. In 1764 it was the site of an attempted French colonization scheme by Bougainville, the famous explorer. The three-penny stamp shows a very clear and accurate map of the two Falklands. The fourpenny stamp gives us sunrise in South Georgia—a picture of remarkable beauty with regard to

both design and colouring, not to speak of engraving.

The sixpenny stamp shows us the hump-back whale. This is distinguishable from other members of the whale family by the large size of the head, the short, deep body, the small size of the fin on its back and the enormous length of the flippers. The whale portrayed on the stamp is in the act of "breaching," a habit peculiar to the hump-back only. It is common to all seas. Its name is derived from a prominence on the back which covers the fin, but there is considerable variation in regard to the degree of its development. The hump-back is usually from 45 to 50 feet in length, the flippers measuring from 10 to 14 feet. The colour of the body is black above, but often more or less marbled below. There is no more majestic sight than to see, as the writer has seen, two or three of these mighty cetaceans disporting themselves on the surface of the sea on a bright, sunny day.

The shilling stamp gives us Government House, the building of which was commenced in 1844. This unpretentious building took 20 years to complete—a statement which demonstrates the difficulty of construction in a land where all the building material must be imported. The 5s. stamp depicts the King Penguin. The islands abound with penguins, but the King Penguin is nearly extinct there, it having been discovered that, when boiled, his body furnishes a very useful oil.

The 2s. 6d. stamp shows us the Falkland Islands Battle Memorial. At this battle Admiral Sturdee avenged the disaster of Coronel, where Admiral von Spee destroyed a British squadron commanded by the gallant but ill-fated Sir Christopher Cradock. An interesting feature of this battle to South Africans was the loss of the splendid cruiser "Good Hope" (Cradock's flagship), the gift of the people of Cape Colony. The first move to make this presentation was taken by "Onze Jan" Hofmeyr, a member in later years of the Conference whose labours brought about the Union of South Africa. In the year 1908, as the flagship of Admiral Sir Percy Scott, commanding the First Cruiser Squadron, she visited the Cape, and little did the writer think as he saw her and her sister ships riding on the peaceful waters of Table Bay that

six years later she would engage in her first and last battle. Another pathetic feature of the battle of Coronel was the fact that the brave and chivalrous von Spee and his gallant opponent were the closest of personal friends whilst commanding the squadrons of their respective countries in Chinese waters.

The £1 stamp, the last one of the series, represents an excellent likeness of His Majesty King George V. The King is here shown in the uniform of the Colonel-in-Chief of the Royal Highlanders (the Black Watch), the premier kilted regiment of the British Army. No British monarch has evinced a keener interest in his army than has the ruler who guides the destinies of the British Empire today. In a monarchical state no greater honour can be shown to a regiment than for the sovereign to assume the colonelcy-in-chief of a unit of his army, and this distinction is usually reserved for a "corps d' elite."

This regiment was originally raised in 1730 at the instance of John Forbes, the leading Whig in the Highland line, who had distinguished himself in the rebellion of the '15 by loyal, but not cruel, exertions against the Jacobite rebels. The name "Black Watch" arose out of the fact that the regiment was at first composed of six independent companies of Highlanders for the protection of Edinburgh as a regiment of the watch. On amalgamation the bright colours in the tartans were extracted, leaving only the dark green ground as a tartan.

It is interesting to record that the first authorised chaplain was the Rev. and Hon. Gideon Murray, a name to be subsequently rendered illustrious in the annals of the Dutch Reformed Church of South Africa by the Rev. Andrew Murray. Each recruit on enlistment had to produce a certificate of character from his minister. Only Highlanders of good standing were accepted.

Few British regiments have a finer record of service than have the Black Watch. The red hackle (feather) in the bonnet commemorates the regiment's gallantry at the battle of Guildermalsen in the Netherlands in 1794. In conclusion, I would add that that as recently as forty years ago the regiment was stationed in Capetown, where it won golden opinions both with regard to its conduct and its appearance.

---

#### PRETORIA (1934) CONGRESS.

Arrangements are well ahead for the 1934 Congress; everything the members of the Pretoria Society can do to make it a success is being done. Their aim is that it shall not be merely a philatelic success but also a friendly, sociable gathering of stamp collectors from all parts of Southern Africa. They hope that a big crowd of delegates and friends will roll up and thoroughly enjoy themselves.

In connection with the Exhibition, endeavour is being made to collect sufficient funds to enable the Society to purchase permanent frames and stands, so that they can be used year after year at the centres where Congress meets, free of charge, other than carriage, to the societies holding the exhibitions. The laudable object is to help smaller centres to invite Congress, by lending them the exhibition frames and stands. Also to help bigger centres who might find themselves short of such furniture. About one-third of the amount required has been received and it is confidently hoped that the balance required will be obtained. Several members have made donations of cash and stamps and others are raising funds by entertainments, etc. Members of the P.P.S. are responding well; donations of stamps or cash will be thankfully received for the good cause.

With the wide classification it is hoped that a great number of collectors will enter exhibits; there is a class for everyone. We hope that the P.P.S. will receive support from all our readers who can make exhibits. An innovation for South Africa will be official exhibits, particulars of which it is hoped to announce in the September issue of the *S.A. Philatelist*. In the September number particulars will also be given of the opening ceremony.

The first instalment of the Postal Auction catalogue was distributed with the July number of this paper. If sufficient lots are received in time a further instalment will be sent out with this number; the final instalment will be sent out with the September number. Collectors are earnestly requested to send forward their lots as rapidly as possible to enable the Auction Committee to do its work satisfactorily. We trust this our enterprise on the part of the P.P.S. will be a great success.

Readers! Ensure the success of 1934 Congress by sending in your papers, entering your exhibits, and sending in auction lots in good time so as to enable the committees to estimate their requirements and make all the necessary preparations.

---

#### NYASALAND.

In Mr. Davidson's notes last month on the new Nyasaland issue it was stated that the sheet numbers were in the top left corner. This was a mistake, it should be top right.

Mr. Davidson informs us that the designer of the new stamps, Major H. E. Green, O.B.E., D.S.O., is somewhat disappointed with the reproduction of his design; he wished the leopard to stand out more clearly by being outlined in white.

# Rhodesian Postage Stamps

By W. J. HARRINGTON.

(Continued from page 83 of June Issue.)

## CHAPTER XVI. LIVINGSTONE PROVISIONALS OF 1917.

During the Great War, both Southern and Northern Rhodesia, in common with many other British Colonies, decided to raise their postal rates with a view to increasing revenue and to make up for the loss caused by the reduced use of postal facilities.

The following notice appeared in the Northern Rhodesia Gazette dated 22nd May, 1917:

### THE

BRITISH SOUTH AFRICA COMPANY  
Administration of Northern Rhodesia.  
DEPARTMENT OF POSTS AND  
TELEGRAPHS.

Postal Notice No. 6 of 1917

### INCREASED RATES OF POSTAGE.

It is hereby notified for public information that the rates of postage on letters posted in Northern Rhodesia will be increased on and after the 1st June, 1917, as shown below:

War Postage	Full rate of
per half ounce	postage now
in addition to	payable per
existing rates	half ounce.
of postage.	

- |  |     |      |
|--|-----|------|
| 1. For letters posted in Northern Rhodesia for delivery within the territory except when delivered in the same town or village at which such letters were posted . . . . . | ½d. | 1½d. |
| 2. For letters posted in this territory for delivery in Southern Rhodesia, the Union of South Africa, South-West Africa, Nyasaland and the Province of Mocambique          | ½d. | 1½d. |
| 3. For letters posted in this territory for delivery in the United Kingdom and other parts of the Empire not included in Section 2 above                                   | 1d. | 2d.  |

Letters addressed to any member of His Majesty's Naval or Military Forces on active service will be exempt from the additional charge referred to above and will continue to be charged one penny per half ounce.

H. A. BALDOCK,

Comptroller of Posts and Telegraphs.  
General Post Office,  
Livingstone.

15th May, 1917.

In this connection a somewhat anomalous position arose from the fact that Southern

and Northern Rhodesia were under separate postal administrations, each requisitioning independently for its postal supplies direct on the London offices of the British South Africa Company. When it was decided to raise the postal rates, Southern Rhodesia immediately ordered a supply of 1½d. stamps from London. Northern Rhodesia, however, did not do so and, finding that the supply of ½d. stamps was rapidly diminishing, the Comptroller of Posts at Livingstone endeavoured to obtain a supply on loan from the Postal Authorities at Salisbury who agreed to do so provided they could be returned by a fixed date. As no guarantee could be given, and the need for ½d. stamps was urgent the postal authorities of Northern Rhodesia were obliged to resort to surcharging the current 1d. stamps (of which a good supply was available) down to ½d. This was carried out by the Administration's Printing Works at Livingstone and the issue was placed on sale on the 1st August, 1917.

### (a) First Issue.

The first issue consisted of the current 1d. red stamp overprinted in blue-black and also in purple aniline ink with the words "Half Penny" (no hyphen or full stop) in two lines, the original denomination being blocked out by two short bars on either side.

The printer set up two horizontal rows of type and after having removed all the margins from the original sheets, printed the surcharge in three operations on panes of 60 stamps.

On the first, third, and fifth rows, the words "Half Penny" are set somewhat to the right, whereas in the other rows these words are set centrally beneath the horizontal bars.

The word "Penny" measures 13½ mm. from the outside of the "P" to the top of the right arm of the "Y." The second "N" and "Y" are normally 1½ mm. apart but on the 11th, 18th, 31st, 38th, 51st and 58th stamps the space is 1¼ mm. and on the 19th, 39th, and 59th stamps 2 mm. On the 15th, 35th and 55th stamps the two "N's" are 1 mm. apart instead of the normal ¾ mm.

Of this issue one printing was made of 60,000 stamps after which the type was broken up and an order sent to London for a supply of the ½d. green stamps.

In October a stamp collector residing in Livingstone purchased a supply of these surcharged stamps and found therein two sheets with inverted surcharge. Although enquiries were immediately instituted at the Post Office no more could be found. On this subject Mr. E. Tamsen in "The Philatelic Magazine" dated 1st July, 1918, wrote as follows:—

"I have been able to get a copy of the statement of the lucky owner of these two inverted surcharge sheets, which reads:

'I certify that the one penny Rhodesian stamps King George issue, overprinted 'half-penny' without stop or hyphen, with the overprint inverted, were purchased by me at the Livingstone Post Office and that from en-

quiries from the Post Officials at the Post Office no others, other than the two panes (120 stamps) bought by me, have to their knowledge been issued.'

"The owner of these two sheets broke one up, sending 30 to an English dealer and selling the balance to a syndicate in Bualwayo.

"The syndicate is now offering the last and only entire sheet for sale, and if there is no big enough offer forthcoming for it, then they will break it up into blocks, pairs and singles."

Some of these "inverteds" were used postally at the time.

It is understood that the following varieties occurred in one of the two sheets owing to the moving of the paper during the process of printing, but on this point the writer would like to obtain confirmation or otherwise:

Normal printing . . . . .	38
Spaced N Y . . . . .	7
Spaced N Y plus six bars . . . . .	1
Spaced N Y plus two bars only . . . . .	1
Spaced N N . . . . .	3
Four bars top and two below . . . . .	3
Two bars top and two below . . . . .	3
Two bars top and one below . . . . .	1
Two bars only . . . . .	1
Two bars clear and traces of two . . . . .	2

60

In respect of this printing the postal authorities willingly complied with all requests for supplies made by collectors and dealers until the stock was exhausted.

This printing can be found of a very pronounced deep shade of red.

The stamps used were mainly die 1 (left ear white). Aniline ink appears to have been used on die 2 (shaded left ear).

#### (b) Second Issue.

The first issue having become exhausted and as the 3d. stamps which had been ordered from London had not arrived, the postal authorities were obliged to provide a fresh supply of surcharged stamps to enable them to carry on.

As the type for the first setting had been broken up a new setting, of which there are no varieties, was prepared. The same printer proceeded exactly as before in the production of the surcharged stamps, but in this case there is a hyphen after the word "Half," the word "Penny" is not so long, measuring less than 11½ mm. from the "P" to the top of the right arm of "Y," and there is a full stop after "Penny."

Of this type 60,000 were printed and were placed on sale on the 2nd September, 1917.

As the shortage of the first type was largely due to demands made by dealers and collectors, the postal authorities decided that a similar position should not arise in respect of the second issue and every order was declined the remittance being returned with a printed letter which read as follows:

"In reply to your letter dated . . . , I beg to inform you that the one penny stamp overprinted "halfpenny" is merely a provisional issue to meet a temporary shortage of halfpenny stamps and is only available for postal purposes in Northern Rhodesia. I return herewith . . . , the amount remitted with your letter under reply.

Postmaster.

In this printing the aniline ink used penetrated the paper to the back and gives the appearance of an off-set. Vertical pairs exist where the top overprint is in ordinary ink and the lower in aniline ink.

The stamps used for this printing were mainly Die 1 (left ear white); the aniline ink was, however, used on both Dies 1 and 2.

Many of the re-entries, etc., found in the 1913 issue of this denomination are to be found in both printings.

The issue of these provisionals ceased at the beginning of December, 1917, on the arrival of the supply of the regular issue and the balance was called in and returned to the London Office of the Company.

[The next instalment will deal with the last issues of Rhodesia.]

#### NATAL EMBOSSED TÊTE-BECHE

"Godden's Gazette" for June, 1934, illustrates a magnificent pair of the 3d. embossed tête-bêche vertically, from the collection of Mr. H. H. Hurst. Stanley Gibbons say, "Some, if not all, of the above numbers exist tête-bêche."

Mr. Godden is of opinion that all vertical pairs of the first issue of Natal, when found, would prove to be in the same state. He thinks they were hand-stamped, the method employed being to take a strip of paper deep enough to accommodate two impressions, stamp a row with the embossing press, and then reverse the paper and repeat the operation, afterwards dividing the strip down the middle.

### Specialist in Union Stamps

MINT AND USED COLONIALS, ESPECIALLY AFRICANS, ASCENSION, CYPRUS, LEEWARDS GROUP AND ST. HELENA.

SELECTIONS SENT ON APPROVAL AGAINST DEPOSIT OR REFERENCES.

Wants Lists Specially Catered for in Normals, Postmarks and Varieties.

GOOD CONDITION — REASONABLE PRICES.

**G. HOPE WILSON (B.P.A.)**

6 CONDUIT STREET, LONDON, W.1., ENGLAND.

## New Issue News

The following chronicle is condensed from notes kindly furnished by Mr. R. Roberts, 430, Strand, London:—

**BELGIUM.**—Peter Benoit commemorative, 75c + 25c.

**BRAZIL.**—Aeronautical Congress, 200r, blue; 7th Internat. Fair, set of 4, 200r—1,000r.

**CAPE VERDE.**—Ceres type, set of 19 new values, 1c to 20E.

**CHILE.**—1 P 20, Constitution centenary. 5P, Postage. 2P, 5P and 10 P Air Mail.

**CHINA.**—1c and 20c S.G. type 60. Also O'pt. for Szechuan, Sinkiang and Yunnan.

**CONGO BELGE and RUANDA URUNDI.**—1Fr50, mourning stamps, black.

**COSTA RICA.**—Air mail set, 9 values, 5c to 75c.

**CZECHO-SLOVAKIA.**—Smetana commemorative, 50h.

**DENMARK.**—Postage, new portrait of King. 5 values, 50ö to 5Kr.

**DOMINICA.**—½c, 1c and 3c, S.G. type 73.

**DUTCH INDIES.**—Set of 8 pictorials, 1c to 10c, and 14 with Queen's portrait, 15c to 2G50.

**ECUADOR.**—Pictorial, 5c sepia, 5c blue, 10c orange, 10c carmine.

**EGYPT.**—New colours, postage, 15 and 20m.; official, 10m.

**FIUME.**—Decennale commemorative, 7 postage, 10c to 2L75+2L50. 6 Air, 25c to 3L+2L. 2 Air Express, 2L25+1L25 and 4L50+2L.

**FRENCH OCEANIA.**—Set of 20 pictorials, 1c to 2Fr.

**HOLLAND.**—Crisis issue, 5+4c, Queen Wilhelmina; 6+5c, Princess Juliana.

**HUNGARY.**—Post Dues, 10/80f and 12/50f. Phil. Soc. Exhib. Jubilee stamp, 20f. + 70f, entrance fee.

**INDIA.**—4 of new type, "INDIA POST-AGE," ½a to 4a.

**ITALY.**—Pacinotti commemorative, 50c and 1L25c. Football commemorative. 6 values postage, 20c—5L+2L50c, and 3 values Air Mail, 50c—10L+5L.

**ITALIAN COLONIES.**—8 Somaliland, 7 Eritrea and 1 Air Mail overprinted in honour of the Duke of Abruzzi. 13 Italian Dues overprinted separately for Eritrea, Libya and Somaliland; 8 Milan Fair and 7 Tripoli Fair overprinted. Football commemorative, 5 values postage, 10c—10L and 6 values Air Mail, 50c—25L.

**JAPAN.**—Air Mail, 9½s carmine, S.C. type 38.

**LITHUANIA.**—New issue of 5 values, 2c, 10c, 15c, 50c and 60c.

**MACAU.**—New type, similar to last Mozambique issue, 21 values, ½a to 5P.

**MOROCCO AGENCIES.**—On G.B. 90c on 9d and 1Fr50 on 1s.

**NICARAGUA.**—Air Mail 20c overprinted 10c.

**NORWAY.**—Official, new type 35ö.

**PARAGUAY.**—Air Mail, 33P50.

**PHILLIPINE ISLANDS.**—Far Eastern Games Commemoratives, 2c, 6c and 16s.

**POLAND.**—Katowice Commemorative, 20gr and 30gr overprinted.

**PORTUGAL.**—New portrait of President, 40c.

**ROUMANIA.**—Charity set, Women's Work Exhibition, 1, 2 and 3L.

**RUSSIA.**—Murdered Commissars Commemoratives, 10 and 15k. Air Mails, 5 values, 5 to 80k. Federow Commemoratives, 20 and 40k.

**SAAR.**—Charity set, 7 values, 40c to 5Fr. Officials, overprint on 1927-32 issue, 10, 15 and 25c.

**ST. TOME E PRINCIPE.**—Ceres type, 9 values, 1c to 20E.

**SAN MARINO.**—New values by overprint, L3.70 on L1.25 and L2.75.

**SWITZERLAND.**—50c green and pale green.

**SWEDEN.**—New colour, 10ö bright purple.

**SYRIA.**—Air Mail, Op 50. Ditto overprinted "LATTAQUIE."

**TIMOR.**—Similar to Macau. Set of 12 values, ½a to 20a.

**TURKEY.**—Crescent and 5k overprinted on ½pi, map type.

**U.S.A.**—3c Commemorative of the founding of Maryland.

**URUGUAY.**—3c portrait of Rivera. Set commemorative of 3rd Republic, 8 values, 3c to 1P.

### Junior Philatelic Society of Natal.

Philatelic Exhibition to be Held in Durban,  
5th and 6th October, 1934.

#### Section 1:

- (a) Juniors (under 21) who are non-members.
- (b) Juniors (under 21) who are members.

#### Section 2:

Junior Collectors any age.

#### Classes:

- (1) Specialised Collections.
- (2) Group Collections (e.g., British and Colonies).
- (3) Airmail Stamps and Covers.
- (4) Subject Collections (e.g., ships, animals, buildings, etc.).

#### Entry Fees:

Members free.

Non-members, 2s. 6d. any section.

(Entries close 30th September, 1934).

Good prizes will be given.

Entry forms obtainable from Hon. Secretary-Treasurer, Junior Philatelic Society of Natal, P.O. Box 588, Durban.

## SOCIETY NEWS

### CAPETOWN PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

The meeting on June 28th was well attended by members and visitors and a very interesting display was given by Mr. L. Simenhoff of the pictorial issues of the Belgian Congo, both mint and used. The earlier pictorial issues were well represented and the pleasing designs for which the Territory is noted were inspected with very great interest.

The war issues and the subsequent surcharged issues of 1920-1923 were also shown, both the London and the local prints being included. Mention must also be made of the Air Mail stamps of 1920.

In 1923 the issues of various Native types appeared and those shown called forth many expressions of appreciation. These stamps must rank as amongst the finest ever issued, the engraving, designing and subject matter being perfect. The Stanley issues of 1928 in commemoration of Stanley's exploration of the Congo were also exhibited.

In 1931 further surcharged issues appeared and in 1931 a handsome pictorial issue appeared also depicting native scenes and types as in the 1923 issue. These were displayed very fully by Mr. Simenhoff, pairs and blocks being in evidence.

No little interest was also taken in the stamps of the Congo used during the war in the Territory of East Africa occupied by the Belgian Forces.

As is always the case with Mr. Simenhoff's exhibits, the "writing-up" left nothing to be desired. The President, Mr. H. Meyer, in thanking Mr. Simenhoff for the display remarked on the amount of trouble gone to and the extremely interesting nature of the display. Mr. Simenhoff in replying gave a most illuminating address on the history of the Belgian Congo.

12th July.

In the absence of Mr. Sydow, who was prevented by illness from giving his display on "Shakespeare and Philately," Mr. Simenhoff again exhibited at very short notice. The "Union of South Africa" has from a philatelic point of view been specialized to a very advanced degree by Mr. Simenhoff, whose catalogue needs no introduction to collectors of Union stamps. In choosing a portion of his Union collection for exhibition, Mr. Simenhoff did much to remove the disappointment of members at the unavoidable absence of Mr. Sydow.

The issues shown were those of the King's Head design—all values being displayed. Commencing with the 2½d. value of 1910, which were shown in pairs and blocks, the

essays of the competitive designs of 1911 were to be seen by photographic reproduction. In the ½d. value some striking shade varieties were shown as also "missing perfs." The 1d. value contained a very rare exhibit in the form of strips in mint condition without plate numbers (Plate No. 1 printing). Freaks due to over-inking, folded paper varieties, etc., were profuse and aroused much interest. Copies of the 2½d. value in corner blocks showing the full jubilee lines must also be mentioned; as also the 4d. value with the same characteristic. A splendid example of "offset" on the reverse side was shown in the 3d. value, and much interest was also shown in the numerous copies of different values with bad register, which resulted in the faulty printing position of the King's Head in relation to the frame. In the 1s. value a remarkable freak was seen consisting of a part of the stamps, during the printing of which some foreign object—in all probability of paper cutting—had become interposed between the plate and printing paper surface, resulting in a long streak.

The higher values were also fully represented, including blocks of the 2s. 6d.; 5s.; 10s. and £1 in control 1. The same values were also shown with the missing jubilee line variety, shades also being displayed.

The full range of controls was shown; perforation and shades being extensively dealt with, and it is hardly necessary to say that each sheet was fully written up by the exhibitor.

J.R.

### JOHANNESBURG PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

The June meeting was held on Tuesday, the 10th of the month, and in spite of the cold weather a good number were present, including two visitors.

At the opening of the meeting the president, Major J. Milligan, announced with regret the recent death of Mr. W. Bell Carsons, who in the past had been a member of the old United Philatelic Society and was president of the Johannesburg Stamp Club just before the amalgamation of the two societies. The members rose and stood in silence for a short time in token of respect to the memory of the deceased.

The president also mentioned that Mr. A. Bronks had met with an accident while motor-ing down to Durban. Fortunately, the accident was not serious and after a brief stay at the Standerton Hospital, Mr. Bronks had been able to proceed on his journey and was now recuperating at Durban.

During the evening Mr. Morley passed round for inspection a magnificent imperforate corner block of the eightpenny large arms type of Rhodesia in mint condition, which he had recently secured at the sale in London of the collection of the late Mr. Arthur Hind.

Our numbers continue to increase, three new members were elected at the meeting and two more applications for membership were received and referred to the committee for consideration and approval.

The exhibit for the evening was provided by Mr. R. E. King, who displayed a portion of his collection of French Colonies. The countries selected for display by Mr. King were well represented by stamps in excellent condition, both mint and used, and were beautifully arranged and well written up.

After the display refreshments were served and a general discussion took place on various topics of philatelic interest, all present taking part.

T.V.G.

#### EAST LONDON PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

The July meeting was held in the Toc H rooms at eight o'clock on Thursday evening, July 12. In the absence of the president, Mr. Hoal, who has left on a visit overseas, the vice-president, Mr. B. S. Wilson, took the chair. In spite of the fact that five members are overseas, there was quite a good gathering.

After the general business had been disposed of Mr. Gordon-Brown presented the report of the Committee, which had met to consider the question of a competition for the Society's medal, which it had been proposed to hold in January of next year. After due consideration the committee had come to the conclusion that while the idea of a medal competition was a good one and should not be scrapped, there were at present too many difficulties to overcome. Two of the main objections were that January, being in the holiday season, was a time when the society could expect visiting collectors, to whom such a competition would not appeal, and that it was difficult to decide how the merit of the collections should be judged so that all competitors stood an equal chance of success. After a good deal of discussion it was decided that the idea should be shelved for the time being, but not abandoned. For the January meeting it was decided to have an attractive visitors night, the details of which the committee were to consider and then submit their plans to the meeting.

The Exchange superintendent submitted his report and members were asked to send in exchange packets as soon as possible so that the exchange club could get going without delay.

Mr. H. Lucas provided a very attractive display of modern British colonials. All the stamps were mounted in an excellent manner and including as they did such really fine stamps as the Sierra Leone and Falkland Islands pictorials, the former up to 10s., and the latter up to 5s., the definitive Basutoland issue, set of the Protectorates, Swaziland

and Bechuanaland, all in mint condition, it was a pleasing proof of the fact that modern British colonials have to a great degree got away from the monotonous and stereotyped issues of the past, which, although excellently produced, failed to make the pages of an album look attractive.

Other countries exhibited included Nigeria, King's head type, Southern Rhodesia, Gold Coast, Gambia, Union of South Africa, King's head issue up to £1, and a fine page of the pictorial issues in pairs up to 10s. The West Indian Islands were well represented with attractive pages of Dominica, Montserrat, the Virgin Islands, Turks Islands and Cayman Islands. Newfoundland was represented by one of the sets which adorn any album page, even if they are unnecessary.

At the conclusion of his display, Mr. Lucas was heartily thanked by all present. The rest of the evening was devoted to exchange, raffles and auctions.

W.S.R.

#### PHILATELIC SOCIETY OF NATAL.

We regret to learn that Miss Pershouse, the Hon. Secretary, has been ill and has not been able to send us reports of their doings. Our best wishes for a speedy recovery and hopes that she will soon be able to resume duty with her accustomed energy.

#### REVENUE STAMPS POSTALLY USED IN SOUTH WEST AFRICA.

At a recent meeting of the Philatelic Society of Johannesburg, Mr. E. C. Spreighton showed two S.W.A. revenue stamps (the ordinary postage stamps overprinted "REVENUE") which had been received by airmail and showed the special air post obliterating mark. They had not been sent either by or to a collector and were obviously not "done to order."

Thinking that their use might have been justified during the flood period in South West we made enquiry of the Director of Posts and Telegraphs, and he kindly informs us that no occasion arose anywhere in South West Africa to require revenue stamps to be made available to meet Postal exigencies.

Any such usage was quite unauthorized and must have been merely a case of the stamps having escaped observation by the party responsible for the obliteration of stamps on the covers of mail matter.

He adds "You may reasonably assume these stamps were obliterated in error. It has been the aim of this office to genuinely preserve the philatelic value of stamps and to carefully avoid and discountenance any possibility of the irregular use of stamps which would permit of the Department's bona fides towards the Public being discredited."

## Correspondence

### UNION NOTES.

Sir,—With reference to the report in the Union Notes in the July number of the discovery of a sheet of roto 1s. stamps with three rows having the background missing, it is difficult to be certain without seeing the particular stamps as to the cause of the variety, but from the description given it would appear to be similar to a sheet of 1d. which I have, in which certain rows have the frames only partially printed. If this is so, the cause is almost certainly due to a temporary removal of the pressure on the pressure rollers under the strip of paper passing through the cylinder, probably caused by a bit of grit with the result that the paper only receives a partial printing for the period during which the pressure is relieved.

In such circumstances the heavier outlines would naturally be printed more or less distinctly while the lighter ones would receive only receives a partial printing for the period of pressure whatever.

This type of variety must not be confused with the so-called "albino" or partial albino frame or headplates. These are due to an intrusive piece of paper which gets between the strip being printed and the cylinder, and later falls off, allowing the strip to receive the second cylinder's impression on the blank portion which was covered by the intrusive piece.

In these albino varieties, the blank portion is always quite blank, except just near the edges, where sometimes owing to the thickness of the intrusive paper, the printing of the stamps covered or partially covered by the paper are inclined to "taper off" instead of being absolutely clear-cut. In the cases of pressure faults, the stamps are partially printed, both frame and headplate being more or less present, and the heavier outlines being prominent.

An enquirer also wants to know what I mean by the "dollar" error in the ½d., and the "rigger ball" in the 1d. denomination, both of which are mentioned in the paper now appearing on the Roto Stamps.

The "dollar," which appears in all plate 2 printings of the ½d. sheets, on No. 9, row 10, is so called because the S in South has a line through it, making it appear something like the dollar symbol, thus, \$.

The "rigger ball," which occurs in the black arrow printings and the booklets, is probably so called because the flaw has the shape of a Rugby football.

It is a small oblong spot on the left of the rigging on No. 8, row 15.

Yours, etc.,

G. N. GILBERT.

[A sheet of 2d. showing similar defective printing in the centre row is illustrated in the catalogue of Mr. H. R. Harmer's sale of July 10th, 1934. We can now understand how such defective sheets are produced, but how do they come to be passed inspection and issued for sale? This illustration has since been reproduced in the "Stamp Collector's Fortnightly.—Ed.]

### KENILWORTH-MUIZENBERG FLIGHT 1911.

Sir,—An advertisement by a well-known South African Dealer in the June number of the S.A. Philatelist contains the offer of a Kenilworth-Muizenberg Card at £5, and states that a recent auction price was £12 10s. This statement is true, but what is not stated is that the Card is autographed by the Pilot. Mr. Driver, a fact which should go far to justify a considerable proportion of the admittedly high price. I have seen only one other such card and that badly defaced. Probably their number, at any rate, in the excellent condition that mine is in, is very small.

The wording on the Card is interesting in itself—"Pilot's signature in front. There are two of them staying here. They have done some magnificent flights. One of them went up 4,800 feet yesterday, the other turned a somersault a few days ago and is now in hospital."

In justice to my Card itself and in fairness to possible purchasers from the advertisement in question, I think this fact should be known.

Yours, etc.,

LANCELOT A. B. SHARPE.

## 1935 CATALOGUES

Order now for prompt delivery, direct from the Publishers.

Gibbons Part 1 (Brit. Empire) .. 7/2  
" Part 2 (Foreign) . . . . 11/-  
" Combined Whole World . 16/3

The above prices include postage from the Publishers direct to you.

I CAN SUPPLY ALL OTHER  
CATALOGUES: REGENT,  
WHITFIELD KING, SCOTT,  
&c.

**C. F. SKINNER (B.P.A.)**

P.O. Box 5887, JOHANNESBURG.  
(Shop No. 16 Old Arcade, Market St.)



# The SOUTH AFRICAN PHILATELIST

*Proprietors and Publishers :*

## The Philatelic Congress of Southern Africa

Hon. Editor: J. H. HARVEY PIRIE, P.O. Box 7012, Johannesburg  
 Hon. Business Manager: WILLIAM REDFORD, cor. Market & Kruis Streets,  
 Johannesburg

Subscription: Five Shillings per annum, post free to any part of the World.

Vol. 10.

SEPTEMBER, 1934.

No. 9.

## Southern Africa Philatelic Directory

Society	President	Secretary	Meetings
Capetown Philatelic Society	H. Meyer	G. W. Morris, St. George's Street, Simonstown	2nd and 4th Thursdays, Railway Institute, 8 p.m.
East London Philatelic Society	W. S. Hoal	C. H. Thornton, 35 St. Mark's Rd.	2nd Tuesday, 8 p.m., Toc H Room, Oxford Street
East Rand Philatelic Society	Mrs. G. Wood	J. Doyle, Box 6, Germiston	1st Thursday, Transvaal Hotel, Boksburg
Philatelic Society of Johannesburg	Major J. Milligan	T. V. Green, Box 4967, Jo'burg	2nd Tuesday, 7.45 p.m., Carlton Hotel
Philatelic Society of Natal	Percy C. Bishop	Miss G. Pershouse, Box 588 Durban	1st Wednesday, 8 p.m., Toc H Rooms, Gardiner Street, Durban
Junior Philatelic Society of Natal	J. Malan	E. E. Gagel, Box 588, Durban	2nd Thursday, 7.30 p.m., Technical College
Orange Free State and Basutoland Philatelic Society	F. Carter	H. G. Ulyate, Box 95, Bloemfontein	2nd Friday, 8 p.m., Koffiehuis, Bloemfontein.
Port Elizabeth Philatelic Society	G. K. Forbes	C. W. Sheffield, 55 Sherlock St.	Tuesday nearest 15th, 8 p.m., Public Library
Pretoria Philatelic Society	A. E. Basden	N. L. Watson, P.O. Box 514	1st and 3rd Mondays, 8 p.m., Polley's Hotel
Philatelic Society of Rhodesia	Frank W. Porter	L. Atkinson, Box 587 Bulawayo	

We have not been able to get any news of the Mafeking Philatelic Society, which figured in last year's Directory, and we regret to learn that the West Rand Philatelic Society is practically, if not theoretically, defunct, inasmuch as it has ceased to meet.

## REVIEWS

### DE VRAAGBAAK DER PHILATELIE,

issued by *De Philatelist*, of P.O. Box 897, Rotterdam, is something in the nature of a philatelic annual and is the first book of its kind written in Hollandsch.

As stated in the foreword, it is an improvement on most works of this type, as there are 31 articles, written by 12 different authors, each an expert in his own sphere, and nearly the whole range of philately and its side-lines is covered.

Five articles deal with general aspects of philately, seven with technical information about the making of stamps, and nineteen are specialised articles. The printing and illustrations are excellent; the price is 1G.50.

The book is a mine of interesting information for those who can read Hollandsch. Following are the titles of a few of the articles which might be of most interest to South African readers:—The History of Philately; Reprints; The Printing of Stamps; Printing Errors; Plate Errors and the Reconstruction of Plates; The Collecting of Air-mail Entires; Value and Price; Forgeries.

J.G.K.

### KOHL - BRIEFMARKEN - HANDBUCH.

—Part 34 has just appeared. The first half complete Dr. Munk's work on Honduras' dealing with the ordinary issues of 1924-1933, Airmails and Official Stamps.

The second half begins an extensive study of Hong Kong. This is also written by Dr. Munk with the collaboration of Surgeon-Captain G. T. Bishop, Capt. A. E. Hopkins and Mr. J. B. Seymour. Of the actual stamps of Hong Kong only the 1862-63 issues are dealt with in this part, the greater portion being "Introduction," which is concerned with the early postal services of Hong Kong itself and with the British Postal Agencies which were at one time or another scattered over a great part of Eastern Asia and were more or less under the control of the Hong Kong postal authorities. These agencies range from Bangkok in Siam, over various towns in China proper, to Wei Hai Weh in the north and over to Kobe and Nagasaki in Japan. Ship posts are also considered. Many of these agencies used Hong Kong stamps, either solely or partly, and sometimes in conjunction with local posts such as that of Shanghai. The whole story of the early postal services of Eastern Asia is most fascinating and it is given here in great detail.

## COLLECTORS' WANTS AND OFFERS

(Twopence per word per insertion with minimum of 2/- per insertion).

**Nevis and Virgin Islands.**—Stamps, Literature and Information wanted. *A. F. Johnstone, P.O. Box 6006, Johannesburg.*

**1899-1902.**—British used in South Africa and South Africa used in British Army P.Os. *J. H. Harvey Pirie, P.O. Box 1038, Johannesburg.*

**"Specimen Stamps."**—Great Britain, British Colonial and Foreign wanted. *Saul A. Klagsbrun, P.O. Box 846, Pretoria.*

**Wanted.**—Cape, Natal, Transvaal Orange Free State, Griqualand West, Swaziland, Portuguese East Africa, Brazil, Greece, including covers and postal stationery. *A. E. Basden, P.O. Box 238, Pretoria.*

**Wanted.**—Specimens, mint and fine used, of Gambia, Gold Coast, Sierra Leone and Nigerian Colonies. *T. V. Green, P.O. Box 4967, Johannesburg.*

**Early European Stamps on cover.**—Stamps and covers used in Basutoland. *Dr. A. J. Broughton, 13-14 Bourke Trust Buildings, Pretoria.*

**Rhodesian Rarities.**—Wanted. Mint or used. *R. H. Morley, P.O. Box 7573, Johannesburg.*

**Gold Coast.**—Early issues, fine used. Special Postmarks. Mint. Wanted. *William Redford, cor. Kruis and Market Streets, Johannesburg.*

## APPROVAL BOOKS

**Postage. Fiscal. Telegraph and Local Stamps—at 75% discount.**

Pre-stamp old covers.

Hong Kong used in China Treaty ports, and interesting cancellations many countries.

Great Britain—Railway Stamps. Newspaper Tax—Postmarks, etc.

**WALTER MORLEY,**  
"Cornaways," Riverhead, Kent.

# Fifth Philatelic Congress of Southern Africa and National Stamp Exhibition

*Patron: His Excellency the Governor-General.*

WE have pleasure in announcing that His Excellency the Earl of Clarendon, Hon. President of the Pretoria Philatelic Society, has graciously extended his patronage to 1934 Congress and Stamp Exhibition. His Excellency's message reads as follows:—

"I am directed by the Governor-General to inform you that he will be very pleased to grant patronage to the Philatelic Congress of Southern Africa.

"His Excellency would have liked to open the Congress and see the Exhibition, but unfortunately he will be away on tour in the Free State. He desires me, however, to extend his best wishes for the success of the function.

"HYDE,  
"Comptroller."

We are sure that His Excellency's message will be highly appreciated by all stamp collectors in Southern Africa.

## CONGRESS AND EXHIBITION TO BE OPENED BY MINISTER OF POSTS AND TELEGRAPHS.

We have pleasure in further announcing that Senator the Hon. C. F. Clarkson, Minister of Posts and Telegraphs, has kindly consented to open Congress. The official opening will take place in the Exhibition Hall, Pretoria Technical College, at 11 o'clock on Saturday morning, 13th October.

His Worship the Mayor of Pretoria, Councillor J. Solomon, has also extended his patronage to the Exhibition and anticipates being present at the opening ceremony.

## OFFICIAL EXHIBITS.

We have yet another interesting announcement to make. The Exhibition will include departmental exhibits by the General Post Office, by kind permission of Mr. H. J. Lenton, Postmaster-General; the Government Printing Works, by kind permission of the Government Printer, Mr. J. J. Kruger; and the Royal Mint, by kind permission of the Deputy-Governor, Mr. R. Pearson. In addition to providing an official exhibit, the Postmaster-General has kindly authorised the establishment of a special post office to be open all Saturday at the Exhibition, and the stamps on all mail matter posted at this office will be cancelled by means of a special Exhibition Postmark.

Collectors of Natal stamps and Natal philatelists will be particularly interested to know that the exhibit by the Royal Mint will consist of the original dies of the 1857 Natal embossed stamps; and that after the Exhibition the dies will probably be found a permanent home in Pietermaritzburg.

## THE EXHIBITION.

Every endeavour is being made to make the Exhibition an outstanding success. As previously announced, the Pretoria Philatelic Society is anxious to obtain sufficient funds to purchase a set of permanent exhibition frames which will be available for lending free of charge to other centres holding Congress and stamp exhibitions. About one-third of the necessary funds has been collected to date, and we trust the Society will manage to obtain the balance required to carry into effect this very laudable object, which will be so helpful to philately in Southern Africa. The Society anticipates providing sufficient frames for the exhibition of about 3,600 sheets, and we earnestly hope that all collectors with interesting items will cordially co-operate by entering exhibits, whether for competition or otherwise. A number of collectors have already promised to send in their collections. All exhibits will be carefully housed under glass, and portions of entries not exhibited will be kept under special supervision in a fire-proof strong-room.

## THE POSTAL AUCTION.

There is every prospect that the Postal Auction will be a great success. A large number of entries have been received, and with this number a further instalment of the catalogue is being distributed. Catalogues of late entries will be prepared for distribution among delegates and visitors to Congress. We solicit your hearty support for this innovation by the P.P.S. to ensure badly-needed funds for Congress purposes.

## ENQUIRIES.

Information concerning the Congress, Exhibition and other matters has already been published in the May and June issues of the *South African Philatelist*. Any further details may be obtained from the Secretary, P.P.S. Congress Committee, Box 417, Pretoria, to whom entries should be sent for competition or otherwise, and for the Postal Auction. Please enter early so that the Committee may make due preparation.

## Rust in Stamps and Stamp Albums

By M. A. LOVEJOY.

Read at the Philatelic Congress; Durban, October, 1933.

Philatelic collectors in the coastal areas and the Tropics where the atmosphere is always humid are greatly bothered with rust marks which appear in the leaves of their albums. Unless the albums are kept repeatedly aired the leaves in most types of the present day albums soon get spotted with rust marks either red or black in colour.

These marks seem to be very contagious and, unless very great care is taken, permeate the whole of the album, including the stamps, and in any case the disease is fatal to the stamp if it is a mint specimen.

In the modern sense paper may be best described as a more or less thin tissue composed of any fibrous material whose individual fibres, first separated by mechanical action, are then deposited and felted together on wire cloth while suspended in water. The main constituent in the structure of all plants is fibre or cellulose which forms the casing or walls of the different cells.

The object of the paper maker is to eliminate the glutinous, resinous, silicious and other inter-cellular matters and produce the fibre as pure and as strong as possible. Linen and cotton rags having already undergone a process of manufacture, consist of almost pure fibre with the addition of fatty and colouring matters, which can be got rid of by simple boiling under a low steam pressure with a weak alkaline solution, but the substitutes for rags, esparto grass, wood, straw, etc., being used as they come from the soil, contain all the inter-cellular matter in its original form. So it is quite obvious that during the course of manufacture into paper the fibres are thoroughly impregnated with the various chemicals used in the making of paper.

Except in the very best of papers it is usual to add to the pulp a certain quantity of cheap loading material, such as china clay (kaolin) or pearl hardening, a chemically precipitated form of sulphate of lime. The expense of manufacture of hand-made paper, and the consequent high price, render it too costly for ordinary use. The entire process on the machine occupies a few minutes, while in the ordinary state of the weather it could not be done by hand in less than a week, and as stamp albums are made to sell as cheaply as is possible it is very obvious that very little hand-made paper is used in them, and, although machine-made papers during the pro-

cess of manufacture go through various processes of drying and calendering, still in the fibres there is always a certain residue of chemicals left and, given favourable conditions, these chemicals will always tend to oxidize.

Most papers show a definitely acid reaction, due to an excess of aluminum sulphate used in sizing. Unless the paper is specified to be neutral or slightly alkaline for special purposes, a slight degree of acidity may be regarded as normal.

I have experimented a great deal trying to find the whys and wherefores of this trouble which affects most of us, and I am pleased to be able to report that I have found a method of removing the rust marks from paper, and have tried the same method on many types of stamps. In most cases the stamps have come out well, the colours have brightened to their original mint condition, and in all cases the rust has been entirely removed, but in some stamps not only has the rust disappeared, but practically everything else, just leaving the bare paper.

[Mr. Lovejoy at this stage demonstrated a few sheets of some of his trials, and remarked that the Union pictorials responded very well to this treatment, in fact a little too well, as the stamps came out in a mint condition, leaving the post mark in the solution.]

Rust marks are composed of various items and are principally brought about by climatic conditions, which cause various ingredients used in the making of the paper to oxidize.

One branch of the marks are called dendritic growths (the definition of dendritic being mineral characterized by tree-like figures). The primary condition necessary for the formation of dendritic growths in paper is a slight degree of acidity due to alum (aluminum sulphate). This condition is accentuated by the traces of chlorides which by reaction with the aluminum sulphates give rise to hydrochloric acid. The acid residues in the paper attack the copper or bronze particles, giving rise to hydrogen, which reduces the sulphates present to sulphides, so that the first stage in the formation of a dendritic growth may be thus regarded as a solution of copper to copper sulphate followed by conversion of the latter to black copper sulphide. The latter spreads along the fibres in a micro-crystalline growth, and so when all the sulphates in the immediate neighbour-

hood of the metallic nucleus are exhausted a process of oxidization sets in, by which the copper sulphide is oxidized to copper sulphate and copper oxide forming a basic sulphate of copper.

The iron particles in paper present a striking contrast to that of the sulphiding of copper. In this case the product is hydrated oxide of iron, which is a typical colloid, having no tendency whatever towards the formation of crystalline fibrils.

I include here a copy of a report on the analysis of some stamp album leaves which were sent to the laboratory of one of the biggest paper makers in the old country. Unfortunately, from a philatelic point of view, some of their suggestions for remedying the trouble are impracticable. Still I give the report in full.

**"Samples of Stamp Album Paper showing Brown Discolourations."**

These samples showed a brown mark around the margin of the space occupied by a stamp. When examined under the quartz lamp these marks tend to exhibit yellow fluorescence in a manner similar to rosin. It was noticed further that the brown marks were completely unsized. The paper itself consisted of about 85 per cent. esparto, 15 per cent. wood, a cheap furnish. The reaction of the paper was pH.4.2, the extract pH.4.2 and the titratable acidity 0.35, M.L.N/10.KOH. There was no evidence of the rust marks differing in reaction from the other portions of the paper. Boiling in dilute caustic soda removed the marks almost completely, and bleaching powder solution applied to the board (discoloured on one side) removed the brown mark entirely. When soaked in acid ferrocyanide solution the paper was coloured blue, indicating diffused iron, but none of the brown spots or streaks were coloured any more intensely than the rest of the paper.

Boiling in dilute acid reduced slightly the intensity of the brown discolouration. With regard to the individual spaces previously occupied by stamps, the brown discolouration was only marginal, and in other cases covered the whole of the space. Further, there were spots or streaks of discolouration round the edges of the sheet, that is, in places not in direct contact with the stamps. In the cases where discolouration was due to contact of the paper with the face of the stamps, the effect was only marginal. The discolouration, therefore, is connected in some way with the engine sizing and may be due to gradual degradation of the rosin induced catalytically by substances present in the stamp (or possibly in the mounts)—minute traces of alkali in the stamps would produce such a change in the course of time. In order to obviate this trouble it would be first of all necessary to use a high grade paper for the album. The

actual paper used in the present case is of low ageing properties, being engine sized of a cheap fibre furnish and showing relatively high titratable acidity. It is thus unsound policy to affix valuable stamps on such a poor paper.

It is suggested that a suitable paper would be made from good quality rag, carefully processed engine sizing (rosin) cut down to a minimum, or alternatively sized with wax and lightly tub sized if required with a high-grade gelatine.

The stamps themselves should be carefully soaked in water to remove all traces of adhesive, then soaked in distilled water and thoroughly dried before mounting.

The fact that many of the brown marks complained of are prints of the margin of the stamp suggests that the adhesive was not completely removed from the perforated edges of the stamp prior to mounting.

The remedies mentioned in this report are rather drastic, and one can plainly see that this chemist is not a philatelist, but nevertheless he confirms my previous remarks *re* the paper being permeated with residues from the chemicals used in the process of manufacturing the paper.

The leaves used in this experiment were taken from different albums, but were all about the same content and were good medium class albums.

Note.—Mr. Lovejoy was asked to report further progress with his experiments at the 1934 Congress. He will not be able to do so as he is at present on a trip overseas. When in England he hopes to be able to visit a paper-making establishment. It will be observed that the details of his process for removing rust are not published as other things than rust can be removed and it does not seem wise to broadcast "cleaning" methods too widely. Mr. Lovejoy, however, is willing to give details to any *bona fide* enquirer.—Ed.

## Superb Wood Blocks at "a Quarter"?

No! I cannot Supply

BUT, at the above rate, and even cheaper, I can supply many stamps in the "medium" class, except mint copies, which would be under face value.

**C. F. SKINNER**

"THE STAMP HOUSE,"

16, Old Arcade,

P.O. Box 5887 - - JOHANNESBURG

# The Rotogravure Stamps of the Union of South Africa

By G. N. GILBERT.

(Continued from page 119 of August issue.)

NOTE.—Correspondence invited with a view to correcting errors of omission or commission.

## PENNY SHEETS—LIST OF PLATE FLAWS.

Row No.	Glass positive 1.	Frameplate.						Fine Red Arrow	Rough Red Arrow	Fine Black Arrow	Invert. Wmks. Fine Red Arrow	Invert. Wmks. Broad Red Arrow	New Design Broad Red Arrow	Broad Red Arrow Splayed	Booklets
		A	B 1	B 2	D	E	F								
2	1 Red spot in N of revenue	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	—	—	—	—	x	
2	8 Two red spots in DA ..	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	—	—	—	—	x	
4	10 Long R .. . . . .	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	—	—	—	—	x	
11	2 Spot in 1d. . . . .	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	—	—	—	—	x	
13	2 E in revenue split . . .	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	—	—	—	—	x	
15	8 Broken frameline under PO .. . . . .	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	—	—	—	—	x	
16	7 Spot in A of Africa ..	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	—	—	—	—	x	
17	7 Frame broken under PO	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	—	—	—	—	x	
17	8 Nick in right frameline	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	—	—	—	—	x	
19	2 Red dot in last A of Africa .. . . . .	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	—	—	—	—	x	

### Headplate.

8	1 Spot in sun .. . . . .	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	—	—	—	—
9	5 Lines in sea above small boat .. . . . .	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	—	—	—	—
17	3 Broken corner of mountain .. . . . .	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	—	—	—	x

The following flaws occur in plates made toward the end of the first glass positive's life, probably due to damage, etc., to the glass plate:

12	2 Spot in sunrays .. . . .	—	—	—	—	—	x	x	x	x	—	—	—	—
15	8 "Rugger ball" .. . . . This is not a retouch but is a spot on the glass positive.	—	—	—	—	—	x	x	x	x	—	—	—	x
17	9 Start of the "dragon." .	—	—	—	—	—	—	?	x	x	x	—	—	x
20	4 Loose rope .. . . . .	—	—	—	—	—	x	x	x	x	—	—	—	x
20	7 Line from 3rd yardarm to outside left .. . . .	—	—	—	—	—	x	x	x	x	—	—	—	x

### Glass positive 2.

Owing to the fact that only one sheet plate appears to have been made from this new frameplate positive, it is not possible to determine what are the positive characteristics and what are the

plate's own characteristics, but a study of the second Roll stamp 1d. issue will determine these. Results of research in this direction will be published in due course.

### Glass positive 3 from entirely new design.

#### Frameplate.

10	7	Spot in d of 1d . . . . .	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	x	x
11	5	Red spot in right lower leaves . . . . .	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	x	x
12	8	Red marks through KA of Afrika . . . . .	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	x	x
19	8	Red spot in shading lines bottom left above P of postage . . . . .	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	x	x

#### Headplate.

3	11	Spot between 2nd and 3rd yardarm . . . . .	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	x	x
15	1	Spot under and touching last curl in pennant . . . . .	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	x	x

### Individual plate characteristics.

Row No.	No.	Frameplate 1.	A	B1	B2	D	E	F	Fine Red	Rough Red	Fine Black
3	12	White spot bottom left of O of South . . . . .	x	x	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
5	12	Tiny red spot just under and left of top yardarm . . . . .	x	x	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
10	12	Tiny red dot in 1 of 1d . . . . .	x	x	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
15	1	SUIDAFRIKA . . . . .	x	x	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
16	6	Cut in frameline top left . . . . .	x	x	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
17	12	Blotched spandrel . . . . .	—	x	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
20	5	Red spot in margin below GE of postage . . . . .	x	x	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
20	11	Red spot in F of Afrika . . . . .	x	x	—	—	—	—	—	—	—

#### Headplate 1.

6	12	Spot in sunrays . . . . .	x	x	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
8	1	Spot and line left of stern lantern . . . . .	x	x	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
12	2	Spot top left corner of flag . . . . .	x	x	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
14	1	Convex line top right of mast . . . . .	x	x	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
14	9	Extra mountain peak . . . . .	x	x	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
16	5	Spot in sail . . . . .	x	x	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
20	4	Spot in sunrays . . . . .	x	x	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
20	10	Spot top right of mast . . . . .	x	x	—	—	—	—	—	—	—

#### Frameplate 2.

2	12	Spot in left lower spandrel . . . . .	—	—	—	x	x	—	—	—	—
4	12	Tiny nick in bottom of right limb of last A . . . . .	—	—	—	x	x	—	—	—	—
7	12	Red line through outside right frame . . . . .	—	—	—	x	x	—	—	—	—

#### Headplate 2.

5	11	Tiny hairline from outside top of oval extending to almost the 2nd yardarm from top . . . . .	—	—	x	x	x	—	—	—	—
5	12	Broken and retouched mast . . . . .	—	—	x	x	x	—	—	—	—
12	12	Black line on horizon left of hull . . . . .	—	—	—	x	x	—	—	—	—
15	12	Convex line under pennant . . . . .	—	—	—	x	x	—	—	—	—

#### Frameplate 3.

1	10	Red spot in R of Africa . . . . .	—	—	—	—	—	x	—	—	x
2	11	Red spot in sea near small boat . . . . .	—	—	—	—	—	x	—	—	x
4	9	Red spot outside in margin right, level with mountain . . . . .	—	—	—	—	—	x	—	—	x
10	11	Line above E in revenue split . . . . .	—	—	—	—	—	x	—	—	x
11	10	Red spot in base of leaves on left opp. top of stern lantern . . . . .	—	—	—	—	—	x	—	—	x
20	11	Practically no serif to 1 of 1d . . . . .	—	—	—	—	—	x	—	—	x

Row No.		Headplate 3.	A	B1	B2	D	E	F	Fine Rough Fine		
									Red	Red	Black
1	10	White spot or missing shading in sun-rays just above mountain . . . . .	—	—		—	—	x	—	—	x
5	12	Spot between 1st and 2nd yardarms, and mark in margin . . . . .	—	—		—	—	x	—	—	x
8	12	White spot in sail above bottom small pennant . . . . .	—	—		—	—	x	—	—	x
11	12	Two black marks in sunrays and black spot to rt. over pennant . . . . .	—	—		—	—	x	—	—	x
12	10	Extension of rope from middle yardarm . . . . .	—	—		—	—	x	—	—	x
17	12	White spot in top of small middle pennant . . . . .	—	—		—	—	x	—	—	x
19	10	Dark spot in mountain level with water . . . . .	—	—		—	—	x	—	—	x
19	11	Dark spot middle left oval and hairs on top of 3rd yardarm . . . . .	—	—		—	—	x	—	—	x
20	12	Tiny white nick in top of lower small pennant . . . . .	—	—		—	—	x	—	—	x
<b>Frameplate 4.</b>											
1	2	Red line on mountain . . . . .	—	—		—	—	—	x	—	—
1	11	Red spot in lower left leaves and near frameline . . . . .	—	—		—	—	—	x	—	—
2	11	Red spot in middle leaf opp. design characteristic nick . . . . .	—	—		—	—	—	x	—	—
11	11	Red spot in top left scroll . . . . .	—	—		—	—	—	x	—	—
19	7	Red spot in U of Suid and also top right near scroll . . . . .	—	—		—	—	—	x	—	—
20	1	Red circle in E of revenue . . . . .	—	—		—	—	—	x	—	—
20	2	Red spot in top of F of Afrika . . . . .	—	—		—	—	—	x	—	—
20	5	Broken frame under U of revenue . . . . .	—	—		—	—	—	x	—	—

# British African Rarities

*I hold the Finest Stock in the World*

Only stamps in the finest possible condition and at reasonable prices will be found in my books.

**Selections sent on approval to any part of the world.**

Deal direct with the firm that actually has the stamps in stock and so save money.

**Want Lists will receive my prompt personal attention.**

—◆—  
**T. ALLEN**

5, BLAKE HALL ROAD - - - - WANSTEAD  
LONDON, E.11 - - - - ENGLAND



### VICTORIAN CENTENARY STAMPS.

These three values, 2d., orange vermilion; 3d., bright blue; and 1/-, black, appeared on July 2nd. They have an interest from the point of view of printing technique, being the first stamps to be printed by recess printing with dry paper and quick drying ink. They are printed in sheets of 80 in two panes of 40, and the machine prints four plates at once—the printing of 320 impressions at each operation is probably the largest recessed sheet ever produced.

VICVI.—The Organising Committee announces that His Majesty the King has been graciously pleased to become Patron of the forthcoming Exhibition

—*Australian Stamp Monthly.*

### COLLECTING MADE EASY!

From "Scott's Monthly Journal" we learn that the Philatelic Committee of the Philippine Islands Amateur Athletic Federation, which had a special issue of stamps for their games in April, made arrangements to cachet and postmark a sufficient number of covers without addresses to care for any late orders that might reach Manila after the first day of sale. There does not seem to be much point in collecting first-day covers if they can be purchased at any time properly addressed and cancelled.

GERMANY.—The 8 pfennig orange stamp with portrait of Hindenburg, both with the mesh and swastika watermark, exists with a curious variety in the sheet. Ten stamps in the sheet show the Gothic "D" in "Deutsches Reich" open at the top. We understand that these sheets were quickly bought up by German dealers and that the variety has been corrected. A set of four stamps has been issued in celebration of the Jubilee of the Foundation of the former German Colonies, the values and colours are as follows:—3 pfennig brown, portrait of Franz A. E. Luderitz; 6pf. green and brown, Gustav Nachtigal; 12pf. red and brown, Karl Peters; 25pf. blue and brown, Hermann von Wissman. The stamps are inscribed at the top "Kolonialgedenkjahr" and the commemorative dates "1884" and "1934." We understand this set is to be a limited issue.

*Whitfield King & Co.*



ASCENSION.—This Island, which is situated in the South Atlantic Ocean, has a population of 150, or at least this was the number in 1931, and it is rather surprising that it should issue such a fine pictorial set of stamps as has just appeared. There are ten denominations, the 1d. green and black, 2d. orange and black, 8d. brown and black, and 2/6 mauve and black are all of the same design showing a vignette of H.M. The King, beneath which are shown two mark buoys and a map of the Island, in the centre of which is a turtle. Ascension is visited by the sea turtle from January to May, which lay their eggs in the sand. The 3d. stamp, printed in purple and black, shows a vignette of the King's Head and a view of Georgetown, which is the capital of Ascension. The 1½d. red and black shows a picture of the Pier, 3d. blue and black, a view of Long Beach, 5d. blue and black, view of Three Sisters, the name given to three mountains. The 1/- stamp printed in carmine and black shows in the left-hand lower corner a picture of the sooty tern, or perhaps more generally known as the "wide-awake," the centre of the stamp shows a view of their breeding place. The 5/- stamp, which is printed in brown and black, shows a picture of Green Mountain. The 3d. value of the issue which is just obsolete exists in two very distinct shades, the earlier printings being on toned paper with yellowish gum and the centre part of the design is a very dark grey; the latter printings were on white paper with white gum, the centre being pale grey.

—*Whitfield King & Co.*

### IDEAL HOMES AND HOBBIES.

At the *Rand Daily Mail's* "Ideal Homes" Exhibition in the Hall of Transport, Milner Park, Johannesburg, which is to be opened by H.E. The Governor-General on 6th September, there will be a special date stamp in use for all mail matter posted at the post office in the Exhibition.

The half sheet of Union 2d. referred to in our August issue, p. 128, fetched £82 10s. at auction in London.

EXCHANGE AND SELL YOUR  
STAMPS THROUGH

**Marlborough Stamp Club**

WORLD-WIDE MEMBERSHIP

Subscription 4/- Entrance Fee 1/-

Particulars and specimen magazine from Secretary: E. C. Bland, Marlborough Road, Parkstone, Dorset, England.

# Rhodesian Postage Stamps

By W. J. HARRINGTON.

(Continued from p. 124 of August issue.)

## CHAPTER XVII.—Admiral's Head (white paper), issue of 1922-23.

1. DATE OF FIRST ISSUE, June, 1922 (?).
2. PRINTED BY Messrs. Waterlow & Sons, London.
3. METHOD OF PRINTING—Line engraved and recess printed.
4. DESIGN—Same as for the 1913 issue.
5. DENOMINATIONS, ETC.—
  - ½d.—Dull green, perf. 14 (1922).  
Bright green, perf. 14 (1922).  
Deep blue green, perf. 14 (1923).  
Dull green, perf. 15 (1923).
  - 1d.—Bright rose, perf. 14 (1922).  
Bright rose scarlet, perf. 14 and 15 (1923).  
Aniline red, perf. 14 (Oct., 1924).  
Carmine red, perf. 14 (April, 1925).
  - 2d.—Black and grey purple perf. 14 (1922).  
Black and slate purple, perf. 14 and 15 (1923).
  - 1½d.—Brown ocre, perf. 14 and 15 (1923).
  - 3d.—Black and yellow, perf. 14 (1922).
  - 4d.—Black and orange vermilion, perf. 14 (1922).  
Black and vermilion, perf. 14 and 15 (1923).
  - 6d.—Black and lilac, perf. 14 (1922).  
Black and lilac, perf. 14 and 14 (1923).
  - 8d.—Mauve and pale blue green, perf. 14 (1922).  
Violet and grey green, perf. 14 and 15 (1923).
  - 10d.—Bright ultramarine and red, perf. 14 (1922).  
Ultramarine and carmine red, perf. 14 and 15 (1923).
  - 1/-.—Black and dull blue, perf. 14 (1922).  
Black and dull blue, perf. 14 and 15 (1923).
  - 2/-.—Black and brown, perf. 14 (1922).  
Black and brown, perf. 14 and 15 (1923).
  - 2/6.—Ultramarine and sepia, perf. 14 (1922).  
Pale blue and brown, perf. 14 (1922).  
Violet blue and grey brown, perf. 14 and 15 (1923).
  - 3/-.—Red brown and turquoise blue, perf. 14 (1922).  
Red brown and grey blue, perf. 14 and 15 (1923).
  - 5/-.—Bright ultramarine and emerald, perf. 14 (1922).
6. PAPER AND GUM—The paper is white wove with colourless gum.
7. SETTING OF SHEETS—All values were printed in sheets of 240 stamps, consisting of four panes of 60 arranged in ten rows of six, the panes being separated by plain gutters.
8. DIES—In the three lower values die 1 was used and in the higher values die 3.
9. PERFORATIONS—The perforations were made by single line machine, as follows:—
  - (a) Single working plates—  
Perf. 14—½d., 1d. and 1½d.  
Perf. 15—½d., 1d. and 1½d.
  - (b) Double working plates—  
Perf. 14—All values from 2d. upwards.  
Perf. 15—2d., 4d., 6d., 8d., 10d., 1/-, 2/-, 2/6, 3/-, 5/- and £1.
10. MARGINS.
  - (a) *Perforation.* Perforated through the top margin only and through the gutters separating the panes.
  - (b) *Imprint.* "Waterlow & Sons, Limited, London Wall, E.C.," appears in the centre of the top, middle and bottom margins in the colour of the duty plate.
  - (c) *Sheet numbers* were printed in black reading downwards in the right bottom corner of the sheets.
  - (d) *Jubilee lines* were not used.
  - (e) *Guide lines* in the colour of the duty plate horizontally and/or vertically in the bottom right corner.
11. VARIETIES.
  - (a) *Perforation.*—
    - ½d. value—  
Imperforate between horizontal pair.  
Imperforate between stamp and top margin.  
Imperforate between stamp and bottom margin.  
Imperforate between stamp and right margin.  
Imperforate between vertical pair.  
In one sheet the six top rows were imperforate between.

A block of nine is known with an extra line of perforation down the centre.

1d. *value*—

Imperforate between pair

Imperforate between stamp and left margin.

Imperforate between stamp and left and top margins.

1½d. *value*—

Imperforate between horizontal pair.

Imperforate between vertical pair.

2d. *value*—

Imperforate between stamp and top margin.

Imperforate between pair.

1/- *value*—

Imperforate between horizontal pair.

Imperforate between vertical pair.

(b) *Design*—

1d. *value*—

Small line in top of right "1".

6d. *value*—

In the first stamp in the fourth row the word RHODESIA appears in larger type.

(c) *Re-touches*—

½d. *value*—

No. 60 in the bottom right pane shows extra shading lines horizontally at the top of the design.

(d) *Re-entries*—

8d. *value*—

Slight doubling left side at top for about 4 mm. (1923).

2/6 *value*—

Bottom line with hook at left. (14).

5/- *value*—

Bottom line with hook at left. (14).

Left line doubled at top. (14).

12. GENERAL—

In 1924, and on the 31st March, 1925, the unsold stocks of this issue were returned from Southern and Northern Rhodesia respectively and later destroyed by the Company.

Postal Notice No. 2 of 1925, dated 8th January, 1925, issued by the Northern Rhodesian Administration provided that the current issue of stamps would be valid for postal and mail purposes until the 30th September, 1925.

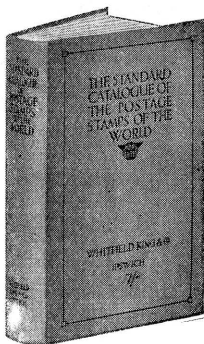
*(Further articles will appear in ensuing issues.)*

*Sieger-Post* of June has some illustrations of the APEX labels specially overprinted for the first British Rocket Post, described in our July issue; also of the cachet "Trial Firing Sussex Downs—6 VI 34."

## Published September 1st.

### THE 1935 EDITION OF

# WHITFIELD KING'S STANDARD CATALOGUE OF THE POSTAGE STAMPS OF THE WORLD



PRICE 7s.  
POSTAGE 9d

The Standard Catalogue needs no introduction to stamp collectors. As is well known it records watermarks and essential data of every standard variety of the world's postage and air mail stamps and is universally recognised as the most practical reference catalogue for the general collector. The 1935 edition has been brought up to date and appears in a new form with many improvements and more than 6,500 illustrations.

## WHITFIELD KING & CO., IPSWICH

ESTABLISHED 1869

ENGLAND.

## AIR MAIL NOTES

Mr. Wyndham, of Capetown, furnishes the following information:—

### THE MADAGASCAR SERVICE.

Although reference to this service has appeared in these notes recently, the following further particulars may be of interest.

The service was officially inaugurated with the flight from Tananarive on Sunday, 29th July. I have seen only one cover, which reached Capetown on the 3rd August; it had a commemorative cachet and had been back-stamped at Broken Hill.

The following extract from its contents is interesting: "Madagascar is becoming air-minded thanks to the Governor-General, who himself recently passed his pilot's test. Although there was not an aeroplane on the island three years ago there is now a fully equipped central aerodrome, a network of emergency landing grounds, a meteorological service and twelve military machines for defence and public services such as mails and ambulance. An aeroplane club has been formed. There is a great future for aviation in Madagascar, which is as big as France, Holland and Belgium put together. The island has a scattered population of 4,000,000. The new air link brings Tananarive, the capital, within a week's journey of Capetown; and Paris and Tananarive are only 10 days apart. The service is conducted by the Madagascar Government."

The first flight in the reverse way left Broken Hill on Thursday, 2nd August, and was due to reach Tananarive on the 4th. Mail which left London and Capetown by Imperial Airways on the 25th and 31st July, respectively, would have connected. In this connection it is of interest to note that "The Air Post Collector" for July contains the following information relative to this service: "Under date of July 6th we have received the following notice from Imperial Airways: 'It is now possible to send air mail letters to Portuguese East Africa and to Madagascar via the Imperial Air Mail route to Broken Hill, and thence by an air route which has just been inaugurated by a foreign company from Broken Hill to Antananarivo via Tete, Quelimane and Majunga. It is understood that the first through despatch from this country will be made on Wednesday next, 11th July, although mails were despatched from France on the service which left London on July 4th.'"

A comparison of the dates mentioned above leaves a very intriguing position. If the flights from Broken Hill on the 2nd August was actually the first air mail one it would appear that the connecting despatches from

France and England on the 4th and 11th July, respectively, were very premature and may prove a costly misunderstanding of the position for aero-philatelists overseas. I am inclined to think that the despatches were premature because by the flight which left London on the 4th July my Athens correspondent despatched ten covers from Athens in my name to each of the stopping centres in Portuguese East Africa and two each to Majunga and Tananarive. Those addressed to Tete have been returned to me and as they only reached there on the 27th July (22 days after despatch from Athens and two days before the first flight from Madagascar) they could not possibly have flown beyond Broken Hill. My first flight cover from Capetown to Tete affords an interesting comparison. It is date-stamped and left Capetown on the 31st July and reached Tete on the morning of the 2nd August (8 a.m.). From Capetown to Tete on the Zambesi in two days is wonderful testimony to the speed of the air mail, as it takes nearly a fortnight to accomplish a similar journey by ordinary surface travel. The first flight cover from South Africa to Portuguese East Africa is, therefore, a very interesting one.

[We have not yet received any details of the sources and quantities of mail carried by the first flight to Madagascar, but Mr. Davidson, of Limbe, informs us that the following numbers were despatched from Nyassaland:

To Tete . . . . .	10
„ Quilimane . . . . .	26
„ Mozambique . . . . .	10
„ Majunga . . . . .	—
„ Antananarivo . . . . .	57

103

Editor.]

### SOUTH AFRICA—MAURITIUS.

Mauritius, which is only a matter of some 400 miles distant from Madagascar, will benefit as the result of the opening of the Madagascar service. Covers despatched to Mauritius by the Imperial Airways service which left Capetown on 31st July will have connected with the first flight from Broken Hill to Madagascar, from where they will be forwarded by the regular boat service between the two islands. They will represent the first air mail despatch to that philatelically famous island. As the steamer service between South Africa and Mauritius is a very irregular and infrequent one, the use of the air mail will no doubt result in a great saving of time.

### EARLY MISHAP ON MADAGASCAR SERVICE.

On the 9th August Reuter announced "M. Assolant, the French airman, who crossed the Atlantic in 1929 with M. Lefevre and holds the Paris to Karachi record, made a forced

landing on the Marromeu Sugar Estate, Zambesi, while flying from Madagascar to Broken Hill. The plane overturned and was damaged, but Assolant and his companion were uninjured. A new plane has been ordered." (M. Assolant and M. Lefevre are the two pilots conducting the Madagascar service). This mishap will afford an opportunity to specialists in "crash" covers to add very interesting items to their collections.

#### CRASH COVERS.

Although the collecting of "crash" covers is a very highly specialised branch of aerophilately it has many followers. Few opportunities have arisen in South Africa to provide acquisitions, the most notable of which is probably the disaster to the Union Airways mail, which occurred at Sir Lowry's Pass, near Capetown, on Friday, 13th November, 1931, when the pilot, Capt. Davenport, his two passengers and practically all the mail were incinerated. It is believed that approximately only 600 letters in more or less damaged state were salvaged and forwarded to the addressees with a notification of regret by the Post Office. The great majority of these went to addresses in England and comparatively few have evidently survived the waste paper basket to tell aerophilately South Africa's greatest air mail disaster.

#### THE SOUTH AFRICAN £85 COVER.

Crashes recall another very interesting cover, namely, that known as "The Handley-Page Flight." In February, 1920, the large Handley-Page aeroplane, the "Pioneer" left Capetown with passengers and mail for Johannesburg, but early trouble was encountered and the flight was abandoned at Beaufort West. The air mail fee of 2s. 1d. bears excellent comparison with that of 2s. 6d. for the first air mails between England and Paris. Letters received two cachets "Carried by Aeroplane" and "Handley-Page South African Transports, Ltd., Aerial Post." They were forwarded from Beaufort West by rail after receiving the post office cancellation of that town. These covers are of great rarity and are catalogued at £85 in Simonhoff's "Standard Catalogue of the Postage Stamps of South Africa," which also gives particulars of the flight. The Post Office gave official announcement of the air mail flight, but apparently there were no aerophilatelists in South Africa in those "pioneer" days.

#### THE SOUTH WEST AFRICA MISHAP.

It is not generally known that the first flight of the provisional internal air mail services established by the South West African Administration in August, 1931, pending the opening of the regular "feeder" service between Windhoek and Kimberley, which was to have started in April of that year, but had necessarily to be postponed until January, 1932, provides covers which can be included amongst "crashes." The provisional services were inaugurated on the 1st August, 1931,

when Capt. Fry piloted the Junkers Junior of South West African Airways from Windhoek on its flight to the northern terminal, Grootfontein. Oil pressure trouble manifested itself before Tsumeb was reached and Capt. Fry was obliged to make an emergency landing 15 miles south of that town, where his engineer was able to make a temporary adjustment and the flight to Tsumeb was continued. At Tsumeb a thorough examination revealed that it would be unsafe to continue the flight to Grootfontein. All the mail was thereupon sent on its last 33-mile lap by motor car. Mail from Tsumeb to Grootfontein, although bearing the special air mail postmark, was actually carried by special car and was not flown. The next day Capt. Fry flew on to Grootfontein without mails.

#### THE WEST AFRICAN SERVICE TO CAPETOWN.

The proposed new West African air line linking Capetown and Paris in five days is in sight. The first leg of the service is to be inaugurated on 7th October, when the Belgian air line "Sabena" will despatch her first 3-engined Fokker machine to the Belgian Congo via the Sahara and French West Africa. The "Sabena" service is to be a fortnightly one, but with French co-ordination there will actually be a weekly service and the plan is later on to link up this service with the recently started Broken Hill-Madagascar line. There is already a service between Elisabethville and Broken Hill connecting with Imperial Airways and the through link only means the re-opening of the Belgian Congo line from Elisabethville to connect with the internal service at Luluabourg.

In return for the concession of flying over Portuguese territory to Madagascar the Portuguese insist that the new air mail line shall serve Angola and an extension will accordingly be made from Boma to Mossamedes.

S.A. Airways, which will shortly be taking over South West African Airways, contemplate the inauguration of a direct service between Windhoek and Capetown, with an extension to Walvis Bay. This service will, it is expected, be extended as far as Mossamedes, thus completing the second great air line down Africa.

Collection of Unused Rhodesians, full gum, unmounted, Single Stamps. Approval against deposit of 21/- (no Cheques) Bank Notes or Postal Orders.

COAT OF ARMS, Large Stamps, ½d. Slate and Violet, ½d. Grey, Black and Purple, 3d. Red and Blue. COAT OF ARMS, Small Stamps, 1d. Red, 2d. Brown, 6d. Mauve, 1/- Black and Green, King and Queen. KING GEORGE, ½d. Blue Green, 1d. Rose Red, 1½d. Brown Ochre, 2½d. Blue, 4d. Or. Red, 5d. Black and Green. KING GEORGE, 6d. Black and Mauve, 10d. Blue and Ermine, 2d. Black and Grey, 3d. Black and Yellow, 8d. Mauve and Green.

The 8d. and 10d. stamps alone would be good value for a guinea.

Geo. CHIPP, P.O. Cala, Tembuland.

## SOCIETY NEWS

### PHILATELIC SOCIETY OF NATAL.

The August monthly meeting was held in the Durban Publicity Bureau on Wednesday, 1st, and after the formal business was discussed Mr. W. P. Williams presented the five Hind Catalogues to the Society for their Library Collection.

The display was the Natal stamps of Mr. V. B. Crockett, a member of long standing, who showed them for the first time. He is the fortunate possessor a fine general collection, the outstanding feature of which is the unusual number of envelopes which bear the early issues and which show uncommon postmarks. After reading a short paper he showed some interesting forgeries of Cape Wood-blocks.

In 1937 Pietermaritzburg is to celebrate its Municipal Centenary. This matter was discussed and it is hoped that it will be possible to stage an exhibition there at the time illustrating the early postal history of Natal.

The Junior Philatelic Society of Natal is holding an exhibition of stamps in the Municipal Art Gallery early in October. This will be open to collectors up to the age of 20 and is the first exhibition of its kind that has ever been attempted. Will anyone interested write to the Secretary, Box 588, Durban, for full particulars.

G.P.

### ORANGE FREE STATE & BASUTOLAND PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

The usual monthly meeting was held in the Koffie Huis on Friday, the 13th July.

It has been decided to hold all future meetings in the Koffie Huis on the second Friday of each month at 8 p.m.

Mr. F. Carter reported on an interview that he had had with the Deputy Controller of Posts, O.F.S., re O.V.S. cancellations. All available information was promised him, although at present very little seems to be known of the number of cancellations and where they were used.

An interesting exhibition of stamps was given by one member of British colonial issues.

The 11th general meeting of the above society was held on Thursday evening, the 9th August, in the Koffie Huis. Mr. Carter took the chair and presided over a moderate attendance. Owing to the fact that the meeting was held on a Thursday quite a few members were prevented from being present.

The minutes of the previous meeting were read and discussed and adopted. Two nominations for membership were handed in and will be balloted for at the next meeting.

Mr. Carter again reported on his interview with the Divisional Controller of Posts re O.V.S. cancellations. No documentary evidence is available and the only information he could get was from memory and hearsay. Further inquiries were promised him by the Divisional Controller during September.

Mr. White exhibited two pieces of original covers used in O.F.S.; the first used on 2nd December, 1850, the second bearing a 1s. brown Revenue stamp, used in 1887, to cover postage and registration from Fauresmith.

After the business of the evening had been attended to various subjects were discussed, one thing leading up to another, which frequently had no bearing on philately at all.

The meeting closed with a word of thanks, on behalf of the Society, to Mr. White for his exhibits.

H.G.U.

### PHILATELIC SOCIETY OF JOHANNESBURG.

The ordinary monthly meeting was held on Tuesday, August 14th, at the Carlton Hotel. Major Milligan was in the chair.

There was a good number present including visitors, amongst whom was our old friend Mr. Esnouf, an old member of the Natal Philatelic Society.

Apologies for absence were announced from Dr. Pirie and Mr. Schofield.

After the formal business of the evening had been transacted Major Milligan handed round for inspection a selection of covers showing a number of the new issue of Ascension, also a cover provided by Mr. Schofield showing the new "King Albert Memorial" Stamp of the Belgian Congo.

Major Milligan supplied the notes of philatelic interest, and at the conclusion of his paper a brisk discussion took place concerning the value and importance of the minor and often microscopic differences and variations in many of the modern issues, particularly in the stamps of the Union, due largely to the latest methods of printing. The concensus of opinion appeared to be that although these minute variations might be interesting and useful to the specialist, the ordinary collector would do well to ignore them.

Mr. J. Kavin read a paper on the stamps of Brunei followed by a very fine exhibit of the issues of this country.

The collection was practically complete, and as this country is comparatively little known to our members, the display was greatly appreciated, proving very interesting.

Mr. Kavin is one of our younger philatelists and is to be congratulated on his excellent effort.

During the evening two new members were elected to the Society and two new applications received.

T.V.G.

## CAPETOWN PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

One of the most interesting forms of aero-philately is the building up of a collection of flown covers relating to any one particular service or route served by different companies or government service. Mr. L. A. Wynham—who is one of the leading aero-philatelists—specialises in the services of "Imperial Airways," and his collection of flown covers is an illustration of the growth and development of this Company and its "feeder" services. On 26th July Mr. Wynham gave a display at the meeting of the Capetown Philatelic Society, although consideration of space necessitated only a small portion of his collection being displayed. This was, therefore, confined to covers, the ultimate destination of which was Capetown.

No better illustration of the extent of the operations of Imperial Airways could be gained than by an inspection of the covers displayed. Covers posted from North, Central and South Africa; New Zealand, Australia, India, Straits Settlements, Greece, Austria, Italy, Malta, Belgium, Ireland and, of course, the United Kingdom were to be seen, not to mention the names of the various towns from which the covers were posted, all to reach their ultimate destination in Capetown.

Mention must also be made of a cover posted at the Imperial Conference at Ottawa in 1933 and signed by Hon. Mr. N. C. Havenga; and another posted on the occasion of the World Monetary and Economic Conference in 1933 and signed by General Smuts.

At the close of the display a vote of thanks was proposed by Mr. L. Simenhoff, who made special mention of the large number of covers signed by the Pilots of the Service. Mr. Wyndham in his reply expressed his regret at not being able to show the whole of his collection and emphasised the drawbacks of showing a specialised collection with its similarities to the non-aero-philatelist. To counteract this the display was confined to covers flown to Cape Town, this also preserving the desirable feature of continuity and showing to some extent what Imperial Airways has meant to South Africa. Unfortunately, this restriction in the scope of the display resulted in the exclusion of some exceptionally fine items including inter alia covers carried on the opening of the first Empire Air Mail to India; the London-Mwanza service: covers carried from Cape Town to all over the world; and last but not least covers carried by the late Glen Kidston on his record flight, and by Squadron Leader Gayford, R.A.F., on the occasion of the attempt on the world's long distance record, which terminated successfully in South West Africa.

Mr. Wyndham gave an interesting discourse on the covers shown dealing firstly with the

section relating to the Imperial Airways Special Christmas Flight in December, 1931, and which was a pictorial display of the route taken insofar as covers posted at every stopping place en route were shown. The inaugural flight of the regular service starting in January, 1932, was next dealt with, Mr. Wyndham again referring to the covers posted from each stopping place.

Reference was made to the third section of the display, which represented developments that have taken place in the Empire Air Mail Service subsequent to the opening of the Trans-African Service; and then to the last section made up of such items as the Imperial Conference covers previously mentioned, covers posted on the Royal Train, etc., and also the exceptionally fine items comprising a cover flown on the first Trans-African flight and autographed by all of the pilots concerned.

In conclusion Mr. Wyndham expressed his appreciation for the interest taken in his display which, incidentally, attracted a record number of visitors to the meeting.

The members of the Cape Town Society spent a most interesting evening on August 9th, when displays of an exceptionally high standard were given. Mr. W. L. Ashmead has long been known as an ardent specialist in the stamps of "Virgin Islands" and the display given by him proved to be most interesting.

Commencing with the first issue of 1866—perfect items of each value were shown, both mint and used, and also a proof printing of the 6d. value and of the 4d. value of 1867. The 1867 issues were complete in mint and used condition; paper varieties of both issues being shown. A copy of the 1s. value (1867-68) on toned paper (used) was an exceptional item as was also a mint pair of the surcharged 1s. value "4" of 1888 (S.G.42). The issues of 1887 to 1889 were practically complete in both mint and used condition, shade varieties being well represented.

The 1899 issue errors were also shown and mention must be made of the items (mint) showing the HALFPFNNY error and the error F in HALFPENNY without the lower bar.

The subsequent issues were well represented in all values, both mint and used—some exceptionally fine blocks and pairs being shown, as also type and shade varieties. The scarce 5s. value of 1922 was seen in blocks of four; Of this stamp it may be said that only 2,880 were issued, as large stocks were destroyed by fire, the subsequent issue being on the script paper.

Following upon Mr. Ashmead's display, Mr. E. Blum exhibited an exceptionally fine collection of specialised Cape of Good Hope. The triangular stamps were in perfect condition and attracted very great interest. Men-

tion must also be made of the large number of the wood block issues; and of the large number of shade varieties.

The outstanding item was a cover bearing a pair of 4d. woodblock (Blue) and a pair of the de la Rue 1d. value with mixed frankings. The rectangular stamps were also well represented, both mint and used, and here again, as in the triangulars, a large number of entires were shown. The collection must rank as one of the finest in South Africa, particularly in view of the fine condition of the items.

J.R.

### FALKLAND ISLANDS

Specialists on these will be interested in an article in the "London Philatelist" of March, 1934, by Dr. Dudley Stone. In addition to an excellent bibliography of 74 items he deals specifically with the following six points:—

(1) The red frank of 1877-78, which he shows to have had a life of about 16 months and not merely 5 as previously supposed.

(2) The 4d. no watermark of 1879.

(3) The myth of imperf. 1d. and 4d. wmk. stamps. These were corner copies.

(4) The numerous variations in the surcharge of the provisional issue of 1891-92 are shown to have been capable of all having been produced from a single hand-stamp.

(5) Records Trial proofs in violet and double surcharges of the provisional issue of 1928.

(6) The S. Georgia postmark in use from Jan. 1st to 10th, 1932 (until a new one could be obtained) shows a "2" for "1932." Only about 100 covers were so marked.

The Brooklyn stamp show, according to "Linn's Weekly," was a wonderful success. The dealers are all enthusiastic about the results obtained. Attendances broke all records and people lined up ten deep before the selling booths and the stamp men had to send out for more supplies to meet the demands. After this we are not surprised to read in "Mekeel's Weekly" that the number of collectors in the U.S.A. is supposed to have doubled in the last two years and is now estimated to be about 18,000,000.

### NIUAFOOU OR "TIN-CAN" ISLAND.

The mail from Niuafoou Is., in the Tonga Group, has to be swum through the breakers by a professional swimmer with the mail sealed up in a tin can. Ordinarily the mail amounts to about 200 letters a year. The postmark, illustrated in a recent number of *Postal Markings*, bears the inscription "Despatched by tin can mail." According to

*Mekeel's Weekly Stamp News*, the island is being visited by a ship of the Matson Line on a special cruise and some 15,000 letters are awaiting despatch by this curious mail. We hope the postman will be paid something for overtime!

### PERF. OR IMPERF.?

The following extract from a letter of a correspondent of "The Stamp Collector's Magazine" of 1867, culled by Major Milligan, reads rather strangely to-day but is interesting as illustrating the views held regarding perforations and the collectability of perforated varieties at a time soon after the introduction of perforation.

Is not, however, the last statement very reminiscent of the wind-up of the last philatelic debate you heard? Most of them, in our experience, end up that way.

"I can justify the collection of perforated as distinguished from unperforated varieties, for perforations render stamps more perfect in their adaptability to the uses for which they are manufactured. As in the great majority of instances, stamps have been issued perforated, not by private persons, but by the postal authorities, and that from a desire to accommodate the public, I am correct in saying that perforation is neither an accidental nor an unimportant change in the appearance or character of a stamp. Again I can justify the collection of watermarked varieties on the ground that the watermarks were introduced to prevent forgery, and therefore are of almost as much consequence as the designs themselves. And I can see that changes of paper though often probably due to some accidental circumstance, are on the other hand as often the result of an intention on the part of the administration to make the stamps more serviceable.

Differences in the number of holes arise, of course, either from the serrations of the machine having in some way been altered or from a new machine altogether being employed, and such mechanical changes are not likely to have been the result of deliberate action on the part of the postal authorities, but rather of the casual arrangement by the firm which has the manufacture of the stamps, or in the individuals in their employ.

If there be no difference in colour, or in some other important detail then to my mind the simple difference in the perforation of two sets of stamps does not constitute a reason for collecting both. Two issues must be very much alike, which can only be distinguished by counting the respective dents."

The writer finishes up by saying that philatelists form a republic, where free thought is permitted, and consequently every collector can do what he likes.



# The SOUTH AFRICAN PHILATELIST

Proprietors and Publishers :

The Philatelic Congress of Southern Africa

Hon. Editor: J. H. HARVEY PIRIE, P.O. Box 7012, Johannesburg

Hon. Business Manager: WILLIAM REDFORD, cor. Market & Kruis Streets,  
Johannesburg

Subscription: Five Shillings per annum, post free to any part of the World.

Vol. 10.

OCTOBER, 1934.

No. 10.

## EXHIBITIONS

Spring has come and Exhibitions are blossoming over the land.

Johannesburg started with the Rand Ideal Homes Exhibition, sponsored by the *Rand Daily Mail*, on Sept. 6th-15th. Here there was no stamp exhibit and in this respect it fell short of demonstrating the ideal home, for a home without a stamp collection is merely a place to eat and sleep in. The Department of Posts and Telegraphs, however, filled the blank to a certain extent, although their exhibit dealt mainly with the modern developments of telegraphy and telephony. A number of marvellously interesting machines were to be seen in operation. One of the new large collecting boxes about to be issued, was in use. These boxes, in addition to taking your letters, tell you the time and the temperature and show you the direction in which the wind is blowing—all very useful things to know, no doubt. A special postmark was in use at the Exhibition post office and a reproduction thereof is shown on another page for the benefit of our postmark collectors. We are particularly glad to see the postal authorities taking part in a show of this kind, just as we welcome their participation in the forthcoming National Stamp Exhibition at Pretoria.

The *Star* follows with an Art and Beauty Exhibition in aid of its "Seaside Fund" on Oct. 17th-27th. At this, as is very fitting, the Philatelic Society of Johannesburg has been asked to stage a Philatelic exhibit. This will consist of two sections (1) Stamps of art and beauty from everywhere and anywhere, and (2) An exhibit illustrative of the postal history of the Union and of all the stamp-issuing territories now, or at any time, included therein. This will not aim at being complete or to

show rarities in particular, but will be of a historical and educational nature.

At Durban the Exhibition for junior collectors organised by the Junior Philatelic Society of Natal will be over by the time this appears in print and we trust it has been a great success. Durban has more active work for the junior collectors to its credit than any other centre in the Union. Some of the others have good intentions, but they do not get much further. They should, if only for the sake of their own future.

At Pretoria, on Oct. 13th and 14th, simultaneously with the holding of the Fifth Philatelic Congress of Southern Africa, the Pretoria Philatelic Society is staging a National Stamp Exhibition, under the distinguished patronage of H.E. the Governor-General. Both the Post Office and the Royal Mint are sending official exhibits. Full particulars of the exhibition and of the Postal Auction have been published in previous issues and now, on the eve of our Congress, it only remains to hope that the expectations of the Pretoria Society will be fully realized. They have aimed high and worked hard; if they receive the support from other centres which they deserve, success should be assured.

Judging by the lists already sent out the Auction is to be a big one and will have to be conducted very snappily if the complete programme is to be carried through.

On another page we publish some notes on collections which are to be shown with illustrations of a few interesting items from them. We must apologise for the fact that only Transvaal collections have been drawn upon, but it has not been possible to get in touch with those from other centres in time. We hope, however, to be able at the Exhibition itself to secure material from exhibitors outside the Transvaal for a further similar illustrated article.

Now it only remains to wish Congress and Exhibition "all of the best"; to urge all who possibly can to be there—it will be worth their while; and, even at this late date, to ask all

owners of interesting stamps and collections to send them in. Even if they find it too late to prepare them for competition they will be welcomed by the exhibition committee for display.

The "N.F." Stamps of  
Tanganyika

A correspondent, who wishes to remain anonymous, but who deserves our grateful thanks for his courtesy, has sent us the interesting letter from General Northey, which we print in full below:—

Zomba, Nyasaland,  
20th June. 1918.

Dear Sir,

Your letter of 4th inst. Fortunately, I have a few left myself, and I send you above set of N.F. stamps. The stock is practically finished, as I had no more overprinted when we came out of German East Africa. I am having the plates destroyed. The numbers overprinted were in value as follows: ½d., £125's worth; 1d., £500's worth; 3d., £150's worth; 4d., £100's worth; 1s., £300's worth.. A very small issue and will always be scarce. They were all overprinted N.F.; any surcharges N.F.F. are forgeries and bogus.

I have never seen Rhodesian 1½d. stamps imperforate at top and should much like some. I should also like a few unsurcharged, old coat of arms, used 2s. 6d. grey (the stamp since surcharged 7½d.), if you have them. I have 5 children who collect!

Yours faithfully,  
EDWARD NORTHEY,  
Major General.

P.S.—The surcharge should have been N.F.F. (Nyasaland Field Force), but by an operator's error in repeating the telegram from me to the Governor of Nyasaland, one F was left out.

E.N.

Attached to the top of the letter by their margins is a set of the N.F. stamps and written alongside is "Complete set of five stamps as issued at Military Post Office, Songea, G.E.A.—E. Northey, Maj. Genl."

The letter, it may be said, was addressed to a correspondent in S. Rhodesia, now deceased, from whom our correspondent received it. Evidently, General Northey did some stamp exchanging with him, either on his own behalf or for his children.

The postscript clears up the mystery of the unusual type of surcharge "N.F.," and should dispose once and for all of the idea that it stood for "Northey's Force."

The values of stamps overprinted are of the greatest interest and they show that the numbers given in Gibbons' catalogue for the ½d. and 1d. issues (10,000 and 12,500 respectively) are incorrect. From the values given by General Northey it will be seen that the numbers should be as follows:—

½d. . . . .	60,000
1d. . . . .	120,000
3d. . . . .	12,000
4d. . . . .	6,000
1s. . . . .	6,000

These numbers seem to be more in keeping with the numbers of stamps that one sees offered for sale and with the prices asked for them than with the prices given in Gibbons' catalogue. The prices in the Regent catalogue seem to be reasonable.

MANY NEW STAMPS COMING FROM  
AUSTRALIA.

Victoria Centenary 2d. and 3d.  
McArthur Centenary 2d. and 3d.

Shilling and one and threepenny air-mail stamps for the inauguration of air-mail service between Australia and London.

A 6d. stamp for the Royal visit of the Duke of Gloucester in October, 1934.

A 4d. stamp Remembrance Issue Victoria War Memorial.

Centenary of Melbourne, 1d. stamp, Jan. 1st, 1935.

International Scout Jamboree, Jan. 8th, 1935, 5d. stamp.

Who said SPAIN?

**1935 CATALOGUES**

Order now for prompt delivery, direct from the Publishers

Gibbons Part 1 (Brit. Empire) .. 7/2  
 " Part 2 (Foreign) . . . . 11/-  
 " Combined Whole World . 16/3

The above prices include postage from the Publishers direct to you.

I CAN SUPPLY ALL OTHER CATALOGUES: REGENT WHITFIELD KING, SCOTT, &c.

**C. F. SKINNER (B.P.A.)**  
 P.O. Box 5887, JOHANNESBURG.  
 (Shop No. 16 Old Arcade, Market St.)

## New Issue News

The following chronicle is condensed from notes kindly furnished by Mr. R. Roberts, 430, Strand, London:—

AUSTRALIA.—Kangaroo type £2. Victoria Centenary, 2d., 3d., 1s.

AUSTRIA.—S.G. Type D 15. 18 gr., blue.

BELGIUM.—Exhibition Set. 35c, 1Fr., 1Fr50, 1Fr.75.

CANADA.—Loyalist 10c, Cartier 3c, P. Due 1c.

CHILE.—S.G. Type 56, 50c. Type 67, 80c.

COSTA RICA.—Air rMail. 1c and 2c.

DENMARK.—Air Mail Set. 10, 15, 20, and 50 ö, 1Kr. Karavel Type, 4Kr25 and 10Kr/O. P. Due, 15Kr12 Opt. "PORTO."

ECUADOR.—Definitive issue. 10c in olive, in blue green and in pale brown. Telegraph stamp 10c surcharged 2c with red Opt. Transverse oblong type, 1 Sucre.

FIUME.—Air Express 2L+1L25.

GUATEMALA.—2c opt. "AEREO INTERIOR 1934." 5c. and 15c. opt. "AEREO EXTERIOR 1934."

HOLLAND.—Curacao Tercentenary. 6c and 12½c.

ICELAND.—S.G. Type 55. 30 aur.

IRAQ.—King Ghazi. Small size, 2, 3, 4, 5, 8, 10, 15, 20, 25, 30 and 40f. Large format, 50, 75, 100, 200f, ½D and 1D. Same with Opt. "ON STATE SERVICE."

IRELAND.—Athletic Association Commemorative, 2d.

ITALY.—Parcel post, 10L. Air Express, 2L.

ITALIAN COLONIES.—Air Mail, Football issue, 50L.

JUGO-SLAVIA.—Sarajevo Commem., 75+25p, 1.50+50p, 1.75+25p. Zegreb Commem., 75+25p, 1.50+50p, 1.75+25p. Air Mails, pictorials, 50p, 1, 2, 3 and 10D.

KUWAIT.—Nasi printing, but inscribed "INDIA POSTAGE" only. Postage, 1a, 2a, 4a, and 10R. Air Mail, 6a.

LIECHTENSTEIN.—Pictorial design 50rp, 60rp, 90rp and 1F20rp.

LITHUANIA.—Smetana Commem, 30c. Postage type, 35c, and 10L. Atlantic flight, 20c, 40c, 60c 1L, 3L, and 5L.

MALAY STATES (FEDERATED).—5\$.

MAURITIUS.—Die II reversion, 2c, 5c, 25c, and 1R.

LUXEMBURG.—Viaduct type, 5Fr. Opt. "Official," 3Fr and 5Fr.

PARAGUAY.—Graf Zeppelin opt. 1934. 4.50, 9, 13.50, 22.50, and 45 \$.

PORTUGAL.—Oporto Colonial Exhibition. 25c. 40c, and 1E60c. Lusiadas type, 25c.

SALVADOR.—Provisional surcharges, 2c/5c, 3c/10c, 8c/1 Col., and 15c/35c.

S. RHODESIA.—Shade 1d. deep scarlet. 9d. about to be issued.

SPANISH MOROCCO.—1933 set opt. "CABO JUBY." Fourteen values.

SWEDEN.—The 5, 10 and 15 ö have appeared on a trial paper known officially as 1C. The 5, 15, 45, and 115 ö on a new white paper No. 3A.

SWITZERLAND.—Pictorial Set, 3c, 5c, 10c, 15c, 20c, 25c and 30c.

ROUMANIA.—Jamboree stamps opt. "MAMAIA 1934." Six values.

TIMOR.—1934 issue similar to earlier issue of MACAU. Nine values.

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA.—Wisconsin Tercentenary, 3c. Air mail, 6c. National Parks pictorial set, ten values, 1c to 10c.

VATICAN.—Provisional surcharges on S.G. Type 2. Ten values.

## COLLECTORS' WANTS AND OFFERS

(Twopence per word per insertion with minimum of 2/- per insertion).

Nevis and Virgin Islands.—Stamps, Literature and Information wanted. *A. F. Johnstone, P.O. Box 6006, Johannesburg.*

1899-1902.—British used in South Africa and South Africa used in British Army P.Os.

*J. H. Harvey Pirie, P.O. Box 1038, Johannesburg.*

"Specimen Stamps."—Great Britain, British Colonial and Foreign wanted. *Saul A. Klagsbrun, P.O. Box 846, Pretoria.*

Wanted. — Cape, Natal, Transvaal Orange Free State, Griqualand West, Swaziland, Portuguese East Africa, Brazil, Greece, including covers and postal stationery.

*A. E. Basden, P.O. Box 238, Pretoria.*

Gold Coast.—Early issues, fine used. Special Postmarks. Mint. Wanted. *William Redford, cor. Kruis and Market Streets, Johannesburg.*

Early European Stamps on cover.—Stamps and covers used in Basutoland. *Dr. A. J. Broughton, 13-14 Bourke Trust Buildings, Pretoria.*

Rhodesian Rarities.—Wanted. Mint or used. *R. H. Morley, P.O. Box 7573, Johannesburg.*

First Flight S.A. Covers. Buy, Sell, Exchange. Write: *Park Smith, The Strand, C.P.*

## At the Exhibition

The following few notes and illustrations refer only to a very few of the choice items which will be shown at the Pretoria National Exhibition. At the time of writing we naturally do not know all the collections which are to be on view and have merely gathered a few rarities from collectors whom we have been able to get in touch with. At the Exhibition itself we hope to be able for future publication to obtain a more representative selection from exhibitors from all over the country.

MR. W. REDFORD, the president of the Permanent Executive Committee of Congress, is not a "one-country" man. He has nearly a score of mounts in his stable. The first string is unquestionably Transvaal, but it is doubtful if it will be running at this meeting. Gold Coast is, at the moment, second favourite. It will turn out for certain, and from what we have seen of it in trial exercises you may be sure it will not be amongst the "also rans." One of the features, which we illustrate, is a quartered 4d. magenta of the 1876-79 issue, on piece and beautifully tied by the postmarks. Another is a used copy of the 20s. green and red of 1889-94. Most of the printing of this stamp was lost at sea; even in mint condition it is very scarce, whilst used copies are not priced in any of the catalogues.

MAJOR MILLIGAN is showing his collection of Canada. A recently acquired treasure in this is a block of four of the brown large 6 cents (1868-69 issue). The block is in perfect condition and distinctly but only lightly postmarked. Singly, of course, this is quite a common stamp, but blocks are very hard to come by and the Regent catalogue remarks that the value of them is from forty to eighty times that of single specimens.

MR. MATTEI'S collection of S.W.A. will be seen for the first time in full exhibition. It is not very well known so far, as it has been very little exhibited even at Society meetings, so will come as a surprise to S.W. collectors. It is practically complete in all normals and important major varieties, and included in it is what is believed to be the only known used copy of the 1d. rouletted Postage Due, 10 m.m. between lines of overprint (S.G. No. D 13). Mint copies of this are now priced at £100. What price the only known used copy?

MR. AND. WATSON has returned from his trip overseas in time for Congress. He informs us that he has been able to make considerable additions to the general part of his collection of Great Britain, but that he was not able to find much in London of British stamps

used in South Africa. An item which he acquired locally shortly before leaving on his trip is, however, well worth recording. This is a new type of postmark which was used by the British forces in Natal in the very early days of the Anglo-Boer War, before the organisation of the Army postal services was complete. It consists of the letters N F F, about 12 m.m. in height, rather crudely formed. This mark is obviously not the same as that described by Mr. Kricorissian, consisting of these letters in white on a black background.

MR. E. C. SPREIGHTON is another of the little band of Great Britain enthusiasts. He has been plating 1d. blacks, and the gem of this lot is a specimen of the rare Plate 11, with good margins and a light black postmark.

DR. PIRIE is exhibiting Tanganyika (including Deutsch Ost Afrika). Two items in this are specimens of the local G.E.A. overprint on Kenya stamps, the 1c showing the overprint both in black and red and the 10c with the overprint inverted. Gibbons does not mention either variety, although they are listed in certain other catalogues. A cover from Taveta is illustrated, showing a German Field Post cancellation. Taveta was in German occupation from 1-10-14 to 31-7-15 and the mark is interesting as coming from what was the only part of British territory effectively in enemy occupation during the war.

MR. R. H. MORLEY is showing a selection of some of his Rhodesian rarities, of which he has quite a number of what might well be museum pieces. The one selected for illustration is a mint block of four of the Admiral type, Die III. perf. 15 (S.G. No. 279c). He has also a block of this used. Do not miss seeing the other rarities.

MR. J. W. K. SCHOFIELD is entering a collection of rarities and one of Cape triangulars, but of course many of the latter category also come under the former. The rarities include beautiful examples of early Europeans such as German states and Swiss cantons and numerous British colonials. For illustration we have selected a Transvaal No. 173, V.R. overprint of the 1st occupation, 1s. yellow green on coarse soft paper, unused, the variety with a wide-spaced overprint, catalogued by S.G. at £100. Also a Queensland No. 3 on piece, 6d. green, imperf, with large star watermark, with fine margins and in beautiful condition. This collection should not be missed.

Specimens from several other collections promised have unfortunately not turned up in time to have them photographed, so we have regretfully to go to press without them, but readers may be assured that there will be a wealth of material to be seen at the exhibition.

# AT THE EXHIBITION



## The Transvaal's Postage Stamps

By J. HERBERT CURLE.

With acknowledgements to "The London Philatelist."

The Boers of the Transvaal determined to have postage stamps in the year 1869; and the decision was ratified by the Volksraad on June 18th of that year. Although the capital of the Transvaal was then Pretoria, the Postmaster-General still controlled the country's infrequent mails from Potchefstroom, the earlier capital; he was a German, Fred Jeppe by name, and he placed the order for the first stamps with one Otto, a printer of Gustrów, Mecklenburg Schwerin, his native state.

In the meanwhile, earlier in the year, Jeppe introduced in a semi-official way, a postal envelope. It was stamped "Potchefstroom 1869" in heavy lettering, cost 6d., and was not valid outside the Transvaal. These envelopes, in a used condition, are extremely rare.

In August, 1869, the first consignment of stamps arrived from Germany, and was followed by a second in February, 1870. They are known as the "Mecklenburgs." They consisted of the 1d. red, 6d. blue and 1s. green, each in several shades; and while a few of them were imperforate, much the greater number were rouletted. Of the rouletted stamps, the 1d. and 1s. are found to be spaced either about  $1\frac{1}{4}$  mm. or  $2\frac{1}{2}$  mm. apart, and it is therefore assumed they were printed from two sets of plates; but the 6d. seems only to be known with the  $2\frac{1}{2}$  mm. spacing.

Postmaster Jeppe, speaking from memory many years later, stated that none of the Mecklenburgs were ever on sale to the public. The inference is, of course, that they were all sold to dealers and collectors direct, and most of them certainly were. The Transvaal's Treasury, in 1869, was empty, even paying for the stamps was a strain; and when Jeppe found he could sell them in blocks to dealers in Europe, and raise money, he must have taken advantage of the opportunity. Emil Tamsen, of Nylstroom, doyen of collectors of Transvaals, was told by Jeppe that between September, 1869, and March, 1870, he supplied dealers and collectors in Europe with 4,800 1d., 800 6d. and 400 1s.—presumably all the stamps he had received. As these Mecklenburg stamps, at least the rouletted ones, are not rare, I feel sure that quite five times these numbers were actually sold. The German printer, with or without Jeppe's authority, must have supplied dealers direct. In order to oblige, it is thought that he even cancelled some of the 6d. and 1s. with a cancellation

stamp of concentric rings which he had prepared for the Transvaal; but he does not seem to have cancelled a single one of the 1d.

Although the Mecklenburgs were not on sale at the post offices, they were an official issue of stamps. Jeppe himself so regarded them. A few, both imperforate and rouletted, passed through the post. These, when cancelled with the name of the post office and the date are I believe genuine, and are extremely rare. The 6d. and 1s. are also found cancelled with concentric rings; but most of these, I am afraid, were the illegitimate cancellings made by Otto in Germany. I imagine we shall never know much more about the sale of the Mecklenburgs, nor about the respective numbers of imperforate and rouletted.

The next consignment from Germany consisted of the 3d., and over this particular stamp a controversy still rages. It was of the familiar lilac shade, with the "improved" eagle, imperforate, and well printed on good paper; it lacked the "spur" on the eagle's leg, so marked in later issues, and in a certain number of sheets, if not in all, the stamps of alternate rows were set *tête-à-tête*. This curious feature led to the belief that this first 3d. was merely an essay, sent out for Jeppe's approval. Possibly it was meant to be; yet it seems to have been a largeish consignment for such a purpose. Jeppe, writing at a much later date, was vague on the point. But by his own action, I think, he had given this stamp—essay or not—a proper status. He sold, and instructed the printer in Germany to sell, the whole of the issue (the quantity is not known) to dealers and collectors in Europe, and paid the proceeds into the Treasury. By thus taking cash for these 3d. imperforate, surely the Postmaster-General gave them proper status; at any rate a block of six, *tête-à-tête*, holds an honoured place in my collection.

It is satisfactory to realise that Jeppe's efforts on behalf of the empty exchequer seems to have been recognised; before long he became the Transvaal's Treasurer-General.

The second consignment of the 3d. did not reach the Transvaal till the middle of 1871. The printer could not get his bill paid by the bankrupt government, and withheld the stamps for a considerable time. There were 8,000 of them, rouletted, and carrying the spur on the eagle's leg; they are quite common, and though held to be of a higher status, are not such finished productions as the imperforates.

The German printer, when the Transvaal delayed paying his bill, seems to have taken the law into his own hands. He had tasted blood by illegitimately cancelling stamps for individuals. Now he began issuing reprints and forgeries, the latter made up from bits of his old dies, and selling them for his own behalf, and before long the market was flooded. Many of these forgeries have now been destroyed. I myself having destroyed some hundreds; but they are still to be seen in general

collections, and occasionally in dealers' stock-books.

We now retrace our steps to early in 1870, when the plates of the 1d., 6d. and 1s. arrived in Pretoria from Germany. A proclamation by President Pretorius, in the Government Gazette, announced that stamps would be on sale as from May 1st, and in April, Mr. M. J. Viljoen, the then Treasurer-General, commenced printing the Transvaal's stamps in the Transvaal. Two plates of each value had been prepared and sent out by Otto. They carried 40 blocks each, and might be used together as panes or separately. It was discovered that on the left-hand plate of the 6d., and on the left-hand plate of the 1s., a block in each was set upside-down. Whether this was accidental, or, as I believe, an impish jest of the German printer, is not known; but neither mistake was ever corrected, and they continued to print from these plates, off and on, for about fifteen years.

Thus arose the classic rarities of the Transvaal—the *têtes-bêches*—unsevered pairs, showing the normal and the inverted stamp side by side. Beginning with the 1s. Mecklenburg, the *tête-bêche* is found in various issues of the First Republic and First British Occupation. Now it is in the 6d., now in the 1s.; sometimes in both; but never in the 1d. or the 3d. All are extremely rare, and unless their owners need to raise the wind, or happen to die, they are simply unprocurable. Otto forged a number of *tête-bêches* at a rather later period; but they are poor productions, and easily detected.

Viljoen was supplied at first with gummed paper and inks from Germany, but they did not last him long. Between April and July, 1870, he made five printings, and specialists recognise, over this short period, four different papers, and several different inks and gums. As a printer he was not a success. His stamps vary from faint impressions to heavily over-inked ones, and are rarely normal. Jeppe, calling on him one day, found him printing stamps before an open window. A whirlwind coming in, blew a number of the printed sheets which were lying about the room to dry, into the street. Both had to rush out and rescue them, and then scrape the dirt off them with knives.

The "blobby" impressions of Viljoen no doubt shocked the orderly German mind of Jeppe, and when he next ran out of ink, and asked to be relieved of an uncongenial task, his resignation was accepted. A new printer, named Borrius, living at Potchefstroom under the eye of the Postmaster-General, was taken on. He printed the Transvaal's stamps for several years, and his work, especially an issue of the 1d. in black, was superior to Viljoen's. Here again, the specialist is in his element. Borrius seems to have used five different papers, and various shades of ink, and he showed a marked preference for rouletting; but he never printed from the plates carrying the *têtes-bêches*.

In 1874 the Boer Government placed an issue of the 1d. and 6d. with P. Davis and Son, printers of the *Natal Witness* in Pietermaritzburg. The Potchefstroom plates were lent for the occasion. These were the Transvaal's first perforated, as contrasted with rouletted stamps. At the same time, a belated consignment arrived from the German printer. This was the 6d. ultramarine, with the redrawn eagle; it is not a scarce stamp, but was followed up by numerous reprints and forgeries, to which the Mecklenburg printer contributed his full share.

After this, until the British Occupation, the printing was done by the "Stamp Commission," located at Pretoria. The Commission's first issues were printed on the semi-pelure and pelure papers, which were possibly supplied from Pietermaritzburg. It is sometimes difficult to distinguish between them, but the semi-pelures, especially the rouletted, are the scarcer. After these, in 1876, came the issue on "hard-surfaced" paper. These were probably the best locally turned-out stamps which had yet appeared, and fine specimens, especially in wide roulettes, are the usual thing. The "brown-gum" variety of the 6d. is to be looked for here. It was discovered by that great Transvaal specialist, the late E. J. Nankivell, who many years ago presented me with my first copy. The last issue by the Commission was that on the "coarse soft" paper. These are the stamps which were afterwards surcharged with the "V.R."; they are all scarce, and in the otherwise wonderful Tapling Collection (British Museum) there are pathetically few.

In these early years, the Transvaal did not belong to the Postal Union, and its stamps had franking power only in their own country. When, therefore, Transvaal mail passed into or through neighbouring states, it had to carry the stamps of those states alongside its own. For the benefit of the public, the Transvaal post-offices carried a stock of Natal, Orange Free State, Cape and later on Griqualand West stamps, and they are to be found on very many of the "entires" of those years.

(To be continued)

EXCHANGE AND SELL YOUR  
STAMPS THROUGH

**Marlborough Stamp Club**

WORLD-WIDE MEMBERSHIP

Subscription 4/-

Entrance Fee 1/-

Particulars and specimen magazine  
from Secretary: E. C. Bland, Marl-  
borough Road, Parkstone, Dorset,  
England.

## REVIEWS

### THE REGENT CATALOGUE OF EMPIRE POSTAGE STAMPS.

This is the first of the new season's catalogues to reach us and we may say straight away that there is considerable improvement on last year's edition. The binding and paper are excellent and the illustrations in the main are now a credit to the work.

Mr. Melville furnishes an interesting preface of "Facts for the Philatelist" and there is a valuable Appendix in the shape of a "Guide to the Detection of Forgeries." Mr. H. R. Harmer's incomparable collection was drawn upon for the compilation of this Guide.

An interesting innovation is the marking with an "H" of many items in the price columns. These are the actual prices realized at the Hind sales. Naturally, they refer more to the highly priced stamps than to the cheaper stamps, but it is just with these that the collector will be glad to know the real market value and not merely the arbitrary "catalogue value."

The prices throughout are selling prices and Mr. Robson Lowe states that during the past twelve months he has supplied 81 per cent. of all orders received.

Prizes to the amount of £100 are offered for spotting errors in the catalogue and giving the best constructive criticism for incorporation in the 1936 edition. *Hors concours* we might just note the following: Under British Army postmarks in South Africa the market is said to be weak for normals and strong for all abnormals; this is not helpful, as there are numerous scarce postmarks which are perfectly normal. Gold Coast 1d. local overprint on 4d—why catalogue this at £200 when there is only one copy known and that is for ever deposited in the British Museum? Why are Basutoland "Officials" forgotten when the catalogue is so up-to-date as to have the pictorial Ascensions? In Tanganyika we note that in the locally overprinted G.E.A.'s the inverted variety on the 10c. is recognised, but not the double black and red on the 1c. The Mafia overprints, by the way, are damned as unofficial labels. In the Union section special prominence is given to the air-mail section, but we regret that no recognition is given to C.S.A.R. and S.A.R. (overprinted or perforated) stamps, although we consider they are quite as worthy of it as stamps overprinted "OFFICIAL." Lastly, we still do not like the plan which excludes Transvaal and Free State republican issues. It may be logical, but it is not convenient and in these (and in several other instances) we would prefer expediency to principle.

### 1935 HARRIS PUBLICATIONS AND ACCESSORIES.

This catalogue, in addition to listing albums and various accessories, gives a good abridged list of philatelic handbooks on different countries, a 6d. library of over 600 items, and specialized lists of literature on air-mails, locals, "used abroad" and postmarks.

### WHITFIELD KING'S "STANDARD" CATALOGUE.

Another early arrival received for review this year is Whitfield King's "Standard," and a very excellent production it is. Many consider it the best catalogue for the general collector, and it certainly takes a lot of beating. This new edition, the 34th, is an improvement on previous editions, being printed on thicker and better paper, with enlarged pages to accommodate the increased number of stamps catalogued. It is bound in royal blue to commemorate His Majesty the King's silver jubilee. Although primarily a "simplified" catalogue, it records essential particulars, including watermarks, of every issue of the world's postage and air-mail stamps. In spite of increased size and improvements, its price has not been changed, viz., 7s. The general collector will highly appreciate it and get good value for his money.

The first of the new British rotogravure stamps, the 1½d. value, has arrived on letters from Great Britain. The first impression given by it is that, like 1066 and all that, it is a good thing. According to the "Stamp Collector's Fortnightly" there will be a big crop of "Cylinder numbers" for collectors of these, the numbers seen and reported within a fortnight of issue ranging from 13 to 76. There are also variations in the style and position of the Control numbers.

### MONGOLIA—A WARNING.

The Westminster Stamp Company states that a recent issue of Mongolia, 8 values Postage, perf. and imperf. (16 in all) and 9 values air mail, perf. only, of face value about 3s. in all have really been made for, if not by, a continental firm of dealers who are marketing them at about five times their face value.





## Correspondence

Sir,—I read with great interest Mr. Basden's article on "O.F.S. Cancellations" in the July "South African Philatelist." On going through my collection I am able to add the following to his list:—

Coloured Numerals: Violet, 3; Brown, 2, 4.  
Coloured Letters: Green, O.

Coloured Town Cancellations: Violet, Ladybrand; Brown, Fauresmith, Ficksburg.

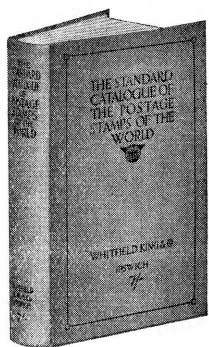
With O.F. State: Smithfield, Wepener, Fauresmith; Bloemfontein, without indication of State or year of use.

Yours, etc.,  
W. TUNSTALL.

### THE BLACK GREEK STAMP OF 1831.

The status of this stamp, supposed to be an earlier "first postage stamp" than the 1d. black of Great Britain, is still not settled. The Editor of *De Philatelist* writes to say that he published an article on these stamps in his paper in 1929, in which he came to the conclusion that they were special delivery stamps. This is in accordance with the view put forward recently by Mr. Pemberton in the *Philatelic Journal of Great Britain*.

## WHITFIELD KING'S



### STANDARD CATALOGUE OF POSTAGE STAMPS 1935 EDITION NOW ON SALE

Price 7s.  
Postage 9d.

All the World's Postage and Air Mail Stamps in one handy volume.

Accurately describes watermarks and other essential data.

Stronger binding, better paper and improved lay-out

The most practical reference catalogue for the General Collector.

## WHITFIELD KING & CO.,

IPSWICH, ENGLAND.

Established 1869.

It is with much sorrow that we have to record the death of Mr. T. V. Green, Hon. Secretary of the Philatelic Society of Johannesburg, on Sept. 21st. Mr. Green was present at the meeting of the Society held on the 11th. He admitted to not feeling quite as fit as usual that evening, but no one realised that a serious disease had already started and that we were never to see him again.

He was a Committee man in the Philatelic Society of Johannesburg ever since its formation and had been Hon. Secretary for the past two years. He will be greatly missed both as a friend and as a Society worker. Our deepest sympathy goes out to Mrs. Green and his family in their tragic bereavement.

We have received from Messrs. Walter Behrens, of Brunswick, a series of very interesting and well-got-up papers dealing with the stamps of Witu, together with a short summary of the evidence in favour of the view that these stamps were not a mere local issue but were regularly given out by the independent Sultan of Swahiland without any speculative or philatelic purpose.

As, however, the whole question of their status is being discussed in a law-suit at Berlin, we think it advisable to refrain from further comment until the finding of the court has been published.

### ASCENSION.

In the official forecast of the issue which has just appeared it was stated that the 5d. value would be black and sepia, and the 8d. value black and azure. As issued these two values have the colours interchanged. Has there been an error and will there be a fresh printing with the colours as originally indicated?

It should be noted that in the issue just become obsolete the 1d. has been appearing in an emerald shade instead of the normal dark green. This variety is likely to be rather a rarity.

Collectors of BADEN will find numerous interesting new data on the postmarks of Baden in *Das Postwertzeichen* of 6th July, and the *Collectors Club Philatelist* of July contains a translation of part of the article on Baden in Kohl's Handbook. It is perhaps not generally known that the Club holds the copyright for the English translation of the whole of Kohl. In the case of the section on Great Britain the Club transferred its rights to the Royal Philatelic Society, which has published the work prepared by Mr. Seymour.

# The Rotogravure Stamps of the Union of South Africa

By G. N. GILBERT.

(Continued from Page 136 of September Issue)

## PENNY SHEET—LIST OF PLATE FLAWS (continued)

Row No.	Headplate 4.	A	B1	B2	D	E	F	Fine Rough Fine		
								Red	Red	Black
6	8 Black spot in leaves to rt. . . . .	—	—	—	—	—	—	x	—	—
8	1 Black spot in sun . . . . .	—	—	—	—	—	—	x	—	—
8	4 Black spot under 2nd yardarm . . . . .	—	—	—	—	—	—	x	—	—
9	6 "dwarf lantern" . . . . .	—	—	—	—	—	—	x	—	—
11	4 Black spot left corner of frame line . . . . .	—	—	—	—	—	—	x	—	—
16	3 Broken stern lantern . . . . .	—	—	—	—	—	—	x	—	—
20	9 Black spot above mountain . . . . .	—	—	—	—	—	—	x	—	—
<b>Frameplate 5.</b>										
1	1 Tiny red spot left bottom of spandrel opp. top of leaf . . . . .	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	x	—
2	12 Red spot left of mast level with top yardarm . . . . .	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	x	—
20	6 White spot under S of posseel . . . . .	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	x	—
<b>Headplate 5.</b>										
1	7 Line on mountain, right corner, and spot between lower and middle yardarms . . . . .	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	x	—
2	1 Spot in bottom large sail . . . . .	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	x	—
2	11 White spot under pennant . . . . .	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	x	—
10	11 Black spot left of stern lantern . . . . .	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	x	—
11	2 Black spot level with 3rd yardarm . . . . .	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	x	—
19	1 Black spot above mountain . . . . .	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	x	—
20	1 Black spot over top pennant . . . . .	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	x	—
20	7 Black spot under bottom yardarm . . . . .	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	x	—
20	11 Black spot left of stern lantern . . . . .	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	x	—
<b>Frameplate 6 (plate 3 used again?).</b>										
1	6 Red spot outside frame above C in Africa and outside right frame near top . . . . .	—	—	—	—	—	?	—	—	x
2	11 Red spot between small boat and ship and outside right margin level with top of mountain . . . . .	—	—	—	—	—	x	—	—	x
4	10 Red spot outside margin right level with top of mountain . . . . .	—	—	—	—	—	x	—	—	x
8	2 Red spot in lower left leaf . . . . .	—	—	—	—	—	?	—	—	x
10	11 Line above E in revenue split . . . . .	—	—	—	—	—	x	—	—	x
11	10 Red spot in base of leaves left, opp. stern lantern . . . . .	—	—	—	—	—	x	—	—	x
16	8 Red spot above middle yardarm . . . . .	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	x
17	10 Red spot in F of Africa . . . . .	—	—	—	—	—	x	—	—	x
<b>Headplate 6 (3 used again?)</b>										
1	10 White spot or missing line of shading in sunrays above mountain . . . . .	—	—	—	—	—	x	—	—	x

2	7	Black spot in sea. left and level with top of hull . . . . .	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	x
5	12	Spot between 1st and 2nd yardarm and black mark in margin . . . . .	—	—	—	—	—	x	—	x
10	1	Retouched sea and sky . . . . .	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	x
11	12	Black spot, right, above pennant . . . . .	—	—	—	—	—	x	—	x
12	10	Extension of rope from middle yardarm . . . . .	—	—	—	—	—	x	—	x
17	12	White spot in top of small middle pennant . . . . .	—	—	—	—	—	x	—	x
19	7	Black spot below middle yardarm . . . . .	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	x
19	10	Dark spot in mountain at sea level . . . . .	—	—	—	—	—	x	—	—
19	11	Dark spot middle left of oval . . . . .	—	—	—	—	—	x	—	—
20	1	Black line top left outside margin . . . . .	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	x
20	6	Ditto ditto . . . . .	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	x
20	12	Tiny white nick in top of lower small pennant . . . . .	—	—	—	—	—	x	—	—

Inverted  
Watermarks  
Fine Red      Broad Red

**Frameplate 7, from new frameplate positive.**

Row No.										
12	12	Red spot in 1d . . . . .						x		x
16	6	Spot close to edge of right frame . . . . .						x		x
16	11	Spot in S of South . . . . .						x		x
17	2	Spot in O of South and white spot or missing shading under scroll left . . . . .						x		x
19	11	Spot in D of Suid . . . . .						x		x

**Headplate 7, from old glass positive.**

7	1	Broken yardarm . . . . .						x		x
15	2	Spot near sail right . . . . .						x		x
15	9	Loose rope . . . . .						x		x
18	1	Lines of shading over 3rd yardarm missing and lines thickened above (gelatine flaw) . . . . .						x		x
19	10	Lines of shading under lower yardarm are thickened and bend slightly upwards (gelatine flaw) . . . . .						x		x
20	3	Light patch right of oval . . . . .						x		x
20	9	Black spot right of hull . . . . .						x		x

The following flaws occur in one printing of plate 7 and not in others, and are probably due to damage to plate during use:—

Row No.		
14	5	“ Pole on Lion’s head.”
15	10	White crescent left of oval.

Pl. 8      Pl. 9  
Broad Red      Broad Red  
(splayed)

**Frameplate 8, from new design and positive.**

Row No.									
1	3	Red spot in flag . . . . .						x	—
1	6	Spot under R . . . . .						x	—
2	3	Red spot below small boat . . . . .						x	—
3	7	Red spot under pennant . . . . .						x	—
4	12	Red spot top of mast . . . . .						x	—
5	6	Split line under P in post . . . . .						x	—
6	3	Red spot right of large sail . . . . .						x	—
7	11	Red spot on D of Suid . . . . .						x	—
10	2	Red line outside right frameline . . . . .						x	—
11	2	Spot in H of South . . . . .						x	—
11	11	Broken K in inkomste . . . . .						x	—
13	2	Spot in bottom of F of Africa . . . . .						x	—
13	3	Red spot under small boat . . . . .						x	—
16	8	Red spot in D of Suid . . . . .						x	—
16	11	Minute stroke (red) top of oval . . . . .						x	—
16	12	Red spot in S of posseel . . . . .						x	—
17	3	Red spot right of sail . . . . .						x	—

## Headplate 8.

1	1	Added line on top of mast . . . . .	x	—
2	1	Spot under pennant . . . . .	x	—
4	1	Dash under SO of South . . . . .	x	—
4	6	Spot at edge of oval to rt. under R . . . . .	x	—
5	7	"Sailor falling in sea" from rigging . . . . .	x	—
7	3	Black spot top left of oval . . . . .	x	—
16	7	Black spot left of hull . . . . .	x	—
17	8	Black spot between 1st and 2nd yardarms near ropes	x	—
17	12	Black spot left of oval below 2nd yardarm . . . . .	x	—
18	3	Black spot on left horizon . . . . .	x	—
18	8	Black spot right of oval at edge . . . . .	x	—
18	12	Black spot top left of oval . . . . .	x	—
19	1	Black spot joining two ropes between 1st and 2nd yardarms . . . . .	x	—
19	10	"Flying bird" left of oval at edge . . . . .	x	—
20	11	Spot in sunrays . . . . .	x	—

(To be continued).

*Scott's Monthly Journal* is the latest to announce that the Union is adopting Rands, Florins and Cents as a currency system, which, of course, would soon be reflected in our stamps. Unfortunately they do not tell us whether this change is coming about next year or next century. Even we have heard of this change as a proposal, but not yet as a definite fact. Some of these bright papers must have ex-war correspondents collecting news for them.

W. E. Fynden, writing on the Air Stamp Market in "Stamp Collecting," says: As for S. Africa the air stamps are the brightest spot in her somewhat drab market. The four of 1925 have always had their merits urged by me, and I now draw attention to the 1929 pair, though the rise of the latter will not be so rapid as was the appreciation of the 1925 set.

# British African Rarities

*I hold the Finest Stock in the World*

Only stamps in the finest possible condition and at reasonable prices will be found in my books.

**Selections sent on approval to any part of the world.**

Deal direct with the firm that actually has the stamps in stock and so save money.

**Want Lists will receive my prompt personal attention.**

T. ALLEN

5, BLAKE HALL ROAD - - - - WANSTEAD

LONDON, E.11 - - - ENGLAND

## AIR MAIL NOTES

THE following notes are furnished by Mr. L. A. Wyndham of Cape Town:—

### VICTOR SMITH AND SOUTH-WEST AFRICA SURPRISE.

Victor Smith, the well-known South African airman who left Cape Town on 26th July on a business flight to England via the West Coast, carried an official mail from Windhoek to England. The mail closed at 5 p.m. on the 26th July and was franked with the Windhoek air mail postmark of the 27th July (the day of departure), but as the pilot was once again dogged by bad luck and was forced to abandon the flight and do a 50 mile walk over the desert to Dakar (French West Africa) from where he continued by steamer, the mail only reached its destination on 22nd August.

"Hardluck Smith" has for long been the stock headline to the panegyrics of Smith's flying in the English Press and truly no more unlucky aviator has ever tackled the great African skyway, but just as van Ryneveld, Cobham, Bentley, Tommy Rose, Murdoch, Caspareuthus, Glen Kidston, Gordon Store and many others will always be remembered as the brave pioneers who helped to open up the Dark Continent along the route which Imperial Airways now flies with monotonous regularity so will Victor Smith, with Mr. and Mrs. Mollison and Goulette and Salel be remembered as a brave and intrepid pioneer of the great West African route which is now being forged.

When barely 19 years of age Victor set out from Cape Town one day in November, 1932, on an attempt on the record. A forced landing in the wilds of Nigeria and no news of him for a week led to grave fears as to his safety, but Victor after great privations and with the aid of friendly Tauregs reached civilisation.

On Monday, 13th March, 1933, I was one of the thousand people waiting at the Cape Town air port in the early hours of the morning to see Victor Smith arrive and beat the record of 4 days, 7 hours set up by Mrs. Mollison the previous November. The hours passed, dawn broke, the Union Airways plane piloted by Lt. Murdoch (who set up the 13 day record in 1928) left for Port Elizabeth, then the R.A.F. "Silver Torpedo" in which Gayford and Nicholettes had established a non-stop record flight from Cranwell to Walvis Bay was wheeled out of the hangar and left on the first leg of her return to England. At last the waiting crowd that had been scanning the horizon realised that Victor must once again have been the victim of unkind fate and was "lost." Through shortage of petrol he had been forced down near Van Rhynsdorp, less

than 200 miles from his goal and when the record was well within his grasp. "Hardluck Smith" had put up the fastest flight from England to South Africa but his flight, although acclaimed in England and South Africa as an extraordinarily fine performance, was not officially recognised as a record. In this connection it is interesting to record that Major Miller definitely held that a new record had been established. About half a dozen covers were carried and bear several interesting cancellations of the aerodromes at which landings were made.

It is understood that Victor Smith has joined Anglo-African Airways, the company sponsoring the projected West African service to Cape Town.

### MADAGASCAR STATISTICS.

I am now able to furnish the following information in respect of the mails carried on the inaugural flights of the Madagascar-Broken Hill "feeder" service.

The first mail from Tananarive comprised one bag on Broken Hill (490 kilos) and two closed bags on Paris and Marseilles weighing, respectively, 9.665 and 3.450 kilos. The bag on Broken Hill consisted of 20 registered and 29 ordinary letters, the great majority of which were for northward conveyance by Imperial Airways to Cairo to connect with Air France's service to Saigon in French Indo China. The distribution of the unregistered mail is not known, but of the 20 registered letters only one was for South Africa, one for Nairobi, 10 for Indo China and the rest for the Continent of Europe. There was no mail for Broken Hill itself, nor was any mail received from Majunga.

The mail despatched by Broken Hill on the first return flight on 2nd August was: Tete, 113, Quelimane, 170, Mozambique, 197 and Tananarive, 646. No detailed record of the despatches from various countries comprising this mail is available but it is known that that to Tananarive included at least 9 letters from South Africa for Mauritius and an accumulation of mail from European countries which, under the impression that the service was to start earlier than it did, despatched mail three weeks before necessary (see last month's notes). No bags were made up on Majunga, the first stop after the ocean crossing from Mozambique, all letters to that town being included in the Tananarive bag. All mail was back-stamped at Tananarive 4th August.

### FIRST AIR MAILS FROM PORTUGUESE EAST AFRICA.

When the Madagascar-Broken Hill service which traverses Portuguese East Africa was inaugurated with the flight from Madagascar on 31st July, the necessary formalities for the carrying of mails by it from Mozambique, Quelimane and Tete had not been completed and so it was that the first despatch from

Mozambique and Quelimane was not made until the service had been in operation for three weeks, viz., on the 20th August. The first air mail despatch from Mozambique to Broken Hill is reported to have been only one letter and presumably that was for Capetown as I duly received a letter from that town (dated 20th August) by the air mail which arrived at Capetown on the 24th idem. The cover bore a two-lined vignette in green "VIA BROKEN HILL—IMPERIAL AIRWAYS." The first despatch from Quelimane, according to a letter from the Postmaster of that town enclosed in my cover, comprised seven letters (three to Portugal, two to England and two to South Africa (Capetown). No cachet was applied to this mail. The first despatch from Tete was made on the 13th August and comprised three letters. From the above it will be seen that first air mail covers from Portuguese East Africa must rank amongst the rareties.

#### GREAT BRITAIN'S INTERNAL AIR MAILS

Monday, 20th August, according to the headlines of many English newspapers was a "Nightmare Day for Air Mail Pilots in England." It saw the inauguration of Great Britain's internal air mail service conducted by "Railway Air Services, Ltd.," a company formed early this year by the four main line railway companies in conjunction with Imperial Airways. The main service links Glasgow with London via Belfast, Douglas (Isle of Man) and Manchester with feeder services radiating from Manchester. The inauguration of the service coincided with gales of almost unprecedented severity in the north of England. The two four-engined "Diana" air liners which left Glasgow, after a turbulent crossing of the Irish Sea reached Manchester where, as a result of the Air Ministry's warning of continued gale conditions, the rest of the flight was discontinued and the mails (35 lbs.) and passengers sent on to London by rail.

Special souvenir envelopes were issued by Railway Air Services. These bear the new winged air mail label of Great Britain and an attractive white, black and blue design of a four-engined air liner superimposed on the silhouette front of a railway engine with a background representing the rising sun, the whole being symbolic of the dawn of railway air services in Great Britain. The five line superscription under the design reads: "Railway Air Services. First United Kingdom Air Mail by Railway Air Services, Ltd."

Covers posted at Glasgow are known additionally flown to Nyasaland and South Africa, the three that my correspondent sent me reaching Capetown on the 31st August.

It is understood that apart from the Inverness-Orkney Islands air mail service by Highland Airways established in May last, all the internal air mails of Great Britain will be conducted by Railway Air Services.

#### SOUTH AFRICAN PILOT INAUGURATES BRITAIN'S INTERNAL AIR MAIL.

It will be of interest to readers to learn that Mr. Gordon Store was one of the pilots associated with the inauguration of the Glasgow-London air mail referred to in the preceding paragraph. The "Yorkshire Post" in referring to the ceremony in the Isle of Man which attended the inauguration of the service reports as follows: "The pilot of the machine, Mr. Gordon Store, a South African, was presented with a sprig of Manx white heather by Lady Butler" (wife of the Governor-General).

It will be remembered that in these Notes for May it was reported that Mr. Gordon Store had left for England to take up a post with Imperial Airways. In November, 1931, Mr. Store, with Peggy Salaman, flew from England to Capetown in 5 days 6½ hours, beating the previous record set up by the late Glen Kidston in March of that year.

\* \* \* \* \*

Mr. J. Robertson informs us, in connection with the first flight to Madagascar, that the mail from Nairobi and from Salisbury addressed to Quelimane, was over-carried to Mozambique. Mail from other places to Quelimane was dropped there. Also, the mail from Salisbury to Tete seems to have been lost; at all events, letters known to have been posted have not been delivered.

#### IMPERIAL AIRWAYS—EXTENSION OF SERVICE TO AUSTRALIA

Collectors of First Flight Covers should note that the plane leaving Capetown on 4th December will connect at Cairo with the first through regular mail by Imperial Airways from Great Britain to Australia.

\* \* \* \* \*

#### "APEX" POSTMARK.

We publish the following letter from Messrs. Stanley Gibbons with pleasure, so as to counteract a wrong impression inadvertently given by us:

The Editor, "The South African Philatelist,"  
Johannesburg, South Africa.

Dear Sir,—I notice in the July number of "The South African Philatelist" that you include a paragraph taken from a press cutting which states that the special winged postmark that was used for the International Air Post Exhibition in London was designed by Mr. Fred. J. Melville. In the interests of postmark collectors, I should be glad if you would correct this as the postmark was designed by me and submitted to Mr. Melville at his request. The press notice was due to a misunderstanding, but the correct description was inserted in the official exhibition catalogue.

Yours faithfully,

C. P. Rang.

p.p. Editorial Department, Stanley Gibbons,  
Ltd.

## SOCIETY NEWS

### PORT ELIZABETH PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

The usual monthly meeting of the above Society was held on September 11 in the Public Library, and the attendance was good. During the present year, which started in June, things seem to be of a more encouraging nature, both as regards attendance at meetings and admission of new members. In regard to these latter, a growl is permissible. Surely there must be more than twenty to twenty-five collectors in a city the size of Port Elizabeth, and if there are why do they not join up, it is very difficult to understand their mentality. Some seem to think "Philatelic Society" an exceedingly high-sounding name, and consequently something to steer clear of; and others, again, are afraid to join up "because their collections are so small," and therefore to their minds not good enough to be produced to the eyes of "a society." Both these reasons are of course extremely ridiculous, but it seems waste of time and energy to argue to the contrary. Can anything be done? Perhaps some reader of these notes could help, and, if so, would he drop us a line. At the meeting referred to above, Mr. J. McMillan delighted us all by exhibiting his superb collection of Flown Airmail Covers. This member is real "Scotch" and likes to keep the good things to himself, but the combined persuasions of "ithers o' that ilk" won the day, and the thanks of the Society are due to him for a sight of his wonderful collection. Visitors to the Pretoria Exhibition will be able to judge for themselves what this representative collection of Covers is like. The collection is more particularly confined to Covers flown in South and South-West Africa, but neighbouring territories are included; as well as some very extreme rarities. Now that one member has emerged from his shell, it is to be hoped others will follow his excellent example.

We take this opportunity of wishing Congress every success, and trust its deliberations will result in real benefit to philately generally.

C. W. S.

### PHILATELIC SOCIETY OF JOHANNESBURG.

The usual monthly meeting was held at the Carlton Hotel on Tuesday, the 11th September, 1934. The President, Major J. Milligan being in the chair. There was a good attendance.

The membership of the Society continues to increase, and during the evening two new members were elected.

The monthly notes of philatelic interest were read by the President, after which the new issues consisting of items of Kuwait, Malay Peninsula, and the new Ascension Set, were displayed, and subsequently disposed of at auction.

The election of Messrs. Spreighton, Glasser and Kupfermann as delegates of the Society to the forthcoming Congress at Pretoria was confirmed.

After discussion by members present, it was unanimously decided to stage a philatelic exhibit at the International Exhibition of Art and Beauty, which is being held at the City Hall in October in aid of the Star Seaside Fund, on the lines of the exhibit provided by the Society last year.

Several items of philatelic interest were passed round for inspection by members. Mr. T. W. K. Schofield brought one of the new "Old Faithful" covers of the U.S.A. Park series. Dr. J. H. H. Pirie a first flight cover to Madagascar, and Mr. J. H. Robertson a cover bearing the new 1½d. British stamp.

Mr. F. Mattei provided the plum of the evening, in the display of the first portion of his S.W.A. collection. The exhibit was outstanding in its completeness, and manner of layout. Dr. Kaplan in a short speech voiced the thanks of the Society to Mr. Mattei for the philatelic feast he had provided.

Prior to the exhibit a paper was read on the stamps of S.W.A., many interesting points being brought to light, much of the information given having been furnished by courtesy of the S.W.A. Postal Administration. This will be published later.

Altogether a very pleasant evening was spent by members. The next meeting will take place on 9th October, when Mr. Glasser will display his specialised collection of the British Solomon Islands.

### CAPETOWN PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

A display of Mint Air Mail Stamps was given by Mr. C. Mackenzie at the meeting held on August 23.

The stamps shown illustrated the almost universal practice of the carriage of mail by air. Stamps were shown from all Continents, and many from countries, the situation of which must have puzzled many of those present.

Special mention may be made of the Newfoundland issues of 1931—shown with the two watermark varieties up to the one dollar value, and the 15 cent. value of this issue overprinted for use on ordinary mail. The 1929 India issue was shown in all values, together with Kuwait overprints for use in that territory. New Guinea by mean of an overprint made the ordinary issues suffice for Air Mail and the issues of June and August, 1931, were shown. New Zealand was also well represented as was the Sudan with the exceptionally well printed and artistically designed stamps specially pre-

pared for air postage. The Union of South Africa was represented by the 1925 issue; South-West Africa by the 3d. and 10d. values.

Another country which resorted to overprints in place of a specially prepared issue was Papua and the issues of 1929 and 1930 were shown by Mr. Mackenzie including the Ash and Cooke printings in the former; and the Ash and Harrison printings in the latter.

The Graf Zeppelin flights from Germany have been permanently recorded by commemorative Air Mail stamps by quite a few countries and of those the Argentine is one, suitable overprints having been used in 1930 and 1932. The Graf Zeppelin Chicago flight was the subject of a special issue in Germany; the airship is also shown on certain Russian issues.

That the Air Mail stamps has been issued by many countries as a speculation must be obvious to many even if only having a small interest in philately; and in this regard the issues of Paraguay, Lithuania and Spain, all of which were shown by Mr. Mackenzie, seem to be rather more profuse than the air mail requirements of the countries would warrant. Incidentally the size of some of the Spanish issues deserve comment, being more in keeping with labels usually fixed to bottles than envelopes.

Among other countries shown were Mexico, Morocco, Panama, United States, Malta and Italy. Of the European countries few, if any, were not shown, a notable omission being Great Britain which has so far refrained from the issue of stamps for air purposes, such as exist being of a private nature.

At the conclusion of the display Mr. Mackenzie received the thanks of the members for the splendid items shown.

J. R.

#### PHILATELIC SOCIETY OF NATAL.

The usual monthly meeting was held in the Durban Publicity Bureau on Wednesday, Sep-

tember 5th, and was attended by a record number of members and eleven visitors. Four new members were elected.

The feature of the evening leading to this large attendance was a paper and exhibit given by Mr. H. H. Hurst. The display consisted mainly of Natal stamps on original covers and provided many rare stamps, scarce postmarks and pen cancellations at early post offices.

The paper dealt with the view recently adumbrated regarding the method of printing of the 1857 embossed stamps, also a new variety of the early engraved Q.V. stamps of Natal, with illustrative examples in both cases.

This subject will be dealt with at full length by Mr. Hurst in a paper to be read at Congress, so further details are not given here.

G.P.

[We hope to publish the paper in full at an early date. Several Society Reports have had to be held over from lack of space or too late arrival. It would simplify the editorial task if reports arrived as near the 20th of the month as possible and if they did not exceed 300 or, at most, 350 words.—Ed.]

We have to thank several correspondents who sent greeting to the "S.A. Philatelist" by 1st flights of the British Inland Air Mail Service from various points.

In a recent number of *Mekeel's Weekly*, Mr. H. H. Zimmerman describes a natty way of mounting blocks of stamps. Use heavy bond paper and cut a mount half-an-inch larger each way than the block so as to give a margin of  $\frac{1}{4}$ -inch all round, on which may be made notes of perforations, catalogue number, etc. With a safety razor blade small lugs are cut in the paper just wide enough to lap over the perforations and so hold the block in place. The block on its mount is fixed in the album with the ordinary hinges.

### Specialist in Union Stamps

MINT AND USED COLONIALS, ESPECIALLY AFRICANS, ASCENSION, CYPRUS, LEEWARDS GROUP AND ST. HELENA.

SELECTIONS SENT ON APPROVAL AGAINST DEPOSIT OR REFERENCES.

Wants Lists Specially Catered for in Normals, Postmarks and Varieties.

GOOD CONDITION — REASONABLE PRICES.

**G. HOPE WILSON (B.P.A.)**

6 CONDUIT STREET, LONDON, W.1., ENGLAND.

### APPROVAL BOOKS

Postage. Fiscal. Telegraph and Local Stamps—at 75% discount.

Pre-stamp old covers.

Hong Kong used in China Treaty ports, and interesting cancellations many countries.

Great Britain—Railway Stamps. Newspaper Tax—Postmarks, etc.

**WALTER MORLEY,**  
"Cornaways," Riverhead, Kent.



The  
SOUTH AFRICAN PHILATELIST

Proprietors and Publishers :

The Philatelic Congress of Southern Africa

Hon. Editor: J. H. HARVEY PIRIE, P.O. Box 7012, Johannesburg

Hon. Business Manager: WILLIAM REDFORD, cor. Market & Kruis Streets,  
Johannesburg

Subscription: Five Shillings per annum, post free to any part of the World.

Vol. 10.

NOVEMBER, 1934.

No. 11.

A Natal Retouch:

"QUEEN IN TEARS."

By H. H. HURST.

Philatelic Society of Natal.

(Paper read before Congress at Pretoria,  
October, 1934.)

On the 5th September, 1934, I brought before members of our Society for the first time a newly-discovered variety in the postage stamps of Natal of the series in which Queen

(3) The 1d. of 1875 overprinted "POSTAGE" horizontally in small sans serif capitals.

(4) The 1d. of the same year with the horizontal overprint "POSTAGE" in large square capitals.

I exhibit this morning:

Item No. 1: Two stamps, one the normal, and the other the retouch.

Item No. 4: Two stamps also, one the normal and the other the retouch.

I have had these stamps photographed, and pass round for members' inspection enlarged prints of Items Nos. 1, 3 and 4. All these stamps are fine, clear copies, and show the retouch very plainly. [No. 3 is here reproduced. Ed.]

The plate of the 1d. stamp contained 240 stamps, arranged in 20 horizontal rows of 12,

1875. OVERPRINTED "POSTAGE."

Normal:

Retouch:



Victoria's three-quarter face diademed portrait appears, with pearl necklace and ear-rings.

By an engraver's retouch, the Queen is given the appearance of being in tears, there being a distinct tear-drop descending from each eye.

I have located the variety on four examples of the 1d. stamp, as under:—

(1) The De La Rue 1d. carmine-red printing on thick paper of 1863.

(2) The 1870-3 1d. overprinted "POSTAGE" in sans serif capitals at each side of the stamp reading upwards on the left and downwards on the right.

and was engraved by Messrs. Perkins, Bacon & Co. The four retouched items above were all printed by Messrs. De La Rue & Co.

I have carefully scrutinised all the 3d. and 6d. values that have come before me, and those in my collection, but I have not located the retouch on stamps of these denominations.

It is possible that only one stamp on the sheet of the 1d. values bears the retouch, while another interesting point for consideration is—is the retouch constant?

With regard to the plate for the 1d. stamp, engraved by Messrs. Perkins, Bacon & Co., it must be borne in mind that this firm engraved the plates and printed the stamps for the early issues of Queensland, Bahamas, Grenada, etc. As the engraved portrait of the Queen for the stamps of these Colonies was the same as that used for Natal, is it possible that there exists on the early stamps of Queensland, Bahamas and Grenada the retouch, "Queen in Tears"?

In conclusion, I should be interested to hear from members whether, in their collections of Natal, they come across an example of the retouch.

## An Appeal to Collectors of Rhodesian Stamps

By W. J. HARRINGTON.

In order that the information which I am collating in respects of the stamps of Rhodesia may be as complete as possible I would be very grateful if collectors of that country would be good enough to go through their albums and see whether they are able to reply to any of the following questions; also whether erroneous statements have been made in, or any information is missing from, my articles already published in the "South African Philatelist." Anyone who is in possession of in-

formation should not say, "Oh, some one is bound to send that in"—that someone may not have the information or, having it, may not send it, and it will be lost.

We who are interested in Rhodesia have quite a large field for research and I therefore take the liberty of appealing to my fellow collectors to take a personal interest in this work—the better and more complete it is the more it will be appreciated, not only by our contemporaries but also by posterity.

So that collectors may not be overwhelmed, I propose, with the consent of the Editor, to publish only a few questions each month.

1.—Were the 1d on 1d, and 2d on 2d of the 1888 issue of the Bechuanaland Protectorate the only stamps sent up by that Government to Gubulawayo prior to the first issue of stamps by the British South Africa Company?

2.—Was the "GUBULAWAYO-BECHUANALAND" postmark used on any other date than the 21st August, 1888?

### 1890 Issue.

3.—On what day in December, 1890, was this issue placed on sale?

4.—How many of each value were printed?

5.—How many sets of imperforated proofs, mounted on cards, were printed?

6.—How many sets of proofs printed on gummed wove paper were printed?

### 1891 Provisionals.

7.—On what day in March, 1891, was this issue placed on sale?

8.—How was the surcharge set and applied?

9.—How many of each value were printed?

10.—Are any varieties known?

### 1891 Issue.

11.—What is the position on the sheet of each of the varieties already recorded? Are any others known?

12.—How many of each value were printed?

### 1895 Issue.

13.—What method of printing was adopted?

14.—Which of the margins of the sheets were perforated through?

15.—What is the position on the sheet of each of the varieties already recorded? Are any others known?

16.—How many of each value were printed?

### 1896 Large Arms.

17.—Which values and plates have squared and mitred corners in the jubilee lines?

18.—Were sheet numbers used?

19.—Are any varieties known other than those already recorded?

20.—How many of each value were printed?

## Congress Notes and Comments

**F**IRST impressions at 8 p.m. on Friday night were like those at the dress rehearsal of an amateur dramatic show. The exhibition was in process of being set up, and there appeared to be the most hopeless confusion of frames, sheets of glass, sheets of stamps, albums of stamps, judges, people trying to wrest collections from the judges to put in frames, camp beds for the night watchmen, and drawing pins, some of them where they were meant to be and some on the floor or the seats with their business ends upwards. Visitors were promptly inspanned to work, and Mr. G. N. Gilbert was particularly noticeable polishing up sheets of glass equal to if not better than any Mary Jane or Jim Fish. By 11 p.m. it was clear that there was system behind the apparent confusion, and at opening time on Saturday morning everything was in traditional apple-pie order.

It was much regretted that the Minister of Posts and Telegraphs was unable to fulfil his engagement to open Congress, and particularly because illness in his family had called him off to Durban.

Mr. Pirow, who deputised for him, gave us an excellent description of the ideal indoor hobby. Can you guess what it is? Look in the official record. His description is well worth reading, even if you have guessed correctly.

Mr. Pirow confessed to having come with no little interest to see what philatelists *en masse* looked like, and admitted that we looked quite normal and respectable. Haven't some folks got quaint ideas?

We heard later on at the Congress dinner that the wife of one prominent member of Congress always referred to the gatherings of her husband's philatelic friends as "The Moths' Meeting." Well! well! Moths are busy little fellows after dark, anyway, and it is better to be a moth than to be moth-eaten. Mr. Wyndham, by the way, thinks if ordinary stamp collectors are to be known as moths, air-mail collectors should rank as butterflies, as they are not fly-by-nights.

A fine bit of news released by Mr. Pirow was that the Post Office collection is to be housed in a proper museum and will be available for ready inspection and study. We understand also that there is to be instituted a Post Office History and Research Department, so that we can look forward to all sorts of interesting information being unearthed about

the various old Colonial and Republican services.

The awakening of official interest was demonstrated at the exhibition by the fine show from the Post Office of various sheets of old Transvaal stamps and of numerous modern issues as received from the International Postal Union. Incidentally, we noticed that by no means all of these showed the SPECIMEN overprint. From the Government printer there came an exhibit of flat and roller rotogravure plates, sheets of stamps in various stages of printing, methods of booklet preparation, etc., etc. The Mint showed the dies (now defaced) of the Natal embossed stamps with impressions taken from them.

We understand the Pretoria Society is to co-operate in the work of the new Museum and Research Department. Congratulations are due to them for the privilege and to the Department for their wisdom in securing expert advice and help.

After the official opening ceremony, when Congress really got together it was seen that this was easily the biggest and most representative meeting yet held. In addition to the Pretoria and Johannesburg representatives, whose attendance was only to be expected as a matter of course, it was a pleasure to see Miss Pershouse from Durban, Messrs. Thornton and Courlander from East London, Messrs. Alexander and Wyndham from Capetown, and Messrs. Carter and Lewis, representing the latest unit of Congress, the Orange Free State and Basutoland Society. In addition to delegates, there were also numerous visitors, amongst whom it was particularly pleasant to meet Mr. Tamsen again. The Port Elizabeth delegate was unfortunately unable at the last minute to attend. Regrets were sent from the Rhodesian Society that they were unable to send a delegate. But what has happened to the East Rand Society? There was neither delegate nor visitor to Congress and we have heard nothing from them officially for months. We know one member—Mr. Donne—is alive for he was a successful exhibitor, but what about the others?

The Pretoria Philatelic Society announced that they had decided to supply the *S.A. Philatelist* to all their members who were not home members of other societies. That's fine! Who will be the next to follow the lead of Johannesburg and Pretoria.

The dinner menu cards were each tastefully adorned with an uninitialled Pietersburg stamp. A Scots visitor tried to reconstruct a sheet after dinner; he is still four or five short, but is living in hope of another Congress in Pretoria.

Quite a number of interesting bits of information were gathered at the dinner, in addition to the tit-bit about nocturnal lepidoptera. We heard, for instance, that Miss Pershouse is to be married in December. Best wishes from all South African philatelists,

but we hope that she will not be lost to philately! Mr. Basden kindly invited us all to attend her wedding, but he quite forgot to tell us exactly where and when we were to go.

We gathered from Mr. Lesley, the Deputy Government Printer, that he had not lost very many nights' sleep over Mr. Gilbert's wicked exposé of his defects as a printer, but that he was lost in admiration of Mr. Gilbert's eyesight (? or microscope).

We were told that Philatelists will now be able to take a degree in their own subject at some universities in the U.S.A. It will behove us in future to see whether D.Ph. stands for a doctorate in philately or in philately. As an offset to this we were informed that at certain mental hospitals in the same great country philately was considered an occupation suitable for the inmates thereof. From the sublime to the ridiculous, isn't it?

As an alternative to the derivation of philately "a love of things exempted from tax" given by the P.M.G. at last Congress, we were offered "a love of dining in company. This brought to somebody's mind (he was thinking of the West Indian Islands, of course) the latest derivation of virgin: It's a hybrid word, from Lat. *vir*, a man, and old English, *gin*, a trap. *Ergo*, virgin, a man-trap.

But to get back to business. The two research papers were much enjoyed. As the bigger bit of work, the Transvaal paper was voted the research prize, but "The Queen in Tears" (meaning that she had been crying, not that her clothes were tattered) is seeing the light of cold print first. The great question is: "Is it a retouch or something of the nature of Mr. Gilbert's spots on the buck's nose"? That must be decided by an examination of many specimens of stamps, Grenada, Bahamas and Queensland, as well as Natal. Mr. Hurst has put us on the track. How far can we follow it up?

Capetown is going to have us for Congress in 1935. Cheers!

Johannesburg announced its intention of holding an International Exhibition in 1936, during the time of the Jubilee celebration of the discovery of the Witwatersrand gold reef. Incidentally, we understand, 1936 is also the centenary of the first crossing of the Witwatersrand by a white man, Captain Harris crossing it from north to south on his return journey from the Northern Transvaal, which he had reached from the south-western part of what is now the Transvaal.

This is a big proposition, but we hope they will be able to see it through. It should be an excellent advertisement for philately in South Africa.

The Exhibition Post Office did a roaring trade and there should be no scarcity of the special post mark, even though it had only one day's life. There were special souvenir postcards and envelopes which had a good sale. All October numbers of the *S.A. Phila-*

*telist* for overseas were posted at the Exhibition so as to receive the special post mark. The mark, by the way, was of the same size and type as that of the Rand Ideal Homes Exhibition illustrated in our October number, the wording being *NASIONALE POSSEEL TENTOONSTELLING: NATIONAL STAMP EXHIBITION: PRETORIA*, and the date, 13.X.34.

The Stamp Auction, held on the Saturday afternoon, was not quite as successful as it might have been, although quite a fair amount of business was done. The difficulty lay not so much with the buyers as with the sellers; the reserve prices put on many of the items being unquestionably too high. The countries that went best, curiously enough, were O.F.S. and S.W.A., both of them considered in some quarters to be moribund, if not dead, so far as trade is concerned

J. H. H. P.

The following changes of address have been notified;— Dr. C. L. L. Murray, Murraysburg, C.P., S. Africa.

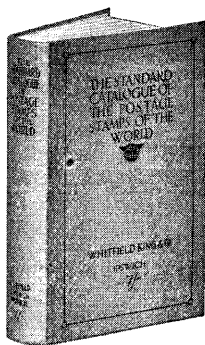
Messrs Harmer Rooke and Co., Ltd., 188-9 Strand, London, W.C.2.

Francisco del Tarré, Barcelona, Claris 12, Spain.

## WHITFIELD KING'S

STANDARD  
CATALOGUE  
OF

POSTAGE STAMPS  
1935 EDITION  
NOW ON SALE



Price 7s.  
Postage 9d.

All the World's Postage and Air Mail Stamps in one handy volume.

Accurately describes watermarks and other essential data.

Stronger binding, better paper and improved lay-out

The most practical reference catalogue for the General Collector.

## WHITFIELD KING & CO.,

IPSWICH, ENGLAND.

Established 1869.

## Basutoland "Official Stamps"

Mr. J. H. Sims, Acting Government Secretary, Basutoland, in a letter dated 18th October, 1934, from The Secretariat, Maseru, has supplied us with the following information regarding the Basutoland issue of "Official" stamps. His letter is in the form of categorical answers to questions put by us but we give the information received as a continuous statement. We feel sure our readers will be glad to have this news from an official source and we wish to express our thanks to Mr. Sims for so kindly supplying it.

Four values of Basutoland stamps, the 1d., 1d., 2d., and 6d., were overprinted with the word "Official" by the Government Printer, Pretoria. Twenty sheets of each value, sixty stamps per sheet (i.e., 1,200 of each value) were thus overprinted and supplied to Maseru Post Office. The stamps were received in Maseru on 24th May, 1934. The unused stocks were returned to the Union Government Postal Department Stores on 25th June, 1934, and were presumably destroyed. No stamps were sold to the public. The stamps were used only in the Secretariat, not in any other Government Department, and they were employed only for official correspondence to overseas destinations. The answer to our question "Can it be stated how many of each value were actually used for postage?" was "Very small quantity by Secretariat."

It will be seen from the information given above that these stamps bid fair to be extremely rare. None were sold, so mint copies should not be obtainable unless some were given away for good reason and any such mint specimens will have to be well vouched for to be acceptable.

In our August number it was stated on the authority of the Postmaster, Maseru, that the stamps were in use from 24th January, but as we mentioned this date in our query to Mr. Sims and he specifically answered 24th May it would seem that a mistake was made in the earlier information received.

If we take it therefore that the stamps were only in use for one month and that only a "very small quantity" was used by the Secretariat it is obvious that even if all the stamps so used were preserved the numbers must be few and those who can obtain them will be very lucky.

The destination of most of the correspondence was probably London and it is there that specimens are most likely to be obtained. We would advise all those fortunate enough to pick them up to get a good pedigree with

them; such rarities are almost bound to tempt the forger even although he will have to imitate both overprint and postmark.

We will endeavour to ascertain the number of stamps of each value returned to store when their use was discontinued so as to have a better idea of the numbers actually used.

## COLLECTORS' WANTS AND OFFERS

(Twopence per word per insertion with  
minimum of 2/- per insertion).

**Nevis and Virgin Islands.**—Stamps, Literature and Information wanted.  
*A. F. Johnstone, P.O. Box 6006, Johannesburg.*

**Anglo-Boer War, 1899-1902.**—Anything except V.R.I's.  
*Dr. Pirie, Box 1038, Johannesburg.*

**"Specimen Stamps."**—Great Britain, British Colonial and Foreign wanted.  
*Saul A. Klagsbrun, P.O. Box 846, Pretoria.*

**Wanted.** — Cape, Natal, Transvaal Orange Free State, Griqualand West, Swaziland, Portuguese East Africa, Brazil, Greece, including covers and postal stationery.  
*A. E. Basden, P.O. Box 238, Pretoria.*

**Gold Coast.**—Early issues, fine used. Special Postmarks. Mint. Wanted.  
*William Redford, cor. Kruis and Market Streets, Johannesburg.*

**Exchange desired with collectors.**  
*Walter Ritt, 3, Metternich gasse 11, Vienna, Austria.*

**Rhodesian Rarities.**—Wanted. Mint or used.  
*R. H. Morley, P.O. Box 7573, Johannesburg.*

**First Flight S.A. Covers.** Buy, Sell, Exchange. Write:  
*Park Smith, The Strand, C.P.*

**Wanted.**—To obtain exchange correspondents in all parts of Africa to exchange stamps of your country for U.S. and Canada.

*W. Y. Chester, Bellingham, Wash., U.S.A.*

**Unions Wanted.**—Used Officials, Dues, Air Mails; Inter-Provinceals.  
*"Philatelist," P.O. Box 1390, Capetown.*

**London Bank Parcels,** current issues, including High Values. No rubbish. 5/- and 10/- per packet. Satisfaction guaranteed.

*Denham, 6, Prior Avenue, Sutton, Surrey, England.*

## Minutes of Vth Philatelic Congress of Southern Africa, held at Pretoria 13th-14th October 1934

### OPENING CEREMONY.

**T**HROUGH the courtesy of the Principal, Congress and the Philatelic Exhibition were held at the Technical College, Pretoria.

The Hon. Senator Clarkson, Minister of Posts, was unfortunately prevented from opening the Exhibition and Congress, and the Hon. Mr. O. Pirow, Minister of Railways, deputized for him.

Mr. Pirow said: "In these days of feverish haste and keen competition most people realise that hobbies are proving more valuable in keeping a nation sane than all the medical men combined. Perhaps the doctors will agree with me, for I believe the medical profession supplies many philatelists from its ranks.

"The ideal hobby should, in his opinion, possess a strong mental appeal, should be as readily available to rich as to poor, should be as accessible to the attic as to the mansion, to the invalid as to the healthy person; should hold as great an attraction for the hermit as for the man socially inclined, and should lose none of its charm whether followed in the great cities or in centres far from civilisation. Philately satisfied all those requirements."

Dealing with the Post Office exhibit, Mr. Pirow said that instead of keeping the stamps locked up in dusty official safes, they should be staged in a museum. The Pretoria Philatelic Society might act as curators of that exhibit.

The delegates to Congress were welcomed by Mr. Ivan Solomon, the Mayor, who emphasised the great part that hobbies played in life.

The following delegates attended, viz.:—

Capetown Philatelic Society: Mr. Alexander and Mr. Wyndham.

East London Philatelic Society: Mr. Thornton.

Philatelic Society of Johannesburg: Messrs. I. Glasser, J. G. Kupferman and E. C. Sprighton.

Philatelic Society of Natal: Miss G. Pershouse.

O.F.S. and Basutoland Philatelic Society: Messrs. Carter and Lewis.

Pretoria Philatelic Society: Messrs. W. R. Gilbert, I. Greenbaum, H. N. B. Hawke and A. D. McGregor.

Pretoria Local Committee: Messrs. A. J. Broughton, J. W. Gehle, W. J. Giovanetti, A. P. Obermeyer, J. H. Roos and N. L. Watson.

Permanent Congress Executive: Messrs. W. Redford, J. H. Harvey Pirie, S. A. Klagsbrun,

J. W. Kayton Schofield, R. H. Morley, Major W. J. Harrington, A. E. Basden (in the chair) and C Hand (secretary).

### MORNING SESSION, 14th OCTOBER.

After official opening in Hall, delegates and visitors adjourned to the conference-room, where they were welcomed by Mr. Basden. He referred to those by name who had attended from afar and made particular reference to Miss G. Pershouse, the only lady delegate, and appropriately expressed the pleasure of all in having present Mr. Emil Tamsen, the grand old man of South African philately.

Minutes of Congress held at Durban were read and confirmed.

Arising out of the minutes, reference to Mr. Curle's intended bequest was made, and Mr. Schofield observed that recent information indicated that, when given to South Africa, Mr. Curle's collection would be housed in Johannesburg. After Mr. Pirow's proposal to-day, Mr. Redford thought this would be a good thing.

Mr. Klagsbrun pointed out that we now have a Ministerial statement that the valuable items of the Post Office collection will be placed in the Museum, where they would be available for viewing by the general public. As it is at present, a set of Berne distributions is passed to the Transvaal Museum.

The Secretary read the report of the doings of the Permanent Congress Executive Committee. It was then open for discussion, but raised little comment.

### REPORT OF THE PERMANENT CONGRESS EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE.

*Meetings.*—The Executive Committee continued the arrangement of holding meetings alternately in Pretoria and Johannesburg, and met on five occasions during the year, the attendance averaging seven per meeting. Business arrangements, it is understood, prevented the representative of the East Rand Philatelic Society from being present at any of the meetings.

*Affiliated Societies.*—The O.F.S. and Basutoland Philatelic Society, with headquarters at Bloemfontein, accepted the invitation of the Permanent Congress Executive Committee to affiliate with Congress.

*Rules and Regulations.*—An amendment to Rule 21 was found to be desirable and, after due notice, it was unanimously decided by

Permanent Congress Executive Committee to add:—

“Permanent Congress Executive Committee shall have the right to refuse any paper or papers submitted without assigning any reason for so doing.”

This amendment will come before Congress for confirmation.

Societies were advised that Rules and Regulations would come up for review at this Congress and were notified of the foregoing alteration, but no notice of proposed change has been received.

*Official Journal.*—Mr. A. E. Basden found it impossible to continue as Editor of the *S.A. Philatelist*, and Dr. J. H. Harvey Pirie was prevailed upon to accept the position. The Executive greatly appreciates the work done by Mr. Basden and is grateful to Dr. Pirie for the excellent services he is now giving.

The Business Manager will report upon the financial position of the *S.A. Philatelist* and the steps that have been taken to curtail expenditure upon its production.

*Congress Resolution.*—A resolution passed at the last Congress at Durban reads as follows:

“That Congress recommends to the constituent societies that a subscription to the *S.A. Philatelist* be included in each members' annual dues.”

The Philatelic Society of Johannesburg was the first to adopt the recommendation, and the Pretoria Philatelic Society has now fallen into line. Port Elizabeth advises that “most of the members are already subscribers and does not see the necessity of compelling any member to take in the *S.A. Philatelist*.” The society undertakes to have a round-up each December meeting and forward the names of the total subscribers. Rhodesia notified that members have decided to continue on present lines, i.e., to forward subscriptions direct.

*Affiliation with Philatelic Congress of Great Britain.*—It was thought that if this Congress as a body could affiliate with the Philatelic Congress of Great Britain it would be possible to appoint a delegate who would voice the views of organised philately in South Africa at the annual congress in England. Unfortunately the constitution did not permit of such an arrangement.

*Congress.*—The Executive hopes to receive an invitation from Capetown for the holding of the 1935 Congress in that city.

Johannesburg will celebrate its Jubilee in 1936 and the Philatelic Society of Johannesburg proposes to hold an International Stamp Exhibition during the celebrations. It is desired that Congress should assemble there during that time, and the Permanent Congress Executive Committee recommends their application to Congress.

*Congress 1933 Awards.*—Indebtedness of Congress Executive to the Mint, without funds to liquidate the liability, did not warrant the placing of a further order for plaques. This

indebtedness has now been settled—a portion is a loan which can be adjusted—and all plaques for the two Congresses will be ordered early.

This will be my last report before relinquishing the position of Hon. Secretary to the Permanent Congress Executive Committee, a body which, perhaps I may be permitted to say, has rendered considerable service to philately in Southern Africa.

C. HAND, Hon. Secretary,  
Permanent Congress Executive  
Committee.

The Chairman then proposed that the change to Rule 21, made by the Permanent Congress Executive Committee, be approved. This was agreed to unanimously.

Mr. Redford reported upon the *S.A. Philatelist*. Taking the number of philatelists in South Africa, the total of subscribers is surprisingly small, but stated this was not a matter peculiar to this country, for the same position exists in the United Kingdom. As regards editorship, we were lucky from the beginning in having Mr. Basden and Dr. Pirie.

The financial position had not improved, but subscriptions by all societies for their members would help to balance matters. We have reduced the cost of production, eliminated blocks and cut down petty expenses, but there must be support from societies and their members. There are three ways of meeting the difficulty: (1) If all societies would include the *S.A. Philatelist* in their members' fees. (2) By general assistance of collectors with small advertisements. (3) By donations monthly from philatelists, no matter how small.

Mr. Redford thought the holding of Congress at Capetown would be an opportunity of spreading the feeling to the coast that this paper is theirs as well. If there was not the worry over finance more attention could be paid to other matters. The journal is the great asset without which it would be difficult to give good work.

The International Exhibition will give a great filip to philately, and having a journal will enable the holding of a really successful affair.

The Secretary, Mr. Redford said, was resigning mainly owing to difficulty in having Chairman and Secretary in two different towns, and he hoped Mr. Hand would continue to serve Congress.

Mr. Redford produced a balance sheet showing the financial position of the *S.A. Philatelist*.

Mr. Klagsbrun said the financial report gave considerable food for thought. We appreciate the value of such a journal. It is the vehicle of communication between all South African philatelists and could be made more useful if centres would keep the editor advised of discoveries recorded and supply papers read. If the number of South African subscribers could be increased to 1,000 a valuable point would be held by the business manager when soliciting advertisements.

Dr. Pirie wondered whether the editorial portion might be responsible for the want of improvement. He was only too pleased to get constructive criticism and advice as to what it was thought advisable to publish. His endeavour was to help organised philately and anything said would not be resented.

Mr. Morley held Dr. Pirie's apologies to be unnecessary. He was making a good job of it and not getting support from the rank and file. £92 17s. represents the journal's loss to date and even 200 new subscribers will not clear the matter. Cannot we take the hobby more to heart and call for help from the Chair and thus help to keep organised philately alive in South Africa?

Mr. Redford here suggested that a letter be sent to each society placing the position before them. There were some wealthy non-members of societies who he thought might be approached privately.

Mr. Courlander agreed with Mr. Morley and thought action should be taken now at the meeting, but Mr. Alexander was afraid we were overdoing things and supported Mr. Redford's proposals. This also was the view of Miss Pershouse, who considered secretaries would make an effort if a proper appeal were made through them.

Replying to a suggestion of Mr. Glasser, it was stated that dealers and branches of the Central News Agency endeavour to secure subscriptions.

Mr. Thornton related some of a secretary's difficulties in getting members to subscribe and said funds of small societies will not run to supplying the paper to members.

Mr. Redford's recommendation was agreed to.

Mr. Hawke mentioned the hard work of the Business Manager and Editor, which would be greatly relieved if only assistance is given generally. He proposed a hearty vote of thanks to Mr. Redford and Dr. Pirie. Carried with acclamation.

The Chairman pointed out how few papers found their way to the Editor and hoped that delegates on return to their societies will do their best to arrange for all papers to be sent to Dr. Pirie.

The Chairman suggested that reports of opening downstairs be included in minutes. Agreed.

Sunday sessions were arranged from 10 a.m. to 12.45 p.m., continuing at 2.30 p.m.

Congress adjourned at 5.45 p.m. after an invitation to Congress dinner had been extended to all visiting Pretoria.

#### MORNING SESSION, 14th OCTOBER.

The assembly was at 10 a.m., when a group photograph was taken.

Minutes of previous day's proceedings were read and initialled.

Congress papers were taken, "The Queen in Tears," by Mr. H. H. Hurst, being read by Miss Pershouse.

Discussion was started by Mr. Klagsbrun, who appreciated Mr. Hurst bringing the interesting discovery to notice. While not minimising Mr. Hurst's discovery, it requires considerable more research before its true value is disclosed. We know the variety is on stamps of Natal, but what we require to ascertain is at what date it occurred and whether the variety is on stamps of the same type in other colonies.

Mr. Redford asked everyone able to give Mr. Hurst assistance to do so to enable him to proceed further with his investigation into his discovery. He thought it indicated that Natal has settled down to good research work.

Major Harrington had doubts of the variety being a retouch and wondered whether it was not a plate variety possibly caused temporarily.

Mr. Basden thought the markings to differ in the various photographs and this could not be in a retouch. He was inclined to agree with Major Harrington and Dr. Mosely, who commented upon the position of the marks. The item is interesting and new and thanks were conveyed to Mr. Hurst.

Commenting further, Mr. Klagsbrun said in the limited time it is not possible to arrive at a decision as to what the tear-drop is. Publication of the paper with enlargements would lead to interest in this item overseas as well.

Mr. Hand read a paper, "Transvaal Forgeries," by A. E. Basden and C. Hand. Mr. Tamsen, whose previous paper was referred to, said he had only dealt with Enschede's reprints, of which there was corroboration in letters held. Some points were raised by Messrs. Robertson, Kupferman and Klagsbrun. The last named said we have the assurance of Enschede that the plates were destroyed. On the other hand, Mr. Tamsen maintains that the plates were only destroyed after reprints had been made in bulk, and the same perforating machine used. If that is so, there is nothing to distinguish this output from the genuine stamps supplied to the Z.A.R. The writers should carry their investigations further and see if there is any differentiation.

Mr. Redford thought the question resolved itself into whether Enschede's were accurate or not. If Mr. Tamsen is right that reprints were turned off in millions before plates were destroyed, these stamps are junk. We have a field for investigation in overprints, but so far as other items are concerned they are merely items of interest. Our efforts should be directed to reconstructing the collectable middle issues of the Transvaal. This excellent paper has brought us down to what portion of these issues should be excised.

Dr. Mosely had just three points to make: (a) Terminology. If an item is not from the original plate it is a forgery and not a reprint. (b) Stamps sold by a Government are issued items and cannot be expunged from a catalogue. (c) That reprints some time ago could be bought in Paris in fancy colours. Dr.



Mosely suggested the stamps in the Post Office collection as a field for investigation.

Mr. Robertson mentioned a number of used sheets disclosing forged postmarks, distinguishable by recent spellings of some old names.

Mr. Basden replied to points raised as far as possible, and Mr. Hand commented upon the V.R.I. and E.R.I. forgeries.

Being put to the vote of delegates for the Southern Africa Philatelic Research Award, the decision was in favour of the Transvaal paper.

Congress adjourned at 12.45 p.m.

#### AFTERNOON SESSION, 14th OCTOBER.

Congress resumed at 2.30 p.m., and the paper forwarded by Mr. Percy C. Bishop on "The Greatest Centenary of All" (not for competition) was read by Mr. Basden. In starting the discussion, Mr. A. Watson mentioned that on the trip from which he had just returned he visited the grave of James Chalmers and viewed the monument referred to in the paper.

Mr. Hawke proposed a special letter of thanks to Mr. Bishop from the Congress meeting for the well thought out paper. Approved.

Three notices of motion were brought forward. Miss Pershouse proposed: "That this Congress approach the South African Railways asking for the extension of concession tickets to delegates attending a Philatelic Conference."

Miss Pershouse referred to representatives of the Press Conference travelling at a reduced rate, and if it were possible to secure the concession asked for it might mean more representatives attending from far away. This was seconded by Mr. Klagsbrun and referred to the incoming Executive for consideration.

Miss Pershouse next proposed: "As the future of philately lies in the hands of the coming generation steps be taken by this Congress to approach the Education Departments of the various Provinces: (a) Either to include philately as one of the secondary subjects in schools; or (b) to organise a regular system of talks on philately by well-known enthusiasts on the subject.

As a writer to a junior paper, Miss Pershouse received inquiries from all quarters, and there is such a gap between the schoolboy collector and the philatelist that she considers something can and should be done. This was seconded by Mr. Hawke.

The bilingual paper to which Miss Pershouse contributes has a circulation of 15,000, and she thought if the philatelic portion of the work had the encouragement of Congress it would be of assistance. It was mentioned also that Mr. Bishop is giving a weekly philatelic radio talk during October.

It was mentioned by the Chairman that printed matter from America in this connection is held.

After comments by Mr. Sprighton, Mr. Robertson suggested the printing of a bilingual book for juniors, for distribution through the Education Departments. This would be something of real use.

Mr. Carter (O.F.S.) told of organised junior competitions in Bloemfontein with several grades.

Mr. Hand moved the elimination of (a), and Dr. Pirie seconded the amendment. Messrs. Morley and Klagsbrun saw no reason why the original resolution should not be referred to the new Executive, and this course was agreed to.

Mr. Kupferman moved on behalf of the Philatelic Society of Johannesburg, and Mr. Glasser seconded:—

"That a badge be supplied to delegates attending Congress."

Messrs. Schofield and Thornton spoke against and for the proposal respectively. Mr. Redford considered this a matter of finance and could not expect the host society to pay, but Mr. Kupferman maintained a small cheap badge would suffice. The motion was not approved.

Mr. Redford moved as an unopposed motion as follows:—

"That the Post and Telegraph Department be asked to allocate the old official collection to the Transvaal Museum and that it be suggested that they might like the Pretoria Philatelic Society to assist in the curatorship.

He said there can be no two questions as to taking this point to its natural conclusion in view of the opinions expressed by the Minister. Mr. Schofield had pleasure in seconding. He said it was a pleasure to be able to view the collection.

Major Harrington said he understood that a G.P.O. Museum was being formed. It was decided unanimously that the motion be sent forward to the incoming Executive with advice that care should be exercised in their wording of the letter.

Major Harrington read reports of research committees dealing with Rhodesian and Union postal issues. He advised Congress of the publication of the Rhodesian investigations in the official journal and asked for approval of the action taken. Congress approved and expressed its thanks to Major Harrington.

It was heard with pleasure from Mr. Alexander that Mr. Simenhof is proceeding with the work allotted to the Philatelic Society of Capetown (Cape issues).

Mr. Kupferman is taking great interest in Transvaal research on behalf of the Philatelic Society of Johannesburg, and Major Milligan said we might expect good news by next year.

Dr. Pirie suggested that O.F.S. work be transferred to the O.F.S. and Basutoland Philatelic Society, and was informed by Mr. Carter that they are already doing something.

The Secretary read a letter from Port Elizabeth in regard to their work.

ROLL OF HONOUR.—The Secretary read the report of the Permanent Congress Execu-

tive Committee, recommending Major W. J. Harrington for enrolment on the Roll of Honour of Distinguished Southern Africa Philatelists and the recommendation was received with acclamation.

The Secretary then read the list of exhibition awards, the certificates for which had been presented at the dinner to Congress delegates and visitors, as follows:—

#### EXHIBITION AWARDS.

Class 1.—Any State or group of States in Africa: 1st, Mr. F. Mattei (South-West Africa); 2nd, Mr. C. E. Donne (St. Helena) and Dr. J. H. Harvey Pirie (G.E.A. and Tanganyika); 3rd, Mr. W. Redford (Gold Coast) and Dr. A. J. Broughton (St. Helena).

Class 2.—Any State or group of States in America: 1st, Major J. Milligan (Canada); 2nd, Dr. A. J. Broughton (North America).

Class 3.—Any State or group of States in Asia: 3rd, Mr. J. de V. de Beer (India) and Mr. I. Glasser (Iraq).

Class 4.—Any State or group of States in Australasia: 1st, Dr. A. J. Broughton (Papua) and Mr. W. J. Giovanetti (South Australia).

Class 5.—Any State or group of States in Europe: 2nd, Mr. A. P. Obermeyer (Holland).

Class 6.—Any general collection: No award.

Class 7.—Collection of stamps on covers: 1st, Mr. A. E. Basden; 2nd, Mr. J. W. Kayton Schofield.

Class 8.—Collection of postmarks on stamps of any State: 1st, Major W. J. Harrington (Rhodesia) and Dr. A. J. Broughton (Canada); 3rd, Mr. A. E. Basden (O.F.S.).

Class 9.—Collection of air mails on flown covers: 1st, Mr. L. A. Wyndham (African); 2nd, Mr. I. Greenbaum (Union); 3rd, Mr. J. McMillan (Airmails).

Class 10.—Collection of sketches, proofs, essays, specimen stamps, reprints and/or forgeries: 1st, Mr. G. N. Gilbert (Union essays, proofs, etc.); 2nd, Mr. S. A. Klagsbrun (specimens, proofs, essays); 3rd, Mr. A. E. Basden (Brazil forgeries).

Class 11.—Collection of bisects: Only one entry. Highly commended, Mr. C. H. Thornton.

Class 12.—Collection of pictorials in divisions: 1st, Mrs. M. Robertson (Charity stamps); 2nd, Mr. A. Thornton (Ship stamps).

Class 13.—Collection of freaks and curiosities: Only one entry. Highly commended, Mr. J. Ritchie.

Class 14.—Collection of rarities: One entry only. Highly commended, Mr. J. W. Kayton Schofield.

Class 15.—Collection of postal stationery of any country: 1st, Mr. A. E. Basden (South Africa); 2nd, Mr. L. Simenhof (Union); 3rd, Major W. J. Harrington (Rhodesia).

Class 16.—Collection of locals, private stamps and/or Telegraph stamps: 2nd, Dr. A. Kaplan (Locals).

Class 17.—Specialised collection of any one issue: 1st, Mr. J. W. Kayton Schofield (Triangular Capes); 2nd, Mr. A. E. Basden (Brazil

numerals); 3rd, Mr. E. C. Sprighton (Penny blacks).

Class 18.—Research collection of any one issue: One entry only. Highly commended, Major W. J. Harrington (1d. double head Rhodesian).

Class 19.—Collection of stamps of peculiar or exceptional interest: No award.

Class 19.—Any other exhibit not provided for in preceding classification: One entry only. Highly commended, Mr. A. P. Obermeyer (Dutch colonies).

The Chairman said the Pretoria Philatelic Society was grateful to Drs. J. H. Harvey Pirie and A. J. Broughton and Mr. C. Hand for their work as judges.

SKINNER CUP.—This was awarded to Major W. J. Harrington upon the proposal of Mr. Alexander, seconded by Miss G. Pershouse.

Mr. Hawke suggested obtaining the experience of those who have organised Congresses and Exhibitions. Enthusiasts must have helpful ideas, and without reflecting on the excellent work of Congresses he proposed a scheme for these views to be secured.

Major Harrington will submit a report to the Executive Committee, who may perhaps consider the question.

Mr. Lewis thought the question of lighting at exhibitions should receive more consideration, as too bright sun spoils modern stamps especially.

NEXT CONGRESS.—Mr. Alexander extended invitation to Congress to meet at Capetown in 1935. They have the matter in hand and are collecting funds. The invitation was accepted.

1936 CONGRESS.—Secretary read a letter from the Philatelic Society of Johannesburg proposing an International Stamp Exhibition in 1936 and asking for Congress to be held in that city at the same time. The letter was referred to incoming Executive for favourable consideration.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE. — Secretary read list of members of present Permanent Congress Executive Committee, and Dr. A. J. Broughton proposed that they be re-elected *en bloc*. This was seconded by Mr. J. W. Gehle and approved unanimously.

Mr. Redford welcomed contributions to the S.A. *Philatelist* and mentioned that the three main contributors had extended their offers for a period which will give an additional £42. Mr. Hunt had also made a donation of £10.

Messrs. Harrington and Tamsen signed the Roll of Honour.

The following letters were to be sent from Congress:

To Senator Clarkson for the interest he had shown and with wishes for his daughter's early recovery;

To the Hon. Mr. Pirow for his kindness in opening Congress;

To the Mayor for his attendance with the Mayoress and his kindness in welcoming the delegates;

To the Principal of the Technical College for his kindness in housing the functions;

To the G.P.O., Government Printing Works and the Royal Mint;

To the Press, accompanied by a useful contribution out of the minutes.

Major J. Milligan, as chairman of the Philatelic Society of Johannesburg, gave thanks to the Pretoria Society for the hospitality extended to visitors. He thought arrangements and meeting-place excellent. Mr. Wyndham (Capetown) associated himself with these remarks, as did Mr. Thornton (East London).

Congress sent a message to Capetown through their representatives that they can rely upon every assistance from here and from the Executive.

Mr. Basden addressed the meeting and proceedings terminated with a hearty vote of thanks to the President.

MR. ALEXANDER J. SEFI.—All philatelists will hear with sorrow that Mr. Séfi is now totally blind. No greater tragedy could befall a man of cultured interest in stamps, books and prints, and our respectful sympathy is tendered to him. We rejoice to hear, however, that he has not lost his courage and that he hopes soon to resume his duties as editor of the *Philatelic Journal of Great Britain* and to take up active work in connection with the Philatelic Congress and Societies.

#### S.W.A. EXHIBITION POSTMARK.

Mr. Wyndham reports that at the Exhibition held in Windhoek in August a special postal cancellation was in use. This showed 24-hour clock timing and was in a different language each day:—"Tentoonstelling Windhoek 23.VIII.34.", "Werbeschau Windhoek 24.VIII.34.", and "Exhibition Windhoek 25.VIII.34."

#### ROYAL JUBILEE ISSUE.

The British Post Office has announced its intention of marking the 25th anniversary of the accession of H.M. King George V. to the Throne by the issue of a small commemorative set of stamps, probably in ½d., 1d., 1½d. and 2d. values only. This will not be a tax on stamp collectors, but a genuine commemoration. The design has not been definitely decided on as yet, but rumour hath it that a dual portrait design of the King and Queen is most favoured at present.

We understand that designs for the Crown Colonies are also being prepared and that there will be a uniform set throughout for them, only the landscape represented and the name of the Colony being different.

No information is available so far as to the intentions of the Dominions.

## *WANTED to PURCHASE*

# BASUTOLAND OFFICIALS

in MINT and Used condition.

Offers of any *RARE BRITISH COLONIALS* will receive  
my prompt personal attention.

I am the *LARGEST CASH BUYER of British Colonial RARITIES* in the World. No waiting until your stamps are sold but immediate *CASH* by return as I am always buying to replenish my stock.

*My Speciality: RARE BRITISH COLONIALS OF ALL PERIODS*

## T. ALLEN

5, BLAKE HALL ROAD - - - - - WANSTEAD  
LONDON, E.11 - - - - - ENGLAND

## Junior Philatelic Society of Natal EXHIBITION

The exhibition for junior collectors organised by this society has exceeded everything hoped for, both as regards quantity and quality of the exhibits and from the point of view of the public interest it aroused.

Twenty-five exhibits were entered by juniors, and although we had the use of two large rooms at the Municipal Art Gallery, it was impossible to display everything. Some very fine exhibits of Natals, Cape Triangulars, Barbados and pre-paid English covers (including a Mulready envelope) were displayed by Messrs. Hurst, Webb, Simpson and Mrs. Maxwell, but these were not for competition.

The exhibition was opened at 10 a.m. on October 5th by the Mayor of Durban (Dr. Copley), who pointed out the possibilities of this hobby in cultivating a wider outlook and stimulating interest in other countries, their peoples and their productions.

The exhibition was open to the public from Friday to Sunday, and during that time was visited by 800 people, many of whom expressed their surprise at what the juniors had accomplished. Special mention must be made of the untiring assistance given by a number of the boys. There was always a grown-up in charge, but the help of these boys made his duties very pleasant.

The following prizes were awarded:—

Group 1.—Specialised one-country collections: 1, C. B. Hawkins (South Africa); 2, P. C. Reyburn (Rhodesia).

Group 2.—Group collections: 1, J. Waugh (British Empire); 2, L. Dear (South African countries).

Group 3.—Airmails: 1, F. C. Evans (over 21); 1, T. Joliffe (under 21).

Group 4.—Subject collections: 1, A. N. Pearson (portraits). Special prize: J. Oxley (Trip Round the World, illustrated by stamps).

At the monthly meeting, held on October 11th at 7.30 p.m., at the Technical College, a brief report on the exhibition was given by the Chairman of the society, Mr. J. Malan. He pointed out where improvements might be effected in the exhibits and then distributed the prizes, consisting of loose-leaf albums, to the fortunate prize-winners.

This was followed by a very comprehensive display of the stamps of South-West Africa, also by Mr. Malan.

The keen interest shown in the display proved that "S.W.A." is still one of the favourite countries with our young collectors. The collection was very plainly and neatly written up.

Everyone left the meeting with renewed enthusiasm.

### RAMPS.

Messrs. Stanley Gibbons recently announced that they would no longer distribute any charity or commemorative stamps of the U.S.S.R. through their new issue service, because these stamps after being sold by the Soviet Official Philatelic Bureau at full rates were later let loose on the market in quantity, both mint and cancelled, at a fraction of their face value.

They are now considering doing the same with Italy, which has recently been issuing enormous quantities of commemoratives, making the slightest thing an excuse for some fresh issue or overprint.

A recent manifesto by 12 leading Italian stamp dealers warns collectors "that they will not be responsible, as far as their own customers are concerned for the damage arising from the inevitable fall in value of the sets in question."

Spain has been a bad offender. During the past eight years something like 300 stamps have been issued, not one of which has been available for postage for more than a period of three days—sheer raiding of collectors' pockets.

The United States of America seems to be fast going the same way, with its steady stream of commemoratives, fresh pictorials, special flights, first day covers, etc., etc., all extensively advertised and boomed for weeks beforehand and all arrangements made for thousands and tens of thousands to get these items. Although many are wedded to this mass collecting for the moment, there has been some plain speaking by others in the American philatelic press, stating why they were giving up collecting modern stuff and confining their interest to older issues, i.e., to philately instead of herd accumulation.

It has been suggested that the "Society for the Suppression of Speculative Stamps" should be resuscitated, but we fear that it would be just about as effective as the action of King Canute in stopping the flowing tide.

Don't worry—alles sal reg kom—in time. Meanwhile, be advised and do not be left to carry the baby.

### B. & K.

The firm that supplies the stamps others cannot. Our prices are reasonable, though in some cases not so low as quotations elsewhere, but we can fill most requirements. We aim to be able to supply

**ANY STAMP OF ANY COUNTRY** and can generally offer most stamps of a want list, however difficult. Prices average half catalogue. Let us know your requirements. We never worry with unwanted selections.

1933 Price List of British Colonial Stamps.  
100 Pages . . . Price One Shilling.  
(Refunded against purchases.)

**B & K Special Offers — No. 10 — free on request.**

**BRIDGER & KAY, LTD.**  
170 STRAND LONDON, W.C.2.

## REVIEWS

### S. G.

The 1935 edition of Stanley Gibbons' Catalogue is issued as a Jubilee edition, their first catalogue having appeared in 1865. It was then a 16-page pamphlet listing less than 2,000 stamps. To-day there are 584 pages in Part I and 1,548 in Part II, listing 105,155 stamps in all. For the convenience of collectors (not on political grounds), Egypt and Iraq have been re-instated in Part I which is now entitled "British Empire with Egypt and Iraq."

A feature stressed by the publishers is that a determined drive has been made "to fill in as many price blanks as possible with *reliable* prices, thus considerably increasing the reference value of the catalogue" and they state that £131,892 worth of additional prices have been added and close on 24,000 price alterations have been made.

There are still a lot of blanks in the pricing, however, and our check made the total additions £3 less than theirs. But we will not squabble over minutiae—perhaps our arithmetic is not so sound as theirs!

The only serious grievance we have against our old friend is on the subject of "catalogue values." What do the publishers mean by *reliable* values? (The italics are their own.) If they merely meant the prices at which they are prepared to sell the stamps that is their own affair, but when they add that the pricing increases the reference value of the catalogue we are entitled to criticise.

Their catalogue occupies an unique position amongst collectors in the British Commonwealth. As a work of reference and classification it is almost universally used by them—S.G. No. x is the general way of placing a stamp; collections are arranged on their basis, and the informative notes are invaluable. From this point of view one simply cannot do without S.G.

But most of us have another reason for buying a catalogue, or, at any rate, for going on buying a new one every year. We want to know what our stamps, or the stamps we wish to buy, are worth and in this respect we S.G. is not altogether a reliable guide.

It is a matter of everyday knowledge that you can buy stamps—a great many stamps—from other dealers, from club packets, or at auction sales at a fraction of "catalogue price" (meaning Gibbons'). Has not "a third catalogue" become almost a standard quote? In some cases a quarter or even a tenth is nearer real value. There is no need to give examples, it would be easier to cite the few cases where full catalogue is expected.

In the case of great rarities we realise, of course, that prices given are more of a matter of opinion than a definite statement of value; we are referring above to the vast majority of stamps that are handled by the vast majority of collectors.

We fancy it would be in the publisher's interest if a drastic revision of prices were made so as to bring them into line with actually existing stamp market conditions. It would certainly be a great boon to collectors if their bible was both an inestimable work of reference and a real guide to values.

The catalogue, as usual, may be obtained in one volume at 15s., Part I alone 6s. 6d. or 10s. 6d. interleaved, Part II alone 10s. or 16s. 6d. interleaved.

### STANLEY GIBBONS' SIMPLIFIED STAMP CATALOGUE.

Messrs. Stanley Gibbons, Ltd., inform us that the great success of the First Edition of their Simplified Stamp Catalogue (nine-tenths of which was sold within a month of publication) has decided them to issue a Second Edition immediately. The printing order has been increased by 50 per cent. and the new volume will appear on October 10.

The binding will be a rich blue, lettered in red and the catalogue will be the most up-to-date in existence. 20 pages, 770 stamps and 132 full-size illustrations have been added in the new edition, which will consist of 992 pages, listing 52,300 stamps and illustrated by 6,470 full-size reproductions. Price 5s.

Since setting up the above foreword, the catalogue itself has appeared and we find it comes fully up to the description. The get-up, type, and illustrations are excellent. As a "simplified" catalogue, ignoring perforations, watermarks, and shades, and only giving major types of overprints, it fulfils every requirement.

### Specialist in Union Stamps

MINT AND USED COLONIALS, ESPECIALLY  
AFRICANS, ASCENSION, CYPRUS, LEE-  
WARDS GROUP AND ST. HELENA.

SELECTIONS SENT ON APPROVAL  
AGAINST DEPOSIT OR REFERENCES.

Wants Lists Specially Catered for in Normals,  
Postmarks and Varieties.

GOOD CONDITION — REASONABLE PRICES.

**G. HOPE WILSON (B.P.A.)**  
6 CONDUIT STREET, LONDON, W.1.,  
ENGLAND.

## Correspondence

*The Editor.*

SOUTH AFRICAN PHILATELIST.

### UNION ROTOGRAVURE STAMPS.

SIR,

I noted when I was in Pretoria for the Congress that there appeared to be a little misunderstanding amongst a few with regard to the article on the Union Roto stamps at present running in your paper.

I would like, therefore, to repeat what I said in the beginning of the article and to endeavour to make it clear to everyone that the list of so-called "flaws," etc., of the various plates are not flaws or errors which would be apparent to the layman or even to the printers, except in a very few cases, but are purely minute marks or characteristics of the various plates which enable one to state from what cylinder any particular block of stamps come and also the position in the sheet.

The whole study and noting of these minute differences was done purely and simply from the plating point of view, and most certainly not with the idea of registering a vast lot of collectable "spots," nor was there any idea of suggesting that the Union rotogravure stamps are badly printed and a mass of true flaws and mistakes.

For instance, the last issue of the 1d. sheets is, to the layman, perfect, and there are no outstanding "flaws," etc., but nevertheless, the sheets are full of those slight and minute differences which indubitably tell the student of those sheets that they are from the one cylinder. If another cylinder is used, the slight characteristics present will be different, except of course for any slight "positive" or design characteristics, which naturally will reproduce in every new cylinder made from that positive or design.

After all, how were the British penny blacks plated? Was it not from minute differences in practically every stamp and most certainly not noticeable to anyone but the student of these stamps that enabled these students to plate every stamp and to determine the number of plates used, nearly on hundred years afterwards?

That anyone could take it that I had gone to the trouble to dig out all the data with the idea of making out the Union Roto stamps are a ghastly mess, or that every sheet is full of wonderful collectable varieties, beats me, but there it is. I hope I have now explained my reasons sufficiently clearly.

Yours faithfully,

G. N. GILBERT.

### IMPERIAL AIRWAYS AUSTRALIAN EXTENSION

H.R.H. the Duke of Gloucester has consented to perform the inaugural ceremony at Brisbane of the first Westbound Imperial Airways service on the new Australian extension.

The ceremony and the departure of the service will take place on Monday, December 10, in order to fit in with the Duke's engagements, but normally the West bound service will leave Brisbane on Wednesdays. The first mails through from London to Australia will leave on December 8th and are due at Brisbane on December 20th.

The night stops east of Singapore will be Rambang in the Netherlands Indies, Darwin and Cloncurry. The scheduled transit time between Brisbane and London will be 12½ days in both directions. For the first three months of operation no passengers will be carried east of Singapore.

As notified last month, the plane leaving Cape Town on 4th December will connect at Cairo with the first through service to Australia by Imperial Airways.

Herr H. Goetze, one of our German subscribers, has kindly forwarded "Germania-Berichte," No. 4, April, 1934, containing an article by himself which will prove very valuable and interesting to those interested in the postmarks of S.W.A. Practically speaking this brings the work of Busch on the Union post in S.W.A. up-to-date. There is a list given of all Post Offices and Postal Agencies (A-H, remainder to follow in a later article) and a description of the various types of cancellations which have been in use at each, together with, in many cases, dates between which the particular mark has been noted as in use.

At the last meeting of the Philatelic Society of Johannesburg, Mr. Springton shewed a recent sheet of Union ½d. so lightly printed that in some cases none of the lines of hatching between the buck's horn were present, the space appearing quite white.

Thanks to Messrs. Francis J. Field for a day of issue (September 24th) cover by air mail with the new British 1d. Rotogravure. This is in a brilliant shade of red and shows some change in design from the previous issue, although the general style is much the same.



## SOCIETY NEWS

### ORANGE FREE STATE AND BASUTOLAND PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

The annual general meeting was held in the Koffie Huis on Friday, September 14th, at 8 p.m. There were eleven members present.

The minutes of the previous meeting were read and adopted, as well as the syllabus drawn up by the committee, which is as follows:—

- 12-10-34: Stamps of the Cape of Good Hope.
- 9-11-34: Orange Free State Republic. Mr. Lewis.
- 14-12-34: Open night.
- 11-1 -35: Open night.
- 8-2 -35: Union of South Africa. Mr. J. B. Levy.
- 8-3 -35: Great Britain.

All visitors and members are invited to display. Visitors are heartily welcome.

An invitation by the Permanent Executive Committee of the Philatelic Congress of Southern Africa to affiliate was referred to the Committee. Mr. J. B. Levy proposed affiliation. Seconded by Mr. Lewis and unanimously carried.

Five new members were nominated and elected.

The retiring Committee was re-elected with the exception of Mr. Levitt, who was unable to accept office, and his place was filled by Mr. F. J. Hundermarks.

A financial statement and balance sheet were presented by the Secretary and approved of. In the Exchange Section the sales from packets averaged 18½ per cent.

On a motion, which was unanimously carried, thanks were given to: (1) Those members who had spent much time in the furthering of the society's objects; (2) the Press, for inserting notices of meetings and reports on meetings, etc.

The earnest co-operation of all those interested in philately is sought to make the society the success that it deserves to be in furthering the aims of philately, particularly in the Free State.

Anyone interested is requested to communicate with the Hon. Secretary.

H.G.U.

### CAPETOWN PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

At the meeting held on September 27th the display was in the hands of Mr. K. Alexander, the vice-president, who showed the stamps of British Morocco.

The first issue of 1898 was shown, both Mint and used, together with the errors in the "A"

of Agencies. The following issue printed in London was also fully represented in mint and used copies with the interesting varieties narrow and broad "M," and hyphen between the "n" and the "c" of Agencies. The issues of 1903 to 1906 were displayed very effectively, varieties of type and shade being well in evidence; also some very fine copies of specimen overprints.

In the following issue of 1907-12 a complete range, both mint and used, were shown with many fine shade varieties. In this set was included a very interesting item comprising a cover franked with the 40c. on 4d. and 1 pes. on 10d., carried by sea, and a further cover with a block of four of the 1 pes. on 10d. and 3 pes. on 2s. 6d.

Specimen overprints on 1s., 2s. 6d. and 5s. King George were also shown, together with an almost complete range of Georgians, both Mint and used.

At the conclusion of the display Mr. Richardson proposed a vote of thanks, and in doing so commented on the exceptionally fine condition of the items and the completeness of the display.

Mr. Alexander spoke briefly in reply.

### PHILATELIC SOCIETY OF JOHANNESBURG.

The October meeting was held on Tuesday, the 9th, at the Carlton Hotel. Major Milligan was in the chair.

The Chairman opened the meeting by referring to the loss sustained by the society through the death of Mr. T. V. Green and spoke of the fine work done by him as a member of the Committee and lately as Hon. Secretary.

Mr. J. Kupferman has taken on the duties of Hon. Secretary.

The business part of the evening consisted of a discussion on the International Exhibition of Art and Beauty, at which the society provided an exhibit of "The Postal History of Southern Africa."

Major Milligan, in reading his notes for the month, gave the interesting information that Trinidad had decided to adopt the decimal system, and foreshadowed a new issue of stamps.

Mr. I. Glasser gave a very fine exhibit of the stamps of the Solomon Islands and read a paper giving some interesting information on the printing of these stamps.

In conclusion Mr. Redford thanked Mr. Glasser on behalf of the society for the very fine exhibit and paper.

J.K.

### EAST LONDON PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

The August meeting was held in the Trc H rooms on Thursday, the 9th. The attendance was not as large as usual, but the meeting was a very interesting one. The chair was

taken by Mr. T. A. Harper, who had just returned from a trip to England.

Mr. Harper while overseas had been present at "Apex" and at some of the Hind sales and had made some very interesting purchases, portion of which he had brought along with him. They included early issues of Barbados, Nevis and St. Kitts. An item of especial interest was an envelope bearing a pair of Indian 1, a rose-carmine, which were overprinted "nine pies," showing the error "nine—nine." On the same envelope was a pair showing the "pies—pies" error. Another Indian item was the  $\frac{1}{2}$  anna of the King Edward issue overprinted " $\frac{1}{4}$ " with the overprint inverted.

The display for the evening was by Mr. Browning. Mr. Browning was unavoidably absent, but had trusted his display to the secretary, who laid on the table interesting sheets of Belgian Congo, French colonies in Africa, Gambia, Northern Rhodesia, Ascension, Antigua, and Barbados.

The collection of Belgian Congo was a very representative one. Nearly all the stamps were fine used copies, and as the stamps are in many cases very attractive pictorials they made a fine show. An unusual item was an envelope bearing two Congo stamps and a United States stamp, all with a Congo cancellation. An equally interesting specimen was that of a letter posted at Cotanoo in Dahomey at the time when stamps were almost out of stock in certain parts of the colony. To overcome the shortage all letters posted were not stamped, but received a special cancellation, "Dahomey P.P.," denoting that the postage had been paid.

The British colonials made a very attractive show. The Northern Rhodesian set were particularly fine, and so was the Antigua tercentenary issue.

The September meeting was held on Thursday, the 13th, in the Toc H rooms. The vice-president, Mr. B. S. Wilson, took the chair.

Mr. Storey brought up the question of a competition for the society's medal, which has been under discussion for some time. Mr. Storey outlined for the consideration of the meeting a scheme for running the competition.

Competitors would be allowed to send in as many entries as they desired, each to be accompanied by an entrance fee of 1s., and not to consist of more than 12 sheets.

From one to ten marks would be awarded for value, display, condition, write-up and general knowledge of the country displayed.

The first prize would be the society's medal, the second prize 50 per cent. of the entrance fees, and the third prize 25 per cent. of the entrance fees.

There was a good deal of discussion on the merits and demerits of the scheme. The general opinion was that except for the awarding of marks for value, the scheme was a very sound one, although some of the members considered that the numbers of sheets should be reduced. Mr. Storey was thanked for his efforts and it

was decided that the Committee should give the plan their consideration.

The display for the evening was by Mr. Paviour and was a very interesting and comprehensive one of West Indies, mostly in mint condition. The Virgin Islands were very well represented, starting with the 1879 issue printed by Messrs. de la Rue. This was followed by the Queen's head type of 1883-84. The next sheets showed the 1899 type, in which a return was made to the figure of the Virgin, followed by the King George issue of 1913-19 complete from the  $\frac{1}{2}$ d. to the 5s. value. The same issue with the 1917 "War Stamp" overprint followed, and then came the 1922-28 issue embodying the head of the King with the Virgin, complete from the 3d. to the 5s. on Mult, Crown C. A. paper, and from the  $\frac{1}{2}$ d. to 5s. on script watermarked paper.

There was a nice display of Cayman Islands. All the issues from 1901 were fully represented, including the higher values, the 1921-26 set in mint from the  $\frac{1}{2}$ d. value to the 10s. being particularly fine. A mint set of the centenary issue up to 10s. rounded off a nice show. There were fine entries bearing different values of the centenary issue.

There were some fine early Grenadas of the 1861-62 and 1863 issues, showing the well-known full-faced portrait of the Queen, which were much admired by everyone.

The complete issue of Barbuda stamps of the Leeward Islands overprinted "Barbuda" from the  $\frac{1}{2}$ d. to the 5s. completed a very fine display.

Mr. Paviour also read a paper on the interesting things that may be learned from a close study of one's stamps with a glass. Some of his gleanings in this respect were new to many of those present.

The meeting concluded with a hearty vote of thanks to Mr. Paviour for his display and paper.

W.S.R.

#### PRETORIA PHILATELIC SOCIETY "POSTAL AUCTION."

The Postal auction held by the Pretoria Philatelic Society in conjunction with Congress proceedings, in aid of Congress funds and the National Stamp Exhibition, was conducted very smoothly and satisfactorily but was not a success financially. The exemplary way in which the auction was conducted, every detail being carefully thought out, deserved much greater success.

By arrangement with the sellers the auction committee is retaining the lots sent in for a short while, in the endeavour to dispose of as many of them as possible out of hand at the reserve prices. Any reader desirous of purchasing any of the lots on offer may obtain a reserve-priced catalogue from the Secretary, P.O. Box 514, Pretoria.

If you are interested in any of these lots, we ask you to support Congress by purchasing through the postal auction reserve sale.



The  
SOUTH AFRICAN PHILATELIST

Proprietors and Publishers :

The Philatelic Congress of Southern Africa

Hon. Editor: J. H. HARVEY PIRIE, P.O. Box 7012, Johannesburg  
Hon. Business Manager: WILLIAM REDFORD, cor. Market & Kruis Streets,  
Johannesburg

Subscription: Five Shillings per annum, post free to any part of the World.

Vol. 10.

DECEMBER, 1934.

No. 12.

Coming Events

DEC. 25, 1934 AND JAN. 1, 1935.

Two anniversaries which seem to come round very quickly, but all good wishes to our readers for them. And, don't forget that stamps or philatelic accessories make very acceptable presents for collectors!

“HIND” SALES.

Mr. H. R. Harmer has already disposed of the France and French Colonies and Northern European countries and possessions of the foreign collections.

The Southern Europeans (except Spain) will be auctioned about the end of January; then follows the wonderful collection of Spain and colonies, and in April and June the non-European countries.

LONDON INTERNATIONAL STAMP DEALERS BOURSE.

MAY 20—22, 1935.

London will be *en fête* next May to celebrate the 25th anniversary of the accession of King George V. The Stamp Dealer's Bourse of 1934 was so successful, that the King's Hall suite in the Holborn Restaurant has been booked again for a Jubilee Year Bourse. Thirty of last year's attendants have already reserved stands. Overseas dealers are advised to make their watchword “London in May, 1935.”

“SITEB” BRUSSELS, 25TH MAY—  
3RD JUNE, 1935.

The Fédération Royale des Cercles Philatéliques de Belgique with the agreement of the International Federation of Philately, is

organising at Brussels for the 25th May to the 3rd June, 1935, an International SALON OF STAMPS, as well as an INTERNATIONAL EXHIBITION OF STAMPS OF BELGIUM AND BELGIAN CONGO—“SITEB.”

At the Salon there will be found the most outstanding collections from the point of view of study and reference.

There will only be admitted to the Salon collections that have been solicited by the organising committee.

The Committee will get together collections of different countries and thus offer to visitors as vast and interesting a field as possible.

No collection of stamps of Belgium or of Belgian Congo will be admitted to the Salon.

The International Exhibition of stamps of Belgium and Congo Belge will be open to collectors of the whole world. Classes and divisions will be open in sufficient number to allow everyone to present his collection in such a way as to be in competition with other similar entries.

The Salon and Exhibition will be held in the Palais des Beaux Arts, which will house at the same time the first International Exhibition of the Press and of Philatelic Literature “LIPHINPREX” organised by the F.I.P.P. whose headquarters is at Turin.

These exhibitions, which will coincide with the Universal and International Exhibitions at Brussels, 1935, will not fail to attract a great many visitors.

Full details and notices will be sent on request by M. Armond Rutl, 2 Rue de la Revolution, Brussels.

CAPE TOWN, 1935 (probably October).

Vith Philatelic Congress of Southern Africa.

JOHANNESBURG, 1936

(probably Nov.-Dec.).

The Golden City's Jubilee International Philatelic Exhibition.

## Stamps of Turkey

By Prof. H. WAGER,  
Pretoria Philatelic Society.

From a Philatelic point of view Turkey has much of interest and yet it is not a very favourite country with collectors. Stamps were first issued in 1863 and this first issue only lasted for two years after which all stamps up to 1876 were overprinted with four groups of Turkish characters forming an oval round the stamp. The three upper groups represented the words Post of the Government of Turkey and the lower group expressed the value in words. Corresponding Turkish numerals were found in each corner of the stamps. The Turkish numerals are very easy to understand after a short study of them. The artistic design with its intricate pattern and overprint makes very attractive stamps, especially in the mint condition.

For two years these stamps were printed in Paris, but later the printing was transferred to Constantinople. Different issues during this time showed only different colours and different arrangement of the characters in some of the groups of the overprint. In 1876 a new issue appeared in which English letters and numerals were used and from that time practically all stamps show the denomination in both English and Turkish numerals.

Surcharges and special overprints on Turkish stamps are very common and began as early as 1876. In 1906-1910 an overprint—bowl-shaped and representing the letter B, the initial letter of the word meaning discount, appeared. This overprint was placed on stamps and sold to business firms at a reduction of 20 per cent. on their face value for use on foreign correspondence. This was to induce people to use Turkish stamps instead of those issued by foreign Post Offices established in Turkey. In 1915 a large star and crescent were overprinted on stamps out of stock. That is, the 1892 issue and all subsequent issues were re-issued overprinted. These stock stamps had probably been demagnetized and this device enabled them to be put into circulation again without having to print new stamps. This was, of course, during the war. Only two small new issues were produced during the war, one for the postal jubilee and another pictorial issue.

In 1917 another overprint was introduced, a star and a sort of inverted horseshoe representing the words Posts, Telegraphs and Telephones. In this case the authorities must have found a large stock of older stamps. In fact, the 1865 issue and practically all subsequent issues were so overprinted, even those

with the discount overprint, as well as the early Postage Due stamps. This is probably unique in Philately where stamps over fifty years old have been re-issued overprinted. In the catalogue there are about 200 different stamps with this overprint but there is evidently a large amount of chaos connected with these stamps as a very large number of uncatalogued ones may still be found. Research into this issue is very necessary and a more extended catalogue should be made. From 1879 to 1913 the various issues were specially overprinted with Turkish characters for postage on printed matter. The latest issues of Turkish stamps are for the most part pictorial or portrait stamps.

The first issue of Postage Due Stamps, that is, up to 1871, was the same as the contemporary stamps but with a slight change in the group characters and with a brown or dark-brown border about an eighth of an inch wide round the stamp. From 1888 separate Postage Due stamps have been in use.

There are no very highly priced stamps in Turkey although the stamps go back for eighty years. The highest catalogue price, except for a few rare varieties, is 55s. For instance, the whole issues of the stamps of 1876-1881, consisting of thirteen stamps, can still be purchased for 4s. unused and 2s. 6d. used. It is quite a good country for a philatelist with a small purse. There are over 300 stamps of this country catalogued at a penny each to that a fair collection can be made cheaply.

### WORLD'S STAMP BUREAUS.

"Mekeel's Weekly" of August 27, publishes a useful list of the agencies (Postal administrations, Postmasters, etc.) throughout the world where one should write when wishing to purchase current stamps directly from official sources. We shall keep this for reference and addresses in it will gladly be given to anyone interested.

#### B. & K.

The firm that supplies the stamps others cannot. Our prices are reasonable, though in some cases not so low as quotations elsewhere, but we can fill most requirements. We aim to be able to supply

#### ANY STAMP OF ANY COUNTRY

and can generally offer most stamps of a want list, however difficult. Prices average half catalogue. Let us know your requirements. We never worry with unwanted selections.

1933 Price List of British Colonial Stamps.

100 Pages . . . Price One Shilling.

(Refunded against purchases.)

B & K Special Offers — No. 10 — free on request.

**BRIDGER & KAY, LTD.**

170 STRAND

LONDON, W.C.2.

# The Rotogravure Stamps of the Union of South Africa

By G. N. GILBERT.

(Continued from page 156 of October issue.)

Row No.	Frameplate 9.	Pl. 8 Broad Red	Pl. 9 Broad Red (splayed)
1	1 Top of frame oval is squared at top . . . . .	—	x
1	3 Spot in left shading lines above P and level with top of 1d. . . . .	—	x
1	7 Spot in white line under NK of inkomste . . . . .	—	x
1	8 Spot in white line above C of Africa . . . . .	—	x
1	12 Line under last A of Africa cutting into top right scroll . . . . .	—	x
2	6 Line through middle leaves, right opp. middle of oval	—	x
3	1 Spots in O,M and S of inkomste and in white line above NK . . . . .	—	x
3	2 Spot in last limb of H of South . . . . .	—	x
3	3 Hairline through D of Suid . . . . .	—	x
3	4 Spot near top right ornamental scroll . . . . .	—	x
3	8 Spot in O of South . . . . .	—	x
4	8 Spot in F of Afrika . . . . .	—	x
4	9 Spot in left leaves opp. hull of ship, and in outside top margin over last A . . . . .	—	x
5	10 Spot in white line under C of Africa . . . . .	—	x
6	2 Missing shading in leaves, middle left . . . . .	—	x
6	4 Spot in top right outside margin opp. ornamental scroll	—	x
6	9 Spot in bottom 1 of 1d . . . . .	—	x
7	12 Spot in top of first A of Africa . . . . .	—	x
8	2 Spot in shading on left level with ship's hull . . . . .	—	x
8	3 Ditto ditto on right . . . . .	—	x
8	4 Spot outside right margin level with pennant . . . . .	—	x
8	12 Spot in shading on right, level with hull . . . . .	—	x
9	1 Spot in outside leaf, right middle . . . . .	—	x
9	10 Spot in I of Afrika . . . . .	—	x
9	12 Spot in bottom limb of R of Africa . . . . .	—	x
10	9 Spot above T in Postage . . . . .	—	x
11	11 Spot in I of Suid . . . . .	—	x
13	8 Spot in shading on right level with 1d. and in outside margin top right . . . . .	—	x
14	5 Spot in sun . . . . .	—	x
14	8 Spot in shading on right level with flag . . . . .	—	x
14	10 Spot above OM of inkomste . . . . .	—	x
14	11 Spot in outside leaf, bottom right . . . . .	—	x
15	10 Missing lines of shading on right level with 1d. . . . .	—	x
16	4 Spot in K of Afrika . . . . .	—	x
16	11 Spot in left edge of oval level with 3rd yardarm . . . . .	—	x
16	12 Spot over IK of Afrika . . . . .	—	x
17	8 Spot in C of Africa . . . . .	—	x
17	9 Spot in first A of Afrika . . . . .	—	x
17	12 Spot above top left ornamental scroll and in middle of leaves, middle right . . . . .	—	x
18	8 Spot in U of Suid . . . . .	—	x
18	11 Broken outside frameline top left . . . . .	—	x
19	10 Spot in shading on right level with pennant . . . . .	—	x
20	6 & 7 Spot in shading on left, level with 1d . . . . .	—	x
20	9 Line in shading on right, level with 1d . . . . .	—	x

Row No.	Headplate 9.	Pl. 8 Broad Red	Pl. 9 Broad Red (splayed)	Pl. 10
1	1 Tiny black spot in F of Afrika and in bottom left scroll . . . . .	—	x	x
1	6 Spot in sunrays, right, near edge . . . . .	—	x	x
1	7 Spot just left of stern, below lantern . . . . .	—	x	x
1	11 Spot in edge of leaves right middle just outside oval	—	x	x
2	1 Ditto ditto left middle . . . . .	—	x	x
2	3 Spot over first A of Africa and under U of revenue	—	x	x
2	5 Spot under O of South . . . . .	—	x	x
2	8 Spot in sea, right of small boat . . . . .	—	x	x
3	2 Spot in 1 of 1d . . . . .	—	x	x
3	4 Spot in leaves, top right . . . . .	—	x	x
4	1 Spot between 1st and 2nd yardarms, next to rope . .	—	x	x
5	5 Spot below stern lantern on left, and spot between two left-hand lanterns . . . . .	—	x	x
6	1 Spot under pennant . . . . .	—	x	x
6	7 Spot in sky, top left . . . . .	—	x	x
7	2 Spot in sky, top left . . . . .	—	x	x
8	5 Spot in large bottom sail . . . . .	—	x	x
8	6 Spot above 3rd yardarm . . . . .	—	x	x
8	7 Spot in sky top left . . . . .	—	x	x
9	1 Spot in sky level with 3rd yardarm . . . . .	—	x	x
10	4 Spot above 3rd yardarm . . . . .	—	x	x
10	8 Spot in leaves, top left . . . . .	—	x	x
10	12 Spot in sky, left opp. flag . . . . .	—	x	x
11	8 Spot in sky between 1st and 2nd yardarm . . . . .	—	x	x
12	2 Spots in sky above sunrays . . . . .	—	x	x
12	7 Spot near sail, top of sunrays . . . . .	—	x	x
12	10 Spot above U in Suid . . . . .	—	x	x
13	3 Spot in sky top left . . . . .	—	x	x
14	2 Two spots in sky left of stern lantern . . . . .	—	x	x
16	12 Spot in sunrays . . . . .	—	x	x
18	2 Spot in edge of sun, right . . . . .	—	x	x
19	1 Spot in leaves on left, middle . . . . .	—	x	x
19	2 Two spots one above and one below 2nd yardarm . .	—	x	x
19	7 Spot top of sunrays under pennant . . . . .	—	x	x
19	12 Spot in sky top left . . . . .	—	x	x
20	2 Thickening of shading in sky on right edge of oval just below level of pennant . . . . .	—	x	x

**Frameplate 10, from new design entirely.**

Row No.	
1	2 Red mark on edge of oval left, level with 3rd leaves from bottom.
1	4 Red spot in top outside margin over first limb of U.
2	1 Spot just outside left frameline level with bottom of left top ornamental scroll.
2	2 White line under K of inkomste
2	3 Tiny red spot in flag.
3	1 Red mark in leaf, right, immediately under right top ornamental scroll.
3	8 Flaw in spandrel right almost level with pennant.
4	9 Red spots left, level with bottom yardarm.
6	4 Tiny red flaw under right top ornamental scroll.
6	10 White spot at tip of leaf under I of Suid.
7	4 Red spot in top leaf of middle left cluster of leaves.
10	11 Spot outside right margin almost level with small boat and in top line of shading right, near top ornamental scroll.
11	4 Broken frame of oval just above mountain and red spot between bottom and 2nd yardarm.
11	9 Spot in top of D of Suid.
11	12 Red line from leaf, right, almost level with small boat.
12	3 Small spot in spandrel, extreme left level with d of 1d.

- 12 5 Small red line under hull.  
 12 12 Spot in top of 1 of 1d.  
 13 1 Two red spots above pennant.  
 14 11 Red spot in middle of ship, level with deck.  
 15 1 Line in right margin, level with pennant.  
 16 10 Red spot in spandrel bottom left corner level with scroll.  
 18 1 Hairline top left of mast extending to bottom of H in South.  
 18 2 Spot in bottom margin under O in inkomste.  
 18 3 Red spot in curl of left bottom scroll.  
 18 5 Red spot left edge of oval level with hull.  
 18 10 Red spot bottom of 1d.  
 19 2 Red spot under 2nd E of Revenue.  
 20 4 Malformed K in inkomste.

#### Headplate characteristics.

Same as Pl. 9 (see list under Headplate 9).

*(To be continued.)*

## Vth Philatelic Congress of Southern Africa Pretoria, October 13-14, 1934



SEATED (left to right): L. A. Wyndham, C. Hand, A. E. Basden, W. Redford, G. N. Gilbert, S. A. Klagsbrun, I. Glasser, E. Tamsen, K. Alexander, A. Watson. STANDING: E. C. Sprighton, C. H. Thornton, A. J. Broughton, Miss Pershouse, H. N. B. Hawke, Mrs. Redford, Miss Langerman, J. H. H. Pirie, N. L. Watson, J. G. Kuperman, J. W. Gehle, J. W. K. Schofield, J. H. Roos, A. Hansen, W. J. Harrington, J. Lewis, I. Greenbaum, R. H. Morley, H. G. Vlyate, J. Milligan.

## New Issue Chronicle

Kindly supplied by Mr. R. Roberts,  
450 Strand, London.

**AUSTRIA.**—Series of 18, values 1gr to 2Sch, with designs typical of the inhabitants of various parts of Austria. Rather crude.

**BAHRAIN.**—India 3a, type 62, with O'pt. "BAHRAIN."

**BELGIUM.**—Philatelic Exhibition Commem. Head of King Leopold III. 75c+25c+1fr, myrtle, 1fr+25c+75c, mauve. Postage, Head of King, new colours, 75c+25c violet, 1ft+25c terra cotta.

**BRAZIL.**—Air Mail, types 109/110, 50, 200, 300, 500 and 1000r. Air Mail, 2000r of new type. Rio Philatelic Exhibition set of 4 values.

**BRITISH GUIANA.**—New pictorial jubilee issue of 13 values, 1c to 1\$ some designs similar to previous issue, some new.

**BULGARIA.**—Shipka Commems, in new colours, 1, 2, 3, 4 7 and 14L. War of Liberation Commems. issued on Aug. 26 and the 1, 3 and 14 were sold out on day of issue. Same values as Shipka set.

**CANADA.**—New Brunswick 150th anniv. commem., 2c. Special Delivery, 20c dull carmine, new printing and shade.

**CHILE.**—New type, portrait of J. J. Perez, 30c. Air Mail, 1P.

**COCHIN.**—10p overprinted 6p.

**CZECHO-SLOVAKIA.**—Set commemorating C-S legion in Russia, 50L, 1K and 3K.

**DUTCH INDIES.**—Anti-Tuberculosis, portrait of Queen Mother, 12½c+2½c.

**ECUADOR.**—Postal Fiscal, 10c type F 6 overprinted for postage and also new value (2c).

**FRANCE.**—Bleriot Channel flight commem. 2fr. 25. Cartier Commems. 75c and 1fr50.

**FRENCH MOROCCO.**—Pictorial, new types, 1fr25 and 1fr75.

**GERMANY.**—Hindenburg mourning, 3, 5, 6, 8, 12, and 25pf. Nuremberg propaganda, 6 and 12pf. Saar propaganda, 6 and 12pf.

**GREAT BRITAIN.**—1d. and 1½d. rotogravure. U34 and V34 Controls—The ½d., 1d. and 1½d., control U34 were printed by both Waterlow and Harrison. The former also printed 5d., 10d., and 1s. U34 and the latter 2d. U34. No stamps with Control V34 were printed by Messrs. Waterlow & Sons.

**GUATEMALA.**—Air Mail QO.05 overprinted on 15P.

**ICELAND.**—Air Mail set, three types. 10, 20, 25 and 50a, 1Kr and 2 Kr.

**IRISH FREE STATE.**—Coil, 1d. red, map type.

**ITALY.**—Set commem. centenary military medal for valor, Postage, eleven values; Air Mail, seven values; Air Post Express two

values. Commems. of 1st Internat. Electro-Radio-Biological Congress with portrait of Galvani, 50c and 75c. Aegean Is., Football stamps overprinted, Postage five values; Air Mail four values.

**IVORY COAST.**—Pictorials, type 9. 45c, 50/45c, 50/75c, 50/90c and 75c.

**JIND.**—Postage, Nasik print inscribed "INDIA POSTAGE" ½, 1, 2, 3 and 4a. Also same values with "SERVICE" overprint.

**KUWAIT.**—O'pt on India. 3a type 62 SERVICE. 4a type 71, ordinary and SERVICE.

**LIECHTENSTEIN.**—Commem. 5fr.

**LITHUANIA.**—Smetona Commem. 15c and 60c. New postage series, 2c, 10c, 1L, 3L and 5L.

**LUXEMBOURG.**—Type 32, 1½fr. New pictorial type, 5fr., also with O'pt. "Official."

**MORVI.**—New type, Maharajah's portrait, 3p, 6p, 1a and 2a.

**NICARAGUA.**—Air Mail Official types 79 and 80 with O'pt., 15c, 20c, 25c, 50c and 1C. Type 111, 20c with O'pt. Servicio/Central-americano/Vale 10 centavos.

**PERU.**—Air Mail 2 and 5 Sol.

**POLAND.**—Postage Due Prov., 20gr on 5Ze. Air Mail, 20gr type 49 and 30gr type 66 overprinted "Challenge 1934". Pilsudski Commem. 30gr.

**RUSSIA.**—Stratosphere Commems. 5, 10 and 20K. Mendeleef Commems. 5, 10, 15 and 20K.

**S. RHODESIA.**—9d. olive green and pale red.

**SWITZERLAND.**—Four stamps, printed in one sheet, in commem. of the Nat. Philatelic Exhibition, Zurich. 5, 10, 15 and 20c. Blocks sold at face value, 50c, plus 1fr entrance fee to exhibition.

**TIMOR.**—Local provisional O'pt. on fiscal stamp.

**TONGA.**—½d. Arms type and 2½d., Queen's head. W'mk, turtles.

**U.S.A.**—3c Mt. Rainer in sheets of 6 imperf. in compliment to the Am. Phil. Soc. 1934 Convention in Atlantic City. Special Delivery, Air Mail, 16c, Eagle and shield design.

### Specialist in Union Stamps

MINT AND USED COLONIALS, ESPECIALLY  
AFRICANS, ASCENSION, CYPRUS, LEE-  
WARDS GROUP AND ST. HELENA.

SELECTIONS SENT ON APPROVAL  
AGAINST DEPOSIT OR REFERENCES.

Wants Lists Specially Catered for in Normals,  
Postmarks and Varieties.

GOOD CONDITION — REASONABLE PRICES.

**G. HOPE WILSON (B.P.A.)**  
6 CONDUIT STREET, LONDON, W.1.,  
ENGLAND.

# Rhodesian Postage Stamps

By W. J. HARRINGTON.

(Continued from page 139 of the  
September issue.)

## CHAPTER XXVI.

### STAMPS OVERPRINTED B.C.A. AND USED IN TERRITORY NOW IN RHODESIA.

The circumstances in which the stamps of the British South Africa Company were overprinted "B.C.A." and used in the territory now known as Northern Rhodesia are as follows:—

In 1891 Mr. (later Sir) Harry Johnston, acting on behalf of the Imperial Government, proceeded to British Central Africa on the constitution of that Protectorate. At that time the British South Africa Company had no representative in Northern Zambezia and Mr. Johnston agreed to act for the Company in that capacity.

This position continued until sometime towards the end of 1894 when the Company sent out a representative for its own area. It was not however until late in 1895 that the Protectorate had its own stamps.

In the meantime it was necessary for postage stamps to be provided for use in the Protectorate, but as there were no facilities available locally for their production, the Company in 1891 agreed to have certain values of the 1890 and 1891 issues overprinted B.C.A. and used in the two territories administered by Mr. Johnston.

During the years 1893/4 the following post offices were established in Northern Zambezia:—Fife, Kalungwizi, Rhodesia, Tanganyika, Johnston Falls, Abercorn and Fort Rosebery and the same type of postmark was used in both territories.

The overprinted stamps continued to be used in Northern Zambezia until some time in 1898 when the remainders were it is believed, called in and returned to the Company's Offices in London where they were destroyed.

The issues of 1890 and 1891 stamps of the British South Africa Company were overprinted in black ink with the letters "B.C.A." each of which measures  $3\frac{1}{2}$  mm. in height. There are distinct variations in the thickness of the lettering occurring on the same sheet and are divisible into two groups—thick and thin letters. There are also minor varieties of the stops which are normally square, but are occasionally to be found more or less

circular. In the seventh stamp in the top row the stop is joined to the letter A.

The denominations overprinted in 1891 were:—

#### 1890 ISSUE.

- 1d. black
- 6d. ultramarine
- 6d. deep blue.
- 1s. brown
- 2s. 6d. vermilion.
- 2s. 6d. purple
- 5s. orange yellow.
- 10s. deep green.
- £1 deep blue.
- £2 rose red
- £5 sage green
- £10 brown.

#### 1891 ISSUE.

- 2d. sea-green and vermilion.
- 4d. chestnut and black
- 8d. rose lake and ultramarine.

It later became necessary to issue further denominations and as there were not available at the time stamps of the values required, recourse was had to surcharges as follows:—

In August, 1892, a 4s. value surcharged on the 5s. value of the 1890 issue was placed on sale. The words "FOUR SHILLINGS" are printed in two lines of heavy sans-serif capitals in black ink. The measurements are—letters  $2\frac{1}{2}$  mm. high, top line  $5\frac{1}{2}$  mm. long, bottom line 12 mm. long.

In February, 1893, the 4s. stamp of the British South Africa Company overprinted B.C.A. was issued.

In October of the same year the 4s. value was surcharged "THREE SHILLINGS" in two lines of elongated sans-serif capitals in black ink. The measurements are—letters  $2\frac{1}{2}$  mm. high, top line  $7\frac{1}{2}$  mm. long, bottom line 12 mm. long. It is believed that only 23 sheets were so surcharged making a total issue of only 1,380 stamps.

In October 1895 the 3s. value of the British South Africa Company overprinted B.C.A. was issued.

In 1895 the overprinted 2d. value was surcharged "ONE PENNY" in roman capitals in black ink at Cape Town, the original value being obliterated by a line. The measurements are:—letters  $1\frac{1}{2}$  mm. high, the words with stop 17 m. long and the line 18 mm. long.



## South West Africa

By MAJOR J. MILLIGAN.

Read before the Philatelic Society  
of Johannesburg.

**S**OUTH-West Africa, formerly Hereroland, or Damaraland, came in some sort under British protection by the Treaty of Okahandja in 1876.

In the "Times" Atlas of 1898, you will find the country in the region of Walfisch Bay and the Swakop under Damaraland, and south of that, to the Orange River under Great Namaqualand except the strip of coast line from Angra Pequena (now Luderitzbucht) to the Orange, which comes under Luderitzland.

Thanks to the persistence of Trader Luderitz, a true son of Germany, and the apathy of the British and Cape Governments, the Germans were allowed to annex the territory in 1884.

The first stamps used were those of the German Empire without overprint. With clear postmarks, correctly dated, these stamps are extremely difficult to obtain. As an instance of what our German friends thought of them shortly after the Great War, a vice-President of the Hamburg Philatelic Society, who was making a short business visit to the Union, was a visitor at one of the Capetown Philatelic Society meetings, and as luck went, that night a number of these stamps in fine condition was put up for auction, and he secured the lot, at what he obviously considered junk prices. He was so delighted that he confessed he abhorred the South African food — Ha! Those steaks we get in Germany—cluck—but the stamps he had got that night would indeed compensate him for any unhappiness the South African food might cause him.

German stamps of 1889 overprinted Deutsch Sudwest-Afrika, with hyphen, were issued in 1897 in the following denominations: 3 pfg. to 20 pfg. In 1898 the same overprint without the hyphen was introduced, 3 pfg to 50 pfg. In 1900 the well known German Colonial Ship issue made its appearance in value 3 pfg. to 5 marks, no watermark. The next change was made in 1906, when the same stamps with the exception of the 25 40, 50 and 80 pfg. appeared with the lozenges watermark.

Regardless of what may be read to the contrary in any handbook on the stamps of S.W.A. or other publication bearing on the matter, no stamps of the late Deutsch Reich (G.S.W.A.) were ever sold for fiscal or postal purposes during the Union occupation of the country. Neither were any overprinted G.S.W.A. as has sometimes been alleged. An attempt was actually made in London to place on sale certain German S.W.A. stamps with overprints, but the steps taken by the S.W.A. pos-

tal administration with Scotland Yard led to the disappearance of the fraudulent issues.

Union stamps in the following values were in use from 1914 to January, 1923, ½d., 1d., 1½d. 2d., 3d. (blue), 4d., 6d., 1s., 1s. 3d., 2s. 6d., 5s., 10s., £1. Perf. x imperf. ½d., 1d., 1½d., 2d., Tetebeche 1½d. Postage Dues. Union ½d., 1d., 2d., 3d. Transvaal ½d. 5d., 6d., 1s. Any of the above postally used with correct dates and postmarks are interesting and many of them are extremely difficult to obtain. Postage stamps other than these were introduced into S.W.A. by individuals presumably for philatelic purposes, and as they had not been demonetised in the Union, were accepted by the S.W.A. postal authorities without comment. Thus Union commemoratives and stamps of the four provinces can be found with S.W.A. postmarks, but whether they are of the same interest as the Union stamps actually sold over postal counters in the territory is doubtful. They seem to be akin in status to Provincials used to-day in the Union, which are of no particular value as they do not bear the correct dates, i.e., between 31-5-10 and 1-9-13.

### OVERPRINTED ISSUES.

At the end of 1922 it became necessary to keep the postal revenue separate from that of the Union, and on the 1st January 1923, the first issue of overprinted stamps was made at Windhoek. This typographed issue was soon depleted. The rush had not been anticipated by the Postal Administration, and in March, 1923, another requisition was sent to Pretoria resulting in the type la lithographed overprint. In the same month an urgent requisition was sent to Pretoria for 5s., 10s. and £1 stamps. This supply had a narrow overprint 10 mm. between the lines and is known as Type 2. The quantity printed was the same as for the Type 1, namely 2,400 pairs of 5s., 1,200 of the 10s. and 1,200 of the £1. The difference in catalogue valuation is accounted for by the fact that the bulk of the Type 1 went overseas, and that of Type 2 remained in South Africa.

Shortly after this some interested person pointed out that the spelling of Zuid-West Afrika with hyphen was incorrect, which resulted in the issue of Type III, being received at Windhoek in July, 1923, and issued to Postmasters as their old stocks became exhausted.

Type IIIa issued in February, 1924, is similar to type III, except that the overprint is in thinner letters and has smaller stops.

Before we go any further it can be definitely stated that the S.W.A. Postal Administration officially recognised three types of overprint only, viz.:

Type 1 with hyphen;

Type 2 without hyphen;

Type 3 Larger letters with narrow spacing.

Type IV., 2s. 6d. only, was received on the 25th January, 1924, in a quantity of 400 sheets.



by 60, but they did not reach the public counter until July, 1924. The existence of this type is stated to be due to an oversight by the Government Printer.

Type IVa, 2s. 6d., except for a heavier overprint, and having been printed in a shiny ink is the same as Type IV.

Type VI South-West 16 mm. long, Type VIa South-West 16½ mm. long, spacing between the lines of overprint 9½ mm. in both cases. The same values occur in each type. Many eccentricities occur in the overprinting in these types—far too many to detail now, but you may except to see most of them in the display this evening by Mr. Mattei.

Type VII Pictorial ½d., 1d., 6d. When the Union of South Africa issued the pictorial stamps in July, 1926 S.W.A. followed suit and had these stamps printed vertically on each side with the correct Afrikaans instead of Dutch spelling, Suidwes, "S" instead of "Z" and no "t" to West, and English as formerly. In December, 1926 a further supply of the stamps was ordered and these had the overprint transposed, Afrikaans on English stamps and English on Afrikaans stamps, stated to have been made in error.

Type VIII 4d. (slate blue) issued in July, 1926. Printed in sheets of 120 stamps, each sheet being in one language, either English or Afrikaans. The English sheets were overprinted, South-West Africa in two lines and subsequently in one line. The Afrikaans stamps appeared with Suidwes Afrika in one line. The sheets were then cut up, and sold in packets of 60, each packet in one language only. Sheets of 120 of these stamps both Afrikaans and one line English overprint were handed to Messrs. John Meinert Ltd., Windhoek, by whom the sheets were perforated 1½d. This was done in November, 1927, when stocks of the packets had run out. Before the stock of sheets of 120 became exhausted, it was possible for collectors to obtain them from the postal administration in that state.

1927 pictorial stamps of South Africa overprinted alternately in blue, lines of overprint spaced 16 mm. 2d., 3d. 1s., 2s. 6d., 5s., 10s. The 2d., 3d., 1s., and 10s. appear with spacing 16½ mm. in one vertical row of each sheet.

In the same year, 1927, the 1s. 3d. King George violet and £1 olive green King George with overprint S.W.A. Type 10 were issued together with pictorial stamps of South Africa similarly overprinted in values ½d., 1d., 2d., 3d., 4d., 6d., 1s., 2s. 6d., 5s., 10s. All values of type 10 can be found without stop after "A," the scarcest being the 1s.

1930 ½d., and 1d. black and green and black and carmine Rotogravure appeared with Type 10 overprint.

Air stamps 1930, 4d., 1s., in small and large type S.W.A. the first printing of small type S.W.A. having blurred impression and stops with rounded corners—these are good.

In 1931, the present set of S.W.A. stamps ½d. to 20s. appeared. This is acknowledged to be one of the finest sets of British pictorial

stamps ever produced. The 10s. depicting the Welwitschia plant is outstanding both in colouring and beauty of design.

The Air stamps of 1931 are also artistic, and if the official figures of the numbers issued may be accepted as correct, they must be worth holding until such times as their scarcity becomes more apparent.

The Postage Due stamps of S.W.A. take an immensity of detailing and may be left to the specialist collectors of S.W.A. Gibbons' Catalogue gives all the known varieties; the best of the series being D. 13 1d. black and rose, rouletted, unpriced by Gibbons but priced by Robson Lowe at £100.

The official stamps of S.W.A. have in the past been of very considerable interest to collectors. Set 01 to 04, the first official stamps issued were at one time considered a gilt-edged security. High prices were gladly paid for them and those who owned one or more sets considered themselves fortunate. Even to-day they are extremely elusive notwithstanding a considerable drop in actual market rates.

In conclusion, none of the forged overprints of S.W.A. stamps are dangerous. The best (? or the worst) is that of the D.17a 5d. black and violet. Even this is not dangerous to the expert. The slugs for this item quite possibly emanated from the Golden City.

I have to express my indebtedness to the Director of Posts and Telegraphs, S.W.A., for some of the information embodied in the paper.

---

#### OBITUARY.

##### MR. A. J. SEFLI.

We regret to have to record that the hopes of Mr. Sefli's recovery have not been sustained and that he died on October 10th.

Although only 45 years of age, he had a record of thirty years service to philately, which was publicly recognised last year by his election to the British Roll of distinguished Philatelists.

---

#### "THE QUEEN IN TEARS."

In Mr. Hurst's article published last month the printer's devil got loose. Thirteen lines at the top of p. 162, ending with "on the right," should come before the second column on the front page.

---

Mr. Joe Lee's collection of Uruguay is on sale for £80,000. Here's a chance for you if you did well in Doornhoecks!

---

Herr Goetze's articles on S.W.A. cancellation are continued in *Germania Berichte* of May (H—K) and June (K—O).

## UNION NOTES

Thanks to Mr. Wyndham, a most interesting variety has come to light in the second printings of the 1d. roto officials. This is on the plate 7 sheets, with fine red arrows and inverted watermarks, and with the heavy type overprint. It occurs on No. 3, row 8, and underneath the IAL of Official will be found distinct letters reading from right to left, and reversed. If these are examined with a glass, and with the aid of a looking glass, the letters read CASLON, then there is a space and a portion of a letter which would appear to be an O, then another space and what looks like an inverted V or it may be the bottom of an X, another space and then three more letters the first of which may be either an O or a C.

It is constant throughout this printing on this one stamp, and I have specimens showing the letters in varying degrees of clearness.

How it has missed being noted before this is a mystery, and I myself have been through this issue very closely with a glass and yet missed it.

The copy Mr. Wyndham sent me has the lettering fairly clearly defined as regards the

CASLO part of it, the last letter is, I think, pretty definitely an N, but the following letters are too broken to be distinct.

He sent the block up to me noting the broken top to the O in Offisieel on the stamp immediately above this one, and what he called "foreign printed matter" under the IAL on this particular stamp.

The question now arises, how did this occur? The overprint is type set, and this extra lettering is in much smaller and finer print.

Is it possible that one of the spacers slipped up and that some of them have the type makers' name or trade mark on them and this is it?

It strikes me as a very interesting discovery, and I shall be grateful if anyone can throw any further light on how it originated.

G. N. GILBERT.

Mr. G. W. Mileham, of Harrow, England, sends the following:

You may be interested to know that I have discovered a Union of South Africa Postage due 6d. S.G.No.121, without the dot under the pence sign. So far as I can trace, this is not chronicled, neither is it catalogued by Gibbons or in the specialised catalogue issued by the Pretoria Philatelic Society, compiled by Mr. Simenhoff.

I might mention that this error is on the variety with the nick in the neck of the six, catalogued in the latter publication.

# RARE BRITISH COLONIALS are my specialty

The ideal method of collecting is to have one of my approval selections of rare British Colonials beside your own collection.

**SELECTIONS SENT ON APPROVAL  
TO ANY PART OF THE WORLD.**

The cheapest dealer in the World for British Colonial Rarities is :

**T. ALLEN**

5, BLAKE HALL ROAD - - - - WANSTEAD  
LONDON, E.11 - - - ENGLAND

## Air Mail Notes and News

By L. A. WYNDHAM.

### THE PASSING OF A PIONEER.

The tragic air disaster which occurred near Longreach, Queensland, on 15th November, has removed another one of the pilots associated in the inauguration of the first air mails between England and South Africa, viz.: Flight-Lieutenant Archer Robert Prendergast.

It is understood that Flight-Lieutenant Prendergast was delivering one of the new D.H.36 four-engined air liners to Australia for operating the Brisbane-Singapore section to be inaugurated in December when the fatal accident took place.

Flight-Lieutenant Prendergast was born in Durban on 4th January, 1900. He served in the Royal Navy from 1916 to 1922 rising to the rank of lieutenant. He learnt to fly in 1923 and the following year joined the Royal Air Force, being transferred to India as a test pilot. At the end of 1928 the Afghanistan disturbance broke out and he contributed his share of the gallant work of rescuing the 586 persons of various nationalities who were beleaguered in Kabul and had the distinction of carrying the first civilian out of the besieged town. The work performed by the Royal Air Force pilots during the three-months' evacuation of Kabul earned for their Service an undying glory.

In 1930 Flight-Lieutenant Prendergast joined Imperial Airways and was in command of the Calcutta Flying Boat "City of Khar-toum" on the Khar-toum-Kisumu section of the first air mail from Croydon to Capetown in December, 1931, and of the first Cape-London service. As commander of the "Athena" he inaugurated the Calcutta-Rangoon extensions of the Empire Service and in January of this year flew the first regular Empire air mails from Singapore. In addition he piloted the "Astrea" from England to Sydney on her successful survey flight last year.

On the eve of the extension of the Empire Air Mail Service to Australia the Australian skyways have claimed the life of a gallant air mail pilot. South Africa has thereby lost a worthy son and Imperial Airways a valuable captain.

### VICTOR SMITH'S S.W.A. MAIL

In my notes for October reference was made to the fact that an official air mail was carried from Windhoek to England by the well-known South African airman, Victor Smith, on his recent flight to England via the West Coast, and in this connection the following

communication received from the Director of Posts and Telegraphs, Windhoek, is of interest: "Sir,—In reply to your letter of the 3rd instant, I have the honour to inform you that an official air mail was made up on London on July 27 for conveyance by Victor Smith. Only letters, etc., specifically so addressed were included, the nett weight being six ounces."

### NEW INDIAN "FEEDER" SERVICE.

I understand that negotiations with the Government of India have at last been completed for the operation of the long prolonged Karachi-Lahore air mail service as a "feeder" to the Empire route. The service is to be inaugurated on the afternoon of 4th December when a plane will leave Lahore and after halting for the night at either Jacobsdal or Sukkur will reach Karachi early the following morning. The service is to be conducted by Indian National Airways.

### SOUTH AFRICAN AIRWAYS.

The three new three-engined 18-seater Junker machines which were recently flown out from Germany have now been put into commission. The planes have been named "Jan van Riebeeck," "Lord Charles Somerset," and "Simon van der Stel," after South African Governors. The first, which left Durban for Capetown on the 15th November, inaugurated a regular new route for the service, calling at four towns. It is to be regretted that arrangements were not made by the Post Office authorities for the new stopping centres, viz., Grahamstown and George to be air mail ones on this inaugural flight. It is understood that stops at these towns are more in the nature of an experiment and that if it is eventually decided the planes will continue to land there, mails will be carried direct to and from them. By then the "flying history" of the occasion will be absent and covers will merely be records of the belated mailing arrangements of the Post Office.

### AIR SERVICE TO BE DUPLICATED.

An important statement made by Sir Eric Geddes, Chairman of Imperial Airways, at the general meeting of the company on the 5th November, was that plans were well advanced for the service from England to South Africa, at least as far as Johannesburg, to be doubled in frequency. Sir Eric also urged on the Post Office to bring down their air mail charges. The latest news is that duplication starts on December 30 from Croydon with departures each Sunday and Wednesday thereafter. The first duplicate service from South Africa will leave Johannesburg on January 5.

**Wanted.**—Unusual items relating to the aviation history of Africa. Full particulars to:

*L. Wyndham Houses of Parliament,  
Capetown.*

### REDUCTION IN AIR MAIL RATE.

The air mail rate between England and South Africa is to be reduced from 10d. (it was originally 1s.) to 6d. for letters and from 5d. to 3d. for postcards. These new rates come into operation with the air mail due to leave Capetown on the 27th November and England on the 28th.

### ETIQUETTES.

The Post Office is to be congratulated on bringing out an air mail label booklet and an air mail pamphlet. The design of the label which is very attractive is a departure from the type of the sheet labels. The field of the new label is light blue and incorporates in white the famous "Speedbird" symbol of Imperial Airways carrying a letter. The "Speedbird," I may add, was designed for Imperial Airways by Mr. T. Lee-Elliott who also was responsible for the design of the new winged air mail label of Great Britain.

## H.R.H Prince George's Tour

### A Philatelic Record

(Notes of a display given by L. A.  
WYNDHAM before the Capetown  
Philatelic Society.)

This display consisted of a collection of close on 100 envelopes posted at various points visited by the Royal Train thus providing a unique philatelic record of Prince George's African Tour.

A special postal agency was established on the train and all correspondence despatched from it was impressed with an oval seal date-stamp, surmounted with the Royal crest and bearing the words: Royal Tour: H.R.H. Prince George: South Africa" in both official languages. In addition a larger franking defacer stamp was used for official correspondence and also a special impression for registered articles.

The Royal Train left Capetown shortly after noon on Monday, 13th February, 1934, and the first despatch was made from Wellington in order to enable correspondence to connect with the Imperial Airways service due to leave early the following morning. It is interesting to note that this mail was specially back-stamped on receipt in Capetown at 6 p.m. the same day. The display included quite a few of this first despatch and those which call for special mention in view of the Prince's coming wedding to Princess Marina are the ones flown to Greece which bear the attractive Athens air mail arrival cachet and the Greek air mail propaganda label.

Envelopes of letters posted at all the principal towns visited by the Prince tell philatelically the story of the Tour. Of special interest are the covers posted while the train was in Basutoland and Bechuanaland; these bear the stamps of these territories which were available on the Royal Train and in most cases are registered.

Then when the White Train reached Rhodesia, South African stamps were still being used by the travelling post office and the collection includes covers of letters by the last despatch while the Union authorities were in charge. These represent the quite unique occasion on which stamps of South Africa were used in Rhodesia and of special interest are the covers passed by the Rhodesian authorities for air mail bearing only Union stamps; these covers were additionally post-marked by the Bulawayo Post Office.

On arrival at Bulawayo shortly after noon on the 21st March the management of the Tour was taken over by the Rhodesian Government which, instead of providing its own postal obliteration marks, borrowed the special ones prepared by the Union. This borrowing gave rise to the rather unusual position of stamps of the Rhodesias whose official language is English only being postmarked in the two official languages of the Union. Mr. Wyndham's collection is very strong in registered covers posted at different points in Southern and Northern Rhodesia and a few of these were flown to the historic home country of Princess Marina.

The Royal Train left Northern Rhodesia for the Belgian Congo on 4th April. Unlike Rhodesia, the Congo authorities did not borrow the special obliterator supplied by the Union but provided a special franking of their own which reads in two lines: "Train Royal S.A.R. Prince George d'Angelterre/Sakania-Elisabethville 5.4.1934." This three-inch commemorative cachet was impressed across the stamps which franked letters posted on the Royal Train and when the mail was handed over to the Elisabethville post office the stamps were additionally cancelled with the ordinary post-mark of Elisabethville. It is believed that these Belgian Congo covers are very rare. Mr. Wyndham has a very fine specimen with which to conclude his "Philatelic Record of H.R.H. Prince George's Tour."

## BASUTOLAND "OFFICIAL" STAMPS

It was noted in our November number that 1,200 of each of the four values of these stamps were issued.

The Acting Government Secretary of Basutoland has since kindly informed us that the numbers of each value returned to store on 25/6/34, when their use was discontinued, were as follows:—½d., 273; 1d., 262; 2d., 242; and 6d., 270.

# The Transvaal's Postage Stamps

By J. HERBERT CURLE.

(Continued from p. 151 of Oct. issue.)

With acknowledgements to "The London Philatelist."

## II.

In the year 1877 came the First British Occupation, which was to last four years, and the Boer stamps presently appeared with the "V.R. Transvaal" surcharge. For several months after the Occupation, actually from April 12th to July 7th, no record was kept of stamps issued. But we know that during this short period the red surcharges were issued, were on sale for a few weeks, and were withdrawn in favour of the black surcharges. The 3d. red surcharge, was made upon old stocks of the 3d. semi-pelure and pelure; the former of these, contrary to catalogue valuation, is the rarer. The 6d. and 1s., red surcharge, were upon the coarse soft paper. The 1d. was only surcharged in black, and old stocks of pelure, hard-surfaced, and coarse soft pennies were used up on it.

As we have seen, there was no record of the numbers of red surcharges issued. The 1s. is not scarce, and several thousands must have been in circulation. The 3d. and 6d. are rarer; possibly not more than a thousand or fifteen hundred of each were issued. In all three, most of the roulettes and errors are extremely rare. As an issue, I have always thought the red surcharges the Transvaal's *crème de la crème*.

The red surcharge gave way in a few weeks to the black, but the same type remained in use. It was in Roman Capitals; and on one stamp in each double sheet of 80, in certain printings, the "V.R." and "Transvaal" were spaced wider apart. This "wider spacing," after the *têtes-bêches*, was the second classic rarity in Transvaals; about sixteen varieties of it exist, in red and in black.

Presently all the values, with Roman Capitals and black surcharge, were appearing on the coarse soft paper. The 3d. of this paper, with inverted surcharge, is one of the extreme rarities. I know of only 3 copies; yet a sheet of at least 40 must have existed, and specimens, wherever recognised, would have been pounced upon. Probably the sheet was sent to some backveld Post Office, and served out to incurious *bijwoners*.

Three other issues, printed from the old plates, with the "V.R. Transvaal" surcharge in varying types, appeared between 1877-79.

They were full of varieties and errors. Unfortunately, they were printed on poorish, coloured papers, and fine copies, especially among the roulettes, are not too numerous. In the last of these issues, the surcharge carries the "small T." There were seemingly 4 of these errors in each double sheet of 80 stamps: That is to say, one in 20, or a total in the four varieties of 5,348 errors. The "small T" is thus seen to be a commoner stamp than supposed; but it is very rare rouletted, and with wide roulette or pin perforation, is one of the greatest rarities. Here again we come up against the vexed question: What was the proportion of fine roulettes and wide roulettes, to the imperforates, in any issue of the Transvaal. There is no record. It is often assumed that the wide roulettes were made unofficially, but I do not think this was generally done. We know a wide rouletting machine was used, officially, for separating the double sheets of imperforates; the same machine was no doubt used, in the Pretoria Post Office, for wide rouletting in general.

The remaining issue of the First Occupation was that of the "Queen's Heads." This was the first issue of Transvaal stamps of which large numbers were printed. The supply of the 1d. was 480,000; but as newspapers could now be sent for 1d., the demand for it was great, and the supply gave out. It was supplemented by 60,000 of the 6d. black, Queen's Head, surcharged "One Penny." Of these, 18,000 seem to have been surcharged in red, and 42,000 in black; there are seven varieties of type and all of them, in both colours, become increasingly scarce.

## III.

The British Occupation ended with the First Boer War, and amid the reverberations of Majuba and Bronkhorstspuit, the Second Republic came into being. It brought with it, of course, its own stamps. But from now onward, for me at least, much of the glamour was gone from these. The old Boer Arms, in their square frame, rudely designed, and often shockingly printed, have a fascination for me which no other stamps can evoke. They reek of the earlier Transvaal. When I happen upon one, wherever I may be, my surroundings are for the instant forgotten. Closing my eyes, I see a waggon with sixteen oxen crossing the highveld; a *bijwoner's* hovel near a homestead, with willows coming out and a peach tree in blossom; a troop of baboons clamouring up the side of a kloof; sunrise over the Low Country, from the top of the Berg; the folk outside their tents awaiting the *nachtmaal*—I see the Transvaal in macrocosm, as I first saw it when I was a boy.

But with the Second Republic the old stamp disappeared. A smaller, nattier type, printed in Holland, though still bearing the Boer

Arms, took its place; and from now onward, because gold had been discovered, and the Transvaal was opening to the outer world, much larger quantities of stamps were printed. Occasionally the supply of some particular value ran short, and between 1885-96 numbers of surcharges were issued. These are full of errors, and in their own way quite interesting; yet the errors, almost without exception, I imagine to have been printed deliberately. I was in the Transvaal for much of that period, and knew the highest postal authorities. They were stamp collectors almost to a man; need I put the matter more plainly than that?

Time passed. The British were chafing under Boer rule, and in 1895 came the Jameson Raid. A second Boer War was now almost inevitable, and it broke out in 1899. At its beginning, Boer Commandoes occupied territories in Natal and Cape Colony, and there, for a short time, issued Transvaal stamps cancelled with the local postmarks. When the Boers had fallen back, and the British were about to occupy Pretoria, President Kruger and his Government transferred themselves to Pietersburg, in the Northern Transvaal; and having forgotten to take any stamps with them, they had there to print a local issue. This was done at the office of "De Wachter," the Pietersburg newspaper. The stamps were on coloured papers, crudely produced; but they were an official issue, authorised by the President in his own country; for who was to say, just at that moment, that Oom Paul had ceased to govern.

Of the Pietersburg stamps, the 1d., issued March 20, 1901, was in use for twenty days; the other values, issued April 3, were on sale for only six days. When these latter were issued, a British column, under Colonel Plumer, had already left Pretoria to capture Pietersburg—which it did within a week. The President himself escaped; but his printing press was captured, and no more stamps were issued. Tamsen gives the numbers of the Pietersburg issue as: ½d. 4,800; 1d. 20,400; 2d. 7,200; 4d. 3,600; 6d. 2,400; 1s. 2,400. Some sheets of the ½d., 1d. and 2d. were perforated. They were all initialled by a Controller, either in red ink or black, except several sheets of the ½d. which escaped him by an oversight. The first printings were full of errors. Most of these were corrected in a second printing; but the Controller seems to have been persuaded to initial certain sheets, containing errors, which were really printer's proofs and should have been burnt. I rather suspect that one of the Pretoria collectors had accompanied the Government in some official capacity, and had continued, in the midst of war, to practise the arts of peace. Despite these irregularities, the Pietersburgs have fallen into a disrespect they do not deserve. They are uncouth to the eye; they were sold almost entirely to speculators; yet they are stamps with a proper status, and

mark a poignant event in the Transvaal's troubled history.

Already, down in Pretoria, the republican stamps lately in use had appeared surcharged with the "V.R.I." of the Second British Occupation. Put out under the military government, these were an interesting issue; but the interest, sad to relate, centred mainly in the errors, a number of which certainly never got there of their own accord; there must have been a stamp collector on the British staff.

Queen Victoria now dying, the small issue surcharged "E.R.I." brought the Transvaal's remarkable series of surcharges to an end. During the next few years, several issues of "King's Heads" led up to the Day of Union in 1910, and to the disappearance of the Transvaal as an issuer of its own stamps.

(To be continued.)

## COLLECTORS' WANTS AND OFFERS

(Twopence per word per insertion with minimum of 2/- per insertion).

**Nevis and Virgin Islands.**—Stamps, Literature and Information wanted.  
*A. F. Johnstone, P.O. Box 6006, Johannesburg.*

**Anglo-Boer War, 1899-1902.**—Anything except V.R.I's.

*Dr. Pirie, Box 1038, Johannesburg.*

**"Specimen Stamps."**—Great Britain, British Colonial and Foreign wanted.  
*Saul A. Klagsbrun, P.O. Box 846, Pretoria.*

**Wanted.** — Cape, Natal, Transvaal Orange Free State, Griqualand West, Swaziland, Portuguese East Africa, Brazil, Greece, including covers and postal stationery.

*A. E. Basden, P.O. Box 238, Pretoria.*

**Gold Coast.**—Early issues, fine used. Special Postmarks. Mint. Wanted.  
*William Redford, cor. Kruis and Market Streets, Johannesburg.*

**Exchange desired with collectors.**

*Walter Ritt, 3, Metternich gasse 11, Vienna, Austria.*

**Rhodesian Rarities.**—Wanted. Mint or used.

*R. H. Morley, P.O. Box 7573, Johannesburg.*

**First Flight S.A. Covers.** Buy, Sell, Exchange. Write:  
*Park Smith, The Strand, C.P.*

**London Bank Parcels,** current issues, including High Values. No rubbish. 5/- and 10/- per packet. Satisfaction guaranteed.

*Denham, 6, Prior Avenue, Sutton, Surrey, England.*

## SOCIETY NEWS

### PHILATELIC SOCIETY OF JOHANNESBURG.

The ordinary meeting was held at the Carlton Hotel on Tuesday, November 30, Major Milligan occupying the chair. After reading the notes of the month, which included a good story of information conveyed by spies during the Great War by means of mint stamps sent from one country to another, the chairman asked Mrs. Morley to present Mr. Ritchie and Mr. Mattei with their awards gained at the National Exhibition in Pretoria.

Mr. Redford spoke on the Society's Guarantee Fund, for the International Philatelic Exhibition in 1936. A list had been circulated amongst the Committee and 25% of the required amount had been subscribed. Further promises at the meeting brought the sum up to nearly 50 per cent.

Mr. Rose, our genial auctioneer then auctioned several lots given by members of the Society for the Hospital Fund. Bidding was brisk, and a good sum was raised but all too little time was left for the members to admire the beautiful exhibit put on the table by Mr. Mattei, being the second part of his South West Africa collection. This included all the pictorials with all the known varieties of missing stops, etc. Two new members were elected to the Society during the evening.

J.G.G.K.

### PHILATELIC SOCIETY OF NATAL.

In spite of the rainy evening, there was a good attendance of members at the annual meeting held in the Durban Publicity Bureau on Friday, November 9th, which was presided over by the retiring President, Mr. Percy C. Bishop.

The reports read by the various officials all testified to a very successful year in every respect.

The following office bearers were elected:—

President: Mr. H. de Terrasson.

Vice-Presidents: Messrs. W. P. Williams, W. Gosling, H. H. Hurst, J. R. Simpson, T. F. Glen.

Hon. Secretary: Miss Gwen Pershouse.

Hon. Treasurer: Mr. J. Malan.

Hon. Exchange Superintendent: Mr. L. Peteit.

Hon. Auditor: Mr. W. P. Williams.

Committee: Mesdames Gosling and K. Maxwell, Messrs. Bishop, Crockett, Webb, Welsford, Lovejoy.

On the initiative of Mr. J. Malan, the question of an annual exhibition was discuss-

ed, and a sub-committee was appointed to consider ways and means.

G.P.

### CAPE TOWN PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

At the meeting on October 11th Professor J. J. Smith, of Stellenbosch, gave an interesting display of Special Items.

Opening with Cape Triangulars, an exceptionally fine range was shown both mint and used, including woodblocks and mint pairs of the De la Rue printings up to 1s. value.

In O.F.S. particular mention may be made of S.G. 17a 4 on 6d. with a double surcharge—one inverted and a treble surcharge of the 1d. on 4d. (1890/91). Probably the most interesting item in the Free State portion, however, was a large block of 20 stamps (S.G. 201); a block of 12 and a pair, the first block of which included two uncatalogued varieties of 1 inverted instead of 1 in V.R.I.

The stamps of South-West Africa were also shown and special items to be seen were a block of 24 of the 2d. type (1) with overprint inverted—probably the largest block in existence; the 1d. value with "Africa" above South West; 1s. 3d. value with overprint inverted and the no stop varieties in Type II on the 5s., 10s. and £1 values.

The final section of the display comprised Union stamps and included the King's Head ½d. double print, ½d. and 1d. pictorials tête bêche in the Waterlow printing; and also the ½d. pictorial double impression. One of the most interesting sheets displayed was of the 1930 Rotogravures (1d. value) showing the red outer frame only; and other sheets showing the centre (ship) only. Professor Smith mentioning that these items were purchased by him at the Post Offices at George and Port Elizabeth respectively. In the 1925 Air Mail stamps all values were shown imperforate at the left side, the 9d. value also showing the well-known strut flaw.

On October 25th the display for the evening was a special one to be arranged by the Society, and the Committee decided that each member should show ten sheets of stamps. As can be expected the final display proved to be of very great interest in view of the wide scope of the individual items, and it is most gratifying that the members gave their co-operation in such a way.

On November 8th Mr. L. A. Wvrdham staged one of his side-lines—a philatelic record of H.R.H. Prince George's African tour. An account of this is published separately elsewhere in this issue.

J.R.

### EAST LONDON PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

The October meeting was held on Thursday, the 11th, in the Toc H rooms. The attendance,

though small, was very good considering the heavy rain. Mr. T. A. Harper presided.

The display for the evening was provided by Mr. Reid and Mr. Robertson. Union items predominated, Mr. Reid's display containing some choice blocks, particularly among the very fine lot of Postage Dues. Amongst items of interest there were a block of the current 2d., showing a hairline variety on one stamp, a block of 3d., blue, showing the constant "blind-gable" variety and a block of the current 4d., with another hairline variety, one of the Natives in the design apparently holding a long stick.

Mr. Robertson showed a pair of freak shilling pictorials, bought at a local post office, in which the design had failed to print properly, with the result that the background was almost entirely absent and the two gnus only shown in outline. Another item was a strip of the 1d., rotogravure roll stamps with two Afrikaans and two English stamps, together instead of being alternate. A page of the new definitive issue for Basutoland made a very fine showing.

W.S.R.

#### PRETORIA PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

OCTOBER 5th.—Mr. Basden presided over a large attendance and extended a hearty welcome to Miss G. Pershouse, the Hon. Secretary of the Philatelic Society of Natal, and Mr. C. H. Thornton, the Hon. Secretary of the East London Philatelic Society. He also welcomed back Mr. Andrew Watson from his trip overseas. Mr. J. Beyers provided one of his typically interesting historical papers on the island of St. Helena. He described how in very early days mariners visited the island to obtain supplies of fresh water and deposit mail matter to be picked up by other ships. As the scene of the closing phases of the life of Napoleon I the island gained considerable prominence. A very interesting exhibit consisting of Ships' Letters and Postmarks was provided by Mr. C. H. Thornton.

NOVEMBER 5th.—There was a paper by Mr. J. de Beer and an exhibit of stamps of India, Indian States and Afghanistan.

NOVEMBER 19th.—Dr. A. J. Broughton read notes on cancellations, dealing mostly with those of Canada. This led to a general discussion on cancellations, covering many parts of the world. There was a display of stamps of Basutoland, Bechuanaland and Swaziland.

NEWFOUNDLAND.—Mr. J. Robertson tells us that the new postal Administration in Newfoundland has called in a whole lot of stocks for destruction and that a considerable rise in values of numerous recent issues may be expected.

## REVIEW

### AIR HISTORY IN STAMPS.

#### A FASCINATING BOOK.

*By Air Through the Stamp Album. By Stanley Phillips. 58 pp. 116 illustrations. 1s. net. (Stanley Gibbons, Ltd., 391 Strand, London, W.C.2).*

This history of aviation deals with the subject as it is illustrated on postage-stamps.

Starting from the days of Icarus and Mercury the story introduces us to such pioneers as Leonardo da Vinci, the Wright Brothers, Professor Charles the early balloonist, Santos Dumont, Bleriot, Lilienthal and Count von Zeppelin, and in many cases, not only the men but their balloons, airships and aeroplanes are shown on the stamps illustrated.

We fly with Santos Dumont round the Eiffel Tower, and land with him outside his hotel in the streets of Paris; accompany the *Graf Zeppelin* on her trip to the Pole and ascend with Piccard and the ill-fated Russians into the stratosphere. If we prefer heavier-than-air machines, here is the story of the early experiments, the great Trans-Atlantic flights, and the historic world flights of Pinedo, Kingsford Smith, Balbo and his men, and many other heroes of the air.

\* \* \* \* \*

### ST. HELENA CENTENARY STAMPS.

The Postmaster of St. Helena notifies that the centenary issues will be withdrawn from use on April 23rd, 1935, and any applications for supplies must reach him before that date. The latest steamer from South Africa which will be in time leaves Cape Town on April 9th.

\* \* \* \* \*

### N.R. STAMPS.

*General Northey's Correspondent still resident in Rhodesia.*

In our October issue we printed a letter from General Northey to a correspondent in Rhodesia and remarked in all good faith, that the latter was deceased.

We are glad to be able to say that, as Mark Twain said regarding his premature obituary notice "the story of his death was much exaggerated."

We have heard from General Northey's correspondent. He is resident in Salisbury and would like this fact made known.

We publish the information with much pleasure and at the same time express our regrets for the inadvertent "exaggeration." May he still have many years of interest in philately!