

INDEX**THE SOUTH AFRICAN PHILATELIST****VOLUME 18 — 1942**

SUBJECT INDEX.

- Abyssinia
 Semipostals 8
 New definitive issue 82, 91
- Air Mails
 Inauguration of America-Africa service 8, 62
 The 1919 Cape Town Pigeon Post 17, 102
 Direct Africa-America service 48
 Airgraph service between Britain and South Africa 49, 109
 Airgraph catalogue 133
- Anglo-Boer War. Prisoner of War Camp Marks, by J. H. Harvey Pirie and A. Watson 104, 116 (see also 127)
- Angola, Provisionals 86
- Army Postmarks (Union, East Africa and Egypt) 5, 8, 73, 109
- Australia
 New values 5, 50
 Politics and Philately in, by H. A. Wager 20
 (?) A Tobruk Commemorative 69
 Colonials still in use 69
- Basutoland, Union Active Service Letter Cards valid in, 26
- Bechuanaland
 Bilingual postal stationery 26
 Union Active Service Letter Cards, valid in, 26
 The study of Postmarks, by A. A. Jurgens 67
 Francetown and Lobatsi postmarks, by H. C. Dann 111
 Notes on the first issue of, 133
- Belgian Congo, New issues . . 66, 71, 73, 94
- Canada, War issue 94
- Cape of Good Hope
 The Black Fourpenny (Editorial) 13
 (see also 29)
- Unrecorded Correspondence in connection with the first issue and with the Edwardian stamps, by A. A. Jurgens 55, 100
- Vryburg issues (see under Vryburg).
- Woodblocks, Type 1b, by A. A. Jurgens 114
- "Barbara Jurgens" Postal History collection, by L. Simenhoff 124
- Post Office Stones 137
- Censor Marks 73
- Centenary, Philately of the Postal, . . 36, 86
- Colonial Provisionals and New Issues . 12, 49, 81, 82, 96, 108, 118
- Congress & Philatelic Federation (see under Philatelic Federation).
- East Africa
 M.E.F. stamps 22, 49
 Rumoured overprint of Italian stamps 30
- Editorials
 The Black Fourpenny Cape 13
- Stephen G. Rich (see also 29) 97
- Ethiopia (see under Abyssinia).
- Free France stamps 17, 50, 94, 118
- German South-West Africa, Dr. Munk's article in Kohl's Handbook translated by J. H. Harvey Pirie 9, 18, 33, 51
- Gold Coast, A Victorian variety 30
- Great Britain
 New shades 12
 New 2/6 and other probable changes 49
 Airgraph service to and from South Africa 49, 109
 Lundy Island provisionals 50
 Stamps used in Iceland 128
- Huguenot Commemorative Cover Collection 87
- Johannesburg, Early Postal and Telegraphic History of, by James Gray . . 6
- Kenya, Uganda and Tanganyika
 Perforation changes . . 24, 69, 73, 94, 118
 Union-overprinted for use in, . . 49, 62
 A Freak 82
 Slogan postmarks 94
 New shade of the 1/- 94
 Tanganyika T.P.O.'s, by W. Tunstall 106
 Plate numbers, by W. Tunstall 137
- Mafeking
 A Bogus variety, by Dr. K. Freund . . 38
 (see also 69)
- Period of issue of stamps of, by Dr. K. Freund 141
- Mozambique (see under Portuguese East Africa).
- New Issues, various 12, 49, 81, 82, 96, 108, 118
- New Republic 90
- Northern Rhodesia. Copperbelt Philatelic Society of N'kana 2
- Nyasaland
 Changes of colour in stamps of, 24
 2d. and 4d. Mult. C.A. of 1907 144
- Obituary, P. J. Maingay 71
- Orange Free State
 Numeral and Letter Cancellations, by Stephen G. Rich 29
 Numeral Postmarks, by J. H. Harvey Pirie 69
 Was De la Rue entirely responsible for the stamps? 81
 Can these overprints be handstamped? by Stephen G. Rich. See also comments by A. E. Basden and E. Mosely 98, 110, 111
- V.R.I. 1d. purple handstruck double overprint, by S. C. W. Wareham . . 142
- Philatelic Federation of Southern Africa and Congress
 Roll of Honour—C. H. Thornton . . . 118
 Executive Committee Minutes 132
 Polish stamps for Polish ships 12

THE SOUTH AFRICAN PHILATELIST.

Portuguese East Africa, Passing of the Mozambique Company	5, 73, 97	(see also 48)
Postal Stationery of the Union, by Sam Legator	27, 45, 65, 74	Collateral Plate printing by de la Rue of the Georgian stamps, by A. H. Sydow 3
Postmarks, The Study of, by A. A. Jurgens	67	(see also 54)
Pretoria Philatelic Society, History of the, by A. P. Obermeyer	14	The last of the War Effort series (1½d.) 5
Reviews		Army P.O.'s in Egypt 5, 73, 123
A History of British Postage Stamps, by T. Todd	16	Used Coronations a good buy 5, 102
Bond Street Stamp Auctions (H. R. Harmer)	16	Export of "War Covers" banned by Censor 17
A specialised Austria catalogue (Billings Stamp Co.)	46	Pictorial postcards 17
Robson Lowe publications	81	Quantities of Stamps, etc., printed 25, 61, 85, 122
Stanley Gibbons catalogue, 1942	112	War Slogan Postmarks 25, 48, 49, 73, 109, 123
More Famous Stamps, by L. N. and M. Williams	112	New Active Service Letter Cards 26
United States Waterway Packet Marks (Supplement), by E. Klein	128	Varieties in the War Effort series 115, 123
Whitfield King & Co.'s catalogue, 1943	128	Postal Stationery, by Sam Legator 27, 45, 65, 74
Rhodesia. Private Posts, by E. Hurt	103	London 2d. Pictorial, Comment by Stanley Phillips 29
Ruanda-Urundi, New issues	66	Fakes current in Cape Town 37
"Rust"		Arrows of the various 2d. Rotogravure printings, by G. N. Gilbert 37
The Bugbear of Tropical Philately, by E. E. Gagel	31	"Officials." A Classification and Check List, by A. Lichtenstein 40
A Warning, by E. F. Hurt	80	(see also 49, 70)
Sierra Leone. The first 5/-	90	Shades of the 2/6 and 5/- denominations 48
Society News — 11, 23, 35, 47, 59, 71, 83, 95, 107, 115, 119, 132, 143	143	"Bantams" (reduced size War Effort stamps) 62, 73, 86, 102, 109, 121, 133
Somaliland, Aden stamps used in,	17	"Officials," by C. H. Fouché 70
South Africa (see under Union of South Africa).		"Liberty Cavalcade" special postmark 73
Southern Africa		Huguenot Commemorative Cover Collection 87
Notes anent Engravers of the Master Dies of certain of the stamps of, by A. H. Sydow	64	Cape Town 1919 Pigeon Post 17, 102
Telegraph stamps of, by A. E. Basden	136	Collections presented to H.M. The King and to President Roosevelt 109
"Made to Order" Covers, by A. A. Jurgens	138	Errors in the 1½d. Bantam 109, 133
Southern Rhodesia. Airgraph service to Britain	49	Airgraph service to and from Britain 49, 109
South-West Africa		Paper saving on stamps, by S. C. W. Wareham 115
Union War stamps overprinted for use in, 5, 25, 61, 73		Varieties in the 1½d. small "gold mine" stamp 121
New Overprint on Active Service Letter Cards	26	"Officials" in the S.G. 1942 catalogue, by S. C. W. Wareham 127
Stationery, Postal, of the Union, by Sam Legator	27, 45, 65, 74	The Isolated Perforation in the King's head Roll stamps, by H. E. Lobdell 134
Swaziland		United States of America
Union Active Service Letter Cards valid in	26	Postmarks of Oversea Bases 84
Change of perforation in the 1½d.	118	The 3c blue of 1869, by E. Tamsen 117
Telegraph stamps of South Africa, by A. E. Basden	136	Vrvburg issues, by Stephen G. Rich 76
Transvaal		Comments thereon, by A. A. Jurgens 88, 127
Remainders and Reprints	2	
Reprints, by E. Tamsen	57	
do. Various comments	91	
do. by A. E. Basden	92	
The Otto Plates, by A. E. Basden	63	
Numeral Cancellations	96	
Travelling Post Offices of Tanganyika, by W. Tunstall	106	
Uganda, The first printed stamps of,	20	
U.S.S.R.	81	
Union of South Africa		
1½d. Green and Gold	1	

AUTHOR INDEX.

Basden, A. E.	
The Otto Plates of the Transvaal	63
Transvaal Reprints	92
Comments on O.F.S. No. 76 Double Overprint	110
Telegraph stamps of South Africa	136
Dann, H. C. Francetown and Lobatsi postmarks	111
Fouché, C. E. Union "Officials"	70
Freund, K. A Mafeking Bogus variety	38
(see also 69)	
Period of issue of Mafeking stamps	141

THE SOUTH AFRICAN PHILATELIST.

Gagel, E. E. "Rust," The bugbear of Tropical Philately	31	Pirie, J. H. Harvey and A. Watson. Anglo-Boer War: Prisoner of War Camp Marks	104, 116
Gilbert, G. N. Union Rotogravure 2d.—Different Arrows	37	Rich, Stephen G. O.F.S. Numeral and Letter Cancellations Vryburg Issues	29 76
Hurt, E. F. "Rust"—A Warning	80	Can these (O.F.S. No. 76) Overprints be Handstruck?	98
Rhodesian Private Posts	103	Simenhoff, L. "Barbara Jurgens" Cape Postal History Collection	124
Back to the Fold "Pan-Philately"	129	Sydow, A. Hilton Collateral Plate Printing by de la Rue of the Union Georgian stamps	3 (see also 54)
Jurgens, A. A. Unrecorded Correspondence in connection with the first issue and with the Edwardian issue of the Cape	55, 100	Notes anent Engravers of the Master Dies of certain of the stamps of Southern Africa	64
The Study of Postmarks (special reference to Bechuanaland)	67	Tamsen, Emil Transvaal Reprints	57
Comments on Rich's "Vryburg Issues"	88, 127	U.S.A., 1869, 3c blue	117
Cape Woodblocks, Type 1b	114	Tunstall, W. Tanganyika Travelling Post Offices	106
"Made to Order" Covers	138	Plate numbers of the stamps of Kenya, Uganda, Tanganyika	137
Legator, Sam. Postal Stationery of the Union of South Africa	27, 45, 65, 74	Wager, H. A. Politics and Philately in Australia	20
Lichtenstein, A. Union "Officials." A Classification and Check List	40	Wareham, S. C. W. Varieties of the large Union 1½d. "Mine Dump" stamp	1
Lobdell, H. E. Union King's Head Rolls: The Isolated Perforation and the Method of Production	134	Paper saving in Union stamps	115
Mosely, E. Comments on O.F.S. No. 76 Double Overprints	111	"Officials" in S.G. 1942 catalogue	127
Munk, Dr. H. Article on German South-West Africa in Kohl's Handbook, translated by J. H. Harvey Pirie	9, 18, 33, 51	O.F.S. V.R.I. 1d. purple handstruck double overprint	142
Obermeyer, A. P. History of the Pretoria Philatelic Society	14	Watson, Andrew and J. H. Harvey Pirie. Anglo-Boer War: Prisoner of War Camp Marks	104, 116
Pirie, J. H. Harvey. O.F.S. Numeral Postmarks	69		

The
SOUTH AFRICAN PHILATELIST

Published Monthly by the Philatelic Federation of Southern Africa

All Rights of Reproduction Reserved.

Hon. Editor—J. H. Harvey Pirie, P.O. Box 7012, Johannesburg.

Hon. Business Manager—William Redford, P.O. Box 7012, Johannesburg.

COMMUNICATIONS :

Business and Advertising to be addressed to:

William Redford, Broadcast House, Commissioner St., Johannesburg.

SUBSCRIPTION: 5s. per annum post free to any part of the world.

CORRESPONDENCE: The columns of this Journal are open to correspondence on subjects of Philatelic Interest. In particular, the Editor, will be pleased to receive information regarding new issues, discoveries of errors and varieties, etc.

ADVERTISING TARIFF :

1 Page	£3 0 0 per insertion	¼ Page	0 10 0 per insertion
½ Page	1 12 6 per insertion	1/16 Page	0 6 0 per insertion
¼ Page	0 17 6 per insertion		

Less 5 per cent. for 6 insertions. Less 10 per cent. for 12 insertions.

Small Prepaid Advertisements: 2d. per word per insertion.

THE SOUTH AFRICAN PHILATELIST.

Portuguese East Africa, Passing of the Mozambique Company	5, 73, 97		
Postal Stationery of the Union, by Sam Legator	27, 45, 65, 74		
Postmarks, The Study of, by A. A. Jurgens	67		
Pretoria Philatelic Society, History of the, by A. P. Obermeyer	14		
Reviews			
A History of British Postage Stamps, by T. Todd	16		
Bond Street Stamp Auctions (H. R. Harmer)	16		
A specialised Austria catalogue (Billings Stamp Co.)	46		
Robson Lowe publications	81		
Stanley Gibbons catalogue, 1942	112		
More Famous Stamps, by L. N. and M. Williams	112		
United States Waterway Packet Marks (Supplement), by E. Klein	128		
Whitfield King & Co.'s catalogue, 1943	128		
Rhodesia. Private Posts, by E. Hurt	103		
Ruanda-Urundi, New issues	66		
"Rust"			
The Bugbear of Tropical Philately, by E. E. Gagel	31		
A Warning, by E. F. Hurt	80		
Sierra Leone. The first 5/-	90		
Society News — 11, 23, 35, 47, 59, 71, 83, 95, 107, 115, 119, 132, 143	143		
Somaliland, Aden stamps used in,	17		
South Africa (see under Union of South Africa).			
Southern Africa			
Notes anent Engravers of the Master Dies of certain of the stamps of, by A. H. Sydow	64		
Telegraph stamps of, by A. E. Basden	136		
"Made to Order" Covers, by A. A. Jurgens	138		
Southern Rhodesia. Airgraph service to Britain	49		
South-West Africa			
Union War stamps overprinted for use in,	5, 25, 61, 73		
New Overprint on Active Service Letter Cards	26		
Stationery, Postal, of the Union, by Sam Legator	27, 45, 65, 74		
Swaziland			
Union Active Service Letter Cards valid in	26		
Change of perforation in the 1½d.	118		
Telegraph stamps of South Africa, by A. E. Basden	136		
Transvaal			
Remainders and Reprints	2		
Reprints, by E. Tamsen	57		
do. Various comments	91		
do. by A. E. Basden	92		
The Otto Plates, by A. E. Basden	63		
Numeral Cancellations	96		
Travelling Post Offices of Tanganyika, by W. Tunstall	106		
Uganda, The first printed stamps of,	20		
U.S.S.R.	81		
Union of South Africa			
1½d. Green and Gold	1		
			(see also 48)
			Collateral Plate printing by de la Rue of the Georgian stamps, by A. H. Sydow
			3
			(see also 54)
			The last of the War Effort series (1½d.)
			5
			Army P.O.'s in Egypt
			5, 73, 123
			Used Coronations a good buy
			5, 102
			Export of "War Covers" banned by Censor
			17
			Pictorial postcards
			17
			Quantities of Stamps, etc., printed
			25, 61, 85, 122
			War Slogan Postmarks
			25, 48, 49, 73, 109, 123
			New Active Service Letter Cards
			26
			Varieties in the War Effort series
			26, 115, 123
			Postal Stationery, by Sam Legator
			27, 45, 65, 74
			London 2d. Pictorial, Comment by Stanley Phillips
			29
			Fakes current in Cape Town
			37
			Arrows of the various 2d. Rotogravure printings, by G. N. Gilbert
			37
			"Officials." A Classification and Check List, by A. Lichtenstein
			40
			(see also 49, 70)
			Shades of the 2/6 and 5/- denominations
			48
			"Bantams" (reduced size War Effort stamps)
			62, 73, 86, 102, 109, 121, 133
			"Officials," by C. H. Fouché
			70
			"Liberty Cavalcade" special postmark
			73
			Huguenot Commemorative Cover Collection
			87
			Cane Town 1919 Pigeon Post
			17, 102
			Collections presented to H.M. The King and to President Roosevelt
			109
			Errors in the 1½d. Bantam
			109, 133
			Airgraph service to and from Britain
			49, 109
			Paper saving on stamps, by S. C. W. Wareham
			115
			Varieties in the 1½d. small "gold mine" stamp
			121
			"Officials" in the S.G. 1942 catalogue, by S. C. W. Wareham
			127
			The Isolated Perforation in the King's head Roll stamps, by H. E. Lobdell
			134
			United States of America
			Postmarks of Oversea Bases
			84
			The 3c blue of 1869, by E. Tamsen
			117
			Vrvburg issues, by Stephen G. Rich
			76
			Comments thereon, by A. A. Jurgens
			88, 127
			AUTHOR INDEX.
			Basden, A. E.
			The Otto Plates of the Transvaal
			63
			Transvaal Reprints
			92
			Comments on O.F.S. No. 76 Double Overprint
			110
			Telegraph stamps of South Africa
			136
			Dann, H. C. Francetown and Lobatsi postmarks
			111
			Fouché, C. E. Union "Officials"
			70
			Freund, K. A Mafeking Bogus variety.
			38
			(see also 69)
			Period of issue of Mafeking stamps
			141

THE SOUTH AFRICAN PHILATELIST.

Gagel, E. E. "Rust," The bugbear of Tropical Philately	31	Pirie, J. H. Harvey and A. Watson. Anglo-Boer War: Prisoner of War Camp Marks	104, 116
Gilbert, G. N. Union Rotogravure 2d.—Different Arrows	37	Rich, Stephen G. O.F.S. Numeral and Letter Cancellations	29
Hurt, E. F. "Rust"—A Warning	80	Vryburg Issues	76
Rhodesian Private Posts	103	Can these (O.F.S. No. 76) Overprints be Handstruck?	98
Back to the Fold "Pan-Philately"	129	Simenhoff, L. "Barbara Jurgens" Cape Postal History Collection	124
Jurgens, A. A. Unrecorded Correspondence in connection with the first issue and with the Edwardian issue of the Cape	100	Sydow, A. Hilton Collateral Plate Printing by de la Rue of the Union Georgian stamps	3
The Study of Postmarks (special reference to Bechuanaland)	67	(see also 54) Notes anent Engravers of the Master Dies of certain of the stamps of Southern Africa	64
Comments on Rich's "Vryburg Issues"	88, 127	Tamsen, Emil Transvaal Reprints	57
Cape Woodblocks, Type 1b	114	U.S.A., 1869, 3c blue	117
"Made to Order" Covers	138	Tunstall, W. Tanganyika Travelling Post Offices	106
Legator, Sam. Postal Stationery of the Union of South Africa	27, 45, 65, 74	Plate numbers of the stamps of Kenya, Uganda, Tanganyika	137
Lichtenstein, A. Union "Officials." A Classification and Check List	40	Wager, H. A. Politics and Philately in Australia	20
Lobdell, H. E. Union King's Head Rolls: The Isolated Perforation and the Method of Production	134	Wareham, S. C. W. Varieties of the large Union 1½d. "Mine Dump" stamp	1
Mosely, E. Comments on O.F.S. No. 76 Double Overprints	111	Paper saving in Union stamps	115
Munk, Dr. H. Article on German South-West Africa in Kohl's Handbook, translated by J. H. Harvey Pirie	9, 18, 33, 51	"Officials" in S.G. 1942 catalogue	127
Obermeyer, A. P. History of the Pretoria Philatelic Society	14	O.F.S. V.R.I. 1d. purple handstruck double overprint	142
Pirie, J. H. Harvey. O.F.S. Numeral Postmarks	69	Watson, Andrew and J. H. Harvey Pirie. Anglo-Boer War: Prisoner of War Camp Marks	104, 116

The
SOUTH AFRICAN PHILATELIST

Published Monthly by the Philatelic Federation of Southern Africa

All Rights of Reproduction Reserved.

Hon. Editor—J. H. Harvey Pirie, P.O. Box 7012, Johannesburg.

Hon. Business Manager—William Redford, P.O. Box 7012, Johannesburg.

COMMUNICATIONS :

Business and Advertising to be addressed to:
William Redford, Broadcast House, Commissioner St., Johannesburg.

SUBSCRIPTION: 5s. per annum post free to any part of the world.

CORRESPONDENCE: The columns of this Journal are open to correspondence on subjects of Philatelic Interest. In particular, the Editor, will be pleased to receive information regarding new issues, discoveries of errors and varieties, etc.

ADVERTISING TARIFF :

1 Page	£3 0 0 per insertion	¼ Page	0 10 0 per insertion
½ Page	1 12 6 per insertion	1/16 Page	0 6 0 per insertion
¼ Page	0 17 6 per insertion		

Less 5 per cent. for 6 insertions. Less 10 per cent. for 12 insertions.

Small Prepaid Advertisements: 2d. per word per insertion.

The SOUTH AFRICAN PHILATELIST

Proprietors and Publishers :

The Philatelic Federation of Southern Africa

Honorary Editor: Dr. J. H. HARVEY PIRIE, P.O. Box 7012, Johannesburg.
Honorary Business Manager: WILLIAM REDFORD, Broadcast House, Commissioner
Street, Johannesburg.

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

Vol. 18. No. 1.

JANUARY, 1942.

Whole No. 202.

1½d. GREEN AND GOLD

Colour.

An interesting point has been raised in a letter received from Mr. R. A. Cooper about the correct designation of the central colouring of the Union 1½d. mine dump stamp, both the former large stamp and the present smaller sized one. His letter is rather long to publish in full, but his main contention is that the difference between the original "bright" gold stamp and the "dull" gold of the last printing of the large stamp and of the present small one is quantitative rather than qualitative.

In support of his view he states that if the present stamp is rubbed firmly with something smooth and hard, a shiny surface can be produced almost like that of the original bright gold stamps. This can be confirmed easily by anyone. He also states that examination of a cut surface of the "dull" gold under a strong magnifying glass, or low power of a microscope, shows metallic flakes to be present.

He suggested that chemical tests should be made to ascertain whether gold was present in the two varieties of colour, and in what proportions. A simpler method of getting at the truth seemed to be a request to the postal authorities, and the following reply, dated 20th December, 1941, has courteously been received from the Postmaster-General to an enquiry:

"It is desired to advise you that the first issue of this denomination was printed with pure bronze ink, which consisted of varnish and bronze lining. Later a small proportion of orange pigment was added to improve the printing quality.

"Since the outbreak of war, it has been impossible to obtain bronze lining and the proportion of orange pigment has therefore been increased. This explains the dull appearance of the gold.

"The next supply of these stamps will contain no bronze whatsoever, but the colour will be a yellowish brown pigment.

"The bronze lining is not pure gold. It may vary in composition according to the source of supply."

Varieties of Large Stamps.

Following are notes by Mr. S. C. W. Wareham on the large 1½d.:

In August, 1939, by way of ordinary supplies for Union Post Offices, 111,800 sheets of the 1½d. value (gold and green) were printed, the cylinder being, int. No. 6,933 and ext. 62—probably the originals. (Reference for the purpose of this note, Printing A).

In February, 1940, we find that a small quantity (31,000 sheets) were printed from new cylinders, int. No. 62 and ext. No. 15, which are known to have been also in *gold* and *green*. (Reference for the purpose of this note, Printing B).

Between August and October, 1940, a further 344,900 sheets were printed from these same new cylinders (62 int. 15 ext.), but the colour was changed to what one can for comparison conveniently call *brown* and *green*. (Reference for the purpose of this note, Printing C).

I wonder just how many "Union" collectors realise the significance of the foregoing data when considered as a whole and not as individual items.

Let me elaborate.

Printing A, the well known gold and green 1½d. stamp of past years, was printed in 10 rows of 6 stamps, had a perfectly plain margin, and had three major defects: Broken Chimney (Row 11, No. 6), Broken Frame (Row 13, No. 2), and Semaphore or Signal (Row 20, No. 2).

Printing B was also printed in 10 rows of 6 stamps in gold and green, but with 4 green arrows in the margin at the middle of all four sides (in this manner conforming to the practice adopted in printing the ½d., 1d., 2d., 3d., 4d., 6. and 1/- values) and had one defect, a green vertical line (Row 3, No. 5).

Printing C had the same form, the same green arrows, the same defect in Row 3, No. 5, but was printed in brown and green.

Of printing B (the small issue in gold and green from the new cylinders), there exists only two complete sheets, one item of four arrow blocks and an item of a single arrow block, without doubt as rare items as one could imagine.

It should be remembered by seekers of these rare stamps, that there are only six items in each sheet which, when exhibited as single items, can be *positively* identified as being of the rare printing. They are:

- Stamps showing bright gold and green—
1. Green arrow in top margin.
 2. Green arrow in lower margin.
 3. Green arrow in left hand margin.
 4. Green arrow in right hand margin.
 5. Bottom left hand pair with margins showing absence of Semaphore or Signal.
 6. Row No. 5, No. 3, showing green line (must have margins to establish position).

(Item 4 will show absence of Broken Chimney, Row 11, No. 6).

Only 17 identifiable items of this printing are known at present to exist, including the 12 contained in the two complete sheets. Can the reader find any others?

I am of opinion that used copies would be more rare than mint.

Further remarks anent the above stamps are contained in "The South African Philatelist" of December, 1940, page 189.

References:—The Govt. Printer's report in "The South African Philatelist" of June, 1939, September, 1940, and December, 1940.

TRANSVAAL REMAINDERS AND REPRINTS.

In a recent issue of the *Philatelic Magazine* the Rev. H. J. A. McKee defends the firm of Enschede against the accusation made by E. Tamsen in that magazine in 1934. On the face of it, it seems highly improbable that a firm of their reputation would stoop to the tricks of Otto with Transvaal stamps. They quite frankly admit selling remainders of the issues of 1885-1900 to a dealer in Paris, and it seems to be generally agreed that there are in existence many reprints made from the same plates. The only inference possible seems to be that surreptitious printings were made from the plates by some employee before the plates were destroyed. This is the view held by Messrs. Curle and Basden.

There are also numerous forgeries of the V.R.I and E.R.I. overprints on these reprints. The most obvious difference between the originals and the reprints is that the genuine stamps were perforated with a comb machine so that the lines of perforation never cross and the intersections are perfect; the reprints were perforated with a single line machine and the lines of perforation often cut into each other at the intersections. The difference may be noticeable on single stamps when the corner perfs are uneven, but it is most readily observed in blocks of four.

N. RHODESIA.

At a highly successful auction sale of Postage Stamps held on 8th December, 1941, by the Copperbelt Philatelic Society (of Nkana) at Mr. W. A. Odgers' residence, Kitwe, the sum of £69 16s. was raised for War funds. Sixty-nine lots of stamps were presented by the members of the Society and others interested. Refreshments were given by Mrs. W. A. Odgers.

The money has been divided between the "Bombed Babies of Britain" Fund and "Mrs. Churchill's Russian Red Cross" Fund.

The Copperbelt Philatelic Society would like to express its appreciation to all those who supported this effort.

IDAR.

Scotia Monthly Journal reports a new stamp issuing territory, the Indian feudatory state of Idar, or Jdar as it is spelt on the one and only stamp so far issued, a ½d. stamp with the portrait of the Maharajah Shree Himmat.

COLLECTORS' WANTS AND OFFERS

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

Orange Free State.—Approval selections wanted. Must be fine, well-centred copies.

William Redford, Box 7012, Johannesburg.

Transvaal in particular and old Southern Africans generally, wanted by:

A. E. Basden, Box 238, Pretoria.

For Quality and Variety—Globe Packets.—Extensive price lists free. Serious collectors write for finest approval books of your country. References.

Globe Postage Stamp Company, 117 Longmarket Street, Cape Town.

Wanted.—Many items in Foreign Colonials, French, German, Italian, Spanish, Dutch Belgian Danish, Portuguese; all issues up to 1933 (inclusive). Mint for preference.

E. Hunt, Box 2437, Johannesburg.

Wanted.—Imperforate Issues of all countries (both scarce and common). Cape pre-stamp covers.

G. Carleton Jones, F.R.P.S.L., Box 1167, Johannesburg.

COLLATERAL PLATE PRINTING BY DE LA RUE AND COMPANY, LTD. OF THE UNION GEORGIAN STAMPS

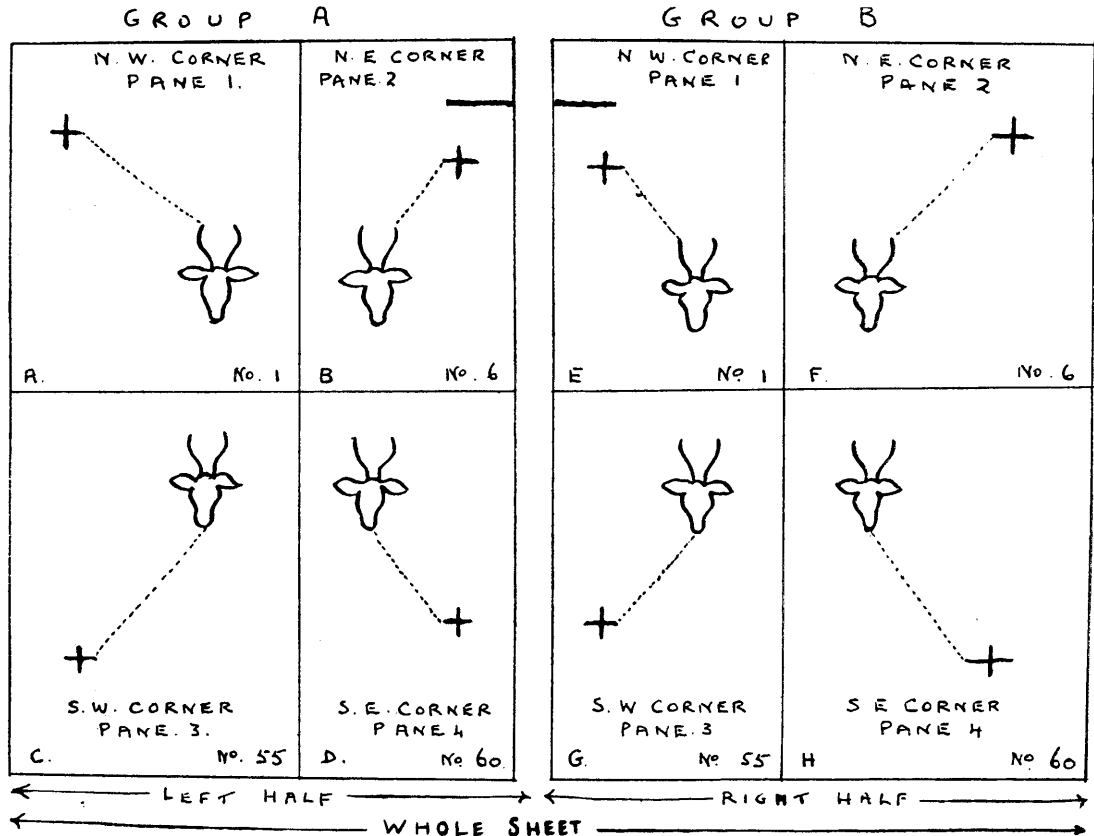
By A. HILTON SYDOW, A.S.A.A., C.A.(S.A.), M.R.P.S.L.

The Union Georgian stamps were issued in sheets each of which consisted of 240 stamps divided into four panes of 60. Each issue sheet contained 240 watermarks, one per stamp, of the familiar springbok head design, together with six pointers, viz.:—+. Four of these pointers appeared as follows per issue sheet:—One each in the NW, NE, SW and SE corners of each sheet obliquely above or below stamps No. 1-Pane 1, No. 6-Pane 2, No. 55-Pane 3, and No. 60-Pane 4, respectively. The other two pointers appeared on the left and right margins, respectively, opposite the decorative pillars in the middle of the sheet between the upper and lower panes on the issue sheets of the ½d., 1d., 1½d., 2d., 1s., 1s. 3d. and £1 denominations, and in similar positions opposite the blank margins between panes on the issue sheets of the 2½d., 3d., 3½d., 4d., 6d., 2s. 6d., 5s., 10s. denominations.

When the top margins of the sheets are widely trimmed two more watermarks are

found thus:—A horizontal line about 7 mm. above the pointer in the NE corner of Group A, and another horizontal line about 7 mm. above the pointer in the NW corner of Group B as per my rough sketch hereunder. These two watermarked lines extend to the right and to the left, respectively, to the edges of the sheets. I own a NE corner of the 1½d. denomination plate 1 with the watermark line extending to the right edge of the sheet, and a NW corner of the 1½d. denomination plate 2 with the watermark line extending to the left edge of the sheet. Incidentally it would thus seem that the two said watermark lines originally appeared as a whole line on a whole sheet which contained 480 springbok head watermarks and that 480 stamps were printed in two panels of 240 stamps each, one panel printed from Plate 1 and the other from Plate 2.

Examination of a large number of corner blocks of stamps with plate numbers attach-



ed of all denominations, housed in Mr. L. Simenhoff's Union Collection and in my own Union Collection, revealed variations in the distances between the pointers and the nearest watermarks to the pointers, as well as variations in the locations on the sheets of the pointers. These will be observed from the sketch below. Eight different variations were discovered which are shown in two groups of four each, marked A and B.

The late Fred Melville wrote:—"The paper-maker who produces stamp paper has to take elaborate precautions to secure the correct register when cutting up his reels into sheets, for if the paper be not correctly cut, exactly square and with the watermark devices properly centred, the printed impression and the watermark device, instead of coinciding, get out of register. The paper-maker provides for this by pointing the paper in the watermark. If you examine a large sheet of stamp paper, composed of two or more panes, you will generally find the pointers shaped like a cross + in the watermark, indicating the cutting line, which shows where the guillotine is to descend to divide the paper at these 'points' into sheets."

Thus the pointers found on the sheets of Union Georgian stamps were provided for the purpose described by the late Fred Melville. From my sketch it is obvious that four sets of pointers were provided for vertical cutting of the sheets. Why four sets? Because the paper-makers' sheets were double the size of the printers' issue sheets. The former contained 480 watermarks and the latter 240 watermarks. I have therefore divided the pointers into two groups. Group A for a 240 set plate, and Group B for a second 240 set plate for use side by side for sheets of 480 stamps.

The following summary shows the allocation of the eight types ABCD of Group A and EFGH of Group B found on the corner blocks of stamps with plate numbers attached, which I have examined anent the four lowest denominations.

I am indebted to Mr. S. C. W. Wareham for kindly checking up all his control corners and for advising me that his findings agree exactly with my summaries, and for locating the no nick "G" corner asterisked in my summary.

The blanks opposite the first no nick will probably be found to be ABCD group, but I have not yet located such corners.

	Plate	NW	NE	SW	SE
Value.	No.	Corner.	Corner.	Corner.	Corner.
½d.	1	E	F	G	H
	2	—	B	—	D
	3	A	B	C	D
	4	E	F	G	H
	5	A	B	C	D
	6	E	F	G	H
	7	E	F	G	H

1d.	No Nick	—	—	—	—
	No Nick	E	—	G*	H
	One Nick	A	B	C	D
	Two Nicks	E	F	G	H
	3	A	B	C	D
	4	E	F	G	H
	5	A	B	C	D
	6	E	F	G	H
	7	A	B	C	D
1½d.	1	A	B	C	D
	2	E	F	G	H
2d.	1	E	F	G	H
	2	A	B	C	D

The following summary shows the allocation of the different types found on corner blocks from the 2½d. to the £1 denominations.

2½d.	1	A	B	C	D
		E	F	G	H
3d. (B O)	1	A	B	C	D
		E	F	G	H
3d. (B B)	1	A	B	C	D
		E	F	G	H
4d.	1	A	B	C	D
		E	F	G	H
6d.	1	A	B	C	D
		E	F	G	H
1/-	1	A	B	C	D
		E	F	G	H
1/3	1	A	B	C	D
		E	F	G	H
2/6	1	A	B	C	D
		E	F	G	H
5/-	1	A	B	C	D
		—	—	G	—
10/-	1	A	—	C	D
		—	F	—	—
£1	1	—	B	—	D
		—	—	G	—

Before printing operations the printers bisected each of the paper-makers' sheets which contained 480 watermarks into two printers' sheets of 240 watermarks each, i.e., a left half and a right half, which I have designated Group A and Group B, respectively. The left halves and right halves were utilised for printing all the denominations from 2½d. to £1, vide my second summary which shows, e.g., that the 2½d. is found printed on sheets

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
(except recent issues)

and can generally offer most stamps of a want list, however difficult. Let us know your requirements. We never worry with unwanted selections.

BRIDGER & KAY, Ltd.,
86 Strand, London, W.C.2, England.

falling under Group A, ABCD, and Group B, EFGH.

Anent the ½d., 1d., 1½d. and 2d. denominations the printers bisected each of the paper-makers' 480 watermark sheets *after* printing operations into two issue sheets of 240 watermarks each, i.e., sheets of 480 stamps printed from two collateral plates. My first summary shows that all stamps printed from Plate 1 of the 1½d. value were printed on left half sheets falling under Group A, ABCD, whilst all stamps printed from Plate 2 of the same value were printed on right half sheets falling under Group B, EFGH, etc. The plate positions on the bed of the printing machine, which incidentally I think was made by Payne and Co. (Otley), Limited, were as follows:—

Plate positions on bed of the machine during printing operations.

½d.		1d.	
Right Hand.	Left Hand.	Right Hand.	Left Hand.
1	2	No nick	No nick
4	3	2 nick	1 nick
6	5	4	3
7	5	6	5
		6	7

1½d.		2d.	
Right Hand.	Left Hand.	Right Hand.	Left Hand.
2	1	1	2

Some years ago I took the following note from either the "Quarterly Review of Philately" or the old "South African Philatelist," then borrowed from some person, that of the ½d. denomination Plates 1 and 2 were on sale from 1913-1916, Plates 3 and 4 from 1917-1919, Plates 5 and 6 from 1920-1924, and Plates 5 and 7 from 1924-1926.

I shall be very pleased if Mr. Wareham can inform our Hon. Editor of the positions of the pointers on his control blocks of four Plates 6 and 7 of the 1d. denomination without watermarks on the top rows thereof. I shall, also, be very pleased if other Union Collectors will examine their corner blocks and compare them with my summaries, especially the no plate number 1d. value without nicks or notches in the jubilee line understamp number 59 of the bottom right-hand corner which could be allocated to Group A, ABCD, as well as any other different findings from my summaries. I shall be grateful if such will be reported to our Hon. Editor.

S.W.A.

As was noted in our October issue the Union War stamps are being overprinted for use in South West Africa. The forme used is a new one, the letters being closer together than in previous overprints and there are no stops after the letters.

UNION WAR STAMPS.

The 1½d. stamp, which completes the war effort series, is being put on sale on 12th January, 1942. This stamp, printed in blue-green and in Afrikaans and English alternately, depicts the South African Air Force as represented by a reproduction of the portrait of Lieut. Bob Kershaw, painted by Capt. Neville Lewis, Lieutenant (now Captain) Kershaw, was the first South African airman to be decorated with the D.S.O. in this war.



NEWFOUNDLAND.

This country issued, on 1st December, a commemorative stamp honouring Sir Wilfrid Grenfell, founder of the mission at St. Anthony, for his long service to the people of Labrador and Northern Newfoundland.

AUSTRALIA.

Mr. R. Axer reports three new stamps appearing soon in Australia. The values are to be 2½d., 3½d. and 5½d., these being needed because of the increase in postal charges. Till they are ready the present 2d., 3d. and 5d. are to be overprinted with these new values.

ARMY P.O.'s IN EGYPT.

Mr. J. F. Fick reports a S. African mark (APO—U—MPK) No. 33 from Egypt.

To the "Egypt/Postage Prepaid" list given in last month's issue there can now be added Nos. 4, 17, 30, 31, 34, 37, 55, 57, 61, 63, 65, 72, 99, 100 and 104.

He also notes "Field Post Office" Nos. 186 and 241 (? British Army).

MOZAMBIQUE.

It is understood that the Charter of the Mozambique Company comes to an end very soon. The probability is that the territory at present administered by the company will be taken over by the administration of Portuguese East Africa at Lourenco Marques and with this change the stamps of the company will disappear. It may happen, however, that there will be "remainders."

UNION CORONATIONS.

"The Seer of the Strand" in the October issue of the *Philatelic Journal of Great Britain* tips Union Coronations in fine used condition as the best thing of the month.

Early Postal and Telegraphic History of Johannesburg

By JAMES GRAY, F.I.C.

(Continued from page 137 of December issue).

To meet the postal requirements of Johannesburg, Van Alphen enquired if a postal depot were established at Klippportje, it would be possible to convey the letters from there to Johannesburg by means of a native runner. The road from Heidelberg to Pretoria passed through this farm. Postmaster Dormehl of Johannesburg considered the proposal feasible, and at the same time recommended the appointment of a post agent at Roodepoort, which would satisfy the needs of that farm as well as of Paardekraal and Vogelstruisfontein. He recommended a similar appointment at Klip River. Vogelstruisfontein, however, wanted a post agency at the drift known as "Helpmakaar" on this farm and a largely signed petition in support of this request was sent forward.

The Postmaster General, at the beginning of December, 1886, notified the State Secretary that he had received six signed petitions from various parts of the Witwatersrand asking for improved postal services. It was apparent that there must be more than one post office, and while he was of opinion that the best situated and most populated places should be chosen, he considered that he personally should investigate the position in order to enable him to select the most suitable places.

Among the resolutions which Von Brandis was asked to send forward to the Government, at the end of December, 1886, by the Diggers' Committee, was one asking for a telegraph line through the Goldfields and Potchefstroom.

Notwithstanding the rapid progress of Johannesburg, the Government would not consent to establish a daily post between there and Pretoria and to all requests which were sent

forward, from time to time over a long period, the Executive Council always refused. The reason put forward was that if such a concession were granted to Johannesburg all the other villages would claim similar treatment.

With such a cosmopolitan population as Johannesburg had, the increase in postal traffic can be appreciated readily. On days of the arrival of mail from other centres and overseas there was naturally congestion at the small post office where all business was conducted through a small window. Everyone was anxious to be served first and the result can be imagined.

The method of delivering the letters then appears to have been that the names, of those for whom letters had arrived, were called out in alphabetical order and each in turn claimed his letter. It was unfortunate if your name began with "A" and you arrived for your letters when the "B's" were being called.

The services rendered by Postmaster Dormehl evidently were appreciated greatly, as he endeavoured to meet the public in every way in carrying out the duties of his office. For example, it was reported in January, 1887, that during his absence the clerks closed the post office on Saturday at 4.30 p.m., and the public had to wait until Monday morning to collect their mail. On Saturday afternoon, diggers from the surrounding districts would come to Johannesburg to collect their letters and therefore by keeping the post office open a little longer in the afternoon Dormehl was rendering a valuable service.

The work of the postal department increased rapidly and the accommodation soon proved much too small for the efficient con-

Collectors of REALLY FINE BRITISH COLONIALS should get into touch with me AT ONCE

Selections of choice Mint or Used

AFRICANS, AUSTRALIAN STATES, NEW ZEALAND, WEST INDIANS, Etc., on approval to medium and advanced collectors. These books can be selected from at ONE-THIRD of Catalogue price. Also a choice lot of EDWARDIAN and GEORGIAN issues, Mint or Superb Used, at over 50% off Catalogue. REFERENCES ESSENTIAL.

J. BIRD 6 Westhill Rd. London S.W.18, England

duct of business. The post office was removed in March to a building opposite the Market Square and adjoining Hart and Henochberg's Store. This enabled an improvement to be made in the delivery of the letters, but it was still considered too slow to meet the requirements of the public.

Very shortly after this, about 100 private letter boxes were installed, and for those who were lucky enough to be able to rent one of these, the waiting for letters ceased.

About this time a decision to instal the telegraph was made and M. Rosettenstein and ninety-five others sent a petition, in April, 1887, to the Government asking that Mr. Sprawson, of the Pretoria Telegraph Office, who was known to be efficient in his work, should be appointed as manager, if only for a short time, in order to enable the office to be opened under the best auspices.

The necessary equipment for the telegraph office had been obtained and a building to house it was rented from R. G. Oekerse at £11 per month, with occupation from 16th April, and on 26th April Johannesburg came into telegraphic communication with all parts of South Africa.

Mr. Preston, who was in charge of the office at Johannesburg, sent the first telegram to the State Secretary, Pretoria. It was terse and to the point, "Johannesburg open." The second telegram was as follows: "Landdrost to the State Secretary—Congratulations to the Government from Landdrost and Mine Commissioner and other officials."

Further congratulatory telegrams were exchanged between "The Mining Argus," Johannesburg, and "De Volkstem," Pretoria, shortly after opening.

An interesting letter from John Jack to Isaac Van Alphen in May, 1887, regarding the appointment of a post agent at Elandsfontein incidently mentions that Jack had had surveyed on this farm a small township of 200 stands and named it Germiston. In the course of the letter it was mentioned that the residents had experienced very much inconvenience in getting letters and often spent hours waiting until their names were called over. Two candidates were mentioned as suitable for the appointment: S. Spilsbury and Charles Knox; the latter received the appointment.

At the end of June, 1887, serious complaints were made about the post office in Johannesburg. The building was too small and the postmaster and his staff were entirely inadequate to cope with the business, though they did their best. On arrival of the mail, the office was closed while the mail was being sorted, and this naturally caused grave inconvenience to the public.

A suggestion regarding the establishment of branch offices was put forward and another solution was the inauguration of a daily post between Johannesburg and Pretoria.

The agitation resulted in a speedy improvement, and measures were taken to erect a large iron building for a temporary post office and it was arranged to augment the staff.

A similar shortage of accommodation was being experienced at the telegraph office and the old post office was utilised for this branch of the postal service. Satisfaction was expressed with the way Preston carried out his duties.

To meet the requirements of the public the telegraph office up to this time had been open on Sundays for the transaction of business. C. K. von Trotsenburg, Head Manager of the Telegraph Department, suggested that in future the office should be closed on that day and that the alteration should be met by closing one hour later on Saturday and opening one hour earlier on Monday.

About 500 telegraph messages were delivered in Johannesburg daily, and in November five additional messengers were appointed, making a total of eight, as well as two additional clerks. Arrangements were made to enlarge this office and £90 was voted by the Executive Council for this purpose.

One can realise that this pressure of work played some part in the strike of the telegraphists which took place during December, 1887. The immediate cause of the strike is not very clear but it appears that the particulars of the monthly returns to the head office at Pretoria had not been sent in regularly for some time, and consequently the officials had been informed that until the returns were received their salaries would be withheld.

Shortly after the beginning of the month, a wire had been sent to Pretoria stating that the returns had been posted, on receipt of which information the salaries had been forwarded. Some delay took place in the arrival of the money, though they were informed by telegram of its despatch.

On the morning of the 8th December, 1887, fifteen of the seventeen members of the staff failed to report for duty and one of their number telegraphed that day to the State Secretary to the effect, that the telegraphists had stopped work because they had not been paid, and that they were unable to go on working from fourteen to twenty hours daily in an iron building.

Trotsenburg came over to Johannesburg immediately and was successful in coming to some agreement, because the following day the strikers returned to work, pending the decision of the Government. An agreement was placed before Trotsenburg which the strikers desired him to sign but he refused to do so. In this agreement they undertook to return to duty on condition that there was no victimisation, either present or future, and Trotsenburg was to bind himself to retain their services for three years if their conduct proved satisfactory. This agreement was to hold good while Trotsenburg remained in the service.

The decision of the Government was to dismiss immediately all those who had gone on strike and, to meet the immediate position, telegraphists were seconded from Barberton, Pretoria and Heidelberg to fill the vacancies. Twelve telegraphists were obtained later from Holland. Thus ended what appears to have been the first strike in Johannesburg.

J. Sivewright, who was in Johannesburg during this unfortunate episode, and who was well known in South Africa in connection with telegraphic matters, wrote to the Government offering his services in extending the telegraphic communications in the South African Republic.

The details of the beginnings of the postal and telegraphic services and the constant appeals made to the Government for more and more accommodation and staff show in a remarkable way the wonderfully rapid progress of Johannesburg.

There was a great increase in the work of the postal services of the Transvaal, and correspondence was received by the President and the Government from so many countries that it was necessary to obtain dictionaries in several languages.

A letter in English from Paris, 10th November, 1887, asked the President if he would kindly send the writer some cancelled stamps from the Transvaal, of several kinds, and some pressed ferns and grasses. The reply to this appeared to be to the effect that the Government regretted that the affairs of the country made it impossible to gather postage stamps and press ferns, nevertheless the State Secretary was instructed to send stamps to the value of threepence.

EAST AFRICAN ARMY POST MARKS.

Supplementing the information given in our issue of August, 1941, Mr. W. Tunstall sends from Kenya the following:

Type (b) Only Nos. 1 and 2 appear to exist.
Type (c) Nairobi marks Nos. 3, 4, 6 and 8.

No. 6 in black or violet. Also one with "Base, Registered" at the bottom.

Type (d) was an early mark, occurring as far back as 1939.

Type (f) Add Nos. 20, 57, 59, 63, 66, 67 and 75.

V FOR VICTORY

Several Canadian towns have adopted a V . . . - sign on their postmarks and in the U.S.A. several of the meter franking machines are using it. The Germans are reported as paying us the compliment of copying us by also using "VIKTORIA," with a specially large "V" on postmarks and in Norway it is stated that the ordinary stamps in use are being overprinted with a V.

CATALOGUES.

There is now a catalogue famine. Whitfield King is sold out; Gibbon's Simplified is out but has not reached South Africa yet; the large Gibbon's Part I is promised for some time in 1942. The Regent Supplement, including British Empire stamps issued up till September, 1941, has arrived. Some plan such as this catalogue is issued in, would appear to be the sound one for the future—one part for, say, pre-1930 issues, brought up to date as regards prices every two or three years, with supplements containing new issues every six months.

AMERICA-AFRICA AIR SERVICE.

A direct air mail service was inaugurated on 6th December between U.S.A. and Africa. Starting at Miami, stops are made in Trinidad, Brazil and West Africa, the terminus being at Leopoldville in Belgian Congo. From there a direct connection is available to the Union by S.A. Airways. To commence with there will only be two flights per month.

ABYSSINIA.

Three semi-postals are reported 25c+25c, 50c+50c and 1T+1T, but to have a complete set it is necessary to secure nine stamps as each value is issued in three styles: (1) Without any overprint; (2) with a small red cross overprint; (3) with a large red cross overprint.

Special New Year Offers:

NETH. EAST INDIES Bomber Fund, two values	1/-
CHINA Thrift issue 1941, 6 large pictls. cpl. mint	2/-
RUSSIA cpl. mint sheet of 100 x 3 kop. Currency Stamps. (SG No. 181)	20/-
LATVIA cpl. German Military Map with 228 Stamps. (SG No. 1)	32/6
LATVIA as above, but perforated. (SG No. 2)	32/6

Rapkin's Stamp Collectors' Atlas, 10 Maps with cpl. index of all stamp-issuing countries 2/6

All Post Free.

Approval selections available from Burma, Timor, the Philippines, Hawaii, Kedah a.o. Malay States, Macao, Borneo, Nauru, etc., etc.—on request, against references. No Lists, no quotations.

A. LICHTENSTEIN

P.O. Box 576,

BLOEMFONTEIN, O.F.S.



German South-West Africa

DR. HERBERT MUNK—KOHL'S HANDBOOK.

*Translated by Dr. J. H. Harvey Pirie and reprinted by kind permission from the
"Collectors Club Philatelist."*

(Continued from page 141 of December issue)

GERMAN STAMPS WITH OPT. A1 (Concluded)

In all these cases the 25 or 50 pf. stamps belonged to the museum printing not to the Berne printing, although, of course, one cannot exclude the possibility that stamps of these denominations and of the Berne printing might have been sent to the colony by some private individual and been postmarked, or even genuinely postally used there. If so, however, it would probably have been done at a somewhat earlier date. (Beware of subsequent cancellations by complaisance, in which no date is visible!)

We have seen (from different sources) two unsevered sheets of the 25 and 50 pf. denominations of the so-called Berne 1st issue, as well as several smaller blocks, but beyond these very few stamps of this printing have found their way into collections or have come on the market.

Single specimens of the 25 pf. Berne printing can be recognised by their characteristic pale orange colour and their very heavy overprint; the paper, moreover, has a yellowish tint, probably from the long storage. There are 25 pf. stamps of the museum printings of almost the same pale orange shade, but fortunately they can be distinguished by the fact that the overprint is fine or medium, not heavy.

The 25 pf. stamps of the museum printings are partly orange in colour, partly bright orange, reddish orange or even dark red orange; light and medium overprints seem to occur only on stamps of the first mentioned shade.

The 50 pf. stamps of the Berne printing have quite a distinct shade, differentiating them from most of those of the museum printings, which are partly reddish and partly pale reddish in tint. The distinction, however, is only certain by direct comparison and cannot be said to be unequivocal. The supplementary overprinted 50 pf. stamps may have medium overprints, but probably do not occur with really fine overprints.

Whilst the Imperial Postal Museum provided itself with remainders for museum purposes by having the supplementary printing of June, 1898, made, there were in the colony remainders with Opt. A1 waiting to be used up.

The 10, 20 and 50 pf. denominations of the next issue came into circulation in the latter part of 1898; the 3 and 5 pf. values only about the beginning of 1900. But a using-up of the

old issue, or of certain denominations thereof, was permitted for quite a long time at some postal establishments after the latter part of 1898 or beginning of 1899.

At Outjo, for example, according to Starke, right into 1899 there were still only stamps with Opt. A1 on sale (together with non-overprinted 50 pf. stamps); Khanrivier was still using 10 pf. stamps with Opt. A1 at the end of January, 1899 (for which reason 10 pf. stamps with Opt. A2 are very scarce with the Khanrivier postmark, as that office closed down in April, 1899); at Jakalswater the 5 pf. stamps with Opt. A1 were only used up at the end of July, 1899, and here the 50 pf. non-overprinted stamps were in use till well on in 1899, etc., etc.

The issue with Opt. A1 was declared invalid for postage on 31st October, 1901, at the same time as the next issue with Opt. A2.

GERMAN STAMPS WITH OPT. A2.

1898 (1st half of October), 1899. (For No. 9, see below). Stamps of the German Empire issue of 1889 overprinted steeply in black with the name of the territory of usage as before, but the overprint, A2, is a new one, Deutsch-Südwestafrika being spelt in two parts, instead of in three parts as in Overprint A1.

- Deutsch-
Südwestafrika**
- 5.—3 pf. (a) light brown, light yellow-brown (about beginning of 1900).
(b) (light) reddish brown
(c) (dark) brown
- 6.—5 pf. light green, green (about beginning of 1900)
- 7.—10 pf. rose-carmine, carmine (October, 1899). Bisects.
- 8.—20 pf. blue, pale blue (October, 1899)
- 9.—25 pf. orange (end of October, 1899), reddish orange (middle of 1900)
- 10—50 pf. chocolate brown, pale chocolate brown (October, 1899).

After the change in the spelling of the overprint had been decided upon (probably to be in conformity with the spelling in use at the Foreign Office) the State Printing Office on 14th June, 1898, submitted for approval to the Imperial Post Office two sheets each of all the six values (six stamps in each sheet). Nothing is known of the final fate of one sheet of each denomination, except that it did *not* go back to the State Printing Office with the approval note. We found in the Elster collection a set of stamps of 5, 10, 20, 25

and 50 pf. denominations (the 25 being dark orange in colour) which, unlike any of the issued stamps, had the overprint diagonally instead of being steeply inclined—it seems not unlikely that these stamps came from the missing proof-blocks (there are no similar specimens in the Imperial Postal Museum).

If that supposition be correct the proof-blocks of Opt. A2 would have had diagonal overprints just as the strips-of-five proofs of the first issue had Opt. A1 diagonally as against the steeper overprint on the definitely issued stamps.

About the end of 1899, ostensibly because of forged overprints appearing, there were so-called proofs made in blocks of 2 x 10 of almost all denominations, in which the overprints of 10 Protectorates were all overprinted together, just as in the case of the real proofs in strips of five of January, 1897. In these blocks (which likewise reached the public in small numbers, through the Imperial Postal Museum) the stamps with the overprint Deutsch-Südwestafrika occur with Deutsch-Neu-Guinea on the left, Samoa on the right and Togo vertically. These subsequently made blocks have nothing whatever to do with the production of the issue itself, however. (See *Deutsch-Neu-Guinea*, pp. 134-5).

The first printing was handed over from the State Printing Office on 20 July, 1898, and on the 22nd a first consignment with Opt. A2 was already on its way to G.S.W.A.

According to Ohrt the 10 and 50 pf. denominations (the latter of which directly superseded 50 pf. stamps without overprint) were first put on sale at Windhoek in October, 1898; according to the same authority the new 20 pf. stamps were only put into circulation in December, 1898, although Friedemann says they also were given out in October. The 3 pf. and 5 pf. values were first sold about the beginning of 1900. At the smaller postal establishments particular denominations were only gradually brought into use as required; but 3 pf. stamps were only issued to the individual office for the first time during the course of 1899.

25 pf. stamps.—This denomination, which so far had never been sent officially to G.S.W.A., because there was no real need for that particular value, was not included in the July, 1898, sending from Germany, as it had not been indented for from Windhoek.

In August, 1899, the "Germania-Ring" (a large collectors' club) intimated to Imp. P.O. III in Berlin that it wished to purchase large numbers of certain stamps in the colonies and in its "want list" included 800 of the 25 pf. value of G.S.W.A., to be used for franking registered printed matter such as the club's publications. (Before the opening of the so-called "Colonial Counter" in Berlin this method of ordering stamps was in vogue amongst dealers and others and such bespeak orders were usually executed by the postal administration as they prevented any sudden using up of any particular denomination in the colony).

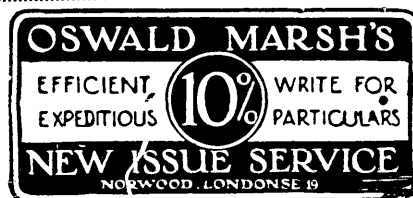
The 25 pf. stamps for this order (see *Germania-Berichte*, Vol. II, p. 183) were printed in the first half of September, 1899, and reached Windhoek on 26th October, 1899. Through some circumstances, however, the stamps were not delivered by the Director of Posts in Windhoek to the representative of the Germania-Ring but to some entirely different person, who, later, obligingly sold back a small batch of them to the Director of Posts. None of these 800 stamps were sold over the counter in the ordinary way of business, but undoubtedly genuinely used specimens of them are known, dated 1.11.99 and in February, 1900, the Director of Posts himself franked a number of registered letters with the stamps which he had bought back. These covers, each with a 25 pf. and a 5 pf. stamp, were sent by him to a friend in Hamburg-Einsbüttel and in this way the 25 pf. stamps did do genuine postal duty. A number of these covers soon afterwards came on to the market through the Hamburg addressee.

In the first half of 1900 a further 3,000 stamps were indented for, partly at Windhoek for the Germania-Ring, and partly at Keetmanshoop for a Hamburg dealer. These orders were accepted and the requisite numbers of stamps sent to the respective post offices, but again, apparently through some rivals' machinations, the stamps seem to have found their way into the possession of others than the representatives of those ordering them.

However, in consequence of the frequent enquiries for 25 pf. stamps, both in Berlin and in the colony, the postal administration in Windhoek itself asked for them and in June, 1900, they were definitely put on sale over the counter in Windhoek, and at a slightly later date in Keetmanshoop. No. 9 can therefore be reckoned as genuinely issued for general use in the middle of 1900.

Although in succeeding months further large lots of 25 pf. stamps were ordered by dealers and speculators, the issue of this value (whose sending to and employment in the colony from beginning to end served only philatelic ends) remained a comparatively small one and prices for specimens have remained consistently high. The first 800 specimens sent officially to Windhoek in the latter part of 1899, can be distinguished from the later printings, according to the *Germania-Berichte*, by their very fine overprint.

(To be continued)



Society News

PRETORIA PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

President, A. E. Basden; Hon. Secretary, H. A. Wager. P.O. Box 514. Meetings, 1st and 3rd Mondays, 8 p.m., Technical College.

December 1.—Mr. Hawke read some interesting philatelic extracts. It was announced that Mr. Carleton Jones had kindly offered to repeat his visit to our society.

Dr. Broughton gave a talk on Turkey. He pointed out that foreign countries usually offered a great deal of interest in the collection of their stamps. Turkey, after its very varied history, was now becoming a modern civilised nation. The stamps of Turkey are of great interest and a good representative collection can easily be made. After the first issue, the stamps for a long period were only issued bearing some kind of overprint usually in Turkish characters. Many commemorative sets have been issued from time to time. His talk was accompanied by a fine display of the stamps of Turkey.

December 15.—Mr. Hawke read an interesting article on War Issues.

The President, Mr. Basden, entertained the members with a talk on Brazil—his favourite foreign country. Brazil is the largest single country in the world and he gave a brief geographical account of it. Its productions, mineral resources, etc., are almost unbounded. The chief point about its philatelic history was the infinite variety of its cork cancellations and Mr. Basden first showed a wonderful catalogue of these cancellations and then tabled what must be an almost complete collection of them. This exhibition was much appreciated.

H.A.W.

NYASALAND STAMP CLUB.

Chairman, A. J. Storey. Hon. Secretary, L. J. Davidson, Limbe P.O. Meetings, 2nd Mondays, 5 p.m. Tobacco Auction Floors, Limbe. Visitors and Collectors always welcome.

10th November, 1941.

Members "Five" Minutes.—Mr. W. Frankish read a paper on how he had become interested in stamp collecting, how the Club had helped if not edged him along, even to insisting on him entertaining members for "five" minutes; his witty remarks drew hearty all round applause and a chorus of "thank you," Mr. Frankish.

Exchanges.—A wide selection of Approvals and exchange books were available, sales and exchanges were good.

8th December, 1941.

Obituary.—It is with deep regret we have to record the death of our President and Foundation Member, Mr. A. J. Storey; members expressed their deep sympathy to his relatives in their sad loss, and ours. Mr. Storey was amongst the oldest and best known collectors in Nyasaland and will be missed by us all.

Members "Five" Minutes.—Mrs. I. Wilcox gave a very interesting paper on the earliest records of the use of Postage stamps, with dates and events of interest up to and after the first use of the 1d. Black adhesive stamp of Great Britain in 1840, and the growth of stamp collecting as a hobby through the years, to the great pastime and study it has become to the world to-day, affording an intellectual pastime to young and old. Mrs. Wilcox was heartily applauded.

News Items.—Mr. Farquhar read some items of interest and passed his Stamp Journals round. Mr. Stevens gave details of Stamp talks that can be heard on the air from America at 7.45 p.m. Thursdays on 16 meters, and mentioned he had listened to many of interest.

L.J.D.

EAST RAND PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

President, Mrs. Woods; Hon. Sec., F. N. Rigg, 103 Kenston Avenue, Benoni; Meetings, 3rd Tuesdays, 8 p.m., Hotel Regent, Benoni.

At our December meeting there was a very good attendance. We had the pleasure of having Mr. Chamberlain with us from the Natal Philatelic Society.

The news of the month was given by Mr. Suklje. Exhibits for the meeting.—Firstly, Mr. Gutsche's Transvaal stamps starting with the first Republic, then Queen's Heads following with second Republic issues with various overprints and complete sets of King Edward issues to the values of £1 and £5, finally stamps of Pieterburg.

Mr. Rigg then exhibited a few pages of Natal, followed by a collection of St. Heiena from the 1884 issue down to King George VI.

Mr. Shepherd exhibited a portion of his South-West African collection, starting with German stamps, the Union of South Africa with various flaws and omissions of the overprints, finally definitive issues up to the £1 value, with all the Jubilee, Coronation, Voortrekker Centenary and Huguenot stamps.

E.N.R.

PHILATELIC SOCIETY OF NATAL.

President, P. C. Bishop; Hon. Sec., G. Milner Palmer, P.O. Box 588, Durban; Meetings, 1st Wednesdays, Durban Publicity Bureau, West Street.

Our meeting of December 3 was well attended. The admission to membership of Mrs. V. Mann was confirmed and there were four further applications from prospective members before the meeting.

Following the usual auction by Mr. Maskell members enjoyed a sight of Mr. C. B. Riches' collection of Ceylon, which is rich in the early "pence" issues and appears to have been considerably expanded since it was last shown. Mr. Riches is a firm believer in cellophane "pochettes" and has all his rarer specimens encased in these, believing that if the moisture-resisting type of cellophane is used all danger of rust is averted. A tribute to his fine display was voiced, in behalf of the members, by Mr. V. B. Crockett.

Now that fewer booklets from overseas members are forthcoming some difficulty in maintaining the regular service of our exchange packets is experienced. The President made an urgent appeal to members to co-operate with Mr. J. Lyle, exchange superintendent, in keeping the packets up to standard.

G.M.P.

CAPE TOWN PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

President, M. Rothkugel; Hon. Sec., K. Cameron, 9 Pineway, Pinelands, Cape. Meetings, 2nd and 4th Thursdays, Medical House, 35 Wale Street, Cape Town, at 8 p.m.

27th November.—Mr. S. Kaganson exhibited a fine collection of King George VI stamps. The collection itself was in mint condition and practically complete, including even the recent colour changes, while added thereto several used sets were also displayed.

11th December.—The feature of the evening was the exhibit by Dr. R. Follen of portion of his very fine collection of Switzerland stamps.

Although, as was pointed out by Dr. Follen, this was not intended by him to be a specialised collection, it was nevertheless highly representative of that country and special mention should be made of an excellent item of the Cantonal Administration, Zurich, considered to be a rarity.

Amongst other items that might call for special mention were the almost complete range of the attractive Child Welfare stamps.

Some interesting discussion arose over the presence of different threads in the paper and the varieties of paper of the stamps of 1854-62. Mr. R. Axer was able to give some useful information thereon.

The chairman reported that a donation of 50 lots of stamps for sale on behalf of the Govern-

General's fund was forthcoming from an anonymous donor. These would be put up for auction at the next meeting of the Society, which is to be held on the 22nd January, 1942. No other lots will be auctioned then so as to give the full benefit towards the sale of those stamps.

A considerable number of lots were auctioned at the abovementioned meetings and bidding was brisk.

This Society tenders Seasonal Greetings to all kindred Societies and best wishes for a speedy return to happier times.

E.C.S.

SOME BRITISH EMPIRE CHANGES.

Barbados.—The current green $\frac{1}{2}$ d. is changing colour to buff-brown (*Gibbon's Stamp Monthly*).

Fiji.—Another 2d. is in preparation, showing the Government office instead of a map. The present 2d. is an amended design and will thus have only a short life (*Gibbon's Stamp Monthly*).

Malaya.—Colour changes are reported for some values of practically all the Malayan States.

Great Britain.—The 2d. lighter shade was put on sale on 6th October, and the 3d. on 3rd November.

Malta.—The six low denominations ($\frac{1}{2}$ d.-3d.) are to appear in new colours soon.

Palestine.—New high values are announced to appear soon; 250m. brown, 300m red, and £P1 indigo.

Seychelles.—Some of the recently issued stamps have been printed on a paper which is quite white at the back (in contrast to the slightly yellow paper previously in use). On

this paper the gum is unsuitable and the stamps are very apt to stick to each other (Whitfield King and Co.).

Solomon Islands.—A 10s. stamp is to be added to the current issue; design as in the 4 $\frac{1}{2}$ d.

Somaliland.—The rupee values of the new issue have been despatched.

Sudan.—The full set of the India-printed river scene stamps is now on sale. There are 14 denominations: 1 mil. to 10 pi., the piastre values being in a larger format than the others.

POLISH STAMPS.

Following up the information given in last month's issue, we are now informed that the set of eight Polish stamps were to be put in issue at the beginning of December. The values, etc., are 5 gr., violet, ruined U.S.A. embassy (illustrated last month); 10 gr., bright green, ruined Ministry of Finance; 25 gr., grey, deliberate destruction of Mickiewicz monument by Germans; 55 gr., royal blue, Castle Square in Warsaw seen through bombed ruins; 75 gr., olive green, machine-gun post; 80 gr., magenta, Polish tanks in Britain; 1zl., aeroplanes with British and Polish markings; 1ZL 50, brown madder, submarine "Orzel" (illustrated last month).

By arrangement with the British postal authorities, it will be possible on certain days for Polish military units in Britain to post their mails on Polish ships.

The SOUTH AFRICAN PHILATELIST

Published Monthly by the Philatelic Federation of Southern Africa

All Rights of Reproduction Reserved.

Hon. Editor—J. H. Harvey Pirie, P.O. Box 7012, Johannesburg.

Hon. Business Manager—William Redford, P.O. Box 7012, Johannesburg.

COMMUNICATIONS :

Business and Advertising to be addressed to:
William Redford, Broadcast House, Commissioner St., Johannesburg.

SUBSCRIPTION: 5s. per annum post free to any part of the world.

CORRESPONDENCE: The columns of this Journal are open to correspondence on subjects of Philatelic Interest. In particular, the Editor, will be pleased to receive information regarding new issues, discoveries of errors and varieties, etc.

ADVERTISING TARIFF :

1 Page	£3 0 0 per insertion	½ Page	0 10 0 per insertion
½ Page	1 12 6 per insertion	¼ Page	0 6 0 per insertion
¼ Page	0 17 6 per insertion		

Less 5 per cent. for 6 insertions. Less 10 per cent. for 12 insertions.

Small Prepaid Advertisements: 2d. per word per insertion.

The SOUTH AFRICAN PHILATELIST

Proprietors and Publishers :

The Philatelic Federation of Southern Africa

Honorary Editor: Dr. J. H. HARVEY PIRIE, P.O. Box 7012, Johannesburg.
Honorary Business Manager: WILLIAM REDFORD, Broadcast House, Commissioner
Street, Johannesburg.

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

Vol. 18. No. 2.

FEBRUARY, 1942.

Whole No. 203.

Editorial

THE BLACK FOURPENNY CAPE.

Readers may remember that in our issue of September last year Mr. Emil Tamsen (whom, incidentally, we had the pleasure of seeing in town a few weeks ago looking as sprightly and youthful as ever despite his fourscore years) dealt with the imaginative theory put forward in America by Mr. S. Bird that these stamps were merely identifying labels put on the printer's stamp packages. He suggested that we should get in touch with Messrs. Perkins, Bacon and Co. and not Messrs. Bradbury, Wilkinson and Co. to see if official denial or corroboration of Mr. Bird's theory (which was merely based on analogy with the black Cretan stamps and not on any ascertained facts) could be obtained.

This has been done through the kind co-operation of the Hon. Sec. of the Royal Philatelic Society, to whom our thanks are due. Unfortunately the replies from these firms do not so far advance our knowledge one way or the other.

Messrs. Bradbury, Wilkinson and Co. state that they had nothing to do with the printing of the Cape triangulars, but that in any case it has never been their practice to have black reproductions on any packages of stamps for any Government.

Messrs. Perkins, Bacon, Ltd., regret they can give no reply as their records and plant were wiped out in May last, and the man most likely to remember or to have knowledge of the matter is at present in the Royal Navy.

They have promised, however, to try and get in touch with him. Certain of Messrs. Perkins, Bacon and Co.'s records are in the possession of the Royal Philatelic Society and

were being worked up by the late Mr. Percy de Worms. It is just possible that some light may come from that source. In any case, at the present moment we can only wait and see.

The fact of the known 4d. Blacks being on watermarked paper like the ordinary Blues seems to be a pretty strong argument against them being outside labels. It is very unlikely that printers would have used such paper for labels.

Meanwhile *Linn's Weekly Stamp News* has come out with a well reasoned editorial on these stamps and others of similar status. Their argument is based on the Royal Society's certificate as quoted in H. R. Harmer's auction list in connection with the specimen sold last April in New York. The auction catalogue reads: "The extremely rare 4d. black. With 'Royal' certificate stating 'Genuine black impression and wmkd., but there is no real evidence at present that any 4d. black stamp was issued for postal use. The postmark is too indefinite for opinion.' This is, we believe, the usual wording given by the Royal Philatelic Society's Committee."

In other words the Royal Society doubts and questions the authenticity of the stamp as a recognised postal issue, although printed from the plates from which the issue was printed and on the right paper.

Is it not time that we made up our minds what we should recognise as legitimately issued stamps? If we confined our recognition of postal issues solely to stamps issued by the post office department and sold regularly through the post office we would save ourselves much trouble and expense. If collectors were to purchase proofs in other colours or on other papers, essays, etc., well and good, so long as such items are not given the status of issued postage stamps.

Until the 4d. black can be shown to have been issued for postal use let us then not recognise and list it as a legitimate postage stamp.

History of the Pretoria Philatelic Society

By A. P. OBERMEYER.

The Society was founded on the 16th of February, 1898. The following gentlemen came together: The Rev. Canon Fisher, C. Plomer, Isaac van Alphen, Postmaster General of the S.A. Republic, J. J. Haupt, and E. G. David. I could not find out where this meeting was held.

It was decided to draft rules and regulations, which were put before the members at the next meeting which took place on the 2nd of March, 1898.

At that meeting Mr. Isaac van Alphen was elected President and Mr. C. Plomer secretary; various members were appointed on to the committee.

The following gentlemen were also elected that night: Messrs. C. van den Burg, M. S. J. C. van Tyen (secretary to the P.M.G.), Mr. Elkington, Mr. Menges, Mr. Buyskes, Mr. Hoffe, and Mr. W. Haupt.

After another week another meeting was held when again more members were enrolled, viz.: Messrs. Skinner, Wahl, Aubert (the then Consul for France), and also a few country members. At this meeting for the first time a paper was promised on the stamps of the Transvaal of 1877 by Mr. Jack Haupt, which paper was promptly read on the 13th of April, 1898.

Mr. I. van Alphen was absent that night and on going through the minutes I found that after having been elected President, he never attended a single meeting during the year.

New members were again enrolled at that meeting, viz.: Messrs. Huter, Tamsen, Sallo Epstein, and Hartley.

On the 27th of April, 1898, another meeting was held and a Mr. E. O. Meyers was ballotted for, but only formal business was transacted at this meeting.

On the 8th of June a meeting took place in the Bodega bar, Market Street, and it appears that the Society had considerable difficulty in obtaining a suitable room in which to hold their meetings. Messrs. Eduard Walter and G. de Roy were elected members. Nothing is recorded about the business transacted at this meeting.

The next meeting was held on the 20th of July when ten members were present and a paper was read on the stamps of the first British occupation.

On the 10th of August another meeting took place in the "The old Union Club", eight members being present, but nothing is mentioned about the business of the meeting.

Subsequent meetings were held on the 14th of October, the 12th of November, and the 21st of December, this time at the office of the Agricultural Society.

During this time the following members were enrolled: Messrs. C. Barras, G. H. Voerman, P. E. Kraut, Dr. Gunning (Director of Transvaal Museum), W. Pinnock, and K. H. Rentes.

The first meeting in 1899 was held on the 8th of February, when Mr. B. van Rossem was elected a member.

On the 15th of March the first annual meeting took place with Mr. I. van Alphen in the chair. The first annual report was read and in it I found that the Society boasted of having 34 members of which 23 had paid their subscription.

The committee voiced complaints about the small attendances at meetings notwithstanding the fact that they made it as attractive as possible for members to attend through auction sales, exchanges, and papers.

Notwithstanding the fact that Mr. van Alphen only attended two meetings during the first year, we again find him re-elected as chairman.

Further meetings were held on the 12th of April, the 12th of May, and the 7th of June, 1899. At the last meeting no business was transacted and it terminated at 8.15, only four members being present.

No further meetings were held before the Anglo-Boer war started, and we find that the Society died a natural death.

As soon as the war was over we see new life in philately. On the 12th of November, 1902, a meeting was held in the Cafe Royal, present were Messrs. A. Faure (in the chair) supported by Messrs. Rentes, Levitt, Wahl, Mathews, David, and Leith. On the 21st of the same month another meeting took place when again many new names appear as interested in stamps; I found the following: Messrs. Baum, Cook, Hooper, Green, Koch, Clark (James Clark the florist), Caplan and Oaks.

At the next meeting I also found the names of two foundation members, namely, Messrs. C. van der Burgh and J. J. Haupt, again being elected members.

On the 5th of December it was decided that future meetings would be held in the board-room of the National Bank, evidently through the courtesy of Mr. Mathews, a member of the staff of the National Bank.

Mr. Maynard was duly elected at that meeting and Messrs. De Breuil, De Boom, Twiddle, and Bennington were proposed for membership.

In 1903 further meetings took place on 9th January, 23rd January, 20th February, 20th March, 4th and 16th April, 14th and 28th May, 11th June, 20th August, 3rd September, and the 17th and 15th November.

The second annual meeting of the resuscitated Society took place on the 17th December, 1903, when Mr. M. Levitt was elected as hon. sec., and Messrs. Gorges, Huneberg, Edwards, and Bucknill were proposed for membership.

After this annual meeting we find that the Society died for a second time, for we see that no minutes were kept till the 11th of May, 1905, when some collectors came together in Hamilton's chambers at the office of Mr. S. A. Klagsbrun. This gentleman, probably the promoter, was immediately elected to the chair, while amongst the other officers appointed that night I found Mr. Caplan as librarian.

Meetings were held on the 17th and 22nd May, and on the 5th June when Mr. W. J. Giovanetti joined the Society. It appears from the minutes that various papers were read and that meetings were well attended. It appears that the Society in the able hands of our Mr. Klagsbrun flourished and that his offices became too small to hold all the members, so that a new meeting place was found at 26 Erasmus buildings.

In 1906 the annual meeting took place and Mr. Klagsbrun was re-elected chairman, Mr. Levitt as hon. sec., while Messrs. Caplan and Giovanetti acted on the committee.

During 1906 meetings were held very regularly and again attended, e.g., by Mr. J. J. Haupt, who appears regularly in the minutes as being present.

On the 14th August Mr. L. te Groen was elected a member.

1907 again saw Mr. Klagsbrun in the chair and Mr. M. Levitt hon. sec. Mr. Hollebrands joined that year. In 1908 Mr. Jack Haupt was installed in the chair while Mr. Levitt remained secretary.

On the 14th July the late Mr. C. Hand appeared in the minutes as "a visitor from Cape Town."

1909 again saw Mr. Jack Haupt in the chair with Mr. Levitt as hon. sec. The meetings were now held in the Boudoir Tea Rooms instead of 26 Erasmus Buildings,

The Society is going to die for a third time. On the 23rd April, 1909, there was no quorum, June fared the same way, only three members turning up at each meeting, so that the Society was quietly buried for the third time in its existence.

On the 19th October, 1911, new blood came to Pretoria and reformed the defunct Society—Messrs. J. A. Orenstein, Geo. Baur, and Harry Payne. Mr. Gorges took the chair, and with him we find Messrs. Klagsbrun, Haupt, Levitt, and many others.

Mr. Klagsbrun was again elected to the chair. Mr. Jack Haupt vice-chairman, and M. Levitt hon. sec.

On the 18th November Mr. N. van Malsen joined the Society and on the 7th December Dr. P. Elias. Things did not go as they should, and May and June, 1912, were unsuccessful as no quorum could be got at meetings.

On the 27th June A. P. Obermeyer joined the society. 1912 marked itself by holding of meetings, though the number of members present was very small, so that Mr. Klagsbrun proposed that the number of members required to form a quorum be reduced from five to four. This was really not very legal, as there was only four members present, but all the same, it was carried unanimously!

On 28th January, 1913, the late Mr. Charles Hand was elected a member of the Society. In that year meetings were held regularly, papers read, and good exhibits displayed.

1914 again saw Mr. Klagsbrun in the chair, Mr. C. Hand vice-chairman, Mr. Levitt hon. sec., and Messrs. Jeffries and Blockey, who joined that year, as committee members.

At the outbreak of the great war, Mr. Levitt joined H.M. forces and Mr. Geo. Baur acted as secretary pro tem. Mr. Baur soon took ill, and the members attending left much to be desired, so that Mr. Klagsbrun proposed that the quorum should be reduced again from four to three. This was carried unanimously by the three members present! In that year the late Mr. Charles Hand was elected to the chair, and although the attendances were still small, regular meetings were held.

In 1915 A. P. Obermeyer was elected to the chair, the late Mr. Hand acted as vice-chairman, Mr. Baur as acting secretary, but Mr. Baur being continually absent through illness Mr. Klagsbrun took over the secretaryship.

In 1915 we also started our Reference Collection and although on account of the war there was some delay at the start, we were going ahead well, and now the collection is the finest in the country as a reference collection. The late Mr. C. Hand took charge of it and mounted the stamps on loose leaf albums.

1916 again saw Mr. Obermeyer in the chair, supported by Messrs. Klagsbrun, Hand, and a few others.

Messrs. Schleicher, Wagner, and Andrew Watson joined that year,

The late Mr. C. Hønd was elected to the chair in 1917, and again the Society flourished, not less than 13 new members joining up that year, viz: Messrs. Bogner, Prof. Wager, the late Mr. J. D. Robertson, Mr. McNaughton, H. Noome, Baron Von Ahlefeldt, and the late Mr. H. F. Oelrichs; also six country members joined that year.

1918 saw one of our oldest members in the chair, Mr. Orenstein, while five new members joined up, Messrs. Kerkhof, Major Harrington, Mr. Westmaas, and Mr. Harris, also one country member.

In 1919 another old member of our Society, Mr. Giovanetti, took the chair, and was very successful in having big meetings right the whole year round; 11 new members joined up, Mr. McGregor, Mr. Tuttlebee, Mr. Walker, Mr. Rau, Mr. Kraamwinkel, Mr. McCormack, Mr. Basiter, and Mr. Oldfield, also three country members, Messrs. Geo. Paddon, E. Budd, and R. W. Hawkes.

1920 saw Mr. Obermeyer again in the chair and we had a very successful year again. Many new members being enrolled during the year and interesting papers read, auctions being held regularly, and many stamps being sold and raffled and bought.

This is the history up to 1920. I hope another member will continue it and bring it up to date.

Latest War Provisionals . . .

All Mint except where mentioned otherwise.

Australia: 2½d., 3½d. and 5½d. over-printed on current K.G. VI., 3 diff. (Issued for 6 weeks only). Price .. 2/-
 Ceylon: 3 cents on 6 cents 4d.
 Ceylon: 3 cents on 20 cents (rare) .. 1/3
 Kenya: 5c, 10c, and 20c, in pairs .. 1/-
 S.W.A.: Complete set in pairs (Face 5/-) 6/6
 New Zealand Health 1941 used. (2 diff.) 1/-
 Fiji: 2½d. on 2d. used 9d.

SPECIAL OFFER: Rare Sets.

Nyasaland K.G. V. Leopard, complete set, Mint 8/6
 S.W.A. Huguenot, complete set in pairs, Mint or used 3/-
 New Zealand Centennials, 12 diff., Mint (except 7d.) 7/6
 Australia: 3 War Services, complete Mint 3/-
 Blocks pro rata. Order early, supplies are limited.

WANTED TO BUY:

Collections for Spot Cash. Any Country Specialized or General Collections. Highest Prices Paid.

Why not get cash for any size collections or stock on the spot? Offers solicited.

E. BLUM

P.O. BOX 1669 - - - CAPE TOWN.
 Established in South Africa since 1930.
 First class references.

Reviews

A History of British Postage Stamps, by T. Todd. 274 pages of text and 40 pages of illustrations. Published by Duckworth, 3 Henrietta Street, London, W.C.2. Price 10s. 6d. net.

This book can be commended to anyone interested in British postage stamps as accurate, detailed enough to be of value to the specialist but not to the extent of being boring to everyone but the ultra-specialist; on the contrary, it is eminently readable to the average collector.

As the writer himself says in his introduction, the book "deals with the hand-struck and adhesive postage stamps of Great Britain from the historical point of view and wherever possible I have referred to the essays and proofs which are prepared before the issue of a particular series of stamps. I have only mentioned the most outstanding plate varieties of the line engraved issues as these have been admirably dealt with by Mr. J. D. Seymour in the *Stamps of Great Britain*."

Much of the information and many of the illustrations are here published for the first time and the writer must be congratulated in having been able to carry through this original work when himself on active service in England. The whole effort is a well balanced survey of our knowledge of British postage stamps from the time of the Bishop marks in 1661 to the issues of King George VI.

Bond Street Stamp Auctions. This, the 16th, annual resume of the H. R. Harmer stamp auctions, maintains its usual attractive form despite war difficulties. We find, for instance, the usual illustrated list of high-light prices realised, but in addition we now find also accounts of auctions held by H. R. Harmer, Inc., in New York.

Anent "markets" Mr. Harmer writes that the outstanding feature of the 1940-41 season in London was the exceptionally high level of prices attained by modern issues, "some of them, indeed, reached figures that are dangerously near the fantastic, in our view . . . we cannot believe that the present high levels of such sets can be maintained after existing restrictions are removed at the end of the war." For the future he advises concentration on fine early European issues.

New York is the world's philatelic centre to-day but America still looks to London as the chief source of fine stamps. Much magnificent material is still strongly held in Britain and he believes that London will regain pride of place.

"FREE FRANCE" STAMPS.

(French Equatorial Africa).

Mr. G. Demasius reports the appearance of the following new provisional overprinted stamps from this territory:

- (a) Denominations 1, 2, 3, 5, 10, 15, 20, 25, and 35 centimes now overprinted in black in the type previously used for the air mail stamps.
- (b) For the 4c. value a Middle Congo stamp is again employed but this time it is not S.G. No. 62 but No. 84 (with the overprint "Afrique Equatoriale Francaise"), "LIBRE" being added below the existing overprint.
- (c) Of the Count de Brazza type the 30, 45, 50 and 55c. are overprinted "LIBRE" in black (formerly in red) and the 1 fr. is now overprinted in red. The 3, 5 and 20fr. are now in black. There is also the 75c. of this series, said to be very few in number and already an expensive rarity.
- (d) A new Air Mail provisional has been made by overprinting the 2f. 50 stamp (S.G. No. 33) with "10 F" and "Afrique Francaise Libre" in black and in type like that of the earlier overprinted air stamps.

**UNION CENSOR BANS EXPORT OF
"WAR COVERS."**

In a recently received letter from a correspondent in U.S.A. the writer enclosed covers from American stations in Newfoundland and the West Indies asking in return for war covers from East Africa.

The letter was, like much mail from America, opened by the Union censorship, and a polite typewritten note was inserted stating: "It is desired to warn you that covers such as those requested in this letter will not be allowed to leave the Union of South Africa."

We were aware from the British philatelic press that such a ban was in force in Great Britain on all war covers of the present war; now we are in line here. Exchange of war covers from the now world-wide theatres of war amongst philatelists will have to be a post-war hobby; meanwhile go on collecting your local ones, they will all be useful later on.

1919 PIGEON POST.

We have been advised of the existence of a fourth specimen (only three on record at present) of a genuinely flown pigeon post message of the peace celebration flight made at Cape Town on 2nd August, 1919. This is complete with the special mounting card and is numbered 85. The whole is offered for sale at £25. Anyone interested may obtain the address of the vendor from the Editor.

UNION PICTURE POSTCARDS.

The Union postal authorities have recently broken out with several new sets of postcards, each with a different picture occupying the left half of the front of the card; half of them have Afrikaans stamps, half English. The pictures show such subjects as a lion in the Game Reserve, Johannesburg as seen from a mine dump, cannon in the Old Fort at Durban, the Modder River, Bloemfontein, the Castle, Cape Town, etc. Mr. S. Legator reports having seen 20 different scenes on such cards and he draws attention to the curious circumstance that the stamps (½d. stamps, for inland use) are inscribed "Revenue or Inkomste" as well as postage. Probably this is explained by a plate for ordinary adhesive stamps having been used in the printing. These postcards are sold in packets at the same price as ordinary cards.

BRITISH SOMALILAND.

As a temporary measure post offices in British Somaliland have, since the re-occupation, been using Aden stamps. As the new stamps for British Somaliland have now been despatched, the Aden stamps will probably be in process of withdrawal. On cover, with clear postmarks, they should be fine items.

G. J. HOUBERT.

We regret to announce the death of Mr. G. J. Houbert on 27th January. He was 65 years of age and had been resident in Johannesburg since 1887, one year after the city came into existence. He had served in the accountancy department of "The Star" for more than 40 years, retiring in 1935, but returning for war duty in 1940. He recently underwent a severe operation but appeared to have got over that and had been back at work and at philatelic meetings.

A collector since 1895, he joined the local philatelic society in 1898, was a past President and had been Hon. Treasurer for many years, retiring only last year on account of increasing deafness. Houbert was elected to the roll of distinguished philatelists mainly on account of his having been such a fine "society man." He had given unstinted service to the Johannesburg society all his life; if ever there was any difficulty in getting an exhibit the answer was always, "Oh, ask Houbert," and Houbert provided it as a matter of course.

He was a voracious collector and had a wide knowledge of the stamps of many countries, France, Rhodesia and the Cape being perhaps his favourite countries. His exhibits were always models both as regards quality of stamps and neatness of mounting. For the latter characteristic he had been entrusted for many years with the Philatelic Society of Johannesburg's collection of Southern Africa.

Peace to you, old friend, but your colleagues will miss you greatly.

German South-West Africa

DR. HERBERT MUNK—KOHL'S HANDBOOK.

*Translated by Dr. J. H. Harvey Pirie and reprinted by kind permission from the
"Collectors Club Philatelist."*

(Continued from page 10 of January issue).

GERMAN STAMPS WITH OPT A2 (*contd.*)

As in the case of the previous issue, the most varied sheets were used for overprinting with Opt. A2. Some had marginal imprint IIIA, some marginal imprint IIIB and, in both cases, right-hand and left-hand panes were employed. Also, as other sheet differentiating characters there are such points to be noted as: vertical or horizontal comb perforation; various appearances of the plate numbers on the right margins of the right-hand panes; blue or violet control imprints, etc. Distinction of the various printings is possible by a consideration of these various characters together with the shades of the original stamps.

The overprints themselves vary in character from fine to markedly heavy or greasy, with all gradations in between. Heavy and greasy overprints may both be found on one and the same sheet. Light overprints are, generally speaking, characteristic of the earlier printings.

A few small defects occur in the printing of the overprint, but there are none so distinct and constant that they can be used as determining characteristics for particular printings or groups of printings. The differentiation of particular printings in this issue is in any case a matter of purely philatelic interest and is in no way so important as in the case of the previous issue.

Bisects. The supply of 5 pf. stamps ran out at Keetmanshoop in June-July, 1900. The postmaster there, an active Postal Assistant by name of Doms, resorted to issuing postcards over the counter, dividing 10 pf. stamps in half and himself affixing the halves to the postcards.

The bisecting of the 10 pf. stamps was usually done diagonally, sometimes vertically, only in very few instances horizontally.

Postcards already prepared with bisected stamps by the public were returned by Doms. It is understood that most of the cards prepared by himself, which went through the post in an approved manner, were sent by members of the Protectorate troops to their families in Germany. We have Doms' own statement that these bisects were not used for any other purpose than for franking postcards.

In July, 1900, and, later, in September, large quantities of postcards with bisected 10 pf. stamps were postmarked and sent off to Germany in parcels. These were done by pri-

vate individuals, purely for speculative dealing; the cards were either addressed to certain firms in Leipzig, Hanover, or Berlin, or were left unaddressed so that an address could be put in later by any dealer. Suchlike manufactured articles not sent through the post as individual pieces are, of course, philatelically worthless.

On the other hand there are postcards, mostly, if not all, dated in September, 1900, which are philatelically interesting. Because of a lack of stamps a cash fee of 5 pf. was charged, this being put to account and the cards marked with a special frank. Such cards show one or other of the two following franks in violet from a rubber handstamp:

(a) 5 Pf bezahlt (5 pf. paid) / Postassistent (Postal Assistant), in two lines with the signature "Doms" in manuscript between them, or

(b) In four lines "Franko verrechnet durch / Einnahme-Nachweisung in / Keetmanshoop-Doms (in MS) / Postassistent" which may be translated as "Postage accounted for by checked receipt in Keetmanshoop-Doms, Postal Assistant."

On 31st October, 1901, the stamps with Opt. A2, as well as all other German Empire stamps of Types 9 and 10, overprinted or non-overprinted, were declared invalid for postage. For two months, therefore, stamps of the two Forerunner issues and stamps with Overprints A1 and A2 were valid simultaneously with the definitive issue of the ship pattern.

The remainders with Opt. A2 still present in the colony at the time of demonetization were returned to the Imperial Post Office and later were sold to a Berlin firm of stamp dealers.

FIRST DEFINITIVE ISSUE.

1901, January. (In Berlin on 17th December, 1900, on the occasion of the opening of the "Colonial Counter"). Types 1 and 2. Definitive issue, the so-called ship pattern (the "Hohenzollern" under full steam). The pfennig values surface printed, monocoloured or bicoloured, on white or on coloured paper, perf. 14 x 14½. The mark values line engraved from copper plates, monocoloured or bicoloured, perf. 26 : 17 perforations. No water-marks.

- 11 3 pf. dull dark brown
- 12 5 pf. green
- 13 10 pf. carmine
- 14 20 pf. ultramarine, blue
- 15 25 pf. reddish orange or dark red
orange and black on yellow
- 16 30 pf. reddish orange and black on
salmon
- 17 40 pf. lake and black
- 18 50 pf. purple and black on salmon
- 19 50 pf. carmine and black on rose
- 20 1 mk. carmine red
- 21 2 mk. dark blue
- 22 3 mk. violet black
- 23 5 mk. black and carmine

For the production of the first printing of the surface printed stamps of this issue in August-September, 1900, see under "Deutsch-Neu-Guinea" p. 136. As was the case with all the ship pattern stamps they were issued in Berlin at the opening of the Colonial Counter on 17th December, 1900, several weeks before the date of their issue in the colony itself.

For a description of the preparation of the plates, etc., of the surface printed stamps, see Vol. I, p. 913, and of the line engraved stamps, Vol I, p. 919.

The surface printed stamps were printed in large sheets each made up of two smaller sheets of 100 stamps each, arranged 10 x 10. The top margins of the sheets have indicator numerals, while the other margins have the usual border of fine lines.

On the lower margins of the sheets, below stamps 91-95 and 96-100 there is the marginal imprint "Deutsch-Südwestafrika." In the monocoloured stamps this is printed in the colour of the particular stamp; in the bicoloured stamps it is printed in the black of the centre plate.

The rows of lines on the margins occur in the monocoloured stamps both in the pattern described in Vol. I, p. 913 as Marginal Imprint IIIC and in the older style Marginal Imprint IIIB (see illustration I p. 905); in the bicoloured stamps the Marginal Imprint is always of type IIIA (illustration I, 905). We have not seen any Index Numbers (Double-Plate Numbers) on sheets with Marginal Imprint IIIC (compare the corresponding remark under "Deutsch-Neu-Guinea").

In the bicoloured surface printed stamps there is to be found here also on the left margin of all left-hand panes the number "128" printed in the colour of the frame. The significance of this figure has never been ascertained.

The Control Imprint (see Vol. I, p. 901) in this issue appears only to occur in violet. The perforation is sometimes vertical and sometimes horizontal comb perforation.

The printers' sheets of the engraved stamps, like those of German New Guinea and German East Africa, had at least two panes consisting of five horizontal rows of four stamps each. Also like them the margins were always per-

forated through either on both sides or on the right-hand side only, never on the left-hand side only.

The red colour of the 5 mark stamps has stained much of the paper red under the influence of the tropical climate and in the surface printed stamps the gum and paper of sheets which have been a long time in Africa are usually somewhat yellowed.

2 pf. stamps of the ship pattern, of a bluish-grey colour, exist only in proof condition; these proofs were made in blocks of 2 x 2 together with similar proofs of Samoa, Caroline Is., and Cameroons (all likewise in blocks of 2 x 2) so they made altogether sheets of 16 stamps each, but there is nothing larger than blocks of 4 of the 2 pf. proofs of any individual one of these four colonies. The perforation, paper and gum of these 2 pf. proofs correspond exactly with those of the issued stamps of the same pattern.

Bisects of the 10 pf. stamp (No. 13) from Kubub, Swakopmund and Windhoek in 1905-06 and from Lüderitzbucht in 1907 are simply philatelic speculations without authorization and completely without any justification or need for their use. According to Friedemann it is doubtful even if these specimens really travelled through the post at all. Some similar bisects have been seen from Swakopmund overprinted "5pf." with a rubber handstamp.

A large batch of the remainders of this unwatermarked issue was put up for auction by the Imperial Post Office in September, 1921; other lots were sold outright from June, 1919, onwards (Friedemann gives exact quantities, p. 42). Used copies of the high values, taken off parcel cards, etc., were officially auctioned from December, 1910, onwards; later, such stamps formed part of the numerous lots of German colonial stamps which were sold by the Imperial Postal Museum to a philatelist in Milan in November, 1923.

(To be continued).

RE-USED ENVELOPES.

We note that re-used envelopes are becoming fairly common here in official Government correspondence. In Britain they are employed for internal use but they are apparently liable to be stopped by the Censor if employed for correspondence outside the country, although we have seen some such envelopes arriving here without having been opened by any censor.



Politics and Philately in Australia

By PROF. H. A. WAGER.

Federation of all the separate states of Australia took place in 1901 and the Commonwealth of Australia came into being. Up to this time each state printed and issued its own postage stamps and they were all different. Nevertheless, even after federation, it was not before January, 1913, that the first Commonwealth stamp was issued and the issue of the subsequent issues is of great interest. No Commemorative stamps of this memorable occasion were ever issued and this when philately began to be swamped with so many commemoratives from different countries. All sorts of dates and centenaries were hunted up. The United States probably heads the list with over 70 commemoratives since 1900.

The reason for what now appears to be an unnecessary and unaccountable delay of a common issue was to a very large extent political. The two major parties in the Federal Parliament were Radical and Conservative. The Conservative party wished for a stamp with a design of Empire significance or Royalty, etc. The Radical or Labour party were all out for a stamp with a truly characteristic Australian design. There were more than fifty essays of stamps during the period 1903 to 1907, all brought forward to bring about a speedy issue.

Then early in 1911 it was decided to hold a world wide competition. A first prize of £100 and a second of £50 were offered by the Postmaster-General's Department for the successful designs. Upwards of a thousand entries were received. Mr. Altman, of St. Kilda, Victoria, secured first prize, and the second prize was divided amongst two competitors from England. After various alterations, the first Commonwealth postage stamps were promised for January 1, 1913, and when the post offices were opened after the New Year holiday on January 2, a supply of the new penny stamps was actually available.

This issue, not, however, the prize design, is known as the first Kangaroo issue and there were 15 denominations. They were issued in all states, but they were, however, only brought into use as required, stocks on hand of state stamps being first disposed of. The printing was done in Melbourne. On the defeat of the Labour government in 1913, one of the first acts of the new Cook Administration was to set in train arrangements for the replacement of the Kangaroo stamps by a new issue. The old designs submitted for the competition were resurrected and it was decided

to press forward with the preparation of new stamps as quickly as possible. The prize design was now made use of but it was found to be somewhat overcrowded and it was slightly modified for the penny value and fresh designs were submitted for the other values. Values of 1d., 2d., 6d., and 1s. were decided upon but only the 1d. and 6d. values were issued. The 2d. and 1s. values, although prepared, were never issued.

In its turn the Cook government was defeated in 1914, and the Fisher government, again in power, withdrew the issue with the King's head, and those values of the Kangaroo series, not already disposed of, were brought into use. In 1914, owing to war conditions, all the issues were kept going for a considerable time and a point of philatelic interest is noticeable. Stamp paper was difficult to obtain, and as there was a good supply on hand of the paper used for the Georgian stamps, it was decided to utilize some of this for the Kangaroo stamps. The Georgian stamps being of a different size and shape from the Kangaroo series and the sheets being somewhat larger, the stamps rarely show the watermark well centred. This is sometimes a help in distinguishing the different issues.

UGANDA.

In the *Philatelic Magazine* of 5th December a very interesting account is given by the Rev. Canon Rowling of how he printed the first printed set of Uganda stamps in 1896. His first job was to mend the one and only printing press in the country; after this he proceeded to set up type for 16 stamps but found the quantity of uniform type not quite sufficient for even this number, hence the small "o" in one "PoSTAGE" and the thin "i" on one 1 anna stamp.

To make forgery less easy he altered the designs somewhat on each value, shifting the position, etc., of the stars and daggers. The stamps were only valid for postage as far as Mombasa; for carriage overseas the Coast Agents there added stamps of the East African Protectorate.

== 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
(except recent issues)

and can generally offer most stamps of a want list, however difficult. Let us know your requirements. We never worry with unwanted selections.

BRIDGER & KAY, Ltd.,
86 Strand, London, W.C.2, England.

REMEMBER YOUR LESSON

An Open Letter to American Philatelists

[The following letter, although published in the *American Philatelist* of June, 1941, is not out of date. It should be of interest to both dealers and collectors in this country, putting them wise as to the state of the world's philatelic market.—Ed.]

Dear Friends,

Yes, I have many friends in the States, personal friends known to me, also friends through philatelic correspondence, putting aside the fact that all democratic peoples are friends to-day.

I am impelled to write this as a result of certain letters which have reached me in the past week or two which indicate that many of you philatelists across the Atlantic are very slow not only at learning a lesson but even of remembering what has passed under your own eyes. I refer to the position of good stamps and good philatelic material during the present war.

Some ten days ago a well known collector in the United States wrote me saying that he wanted to buy on a long want list of China. He stated that he was buying at 1/3 rd. Scott but that he could, in certain cases, for very fine and exceptionally well centred stamps, pay one half Scott which was above the market value of such stamps out there.

Following this came another letter enclosing a specialised priced catalogue of a certain European country—a catalogue printed in the U.S.A.—and asking me to obtain and supply any stamps I could get on a slight discount off these prices.

Finally to-day two more letters arrive in one of which the writer says "I have been picking up this kind of material over here for years at half the price you ask because our dealers know nothing about them." "These stamps" are specialized material of a country now entirely closed to the outside world which are all quoted in the specialised catalogues and which, before the war were selling at very high prices and much sought after and are now almost unobtainable. The other letter, in much the same strain, says "the material is very interesting but we cannot get these prices over here. This is a funny market for anything but stamps of the U.S.A."

My reply to the first letter is that ever since China went to war with Japan I have been selling all the good China stamps I could get hold of to *Chinese dealers* at half *Gibbons*, which is much higher priced than Scott.

The reply to the second letter is obvious. American stamp dealers seldom study anything but the one catalogue and, as a whole, know little beyond that, and my correspondent has therefore benefited by their ignorance but

if he requires what he cannot obtain now he must obviously pay market prices in countries where values are known.

To the collector who enclosed the catalogue I can only reply that he is miles behind the times and does not realise what changes in value the war has brought about because the prices in the listing he sends are already at least half what those same stamps are fetching in London auctions to-day. And the reply to the last letter quoted is much the same as the second.

This brings me to my point. A few years ago world prices for philatelic material were more or less stable and for the rarer material, and pieces of a specialist nature, prices were only governed by rarity and what the buyer would pay for what really interested him.

But your lesson should have been learnt by events in your own country.

It has long been an axiom that in times of war or economic upset the value of stamps rises rapidly. This is due to the fact that stamps have a world wide market and while the value of the dollar, or the pound or the franc may fluctuate stamps will always fetch their value in some country. Added to this is the fact that stamps are the most portable form of currency in existence and good obsolete stamps and fine philatelic properties cannot be reprinted like currency notes.

As examples of this I have only to quote the rapid rise in stamp values during the 1914-18 War and the hitherto unheard of prices fetched in auction by fine U.S. stamps during the slump in the States in 1930.

China is invaded by Japan and China promptly wants to buy her stamps at higher prices than before.

When Germany started this present war the prices of stamps in France at once began to rise and the dealers of France, Belgium and Holland and other countries flocked to London to buy good stamps. Prices rose rapidly because not only collectors but even speculators wanted stamps, realising they were a safer investment than currency which might suffer inflation during or after the war, sounder than stocks, shares or bonds and more portable than either.

Some dismal jimmies over here, forgetting the facts, predicted in 1939 that the British stamp market would fade away. Their hopes revived when the Continent began to buy in earnest in the fall of 1939 and the spring of 1940, but they again prophesied disaster when Germany invaded Denmark, Holland, Belgium and France.

Once again, however, the rule has held. Good stamps and good philatelic properties have risen out of all proportion over here for exactly the same economic reasons in spite of the fact that so many more collectors are in the forces and that on account of totalitarian methods of warfare so many collectors have been compelled to put their collections away in safety "for the duration." And this rise will

go on because in this war, unlike the Great War, the whole of the Continent is closed as a source of supply and there is a terrible shortage of supply.

There will be no slump after this war because it is not Germany alone which will suffer a depression of currency in the end, but most of Europe and because totalitarian war has destroyed so many stocks and collections. *The loss in one fire in Chancery Lane, London, alone meant the total loss of a tremendous stock of stamps belonging to dealers, auctioneers and collectors.* What has been lost elsewhere in other blitzes in Great Britain is unknown. What must have been lost in the recent destruction of Belgrade or the earlier blitzes in Holland and Belgium, to suggest just a few catastrophes brought about by the bloody Hun?

Yet after the examples of the past and the obvious lesson of the past two years, you Americans are still thinking in pre-war prices and under pre-war conditions of market and supply.

It is almost impossible to buy here to-day. The supply gets shorter and shorter as collectors here, abroad and in the Colonies invest in stamps. Bids at auction by post are almost hopeless as there is no means of gauging values as prices rise. If one wishes to buy one must attend the sale and be prepared to pay any price to which the lots rise.

Personally I do not worry as I have learnt my lesson that philatelic material—stamps, proofs, covers—is better than currency and from the very outset I took the opportunity to add both to my private collection and my stocks whenever opportunity offered. If you know your stamps and appreciate the better things you cannot go wrong. The rarity of to-day will be infinitely more rare and more marketable when peace comes and if the dollar or the pound is worth less then, you can still turn your stamps into currency of some other country.

Yours philatelically,
E. F. HURT,

Harpenden, England, April 15th, 1941.

"M.E.F." STAMPS.

Corroborating the information published in our November issue as coming from an old contributor Mr. I. H. C. Godfrey, who is now somewhere in occupied territory in N.E. Africa, the British philatelic press of December announces this issue, viz: the current 1d., 2d., 2½d., 3d. and 5d. stamps of Great Britain overprinted "M.E.F." (Middle East Forces). Mr. Godfrey gave a 1½d. value but not the 3d. value; coming from nearer the horse's mouth, however, the later information is probably correct.

Although the stamps are marked M.E.F. they are presumably as much for civilian as army use in the occupied territories, being in this respect on a par with the "E.E.F." stamps of Palestine in the last war.

New Arrivals

3 Hongkong 1941 Jubilee m.	1/-
9 North Mongolia 1934 Air cpl.	
m.	2/6
16 Fiume 1919 2c-5cor. cpl.	3/6
1 Cuba Stamp centenary cpl. u.	1/-
6 Kenya on Union cpl. m.	1/6
11 Chile 1936 Cent. cpl. to P5.	7/6
2 Ceylon War prov. cpl. m. or u.	2/6
12 New Guinea 1919-1939	2/6

Nett, post free.

UNION 1½d. GOLD MINE.

Specialised selections of this stamp, incl. arrows and sheet-corners sets of the scarce plate 2, as well as distinguishing plate varieties, etc., available on request. References please.

A. LICHTENSTEIN

P.O. Box 576,
BLOEMFONTEIN, O.F.S.



Collectors of REALLY FINE BRITISH COLONIALS should get into touch with me AT ONCE

Selections of choice Mint or Used

AFRICANS, AUSTRALIAN STATES, NEW ZEALAND, WEST INDIANS, Etc., on approval to medium and advanced collectors. These books can be selected from at **ONE-THIRD** of Catalogue price. Also a choice lot of **EDWARDIAN** and **GEORGIAN** issues, Mint or Superb Used, at over 50% off Catalogue. **REFERENCES ESSENTIAL.**

J. BIRD 6 Westhill Rd. London S.W.18, England

Society News

THE PHILATELIC SOCIETY OF JOHANNESBURG.

President, I. Isaacs; *Hon. Secretary*, F. J. H. Lang, Box 4967, Johannesburg. *Meetings*, 2nd Tuesdays, Sanlam Buildings, Loveday Street, Johannesburg.

November 11.—As usual the November meeting consisted mostly of Hospital Night Auction, which has become an annual event. Even though there was not as much material offered for auction this year as in previous years, a sum of £21 was realised to be sent to the Johannesburg General Hospital.

It was announced that the Society had sent a further £10 contribution to the South African Red Cross. Also, the Club had been able to send a contribution of £20 to the Merchant Navy League Fund.

Mr. A. L. Farrow was elected a new member.

December 9.—Beginning with this meeting a change in our Agenda was made, to the complete satisfaction of all present. This consisted in tabling the exhibits for the evening at the commencement of the session rather than after the tea interval as heretofore.

Mr. Oppenheim tabled a comprehensive and beautiful exhibit of the modern British West Indies, and also read an interesting paper in connection with this exhibit.

Mr. Johnstone exhibited a philatelic gem in the form of a collection of Nova Scotia. In commenting on the exhibits Mr. Carlton-Jones gave some very interesting facts and figures concerning the importance of the port of Halifax, Nova Scotia, in the present war.

At this meeting Mr. G. L. Overbury was elected a new member.

January 13.—There was quite a good attendance at this meeting, especially due to the fact that on this occasion several members of the Pretoria Society joined with us in an official visit. In the absence of our honorary president and vice-president, Mr. F. E. Ingham, took the chair and welcomed the visitors.

Mr. E. C. Slatem was elected a new member.

Our guests regaled us with three exhibits and an interesting paper read by Mr. Rudd, in connection with his exhibit of Emissions in connection with stamp exhibitions and philatelic congresses; also propaganda labels, postcards and postmarks commemorating these special occasions. Among the items included in Mr. Rudd's exhibit was a miniature sheet dated 1881 comprising replica of the first stamps of Austria dated 1851. Also U.S.A. 1908 Columbus Philatelic Congress, London Stamp Exhibition of 1890, Commemorative Stamps consisted of Mauritius Stamps overprinted. This was a very unusual collection, and although not all stamp collectors are interested in such material, it was the consensus of those present that Mr. Rudd had succeeded in an outstanding fashion in valuing his speciality by assembling a collection of his historically interesting material and presenting an exhibit which was out of the ordinary and all the more to his credit due to the fact that so little literature is available on this subject. The other two exhibitors were Messrs. Wright and Watson. The former tabled an interesting collection of postal stationery and the latter the stamps of the 26 Signatory Countries of the Pact of Alliance against the Axis. This latter exhibit illustrated very conclusively the extent of the world-wide resistance to Axis aggression. A vote of thanks was expressed on the part of the members by both Mr. Buchan and Mr. Redford. The opposite views which each expressed in connection, especially with the exhibit tabled by Mr. Wright, were of essential interest to those present, as their

remarks served to emphasise the individuality and true democracy of our hobby.

During recent meetings the amount of material offered for auction either for private sale or for War Funds has dwindled to insignificant proportions, and it is hoped that at subsequent meetings members will assist in making this feature of our meetings more interesting and more beneficial to our War Funds by contributing or offering material to be auctioned.

H.E.B.

PHILATELIC SOCIETY OF NATAL.

President, P. C. Bishop; *Hon. Sec.*, G. Milner Palmer, P.O. Box 588, Durban; *Meetings*, 1st Wednesdays, Durban Publicity Bureau, West Street.

Our Society started the New Year bravely with an attendance of 37 members at the meeting of January 7. The President welcomed two visitors—Mr. Lawrie, of Glasgow, a member of the Scottish Philatelic Society, and Dr. Alex Kaplan, of Germiston.

Three new members, Messrs. C. Smith, B. Gudgeon, and H. H. Hadany, were elected to the Society following on the provisional acceptance of their applications at the previous meeting.

Included in the lots offered at our usual auction sale was the small collection of a young member who is "going North" on military service. This realised £15.

A discussion having arisen on the subject of rust in stamps, Mr. Riches gave it as his experience that if collections were housed in albums of good quality and occasionally brought out for an airing on sunny days there would be no fear of rust. The president recalled the research work of the late Mr. Lovejoy, who unhappily had died before his investigations could reach finality. Mr. Gagel then electrified the meeting with the information that he knew of a definite cure for rust. At the president's invitation he agreed to demonstrate the same at the February meeting of the Society.

An excellent display of his U.S.A. collection was given by Mr. W. P. Angus, and this was followed by an exhibition of the stamps of Malta by our Germiston visitor, Dr. Kaplan. The members' thanks to these exhibitors were conveyed respectively by the president and Mr. H. H. Hurst.

G.M.P.

O.F.S. AND BASUTOLAND PHILATELIC SOCIETY

President, Mr. J. B. Levy; *Hon. Secretary*, Mr. R. C. Lyon, Box 702, Bloemfontein; *Meetings*, 3rd Fridays, Oranje Koffiehuis, Bloemfontein.

At the January meeting, a large auction sale of albums, stamps, covers and philatelic literature was held in aid of the Governor-General's Fund. The auctioneering was done by Mr. W. Dickie-Clark in an able and humorous manner. The bidding was brisk, and a satisfactory amount was realized for the Fund.

There were also three interesting collections on display.

The first exhibit was given by Mr. H. L. Kaplan who showed a specialised collection of "O.F.S. Telegraph Stamps." There was hardly an item missing, and even the scarcer V.R.I. and Army Telegraph stamps were well represented with a number of major and minor varieties.

Mr. J. B. Levy showed some picked "gems" from his Union Collection. Special interest was aroused by the many "joined paper" varieties, represented in most of the Union issues, also a typographed 1d. pair, without watermark and a 1½d. pair on "repaired paper."

Dr. K. Freund gave an original display of "Patriotic covers 1941," a collection representing philately in lighter vein. There were various covers expressing in some way or other the patriotic sentiment of

the sender. Covers with a variety of vignettes of the many war funds, stamps defaced with a "V" and passed by the postal authorities, a British King's Head on a Union cover, etc.

A vote of thanks was passed by the chairman to the auctioneer and the exhibitors.

K.F.

NYASALAND STAMP CLUB.

The January meeting was well attended; nineteen senior and eleven juniors were present.

Mr. W. D. Farquhar took the chair, minutes of the December meeting were read and confirmed.

Dr. D. Baird proposed that "Mr. W. D. Farquhar be elected chairman to succeed the late Mr. A. J. Storey who passed away on the 4th December, 1941." Dr. Baird also proposed that "Mr. J. R. Shearer be elected vice-chairman to succeed Mr. Farquhar." Mr. W. Frankish seconded Dr. Baird's proposals; all members present voiced their unanimous approval with a hearty vote of thanks to Mr. Farquhar and Mr. Shearer in accepting office.

Recent news items of interest were read out from their Journals by Mr. Farquhar and Mr. Booth.

Although many juniors were unable to attend, eleven turned up and enjoyed an interesting evening, again kindly and ably arranged for them by Miss Taylor and Mr. Mercier; their willing and valuable help to the juniors is fully appreciated by all. Miss Taylor and Mr. Mercier were thanked by the hon. sec. on behalf of the junior and senior members.

Sales and exchanges from some thirty-three approval books and other sheets on offer were very good.

Light refreshments brought the meeting to a close about 7 p.m.

L.J.D.

PRETORIA PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

President, A. E. Basden; *Hon. Secretary*, H. A. Wager. P.O. Box 514. *Meetings*, 1st and 3rd Mondays, 8 p.m., Technical College.

January 5.—Mr. Hawke read an interesting account of suggestions to improve catalogues in view of their increasing bulk.

Short papers were given. Mr. Giovanetti spoke on the propaganda of the S.A. Airmail service and showed two interesting covers. Prof. Wager read a paper on Politics and Philately having to do with the issue of the first Commonwealth stamps of Australia long after Federation had taken place. Mr. Hawke gave a talk on the stamp-issuing countries of the Pacific Ocean now in the throes of war. Mr. Dodd gave a talk on the Argentine where he had lived for many years. He tabled a nice collection of Argentine stamps. Mr. Simenhoff thanked the speakers.

Prof. Wager showed a collection of Guatemala.

January 19.—Mr. Watson read some recent philatelic extracts.

Dr. Broom gave an interesting talk on what he thought stamp collecting meant. He still had many of the stamps he had collected as a boy. He deprecated the introduction of commercialism into philately and pointed out what a lot of stamps were now issued purely as money-making ventures, especially in stamps that were hardly ever used postally such as charity stamps, officials, commemoratives, etc. He tabled some interesting sheets from his collection.

Prof. Wager showed his collection of Great Britain, and Mr. Dodd some sheets of interesting items.

H.A.W.

NYASALAND.

New Colours: ½d. brown, 1d. green, 1½d. grey, and 2d. red will shortly replace the current colours of these values,

KENYA, UGANDA AND TANGANYIKA.

The *Stamp Collectors' Fortnightly* reports the current £1 stamp as having been discovered without watermark and perforated 14 at the sides, top and bottom being presumably 11½ as before.

Many papers are tipping the overprints on Union stamps as investments.

THE PACIFIC.

As a result of Japanese activities many stamp issuing territories in the Far East and the Pacific will doubtless be productive of philatelic evidences of the war, but as they will all be in enemy hands for some time we will have to wait a bit to learn what they are.

COLLECTORS' WANTS AND OFFERS

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

Orange Free State.—Approval selections wanted. Must be fine, well-centred copies.
William Redford, Box 7012, Johannesburg.

Transvaal in particular and old Southern Africans generally, wanted by:
A. E. Basden, Box 238, Pretoria.

For Quality and Variety—Globe Pockets.—Extensive price lists free. Serious collectors write for finest approval books of your country. References.

Globe Postage Stamp Company, 117 Longmarket Street, Cape Town.

Wanted.—Many items in Foreign Colonials, French, German, Italian, Spanish, Dutch Belgian Danish, Portuguese; all issues up to 1933 (inclusive). Mint for preference.

E. Hunt, Box 2437, Johannesburg.

Wanted.—Imperforate Issues of all countries (both scarce and common). Cape pre-stamp covers.

G. Carleton Jones, F.R.P.S.L., Box 1167, Johannesburg.

Wanted.—Somaliland 1938, mint 2, 3, and 5 Rupees. Best offer to

S. Kaganson, 440 Albert Road, Salt River, C.P.

The SOUTH AFRICAN PHILATELIST

Proprietors and Publishers :

The Philatelic Federation of Southern Africa

Honorary Editor: Dr. J. H. HARVEY PIRIE, P.O. Box 7012, Johannesburg.
Honorary Business Manager: WILLIAM REDFORD, Broadcast House, Commissioner
Street, Johannesburg.

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

Vol. 18. No. 3.

MARCH, 1942.

Whole No. 204.

Recent Printings

In a communication dated 14th February the Controller of Propaganda, G.P.O. Publicity Department, gives the following information regarding printings made between 8.10.41 and 7.1.42:

ORDINARY POSTAGE STAMPS.

- ½d. Job No. 13909. Total sheets delivered to date 253,000. Cylinders as given in September issue.
- 1½d. Job No. 16782. Total sheets delivered to date 284,000. Cylinders as given in September issue.
- 1s. Job No. 1665. 57,300 sheets of 120 delivered between 11th and 18th December. Old cylinders, 6925 Int. and 38 Ext.
- 2s. 6d. Job No. 6838. 18,150 sheets of 60 delivered between 9th and 11th December. Old cylinders, 27 Int. and 7017 Ext.
- ½d. Roll stamps. Job No. 146. Total delivered since 17.6.41 equals 800 rolls of 500, 2,280 rolls of 1,000 and 2,647 sheets of 240. Cylinders as before, 7020 Int. and 5 Ext.
Job No. 5979 for 2,000 rolls of 500 has been started, but no deliveries have as yet been made. Cylinders as before.
- 1d. Roll stamps. Job No. 7659. Total delivered since 11.3.41 equals 1,862 rolls of 1,000 and 2,257 sheets of 240. Cylinders as before 23 Int. and 24 Ext.

WAR STAMPS.

- 1d. Job No. 1278. Total delivery since 23.9.41 equals 114,500 sheets of 240. Cylinder 6922.
- 1s. Job No. 1284. 78,300 sheets of 120 delivered between 14.10.41 and 2.12.41. Cylinder No. 43, new.
- ½d. Job No. 1277. 112,000 sheets of 240 delivered on or subsequent to 6.11.41. Cylinder No. 7, new.
- 1½d. Job No. 1279. 69,000 sheets of 240 delivered on or subsequent to 23.12.41. Cylinder No. 15, new.

S.W.A. WAR STAMPS.

The following were supplied from P.M.G.'s stocks and overprinted S.W.A. on a flat-bed printing machine: 1d., 1,250 sheets; 1s., 760 sheets; ½d., 1,400 sheets; and 1½d., 2,150 sheets.

POSTAGE DUE STAMPS.

- 1d. Job No. 4772. 10,600 sheets of 60 delivered on 25.11.41. Old cylinders, 13 Int. and 39 Ext.
- 3d. Job No. 4817. 4,800 sheets of 60 delivered on 25.11.41. Old cylinders, 6935 Int. and 39 Ext.

BOOKLETS.

Job No. 12906. Totals now delivered in this job are given as 253,960 books containing only 1d. and ½d. stamps (same figure as given in our December issue) and 62,400 books containing ½d., 1d. and 1½d. stamps. Cylinder numbers given in our June last issue.

ACTIVE SERVICE LETTER CARDS.

- 3d. Job No. 3255. Total to date 3,392,400. Cylinder as given in December issue.

INLAND POSTCARDS.

- ½d. Job No. 5484. Total to date since 30.9.41 402,240. (Printed Litho flat-bed printing machine from new plates.)

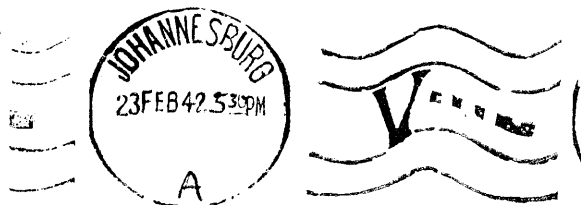
PICTORIAL POSTCARDS.

- ½d. Job No. 647. 478,080 on or subsequent to 27.11.41. New cylinder (one colour) No. 85.

V CANCELLATIONS.

A correspondent draws attention to the fact that V cancellations are in use in Australia as well as in Canada.

They have now appeared in the Union also on machine cancellations as the accompanying illustration shows. Perhaps readers will inform us in what other towns they are in use.



The Postal Stationery of the Union of South Africa

By SAM LEGATOR.

Although collectors are concerned chiefly with the adhesives of the Union of South Africa, recent world-wide reawakening interest in Postal Stationery has created a demand for Postal Cards, Newspaper Wrappers, Letter Cards, Registered Envelopes, and stamped envelopes of this country, as well as for more information about them.

This branch of philately has been sadly neglected in South Africa, and this descriptive Check List is an effort by the writer to assist those who are interested, and those who would like to be.

POSTCARDS, NEWSPAPER WRAPPERS, LETTERCARDS, ENVELOPES, REGISTERED LETTERS.

(1) POSTCARDS. (Approximately
89 x 140 mm.)

POSTCARD. POSTKAART.

1913—

The first issue of Union of South Africa Post Cards. The stamp corresponds with the contemporary adhesive, except that the words "Postage" "Revenue" are omitted.

Head of King George V. Inscription in English and Dutch, as follows:

"The address only to be written on this side."

"Deze zyde is voor het adres alleen."

P.1. ½d. Yellow Green. On Buff Card. On White Card. On Grey White Card.

P.2. 1d. Red. On Cream Card. Also shades of Cream. This card was for overseas use, and to conform with the Postal Union Regulations, it was inscribed in addition as P.1. as follows:

UNION POSTALE UNIVERSELLE CARTE POSTALE.

P.3. REPLY PAID.

½d. + ½d. Yellow Green on Cream.

Consists of a Double size Card, rouletted through the centre and folded down. Stamp on each half.

The face side is inscribed as follows:

"The address only to be written this side."

"Deze zyde is voor het adres alleen."

and at left-hand lower side of Card:

"The annexed card is intended for the answer."

"De Nevensgaande kaart is bestemd voor het antwoord."

The attached card is inscribed:

"Reply."

"Antwoord."

The Face side of the above Cards is for the address only. The Letter was to be written on the reverse.

1917—

Face side of Card divided, allowing less address space, but more room for correspondence.

Same Stamp. Change in language of instructions from Dutch to Afrikaans.

P.4. ½d. Yellow Green, on Buff Card, on white card, on Grey White Card.

Inscribed as follows:

"For Address Only."

"Slechts voor 't adres."

P.5. REPLY PAID.

½d. + ½d. Yellow Green. Printed on same material as above.

Similar to P.3 in idea, but different language. Face sides divided, and inscribed as follows:

Face Side: "For address only." "Slechts voor 't adres."

Reply Side: "Reply." "Antwoord," on left hand side, and "For address only." "Slechts voor 't adres," on right hand side.

1920—

INCREASE IN POSTAGE RATES.

P.6. 1d. on ½d. Yellow Green.

Type P.4 Surcharged ONE in black block letters, due to increased PENNY rate of postage. These were only issued provisionally, but were hurriedly withdrawn as they were overprinted in one language only.

1920—

P.7. 1d. Red on Buff, Cream and White Cards.

Same as P.4 Same stamp, language and layout.

1921—

CHANGE FROM DUTCH TO AFRIKAANS.

Type P.2 but inscribed in English and Afrikaans. Inscribed as follows:

UNION POSTALE UNIVERSELLE CARTEPOSTALE.

"The address only to be written on this side."

"Hierdie kant is net vir die adres."

P.8. 1½d. Light Brown King's Head and inscription on white card. Also shades.

1924—

P.9. ½d. Green on White Card. Similar to type P.4.

1927—

1½d. PICTORIAL POSTCARDS.

Introduced chiefly for Overseas use. Address side inscribed:

UNION POSTALE UNIVERSELLE CARTEPOSTALE.

No instructions. There are 24 views. Each view is numbered in black 1 to 24. Sold in packets of 6 cards, at all large Post Offices at 1s. 3d. per packet.

P.10. 1½d. Brown and Black on thin White Card.

The views are as follows:

Card 1. Pretoria. Government Buildings.
Card 2. Durban. The Esplanade.
Card 3. Cape. Chapman's Peak. Marine Drive.

Card 4. Kroonstad. Valsch River.
Card 5. Natal. Drakensberg.
Card 6. Cape. Cogman's Kloof.
Card 7. Cape. Camp's Bay.
Card 8. Durban. Town Hall.
Card 9. Bloemfontein. Government Buildings.

Card 10. Capetown. From Kloof Nek.
Card 11. Johannesburg. Medical Research.
Card 12. Knyzna. Groot River Drift.
Card 13. Johannesburg. Town Hall.
Card 14. Ceres, Cape. Dwars River.
Card 15. Natal. Karkloof Falls.
Card 16. Tulbagh, Cape. Mitchell's Pass.
Card 17. Knyzna, Cape. The Heads.
Card 18. Rondebosch, Cape. Groot Schuur.
Card 19. Pretoria. Union Buildings.
Card 20. Transvaal. Wylie's Poort.
Card 21. Cape. Toverwaterpoort.
Card 22. Port Shepstone. Umzimkulu River.

Card 23. Cape. Entrance to Zwartberg Pass.

Card 24. Cape. Zwartberg Pass.

Owing to these cards being too thin, they were unpopular, and were withdrawn.

1928—

1½d. PICTORIAL POSTCARDS.

The above cards were replaced by 1½d. Pictorial Cards, which could be used for local use. An additional space was provided for 1d. stamp for Overseas use.

The views and numbers are identical with the 1½d. issue, except that the numbers are in green, corresponding with the Arms and Inscription.

Sold in packets of 12 cards, at 9d. per packet.

Arms 14 x 11 mm. Inscribed:

"For address only." "Net vir die adres."

P.11. 1½d. Green and Black on White Card. View on reverse.

1928—

Change in language. Reverts to Dutch.

POST CARD. POSTKAART.

And inscribed: "For Address Only." "Slechts voor 't Adres."

This issue appears to have been printed very badly, as there are a number of varieties due to this.

P.12. 1½d. Green and Grey Black on Cream Card.

12a 1½d. Green and Black on Cream Card.

VARIETIES.

12b. Shifted Headplates.

12c. Card printed double.

12d. Double size card, printed double.

1931—

New Issue. Language again changed. Van Riebeeck's ship.

POST CARD. POSTKAART.

And inscribed:

"For Address Only." "Alleen vir die adres."

Arms and inscription in black.

P.13. 1d. Red and Black on Cream.

VARIETIES.

13a " 1 " of " 1d. " above " AF " of "SUIDAFRIKA."

13b " 1 " of " 1d. " above " A " of "SUIDAFRIKA."

13c. Frameplate missing.

13d. Frameplate partly missing.

1931—

1d. PICTORIAL POSTCARDS.

There are 12 views of Cape scenes. The cards are not numbered. Sold at 1s. per packet of 6 cards.

P.14. 1d. Red and Black on White Card.

Card Type 13a only was used for the Pictorial Postcard.

The views are:

Adderley Street, Cape Town; Botanical Gardens, Cape Town; Cableway from Table Mountain; Ceres; Cape Point and Cape of Good Hope; Cape Town from Table Mountain; Groot Schuur; Marine Drive, near Cape Town; New Pavilion, Muizenberg; Rhodes Memorial, Rondebosch; Stellenbosch; Van Riebeeck's Statue.

The above are all Cape scenes.

1933—

SUID-AFRIKA (hyphenated).

Similar to contemporary Roto. Adhesives. Inscription and Arms in Black.

POST CARD. POSKAART.

Inscribed:

"For Address Only." "Alleen vir die Adres."

P.15. 1½d. Green and Black on Cream.

P.16. 1d. Red and Black on Cream.

1934—

1½d. PICTORIAL POSTCARDS. 24 Views.

These are similar to the 1927 issue, except scenes are changed. The numbers on the card are black, and do not run consecutively.

The numbers are: 1, 2, 4, 5, 8, 9, 10, 14, 15, 16, 17, 20, 21, 22, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28, 29, 33, 34, 35, 36.

Arms 12 x 8 mm.

Inscribed:

"For Address Only." "Net vir die Adres."

P.17. 1½d. Green and Black on White Card. View on the Reverse.

Views are as follows:

1. Cape Town. Table Mountain.
2. Houses of Parliament, Cape Town.
4. Camps Bay, through the trees, Cape Town.
5. Devil's Peak, through the trees, Cape Town.
8. The Poort, Mossel Bay, Cape.
9. Montague Pass, Cape.

(Continued on page 32).

Correspondence

To the Editor of the *South African Philatelist*.

O.F.S. CANCELLATIONS.

I am delighted to have your list of Orange Free State numeral cancellations, in the *South African Philatelist* of November, 1941. Mr. Jurgens has indeed done philately a service by filling in so many gaps.

"For the record," I report that letters in the same grids are known to me as follows (all on covers which I have):

- R, Bloemfontein, March 1, 1887, on a registered letter.
 O, Jagersfontein, as previously reported, June, 1882.
 O, Bushmanskop, August 16, 1891; letter has transit postmark of Bloemfontein (squared octagon) August 17, 1891, but ink agrees on O killer and Bushmanskop town mark.

The Jurgens discovery of K at Rouxville and the Basden one of A at Clocolan complete the list of known letters.

May I here say that the remarks of L. de Raay as to use of the letter cancellers "on newspaper and printed matter" is hardly borne out by the facts. All three letter cancellations of mine are on envelopes that carried letters; Mr. Jurgens reports from a postcard. As was so often the case with Mr. De Raay, he repeated uncritically any and every story that came his way on this matter. Without belittling the industry of Mr. de Raay in collecting all possible information, one must admit that each and every statement of his needs to be considered as unproven in the absence of further evidence.

I might add that having unidentified letter grids A, I, P, T, W and K on 3d. and 4d. stamps, D, N, Y and Z on 2d. stamps, and many others on the late 1d. mauve colour, I think the evidence quite negatives this claim of Mr. de Raay.

Mr. Wareham's "reversed 2" in grid seems to warrant a few words. In the absence of a photograph of it from which to judge, I would hardly claim that it "cannot be reversed 2," but with late impressions of the numeral 1 killer when worn and ink-clogged often assuming fantastic forms, I do desire to suggest this as a possibility.

The numeral cancellers were not made from rubber but from metal. This is clearly shown by their remaining undistorted when used with ordinary black cancelling ink and by their long life under heavy service. It is further shown by the character of impression produced when rubber-stamp ink was used with them—a peculiar character which anyone who has ever used a rubber stamp pad to imprint a block into page proofs or

dummies for a book can instantly recognize. What is more, even the older rubber hand-stamps were not made from "pieces cut from rubber sheeting but were always formed by vulcanization of a moulded impression taken in a "rubber mix." In this, as in so many problems connected with South African philately, a knowledge of printing and of hand-stamp making, however slight, is a safeguard against wrong inductions that is sorely needed. (I might add that American philately has suffered even more from careful philatelic work attempted without this necessary background.)

STEPHEN G. RICH.

Verona, N.J., Dec. 15, 1941.

—♦—

The Editor,
South African Philatelist.

Dear Sir,

LONDON 2d. PICTORIAL.

My book *Stamp Collecting* can rarely have been used as the basis for such inaccurate deductions as those made by Mr. S. C. A. Wareham in your November number.

While it is quite true that everything that appears on the mother die will normally be reproduced throughout the printing plate, and consequently on the stamps themselves, this statement does not justify the assumption that where two stamps of similar design vary in any way, there must have been two mother dies.

Such an assumption leaves out of account the possibility of different methods being used for making printing plates, and also that numerous things may happen to the printing plate after its creation, which would cause stamps of similar design to show variations.

I am not concerned with the particular point which your correspondent was trying to illustrate, but I cannot permit him to throw the responsibility for his inaccurate deductions upon my book; in fact, if he had read it thoroughly, the incorrectness of his own statement would have been apparent to him.

Yours faithfully,

STANLEY PHILLIPS.

—♦—

The Editor,
South African Philatelist.
Sir,

CAPE 4d. BLACK TRIANGULAR.

I would like to express my appreciation at the very able manner in which you refer to the Black Fourpenny Cape in the Editorial of the *South African Philatelist* of February, 1942, the three concluding paragraphs therein being in my opinion sound common sense.

During the whole period in which the Cape triangular stamps were in use only two different types of defacing stamps were used,

viz.:

- (1) The triangular defacer.
- (2) The Oval Bar Numeral defacer.

and so far as date stamps were concerned, which were not really intended for the defacement of stamps but which were used occasionally for this purpose there were only three in use, viz.:

- (1) The Oval of 1853-1854.
- (2) The Circular Date Stamp of 1857.
- (3) The Small circular date stamp of 1864-1865.

As all of the above mentioned postal markings are common and well known to philatelists it does seem rather strange that of all the postmarked copies of the Fourpence black so far discovered the type of defacement cannot be identified. I do not think it is necessary to go beyond this for a reason.

A. A. JURGENS.

Cape Town,
23.2.1942.

Latest War Provisionals...

All Mint except where mentioned otherwise.

Australia: 2½d., 3½d. and 5½d. overprinted on current K.G. VI., 3 diff. (Issued for 6 weeks only). Price .. 2/-
Ceylon: 3 cents on 6 cents 4d.
Ceylon: 3 cents on 20 cents (rare) .. 1/3
Kenya: 5c, 10c, and 20c, in pairs .. 1/-
S.W.A.: Complete set in pairs (Face 5/-) 6/6
New Zealand Health 1941 used. (2 diff.) 1/-
Fiji: 2½d. on 2d. used 9d.

SPECIAL OFFER: Rare Sets.

Nyasaland K.G. V. Leopard, complete set, Mint 8/6
S.W.A. Huguenot, complete set in pairs, Mint or used 3/-
New Zealand Centennials, 12 diff., Mint (except 7d.) 7/6
Australia: 3 War Services, complete Mint 3/-
Blocks pro rata. Order early, supplies are limited.

WANTED TO BUY:

Collections for Spot Cash. Any Country Specialized or General Collections. Highest Prices Paid.

Why not get cash for any size collections or stock on the spot? Offers solicited.

E. BLUM

P.O. BOX 1669 - - - CAPE TOWN.
Established in South Africa since 1930.
First class references.

OSWALD MARSH'S

EFFICIENT, EXPEDITIOUS 10% WRITE FOR PARTICULARS

NEW ISSUE SERVICE

NORWOOD, LONDON S.E.

ITALIAN SOMALILAND.

The "Kenmore Collector" states: "It has been reported that sheets of Italian Somaliland stamps were overprinted 'British Occupation.' This overprinting was done in error and the entire supply was destroyed. It is not known whether any were used before the stock was destroyed."

GOLD COAST.

Mr. P. L. Pemberton, in the November *Philatelic Journal of Great Britain*, records a Gold Coast variety which is of interest in view of the rarity of accidents to De La Rue plates. This is a short "T" in COAST and occurs in the 2½d. Queen Victoria on the 6th stamp of the 6th row, both in this stamp without surcharge and on the stamp with the "One Penny" surcharge.

BRASIL.

Dr. Mario de Sanctis reports the following new commemoratives:

(1) On October 20 a 400r. stamp engraved in black by Casa da Moeda on a thin paper watermarked with a small star between the words "Brasil Correo." This records the proclamation in 1641 of Amador Bueno as King of Sao Paulo.

(2) On the same date and on similar paper a stamp, value Rs5 \$400 with the inscriptions: "Semana da Asa" (The week of the wings).

(3) On November 10 a stamp "Estado Novo" (Rs.5 \$400 Centenarios Portugal with portraits of Presidents Vargas and Carmona) with red surcharge in three lines "Aereo/10 Nov./937-941."

I Sell

South-West African Stamps— mint or used— current issues, obsolete issues, Jubilees - Coronations - Stationery, etc.
Enquiries solicited.

MARTIN ASCH,
SWAKOPMUND, S.W.A.

FOR SALE

Approvals offered of most European Countries

UNION - BASUTOLAND - COMMEMORATIVES - JUBILEES and CORONATIONS.

Many Rarities and Good Stamps. Collectors unknown to me, please send Johannesburg references.

ALEX KAPLAN

P.O. Box 132 Phone 51-1701
GERMISTON

"RUST"



The Bugbear of Tropical Philately

By E. E. GAGEL,
Philatelic Society of Natal.

So called "rust" in stamps is our greatest enemy; in other countries it is referred to as "Brown Mould," "Oxidation," "Foxing," etc. Actually it is fungoid or bacterial in nature.

First of all it would be well to deal with the manufacture of paper, which is the root cause of the infection. Naturally, as paper making is a technical subject, only a general explanation of its manufacture is dealt with here.

Fibres of various kinds, all of vegetable origin, are digested into pulp with the aid of sodium oxide, sodium sulphite, and sulphurous acid. The resulting mass in its crude state is called 'Cellulose.' Bleaching is effected by various mixtures such as calcium chloride and calcium hypochlorite; these produce chlorine which, in turn, releases oxygen. Acidity is neutralised by adding sulphite or hyposulphite of soda. The cellulose is loaded with china clay and at this stage colouring matter is added if desired. The fluid mass is passed under pressure through a strainer to remove such solids as exist and then on to a mould that allows the liquid to drain off. After drying the paper is absorbent, i.e., "blotting paper"; this is then sized by treating the surface with a composition of gelatine and/or resin in solution. It is subjected to further drying and pressure and is then ready. The gumming of stamps is done by applying dextrine, i.e., a dilute composition of starch and nitric acid, with or without hydrochloric acid or oxalic acid.

Now, these raw materials, vegetable fibres, wood pulp and clay, all contain abundant bacteria and the manner in which we keep our collections is liable to provide suitable conditions for their growth.

The most important consideration about papers which are to be kept for any lengthy period under humid conditions such as prevail here is that of the "furnish" or surface sizing. Mechanical wood pulp, by reason of the unsaturated character of the product and high quantity of lignone, is liable to autoxidation and should be avoided. The most suitable type of paper is one made from chemical wood pulp alone, preferably a bleached chemical pulp, the paper finished off very slightly on the acid side with alum. All these remarks on paper refer to that used in the manufacture of stamps, album leaves, hinges and even the covers of albums.

It is this vegetable composition of papers which, in conditions of moisture and lack of light, permits bacterial growth. The growth is not at first visible to the naked eye, but usually appears as brown specks on the teeth of the perforation, gradually spreading until it may cover the whole unprinted portion of the stamp, but very seldom attacking the printed portion. It has been said that it appears more on the gummed side of the stamp (in the case of mint stamps), but as the growth takes place in the centre of the paper, that is, under the surface, it is a matter of visibility. Under a strong microscope the infection loses its colour and the paper has a raised appearance.

From observations made it is possible to lay down some rules for the safe housing of collections, the first of which should be the careful selection of albums and album sheets. Owing to the additional chemical treatment of "black" sheets, these being the most resistant are the most desirable, but care should be taken that they are of a good quality and of chemical wood pulp as referred to before. Then the selection of the container for the stamps and albums is important, as the wood should be of a dry variety so assisting in absorbing the moisture. Experiments in this direction have been carried out by members and much success has attended their efforts; sandalwood and camphorwood chests being used. It all depends on the amount of moisture which is allowed to percolate into the container, as when this is eliminated we remove the most important factor of bacterial growth. An example of how moisture is carried in minute particles of dust can here be given; it was noticed that paper and paper manufactures which were kept under cover in a receptacle in a direct line of draught gradually received a fine coating of dust which on being removed disclosed the "brown mould" under each deposit.

There are numerous methods of combating the presence of moisture in ordinary receptacles, such as cupboards, wardrobes, etc. The cheapest and one which will not do harm by contact is a piece of old soap which has become very hard and shrunken—this will absorb all the moisture present. Contact of stamps and leaves with the hands and arms should be avoided at all costs as it is those parts touched which very soon show signs of infection, especially if the stamps or leaves are put away and not aired from time to time.

There is a method of protecting paper and stamps against the "brown mould," infection for those ready to undertake the task, and Thymol is the remedy. For the treatment of the album leaves, melt thymol crystals into sheets of clean white blotting paper by using a hot iron. This impregnated blotting paper should then be interleaved between the album leaves and the book kept under a weight for a few days. This will sterilize the book and there is no risk of damage to the stamps.

We can now deal with the most effective remedy for removing "brown mould" from stamps, that is from used stamps, as the remedy when coming into contact with the gum of mint stamps, although taking out the "mould" or discolouration, also dissolves the gum. The remedy, Chloramine T, is very cheap and a mixture of 2 grammes with 100 c.c. distilled water is of ample strength to clear the infection. In the case of very badly discoloured stamps two or more applications are necessary. The stamps can either be immersed in the solution or a small water colour paint brush may be used. A warning should be given with regard to chalk surfaced stamps, as owing to the bleaching qualities of Chloramine T, the surface will be adversely affected. As is known stamps printed on chalk paper are specially prepared to prevent the eradication of cancellation marks, and aside from contact with liquids the surface can be removed by friction.

It has been established that stamps treated with the solution do not show a recurrence of the infection and tests made have proved its efficiency over a period of some years, even with stamps kept in close proximity with others containing the mould.

There are many grades of quality in papers used for postage stamps and among those used for Union stamps the most receptive to mould are the four Air Stamps issued during 1925; these are invariably found damaged among the collections in the tropical areas. The issues from the Georgians to the London printed pictorials are very prone to infection also, but the later issues seem to be more resistant, although it is too early yet to say this finally. There is no doubt that the paper used for the Victorians generally was of a far better quality than that used for the post-Victorian issues, and the modern process of paper-making is no doubt responsible for this.

Some collectors favour the use of pochettes and provided the pochettes are of a good manufacture and sealed with paraffin wax after excluding all possible air, good results may be obtained, but against this are several drawbacks. The pochettes become faded and usually tend to shrink, whilst unless it can be certain that all moisture-laden air has been removed from the pochette before sealing, the enclosed stamp becomes an ideal incubator for the fungoid growth.

We unfortunately cannot treat damaged mint stamps with Chloramine T solution without damaging them in another direction, but until a suitable remedy is found, the only alternative is to remove the gum, treat the affected parts with the solution and re-apply the gum by using dextrine or gum arabic. This latter process is a difficult operation and will never look the same as the original. However, far better the stamp without gum than with fungus.

A number of members have been kept acquainted with the foregoing and have used the Chloramine T solution. Other points may have occurred to them, and a general discussion on the subject will bring forth issues not dealt with here and add to our knowledge of the subject.

(Continued from page 28).

10. Montague. "The Langeberg," "Solitude," Cape.
 14. Durban, Natal.
 15. The Esplanade, Durban.
 16. Amanzimtoti, Natal.
 17. Umlaas Falls, Natal.
 20. Umzimkulu River, Port Shepstone, Natal.
 21. Mont aux Sources, Drakensberg, Natal.
 22. Drakensberg, Natal.
 24. General view of Bloemfontein.
 25. Valsch River and Bridge, Kroonstad, O.F.S.
 26. Port St. Johns.
 27. Union Buildings, Pretoria.
 28. Government House, Pretoria, Transvaal.
 29. Railway line near Victoria Bay.
 33. Falls at Waterval Boven.
 34. Wylie's Poort, N. Transvaal.
 35. River scene, Tzaneen, N. Transvaal.
 36. Hippos in Komati River, E. Transvaal.
- 1935—

ONE COLOUR PRINTED CARDS.

New Issue. One Coloured printed cards. New Design. Springbok's Head. Solid Background to centre portion of stamp. Afrikaans first, and English first.

Arms 15 x 11 mm.

Inscribed:

"Alleen vir die Adres." "For Address Only." On Afrikaans and vice-versa on English.

P.18. AFRIKAANS first, and ENGLISH.

‡d. Green on Cream.

P.19. ENGLISH first, and AFRIKAANS.

‡d. Green on Cream.

1936—1941—

NEW DESIGN STAMP.

Arms slightly larger. Centre now composed of ruled lines, horizontally. One colour printed cards. Various shades of Green used.

P.20. AFRIKAANS first, and ENGLISH.

‡d. Green on Cream.

P.21. ENGLISH first, and AFRIKAANS.

‡d. Green on Cream.

(To be continued).

German South-West Africa

DR. HERBERT MUNK—KOHL'S HANDBOOK.

*Translated by Dr. J. H. Harvey Pirie and reprinted by kind permission from the
"Collectors Club Philatelist."*

(Continued from page 19 of February issue).

THE FIELD POST DURING THE OPERATIONS AGAINST THE BONDELZWARTS, HEREROS AND HOTTENTOTS—

November, 1903 to 31st December, 1907.

The Field Post in the war with the Bondelzwart-Hottentots in the S.E. of the Protectorate commenced operations with the departure of troops from Keetmanshoop in the latter half of November, 1903. These troops were from the outset provided with "Field Postcards" by the postal agency at Keetmanshoop.

These "Field Postcards," used throughout the whole of the campaign, were made in Windhoek by changing the heading "Postkarte" (Postcard) of the ordinary postcards into "Feld-Postkarte" (Field Postcard). This was done by a rubber handstamp "Feld." Two patterns were employed, one small, in violet; the other large, in blue. The field postcards were sent from Windhoek to Keetmanshoop where they were stamped with the official seal of the postal agency. They were then distributed to the troops, partly directly to those in the neighbourhood, and partly by sending to Warmbad for delivery to those serving in the more southerly part of the field of operations. Until the setting up of special Field Post Stations these field postcards were cancelled when they were handed in again at Warmbad or Keetmanshoop, as the case might be.

About the end of December, 1903, a special Field Post Station was established, and for cancelling postal matter this station used "Wanderstempel V" supplemented by a handstamp impression "Feld-Poststation" in black or in violet.

This Field Post Station also forwarded ordinary or registered letters, etc., and sold postage stamps for such missives as were not being sent northwards through German territory but southwards via Ramansdrift and thence by the British post through Cape Colony. The postage stamps on such mail were not cancelled by the Field Post Station, however, but at Keetmanshoop on passing through the agency there.

After the departure of Governor Leutwein for the north, where, in January, 1904, the big rising of the Hereros took place, this Field Post Station was closed down, the date being, at latest, in the beginning of February.

Directly after the outbreak of the Herero rising in January, 1904, the Field Post arrangements were regularized by agreement

with the Imperial Post Office on 20th January. For the mobile field postal service in the Protectorate a Field Post Office was established at Okahandja on 4th March, 1904, and in the same month Field Post Station No. 1 was put into operation. Later there followed Field Post Stations Nos. 2, 3, 4 and 5. The cancelling stamps of these stations were of the same type as those used in the Field Post in China. (See Original Vol. II, p. 97), but that of No. 5 is only known in manuscript.

As soldiers and auxiliary services in the field were allowed free postage for postcards, letters up to 50g. in weight, and money orders up to 800 marks, postage stamps of ship pattern with postmarks of any of the above Field Post Stations are very rare (letters over 50g., letters from civilians, etc.).

At first in this area also, the "Field Postcards" were usually ordinary postcards made into "Field Postcards" by the addition of the word "Feld" either in manuscript or by a rubber stamp as described above.

To regularize these Field Postcards (and Field Post Letters), especially during the year 1904, the civil postal establishments at which they were given out or handed in frequently put their official seal on them (such are rarely seen on the field postcards, however), whilst in 1905 "Soldiers' Letter Stamps," of a great variety of types, usually took the place of these official seals and, by mistake, these sometimes occur as cancelling postage stamps.

Before the Herero rising was finally quelled there was an outbreak among the Witboys and a further insurrection among the more southerly dwelling Hottentots so that operations were once more transferred to the southern portion of the colony.

As the rebels constantly tried to evade pursuit by crossing over into British territory, whence, freshly outfitted, they would make renewed raids into the southern part of the Protectorate, the German military command countered this by establishing a "blockade" along the Orange River with a chain of outposts and scouts.

During this period (first half of 1906) part of the provisioning and the mail supply of the blockade region was done through Cape Colony. So far as the mails were concerned, supply columns on their return journey to the Cape territory handed over the post bags to German agents either in Steinkop or in Port Nolloth, whence they were forwarded to

Lüderitzbucht and there the contents were first sorted.

Frequently, however, single letters or post-cards were given to messengers, dealers or others who were travelling back to Cape Colony. Such missives had naturally to be franked with Cape stamps, which had to be done either by carrier of the letter or by the German sender of it if he had somehow managed to obtain Cape stamps. At any rate there are in existence covers which show that the Cape stamps on them had already been stuck on by the German senders.

This accounts for the occurrence of German Field Post Cards and Field Post Letters (alone or with "Soldiers' Letter Stamps") with Cape Colony stamps, and used during the first half of 1906 north of the Orange River at such places as Uppington, Mier, or Zwartmodder.

SECOND DEFINITIVE ISSUE.

1906 (13th January)—1913 (end of August). Types 1 and 2 as before but with watermark of lozenges (German Empire watermark, Type W1. See Vol. I, p. 947 and Vol. II p. 68). The engraved stamps partly perforated in Type Z1 (26 : 17 perforation holes); partly (viz. those issued in 1919, never sent to the colony, printed in the list below in italics) in Type Z2 (25 : 17 perforation holes). The 3 mk. value was only issued at the collectors' counter in Berlin and only occurs with perf. Z2.

- 24 3 pf. (a) dark (golden) brown (9.2.07, Berlin)
(b) yellow golden brown (1913)
- 25 5 pf. green, dark green (May, 1906, at latest)
- 26 10 pf. (a) light rose, carmine rose (Sept., 1906)
(b) rose carmine with metallic sheen (H 2241.13)
- 27 20 pf. dark blue (beginning of 1911)
- 28 30 pf. reddish orange and black on rose-chamois—shades (end of August, 1913)
- 29 1 mk. (a) carmine red (May, 1912)
(b) *dark rose* (June, 1919)
- 30 2 mk. (a) dark blue (Nov., 1911)
(b) *blue* (June, 1919)
- 31 3 mk. grey-violet (March, 1919)
- 32 5 mk. (a) greenish black on carmine (13.1.06) in Berlin
(b) *greenish black on rose* (1919)

COLLECTORS' WANTS AND OFFERS

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

Orange Free State.—Approval selections wanted. Must be fine, well-centred copies.

William Redford, Box 7012, Johannesburg.

Transvaal in particular and old Southern Africans generally, wanted by:

A. E. Basden, Box 238, Pretoria.

For Quality and Variety—Globe Packets.—Extensive price lists free. Serious collectors write for finest approval books of your country. References.

Globe Postage Stamp Company, 117 Longmarket Street, Cape Town.

Wanted.—Many items in Foreign Colonials, French, German, Italian, Spanish, Dutch Belgian Danish, Portuguese; all issues up to 1933 (inclusive). Mint for preference.

E. Hunt, Box 2437, Johannesburg.

Wanted.—Imperforate Issues of all countries (both scarce and common). Cape pre-stamp covers.

G. Carleton Jones, F.R.P.S.L., Box 1167, Johannesburg.

Wanted.—Somaliland 1938, mint 2, 3, and 5 Rupees. Best offer to

S. Kaganson, 440 Albert Road, Salt River, C.P.

Wanted.—Clean, well-centred Cape Rectangulars up to and including C.A. issues, either mint or lightly cancelled.

Schofield, Rand Club, Johannesburg.

	Z1	Z2
perf. 26 : 17		perf. 25 : 17
x		x
x		x
x		x
x		x

(To be continued).

Society News

CAPE TOWN PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

President, M. Rothkugel; *Hon. Sec.*, K. Cameron, 9, Pineway, Pinelands, Cape. *Meetings*, 2nd and 4th Thursdays, Medical House, 35, Wale Street, Cape Town, at 8 p.m.

8th January, 1942.—The opening meeting for the new year partook of displays at an "All Members" night.

It was somewhat disappointing that only three stalwarts, so far as exhibiting was concerned, came forward with exhibits. Notwithstanding that, the evening was pronounced a complete success; nevertheless the President commented on the fact that so few members availed themselves of this opportunity afforded to members, who are not collectors in a very large way but who must surely have items of interest (be they even few) to show them to the members of the Society and visitors who have been exhibiting such animated interest in the displays over the past year.

The exhibitors were Messrs. Alexander, Axer and Solomon, and their displays amply compensated for any backwardness on the part of other members.

Mr. K. Alexander showed an interesting series of "War Train" covers. Mr. Axer provided a fine display of official, Air Mail, and First Day covers of New Zealand, while Mr. E. C. Solomon brought another extract from his famous "A to Z" collection, this time of Zanzibar stamps ranging from the time of the French Administration to the present day. Each of these members added lustre to the exhibits in a short description of their respective displays. They were suitably thanked by the chairman on behalf of the Society.

A letter from the Chief Censor was read, in which attention was drawn to the fact that the sending through the post by collectors covers, bearing censor marks, was looked upon with disfavour by the Government and that such covers were liable to confiscation.

22nd January, 1942.—The display for this evening was devoted to the very fine and outstanding collection of Rhodesian stamps of Mr. W. D. Vallance, who is a noted authority on this country and its stamps. The exhibit was made specially interesting by the illuminating discourse which he gave upon the origin and history of the stamps of that country.

Of the display itself it is perhaps unnecessary to say more than that Mr. Vallance's collection of that country is probably unsurpassed throughout the Continent of Africa and may well find first place in competition throughout the world.

It was not so much the quantity as the quality of this exhibit in its various phases of rarities, varieties of perfs, post-marks (proofs that had escaped from the Printers' hands!) shades, etc., that at once struck the eye of the philatelist.

Mr. Vallance was complimented and thanked by one of the oldest members of the Society, Mr. W. L. Ashmead, himself an ardent philatelist, and one who is the proud possessor of several special collections that have seen the "light of day" at the Society's meetings.

At both these meetings stamps were sold for war funds in particular we might mention the sale of sixty-nine lots of stamps generously donated by Mr. E. Blum for the benefit of the Red Cross Society which realised a goodly sum.

A special vote of thanks to Mr. Blum for his generosity in this respect was carried unanimously. It was pleasing to see so large an attendance of members and visitors at both these meetings.

12th February, 1942.—To a well-attended meeting, which was presided over by the President, Mr. M. Rothkugel, was exhibited a somewhat unusual special collection of the stamps of Mozambique and the Mozambique Company belonging to the secretary of the Society, Mr. Kenneth Cameron. This collection

was unique for its completeness. It comprised the early Crown stamps of 1877 to 1885 and continued with examples of practically every issue, including many seldom seen items up to the current issues. For their picturesqueness and charm one might pick out such sets as the St. Anthony Commemoratives and Red Cross issues. It might be added that there were a number of uncatalogued items in this collection and Mr. Cameron is to be congratulated on the very fine exhibit.

The exhibitor was suitably thanked by Mr. William Muller, and eulogies were added by Messrs. L. Simenhoff and E. C. Solomon.

It was gratifying to know that at exceptionally short notice Mr. Cameron was able to come forward in place of Mr. Gysberg, who at the last moment was unavoidably unable to exhibit his collection of Belgiums, as was intended for this evening.

At the outset of the evening the Chairman referred to the recent deaths of two prominent South African philatelists, Mr. Park-Smith, of the Strand, and Mr. Houbert, for many years treasurer of the Johannesburg Philatelic Society. He also made mention of the fact that Mr. A. R. Burmeister, one of the older members of the Society, had suffered a bereavement through the death of his son. Messages of condolence were sent to the relatives and the members rose in their seats as a mark of respect.

E.C.S.

PHILATELIC SOCIETY OF NATAL.

President, P. C. Bishop; *Hon. Sec.*, G. Milner Palmer, P.O. Box 588, Durban; *Meetings*, 1st Wednesdays, Durban Publicity Bureau, West Street.

At our February meeting, held on February 4, we confirmed the admission to membership of Mr. S. K. Phillips, Mr. Charles J. Fairbrother, and Col. E. C. Rossell. A proposal to secure insurance cover for the Society's exchange packets while in transit was further discussed on the receipt of a letter from the North British and Mercantile Insurance Company, the question being eventually referred to the committee.

Mr. E. E. Gagel gave his promised talk on rust in stamps, recommending as a remedy the treatment of stamps affected by "rust" or "mould" by a solution of Chloramine T, the formula being "2 grammes of Chloramine T in 100 cms. of distilled water." Questions were asked and answered by Mr. Gagel, whose address aroused keen interest, and who gave a promise to provide actual demonstrations of the treatment of rusted stamps at our next month's meeting. The president returned thanks to Mr. Gagel amid applause.

Mr. H. H. Hurst then gave what is hoped will be the first of a regular series of talks on "Topical Affairs," in the course of which he reviewed the latest British stamp magazines and auction catalogues and read interesting letters from leading dealers on the present state of the stamp trade. In view of further talks of the same type members were asked to supply Mr. Hurst with any items of interest that came their way.

An auction of the remaining stamps donated to the Society's "Stamp Drive for War Funds" realised a sum of £5 15s. 6d., after which a fine exhibition of Forgeries, Reprints and Bogus Stamps by Mr. V. B. Crockett brought the meeting to a close.

G.M.P.

O.F.S. AND BASUTOLAND PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

President, Mr. J. B. Levy; *Hon. Secretary*, Mr. R. C. Lyon, Box 702, Bloemfontein; *Meetings*, 3rd Fridays, Oranje Koffiehuis, Bloemfontein.

The February meeting had a fair attendance. As usual, there were interesting discussions about topical philatelic questions.

Mr. A. Lichtenstein, whose reports of unknown philatelic facts have become a welcome feature at every meeting, reported the following tit-bits of general interest, not recorded yet:

The 5c. provisional Kenya overprint appears on the Union 1d. of the slightly reduced size (last

printing) as well as on the 1d. of usual size. Although the Australia 1d. King's Head is the only denomination catalogued to have the variety "no cross on crown." Mr. Lichtenstein was able to show a specimen of the 1½d. showing the identical variety. According to Mr. Lichtenstein the variety can be found on both the red as well as on the brown 1½d.

Mr. J. B. Levy reported that of the new ½d. Picture Postcards he has managed to gather 32 different views (until now only 20 were known).

The display of the evening was given by Mr. J. Lewis, who exhibited his Union Coronations. The material shown was very extensive. Worthy of special mention are a sheet of part of the "scarce" 1d. printing and a 1d. block with "joined paper" variety.

K.F.

THE PHILATELIC SOCIETY OF JOHANNESBURG.

President, I. Isaacs; Hon. Secretary, F. J. H. Lang, Box 4967, Johannesburg. Meetings, 2nd Tuesdays, Sanlam Buildings, Loveday Street, Johannesburg.

The February meeting was very well attended, notwithstanding torrential rains, and those who turned up were well repaid for their trouble in getting to the meeting.

In accordance with the recently inaugurated change in the procedure of our meetings, the exhibit by Mr. G. Carleton Jones of a portion of his Canadian collection comprising the first issue of the Dominion of Canada, July 1, 1868, to 1872, was shown at the opening of the meeting.

Before tabling his exhibit, Mr. Carleton Jones gave a few interesting historical notes and remarks concerning various items in his exhibit. Among other remarks he said that July 1 is Dominion Day in Canada, which corresponds with Union Day in South Africa, and that the various Provinces joined the Dominion of Canada in the order mentioned: Nova Scotia, New Brunswick, and then British Columbia in 1871, and Prince Edward Island in 1873. Newfoundland, the oldest British Colony, at first refused to become part of the Dominion, and on various subsequent occasions requested admission and was refused, and then refused admission when it was asked to become part of the Dominion.

Among some of the interesting details of the stamps exhibited, the quantities printed of various values were stated. These quantities are as follows:

6,500,000	½c
11,000,000	1c
10,000,000	2c
29,000,000	3c
1,000,000	5c
12,000,000	6c
2,000,000	12½c
2,500,000	15c

This beautiful and most outstanding collection included Essay mint copy of the 1c, study of papers in all values of the issue, reconstructed issues of watermarks, normal, inverted and reverse, numeral cancellations from 1 to 60 in the two ring design. Cork cancellations in a variety of interesting designs, a soldier's letter after 1859—a very rare item, a soldier's letter, 1869, with a 2c green stamp post-marked from Blichley Station. This collection which was professionally written up, is indeed impeccable from the standpoint of presentation, and is certainly in a fitting setting for a philatelic record for all time.

Major Milligan expressed the high appreciation and thanks of the members for Mr. Carleton Jones' exhibit.

Four new members were elected at this meeting, namely, Mrs. N. Roberts, Rev. N. Roberts, and Messrs. W. D. Kevan and F. King.

It was with profound sorrow that the members were informed of the passing of our good friend and earnest collector, Mr. J. G. Houbert, who had served the society for eighteen years in the capacity of treasurer, and for many years as curator of the Society's collection, and who only within the past year had been elected life-long member in recognition of the services he had rendered to the Society and philately in general.

H.E.B.

PRETORIA PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

President, A. E. Basden; Hon. Secretary, H. A. Wager, P.O. Box 514. Meetings, 1st and 3rd Mondays, 8 p.m., Technical College.

February 2.—Mr. Warren was in the chair. It was the annual general meeting. The reports of the different officials, which were read and adopted, showed that the Society had had a very successful year, although the membership had decreased somewhat. The Exchange Department was now in the capable hands of Mr. Wright and a big increase in exchange sales was recorded. Officers elected for 1942 were: President, Mr. A. E. Basden; vice-president, Mr. R. C. Warren; secretary, Prof. H. A. Wager; treasurer, Mr. N. L. Watson; exchange superintendent, Mr. E. C. Wright; librarian, Mr. H. N. B. Hawke; curator of Society collection, Mr. E. C. Wright; curator of forgery collection, Mr. E. H. Gomm; auctioneer, Dr. A. J. Broughton.

The forgery collection was tabled.

February 16.—Mr. Basden was in the chair. Mr. Watson read some recent philatelic extracts.

The Society's collection was displayed for consideration and there followed a discussion on the scope of the collection and on the advisability of continuing it. Most members took part. Mr. Gomm proposed that the collection should be carried on as at present. An amendment by Dr. Broughton to limit the collection and concentrate on some of the more complete countries in the collection was lost. An amendment by Mr. de Boom that the collection be restricted to the four provinces of South Africa was lost. Mr. Gomm's proposal was then put and carried.

H.A.W.

STUDY YOUR COUNTRY'S STAMPS

THE PHILATELY OF THE POSTAL CENTENARY.

In the "Philatelic Magazine" Dr. Graham Ward has collected together all the celebrations of the centenary of the postage stamp. Here is a summary of his findings which will interest all those who have made or are making "Centenary collections":

New Issue of Postage Stamps.—Bulgaria, Cuba, Burma, Dominican Republic, Esthonia, Germany, Great Britain, Guatemala (stamps ordered from Holland, but delivery prevented through enemy occupation), Liberia, Mexico, Morocco, Nicaragua, Paraguay, Portugal, Salvador, Tangier, Turkey.

Miniature Sheets.—Argentine, Brazil, Cuba, Italy, Portugal.

Obliterations mentioning the Centenary.—Bahamas (Sea floor), Canada (Hamilton, Ont.), Cuba (Habana), France (Nice), Great Britain (London and Bournemouth), Holland (Rotterdam), Hungary (Budapest), Italy (Milan), Ned. East Indies (Batavia), Sweden (Stockholm).

Special Obliterations at Centenary Exhibitions or Congresses.—Argentine (Cordoba), Brazil (Rio de Janeiro), Great Britain (Bournemouth), U.S.A. (Buffalo and Oklahoma).

Official Cachets.—British Guiana (Georgetown), Brazil, Switzerland (Lucerne).

Meter Marks.—To follow

The SOUTH AFRICAN PHILATELIST

Proprietors and Publishers :

The Philatelic Federation of Southern Africa

Honorary Editor: Dr. J. H. HARVEY PIRIE, P.O. Box 7012, Johannesburg.
Honorary Business Manager: WILLIAM REDFORD, Broadcast House, Commissioner Street, Johannesburg.

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

Vol. 18. No. 4.

APRIL, 1942.

Whole No. 205.

UNION FAKES.

DOUBLE IMPRESSIONS and CHANGED COLOURS.

Mr. L. Simenhoff writes:—"I shall be glad if you would issue a warning in the "S.A.P." re faked ½d. King's Head Union "double impression" stamps that are being hawked about in Cape Town. I have been shown a "mint" and a "used" copy, the latter a very good bit of work. Mr. A. H. Sydow and I have come to the conclusion that these fakes are made by pressure being exerted, i.e., a thin layer of paper to which impressions of the design have been transferred is pressed on to an ordinary stamp.

"The double impression' effect is certainly very good, but the stamps are bent or curved, and traces of gum can be seen.

"I am given to understand that at least four 'used' copies have been seen in Cape Town recently. I am making enquiries re the source of these. Meanwhile, please warn philatelists to be on their guard."

Mr. A. H. Sydow, in a later letter, states: "In addition to the faked double impression King's heads, I have seen a similarly produced 1d. rotogravure with portions of the ship obliquely doubled. This came through the post (a V slogan cancellation) with a blue ½d. war stamp. The ½d. war stamp can quite easily be changed from green to blue by chemical treatment in either their mint state (gum unaffected) or used on cover. Some have been offered for sale in Cape Town at 10s. So, collectors beware! This game was tried on some time ago with the ordinary ½d. stamps, but apparently the evildoers think they can get away with it again."

UNION ROTOGRAVURE 2d. VALUE,

April, 1931.—Different Arrows.

In answer to Mr. S. C. W. Wareham's queries regarding the sequence and printings of the 2d. Rotogravure Union stamps, as far as I can gather from a study of the flaws, etc., the following is the order.

The first two printings were from what I shall call Int. and Ext. cylinders 1.

The first issue, A printing, had the small central arrows measuring 2 mm. and the broken frame line flaw on No. 4, row 1.

The second issue, B printing, had the large 6 mm. arrows etched over the original small arrows, which can be clearly seen in some positions, notably the top centre arrow. Being from the same cylinders, the broken frameline occurs again of course.

Then there was a change of cylinders, which I will call Int. and Ext. Cylinders 2.

The first printing from these cylinders had central arrows measuring 3 mm., and showed the blurred spot on No. 4, row 1, which certainly is not a retouch of the original white broken line flaw, as it is much higher up in position.

The second printings from Cylinders 2 had arrows measuring 5 mm. and again showed the blurred spot of course.

The next change of cylinders had the central arrows measuring 4 mm. and had none of the flaws of the preceding printings.

As far as I can gather from the Government Printer's report in the "S.A.P.," these cylinders were Int. 34 and Ext. 42.

Then came another change of cylinders, viz., Int. 29 and Ext. 43, and these printings showed Suid-Afrika with the hyphen.

The arrows in the printings are approx. 4 mm., and are of the "split" variety, viz., there are narrow white lines running across the arrows.

I think this covers all the cylinder changes, but there have been very numerous printings, as shown by the numerous shades in this denomination, not that it follows of course that every shade means a definite different printing, as the inks may be added to or changed during a printing, and so cause a very definite colour change.

The sheets are undoubtedly printed in sheets of 20 rows of six stamps, vide the controls, and an occasional perforation shift.

G. N. GILBERT.

A Mafeking Bogus Variety

By DR. K. FREUND.

Research and knowledge of Mafeking stamps are in general rather limited yet, although more than four decades have passed since their issue. The main reason for that is the fact that the siege authorities have obliged us with very little information, as they simply had no trained eye nor much time for philatelic finesse.

If, therefore, a peculiar variety crops up suddenly, like the double surcharged 1s. on 4d. British Bechuanaland, one surcharge "fancy", the other one "sans-serif," philatelists must be at a loose end. In a recent letter to the *S.A. Philatelist* (October, 1941), the late Major Harrington reported having come across such a variety.

The fact that this item is unlisted does not condemn it straight away, as there are several errors which were not reported in time to be included in the bigger catalogues. There is, for instance, the double overprinted S.G. 12 (sans-serif type; the same denomination with double overprinted fancy type is catalogued under S.G. 9c).

Altogether three specimens of the 1s. on 4d. Brit. Bechuanaland with the two different types of Mafeking overprint have come to my knowledge. The strange thing about these three copies is that the position of the two surcharges in relation to each other is in each case a different one.

The copy A was mentioned and illustrated by Mr. V. F. James in his "Philatelic Notes and Offers" of 26th October, 1935. This copy shows the fancy type superimposed on the sans-serif capitals, a fact which condemns it without ado, as the sans-serif type was used after, not before or concurrently with the fancy type. Besides that, as far as I can judge from the illustration, the fancy type does not represent any of the six known "settings" to be genuine.

The copy B is in the possession of a Bloemfontein philatelist and shows the two types separate without touching each other. The fancy surcharge is here definitely genuine, representing the so-called setting 3. The question is whether the small-lettered overprint is also genuine or has been added by a forger.

The copy C is the one mentioned by the late Major Harrington. According to his letter, the sans-serif surcharge is here superimposed in the fancy type.

Having recognised the copy A as a forgery, the question arises whether the other two copies, in fact all other copies of this item

which might still exist, are also fakes. The following considerations must lead to the conclusion that *all* stamps with this type of double surcharge are bogus varieties:

(1) The Mafeking stamps were surcharged by machine, and at each stroke of the machine a complete row of six stamps was overprinted. Thus, every stamp in a row should show the surcharge in the same position, in the same alignment. The three copies mentioned show the surcharges all *in varying positions*. One cannot contend that perhaps a number of rows of this "error" was misprinted, causing a different alignment at a later stage. Too few copies have come to light for that. Anyway, the fact that the position of the surcharges should be different on each of the three copies we know, makes them all highly suspicious.

(2) The fact that one copy (copy A) is a definite forgery, makes other specimens of this peculiar variety suspicious, too.

(3) A "double surcharge" error, as any error, is only possible inadvertently through a mistake of the printer or through a fault of the machine which gets stuck. As the catalogues show, this has actually happened in several forms. There is even the triple surcharge S.G. 11b, caused by "trembling" of the machine. But such an "error" can happen naturally only with *one and the same type*. If the two overprints are of different type, the adding of the second type can *only* have been done *intentionally*.

(4) It is impossible that the printer was the one who added the second overprint. His only reason for adding a second overprint could only be a very faulty printing of the first surcharge. Mr. V. F. James, who tries to defend copy A, mentions indeed that "the under surcharge appears to be somewhat faintly printed or under-inked," giving this as possible reason for the second overprint. I am rather surprised at Mr. James' statement, as both overprints on copy A appear to me sufficiently distinct and readable, although I have only the reproduction of copy A in Mr. James' list to judge from. Anyway, this copy we found to be a fake for other reasons. But what about the other two copies? Here, both overprints are definitely clear and distinct, so that a genuine reason for the printer to add a second surcharge is *non-existent*. I might add that in general the Mafeking authorities did not, and could not worry much about perfect appearance of the stamps and their printings, considering the extraordinary conditions of a siege.

(Continued on page 46).

Special Offer—

1. Free French Equatorial Africa overprinted LIBRE, set of 30, all different, postage .. Price 25/-
2. As above, but used „ 37/6
3. Air Mails, 5 different, including 50 francs. Price 17/6
4. As above, but used, including 50 francs. Price 25/-
5. Blocks of 4 of the mint can be supplied pro rata.

Collectors are requested to send "Want Lists" of new issues, etc., which will receive my prompt and personal attention.

Wanted to Buy —

Collections for spot cash. Any country specialized or general collections. Highest prices paid. Why not get cash for any size collection or stock on the spot? Offers solicited.

E. BLUM

P.O. BOX 1669 - CAPE TOWN
Established in South Africa since 1930.
First class references.

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 (except recent issues)

and can generally offer most stamps of a want list, however difficult. Let us know your requirements. We never worry with unwanted selections.

BRIDGER & KAY, Ltd.,
86 Strand, London, W.C.2, England.

COLLECTORS' WANTS AND OFFERS

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

Orange Free State.—Approval selections wanted. Must be fine, well-centred copies.

William Redford, Box 7012, Johannesburg.

Transvaal, Griqualand West, O.F.S. covers and varieties wanted by
A. E. Basden, Box 233, Pretoria.

For Quality and Variety—Globe Packets.—Extensive price lists free. Serious collectors write for finest approval books of your country. References.

Globe Postage Stamp Company, 117 Longmarket Street, Cape Town.

Wanted.—Many items in Foreign Colonials, French, German, Italian, Spanish, Dutch Belgian Danish, Portuguese; all issues up to 1933 (inclusive). Mint for preference.

E. Hunt, Box 2437, Johannesburg.

Wanted. — Clean, well-centred Cape Rectangulars up to and including C.A. issues, either mint or lightly cancelled.

Schofield, Rand Club, Johannesburg.

Wanted.—New or secondhand copy "Ships on stamps," by Rowland H. Hill. Also stamps depicting boats, ships, railways, motor vehicles.
S. L. Crozet, Box 145, Germiston.

COLONIAL CHANGES.

Ceylon is to have a new 5c stamp, in the general design of the K.G. V 20c but without the words "Postage and Revenue."

Gibraltar.—The 1½d. is to be lilac instead of red-brown.

Collectors of REALLY FINE BRITISH COLONIALS should get into touch with me AT ONCE

Selections of choice Mint or Used

AFRICANS, AUSTRALIAN STATES, NEW ZEALAND, WEST INDIANS, Etc., on approval to medium and advanced collectors. These books can be selected from at ONE-THIRD of Catalogue price. Also a choice lot of EDWARDIAN and GEORGIAN issues, Mint or Superb Used, at over 50% off Catalogue. REFERENCES ESSENTIAL.

J. BIRD 6 Westhill Rd. London S.W.18, England

Union Officials

A CLASSIFICATION AND CHECK LIST.

By A. LICHTENSTEIN.

Hardly any branch of Union Philately has been so much neglected by our "specialist" collectors, students and writers, as our "OFFICIAL" stamps, and the consequent lack of knowledge of this subject among collectors both at home and abroad is truly appalling. The writer of this modest contribution has been waiting for up-to-date re-issues of the Simenhoff "Standard Catalogue" or the Natal Philatelic Society's "Handbook" on Union stamps, as additional information is badly needed by collectorhood generally. However, as neither of these publications are likely to put in an appearance "for the duration," the following notes and list are offered to those interested as an attempt at bringing some semblance of order into the maze and welter of mixed-up issues and printings which constitute the chapter "Union Officials."

The collector who attempts arranging his "Official" collection by either the Simenhoff or Natal Handbook will soon come to a dead end, as only the very earliest issues are dealt with in these works. Gibbons Catalogue, by its very nature of a "world" catalogue, cannot possibly be expected to specialise in "Official" printings, however apparent these may be to the trained eye. While the following notes are likely to be more comprehensive than any other study yet appeared in print, the writer nevertheless feels that they are not necessarily complete, and he will be interested to learn of any omissions, etc., to enable him to revise the list accordingly.

It has of late years become the fashion among some philatelic writers to pose as self-appointed critics of the actions of the governments of nations—even to the extent of issuing comic-opera "warnings." Some of these writers have seen fit to decry our "Officials" as unnecessary, farcical and what-not, thereby betraying their ignorance of the facts underlying the issuance of these stamps. These facts are briefly as follows: The passing of the "Statute of Westminster," of 1926, by our Parliament and that of Great Britain established South Africa as a Sovereign Independent State in the British Commonwealth of Nations. This Act was automatically followed by increased diplomatic and other governmental activity abroad—our Pictorial stamps were issued as a further outward expression of our raised status. Government Departments enjoy free franking internally, but it was for franking government correspondence abroad that the overprinted "Official" stamps were brought into use. Such "Official" stamps

are used *inter alia* on documents sent to the League of Nations and International Labour Bureau at Geneva, and to Union Trade and other representatives abroad; on parcels of horticultural and agricultural products and other botanical or zoological matter exchanged with experimental stations of countries abroad. Perishable matter would be sent by airmail, necessitating the use of high values,—so it is difficult to understand the motive of philatelic writers for running down our "Officials"—unless it is interpreted as another way of confessing that "they do not know and do not want to know"—as one of my friends aptly put it recently in these columns.

Two different lines of approach present themselves to the student who attempts a classification of "Officials," viz.:

(1) Taking all the stamps of one denomination at a time and classifying these by their printings, etc., and

(2) establishing a sequence of issues or sets by grouping together such different denominations as were either issued at approximately the same period, or show the same characteristics of the overprint.

Both methods will be dealt with in the following lines, with cross-references where desirable. The reader is requested to bear in mind some points relating to nomenclature, terms and abbreviations used hereunder: *Dates of Issue:* These have been taken over from the two handbooks named above, and from records published in the pages of the "S.A. Philatelist" from time to time, besides from notes made by the writer. Unfortunately, these records are incomplete and liable to be incorrect, as they are not always based on the factual date of issue but rather on the time such issue was observed and recorded.

Colours: These must not be taken to be true in terms of any standard Colour Guide, but rather relative to, or in comparison with similar stamps, the difference between which it is aimed to point out. While there may be some difficulty in allotting any given stamp to its correct place on my lists, no such difficulty should exist when several different stamps of the same denomination are available for comparison. It may be pointed out here, that the detailed descriptions following below should be helpful also to collectors of the non-overprinted stamps to determine the particular issue or printing they belong to.

Spacings: These are given as "approximately" and to the nearest half millimetre. Hardly a sheet exists on which all stamps show exactly the same spacing between the lines of o/pt,—on some issues one or two vertical rows have a wider spacing, in others only a few stamps per sheet—in yet others it is difficult to find a block of 4 with all four stamps showing the same spacing. It has therefore been found convenient to indicate such variations in spacing by the formula, e.g., 12½-13mm.

Errors: Here we have two main headings, viz.: (a) errors of overprint, and (b) errors of the basic stamp. To category (a) belong the "stop" errors of the third and fourth issues, where there should have been no stop, while group (b) includes stamps with watermark omitted (L39a) or inverted, where it should have been normal (L8a).

Varieties: Here, too, there are the two main groups of (a) overprint, and (b) basic stamps, respectively. The object of this treatise being to attract collectors to a study of our "Officials" and not to frighten them away, none of the numerous varieties of broken or mutilated type have been considered in my listings, nor have any of the many interesting printing flaws of the basic stamps been included. Some varieties, however, deserve special mention such as: "short L" (on L12, 13, 14, 17, 18, 19, 21); "C" or "G" for "O" (in the earlier issues); "OFFISIFEL" (third and fourth issues); "retouched ear" (L11); "cobweb" and "dollar" (L23, 32, 37); "Caslon" (L18 and 19); "broken chimney" (L43, 49); "Ladder" and "antheap" (L45); "aeroplane" (L34, 39, 44); etc.

General: All "Official" overprints are in black ink, the work of overprinting being done from the very first issue onwards by the Government Printer, Pretoria, and *not in London*, as erroneously stated by Simenhoff (p. 41) and repeated in Natal (p. 57). Information to this effect was kindly supplied by the P.M.G., whose courtesy in answering philatelic questions is greatly appreciated and herewith acknowledged. The 2d. Kings Head, it is believed, was overprinted in panes of 60 (6 x 10), the ½d., 1d. and 6d. Pictorial in half sheets of 120 (12 x 10), and the oblong Pictorials (2d., etc.) in panes of 60 or half sheets of 60 (6 x 10). Correspondence with the P.M.G. has elicited the fact that "on each occasion a quantity of stamps is overprinted, a new frame is set up for the job, naturally resulting in a slight variation in the distance between the lines of overprint" and: "when it is necessary to augment the supplies of "Official" stamps, the requisite quantity is taken from the current working stock which, in effect, means that the oldest supply on hand is used for the purpose." (From P.M.G.'s letter of 5/3/42).

Abbreviations used:

- N. — Natal Phil. Soc. Handbook number
- S. — Simenhoff Catalogue number
- G. — Gibbons Catalogue number
- L. — number given on my Check List (q.v.)

Follows a listing "by denominations," the main object here being to point out the distinguishing features of the various basic stamps and their overprints, so as to enable collectors to classify their "Officials."

ONE HALFPENNY.

(a) On London Pictorial, issued 1/12/26. O/pt reading up, with stops. Jet-black and

bright glossy green. (S. O 1, N935, G. O 1, L2). It is quite easy to distinguish it from

(b) On Pretoria flat plate I ptg., (1927), which has the same o/pt but pale grey-black centres with dull blue-green frames. (S. O 5, N945, G. O 1, L6).

From here on all ½d. Off. have the o/pt reading down.

(c) On Pretoria flat plate 2, dull black and pale green, no stops, o/pt spaced 13½ mm. between lines. June, 1929, (S. O 11, N957, G. O 8, L11).

(d) As (c) but jet-black and bright green, 1930, no stops except on ten stamps per sheet, which have a full stop after Offisieel, 6 on Afrikaans and 4 on English stamps. (S. O 11, N957, G. O 8, L12)

(e) On Rotary ptg. plate I, January, 1931. Normal wmk., jet-black and dark green, heavy type o/pt spaced from 9 to 12½ mm. No stops except on ten stamps—the same as (d). (Note: The chief difference between the flat-plate and rotary printings lies in the tail of the "R" of AFRIC(K)A, which is curled on flat-plate, and straight down on roto stamps. (S. O 16, N1015, G. O 11, L17)

(f) On roto plate 2 (showing "cobweb," "dollar," etc., flaws), wmk. normal, jet-black and bluish-green, o/pt in much *thinner*, clear type, spaced 12½-13½ mm. No stops. (N1026, G. O 12, L 23). Issued July, 1932.

(g) On roto plate 3 (variety "large C" on No. 3 row 11), jet-black and pale blue-green, normal wmk. 1933 (?). Heavy, clear type o/pt, 12½-13½ mm. (N 1028, G. O 12, L 28)

(h) On roto pl. 2 cleaned (with "broken or splintered horns" on every stamp). Oct., 1933, wmk. inverted, smudgy black and dark green, o/pt in heavy type, *shiny* ink, 12½-13 mm. (N1032, G. O 12, L 32)

(i) On roto pl. 2 (re-cleaned) July, 1934, normal wmk., soft grey-black and light to deep green. O/pt heavy, sometimes shiny, 12½-13 mm. (N 1032, G. O 12, L 37)

(j) Roto hyphenated I (basic stamp G. 54) April, 1937, normal wmk., jet-black to brownish-black and deep bright green, thin clear type o/pt, 12½-13½ mm. (G. O 23, L 41)

(k) Roto hyphenated II (thin arrows and black sheet numbers, basic stamp G.55) July, 1938, normal wmk., brown-black and dark olive-green, clear narrower o/pt 12-12½ mm. (G. O 24, L 46)

(l) Roto hyphenated II (heavy black arrows and bright blue sheet numbers, basic stamp G.55) normal wmk., sepia-brown and deep blue-green, clear o/pt, 11½-12½ mm. (G. O 24, L 55)

ONE PENNY.

(a) On London Pictorial. 1/12/26. O/pt up, with stops, 12½ mm. (S. O 2, N 936, G. O 2, L 3). It can easily be distinguished by its colour from

(b) Pretoria flat plate 1, 1927. London ptg.: jet-black and glossy scarlet, Pretoria ptg.: very dull grey-black and pale carmine. (S. O 6, N 948, G. O 2, L 7)

From here on all 1d. Officials have the o/pt reading down.

(c) On Pretoria flat plate 3, grey-black and carmine, no stops, o/pt spaced $13\frac{1}{2}$ mm. June, 1929. (S. O 6, N 958, G. O 9, L 13)

(d) On Rotary ptg., pl. 1 (control "B," no arrows) normal wmk., jet-black and bright carmine, heavy type o/pt, $13\frac{1}{2}$ mm., no stops except on ten stamps per sheet (6 on Afr., 4 on Engl.). Sept., 1930. (S. O 15, N 1035, G. O 13, L 18)

(e) On roto pl. 7 (no control letters, fine red arrows) inverted wmk., dull black and dull lake-carmine, heavy type o/pt $12\frac{1}{2}$ mm., ten stops as on (d). June, 1931. (S. O 17, N 1046, G. O 13, L 19)

(f) On roto pl. 7, July, 1932, inverted wmk., dull black and dull carmine, much *thinner* o/pt (as $\frac{1}{2}$ d. f) $12\frac{1}{2}$ - $13\frac{1}{2}$ mm., no stops. N1050, G. O 13, L 24)

(g) On Roto pl. 3 (basic stamp G. 43a), Oct., 1933, normal wmk., pale black and pale rose-carmine, heavy o/pt in *shiny* ink (as $\frac{1}{2}$ d. h) $12\frac{1}{2}$ to 13 mm. (N —, G. O 14, L 33)

(h) On roto hyphenated pl. 10, inverted wmk., pale brownish grey and deep carmine, issued 1935. Clear o/pt $12\frac{1}{2}$ - $13\frac{1}{2}$ mm. (N1052, G. O 25, L38)

(i) Roto hyph. pl. 11, inverted wmk., deep iron grey and lake carmine, 1936, clear heavy type o/pt $12\frac{1}{2}$ - $13\frac{1}{2}$ mm. (G. O 25, L 42)

(j) Roto hyph. pl. 12 ("phantom ship" No. 1 row 8, fine red arrows, sheet Nos. in black) Dec., 1937. Normal wmk., deep grey-brown and rose-carmine, clear type o/pt, $12\frac{1}{2}$ -13 mm. (G. O 25, L 47)

(k) Roto hyph. pl. 12, ("Phantom ship," fine red arrows, no sheet Nos.) July, 1938, normal wmk., pale olive-black and bright carmine, clear type, narrower spacing $11\frac{1}{2}$ - $12\frac{1}{2}$ mm. (G. O 25, L 48)

(l) Roto hyph. pl. 13 ("Phantom ship" corrected, broad red block arrows, sheet Nos. in black) June, 1940, normal wmk., deep olive-black and deep carmine, clear o/pt $11\frac{1}{2}$ - $12\frac{1}{2}$ mm. (G. O 25, L 56)

THREE HALFPENCE.

(a) On Roto pl. 1, with gold-bronze centres, July, 1938, inverted wmk., clear o/pt 20-21 mm. (G. O 26, L 43)

(b) Roto pl. 1, gold-bronze, normal wmk., Jan., 1939, clear o/pt 20-21 mm. (G. O 26, L 49)

(c) Roto pl. 2 ("broken chimney" corrected) Febr., 1940, normal wmk., olive-brown and pale blue-green, clear type, 20 mm. (L 57)

(d) Roto pl. 2, April, 1941, normal wmk., yellow-brown and deep blue-green, thin type, 19-20 mm. (L 58)

TWOPENCE.

(a) On King's Head, purple, issued 1/12/26. O/pt up with stops, $12\frac{1}{2}$ mm. Dull or shiny o/pt. (S. O 3, N 939, G. O 3, L 1)

(b) On London Pictorial pl. 1 (printed in sheets of 120, divided into two panes of 60 each. One perf. hole round sheet, gutter between panes perforated through horizontally).

Grey-black and marone, o/pt, no stops, $17\frac{1}{2}$ mm. (S. O 9, N 953, G. O 5, L 5)

(c) On London Pict. pl. 1 (as b) above) and pl. 2 (printed in sheets of 240, divided into 4 panes of 60 each. No perf. holes round sheet, but horizontal gutters perf. through vertically, vertical gutters not perf. through. Plate variety split "d" of "2d." once per sheet). Jan., 1930, o/pt up, no stops, 19 mm. (S. O 14, N 1000, G. O 6, L 10)

From here on all 2d. Officials have the o/pt reading down.

(d) On Rotary pl. 1, July, 1931, normal wmk., greenish grey and dull mauve, heavy type o/pt 21-22 mm. (S. O 18, N 1054, G. O 15, L 20)

(e) On roto pl. 1, August, 1932, normal wmk., greenish-grey and bright mauve, much *thinner* o/pt 21-22 mm. (N 1060, G. O 15, L 25)

(f) Roto pl. 2 (retouch No. 4 row 1) normal wmk., grey-green and bright purple, May, 1934, heavy type o/pt 21 mm. (G. O 15, L 29)

(g) Roto pl. 3, inverted wmk., Dec., 1937, slate-black and deep purple, heavy *shiny* o/pt 21 mm. (G. O 15, L 34)

(h) Roto on pl. 3, July, 1938, normal wmk., bluish slate and dark purple, heavy type o/pt 21 mm. (G. O 15, L 39). Error: no wmk., found on part of vertical row 1 of one sheet (L 39a)

(i) Roto pl. 3 (basic stamp G. 44b) Jan., 1939, normal wmk., indigo-blue and violet, clear type o/pt 20-21 mm. (G. O 15a, L 44)

(j) Roto hyphenated, Feb., 1940, normal wmk., blue and violet, clear type o/pt 21 mm. (L 50)

SIXPENCE.

(a) On London Pictorial, 1/12/26. O/pt up, with stops, $12\frac{1}{2}$ mm. Bright deep green and bright brownish-orange, glossy appearance. (S. O 4, N941, G. O 4, L 4)

(b) On Pretoria flat plate, o/pt up, with stops, $12\frac{1}{2}$ mm. Dull green and dull reddish-orange, flat appearance. 1927. (S. O 7, N 950, G. O 4, L 8) Error: Inverted wmk. (S. O 7a, N 951, L 8a)

(c) Pretoria flat plate, o/pt up, no stops, $11\frac{1}{2}$ mm., 1928. (S. O 10, N 954, G. O 7, L 9)
From here on all 6d. Officials have the o/pt reading down.

(d) Pretoria flat plate, June, 1929, heavy dull or shiny o/pt, $13\frac{1}{2}$ -15 mm. Ten stops per sheet (6 Afr. 4 Eng.). S. O 13, N 960, G. O 10, L 14)

(e) On Rotary pl. 1, (no arrows) August, 1931, inverted wmk. dull or glossy heavy o/pt $12\frac{1}{2}$ -13 mm. 10 stops per sheet. Colour bright green and orange. (S. O 19, N 1062, G. O 16, L 21)

(f) Roto pl. 1 (no arrows) invtd. wmk., deep green and pale orange-buff, *thin* clear jet-black o/pt $12\frac{1}{2}$ mm. August, 1932, as $\frac{1}{2}$ d. f) and 1d. f). (N 1068, G. O 16, L 26)

(g) Roto pl. 2 (with arrows) invtd. wmk., dark green and orange, heavy *shiny* o/pt $12\frac{1}{2}$ - $13\frac{1}{2}$ mm. October, 1933 (N 1070, C. O 16, L 35)

(h) Roto pl. 2 (arrows) invtd. wmk., bright green and orange-brown. December, 1937, clear type o/pt $12\frac{1}{2}$ - $13\frac{1}{2}$ mm. (G. O 16, L 40)

(i) Roto hyphenated I (basic stamp G.61, SUID-AFRIKA 16 mm. long) normal wmk., dark green and deep red-vermilion. April, 1938. Clear o/pt 11½-12½ mm. (G. O 28, L 45)

(j) Roto hyph. II (basic stamp G.61a, S-A 17 mm. long). January, 1939, normal wmk., dark green and bright vermilion. Heavy type o/pt 12-12½ mm. (G. O 28a, L 51).

ONE SHILLING.

(a) On London Pictorial pl. 2 (compare 2d. pl. 2) January, 1930, heavy o/pt reading down, 17½-18½ mm., no stops except on No. 1 row 10 after Official (N 1004, G. O 21, L 15)

(b) On Rotary pl. 1 (first stp. on sheet Engl.), "twisted horn" on No. 5 row 1). October, 1932. Inverted wmk., pale brown and deep dull blue, smudgy o/pt 19 mm. (N 1072, G. O 17, L 27)

(c) On Roto pl. 1, 1933, inverted wmk., deep brown and deep dull blue, clear o/pt 21 mm. (N 1074, G. O 18, L 27a)

(d) On roto pl. 2 (first stp. on sheet Afr. "twisted horn" corrected) April, 1936, normal wmk., dark sepia-brown and deep dark blue, clear type o/pt 20½-21 mm. (N 1074, G. O 18, L 30)

(e) Roto hyphenated, 1939, normal wmk., blackish-brown and violet-blue, clear type o/pt 20-21 mm. (L 52)

HALF-A-CROWN.

(a) On London Pictorial pl. 1, January, 1930. Heavy type o/pt reading down 17½-18½ mm., no stops except after Official on No. 1 row 10. (N 1010, G. O 22, L 16)

(b) On London pl. 1 (?) November, 1932. Thin clear type, 18 mm., no stops. (N —, G. O 22, L 22)

(c) On Rotary, February, 1933, normal wmk., dark green and purple-brown, clear

heavy type o/pt 17½-18½ mm. N. 1078, G. O 19, L 31)

(d) On roto, April, 1934, normal wmk., dark green and brown, clear shiny o/pt, 21 mm. (N 1079, G. O 20, L 36)

(e) Roto, Nov., 1939, normal wmk., dull dark blue and reddish-brown, thin clear type, 21 mm. (G. O 20, L 59)

FIVE SHILLINGS.

(a) Rotary printing, normal wmk., black and dark grey-green. March, 1940. Thin clear type 18 mm. (L 53)

TEN SHILLINGS.

(a) Rotary printing, normal wmk., ultramarine and sepia. March, 1940. Thin clear type, 19 mm. (L 54).

Note: Attention is drawn to the dates kindly supplied by the P.M.G. for the four issues of the 1½d value, according to which the "no longer gold" stamps were o/ptd. in February, 1940, whereas the un-overprinted stamps are recorded as having first been issued in August, 1940.

In the Check List below, the letter in brackets after each stamp indicates that stamp's place on the preceding "denominational" listing. For reasons of brevity all the details given above are not repeated in the Check List, only essential points being mentioned in the latter. It is hoped that collectors of "Officials" will find the following tabulation of assistance in the arrangement of their collection—if anyone has difficulty in classifying these stamps, the writer will be glad to do the numbering for him, free of charge, provided the stamps to be classified are mounted on a sheet, and that a stamped addressed envelope for reply be enclosed.

CHECK LIST.

	<i>First Issue, December 1, 1926. O/pt up, with stops.</i>	
1.	2d. King's Head, purple, dull or shiny o/pt	(a) 3
	2. ½d. London Pictorial, jet-black and bright green	(a) 1
	3. 1d. London Pictorial, jet-black and scarlet	(a) 2
	4. 6d. London Pictorial, green and orange	(a) 4
	<i>Second Issue, 1927-1928. O/pt up, with stops (exc. 5 and 9).</i>	
	5. 2d. London pictorial, no stops, spaced 17½ mm.	(b) 5
	6. ½d. Pretoria flat plate pictorial, with stops	(b) 1
	7. 1d. Pretoria flat plate pictorial, with stops	(b) 2
	8. 6d. Pretoria flat plate pictorial, with stops	(b) 4
	8a. Error: inverted watermark	
	9. 6d. Pretoria flat plate pictorial, with stops	(c) 7
	<i>Third Issue, June, 1929 to 1930. No stops.</i>	
10.	2d. London Pictorial, o/pt up, spaced 19 mm.	(c) 6
	<i>From here on all stamps have the o/pt reading down.</i>	
11.	½d. Pretoria flat plate, grey and green	(c) 8
12.	½d. Pretoria flat plate, black and bright green	(d) 1
12a.	Error: stop after Offisieel on English stamp	
12b.	Error: stop after Offisieel on Afrikaans stamp	
13.	1d. Pretoria flat plate, grey and carmine	(c) 1
14.	6d. Pretoria flat plate, green and orange	(d) 1
14a.	Error: stop after Offisieel on English stamp	
14b.	Error: stop after Offisieel on Afrikaans stamp	

Fourth Issue, January, 1930, to August, 1931. Heavy Type.

- | | | | |
|------|--|-----|----|
| 15. | 1s. London Pictorial, 17½ to 18½ mm. | (a) | 21 |
| 15a. | Error: stop after Official | | |
| 16. | 2s. 6d. London Pictorial, 17½ to 18½ mm. | (a) | 27 |
| 16a. | Error: stop after Official | | |
| 17. | ½d. rotary, normal wmk., 9-12½ mm. | (e) | 11 |
| 17a. | Error: stop after Offisieel on English stamp | | |
| 17b. | Error: stop after Offisieel on Afrikaans stamp | | |
| 18. | 1d. rotary, pl. 1, B control, normal wmk. | (d) | 13 |
| 18a. | Error: stop after Offisieel on English stamp | | |
| 18b. | Error: stop after Offisieel on Afrikaans stamp | | |
| 19. | 1d. roto pl. 7, invtd. wmk. | (e) | 13 |
| 19a. | Error: stop after Offisieel on English stamp | | |
| 19b. | Error: stop after Offisieel on Afrikaans stamp | | |
| 20. | 2d. roto, pl. 1, normal wmk., greenish and mauve | (d) | 15 |
| 21. | 6d. roto, bright green and orange | (e) | 16 |
| 21a. | Error: stop after Offisieel on English stamp | | |
| 21b. | Error: stop after Offisieel on Afrikaans stamp | | |

Fifth Issue, July-November, 1932, thin "skeleton" type.

- | | | | |
|------|--|-----|----|
| 22. | 2s. 6d. London Pictorial, 18 mm. | (b) | 22 |
| 23. | ½d. roto pl. 2, normal wmk., 12½-13½ mm. | (f) | 17 |
| 24. | 1d. roto pl. 7, invtd. wmk., 12½-13½ mm. | (f) | 17 |
| 25. | 2d. roto pl. 1, normal wmk., 21 mm. | (e) | 16 |
| 26. | 6d. roto deep green and orange-buff | (f) | 16 |
| 27. | 1s. roto pl. 1, invtd. wmk., 19 mm. | (b) | 15 |
| 27a. | 1s. roto pl. 1, invtd. wmk., 21 mm. | (c) | 15 |

Sixth Issue, 1933 to 1934.

- | | | | |
|-----|--|-----|----|
| 28. | ½d. roto pl. 3, normal wmk., 12½ mm. | (g) | 13 |
| 29. | 2d. roto pl. 2, normal wmk., greenish and purple | (f) | 13 |
| 30. | 1s. roto pl. 2, normal wmk., 20½ mm. | (d) | 13 |
| 31. | 2s. 6d. roto normal wmk., 17½ to 18½ mm. | (c) | 13 |

Seventh Issue, October, 1933-December, 1937, shiny o/pt.

- | | | | |
|-----|--|-----|----|
| 32. | ½d. roto pl. 2, invtd. wmk., "broken horns" | (h) | 11 |
| 33. | 1d. roto pl. 8, normal wmk., (G. No. 43a) | (g) | 11 |
| 34. | 2d. roto pl. 3, invtd. wmk., slate and purple | (g) | 11 |
| 35. | 6d. roto pl. 2, dark green and orange | (g) | 11 |
| 36. | 2s. 6d. roto normal wmk., dark green and brown, 21 mm. | (d) | 11 |

Eighth Issue, July, 1934-July, 1938, clear bold type.

- | | | | |
|------|--|-----|----|
| 37. | ½d. roto pl. 2, normal wmk., "soft grey centres" | (i) | 11 |
| 38. | 1d. roto pl. 10, hyphenated, invtd. wmk. | (h) | 11 |
| 39. | 2d. roto pl. 3, normal wmk., bluish and purple | (h) | 11 |
| 39a. | Error: no watermark | | |
| 40. | 6d. roto pl. 2, bright green and orange-brown | (h) | 11 |

Ninth Issue, 1936 to 1939, clear type.

- | | | | |
|-----|--|-----|----|
| 41. | ½d. hyphenated I, (G. 54) normal wmk. | (j) | 11 |
| 42. | 1d. hyphenated pl. 11, invtd. wmk. | (i) | 11 |
| 43. | 1½d. hyphenated pl. 1, invtd. wmk., "gold" | (a) | 11 |
| 44. | 2d. roto pl. 3, normal wmk., indigo and violet | (i) | 11 |
| 45. | 6d. hyphenated I (G. 61) S-A 16 mm. pl. 3 | (i) | 11 |

Tenth Issue, December, 1937, to March, 1940, thin type.

- | | | | |
|-----|---|-----|----|
| 46. | ½d. hyphenated II, re-drawn (G. 55) | (k) | 11 |
| 47. | 1d. hyphenated pl. 12, normal wmk., 12½-13 mm. | (j) | 11 |
| 48. | 1d. hyphenated pl. 12, normal wmk., 11½-12½ mm. | (k) | 11 |
| 49. | 1½d. hyphenated, pl. 1 normal wmk., "gold" | (b) | 11 |
| 50. | 2d. hyphenated blue and violet | (j) | 11 |
| 51. | 6d. hyphenated pl. 4, S-A 17 mm. | (j) | 11 |
| 52. | 1s. hyphenated normal wmk., 20-21 mm. | (e) | 11 |
| 53. | 5s. hyphenated normal wmk., 18 mm. | (a) | 11 |
| 54. | 10s. hyphenated normal wmk., 19 mm. | (a) | 11 |

Eleventh Issue, 1939-1941, thin clear type.

- | | | | |
|-----|--|-----|----|
| 55. | ½d. hyphenated, (G. 55) sepia and blue-green | (l) | 11 |
| 56. | 1d. hyphenated pl. 13, normal wmk. | (l) | 11 |
| 57. | 1½d. hyphenated pl. 2, olive-brown and blue-green | (c) | 11 |
| 58. | 1½d. hyphenated pl. 2, yellow-brown and deep green | (d) | 11 |
| 59. | 2s. 6d. roto, normal wmk., blue and red-brown | (e) | 11 |

The Postal Stationery of the Union of South Africa

By SAM LEGATOR.

(Continued from page 32 of March issue).

1942, January—(1) POSTCARDS (continued) ½d. PICTORIAL POSTCARDS.

Intended for local use. Sold in packets of 12 at 9d. per packet. Printed in English and Afrikaans. The scene occupies about half the space of the address side. Stamp solid background. Inscribed on English Card: "Postage Revenue." "Posseel-Inkomste" on Afrikaans Card. 32 different scenes in the set.

(As the stamps are inscribed Postage and Revenue, it would be interesting to know if the cards would be accepted in place of revenue stamps).

P.22. ENGLISH first, and AFRIKAANS.
½d. Green on White Card.

P.23. AFRIKAANS first, and ENGLISH.
½d. Green on White.

On English Card—

POST CARD. POSKAART.

On Afrikaans Cards—

POSKAART. POSTCARD.

UNION COAT OF ARMS.

"For Address Only."

"Alleen vir die Adres."

Scenes:

Albert Falls, Albertville, Natal.

Blaauwbergstrand, Cape—Kaap.

Canon, Old Fort—Kanon, Ou Fort. ("Canon" spelt wrongly). Durban.

Dwars River—Dwarsrivier, Ceres, Cape—Ceres, Kaap.

Govt. Bldgs.—Goew. Geboue, Bloemfontein. (Pond in front).

Johannesburg.

Kruger National Park (Elephant).—

Nasionale Krugerwildtuin.

Kruger National Park. (Buck)—

Nasionale Krugerwildtuin.

Lighthouse—Lighuis, Port Elizabeth.

Marine Drive—Seeweg Cape—Kaap.

Modder River—Modderrivier, Bloemfontein.

National Park—Nasionale Park, Drakensberg.

Rhone, Cape—Kaap.

The Castle—Die Kasteel, Cape Town—Kaapstad.

Union Buildings—Uniegebou, Pretoria.

Vaal River—Vaalrivier, Parys, O.F.S.—Parys; O.V.S.

War Memorial — Oorlogsgedenkteken, Durban.

Baboon Castle, Oribi, Natal.

Die Drosdyhek — The Drosdy Gate, Grahamstad—Grahamstown.

Die Raadsaal—The Raadsaal, Bloemfontein. Goew. Geboue—Govt. Buildings, Bloemfontein. (Monument in front).

Goudmyn—Gold, Johannesburg.

Groote Schuur, Rondebosch, Kaap—Cape.

Hermanus, Kaap—Cape.

Howickvalle—Howick Falls, Natal.

Johannesburg — Vanaf Mynhope — From Mine Dumps.

Kaaimansvalle — Kaaiman's Falls, Wilderniss, Kaap—Wilderness, Cape.

Kampsbaai—Camps Bay, Kaapstad—Cape Town.

Magoebaskloof Noord/North Transvaal.

Nasionale Krugerwildtuin (Lion) Kruger National Park.

Umlaasvalle—Umlass Falls, Natal.

Voortrekkermuseum, Pietermaritzburg.

(2) LETTERCARDS.

When open 189 x 140 mm. (appr.).

The size of all Letter Cards when folded is practically the same as that of Postcards.

The inside edges are gummed, and the edges all round are perforated. When folded the card only shows three perforated edges.

On the front, in addition to the stamp, are the Union Coat of Arms, between the words:

LETTERCARD. BRIEFKAART.

1913—

The first issue of Union Letter Cards.

Stamped only for Local use.

Head of King Geo. V. Inscription in English and Dutch, as follows:—

"To open the Letter Card, tear off the edge at the perforation."

"Om deze Briefkaart te openen scheure men de rand af langs de geperforeerde lyn." and on the reverse side, instructions re postage ABROAD.

"If used for transmission abroad the additional postage required should be supplied by means of adhesive stamps."

"By verzending naar het buitenland moet het meerdere postgeld door zegels worden aangevuld."

L.1. 1d. Red on Grey.

VARIETIES.

L.1a. 1d. Red on Grey. Card Double Perforated.

L.1b. 1d. Red on Grey. Card Not Perforated.

1920—

INCREASE IN POSTAGE RATES.

Card inscribed as above.

L.2. 1½d. Brown on Grey Card.

L.2a. 1½d. Orange Brown on Grey.

1930—
CHANGE FROM DUTCH TO AFRIKAANS.
NEW DESIGN.

Van Riebeeck's Ship. Inscribed: South Africa. Suidafrika.

Card inscribed as follows:—

"To open the Letter Card, tear off the edge at the perforation."

"Om hierdie Briefkaart oop te maak, moet die rand langs die geperforeerde lijn afbeskeur word."

and on the reverse side:—

"IF used for transmission abroad the additional postage required should be supplied by means of adhesive stamps."

"Bij versending na die Buiteland moet die hoer posgeld deur middel van seels aangevul word."

L.3. 1d. Red on Grey.

1931—
POSTAGE RATES AGAIN INCREASED.

New Design of 2d. Stamp. New type of Springbok's Head.

Card changed from Grey to Cream.

Stamps now inscribed "Unie van Suidafrika." "Union of South Africa."

Instructions as previous issue.

L.4. 2d. Red on Cream Card.

1933—
POSTAGE RATES ONE PENNY.

Design back again to Van Riebeeck's ship. Frame surrounding ship in new design.

English wording first.

L.5. 1d. Carmine on Cream.

1941—
AIRMAIL ACTIVE SERVICE LETTER
CARDS.

Special rate of 3d. per Card.

Printed in English and Afrikaans, with a dash of French. "Par Avion—By Air Mail—Per Lugpos."

Printed on white paper, and partly blue on inside, thus making letter opaque when folded.

Although the cards are bilingual the form of wording remains the same on the English and Afrikaans. The only change is in the stamp, which is the same as the contemporary 3d. adhesive, printed in English and Afrikaans. This applies to the first issues. In the present issue (1942) there is a change in the stamp. The stamp now appears in the former 3d. die (1927-28 type).

A point of interest in the first issue was that all the cards with the English worded stamp, were numbered in black on the inside fold, whereas the Afrikaans stamped Card was not. In later issues, however, the numbering was omitted.

L.6. 3d. Blue. Bilingual Card. Stamp inscribed in English and Card numbered.

L.6a. 3d. Blue. Bilingual Card. Stamp inscribed in English and NOT numbered.

L.7. 3d. Blue. Bilingual Card. Stamp inscribed in Afrikaans not numbered.

L.8. 3d. Deep Blue. Bilingual Card. Stamp inscribed in English. NEW Die.

L.9. 3d. Deep Blue. Bilingual Card. Stamp inscribed in Afrikaans. NEW Die.
(To be continued).

(Concluded from page 38).

(5) The adding of the second (sans-serif) type by the official printer is highly improbable also for the following reason: All copies of the 1s. on 4d. (S.G. 11), incl. catalogued errors, were issued on 29th March already. There were altogether 29 sheets resp. 116 panes of this denomination "on the counter." Nearly a full month passed, when the use of sans-serif lettering was decided! The fancy surcharged 1s. on 4d. must have been sold out by then, especially as one of the first stamps with the sans-serif type was another 1s. issue (S.G. 14), issued on 25th April. In any case, one cannot imagine that after such a comparatively long time some stamps should have been officially removed again from the counter back to the printer for no apparent reason.

(6) There remains only one possibility to defend the item to a certain extent. Is it a "variety made to order"? Now and then, opinions were voiced that one or the other Mafeking error was intentionally created to satisfy speculative minds. That is definitely not true. All catalogued Mafeking errors have a clean record and a genuine cause for their existence. It is not necessary here to prove that for each case. Here it might suffice to state that the supervision and the control over the printing of the stamps was extraordinarily strict, as the late siege postmaster, Mr. J. V. Howat, wrote to me in detail a few years ago. The high officers doing postal duties saw to their jobs with the usual military strictness. Lieut.-Colonel Lord Edward Cecil had the special designation of Military Postal Supervisor. Not only the Civil Postmaster, Mr. Howat, who was engaged with the sale of stamps only, was under strict control, but especially so, the printing works of "The Mafeking Mail" and its editor, Mr. Whales, who undertook the job of overprinting the stamps. Even the photographer, Mr. D. Taylor, who was in charge of manufacturing the blue "local" stamps, was strictly supervised, and every bit of the printing paper which was marked had to be accounted for. Under such strict conditions there was hardly any chance that the printer produced varieties intentionally for speculators. Therefore, one variety cannot have even the status of a "made to order" variety, which, anyway, would have been a rather doubtful consolation.

SPECIALIZED AUSTRIAN CATALOGUE.

The Billings Stamp Co., of 151-14, 85th Avenue, Jamaica, N.Y., have issued a priced specialized catalogue of the stamps of Austria, including Lombardy, Venetia, occupation stamps, and officer abroad (with cancellations). It is very well illustrated, goes into great detail as to varieties, etc., and should be in the hands of all specialists in this country. The price is one dollar.

Society News

NYASALAND STAMP CLUB.

At the meeting on 9th February, held at Tobacco Auction Floors, Limbe, Mr. W. D. Farquhar was in the chair. It was decided to send another parcel of stamps to the "Blackpool Help the Children Fund."

Several items of interest were read from Journals which were passed round: An article on Nyasaland was very interesting, another on "Stamps as an investment" threw fresh light on certain aspects of your hobby.

Mr. H. Booth showed a selection of thirteen Co do Nyasa pictorials, all with inverted centres, a number of which are not mentioned in the catalogue. Mr. Booth was thanked for his fine display.

Some thirty-two approval books were on hand, sales and exchanges were very satisfactory.

L.J.D.

CAPE TOWN PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

President, M. Rothkugel; *Hon. Sec.* K. Cameron, 9, Pineway, Pinelands, Cape. *Meetings*, 2nd and 4th Thursdays, Medical House, 35, Wale Street, Cape Town, at 8 p.m.

On the 26th February, 1942, at 8 p.m., the meeting of this Society took the form of a Scholars' Evening, the venue for this occasion being at the tea room of the Wellington Fruit Growers' Association, Longmarket Street, Capetown. A revival of this form of entertainment was certainly welcomed by the members of the Society, and the evening was pronounced by everyone who attended same as a great success in every respect, the young guests for the evening having thoroughly enjoyed themselves.

The attendance was excellent, there being about 85 members and scholars with their friends present to take part in this function. Various competitions for the scholars were arranged, and most of them had brought their collections to compete for the prizes of which there were numerous and valuable ones for the entries in these competitions.

The prizes were presented by Mrs. Smith (wife of Professor J. J. Smith, of Stellenbosch) who was the recipient of a handsome bouquet of flowers.

Prior to the presentation of the prizes, two interesting lectures were delivered, one by Professor J. J. Smith, who gave an instructive talk on hobbies generally, and stamps in particular. Although this was addressed principally to the younger members who had attended this function, nevertheless there was much of great value even to the older collectors of the Society in as much as the same was made particularly interesting by the illustrations of actual stamps and various interesting covers with hybrid postmarks thereon, taken from the valuable collection which Professor Smith possesses.

Following this, Mr. L. Simenhoff exhibited his most interesting and comprehensive collection of stamps relating to matters of educational interest—arts, crafts, science, notable personages, etc. The picturesqueness of many of the exhibits and the artistic and careful annotation of these makes this collection of great instructive value not alone to scholars but to maturer collectors as well. As usual, Mr. Simenhoff excelled in his apt and vivid description of the special features relating to the stamps.

Refreshments were provided, and the meeting concluded with votes of thanks, especially to Professor and Mrs. Smith for their presence and assistance given towards making the evening the great success that it was, and finally to the members who had organised this pleasing function.

12th March, 1942. This meeting was held, as usual, at Medical House, Wales Street, Capetown, and was well attended.

Mr. E. C. Solomon laid on the table his magnificent collection of the stamps of U.S.A. In a most interesting talk on the exhibit, he modestly described it as "Representative"; in actual fact, it was a remarkably complete show of the stamps of one of the

most highly specialized countries in the world. The early issues were strongly represented, including mint copies of many of the high values. Most of the later issues, from 1901 to the present day, were complete in themselves, and the picturesqueness of the stamps, especially the Commemoratives of more recent issues, added lustre to the whole exhibit.

Mr. C. O. Plumbridge, in thanking Mr. Solomon for his display, paid a fitting tribute to one of the finest exhibits ever shown to the Society.

Two nominations for membership were received. A vote of congratulation to the Patron of the Society, the Rt. Hon. Sir Patrick Duncan, on his re-election to the position of Governor-General of the Union, was unanimously accorded, and wishes for a complete recovery from his recent illness were expressed.

E.C.S.

EAST RAND PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

President, Mrs. Woods; *Hon. Sec.*, E. N. Rigg, 103 Kemston Avenue, Benoni; *Meetings*, 3rd Tuesdays, 8 p.m., Hotel Regent, Benoni.

The February meeting was attended by 13 members and four visitors. Unfortunately the Johannesburg Society visitors were not able to be present as had been arranged.

Exhibits: Mr. Selembar, who was visiting the Society, exhibited his collection of Netherlands. This was a very nice collection, well displayed and written up in Afrikaans.

Mr. Rigg exhibited a few pages from the following countries: Malta, Cyprus, Gibraltar, Ionian Islands, and Hong Kong.

Mr. Shepherd exhibited his fine collection of double-headed Rhodesians; these stamps were very well displayed and written up, showing the various shades in all the issues from the ½d. value to the £1.

News of the month was given by Mr. Suklje. The March meeting was very well attended. Letters have been received from Mr. Doyle and Mr. Wells, who are up north, wishing to be remembered to all the members.

Covers were the items of interest passed around by Messrs. Suklje and Rigg.

A competition for the meeting was arranged by Mr. Suklje; it consisted of 20 questions relating to stamps, watermarks, cancellations, currency, pictorials, commemoratives, and various dates stamps were issued.

This was won by Mr. Legator with 16 correct answers.

The exhibits for the evening were provided by Mrs. Wood, who displayed Salvador, and Mr. Fine, who showed a portion of the late Mr. I. Cohen's collection, including Union of South Africa, South-West Africa, Northern and Southern Rhodesia, Swaziland and Kenya.

Mr. Legator thanked the evening's exhibitors, and was sure they were enjoyed by all present.

E.N.R.

PRETORIA PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

President, A. E. Basden; *Hon. Secretary*, H. A. Wager, P.O. Box 514. *Meetings*, 1st and 3rd Mondays, 8 p.m., Technical College.

2nd March: Mr. Basden in the chair. Mr. Hawke read some philatelic extracts.

Mr. Giovanetti gave a talk on airmails. He pointed out how prowess and daring had established many records in aerial flights, sometimes, however, resulting in the death of those pioneers. The airplane in its wonderful improvements had, however, become an instrument of death and destruction, and was the cause of much terror and suffering by ruthless nations. He hoped that the end of these tyrants would soon come and the airplane could again take its rightful place in the world's activities. He showed some special 1st Day Flight covers.

Some interesting covers were shown by Messrs. Wright, Dodd, Wager, Broughton and Giovanetti.

16th March: Mr. Basden was in the chair. Mr. Hawke read a paper on stamp catalogues. He pointed out the apparent unjustification for the issue of a bulky catalogue every year and thought that once every three years would be sufficient. In order to carry this out, he came forward with

suggestions about methods for keeping up-to-date with changes in price and new issues. A keen discussion followed in which many members took part. The consensus of opinion, however, was that very little could be done. The chairman, in a valuable addition to the debate, thanked Mr. Hawke for his paper.

Displays of postal stationery were made by Mr. Wright and Mr. Basden.

H.A.W.

PHILATELIC SOCIETY OF JOHANNESBURG.

President, I. Isaacs; *Hon. Secretary*, F. J. H. Lang, Box 4967, Johannesburg. *Meetings*, 2nd Tuesdays, Sanlam Buildings, Loveday Street, Johannesburg.

At the March meeting Mr. W. Redford gave a display of the stamps of Seychelles. This opened with a goodly number of stamps of Mauritius used in Seychelles before the islands had their own stamps. (These are recognizable by the postmark B64).

A practically complete exhibit of the Seychelles stamps proper followed. This included something rather unusual in the shape of "specimen" stamps of the overprint issues.

Mr. Redford commented on the difficulty of finding used stamps as compared with the comparative ease with which mint specimens could be obtained. A fine range of shades was shown in most issues.

In thanking the exhibitor, Mr. Robertson stated that certain high value Georgians were easily obtained used. These constituted the only philatelic blot on Seychelles, as these stamps were sold by the Government from cable forms.

PHILATELIC SOCIETY OF NATAL.

President, P. C. Bishop; *Hon. Sec.*, G. Milner Palmer, P.O. Box 588, Durban; *Meetings*, 1st Wednesdays, Durban Publicity Bureau, West Street.

We had an attendance of 40 at our March meeting, when three new applicants for membership were accepted subject to confirmation at next meeting.

Mr. H. H. Hurst's talk on "Topical Affairs" was much enjoyed, as was also a paper by Mr. V. R. Crockett on "Things all Philatelists should know" in the course of which he gave some demonstrations of right and wrong ways of mounting stamps. Mr. Crockett also officiated as hon. auctioneer in the absence of Mr. Maskell.

On the motion of Mr. R. Morton, seconded and supported by other members, the meeting unanimously adopted the principle of an extra meeting of the Society each month for social and stamp-swapping purposes, such meetings to be organised by the Exchange Superintendent, Mr. Lyle. The reasons advanced were the falling-off in support of the exchange packets and the fact that members have practically no opportunity to exchange stamps at the ordinary meetings.

The principle being accepted, it was proposed by the President, seconded and carried, that the first of these extra meetings be held on 18th March at the rooms of the Durban Camera Club, London Assurance House, 321 Smith Street.

G.M.P.

AIR MAIL FOR AMERICA.

The Department of Posts announced on 28th February that letters and postcards would be accepted for dispatch to the U.S.A. by air mail at a rate of 4s. per half ounce for letters and 2s. for postcards.

No dates of dispatch can be given or of time that will be taken en route, but the shortest time possible is said to be 14 days.

It is understood that mail will be carried in alternate weeks by S.A. Airways and Sabina to Leopoldville, where it will be picked up by Pan-American Airways.

MALAYA AND HONG KONG

There have been several new stamps recently issued for use in Hong Kong and in various Malayan States, supplies of which have been obtainable from the Crown Agents in London, but which probably did not reach their proper territories of usage. Temporarily at least these will be in the category of "issued but not used."

UNION NOTES.

Mr. W. Tunstall reports the 2s. 6d. with centre slate coloured instead of green, also a 5s. which looks as if the plate had been cleaned. One of the latter appeared to be the stamp which had part of the skey broken off but the missing part was no longer on the top of the 5.

A Correction.—Mr. S. C. W. Wareham asks that in the January issue on page 2, column 1, line 19 should read "Row 3, No. 5," not as printed "Row No. 5, No. 3."

V Slogan Cancellations.—These machine slogan cancellations have been noted so far from Johannesburg (with index letters A and E), Pietermaritzburg and Cape Town.



APRIL OFFERS:

- New Zealand 1941 Health, mint pair 1/-
- Australia, War Prov. epl. mint (3) (blocks of 4 pro rata) 2/6
- Gibbons 1942 Simplified Whole World, nett, post free 14/6

UNION OFFICIALS:

Entirely new selections, based on the check list published elsewhere in this issue, available for inspection. New Clients: references please. No lists.

A. LICHTENSTEIN
 P.O. Box 576,
 BLOEMFONTEIN, O.F.S.



The SOUTH AFRICAN PHILATELIST

Proprietors and Publishers :

The Philatelic Federation of Southern Africa

Honorary Editor: Dr. J. H. HARVEY PIRIE, P.O. Box 7012, Johannesburg.
Honorary Business Manager: WILLIAM REDFORD, Broadcast House, Commissioner
Street, Johannesburg.

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

Vol. 18. No. 5.

MAY, 1942.

Whole No. 206.

BRITISH CHANGES PROBABLE.

In the *Philatelic Journal of Great Britain* (which, incidentally, has now become a quarterly instead of a monthly) "The Seer of the Strand" thinks the current British stamps will soon be changed, particularly the high values (presumably to a smaller format) and recommends the 2s. 6d., 5s. and 10s. as the best thing of the quarter from an investment point of view.

We have been informed by Mr. J. Robertson that the 2s. 6d. G.B. stamp has already been changed to a green colour, the design remaining the same.

+++

AIRGRAPH SERVICE TO BRITAIN.

The Minister of Posts and Telegraphs has announced an Airgraph service from the Union to the United Kingdom, to be started on 1st May, the fee to be 8d., reduced in the case of messages to or from members of the Allied Forces to 3d. An Airgraph service in the reverse direction will be put in operation as soon as possible. This service will only operate to Great Britain; East and North Africa are excluded because of the active service letter card system already in operation between these points.

+++

UNION "OFFICIALS" CORRECTIONS.

Two small errors crept into Mr. Lichtenstein's article on Union "Officials," which appeared in last month's issue:

- (1) On page 42, first column, under (g) "on Roto pl. 3" should read "on Roto pl. 8."
- (2) On page 43, in the check list, item No. 9 should be "no stops," not "with stops."

+++

S. RHODESIA AIRGRAPHS.

Major Creasy reports that the first airgraphs from S. Rhodesia to Britain were despatched on 15th November as a special concession to R.A.F. personnel to send home Christmas greetings. It is presumed that these were flown to Nairobi for the photographic reductions to be made.—*The Aero Field*.

UNION SLOGAN POSTMARKS.

The V-sign is in use at Pretoria and Port Elizabeth with "Paid" bulk postage cancellations.

Three variations of one theme appeared last month; in Durban and Port Elizabeth the slogan reads "Don't talk about ships/moenie klets oor skepe nie," in Johannesburg "'N onbesonne mond booi 'n skip in die grond/Thoughtless words sink ships," and in Cape Town "Sealed lips save ships/Geen woordgerep is 'n skip gered."

+++

M.E.F. STAMPS.

The *British Philatelist* reports that the British stamps overprinted M.E.F. for civilian use in the ex-Italian colonies are all in the old shades, pointing to these having been prepared some months ago. Sheets bear the following controls and cylinder numbers:—1d., G 40-39, I 41-49; 2d., G 40.14, H. 40-17; 2½d., H 40-28, I 41-56; 3d., G 40-18, H 40-18; 5d., E 39-1, G 40-1.

Whitfield King & Co.'s *Bulletin* will in future appear only every other month. The March issue reports that neither the Sarawak nor the Gilbert and Ellice Islands Centenary stamps will be issued.

Gibbons' Stamp Monthly states that a new 5c. stamp is on order for Ceylon, also that the 1½d. Gibraltar is to change colour to lilac.

+++

KENYA AND OCCUPIED TERRITORIES.

On 20th April, 1s. Union stamps (not the War Effort stamps, but the ordinary one shilling stamp of the 1933-39 issue) were issued with an overprint "KENYA/TANGANYIKA/UGANDA/70c," similar to, but not identical with, the previous overprints on Union 1d., 3d. and 6d. stamps. It is understood that this provisional has been made primarily with the function of paying the fees on airgraphs from these territories to Britain.

"M.E.F." stamps were put on sale in Eritrea on 3rd March and in (ex-Italian) Somaliland on 13th April.

Robertson Stamp Coy.

AUSTRALIA.

In addition to the 2½d., 3½d. and 5½d. provisional overprints issued on 10th December, 1941, four colour changes appeared on the same date, 1d. dull brown, 1½d. green, 2d. mauve, and 3d. red brown. On 5th January, the definitive 2½d., 3½d. and 5½d. stamps appeared, in scarlet, blue and dark blue respectively, the first two with portraits of His Majesty, the last with a representation of an Emu. These stamps are only being put on sale as the overprints are used up.

+++

FREE FRENCH STAMPS.
ST. PIERRE AND MIQUELON.

These islands in the Gulf of St. Lawrence have now joined the ranks of French Colonies with Free French stamps.

Accounts vary in different philatelic journals as to the wording of the overprint, and the numbers overprinted. It appears to be generally agreed, however, that two sets were done, one in black and one in red. One account describes the overprint as being in 3 lines, "NOEL 1941—FRANCE LIBRE—F.N.F.L.," but photographs of covers with stamps show no "NOEL 1941." On the Christmas tax stamp, however, the overprint looks like "NOEL 1941—F.N.F.L."

+++

LUNDY ISLAND ? PROVISIONALS.

This jocular little obstruction in the Bristol Channel (where Mr. Harran is allowed to issue his own stamps to pay his fees for taking letters in his motor-boat to the mainland, because there is not enough traffic to justify the maintenance of a post office on the island, is positively "puffin" for victory. Its "philatelic bureau" issued on 1st January a set of the 8 (½ to 12 puffins) stamps hitherto in use overprinted with a V and an aeroplane.

Philatelic Magazine.

+++

FIRST FLIGHT COVERS BANNED.

Stamps announces that the U.S.A. has banned first flight covers because the War Department requires all available space on planes.

COLLECTORS' WANTS
AND OFFERS

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

Orange Free State.—Approval selections wanted. Must be fine, well-centred copies.

William Redford, Box 7012, Johannesburg.

Transvaal, Griqualand West, O.F.S. covers and varieties wanted by A. E. Basden, Box 233, Pretoria.

For Quality and Variety—Globe Packets.—Extensive price lists free. Serious collectors write for finest approval books of your country. References.

Globe Postage Stamp Company, 117 Longmarket Street, Cape Town.

Wanted.—Many items in Foreign Colonials, French, German, Italian, Spanish, Dutch Belgian Danish, Portuguese; all issues up to 1933 (inclusive). Mint for preference.
E. Hunt, Box 2437, Johannesburg.

Wanted.—Clean, well-centred Cape Rectangulars up to and including C.A. issues, either mint or lightly cancelled.
Schofield, Rand Club, Johannesburg.

ANNOUNCEMENT :

MR. R. OSBORNE

has opened a Stamp Business at
58, LOVEDAY STREET, JOHANNESBURG.
Phone 33-3989. P.O. Box 6710.

Collectors of REALLY FINE BRITISH COLONIALS
should get into touch with me AT ONCE

Selections of choice Mint or Used

AFRICANS, AUSTRALIAN STATES, NEW ZEALAND, WEST INDIANS, Etc., on approval to medium and advanced collectors. These books can be selected from at ONE-THIRD of Catalogue price. Also a choice lot of EDWARDIAN and GEORGIAN issues, Mint or Superb Used, at over 50% off Catalogue. REFERENCES ESSENTIAL.

J. BIRD 6 Westhill Rd. London S.W.18, England

German South-West Africa

DR. HERBERT MUNK—KOHL'S HANDBOOK.

*Translated by Dr. J. H. Harvey Pirie and reprinted by kind permission from the
"Collectors Club Philatelist."*

(Concluded from page 34 of March issue).

SECOND DEFINITE ISSUE—(contd.).

The 3pf. watermarked stamps were issued in Berlin on 9th February, 1907, and very soon thereafter were in use in the colony. There were only very slight variations in shade in the earlier issued dark toned stamps particularly when compared with the previous unwatermarked issue, but a part of the (last) printing 1913 shows most striking light and yellowish nuances of shading, in which the peculiar golden tone which underlies most 3 pf. stamps of the ship type stands out very strongly. (According to the *Germania Berichte*, 1911, p. 115 and 125, the older colour (a) is turned green if treated with benzole—a character unlike that of any other 3 pf. stamp of the ship pattern of this or any other colony).

The 5 pf. stamps appeared in Berlin first on 27th June, 1906, and hitherto have been known with colonial postmarks from the beginning of August. They must, however, have been used in the Protectorate at latest in May, 1906 (*i. e. before* they were issued in Berlin) for the *Berlin Briefmarken Zeitung* was advertising them in May, used or unused, at the same price. The darkest shades belong, as is the case with most of the other surface printed stamps also, to the (last) printing of 1913.

The 10 pf value was first given out in Berlin on 4th March, 1907, a date somewhat later than that on which it was issued in the Protectorate. The first printing, whose number H966) still has no year number, was of rose shades, largely light rose, while the last printing of 1913 can be distinguished, not only by its darker colour, but by the metallic sheen which is characteristic of all the 10 pf. stamps of ship type of this date (See under *Deutsch Neu-Guinea and Deutsch-Ostafrika*). Between these two, however, there were other printings or part printings with intermediate shades.

The 20 pf. stamps with watermark were first reported in *Die Post* of 8.3.11 and according to the statement there they had been issued soon after the beginning of 1911. If this is correct there must have been a printing still earlier than H 4129.11, the earliest so far recognized.

The 30 pf. value was first issued in Windhoek at the end of August, 1913. The colour of the first printing, made in the financial year 1911, in this case also is lighter than such later printings, for example, as H 755.13, of which the orange was finally quite dark and greasy. The tone of the paper in the

first printing also seems to be paler than in the last printing of 1913.

The three genuinely issued mark values were late in being issued with watermark, with the exception of the 5 mk. value, and before the war there was probably only one printing of them. After the war (1918-19) they were reprinted for purely philatelic purposes and were put on sale officially at the collectors' counter in Berlin.

These post-war printings, Nos. 29b, 30b, and 32b, which we have printed in the list above in italics, as not being philatelically all that they might be, can be distinguished from the genuinely issued pre-war printings Nos. 29a, 30a, and 32a by the fact that for the post-war printings the so-called "War Perforation," Z2, (with 25 : 17 perf. holes) was used exclusively; single stamps can also be recognized by the so-called "thick corner perforation" (on the corners of the left or right horizontal rows of perforation). (See Vol. I, p. 959 also under the last printings for *Deutsch-Neu-Guinea and Deutsch-Ostafrika*).

The post-war printings have also the typical features of war stamps in general: rough, often scabby paper, with the watermark lines standing out either too strongly or too feebly; the quality of the gum inferior; the colours poor, usually too light, the red of the 1 mk. and of the centre of the 5 mk. stamps being more rose than red.

The 3 mk. value, which was never issued with watermark before the war, was made after the war for purely philatelic sale and in March, 1919, was officially issued at the collectors' counter in Berlin. Friedemann states that two post-war printings can be distinguished, one, pale but muddy in appearance, sold in March, 1919; the other, light but clearly printed, which was on sale from April to June, 1919. Both printings, however, have the Z2 perforation. The poor quality of the colouring matter used for the 3 mk. stamps is very striking.

The marginal imprints and other marginal features of the surface printed stamps are the same as have already been described for the 1905 issue of German East Africa. Our sheet material, however, consisted only of sheets of the 1911 and 1913 printings so we have to be thankful that the first printings of the 3, 5, and 10 pf. stamps with watermark were still made in exactly the same manner as the previous issue without watermark.

The sheets of both the monocoloured and the bicoloured stamps have still exclusively

the same Marginal Imprint, IIIB (see illustr. Vol. I p. 905). The coloured guide dots in the centre of the left (or right) margins are no longer there.

The perforation is always a horizontal comb perforation and the left-hand sheet margin may be perforated through or not (compare with German East Africa); the cutting of the lateral margins of the sheets is mostly such that the left and right margins are equally broad, so that it is difficult to distinguish between right- and left-hand panes.

All this goes to show (as we have already indicated in our note after No. 29 of German East Africa) that the watermarked stamps of G.S.W.A. were printed only from single plates. But whereas entirely new plates were made for the 1905 issue of G.E.A. (necessitated by the change in currency) in the case of G.S.W.A. the original double plates (perhaps four panes in the case of the mono-coloured stamps) were transformed into single plates after the introduction of the watermarked paper. This seems to be a rather extraordinary procedure, in view of the increasing stamp consumption of the colony, but appears to be the only probable explanation in view of the conclusions arrived at above.

The name of the territory of usage is no longer printed on the lower margins of the sheets of this issue (or, at any rate, not on the sheets of the printings after 1908). The border of fine lines still runs right through on some plates while others show the appearance figured in Vol. I, p. 949, in which the border is broken in the middle and a coloured dot inserted in the gap. In printing No. H 2241.13 of the 10 pf. value the border of fine lines is broken on the lower margin but there is no coloured dot in the break.

Bisects. Bisects of the 10 pf. stamp, No. 26, occur with the cancellation of Windhoek in April, 1915, but they are just as much a "try-on" and unjustified as the bisects described previously of the 10 pf. unwatermarked stamps.

Printings of 40, 50, and 80 pf. stamps were never made on watermarked paper although a few proofs of such are known. Odd copies of these trial printings which had been supplied to a foreign administration by special favour, later on came into the hands of a collector. In the summer of 1924 they came into the possession of the firm of Zumstein through the purchase of this collection (See remarks under Deutsch-Neu-Guinea after No. 23 of that territory. Also the *Berne Briefmarken Zeitung* of February, 1925).

The stamps of the ship type were used right up to the time of the surrender of the Protectorate to the enemy early in July, 1915, both in the ordinary way and in the Field Post (see below).

Remainders of the watermarked stamps, as well as those of the previous unwatermarked issue, were disposed of by the Imperial Postal

Museum, partly by auction, partly by sales out of hand. (See the final remarks of the section dealing with the previous unwatermarked issue, for an account of a sale of used stamps of the high values.)

STAMP BOOKLETS.

Compare with the following our detailed account of stamp booklets in "Deutsches Reich," Vol. I, p. 961 and "Deutsch-Ostafrika" Vol. II, p. 170.)

Simultaneously with Booklets A and B for German East Africa there were prepared for G.S.W.A. on 1st October, 1911, and 2nd April, 1912, respectively, Booklets A and B of the nominal value of 2 marks each and of the same type as the contemporaneous booklets in Germany.

These booklets A and B, which were printed in an issue of 5,000 each, had orange coloured covers with the distinguishing letter A or B on the outside of the front cover. Inside were six leaflets, each with five stamps and one commercial advertisement taking the place of a stamp (top left place on each of the six leaflets). The first four leaflets were all 5 pf. stamps with an advertisement in the same green as the stamps, the last two leaflets were 10 pf. stamps with advertisements in the corresponding red.

As each leaflet (just as in the case of German East Africa) had a different advertisement and as the advertisements in booklets A and B were also in part different, we have the following possible combinations:—

<table style="margin: auto;"> <tr> <td style="padding: 0 10px;">A</td> <td style="padding: 0 10px;">5</td> <td style="padding: 0 10px;">5</td> <td style="padding: 0 10px;">A</td> <td style="padding: 0 10px;">10</td> <td style="padding: 0 10px;">10</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="padding: 0 10px;">5</td> <td style="padding: 0 10px;">5</td> <td style="padding: 0 10px;">5</td> <td style="padding: 0 10px;">10</td> <td style="padding: 0 10px;">10</td> <td style="padding: 0 10px;">10</td> </tr> </table>	A	5	5	A	10	10	5	5	5	10	10	10	<table style="margin: auto;"> <tr> <td style="padding: 0 10px;">Leaflets 1—4</td> <td style="padding: 0 10px;">Leaflets 5 and 6</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="padding: 0 10px;">from Booklets A & B.</td> <td style="padding: 0 10px;">from Booklets A & B.</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="padding: 0 10px;">In both together there</td> <td style="padding: 0 10px;">In both together there</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="padding: 0 10px;">were 7 different</td> <td style="padding: 0 10px;">were 4 different</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="padding: 0 10px;">advertisements.</td> <td style="padding: 0 10px;">advertisements.</td> </tr> </table>	Leaflets 1—4	Leaflets 5 and 6	from Booklets A & B.	from Booklets A & B.	In both together there	In both together there	were 7 different	were 4 different	advertisements.	advertisements.
A	5	5	A	10	10																		
5	5	5	10	10	10																		
Leaflets 1—4	Leaflets 5 and 6																						
from Booklets A & B.	from Booklets A & B.																						
In both together there	In both together there																						
were 7 different	were 4 different																						
advertisements.	advertisements.																						

The protective sheets between the stamp leaflets had advertisements printed in black on their backs and, again like German East Africa, this protective interleaving in Booklets A was of ordinary paper, whilst in Booklets B it was of brownish tropical paper.

About the middle of 1913 (again as in the case of German East Africa) new 2 mk. booklets were prepared, which had only 5 leaflets of stamps. Unlike Booklets C of German East Africa, however, we have not in this instance to deal with leaflets with an advertisement space occupied by a St. Andrew's Cross but with booklets in which leaflet No. 4 has 5 pf. and 10 pf. stamps printed together, thus corresponding with Type III of the contemporaneous booklets of Germany (see Vol. I, p. 963). Leaflets Nos. 1—3 had each 5 pf. stamps, No. 5 had six 10 pf. stamps, whilst on leaflet No. 4, stamps Nos. 1 and 2 were 5 pf., while 3—6 were 10 pf.

These booklets with 5 and 10 pf. stamps printed together are of two varieties:

The first issued variety had no advertisements on the orange coloured covers or on the protective interleaves of tropical paper,

but the outside of the back cover had the postal tariff of the Protectorate printed on it. This variety, which may be regarded as introductory to the next, had no distinguishing letter on the front cover.

In the second (later) variety both the covers and the backs of the interleaves had advertisements on them and the front cover had the distinguishing letter C.

As the leaflets themselves and, in particular, leaflet No. 4 with the mixed printing of 5 pf. and 10 pf. stamps, were of exactly the same type in the two varieties and as the essential difference between the two varieties lay in the different characters of the covers and the interleaves, the differences in the stamps themselves might quite easily be overlooked.

The noteworthy point is that in the later variety of booklet, the one with the distinguishing letter C, the 5 pf. stamps on leaflets 1—3 are darker in tone than in the booklets without the distinguishing letter; the pair of 5 pf. stamps on leaflet No. 4, on the contrary, throughout most of booklets C are of a strikingly different pale green colour, but in the booklets without distinguishing letter they are always just as dark as the stamps on leaflets 1—3. The joined 5 and 10 pf. stamps on leaflet 4 of Booklets C can therefore be recognised by the special shade of the 5 pf. stamps, quite irrespective of the other differences characteristic of the two later booklet issues. Both varieties show the following scheme:—

5	5	10
10	10	10

Arrangement on Leaflet No. 4 in the Booklets without a Distinguishing Letter and in Booklets C.

- (a) The 5 pf. stamps are dark green in the Booklets without a distinguishing letter and in part of the printing of Booklets C.
 (b) The 5 pf. stamps are of a pale (grey) green colour in part of the printing only of Booklets C.

THE GERMAN FIELD POST IN THE GREAT WAR

(September, 1914—9th July, 1915).*

After the forces from the Union of South Africa occupied Lüderitzbucht (19th September, 1914), and a few days later (26th September) had made a fruitless attempt at Sandfontein to push forwards into the interior of German territory, the frontier-territory "South" was organised with its own field postal service and the agencies of Kalkfontein-Süd, Warmbad and Keetmanshoop were changed into fixed field post stations.

A southern coastal defence zone was organised to oppose any advance from Lüderitzbucht and this had its field post station at Aus, where, after the capture of Lüderitzbucht, a wireless and field telegraph station had been set up.

In the north of the Protectorate the troops sent against Angola under Lieut.-Col. Franke had their own field post station while operations were proceeding.

The north coastal defence zone (opposing an advance from Swakopmund which had been occupied from Christmastime, 1914), at first maintained a field post station at Rössing, but soon afterwards mobile field post stations were set up at the former post offices of Jakalswater and Abbabis as well as at the Auxiliary P.O. Kubas. Still later the offices at Usakos, Karibib and Omaruru were changed to fixed field post stations.

At the beginning of April, 1915, when the enemy began to break into German territory on all sides, Rehoboth, Mariental and Gibeon were made into Field Post Stations, whilst at Gibeon Station the special Field Post Station No. 2 was established.

At the end of April on account of the advance of the Union troops inland along the Swakop, the whole of the South was evacuated and the troops withdrawn to the North; when this was being done all the postal establishments in the north were made into field post stations.

As the staff moved northward in April towards Otavifontein, the special Field Post Station No. 1 was set up there; at the end of June it was moved to Korab and on the 6th July to Tsumeb. The Protectorate was surrendered on 9th July, 1915.

The Postal Agencies and Auxiliary Post Offices which were turned into Field Post Stations continued to use their ordinary place stamps without alteration; the two at Jakalswater and Abbabis (which had been closed in April, 1911, and February, 1910, respectively) took back into employment the place stamps which had been in use at the time of their closing down. The Field Post Station of the expedition against Angola used the place stamp of the Auxiliary P.O. Okaukwejo, while the field post station at Rössing used one of the large circular stamps of Swakopmund, but the place-name was frequently overwritten "Rössing" in manuscript.

For the Field Post Stations Nos. 1 and 2 special stamps were made from the old "Wanderstempel" by simply inserting the arabic numerals "1" and "2" in the upper part of the stamps above the words "DEUTSCH-SÜDWESTAFRIKA." Field Post No. 1 usually stamped next to their mark the word "Otavifontein" in violet with a rubber handstamp, while Field Post No. 2 usually added to theirs "Gibeon Bhf." (Gibeon Station) either in manuscript or with a handstamp.

As both the fixed and the mobile Field Post Stations dealt throughout their existence with civil as well as military mails, there occur stamps of ship type with the postmarks of the special Field Posts. On the other hand, any of the above mentioned place stamps may be collected with dates of the period under review as Field Post cancellations. As occasional exceptional cases one may come across stamps cancelled with regimental or internal service stampers.

*See *Phil. Ber.* Vol. VIII, p. 2210, also *Die Unionspost im besetzten Gebiet Deutsch-Südwest Afrika*, by Herbert Busch. G. Bütow, Berlin, 1920.

No G.S.W.A. stamps fell into the hands of the enemy. The stamps which appeared in certain foreign trade quarters during 1916 overprinted G.R.I. were shown up forthwith by the British postal authorities as forgeries (*Deut. Briefm. Zeit.*, 1916, p. 107).

According to Busch a member of the Union forces had a number of German colonial stamps overprinted "Bothaland," but their use was not permitted. (Later a hiding place of buried German colonial stamps was disclosed to the enemy).

On the other hand a great number of cancelling stamps of all kinds, both ordinary and registered, fell into the hands of the Union forces; these were used by the Union authorities, sometimes unchanged, sometimes altered or with some of the wording cut out, and special collections may be made of Union stamps used in occupied territory. Such stamps are recognisable, of course, only by the postmarks. (According to Busch all the current stamps of the Union were obtainable over the counter in the occupied territory with the exception of the highest value, the £1. For postage due stamps there were employed at first those of the Transvaal, but these were gradually replaced by those of the Union).

After the League of Nations had assigned the mandate of the former G.S.W.A. to Great Britain and, as a result, the occupation passed over in January, 1920, to a mandatory administration by the Union of South Africa, the current stamps of the Union still remained in use in the mandated territory.

It was only on 1st January, 1923, that special stamps were prepared for use in our one-time Protectorate by overprinting stamps of the Union with "South-West Africa" in the two official languages of the Union, Dutch and English.

THE END.

SPECIAL OFFER—

1. Free French Equatorial Africa overprinted LIBRE, set of 30, all different, postage .. Price 25/-
2. As above, but used " 37/6
3. Air Mails, 5 different, including 50 francs. Price 17/6
4. As above, but used, including 50 francs. Price 25/-
5. Blocks of 4 of the mint can be supplied pro rata.

Collectors are requested to send "Want Lists" of new issues, etc., which will receive my prompt and personal attention.

Wanted to Buy —

Collections for spot cash. Any country specialized or general collections. Highest prices paid. Why not get cash for any size collection or stock on the spot? Offers solicited.

E. BLUM

P.O. BOX 1669 - CAPE TOWN
Established in South Africa since 1930.
First class references.

CORRESPONDENCE

MACHINE USED FOR PRINTING UNION KING'S HEAD STAMPS.

(To the Editor of the "S.A. Philatelist.")

Mr. Sydow's contribution in the "S.A. Philatelist" of January, 1942, as to the guide crosses and lines showing which halves of paper-maker's sheets were used for the various values and plate numbers is a most interesting contribution to our knowledge. Incidentally, near the end of the article, he mentions the printing machine used.

From correspondence between Messrs. H. E. Lobdell and A. H. Sydow, which I have had the privilege of seeing, it appears that the identification of the machine is based only on certain observations made in a Capetown printing office on one machine of this type.

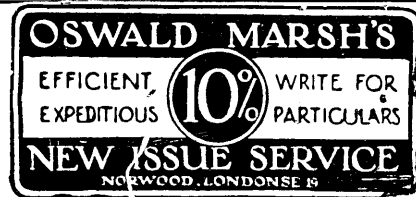
The two-revolution type of press seen in action by Mr. Sydow is a well-known type, made by numerous manufacturers in both Great Britain and other countries. Payne & Co., of Otley, are only one of the many firms making machines of this type, which goes under the various names of Kelly, Napier and Miehle presses, named for the originator (Napier) of the type or its two chief contributors of mechanical improvements.

Kelly presses are normally run so that the longer edge of the printing forme is across the bed of the press and accordingly the top and bottom of a pair of sheets of stamps will be the leading and finishing edges of the printed sheets. I find that the characteristic slight variations in inking and impression found at leading and finishing edges are characteristic of plate-number margins of Union King's head stamp sheets.

There is good enough evidence of the use of a Kelly press in making these stamps. But the identification of the maker of it must be considered as resting upon incomplete evidence pending confirmation from Messrs. De La Rue. This confirmation I presume Mr. Sydow will endeavour to obtain.

STEPHEN G. RICH.

Verona, N.J., Feb. 19, 1942.



(Continued from page 58).

might prove you wrong and that I am sure you don't like, and do not attribute bad motives when none were intended.

That finishes me with Mr. McKee.

As a personal remark I want to say that when I wrote the original paper in 1933 for the Philatelic Congress, I knew all about the Reprinting; the main point I was making for was, *who forged* the VRI and ERI and the different Provisionals. That point has never been explained. Who will do this?

Unrecorded Correspondence in Connection with The Cape's First Adhesive Postage Stamps

By A. A. JURGENS.

Although the late G. J. Allis makes reference to the correspondence which passed between the Colonial Government and Messrs. Perkins Bacon and Petch in connection with the first adhesive postage stamps of the Cape Colony in his book "The Postage Stamps of the Cape of Good Hope" the actual letters as a whole have never been published in any philatelic journal to the best of the writer's knowledge.

It will be remembered that the Ordinance of 1847 legalised the use of adhesive postage stamps on inland letters and newspapers at the rate of 4d. the half ounce or part thereof on letters and 1d. on newspapers.

Consequently on the 29th May, 1848, after the Surveyor-General of the Colony, Col. C. C. Mitchell, had already personally interviewed Messrs. Perkins Bacon and Petch in London, the Colonial Secretary, Mr. John Montagu, wrote as follows:

Colonial Office,
Cape Town,
29th May, 1848.

Messrs. Perkins Bacon & Petch,
79 Fleet Street.

Gentlemen,

With reference to your letter dated the 13th January, 1847, and addressed to Lieut.-Col. Mitchell stating the terms on which your House is prepared to supply the Government of the Cape of Good Hope, with Postage Stamps and the probable cost of the steel plate of the same nature as that used by you for the Post Office Stamps in England with only sufficient difference to make it perfectly Colonial, I beg to acquaint you that the Government of this Colony have decided on authorising you to supply in the terms of your letter as follows, viz.: 1st, a drawing and design to be in every respect similar to that used in England for one penny stamps with the addition of the words "Cape of Good Hope" which are to encircle the head of the Queen, then to engrave such approved design upon a steel die and harden it. Then transfer it upon a circular steel die and harden that and from thence engrave a folio Steel Plate containing 240 Postage Labels of the size used by the Home Government and harden the same so that if properly printed it will throw off 70,000 good sheets of 240 each for the sum of three hundred guineas. The stamps of this plate to be printed *Red*.

On Plate similar to the above in every respect excepting the amount which is to be for two penny Postage Labels for the sum of One hundred guineas.

The stamps from this plate to be printed *Blue*.

70,000 sheets of the one penny labels and the same number of sheets of the two penny labels to be printed off and gummed at the rate mentioned in your letter, viz.:

Printing for 100 sheets of 24,000 stamps, 6 shillings.

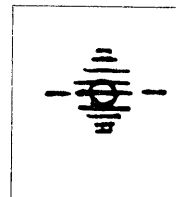
Gumming per 100 sheets of 24,000 stamps, 2 shillings.

500 lbs. ink for the Postmasters at 3 shillings per lb. together with the necessary apparatus of dabbers, etc., for defacing stamps.

100 Obliterating Stamps, the same as that used in London District Office and in places within its delivery—but with a Bar across the centre thus



The Defacing stamp used by London District Offices referred to in letter.



The actual shape and size of the sketch shown on the original letter dated 29th May, 1848.

Mr. Barnard, the Agent-General for Crown Colonies, at No. 5 Cannon Row, Westminster, will pay your account for supplying the Articles I have ordered; and I am to request you will despatch them with as little delay as possible in order that the System of Postal Labels may be put into operation at the commencement of 1849.

I have the honour to be,

Gentlemen,

Your most obedient servant,

(Signed) JOHN MONTAGU

It is already known that the Governor at the time, Sir Harry Smith, in instructing the Colonial Secretary, Mr. John Montagu, to order stamps of twopence denomination did so contrary to the terms of the Ordinance of 1847 as passed by the Legislative Council who had fixed the price of postage on letters at 4d. the half ounce or fraction thereof.

Sir Harry Smith thought that by ordering the Twopenny stamps and when they arrived the Legislative Council would reduce the rate of postage to twopence instead of fourpence.

This, however, never happened, for when Sir George Cathcart replaced Sir Harry Smith as Governor at the Cape in 1852 a Board of Enquiry was appointed to go into this long delayed matter of adhesive postage stamps for the Colony and on the 6th September, 1852, the original order of 1848 was completely altered as per letter following. A letter cancelling the original order of the 29th May, 1848, must have been sent to Messrs. Perkins Bacon and Petch, in fact paragraph 3 of the letter of 6th September, 1852, suggests this, but no copy of this letter appears to have been kept.

Colonial Office,
Cape of Good Hope,
6th September, 1852.

Messrs. Perkins Bacon & Petch,
No. 69 Fleet Street,
London.

Gentlemen,

On the 13th of January, 1847, you addressed a letter to Lt.-Col. Mitchell, at that time Surveyor-General and Civil Engineer of this Colony, stating the terms upon which you were prepared to furnish this Government with Stamp Labels, obliterating ink and the other material and machinery requisite upon the introduction into this Colony of a system of Stamp Postage.

On the 29th May of the same year (This is evidently a mistake because Perkins Bacons' letter to Col. Mitchell was sent in 1847.) a communication was forwarded to you from this office conveying an acceptance of the terms proposed and containing directions for the supply of a given quantity of stamps.

Circumstances which need not now be mentioned rendered it necessary to cancel those directions and the subject has not since that time been resumed.

The establishment, however, of Steam Communication to the Cape has, naturally, by the great facilities thereby afforded, effected a considerable increase in the amount of correspondence between the Mother Country and this Dependency, and has suggested the appointment of a Board to enquire into and report upon the postal arrangements generally of this Colony.

One of the first results of this investigation has been the recommendation by the Board of the adoption of Postage Stamps, which has received the sanction of the Gov-

ernment and which it has been decided to carry into effect with the least possible delay.

In transmitting to you the enclosed design of a Colonial Postage Stamp of fourpence, I am directed to request you to supply if possible in time for being forwarded by the return Mail Packet One hundred thousand of such stamps, and a subsequent monthly remittance, until further instructions, of ten thousand under the same precautions as in the case of English Postage Stamps.

It has also been decided to introduce One Penny Stamps for Newspapers of the same shape and device, but of a different colour, and with the necessary alteration of border. Of this description I am to request you to furnish an immediate first supply of fifty thousand, and a monthly remittance of five thousand, until further instructions.

Blue has been fixed upon as the colour for the *Fourpenny Stamp*, and Red for the *One Penny*.

I am further desired to transmit the enclosed device for an obliterating stamp of which you are requested to furnish one hundred with the necessary apparatus of dabbers, etc., for defacing stamps, and a supply of 250 lbs. of obliterating ink.

The label sheets hereby directed to be forwarded you will, as a matter of course have gummed and in every way ready for immediate Service.

In conclusion, I have to add that payment of the expense for this order will be made you by the Agent-General for Crown Colonies upon the completion of the work, in terms of the conditions specified.

I have the honour to be,
Gentlemen,
Your most obedient servant,
(Signed) R. SOUTHEY.

A photograph of the design mentioned in paragraph 6 of the Fourpence stamp can be seen in Allis's Book "The Postage stamps of the Cape of Good Hope" page 24, design No. 2.

The device mentioned in this letter for obliterating stamps was not filed in duplicate with the original copy of the letter, but it can be safely assumed that this was the triangular defacer with the letters C.G.H. occupying the corners of the triangle.

It was just five days less than a year from the date of this letter to the date upon which the first adhesive postage stamps were issued to the public at the Cape.

It will be noticed that in this letter dated 6th September, 1852, only obliterating stamps are mentioned, and that no mention is made of date stamps. These latter must have been ordered at some subsequent date hence the reason why they were not distributed among the Post Offices in the Colony until December, 1853. (The date stamp referred to is the double oval showing the name of the town at the top and the date in the centre.)

TRANSVAAL REPRINTS

By EMIL TAMSEN.

I was really surprised when the Philatelic Magazine No. 686, of 10th October, 1941, reached me and I read the criticisms of an article under the above heading which I had written for the 1932 Philatelic Congress of Southern Africa and which was printed in abridged form in the S.A. Philatelist No. 3 of Vol. 9, March, 1933, and later reprinted in the Philatelic Magazine No. 493 and 494 of Vol. 33 in May 14th and June 1st, 1934.

To begin with I was a stamp collector before I came early in 1880 to the Transvaal and have lived here ever since, and still take a great interest in South African stamps, about which I have written many articles for different stamp papers, local English, American and Continental. This is the first time that I am supposed to be *wrong*, according to the Rev. H. I. A. McKee.

This gentleman suggests that I regard the firm of Enschede as lineal descendants of Otto the Forger. I never did anything of the kind; all I said was that the firm were good business men and I still maintain that view.

There was a Persian named Mirza Hadi living in Paris as a stamp dealer. He found that the firm of Enschede had printed certain stamp issues for Persia and that they still had the printing plates on hand. He contracted with the firm to reprint a large lot of these obsolete issues and while on this business he found that the firm had also the plates of the old South African Republic, and he induced them to reprint all issues for him. Before Enschede did this reprinting they asked the British Government and also the Union Government of South Africa to take the "Remainders" off their hands. Neither of the above "considered themselves successors in this matter," consequently Enschede were quite free to deal with the printing plates as they liked and they printed for Mirza Hadi all the stamps he wanted and then destroyed the plates. That was fair and honest business and I never objected to that wherever I called them "Reprints."

Mr. McKee makes me say that Enschede had *large* stocks of the 1885, 1894, 1895 and 1896 issues on hand when in 1899 the Boer War broke out. I never said or implied any such thing; quite the contrary, I said that it was most *unlikely* that any remainders would be left over when a *new* issue was being prepared. Should, however, a surplus have existed the printing firm were too good business people to waste them; they would have sent them to the S.A. Republic or else destroyed them. Certainly they would not have kept the 1885 issue or the 1894 issue with shafts, or the 1895/6 issue, because the first was obso-

lete, the latter disapproved by the S.A. Republic.

Further, I have said that these Reprints cannot readily be detected. I strongly repeat this. Let anybody look at dealers stocks or approval books or club sheets and he will find them full of reprints; it is only easy to identify some values by perforation or colour, when compared with originals.

Why Mr. McKee should make my mind full of the activities of Adolph Otto, whose name I never mentioned in my writings, is not clear to me.

Further, I am supposed to have suggested that Enschede had *large* stocks of 1885, 1894, 1895/6, 1896 on hand when the Boer War broke out. I never did. Quite the opposite. I argued that a printing firm is not likely to pay for paper and workmen and storage to keep a big reserve stock on hand for the chance of getting repeat orders. This might have occurred with the first orders, which were small, but a good business man would not risk this again after the 1894 fiasco.

That letter of Enschede's to the Pretoria Philatelic Society is a smokescreen and written long after the deed was done. I will only just touch on one point, namely, that in 1898, say middle of year, the printers received an order for printing stamps. This order could *not* be despatched because on 10th October, 1899, the War broke out. Is the world to believe that it took such a large and well equipped firm as Enschede more than 15 months to print the few million stamps ordered? Further, how does this statement compare with that of the Postmaster-General of the S.A. Republic who, in May, 1899, stated in the Volksraad that he had a supply of stamps, Post and Revenue, on hand to *last two years*, and further that on 1st January, 1901, the new stamps printed at the State Printing Works in Pretoria, showing the bust of President Kruger for the lower values $\frac{1}{2}$ d. to 1s., and the Coat of Arms of the Republic for higher than 1s. values, and that he had ordered a *special* watermarked paper in England on which these new stamps were to be printed, and that the contract with Enschede had been cancelled (see page 14 and pages 106/7 of Philatelic Record, Vol. XXIV.)

In that grand book, "Transvaal Postage Stamps," by Curle & Basden, on page 104 is the following paragraph: "When the Boer War broke out in 1899 the firm of Enschede in Holland had on hand a large number of stamps printed to the order of the Boer Government of the issues 1896-7."

Neither of the two authors of this book seem to have thought of the fallacy of this

statement that the firm of Enschede should have been so unbusinesslike as to print and store millions of stamps in advance of possible orders, which in the case of 1894 and 1895/6 stamps would have been out of the question for a repeat order.

I quite agree that a firm like Enschede would not knowingly make a wrong statement. I am sure that after receiving notice from the Government of the S.A. Republic in 1899 of the cancellation of their stamp printing contract that they would not print further stamps. Why should they have done so?

But this matter became a quite different one when Mirza Hadi appeared on the scene with his Persian Reprint scheme. Then they saw hard cash coming in. £7,000 is not an item to be ignored for doing honest work, and honest it certainly was to use their old plates, now useless to them, to print stamps which they knew were *officially* of no value whatever to any Government. If Mirza Hadi wanted to use these stamps for wallpapering his and his friend's houses or giving them to his children or others, that was of no interest to the firm. That these Reprints could be offered as genuine original stamps to stamp collectors was no concern of theirs; they did the work in first class style, they destroyed the dies and the plates and thereby they ended their business connection with the S.A. Republic.

Mr. McKee twists my words most wonderfully. That sentence "Tamsen still clings to the absurd idea that a Government official stood watching an illegal act which the printers would wish to keep secret" surely takes the cake.

The S.A. Rep. Controller *ceased to exist* when the Government cancelled the printing contract in 1899, and it was then quite correct for him to hand back to Enschede those "*check or sample*" sheets which he had accumulated during his term of office. To read into this act that the Controller, *without office or legal standing*, had stood by watching an illegal act which the printers wanted to keep secret, is more than ridiculous and the word "*absurd*" should be applied to Mr. McKee and not to me.

"All stamps sold are *without* surcharges." This raises the question who overprinted the 1896 stamps with VRI and ERI, etc., etc.

Mr. McKee says that I did *not* know that these overprints were made in the Transvaal. Why, heavens, I bought and used them on letters before Mr. McKee was born.

But what is really news to me and to the stamp world is his statement "that the type used for VRI and ERI came from Portugal by a printer summoned from Capetown to Pretoria by the British Military Governor of the Transvaal." Straight out I say that I do not believe this to be true till Mr. McKee produces *actual proof*.

The Government Printing Works in Pretoria were well equipped. The bulk of this equipment came from Holland and later some from England, but I never heard of any coming from Portugal.

Now as to the expert whose opinion I quoted in my original article. He was the late John N. Luff, of New York, the best expert in America on Transvaal stamps. He certainly could not be compared to an "*inarticulate witchdoctor*."

Mr. McKee says that the Reprints can easily be distinguished by four elementary rules.

No. 1. Enschede always used *comb* perforation; the Reprints are all with *line* perforation. On this point he is quite wrong. When the Reprints first came on the market my old friend Booleman, of Amsterdam (formerly of Johannesburg), sent me a complete set in blocks of four. Later I bought from Paris, then from Hamburg, and lastly from London, always as genuine originals, except those of Booleman, who was the first man to make me wise. Now please note all these blocks were *comb* perforated.

I am enclosing a set of blocks to the Editor of this paper with the request to judge them.

[The specimens submitted by Mr. Tamsen are unquestionably *comb* perforated, but it is only fair to say that we have seen others, bought as reprints, which were *line* perforated: so it would appear that this test is not infallible either way.—Ed.]

Nos. 2, 3, 4.—Mr. McKee only quotes five stamps easily checked. How about the other 59 Reprints? What tests are there? The VRI and ERI can be detected by the printing of the letters being clearer and stops different, but this is not a sure test. The first genuine printings were from new type. This became later on more or less worn and broken.

Now as regards the last paragraph of Mr. McKee's article, which says "the last shred of Tamsen's absurd theory falls to the ground utterly and completely discredited."

Poor me, having lived 62 years in the Transvaal and taken the keenest interest in its stamps, to get such a drubbing from a heretofore totally unknown reverend gentleman, who certainly has not read my articles on Transvaal stamps which Gibbons published, nor in other philatelic periodicals. I am "discredited!"

Now Mr. McKee answer me. Why do you so completely overlook the cancellation of the stamp printing contract between the Transvaal Government and Enschede in 1899?

Have you not read the articles on Transvaal in the Philatelic Record, pages 24 and 106/7, of Vol. XXIV.?

Why do you say that the Republican Government never paid for the last order given to Enschede?

Why do you shield Enschede? They were only doing what other firms would have done as an ordinary business transaction.

Why do you run down a world expert like the late John N. Luff?

Why did you never look up the tremendous price fluctuations in the catalogues? Look up Gibbons 1902, 1903, 1904, 1907, 1913, 1914/15, 1917, 1925.

Now, lastly, never run a man down who knows more of a subject than you do; he

(Continued at foot of page 54).

Society News

CAPE TOWN PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

President, M. Rothkugel; *Hon. Sec.* K. Cameron, 9, Pineway, Pinelands, Cape. *Meetings*, 2nd and 4th Thursdays, Medical House, 35, Wale Street, Cape Town, at 8 p.m.

26th March.—The display of the evening was provided by Mr. L. Simenhoff, who showed his remarkable and extensive collection of "educational" stamps. The scope of a collection such as this, as Mr. Simenhoff lucidly explained, was almost limitless, as there was hardly a subject even in the Encyclopedia Britannica which could not be illustrated by stamps. The educational value of such a method of illustration was great and Mr. Simenhoff had annotated his unique collection in a highly instructive and artistic manner. He was complimented on an outstanding and unusual exhibit by Messrs. Wm. Redford and Andrew Watson.

In addition to the ordinary auction sales, stamps sold for War Funds realised £5 6s. 6d.

9th April.—Mr. W. L. Ashmead, who invariably produces something out of the ordinary, showed his exceptionally fine collection of stamps depicting Animals, Vehicles, etc. Although Mr. Ashmead modestly described it as "one of his sidelines," it was in reality a splendid exhibit of interesting and well-chosen items. He was suitably thanked by Mr. C. O. Plumbridge and Mr. W. D. Farquhar (Chairman of the Nyassaland Philatelic Society).

K.C.

PHILATELIC SOCIETY OF NATAL.

President, P. C. Bishop; *Hon. Sec.*, G. Milner Palmer, P.O. Box 588, Durban; *Meetings*, 1st Wednesdays, Durban Publicity Bureau, West Street.

Three new members were enrolled at our April meeting, namely, Messrs. B. L. Cock, R. D. Browne and R. E. Morrison. The chair was taken by Mr. H. H. Hurst in Mr. Bishop's absence from town.

A display with notes by Mr. Sprighton on the 1d. black and 2d. blue Great Britain evoked interest and admiration, a notable item being his reconstructed sheet of the penny. A further discussion took place as to a possible new venue for the Society's meetings. Meantime the experimental informal meetings for "swapping and sociability," additional to the ordinary meetings of the Society, are continuing at the rooms of the Durban Camera Club on the 3rd Wednesday of each month.

Inquiries having been set afoot as to obtaining a quartz lamp for the Society, it is learned that a Phillips' Black Vapour Lamp as now used by the Johannesburg Philatelic Society is a more practical proposition at the present time.

As the final result of our Stamp Drive for War Funds, Mr. V. B. Crockett announced a total collection of £196, which sum has been distributed among the Red Cross Society, the St. John Ambulance, the Governor-General's National War Fund and the B.E.S.L.

G.M.P.

O.F.S. AND BASUTOLAND PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

President, Mr. J. B. Levy; *Hon. Secretary*, Mr. R. C. Lyon, Box 702, Bloemfontein; *Meetings*, 3rd Fridays, Oranje Koffiehuus, Bloemfontein.

At the March meeting arrangements were made for the continuation of the work in aid of the War Funds. Several members are regularly and willingly giving up their evenings to deal with the vast quantity of stamps sent in by the public for the war effort.

A little auction of small collections took place in aid of the Governor-General's Fund, with Mr. C. A. Larsen as auctioneer.

Members reported about varieties and different printings of the current war issue,

The display of the evening was given by Mr. T. Sacks, who exhibited his collection of *Lithuania*. It was an interesting change from the usual fare, as there are only very few members specialising in a foreign country. The exhibit gave a good account of the various Lithuanian issues and was appreciated by all.

According to the Society's Press correspondent, Dr. K. Freund, there are now three papers of the lay press which give regular accounts of the Society's activities, namely "The Friend," "The People's Weekly" and "Die Vrystater." In spite of the paper restrictions, all papers carry the reports in prominent form, and the Afrikaans paper even intends to show illustrations of star items exhibited, etc.

The April meeting had a very good attendance, and one new member was enrolled. There were discussions about the stamp market. It was stated that prices are soaring, as large stocks, especially of "classicals," have been destroyed by air raids or warfare in Europe. Members were warned against the fakes of the "double impression" variety of the ½d. King's Head, and reproductions of the genuine copies were tabled.

The main feature of the evening was a philatelic competition, arranged and conducted by Mr. C. A. Larsen. The tests were oral and visual. It was great fun to see many of the advanced specialists fail at general questions about foreign stamps. The winner was Mr. A. Lichtenstein, with Staff-Sergt. Gray the runner-up.

Mr. Lichtenstein displayed new issues of Abyssinia, including varieties, and miniature sheets of the Belgian Congo which are all not recorded yet.

A representative Canada collection was shown by Mr. J. B. Levy. Even the early "classicals" were well represented and all stamps were in excellent condition.

Mr. H. L. Kaplan exhibited several pages of Egyptian Post Office Seals, believed to be official stamps which were used by the various Egyptian postal branches.

An original display was that of Mr. Larsen, entitled "Philatelic Irish Stew." There were many out-of-the-way items, arranged in an attractive and humorous manner.

A small stamp auction concluded a successful evening.

K.F.

EAST RAND PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

President, Mrs. G. Wood; *Hon. Sec.*, E. N. Rigg, 103 Kemston Avenue, Benoni; *Meetings*, 3rd Tuesdays, 8 p.m., Hotel Regent, Benoni.

The April meeting was very well attended at which two new members were proposed. News of the month was given by Mr. Suklje. The novel competition which was arranged by Mr. Legator was enjoyed by all. It comprised of 15 questions regarding stamps, currency, catalogue value of stamps, lowest stamp denomination of various countries, and last a last-line limerick. Points were given for each question, ranging from one to five, the maximum number of points being 34. The winner was Mr. Lydall.

Stamps were sold in aid of the Governor-General's Fund. Mr. Lydall gave his prize for the competition in to be raffled for the G.G. Fund.

The exhibit for the evening was Mr. Legator's collection of Orange Free State. This collection consisted of Mint and used stamps, very well displayed and written up.

Starting with the first issue of January, 1868, with the values of 1d., 6d. and 1s.

1877 were the 6d. stamp surcharged 4d.; also the surcharge inverted.

1881 were the 5s. stamps surcharged 1d., showing the various varieties.

1882 were the 4d. stamps surcharged 3d. These also showed the various surcharges.

5s. stamps surcharged ½d.

1888. 3d. stamps surcharged 2d. Also with the surcharge inverted.

1890. 3d. stamps surcharged 1d. showing also the various surcharges. Also the 3d. stamps surcharged 2½d.

1896. These consisted of the seven types of 3d. stamps surcharged ½d.; also the surcharge double. Next the 3d. stamp surcharged Half penny and the 3d. stamp surcharged 2½d. in two shades.

1900. V.R.I. in values ½d. to 5s. Also these values with double surcharges. No stops after V, I. omitted, value missing, all stops above line, thin Vs with plate numbers, V of V.I.R. omitted, surcharges inverted, misplaced surcharges, inverted 1 for I.

1900-2. Cape of Good Hope stamps overprinted Orange River Colony. These were single and in blocks of four.

1902. V.R.I. 6d. stamps surcharged 4d.

E.R.I. 1902. 5s. stamps with surcharge of 1s.; also complete sets of ½d. to 5s. of the 1903-4 issue.

Stamps overprinted C.S.A.R. Post Card Stamps. Revenue stamps used for telegrams. V.R.I. stamps used for telegrams. Revenue stamps also used for various telegraph. Boer War Military stamps, with many overprints. 8s. stamps surcharged 6d.

Mafeking Siege stamps. Cape of Good Hope stamps ½d. to 1s. values, surcharged. Mafeking Besieged 3d. Bechuanaland Protectorate stamps surcharged. Mafeking Besieged 3d.

British Bechuanaland also surcharged as above; also S./Major Goodyear and General Baden-Powell stamps.

New Republic South Africa. A set of these consisted of values from 1d. up to 30s.

PHILATELIC SOCIETY OF JOHANNESBURG.

President, I. Isaacs; *Hon. Secretary*, F. J. H. Lang, Box 4967, Johannesburg. *Meetings*, 2nd Tuesdays, 8 p.m., Sanlam Building, Loveday Street, Johannesburg.

At our April meeting members of the West Rand Society were our guests of the evening. Dr. J. H. Harvey Pirie took the chair in the absence of our president, and conducted the formal business until the meeting was turned over to our guests and presided over by Mr. J. Burrell.

Two new members, Messrs. H. U. Basson and M. Breuer, were elected.

New issues from New Zealand, Kenya, Malay States, Seychelles and Great Britain were auctioned, in addition to several items contributed by members for our war funds. These latter items realised £3 12s. 8d., and were spiritedly bid for at fairly good prices.

The exhibits tabied by our guests were both varied and interesting. They included South Africans by Mr. Dick Powell, of Randfontein; St. Helena and Ascension by Mr. J. Burrell; Newfoundland by Mr. W. Owens; Sudan by Mr. E. J. Sharpe, and a unique U.S.A. display by Mr. W. Glover. This last exhibit was indeed something very unusual, and is worthy of special comment because it illustrated the educational value of our hobby. The stamps in this exhibit were merely incidental as illustrations of places, persons and events, referred to in a sketchy and yet withall a highly instructive historical outline of the portion of the North American continent covered by the United States of to-day. Although Mr. Glover did not have to spend many shillings for the stamps included in this exhibit, it was quite obvious that he had had to use considerable ingenuity in writing his story and planning his pages, so that the persons, places and events mentioned on each page in capital letters could be illustrated by examples of stamps mounted on the same page.

H.E.B.

PRETORIA PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

President, A. E. Basden; *Hon. Secretary*, H. A. Wager, P.O. Box 514. *Meetings*, 1st and 3rd Mondays, 8 p.m., Technical College.

April 7.—Mr. Basden in the chair.

Mr. Beyers gave a paper on the life of Lord Nelson, including a description of stamps that had some connection with his career. He was rather surprised that in the multitude of commemorative stamps issued no portrait of this great hero had appeared.

Mr. Beyers supplemented his paper by reading an article from the Canadian Geographical Magazine on the stamps of Canada. This showed in a wonderful manner how the history and geography of Canada could be gathered from a detailed study of the stamps, especially the commemoratives. Many of the stamps of Canada ranked amongst the finest in the world in artistic merit, design and workmanship.

April 20.—Mr. Basden was in the chair. Mr. Hawke read some interesting philatelic extracts. Interesting items by members:

Mr. de Boom showed a set of Abyssinian stamps never officially issued designed for the Red Cross. Mr. Dodd showed and described several items from his collection which were of philatelic interest, such as mistakes in wording, perforations, etc.—Dr. Broughton read an article on the gold deposits of Papua and their inaccessibility until airplanes were brought into service and were first used for the transport of heavy dredges, mining equipment, supplies, etc., and which eventually resulted in a large gold output. Mr. Hawke described an item in his collection which recalled many youthful memories—a stamp which he had obtained from the post office in Adelaide. Prof. Wager tabled his collection of Dutch East Indies.

H.A.W.

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
(except recent issues)

and can generally offer most stamps of a want list, however difficult. Let us know your requirements. We never worry with unwanted selections.

BRIDGER & KAY, Ltd.,
86 Strand, London, W.C.2, England.

NEW ARRIVALS:

ALL MINT.

- | | |
|---|-----|
| 10. Albania 1940 Greek Occupation | 2/6 |
| 3. Ethiopia, just issued | 1/6 |
| 8. Belgian Congo Monument, obsolete | 3/6 |
| 2. Ruanda prov. on Congo Monument | 2/6 |
| 2. Dutch Indies Bomber Fund, used | 1/6 |
| 8. Falklands incl., new colours | 3/9 |
| 5. Gt. Britain, new colours | 1/3 |
| 6. Kenya on Union, pairs, obsolete | 1/6 |
| 3. Free French New Hebrides | 5/- |
| 2. Manchukuo, 1941 Conscription | 1/- |
| 10. Mozambique Co., 1907, used, cat. 18/- | 4/6 |
| 2. Sudan, large camels, 3 and 4 pias. | 3/6 |

NETT, C.W.O. POST FREE.

A. LICHTENSTEIN

P.O. Box 576,

BLOEMFONTEIN, O.F.S.



The SOUTH AFRICAN PHILATELIST

Proprietors and Publishers :

The Philatelic Federation of Southern Africa

Honorary Editor: Dr. J. H. HARVEY PIRIE, P.O. Box 7012, Johannesburg.
Honorary Business Manager: WILLIAM REDFORD, Broadcast House, Commissioner
Street, Johannesburg.

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

Vol. 18. No. 6.

JUNE, 1942.

Whole No. 207.

UNION NOTES

We have received the following information about Union stamps from the Post Office Controller of Propaganda, in respect of the period 8th January, 1942, to 10th April, 1941:

ORDINARY POSTAGE STAMPS.

$\frac{1}{2}$ d.—A total of 326,000 sheets of 240 stamps each have been delivered in respect of an order of 500,000 sheets, the first delivery having been made on 29th April, 1941. New cylinders 60 int. 21 ext. Job No. 13909.

$1\frac{1}{2}$ d.—A total of 410,500 sheets of 240 stamps each have been delivered in respect of an order of 600,000 sheets, the first delivery having been made on 24th June, 1941. New cylinders 31 int. 6,924 ext. Job No. 16782.

WAR POSTAGE STAMPS.

$\frac{1}{2}$ d.—A total of 233,500 sheets of 240 stamps each have been delivered in respect of an order of 600,000 sheets, the first delivery having been made on 6th November, 1941. New cylinder 7 (one colour). Job No. 1277.

1d.—A total of 124,500 sheets of 240 stamps each have been delivered in respect of an order of 360,000 sheets, the first delivery having been made on 30th September, 1941. New cylinder 6,922 (one colour). Job No. 1278.

$1\frac{1}{2}$ d.—A total of 264,500 sheets of 240 stamps each have been delivered in respect of an order of 750,000 sheets, the first delivery having been made on 23rd December, 1941. New cylinder 15 (one colour). Job No. 1279.

3d.—61,500 sheets of 120 were delivered during the period 27th January, 1942, to 3rd February, 1942. Job No. 8370, cylinder 50 as before.

ROLL STAMPS.

$\frac{1}{2}$ d.—On the 29th January, 1942, a final delivery of 251 Rolls x 500, 100 Rolls x 1,000, and 147 sheets x 240 was made in respect of

an order the first delivery of which was made on 17th June, 1941. Altogether in respect of this order 1,751 Rolls x 500, 2,500 Rolls x 1,000 and 4,473 sheets x 240 have been delivered in respect of this order. Cylinders as previously used, 7,020 int. and 5 ext.

In respect of a new order of 2,000 Rolls x 500, a delivery was made on 10th February, 1942, of 192 sheets x 240 and 200 Rolls x 500. Since then there have been further deliveries making a total of 1,022 sheets x 240, 1,800 Rolls x 500 and 540 Rolls x 1,000. Cylinders as before.

1d.—Total deliveries of 2,257 sheets x 240 and 1,862 Rolls x 1,000 have been made in respect of an order 5,000 Rolls x 1,000. The first delivery in respect of this order was made on 11th March, 1941. Cylinders as before, 23 int. 24 ext.

BOOKLETS.

A total of 253,960 books, each containing 24 x 1d. stamps and 12 x $\frac{1}{2}$ d. stamps, and 151,200 books each containing 12 x $\frac{1}{2}$ d. stamps, 12 x 1d. stamps and 8 x $1\frac{1}{2}$ d. stamps, have been delivered in respect of an order of 400,000 books. The first deliveries in respect of these booklets were made on 24th September, 1940 (with regard to the $\frac{1}{2}$ d. and 1d. books), and on 21st May, 1941 (with regard to the $\frac{1}{2}$ d., 1d. and $1\frac{1}{2}$ d. books). Cylinders: $\frac{1}{2}$ d. 8 int. 10 ext. (as before), 1d. 58 int. 6,920 ext. (new), $1\frac{1}{2}$ d. 16 ext. 7 int. (new).

OFFICIAL STAMPS.

Three hundred sheets each containing 240 stamps of $\frac{1}{2}$ d. ordinary postage stamps were supplied by the Postmaster General and overprinted "Official—Offisieël" on a flat bed printing machine from old formes. These were delivered on 8th January, 1942.

S.W.A. STAMPS.

The following war postage stamps of the Union were supplied by the Postmaster

General and were overprinted S.W.A. on a flat bed printing machine from old formes:—

- ½d.—1,000 sheets of 240.
- 1d.—1,000 sheets of 240.
- 2d.—750 sheets of 120.
- 3d.—750 sheets of 120.
- 4d.—750 sheets of 120.
- 6d.—750 sheets of 120.
- 1/—250 sheets of 120.

Delivery was made on 27th January, 1942.

POSTAL STATIONERY.

ACTIVE SERVICE LETTER CARDS.

A total of 4,181,040 cards has been delivered in respect of an order of 5,000,000, the first delivery of which was made on 23rd July, 1941, Job No. 3255. In respect of a further order of 5,000,000, Job No. 8085, a total of 1,128,960 cards have been delivered, the first delivery being made on 12th March, 1942. Cylinder as before.

PICTORIAL POST CARDS.

A total of 1,142,400 cards have been delivered in respect of an order of 2,400,000, the first delivery having been made on 27th November, 1941. New cylinder 85 (one colour).

NEWSPAPER WRAPPERS.

195,120 ½d. wrappers and 39,240 1d. wrappers have been printed Litho from new plates. Delivery was made on 3rd February, 1942.

KENYA, UGANDA AND TANGANYIKA.

17,000 Sheets of 120 each ordinary 1/- Union Postage Stamps were supplied by the Postmaster General and were overprinted KENYA, UGANDA, TANGANYIKA 70 CENTS, on a flat-bed printing machine from new process blocks. Delivery was made on 17th March, 1942.

"BANTAM" STAMPS FOR S. AFRICA.

An announcement has been made in the public press by the Minister of Posts and Telegraphs that, in order to conserve paper, our stamps are to be reduced to half their present size. It is stated that the designs are to remain the same and the new "bantams" will be issued as stocks of the present full-sized stamps become exhausted.

UNION WAR STAMPS.

The Union war stamps have lately been featured in many overseas journals. "Emco Monthly" for March, 1942, has a photograph of the 2d. sailor stamp on its front cover. "Airpost Journal" for March, 1942, has a photograph of a pair of the 1½d. airman stamps on its front cover with the following description:—"First South African Airman to be decorated with the D.S.O. in World War II.—Portrait of Lieutenant Bob Kershaw (now Captain) as painted by Captain Neville Lewis for the 1½d. bi-lingual of the Union's new war stamp series."

The "Emco Monthly" is published in Canada and the "Airpost Journal" in the U.S.A.

U.S.A.—LEOPOLDVILLE AIR LINE.

The "Boletim Filatélico Bandeirante," one of our exchanges, published in Brazil, has a note on the above air service. It states that the new air mail was inaugurated on the 6th December, 1941, from Miami, U.S.A., to Leopoldville, Belgian Congo, with stops at S. Joao di Porto Rico, Port of Spain, Belem and Natal (Brazil), Bathurst (Gambia), and Lagos (Nigeria).

In respect of the first trip, the Brazilian Post Office used a commemorative post mark on correspondence from Belem and Natal to the African stations. This mark consists of a rectangle enclosing maps of S. America and Africa with an aeroplane above. Outside the rectangle at the top appears the words "Premiera Mala Postal Aerea," and at the bottom, the words "Pan American Airways System."

About 60,000 letters were carried with the commemorative Postmark.

COLLECTORS' WANTS AND OFFERS

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

Orange Free State.—Approval selections wanted. Must be fine, well-centred copies.

William Redford, Box 7012, Johannesburg.

Transvaal, Griqualand West, O.F.S. covers and varieties wanted by A. E. Basden, Box 238, Pretoria.

For Quality and Variety—Globe Packets.—Extensive price lists free. Serious collectors write for finest approval books of your country. References.

Globe Postage Stamp Company, 117 Longmarket Street, Cape Town.

Wanted.—Many items in Foreign Colonials, French, German, Italian, Spanish, Dutch Belgian Danish, Portuguese; all issues up to 1933 (inclusive). Mint for preference.
E. Hunt, Box 2437, Johannesburg.

Books Wanted.—Leon de Raay: "Hist. of Postage Stamps of O.F.S."; R.P.S.: "Postage Stamps of Br. Colonies—Africa" (3 vols.). State condition and price.
Rev. Noel Roberts, Booyens, Johannesburg.

THE OTTO PLATES

By A. E. BASDEN.

In page 387 of "Africa" we are informed that the following were included in the "List of utensils used for the manufacture of postage stamps, taken over this 2nd day of November, 1874, from the Postmaster-General" at Potchefstroom by the Acting Treasurer-General at Pretoria, where they were printed from in 1875 by the Stamp Commission:

- "2 plates for One Shilling stamps
- "2 plates for Six Pence stamps
- "2 plates for Three Pence stamps
- "2 plates for One Penny stamps"

In page 429, referring to an article by Mr. Jeppe in *Der Philatelist* for the year 1890, mention is made of "the account of the proceedings taken by the Government in 1881 (? 1882) against Otto, and of the recovery of certain plates and *cliches* and a number of printed stamps which were found at Otto's works"

And in page 428 it is stated that "The plates and stamps were placed in the Rostock Bank, where they remained until 1894, when they were sent to the Transvaal and delivered to the Government; the stamps were then destroyed. On examination of the plates it was found that they were not of the improved eagle type, but were the plates of the forgeries."

In page 473 it says "Mr. Tamsen informs us that the new plate or plates for this value (i.e. the 6d. improved eagle) never left Germany, and Mr. Otto availed himself of his opportunity and produced unauthorised varieties in different shades of blue, and also in shades of red-brown."

The following is a list of the plates in the Transvaal Museum at Pretoria:

- (a) 2 plates (or panes) of the 1d. steel-faced
- (b) 2 plates (or panes) of the 6d. steel-faced
- (c) 2 plates (or panes) of the 1s. steel-faced
- (d) 1 plate (or pane) of the 3d. steel-faced
- (e) 1 plate (or pane) of the 3d. copper-faced
- (f) 1 plate (or pane) of the 6d. *improved eagle*, steel-faced.
- (g) 1 plate (or pane) of the 6d. copper-faced *Otto forgery* of Type I.

All the plates or panes consisted originally of 40 *cliches* in five horizontal rows of eight.

The pairs of plates of the 1d., 6d., and 1s. values (a. b. c.) are intact, and the wooden blocks on which they are mounted have each been sawn off at one end to enable the two

to be placed close enough for them to be printed from together, forming sheets of 160 stamps, 80 from the left-hand and 80 from the right-hand pane. All these panes have the wide spacing between the stamps.

Both the panes of the 3d. value have narrow spacing between the stamps, and both show the dot on the left leg of the eagle. Of the two plates the steel-faced is very much worn while the copper-faced looks as if it had never been used. Yet we know that sheets were printed of two panes combined. Were they printed from these two panes now in the Museum or was there originally another steel-faced plate as for the three previous values? This question is asked because of plate (g) referred to later.

There is one plate or pane of the 6d. improved eagle, steel-faced from which one *cliche* is missing. It is possible (vide above quotation) that this plate was among those recovered from Otto in 1894.

The copper-faced pane of 6d. (plate g) is not intact. It was originally made up of eight vertical rows of five stamps; the first two vertical rows are now missing as well as the fifth (bottom) stamp of the third vertical row. This plate is the typical common Otto forgery which has been frequently described and illustrated. It has a very new appearance.

In view of the appearance of the 3d. (plate e) and its striking resemblance to the 6d. (plate g) one wonders if the former as well as the latter were not recovered from Otto in 1894. If so it be, then there must have been an original additional plate d which is now missing.

All the plates have been defaced, most of them vertically, through the eagle and anchor, so that the photographs of pulls from the plates of the 6d. and 1s. as they exist to-day, are not as satisfying as they would have been had they been defaced horizontally or any other thoughtful way.

Apropos the missing *cliche* from the 6d. improved eagle plate, is there any evidence for the statement on page 601 of Africa, viz., "The stamp is impressed (on the envelope) in the right upper corner with the original die used for making the plate of the Three Pence adhesive of Issue I., after Messrs. Davis and Son had altered the word "DRIE" on the die, at either side of the stamp, to "ZES" and the numerals "3" in the top corners to "6"? Were any of the original dies sent to Transvaal? Is it certain the *cliche* missing from the 6d. improved eagle plate was not used for this purpose after all?

**NOTES ANENT ENGRAVERS OF
THE MASTER DIES OF CERTAIN OF
THE STAMPS OF SOUTHERN
AFRICA**

By A. HILTON SYDOW, M.R.P.S.L.

In his book "Edwardian Stamps of the British Empire, Part I," Mr. Douglas Armstrong wrote: "A special profile portrait of King Edward VII prepared by Herr Emil Fuchs, R.B.A., for use on the new stamps of the United Kingdom, was likewise adopted by the Colonial authorities in connection with their Edwardian stamp issues, and also by the Indian and South African (pre-Union) Governments. The words in parenthesis are mine.

The large profile head was adopted by the Cape of Good Hope (see Gibbons 1940 Catalogue illustrations Nos. 19 to 27) and by the Transvaal (SG. illustrations Nos. 38 and 39). The small profile head was adopted by Natal (SG illustrations Nos. 31 and 32) and by the Orange River Colony (SG illustration No. 38). Comparison of the large and small profile heads on the stamps of the four pre-Union colonies with those on the stamps of Great Britain, India, Ceylon, etc., will show that they all emanate from two master dies, one for the large head and the other for the small head.

Mr. Armstrong also wrote: "The 'master die' of the Edwardian stamps is believed to have been cut by an engraver named Turner in the employ of Messrs. De La Rue and Co." Note that the words "master die" is used in the singular number. Very likely Mr. Armstrong had in mind the master die of the large profile head.

Some time ago I wrote to a brother philatelist resident in Australia and asked him to favour me by writing to Mr. John Ash, who was associated with Thos. De la Rue and Co., Limited, for many years, in order to ascertain the name of the engraver of the head dies of the Edward VII and George V stamps, especially those of the pre-Union and the Union issuances. Recently I received a letter from my esteemed friend who enclosed the following paragraph from Mr. John Ash:

"I am in receipt of your favour enquiring for the name of the engraver who engraved the profile portraits used on British Colonial stamps printed by Thomas De la Rue and Co., Limited. His name was David Turner."

This is sufficient proof that the Edwardians of four pre-Union colonies and the Georgians of the Union of South Africa, surface-printed by Thos. De la Rue and Co., Limited, were engraved by DAVID TURNER anent the profile portraits. It would appear that the

frames were engraved by means of complex machinery.

I have been informed on very good authority that the portrait on the master die of King George V in admiral's uniform depicted on the stamps of Rhodesia, 1913-22 (Gibbons illustration No. 18), was engraved by a Frenchman in the employ of Waterlow and Sons, Limited, in the person of M. CLOCHET, whilst the surrounding ornamentalations thereon were engraved by A. J. COOPER. Transfer roller dies obtained from this master die were also used in connection with the first issues of Southern Rhodesia of 1924-1929. It is believed that the portraits depicted of King George V and Queen Mary on the issues of Rhodesia of 1910-16 were engraved by either M. CLOCHET or W. G. FAIRWEATHER. Incidentally, both of these engravers were on active service in the First World War and were badly injured. Other contemporaries of theirs were JOHN SIMMONDS and J. LOCKSLEY who were also engaged on stamp die engraving.

According to the Gibbons' Catalogue the master dies of the stamps of Northern Rhodesia were engraved by W. G. FAIRWEATHER, but it is not stated whether the whole dies or only the portrait dies were engraved by him. The stamps of this country were recessed-printed by Waterlow and Sons, Limited, and were first issued in 1925. Subsequently the head dies, both large and small, were utilised for Cayman Islands 1932 and 1935, Grenada 1934, Bahamas 1935, Basutoland 1933 and Cyprus 1934.

The original undenominated die for the 1925 Air Mail stamps was engraved on copper for the Cape Times, Limited, by A. J. COOPER. On this die the lines of design were cut in recess. The figures of value were cut on separate dies.

JAMES SCOTT was a contemporary of the aforementioned engravers at Waterlow and Sons, Limited, but left this firm, and subsequently became the head engraver of Perkins, Bacon and Co., Limited.

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
(except recent issues)

and can generally offer most stamps of a want list, however difficult. Let us know your requirements. We never worry with unwanted selections.

BRIDGER & KAY, Ltd.,
86 Strand, London, W.C.2, England.

The Postal Stationery of the Union of South Africa

By SAM LEGATOR.

(Continued from page 46 of April issue).

(3) ENVELOPES.

1913-1918—

The paper employed varies from buff to white.

First Issue of stamped Envelopes.

Head of King Geo. V. in Oval. EMBOSSED.
94 x 120 mm.

E.1. 1d. Red.

There are two types of this envelope:

(a) Pointed Flap.

(b) Rounded Flap.

VARIETIES.

E.1a. 1d. Albino. (Embossed but not inked).

E.1b. 1d. Double Embossed.

90 x 146 mm.

E.2. 1d. Red. (Rounded flap only).

1921—

INCREASE IN POSTAGE RATES.

As previous issue.

E.3. 1½d. Reddish Brown. Size of Envelope
94 x 120 mm. (Pointed Flap).

E.4. 1½d. Brown. Size of Envelope 90 x 146
mm. (Rounded Flap).

1930—

CHANGE IN DESIGN.

Van Riebeeck's ship. NOT EMBOSSED.

94 x 120 mm.

E.5. 1d. Carmine. (Pointed Flaps).

E.6. 1d. Carmine. (Rounded Flaps). 90 x
146 mm.

There are various shades of colour in the
above.

1939—

CHANGE IN TYPE OF ENVELOPE.

Thinner Paper. Greyish White outside. Deep
Blue inside. Opaque.

94 x 120 mm.

E.7. 1d. Red on greyish White. (Pointed
Flap).

90 x 146 mm.

E.8. As above. (Rounded Flap).

(4) NEWSPAPER WRAPPERS.

Like the newspaper wrappers of other
countries, these consist of strips of paper,
long enough to bind around a rolled news-
paper or magazine.

The size of the wrapper is approximately
300 x 125 mm.

The paper employed is fairly light in
weight, and is of a yellowish buff colour.

The wrappers carry the same design as
that of the contemporary adhesives, except
that the word "Postage" is omitted.

1913.— HEAD OF KING GEO. V.

N.1. ½d. Green on Yellow Buff Paper.

N.2. 1d. Red on Yellow Buff Paper.

Inscribed in English and Dutch as follows:

This wrapper may only be used for News-
papers, or for such documents as are al-
lowed to be sent at the Book-rate of post-
age, and must not enclose any letter or
communication of the nature of a letter
(whether separate or otherwise). If this
rule be infringed, the packet will be
charged as a letter.

Deze band mag slechts gebruikt worden
voor Koeranten of voor zodanige dokumen-
ten als als drukwerk mogen worden ver-
zonden. Brieven of mededelingen van de
aard van brieven (hetzij afzonderlik of
anderszins) mogen niet worden ingesloten.
Indien deze regel wordt overtreden, wordt
het pakket als een brief belast.

1916—

DESIGN AS ABOVE. PAPER SLIGHTLY THINNER.

N.3. 1d. Red on Greyish Yellow paper.
Language changed as follows:

This wrapper may only contain News-
papers or such documents as are allowed to
be sent at the Book-rate of postage. If
this rule be infringed, the packet will be
charged as a letter.

Deze Band Mag alleen Koeranten of
zodanige dokumenten, die als Drukwerk
mogen worden verzonden, inhouden. Over-
treedt men deze regel, dan wordt het pakket
als een brief belast.

1926—

CHANGE OF DESIGN. VAN RIEBEEK'S SHIP.

N.4. 1d. Red and Black on Buff paper.
Language changed to English and Afrikaans.
Language as follows: :

This wrapper may contain only news-
paper or such documents as are allowed
to be sent at the printed papers rate of
postage. If this rule be infringed, the
packet will be surcharged as a letter.

Hierdie onslag mag slegs gebruik word
vir Koerante of vir sodanige dokumente,
wat as drukwerk verstuur mag word. Indien
die reel oortree word, word die pakkie as 'n
brief belas.

VARIETIES.

N.4a. Centre omitted.

N.4b. Misplaced centre.

Note.—During this period there seems to
have been a number of badly printed
wrappers.

1926—

LANGUAGE CHANGED. Ship Type.

N.5 1d. Red and Black on Buff.

Inscribed as follows:

This wrapper may contain only newspapers or such documents as are allowed to be sent at the printed rate of postage. If this rule is infringed, the packet will be surcharged as a letter.

Hierdie omslag mag slegs gebruik word vir Koerante of vir sodanige dokumente wat teen die posgeld van toepassing op drukwerk verstuur mag word. Indien hierdie reel oortree word, word die pakkies as 'n brief beboet.

1928—

CHANGE OF DESIGN. Springbok's Head.

N.6 ½d. Green and Black on Buff Paper.

Inscribed in English and Afrikaans as follows:

This wrapper may contain only Newspapers or such documents as are allowed to be sent at the printed papers rate of postage. If this rule be infringed, the packet will be surcharged as a letter.

Hierdie omslag mag slegs gebruik word vir Koerante of vir sodanige dokumente wat as drukwerk verstuur mag word. Indien die reel oortree word, word die pakkie as 'n brief belas.

1930—

Afrikaans wording again changed. Design as previous issue.

N.7. ½d. Green and Black.

Inscribed in English and Afrikaans:

This wrapper may contain only Newspapers or such documents as are allowed to be sent at the printed papers rate of postage. If this rule be infringed, the packet will be surcharged as a letter.

Hierdie omslag mag slegs gebruik word vir Koerante of vir sodanige dokumente wat teen die posgeld van toepassing op drukwerk verstuur mag word. Indien hierdie reel oortree word, word die pakkie as 'n brief beboet.

1934—

New Series. SUID-AFRIKA hypenated.

N.8. ½d. Black and Green.

N.9. 1d. Red and Black.

N.9a. 1d. Red Brown and Deep Black.

Inscribed in English and Afrikaans as 1930 series.

1942—

The above series are still on sale.

**FOR SALE****IN AID OF AMBULANCE FUND**

Collection of over 2,800 Stamps, representative of practically every country. Germany, Italy, occupied Europe, Japan, Hong Kong and other enemy occupied Far Eastern countries. Dominions well represented and many rarities, including Cape Triangles, Canadian 1898 Christmas stamps,

Jubilee and other special issues.

Offers for the collection should be made to :

G. H. CLEMENT,

Red Cross Ambulance Detachment,
Box 40 - - - KLERKSDORP.

(Continued from page 69)

and admittedly without having made any enquiries, that they had been demonetized and were surprised at receiving our exchange journals recently with additional stamps of New South Wales and of Victoria. The extra postage was required to cover the recent increase in postal rates.

+ + +

BELGIAN CONGO

and

RUANDA-URUNDI.

Our Leopoldville correspondent, Dr. G. Lefebvre, reports the following new issues:

(1) For Ruanda-Urundi under Ordinance of 28th January: 30,000 stamps of the 1f.75 denomination overprinted 0.75; 29,700 stamps of the 2f.75 denomination overprinted 2f.50.

(2) For Belgian Congo under Ordinance of 2nd March: 120,000 stamps of the 1f.50 denomination (1934) overprinted 50c.; 100,000 stamps of the 1f.75 denomination (1941) overprinted 75c.; 100,000 stamps of the 2f.40 denomination (1937) overprinted 2f.50.

These overprints were made at the Government Printing Office in the Congo.

(3) Under a decree of 30th October, 1941, issued in the Congo in February, 1942, there are to be War Stamps of 10f. denomination with a surtax of 40f. in aid of the Welfare Fund. The issue is to consist of 100,000 stamps for the Belgian Congo, half French-Flemish and half Flemish-French, and 50,000 for Ruanda-Urundi, similarly half and half.

These stamps are to be obtained by subscription to "Cheques postaux Leopoldville-Kalina, No. 2 Postal-Valeurs postales."

+ + +

LEAFLET RAID IN N. WALES.

Mr. Francis J. Field sends reports and specimens of leaflets dropped in the town of Rhyl, N. Wales, by the R.A.F. in connection with the British national "Save Waste Paper" contest. Six varieties of leaflets were used, some of them on scrap accumulated during the past six or seven years. The raid resulted in doubling the amount collected in the town.

This is only the third British raid in Britain, previous ones having been on Bournemouth for War Weapons Week, and on Manchester with Safety First propaganda.

THE STUDY OF POSTMARKS

(With special reference to Bechuanaland)

An appeal to readers of the South African Philatelist

Stamp collectors can be numbered by their tens of thousands throughout the world, but what a very small percentage interest themselves in postmarks.

Now the study of postmarks is not undertaken by the small minority just for the sake of curiosity, but it is done for the benefit of philately in general, and any information gained is not kept under lock and key but is in all cases freely given to those who will take the trouble to interest themselves on a subject which has a great bearing on the hobby of stamp collecting.

It will be readily understood that the person or persons engaged on research work in connection with the postal markings of any particular country cannot possibly write to every stamp collector in the country, so he turns to what should be the best means of acquiring the information he is seeking through the medium of the "South African Philatelist," which is subscribed for and read by every serious minded stamp collector.

He asks for the information through the medium of this journal, the Editor of which, being himself a student of philately of merit, is only too pleased to publish replies to any questions raised upon this subject.

In consideration therefore that the average stamp collector has much to gain from this information in the pursuit of his hobby it is up to him to give all possible assistance in such matters.

It may be that the average collector with only a small collection may have the very postmark or whatever the information required may hapuen to be, yet in the majority of cases these people will not even take the trouble to look and see if they can be of any assistance.

By their co-operation they may one day themselves be saved from purchasing duds and incidently they will also be helping to solve problems of which so many exist in philately.

When such a request is made through the medium of the "South African Philatelist," or in fact, any philatelic journal, it is the duty of any stamp collector, interested in his hobby, to give the matter immediate attention and not wait for months or years to elapse before doing so.

It is to be hoped, therefore, that readers of the "South African Philatelist" will wake to the occasion and assist in every way possible.

As an instance, I feel sure that there must be quite a number of readers of this journal who can offer some explanation or give some information which will eventually lead to the solving of this problem, viz.: In the "London Philatelist" for September, 1941, reference is made to the Francetown S.A. postmark, which is often found on the stamps of Rhodesia (Large Arms Type).

I must admit that the words "South Africa" applied to Bechuanaland postmarks as well as the use of Rhodesian stamps in the Protectorate has always been a source of speculation among philatelists and many and varied theories have been put forward.

Of course the words "South Africa" being used would under ordinary circumstances of to-day appear quite natural, but in the years preceding the Boer War this appears out of place.

Mr. H. C. Dann writes in the "London Philatelist" mentioned that a certain Mr. R. L. Furniss, an old resident of Salisbury, Southern Rhodesia, raises a question in regard to this "Francetown" postmark as follows: He says,

"Why South Africa? It will be remembered that there is an error of spelling, as the name should be "Francistown." Here is the theory he has evolved which may be correct. He suggests,

"That prior to the Jameson Raid, the British South Africa Company may have hoped to have got the Bechuanaland territory thrown in with Rhodesia, or in any case the Tati Concession. This may have gone pretty far, as many of the Bechuanaland Border Police took part in the raid, therefore Jameson must have had the authority to take them under his command. We know that Rhodesian stamps were used at Francetown, and why the postmark 'S. Africa' if not for the above reason? The arrangement may have been squashed by the raid and Francistown had to go back to the use of Bechuanaland Protectorate stamps."



Mr. Dann goes further, in reply to a question asked by Mr. Furness as to whether he had ever seen the Francistown postmark on Bechuanaland Protectorate stamps. He says:

"In reply to this question I may refer to an article I wrote in the "London Philatelist" of October, 1935, on Tati, in which I described fifteen registered covers in my collection all postmarked "Francesstown" during the Boer war. All of these carried either the Bechuanaland Protectorate stamps G.B. overprinted issue in the early dates, and British Bechuanaland G.B. overprinted issue on the latest dates. They ranged from 1899 to 1902, and the various values were 2d., 4d. and 6d. in the former and 1d. and 2d. in the latter. They are extremely rare, probably unique. The postmark is not rare on the large Arms issue (1897) of British South Africa Company."

Having therefore so often seen the Francesstown postmark on both British Bechuanaland and Bechuanaland Protectorate stamps I could not imagine that they were at all rare nor unique and upon examining my own collection I discovered that I had quite a quantity of both and in addition I had also specimens of the Unappropriated Die issue of British Bechuanaland showing this postmark.

Upon making further enquiries I discovered that several collectors of this country had specimens showing this postmark in their collections. There is no doubt that the Francistown S.A. postmark appears to be more numerous on the Rhodesian stamps, but they are also fairly plentiful on Bechuanaland stamps and therefore cannot possibly be as extremely rare as Mr. Dann states.

It would be interesting to know how many collectors have any of these postmarks on Bechuanaland stamps, also whether any other issues of Bechuanaland and Bechuanaland Protectorate exists with this postmark.

Now the reasons given by Mr. Furness as to why the words "South Africa" appears on both Rhodesian and Bechuanaland stamps appears to be quite feasible, i.e., in so far as "Francesstown" is concerned, as we know that "Francesstown" is next door to the Tati district, but it so happens that there is also a circular date stamp showing the words "LOBATSI R.S. SOUTH AFRICA" (the R.S. is probably for Railway Station), and whilst Francistown is up in the northern boundary of the Protectorate, Lobatsi is right away in the south.

We know that sometime in 1895 the Imperial Government were considering the handing over of the administration of the Protectorate to the British South Africa Company, the territory chiefly concerned being that belonging to the Chiefs Khama, Sebele and Bathoen. These chiefs, however, objected to the transfer of administration to the Company and they proceeded to London to lodge their objections and put their case before Mr. Chamberlain.

Meanwhile, whilst these negotiations were in progress the British South Africa Company, practically sure of the granting of this administration over the territory in addition to the Tati Concession, may have had these postmarks prepared in anticipation and this would probably explain the use of Rhodesian stamps in the Protectorate and also that other towns besides "Francesstown" and "Lobatsi" may have been issued with a date stamp showing the words South Africa.

The three chiefs mentioned, however, succeeded in persuading the Imperial Government to change its policy in regard to the Protectorate, and this, together with the Jameson Raid, may have been the reason why the territory was left under the control of the High Commissioner for South Africa as it is to day.

On the other hand we have no evidence whatsoever that the British South Africa Company had anything at all to do with the issue of this postmark. The Company had really no authority to issue such a postmark until the negotiations for the transfer of the territory had been finally concluded, so that there is also a possibility that the postmark may have been issued by the postal administration of the Protectorate.

The fact that Rhodesian stamps were used in Francistown may possibly have been by authority from the Protectorate Postmaster-General for reasons similar to Bechuanaland stamps used at Gubulawayo, or like that of certain towns in the Free State on or near the borders of the Cape Colony, who often made use of Cape stamps especially when the letter's destination was somewhere within the boundaries of the Colony.

We know now that both Francesstown and Lobatsi were served with this date stamp bearing the words "South Africa." Can any reader add any further information by giving the names of any other town?

Where a stamp of any country is found showing the postmark of another country, many reasons can be put forward. For instance the stamp may have passed through the post office through oversight or it may have been cancelled to order, but what is the reason for a postmark showing the letters C.G.H., which definitely denotes Cape of Good Hope, appearing on a postmark of a town which is situated in the Bechuanaland Protectorate and far away from the borders of the Cape Colony?

I have in my collection a 2d. Great Britain, overprinted Bechuanaland Protectorate and defaced with a circular date stamp showing "MAHALAPYE SIDING" at the top and the letters "C.G.H." at the bottom; the date is DE.21.98.

Can any reader suggest any explanation that may solve this problem?

A. A. JURGENS.

Correspondence

Sir,

To avoid any misconceptions, I would like to point out that the Mafeking item, described as "copy A" in my April article, was not offered for sale in Mr. V. F. James' list, but mentioned in one of his popular last-page causeries.

Yours, faithfully,

+ + + K. FREUND.

O.F.S. NUMERAL POSTMARKS.

In the S.A.P. Vol. 16, 1940, p. 148, I put forward the thesis that certain postmarks met with on O.R.C. (Edwardian) stamps (viz., Vertical Oval grids similar in character to those seen very commonly on Cape stamps, but differing in that the numerals were only 5 mm. in height as against the Cape's 6½ mm. or over) were actually in use in the O.F.S. during the Edwardian period, and for some little time after Union.

This view was contested by Mr. S. G. Rich, who maintained that these marks were "Cape" marks and that their appearance on O.R.C. stamps was merely evidence of interprovincial usage.

I admitted that final proof, in the shape of covers with place/date stamps in addition to the numeral cancellation, was still lacking. No such cover has yet materialised, but a curious specimen sent me through the courtesy of Mr. Courlander, of East London, provides evidence in favour of my view, even if it be not yet conclusive proof.

The specimen is a Griqualand West 1d. revenue stamp on piece. The stamp is tied with a postmark "Holfontein R.O." (date undecipherable) and Holfontein is a small railway station not far from Kroonstad. The stamp also shows traces of what looks like an (? earlier) pen cancellation. On the piece of paper there is a mark of the "Cape type" with the number "48" with numerals 5 mm. high.

There is, of course, something "phoney" about the piece, as there is no obvious reason why an obsolete and probably already used Griqualand West revenue stamp should have been cancelled at Holfontein, and it is within the bounds of possibility that the joker who did it stuck the stamp on a piece of paper which had already received the "48" mark in the Cape—just to worry future philatelists! But isn't it more likely that the "48" mark and the Holfontein mark were applied at one and the same place and that, therefore, the "48" mark had been in actual use at Holfontein? Still, however, I must admit that a proper cover is needed to solve the place of use of these marks conclusively and one of these days, no doubt, it will turn up.

It may be added that the number 48 is one which I had not listed before as found in the

5 mm. group and Mr. A. A. Jurgens has supplied me with another new one, No. 118, in purple on a 1d. K.E., O.R.C.

Mr. Jurgens has also informed me that all the other numbers recorded with 5 mm. numerals are well known to him on Cape stamps, but always with numerals 6½ mm. or more in height. He reiterates that the fact of a number of the 5 mm. cancellations being in coloured inks is in itself strong evidence against this emanating from the Cape, as coloured cancellations are very rare there.

J. H. HARVEY PIRIE.

WHY A REGISTERED LETTER IS CROSSED.

Mr. S. Graveson, a distinguished writer on postal history, explains in the *Stamp Magazine* that the blue printed or pencilled lines put on a registered letter have their origin far back in the middle ages.

In olden days when letters had no extra outside covering or envelope but merely had the ends tucked in, it was customary when it was specially desired to prevent the contents from being seen to have a silk or string folded in with the ends after passing round the letter in both directions, the ends of the tie being secured under a seal. This crossed tie also indicated to the bearer that special care should be taken of the missive.

When registration was adopted by the post office, cording and sealing was at first insisted on; when special registration envelopes were introduced in 1878 this became unnecessary but the blue printed crossed lines were adopted as plainly indicating that the letters were to have special treatment.

+ + +

KENYA.

Mr. W. Tunstall states that supplies of the missing Kenya stamps appear to be turning up occasionally. About the end of the year the sale of the 10c overprint on Union was suspended as normal 10c stamps (with the original perforation) became available.

The change of perforation in the £1 stamp, noted in our February issue as being 11½ x 14, should be 14 all round.

The 30c stamp is now reported perf. 14.

+ + +

AUSTRALIA.

The "Australian Stamp Monthly" reports that the Federal Government is considering the issue of a stamp to commemorate the stand of the A.I.F. garrison at Tobruk. Probably their next consideration will be a "Yankzac" one.

Were readers other than Australian special-ists aware that Australian colonials were still valid for postal use? We were under the impression, on the analogy of Union provincials

(Continued on page 66).

Special Offer—

1. Union of South Africa 1925 Airmail set Complete, 1d., 3d., 6d., 9d. Mint or Used. Price 18/6
2. 1929 issue, ditto, 4d. and 1/-. Price 4/6
3. Malta, K.G. VI. Mint set to 1/- (old colours) ½d., ¾d., 1d., 1½d., 2d., 2½d., 3d., 4½d., 6d. and 1/-. Price 8/6
4. Egypt Cotton Congress Commemorative—Mint complete set. Price 2/-
5. British Honduras, K.G. VI. 1c to 25c Mint. Price 5/6
6. British Guiana K.G. VI. 1c to 24c Mint. Price 5/-
7. Barbados K.G. VI. Mint, ½d. to 1/-. Price 3/9
8. Australia 150th Anniversary of New South Wales, 3 different Mint. Price 2/-

WANTED TO BUY.

For spot Cash. Collections, Lots and Accumulations of any size or description.

Offers solicited.

E. BLUM

P.O. BOX 1669 - CAPE TOWN
Established in South Africa since 1930.
First class references.

New Arrivals:

2. Belgian Congo, latest provs., m. 1/6
6. Ecuador 1936 Darwin cpl. u. 2/-
3. Eire 1916 Rebellion cpl. m. 1/6
3. Ethiopia 1942 just issued cpl. m. 1/6
10. Greek Occup. Albania 1941 m. 3/6
4. Manchukuo 1935 20fen—1 yen cpl. u. 2/6
4. Manchukuo 1937 Hsinking cpl. m. 2/6
11. Paraguay 1927 50c.—2,50p. 1/-
2. Paraguay 1932 Zeppelin m. 1/6
6. Roumania 1927 Geographical cpl. 3/6
5. Roumania 1931 Boy Scouts cpl. 2/6
9. Salvador 1934/38 provs. cpl. u. 2/-
16. Spain 1936 Press Assen. cpl. u. 8/6
13. Sudan Camel Post 1m—8 piast. m. 10/6
10. Sudan Dues and Officials to 5 piast. m. 4/6

NETT, C.W.O. POST FREE.

Approval selections on request, against references.

A. LICHTENSTEIN

P.O. Box 576,
BLOEMFONTEIN, O.F.S.



UNION OFFICIALS

By Dr. C. H. Fouché.

It is hoped that the following remarks will help to amplify the article on Union Officials by Mr. A. Lichtenstein, which appeared in the April, 1942, number of the "S.A. Philatelist."

1.—½d. Roto. Hyphenated I, (basic stamp G. 54). There was a printing on stamps with inverted water-mark, which appeared in 1936, i.e., before the printing listed under the above heading.

2.—½d. Roto. Hyphenated II, (thin arrows and black sheet numbers, basic stamp G. 55). There are two overprints and not one as listed.

In (a) the horizontal limb of the L of OFFICIAL on No. 3 row one is short.

The vertical limb of the L of OFFISEEL on No. 2 row 4 has a longitudinal split along its upper part.

In (b) neither of the above exists.

3.—½d. Roto. Hyphenated II, (heavy black arrows and bright blue sheet numbers, basic stamp G. 55). The overprint varies from 11½-13 m.m. The OFFISEEL is lowered and the OFFICIAL raised on the first four stamps in the first vertical row. This lowering and raising is relative to the other stamps in the respective horizontal rows. The ink used is distinctly shiny.

4.—1d. Roto. Hyphenated Pl. 12. There were the same two overprints as mentioned in 2 above.

5.—1d. Roto. Hyphenated Pl. 13. This is overprinted with the same type as 3 above. The ink is not so shiny.

6.—1½d. Roto. Pl. 1. The first printing is listed as having been issued in July, 1938; the writer received this printing in October, 1937.

7.—2d. Roto. Pl. 2 normal watermark and 2d. Roto. Pl. 3 inverted watermark were both issued in October, 1933, according to Mr. G. N. Gilbert in the "S.A. Philatelist" for 1935. 2d. Roto Pl. 3 normal watermark was first issued in 1934. 2d. Roto. Hyphenated normal watermark was supplied in July, 1939.

8.—6d. Pretoria flat plate, overprint up without stops 1928. This issue appears to have been overprinted in half sheets by a type set 6 x 10, and not 12 x 10, which was applied twice to the half sheet as evidence by the following:

(a) No. 1 and No. 7 row 12 have an apostrophe between the FF of OFFICIAL.

(b) No. 4 and No. 10 row 14 have a short top bar in the 2nd F of OFFISEEL.

(c) No. 2 and No. -8 row 17 have an apostrophe between the O of OFFISEEL. Was this printing issued in half sheets only?

9.—6d. Roto.

(a) Between the items g and h as listed, there was a printing with normal watermark. The type used was broken, and may have been the same as that used in the overprinting of the 1d. Roto. Hyphenated Pl. 11, which also appeared with broken type.

(b) There were two printings on Roto. Hyphenated 1 (basic stamp G. 61) the same as in 2 above.

10.—1s. Roto. Pl. 1 (first stamp on sheet in English, "twisted horn" on No. 5 row 1). The two printings listed have inverted watermark. There was a further printing on this same plate with normal watermark. It was supplied during 1936.

11.—2s. 6d. Only two printings on London Pictorials are listed. There was a third printing which appeared in January, 1933.

On 2s. 6d. Roto. Pictorials there were the following overprints:

1st Printing on upper halves of sheets, normal watermark, 17½-18½ m.m. between lines of overprint, issued January, 1933. 2nd Printing on lower halves of sheets, normal watermark, 20-21 m.m. between lines of overprint, issued in April, 1934. 3rd Printing on upper halves of sheets, inverted watermark, 20-21 m.m. between lines of overprint, supplied during 1938. 4th Printing on upper halves of sheets, normal watermark, 20-21 m.m. between lines of overprint, supplied during 1939. 5th Printing on lower halves of sheets, normal watermark, 20-21 m.m. between lines of overprint, supplied during 1940.

+++

BELGIAN CONGO.

A new issue is announced for Belgian Congo and Ruanda-Urundi. The series at present in use, except for air stamps, will cease to be valid as from 31st August.

OBITUARY.

We regret to see recorded in the "Philatelic Magazine" the death of P. J. Maingay, who was in the best sense of the word, an internationalist. A Dutchman, although long resident in Belgium, he was for long Hon. Secretary of the Federation of Belgian Philatelic Societies and later he became President of the International Federation of Philately, a body which aimed at world unity of philatelic interests.

Society News

O.F.S. AND BASUTOLAND PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

President, Mr. J. B. Levy; *Hon. Secretary*, Mr. R. C. Lyon, Box 702, Bloemfontein; *Meetings*, 3rd Fridays, Oranje Koffiehuis, Bloemfontein.

At the May meeting, Mr. C. A. Larsen was in the chair as the President, Mr. J. B. Levy, was away on a holiday tour. Several visitors and guests were present who will probably join the Society. Three new members were enrolled.

As the meeting was mainly an informal one, philatelic chats and memories filled part of the evening.

The main attraction was a display by Mr. Larsen of his collection of South-West Africa, which must rank as one of the best in this country. There were numerous uncatalogued and out-of-the-way items. The postal history and development of South-West Africa, from the first German stamps without overprint to the present overprinted South African war effort issue, was well presented and artistically written up.

Mr. A. Lichtenstein is the third member of the Society who, by request, will give a philatelic lecture to the Eunice Girls' High School. Mr. Lichtenstein intends to show the stamps of Lichtenstein.

K.F.

+++

PHILATELIC SOCIETY OF NATAL.

President, P. C. Bishop; *Hon. Sec.*, G. Milner Palmer, P.O. Box 588, Durban; *Meetings*, 1st Wednesdays, Durban Publicity Bureau, West Street.

The second of our additional meetings for "swapping and sociability" was held in the rooms of the Durban Camera Club on April 15, and was well attended. The next "extra" meeting has been convened for May 20 at the Merchant Navy Club, 17 Gardiner Street, where a spacious room is available.

May it be repeated here that visitors from other centres are at all times welcome at our meetings.

At our normal meeting for May, held on May 6 at the Durban Publicity Bureau, we provisionally admitted five new members for confirmation next month. An attractive display of St. Vincent, with notes thereon, was given by Mr. J. R. Simpson, Mr. H. H. Hurst gave us another of his welcome "Topical Talks" dealing with outstanding stamp news from all quarters.

G.M.P.

+++

NYASALAND STAMP CLUB.

President, W. D. Farquhar, P.O. Blantyre; *Hon. Secretary*, L. J. Davidson, P.O. Limbe.

Fifteen members were present at the April meeting of the Club, and a new member was present. Minutes of March meeting were read and confirmed. All seemed as enthusiastic and keen as ever. In fact for a small and isolated community the club can be considered as active as any in existence.

Arrangements were made for our next meeting which includes a special programme for the Juniors, as the school children will be back in the Protectorate for a short holiday.

Special items of interest were presented by Mr. Booth, and as usual these were both fascinating and edifying.

Mr. Jewell brought to the attention of club members the importance of specialising in stamp collecting, and the various ways in which a special collection can be made up.

Dr. Baird gave a very interesting quiz and answers were forthcoming sharp and quick.

Members spent the rest of the evening in exchanges and purchases; viewing one another's new issues and acquisitions, comments and advice given to many on points which they raised, or asked about.

Light refreshments were taken and the meeting closed at 7 p.m.

L.J.D.

PRETORIA PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

President, A. E. Basden; *Hon. Secretary*, H. A. Wager, P.O. Box 514. *Meetings*, 1st and 3rd Mondays, 8 p.m., Technical College.

May 4: Mr. Watson read an article from a stamp magazine on Stamp Collections with a flavour. It advocated the inclusion of a sort of personal note into a collection by the use of many devices, such as interspersing the collection with items such as bisects, specimens, uncatalogued stamps, a few covers and postal stationery, reprints, forgeries and even by artistic illustration of the sheets.

In the writing-up competition, four competitors came forward. The exhibits were tabled and the judges awarded two prizes, the 1st to Dr. Broughton for some sheets of St. Helena, and the 2nd to Mr. de Boom for some sheets of Holland.

May 18: Mr. Hawke read an extract dealing with stamps cancelled to order.

Mr. Basden read a paper on Combination Covers. For the enlightenment of members he explained that these were covers used in the early days of postage stamps for international correspondence and which required stamps of the two countries for prepayment. If the stamps of the second country were unobtainable, then the difference was paid by the recipient on delivery as a sort of postage due. This was, in fact, the origin of postage due stamps. Now, of course, the stamps of any country can be used to prepay postage to any other country. Mr. Basden described and tabled a wonderful lot of such covers and he answered a lot of questions from members who were very appreciative of his paper.

H.A.W.

+ + +

CAPE TOWN PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

President, M. Rothkugel; *Hon. Sec.* K. Cameron, 9, Pineway, Pinelands, Cape. *Meetings*, 2nd and 4th Thursdays, Medical House, 35, Wale Street, Cape Town, at 8 p.m.

25th April, 1942: The exhibit of the evening was provided by Mr. O. Hansen, who laid on the table his splendid and comprehensive collection of the stamps of Denmark. The display included many rare and interesting items, from the first issues with various "town" cancellations to later provisionals and charity stamps. The whole was written up in the most attractive and artistic style. Supplementing the exhibit, Mr. Hansen read an instructive paper on the whole varied postal history of Denmark, from its beginning in the XVIIIth Century to the present day. Mr. K. Alexander expressed to him the appreciation of the Society for the display.

Mr. W. D. Vallance was appointed Hon. Auditor for the current year in terms of the constitution of the Society.

7th May, 1942: An exhibit of unusual interest, not so much for the quantity of the stamps displayed, but for the quality, was tabled by Mr. W. L. Ashmead, whose previous exhibits have always been looked upon with great interest. On this occasion Mr. Ashmead showed his famous collection of Western Australian stamps. The issues exhibited dated from as far back as 1854, and was brought up to current stamps of that country. Firstly, he showed

prints taken from the original die made by Messrs. Perkins, Bacon and Co., of which very few exist at the present day. These, a set of five, were presented to Mr. Ashmead by that well-known philatelist, the late Mr. Gilbert Allis, a Past President of the Cape Town Philatelic Society. Following these were proofs in black, also colour trials of these stamps. Owing to necessity for economy of space in this journal, it is possible to deal with only a few of the specialised items that appeared in this truly remarkable exhibit. In this connection one must refer to a very fine pair of 1d. black used and the 1s. pale brown mint; also a 4d. blue mint with watermarks sideways. Then in the 1857 issue, several interesting copies of the 2d. and 6d. value, lithographed by A. Millman, the Government Printer of that time, were seen, and among these were two copies of the 2d. variety, printed on both sides. Of the 1860-1861 issues, an item calling for special mention was the 2d. blue with PO in Postage missing. The 1864-1865 issues were all complete in mint and used condition. 1872-1878 issues were also complete in mint and used condition with the exception of the 4d. Carmine mint 1882-1890, complete in mint and used condition and several important and interesting varieties appeared relating to this period, while special mention might be made of a block of four of the 2d. grey mint, 1889 issue. Among the 1893 and 1895 issues were shown blocks of 12 used 6d., a block of 6 (1d.) green surcharged on 3d. Cinnamon, and also a block of 15 3d. on 3d. Cinnamon; while a further interesting item was the 3d. in red and black on 3d. (block of 6 in mint condition). The 1902-1911 issue, which was changed from the well-known "Swan" to a "Queen Victoria" issue, was represented up to the value of £1, both in mint and used. In a very interesting commentary delivered on the stamps of that country, Mr. Ashmead laid stress on the fact that he considered it a pity that there had, at any time, been a change of the issue of the stamps from the "proverbial Swan," adding that he was glad to see the Government return to the original design by which the stamps of this country had become world-famed. Mr. L. Simenhoff thanked the exhibitor for this outstanding display of not only rare but extremely beautiful stamps.

Several new members were proposed and elected at this meeting, and the meeting was very well supported by attendance.

The chairman referred to bereavements recently suffered by two members of the Society, namely, Messrs. A. H. Sydow and Alex Taylor, and the members present were asked to rise in their seats as an expression of sympathy.

Congratulations were extended to Mr. E. C. Solomon on his election as Sea Point's representative in the Provincial Council. Congratulations were also extended to Mr. L. Simenhoff on the recent award of the A.C.F. Efficiency decoration.

The usual auction sales were held at both the above meetings and realised satisfactory prices.

E.C.S.

+ + +

Air Service to Angola Suspended.—It is announced that the air service to and from Angola via S.W. Africa will cease operating as from 31st May.

Collectors of REALLY FINE BRITISH COLONIALS should get into touch with me AT ONCE

Selections of choice Mint or Used

AFRICANS, AUSTRALIAN STATES, NEW ZEALAND, WEST INDIANS, Etc., on approval to medium and advanced collectors. These books can be selected from at ONE-THIRD of Catalogue price. Also a choice lot of EDWARDIAN and GEORGIAN issues, Mint or Superb Used, at over 50% off Catalogue. REFERENCES ESSENTIAL.

J. BIRD 6 Westhill Rd. London S.W.18, England

The SOUTH AFRICAN PHILATELIST

Proprietors and Publishers :

The Philatelic Federation of Southern Africa

Honorary Editor: Dr. J. H. HARVEY PIRIE, P.O. Box 7012, Johannesburg.
Honorary Business Manager: WILLIAM REDFORD, Broadcast House, Commissioner
Street, Johannesburg.

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

Vol. 18. No. 7.

JULY, 1942.

Whole No. 208.

Union Notes

War Slogan Postmarks.—Two new ones appeared in May. "Support the Red Cross/Steun die Rooikruis" has been seen from Johannesburg, Cape Town, Port Elizabeth, Bloemfontein and Durban. "Spandeer minder, Spaar meer/Spend less, Save more" from Pretoria, Johannesburg, Kimberley, Springs, Cape Town, Bloemfontein, Germiston, Benoni, and Pietermaritzburg. Thanks to several correspondents for notifying these.

Commemorative Postmark.—The great fair open in Johannesburg from 23rd May to 1st June, to raise funds for the Governor-General's War Fund had its own post office with a postmark of the rather crude type not infrequently used for temporary offices, viz., a single circle mark with "Liberty Cavalcade/Johannesburg" and the date in two lines across the centre.

Army Postmarks.—APO-U-MPK marks now go up to No. 36. From Pretoria comes a special postmark, "Defence Headquarters/Pretoria." Comparatively few letters from "up North" now show APO-U-MPK marks; most have the "Egypt/Postage Prepaid" mark described in our December, 1941, and January, 1942, issues. To the numbers given in these may be added Nos. 6, 15, 21, 27, 42, 64, 69 and 83.

New Censor's Mark.—Mr. G. W. Hockey, of Cape Town, draws attention to a fairly recently introduced new type of censor's mark. This takes the form of a rubber stamp mark of the Union Coat of Arms with a letter underneath. It appears to be used mainly, if not exclusively, to tie the "Opened by Censor" labels to envelopes.

New "Bantam" Stamps.—Information has been received that although no definite date of their appearance can yet be given, upon

exhaustion of the present stocks all new supplies will be of the reduced size.

This looks as if the present War Effort series would have a short life. Odd notes have appeared in some oversea papers about varieties, most of them admittedly of a rather minor order. Have any of our local specialists been making a study of these stamps? If not, they had better get busy while supplies are still available.

KENYA.

The 30c. stamp, originally perf. 13½, then perf. 14½, is now 13½ x 14.

The 1c. stamp has also been changed to perf. 13½ x 14.

A well marked variety has appeared in the 50c. stamp, somewhere in the first vertical row, the rope being missing where it passes over the sail.

—Robertson Stamp Co.

S.W.A.

The overprinted ½d. War stamp is to be found on both the bright green and the blue green shades of this stamp.

On the 2d. stamp the overprint, originally well up on the stamp, is now very low down.

MOZAMBIQUE COMPANY.

This Company's charter comes to an end on 18th July, and on 19th its stamps will be replaced by the stamps of Mozambique territory.

BELGIAN CONGO.

The new issue, foreshadowed in our last issue, will have to be collected in pairs. Each stamp is bilingual, but the French and Flemish writing changes places in alternate stamps. The issue has been printed in London.

—Robertson Stamp Co.

The Postal Stationery of the Union of South Africa

By SAM LEGATOR.

(Concluded from page 66 of June issue).

(5) REGISTERED ENVELOPES.

All registered envelopes of the Union of South Africa issued to date, are supplied and printed by Thos. de La Rue and Co., Ltd., of London.

The envelopes are Creamish White, and are all cloth lined.

1913—

FIRST UNION ISSUE.

Head of King Geo. V. in Circular embossed stamp on flap of Envelope.

The Face value was 4d. being the registration fee. The flap of the envelope folds to the opposite side to where the address is written.

Additional space for the postage stamp, is provided on the address side.

The inscription is as follows, in English and Dutch:

REGISTERED LETTER.

"This letter must be given to an officer of the Post Office to be registered, and a receipt obtained for it.

GEREGISTEERDE BRIEF.

Om deze Brief te Registeren, geve men hem aan een Postamptenaar, en ontvang een bewijs ervoor."

The space for the additional stamp is inscribed:

"Postage Stamp
Postzegel."

The reverse side shows the imprint of the makers:

"Thos. De La Rue & Co., Patent."

R.1. 4d. Blue. Measures 133 x 84 MM. (Round Flap).

R.2. 4d. Blue. Measures 152 x 93 mm. (Round Flap).

R.3. 4d. Blue. Measures 226 x 102 mm. (Round Flap).

1918—

CHANGE OF DESIGN OF ENVELOPES.

The value and embossed stamp as above, except that the flap folds to the front of the envelope. The additional space for the postage stamp now provided for on the flap, and the inscription is not in Dutch. The inscription reads as follows:

"The stamp to pay the postage must be placed here."

The imprint is also changed. "Patent" is deleted, and is inscribed as follows:

"Thos. de La Rue & Co., Ltd., London."

R.4. 4d. Deep Blue. Measures 133 x 84 mm. (Round Flap).

R.5. 4d. Deep Blue. Measures 152 x 93 mm. (Round Flap).

VARIETY.

R.5a. 4d. Deep Blue. Measures 152 x 93 mm. (Round Flap). **Double Strike**, similar to the well known Union ½d. double strike.

R.6. 4d. Deep Blue. Measures 226 x 102 mm. (Round Flap).

1920—

NEW ISSUE.

Similar to R.4 except that the flap is elliptical and no special place provided for additional Postage stamp.

R.7. 4d. Blue. Measures 133 x 84 (Elliptical Flap).

1921—

NEW ISSUE. POSTAGE AND REGISTRATION FEE INCLUDED IN STAMP.

The Stamp is embossed, but changed to oval, and is not in the centre of the flap. Head of King Geo. V. The stamp is inscribed:

"Postage 1½d. Registratie 4d.
Postzegel 1½d. Registratie 4d.

Flap folds to front of envelope.

R.8. 5½d. Deep Blue. Measures 133 x 84. (Elliptical Flap).

R.9. 5½d. Deep Blue. Measures 152 x 94. (Elliptical Flap).

R.10. 5½d. Deep Blue. Measures 226 x 102. (Elliptical Flap).

1922—

NEW ISSUE. INCREASE IN POSTAGE RATES TO 2d.

Similar in appearance to the above.

R.11. 6d. Blue. Measures 133 x 84 mm. (Elliptical Flap).

R.12. 6d. Blue. Measures 152 x 93 mm. (Elliptical Flap).

R.13. 6d. Blue. Measures 226 x 102 mm. (Elliptical Flap).

1926—

NEW ISSUE. CHANGE FROM DUTCH TO AFRIKAANS.

Head of King Geo. V. The layout is similar to R.4. Inscribed in English and Afrikaans. The space in the flap for the additional stamp is inscribed in English and Afrikaans, whereas that of R.4. was inscribed in English only.

The address side of the envelope is inscribed as follows:

REGISTERED LETTER.

"This letter must be given to an officer of the Post Office to be registered and a receipt obtained for it.

GEREGISTREERDE BRIEF.

Hierdie Brief moet ter Registrasie oorhandig word aan 'n Posbeampte wat 'n kwitansie daarvoor moet gee."

Space for the additional stamp is inscribed:

"The stamp to pay the postage must be placed here.

Die seël ter dekking van die posgeld moet hier geplak word."

R.14. 4d. Blue. Measures 152 x 93 mm. (Round Flap).

R.15. 4d. Blue. Measures 226 x 102 mm. (Round Flap).

VARIETY.

R.15a. 4d. Albino. Measures 226 x 102 mm. (Round Flap).

1934—

CHANGE OF STAMP DESIGN. SUID-AFRIKA HYPHENATED.

Native Kraal, not embossed. Stamp on flap. Flap now folds to back of envelope. Imprint: "Thos. de La Rue & Co., Ltd." To conform with bilinguism the envelopes are printed in two types.

Type 1—English and Afrikaans.

Type 2—Afrikaans and English.

On the English first cover, the stamp has "South Africa Suid-Afrika," and on the Afrikaans "Suid-Afrika South Africa."

The address side of the envelope is inscribed:

REGISTERED LETTER.

"This letter must be handed in at a Post Office for Registration, and a receipt obtained therefor.

GEREGISTREERDE BRIEF.

Hierdie Brief moet vir Registrasie ingelê word by 'n Poskantoor. Sorg dat U daarvoor 'n kwitansie kry."

And the space provided for the additional postage is inscribed:

"The stamp to pay the postage must be placed here.

Die seël tot dekking van posgeld moet hier geplak word."

ENGLISH first and AFRIKAANS as above.

R.16. 4d. Blue. Envelope measures 152 x 93 mm. (Pointed Flap).

R.17. 4d. Blue. Envelope measures 226 x 15 mm. (Pointed Flap).

AFRIKAANS first and ENGLISH. Vice-versa to above.

R.18. 4d. Blue. Envelope measures 152 x 93 mm. (Pointed Flap).

R.19. 4d. Blue. Envelope measures 226 x 115 mm. (Pointed Flap).

STOCKTAKING OFFERS:

(Secure these before prices increase still further):

8.	Aden 1939 ½a to 8as. cpl. m.	2/9
6.	Austria Nibelungen cpl.	3/6
4.	do. Dollfus & Mothers Day	2/6
22.	Bavaria 1914 Ludwig cpl. m.	6/6
20.	do. 1919 Volksstaat cpl. m.	4/6
22.	do. 1919 Freistaat cpl. m.	5/6
17.	do. 1920 Pict. cpl. u.	5/-
8.	Belgium 1935 Astrid cpl. m.	6/6
8.	do. 1937 Princess cpl. m.	4/6
17.	Bosnia 1906 Landscapes cpl. m.	8/6
7.	Br. Guyana 1934, 1c—24c cpl. m.	4/6
10.	Burma on India, ½a to 8as cpl. m.	5/6
17.	Cameroons 1916 French Occ. cpl. m.	8/6
9.	Ceylon K.G. V. 2c—30c cpl. m.	3/6
5.	Egypt 1936 Agric. Exhibn. cpl. m.	4/6
18.	French Morocco 1933, 1c—2frs m.	5/6
20.	Germany on Bavaria 1920 cpl. m.	3/6
15.	G.B. & Morocco, K.E.S. cpl. m.	2/6
16.	Italy 1937 Child Welfare cpl. m.	12/6
18.	Liberia 1936 Provs. to 18c. cpl. m.	6/6
6.	Luxemburg 1936 Phil. Exhibn. cpl. m.	3/6
10.	Martinique 1933 "Fruit Salad" m.	2/6
11.	Newfoundland Coronation cpl. m.	9/6
5.	New Zealand, Ch. of Commerce m.	4/6
9.	North Borneo 1939, 1c—15c cpl. m.	3/6
3.	Philippines 1935 "Temples" 6, 16, 50c m.	4/6
8.	do. 1936 "Commonwealth" m.	5/6
9.	Poland 1935 Pictorials, used	1/6
16.	Portugal 1923 airmail cpl. m.	5/6
31.	do. 1924 Camoens cpl. m.	15/-
5.	Rumania 1937 Sports m.	2/6
8.	Russia 1938 Sports cpl. used	2/6
7.	St. Helena Centenary ½d.—1/- m.	22/6
10.	St. Pierre and Miquelon 1932 Dog m.	2/6
24.	Spain, Pope and King Alfonso, to 1p. m.	5/6
18.	Spain, Goya and La Maja Desnuda cpl. m.	5/6
13.	Spain, 1930 Columbus to 1p. cpl. m.	3/6
6.	Sweden 1936 P.O. Centenary used	1/-
4.	Zanzibar 1936 Jubilee cpl. m. or u.	2/6

Nett, c.w.o. Post free.

Approvals on request, against usual references.

A. LICHTENSTEIN

P.O. Box 576,

BLOEMFONTEIN, O.F.S.



VRYBURG ISSUES

By STEPHEN G. RICH

(Reprinted by permission from
"Stamps.")

[In this article, some of the statements made by Mr. Rich appeared to be matters of opinion rather than of definitely ascertained fact. It was therefore submitted to Mr. A. A. Jurgens for his opinions, and these will follow next month. For convenience of reference, the paragraphs have been numbered, which they were not in the original. Mr. Jurgens wishes to state that his main object in commenting is to point out that in his opinion the reasons given for condemning one of the cancellations as a fake or fraudulent one are not sufficient for certainty. Ed.]

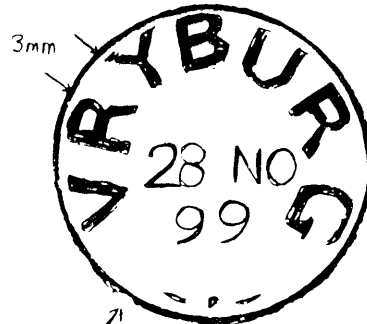
1.—Vryburg, Cape of Good Hope, was one of the towns taken by the Boers of the Transvaal in their advance into the Cape Colony in the early days of the Boer War of 1899 to 1902 and was retaken by the British after the Boers had held it less than six months. Philatelically this story is reflected in two provisional overprinted issues and in a scarce usage of Transvaal stamps. Certain parts of the story have been reported in stamp magazines and books; but the complete story as now known to me has never hitherto seen publication, and indeed one or two items are only recently unearthed by me.

2.—The correct pronunciation of the name is identical with that of Fryeburg, Maine.

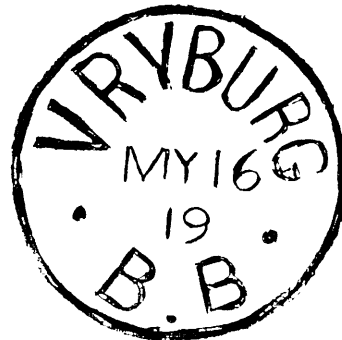
3.—Vryburg is situated in that part of the Cape that was the separate colony of British Bechuanaland until November, 1895. (It is not in Griqualand West, despite Poole's statement). This area lies directly west of the Transvaal; and indeed, Vryburg is only a short distance from the border. It is a small trading centre for a sheep-farming district, yet with less than 3,000 people it is one of the larger towns of Bechuanaland. The capital of the republic of Stellaland was located here in the 1880's and after annexation as British Bechuanaland, the colonial capital was located here. At the time of the Boer War the town had less than 1,500 inhabitants.

4.—The invading Boers occupied the town on or about Nov. 24, 1899, while Mafeking to the north and Kimberley to the south were besieged by them. From November 25, 1899, direct postal service between Vryburg and Schweizer Reinecke, the westernmost post office of the Transvaal at that period, was established, with mails each way twice a week. A postal proclamation of the Transvaal, dated Nov. 29, 1899, and reprinted in full in Stanley Gibbons Monthly Journal, April 30, 1907, announces this service and also deals with the question of the stamps in use at Vryburg.

5.—When the Boers occupied Vryburg, they brought no stamps of their own with them and found Cape stamps in the post office. They overprinted the ½d., 1d. and 2½d. stamps



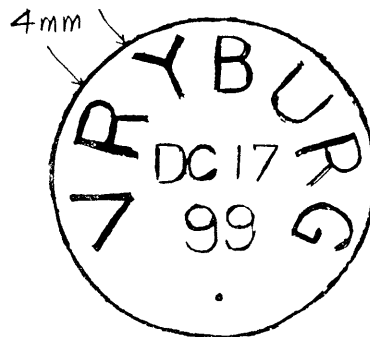
Genuine
(Actual size 22½mm. diameter)



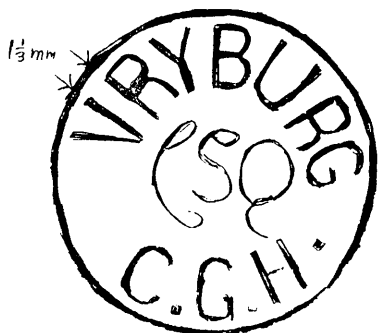
The "1895 Type"
(Actual size 22½mm. diameter)

for their same values, and converted 6d. stamps into 2d. ones by overprinting. The overprint is a typeset job, in 10-point or Bourgeois Scotch Roman type, all in capitals. To avoid trouble of resetting, the overprint reads "Pence" even for the ½d. and 1d. values.

6.—The normal spacing is 10 2/3 mm. from the top to bottom of entire overprint or 5 1/3 mm. between lines. At least one subject was



Fake.
(Actual size 22½mm. diameter)



C.G.H. Mark as Used by St. Quintin
(Actual size 24mm. diameter)

set up with a vertical overall measurement of $12 \frac{2}{3}$ mm. and thus $7 \frac{1}{3}$ mm. between lines. The 2d. on 6d. was set up with this spacing on all subjects. The top line is the value in numerals with the word "Pence" and the lower line Z.A.R. standing for South African Republic in Dutch.

7.—Dirty and broken letters as well as irregularities in presswork are characteristic of this hurried issue. Traces of a double imprint of part of the overprints, ranging from just the figure $\frac{1}{2}$ d. on the $\frac{1}{2}$ d. stamp to almost the entire top line on the $2\frac{1}{2}$ d., are found. As they are due to the gummed stamps jumping and striking the form as the pressure was released in the press, their significance is small.

8.—A hitherto unrecorded variety is the 1d. with broken capital I in place of figure 1. This is in a used block of four in my collection: the I is not perfect but broken so that it resembles a reversed figure 1. This may well explain its having been in the figure 1 box in the typesetter's case and hence its use. The I for 1 is reported in Tamsen's article of 1902 but not as broken.

9.—Tamsen reports an Italic Z on all values, stating that he has it on the $\frac{1}{2}$ d. and 1d. I have not yet seen this variety, but my own belief is that it is probably a damaged letter instead.

10.—Such writers as Poole, Phillips, et al. have stressed the extent to which forgeries of these overprints were made and insist that "experts" can identify them readily. The well informed men of that day are nearly all gone now, and their lore has not been passed on, since the waning of interest in Boer War stamps after 1908 or 1910 has removed occasion for new collectors to secure the information.

11.—The earliest full chronicle and illustration of the Boer overprints at Vryburg is in Stanley Gibbons Monthly Journal of June, 1900, on page 263. Curiously enough, the illustration is of counterfeits of all four values together on piece, with the fraudulent or fake cancellation.

12.—On these counterfeits, which really appear to have been quite deceptive to everyone, certain characteristics show up:

$\frac{1}{2}$ d.: The 2 of $\frac{1}{2}$ is definitely narrow with the ball at tip of curve not overhanging the foot of the figure; the N shows a noticeable slant in the left-hand vertical stroke.

1d.: Final E of "Pence" is oversize or raised and heavy part of tail of R is not curved on either edge.

2d. on 6d.: Numeral 2 has slanting serif instead of straight one (usually faint in the genuine) at right end of tail.

$2\frac{1}{2}$ d.: First E of "Pence" is small; 2 of $\frac{1}{2}$ is not as easily recognised as on the $\frac{1}{2}$ d. but has the same feature.

13.—These characterisations are taken from the illustrations in Gibbons' chronicle.

14.—The cancellation is a pretty close imitation of that actually used, the Vryburg town mark. This, struck right on the stamp, is the only cancellation known: and the counterfeiter made a very close imitation. However, he gave his handiwork away by varying the space between letters—R and Y are only 3 mm. apart on the genuine and 4 mm. here; there is one dot at bottom instead of three as in the genuine, and in making up the date he used closed figure 9's instead of the open figures, not alike, used in the date in the genuine. A break in the circle, found constant in the genuine in this period but filled up with ink later, is omitted. The letters are thin and large and are set further from the circle than in the genuine. The counterfeiter evidently imitated the mark without B.B. at bottom, used at Vryburg in 1892, even to the single dot at bottom, but used a round dot instead of the square one of the genuine.

15.—The cancellation is dated DC 17 99—a date obviously wrong, since the stamps had been retired before this. The abbreviation "DC" for December is not found on Cape or Bechuanaland postmarks; the month is regularly after the day on them.

16.—I have one copy of the $2\frac{1}{2}$ d., which is beyond all question a forged overprint and cancellation. In the effort to copy the poor press work and the worn type of the genuine, the forger did a very clever job of imitation, but apparently made an electrotype or stereotype in which distortions of some letters occurred. His Scotch Roman 10-point capitals were from a different type-founder's design and he left out one "one point lead" in his set-up, bringing the two lines exactly 5 mm. apart.

17.—Again the false cancellation with date DC 17 99 appears, struck in this case as with the previous ones so that the whole date carefully just gets onto the stamp.

18.—What clinches the false nature of this specimen is the colour of the stamp. The $2\frac{1}{2}$ d. Seated Figure stamp of the Cape comes in a number of shades or tints of ultramarine. From my old dated-shades collection of Cape of Good Hope, I have been able to identify the years of use of the various ultramarines. The counterfeit is on a dark shade which I have not been able to get with a postmark showing a year date earlier than 1902, or later than 1897: one that was clearly used for

the first or second and the last printings of this stamp only.

19.—Tamsen in his 1902 article is our authority for the statement that the only genuine cancellation dates are Nov. 24 to Nov. 29, 1899, inclusive. Nov. 27 and 28 are the only ones I have seen: and the month, abbreviated, always precedes the day in these.

20.—On uncancelled copies, the determination of genuineness is at times by no means easy. On cancelled copies, especially if a fair portion of the postmark is visible, no difficulty exists. This is due to the counterfeit postmark.

21.—The proclamation of Nov. 29th ordered the discontinuance of the use of the overprinted stamps and their replacement by the regular Transvaal stamps. It remains only to quote the statement of this proclamation that of the overprinted items the following amounts were printed:

½d.: £5 worth
1d.: £10 worth
2d.: £12 worth
2½d.: £5 worth

22.—The regular Transvaal stamps used in Vryburg are exceedingly scarce. In five years of search I have been able to locate exactly one each of the ½d., 1d. and 2½d. values; and no others are yet known to me.

23.—The dates of use are Feb. 24, 1900, for the ½d. which is on piece and the 2½d. which is off paper; and March 13, 1900, for the 1d. which is also on piece.

24.—The postmark evidence shows that these specimens are genuine. The regular Vryburg mark with the three dots at the bottom and the 3 mm. between R and Y appears.

25.—This might be an appropriate place to mention that the three dots are a relic of the letters "B.B.," meaning British Bechuanaland, which were at the bottom of the mark when it went into service about 1892, and which were evidently chipped out by the Boers. From my Bechuanaland collection I report this mark in use in 1892, 1893, and 1895. No doubt it will be found on Cape stamps from 1895 to 1899, but so far I have not located it.

26.—The counterfeit cancellation in imitation of this seems to have been dated uniformly "DC 17 99."

27.—Vryburg was recaptured by the British during the march to the relief of Mafeking in May, 1900. Transvaal stamps of the 1d. and ½d. values were found in the post office and overprinted with "V.R. SPECIAL POST" in a handstamp. Poole is authority for our stating that only 200 copies of the ½d. and 60 of the 1d. were overprinted. Only these two are known used.

28.—The catalogues list the 2d. and 2½d. stamps in this issue also, but I can find no record of anyone having or having seen them in recent years. Absence of price for them in both Gibbons and Scott must make us suspect them of having been philatelic favours.

29.—The British overprints on the Transvaal stamps are definitely very scarce. No report of their having been counterfeited has been located: but as Scott's illustration of the overprint is far from even approaching the size and style of letters, we wonder whether it was synthesized from a description or whether a counterfeit was seen.

30.—The postmark here used is the new one introduced in 1895, known to me from April and November, 1895, use on Bechuanaland material which I have, and apparently used alternately with the older style from then onwards. It is characterised by a dot each side of "B.B." Poole shows this same mark in his illustration of the stamp, with the same date, May 16, 1900, as on my copy. We may therefore conclude that this was the date of reoccupation. In both his illustration and my copy the year is given as "19," which seems to have been an accepted usage for 1900 on Cape postmarks. Various abbreviations other than 00, 01, 02, etc., which are the normal ones, are used for the years from 1900 on, in Cape postmarks.

31.—A further portion of the Vryburg story was unknown until A. A. Jurgens published it in the "South African Philatelist" for June, 1940. On the occasion of the British reoccupation, Clifford St. Quintin was appointed Military Magistrate. On taking over the government offices he found a few Cape stamps of ½d. and 1d. values and a cancellation reading "Vryburg, C.G.H.," apparently not yet put into use, but without any dating slugs to insert. He initialled these stamps CSQ in manuscript, and they were used with this new 24 mm. canceller on mail, dateless.

32.—The stamps were the ½d. Seated Figure and the 1d. and 1d. Standing Figure types.

33.—Mr. St. Quintin also was responsible for the overprinting of the Transvaal Stamps mentioned just before these, according to his letter as quoted by Mr. Jurgens; and it is thus that we know positively this was a hand-stamped job.

34.—The "Vryburg B.B." canceller with narrow letters and a dot each side of "B.B.," introduced in 1895 and the last of the 22½ mm. circle marks of this office, was not continued in use as far as any material thus far seen indicates, after the use on May 16, 1900.

35.—The 24 mm. "Vryburg, C.G.H." canceller was in regular use in 1901 and apparently was the only one in use from then onwards. It remained in use, both under Cape administration to 1910 and under the Union of South Africa administration till at least 1913. It was replaced in or before 1915 by a larger double circle type reading "S. Africa" at bottom. I have the old one in 1913 and the new one in 1915 on Union of South Africa 1d. stamps.

36.—Not perhaps strictly germane to the subject, but worthy of passing mention along

with Vryburg, is the occurrence of faked overprints purporting to have been used at the Bechuanaland towns of Kuruman and Warrenton, both fairly close to Vryburg. The Warrenton fake, whose false nature was early established, is reported in Stanley Gibbons Monthly Journal along with the Vryburg stamp, and is illustrated. In three lines, Z A R 1d. 1900, is printed on the Cape 1d. standing figure stamp in 14-point Bodoni Bold type. This in on a stamp showing a Warrenton cancellation on piece, and is carefully placed so as not to overlap any lines of the cancellation. The Kuruman fakes, with overprint "Kuruman Besieged" in two lines of capitals, with year date 1900-1 and a change of value, were mentioned by Poole in his 1901 book on South African Provisional War Stamps. Their status as false soon became obvious, especially as the maker produced fancy varieties and even included revenues with a changed form of the date.

37.—The truth is that these two are exactly on a par with the hoax "Llewellyn Befooled" in the close imitation of the type of the "Mafeking Besieged," overprinted on the same British Bechuanaland stamps, which crops up every now and then in old collections and accumulations. Like the Llewellyns, they have no standing beyond having spoiled perfectly good specimens of the stamps used.

(Comments by Mr. A. A. Jurgens to follow next month.—Ed.)

==== 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
(except recent issues)

and can generally offer most stamps of a want list, however difficult. Let us know your requirements. We never worry with unwanted selections.

BRIDGER & KAY, Ltd.,
86 Strand, London, W.C.2, England.

COLLECTORS' WANTS AND OFFERS

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

Orange Free State.—Approval selections wanted. Must be fine, well-centred copies.

William Redford, Box 7012, Johannesburg.

Transvaal, Griqualand West, O.F.S. covers and varieties wanted by A. E. Basden, Box 238, Pretoria.

For Quality and Variety—Globe Packets.—Extensive price lists free. Serious collectors write for finest approval books of your country. References.

Globe Postage Stamp Company, 117 Longmarket Street, Cape Town.

Wanted.—Many items in Foreign Colonials, French, German, Italian, Spanish, Dutch, Belgian, Danish, Portuguese; all issues up to 1933 (inclusive). Mint for preference.

E. Hunt, Box 2437, Johannesburg.

Exchange.—British, Reunion, Madagascar, Indochina, against Free France. Henry Gatty, Clarendon Hotel, Lutman Street, Port Elizabeth.

Rhodesia.—Higher values and rarer stamps of all types wanted for cash. Also got 50 British Somaliland 3 rupees mint, rare issue for sale 12/- each.

Thiele, 455 West Street, Durban.

If interested in Union large or small Mint Blocks, Postage, Dues, Officials, write to:

E. Tamsen, Box 13, Nlystroom.

Collectors of REALLY FINE BRITISH COLONIALS should get into touch with me AT ONCE

Selections of choice Mint or Used

AFRICANS, AUSTRALIAN STATES, NEW ZEALAND, WEST INDIANS, Etc., on approval to medium and advanced collectors. These books can be selected from at ONE-THIRD of Catalogue price. Also a choice lot of EDWARDIAN and GEORGIAN issues, Mint or Superb Used, at 50% off Catalogue. REFERENCES ESSENTIAL.

J. BIRD 6 Westhill Rd. London S.W.18, England

"RUST"

A WARNING.

By E. F. HURT, B.P.A., Etc.

I have read with considerable interest Mr. Gagel's article in the "South African Philatelist" for March, 1942, on the subject of "rust" or "foxing," which is such a menace to the collector, not only of stamps but also of books, prints, engravings, and so on. While of course the trouble is more prevalent in tropical countries, it is by no means confined there. In fact, being a fungoid + bacterial infection, it is liable to crop up wherever conditions of temperature and certain degrees of moisture are beneficent to the causes of the "disease." In England it is particularly found in rooms of houses which are not regularly occupied where, by changes of climate, a certain degree of moisture (not necessarily dampness in the full sense of the word) exists, coupled with a freedom from low temperature.

I fully agree not only with Mr. Gagel's remarks in respect of the "disease" itself but also with his suggestions for avoiding it and, to a large extent at least, with the use of Chloramine T or similar chlorine derivatives. The solution most favoured by restorers of books and prints is Liquor Sodae Chloratae, made up to a strength of one part chemical to ten parts of water. Unfortunately the method of soaking applied to prints cannot always be used with stamps and the following are the exceptions: (1) Colours that will not stand water, and this particularly applies to certain pinks and greens, even in the early issues; (2) chalk surfaced stamps; (3) mint stamps.

Those who are used to handling stamps know almost by instinct what stamps will not stand water and while these will certainly not stand a bleaching agent there are also a few colours that may stand reasonable soaking in pure water but which will still be affected by a bleach. Chalk surfaced stamps of course must be left alone.

In the case of mint stamps I do not recommend the removal of the gum. At least I am certainly dead against it if it is intended afterwards to replace the gum, as Mr. Gagel suggests, as this comes within the category of "faking," as the stamp no longer has original gum, though it is true that with some early issues, where the gum arabic was laid on heavily, it is possible to remove this, with moderate moisture, as a kind of "jam," and to replace this original gum with a brush as was done in the first instance. On the other hand I have found that with mint stamps it is usually possible to treat the stamps for foxing without interfering with the gum. The method in this case is to place the gum side of the stamp on a bed of talcum powder, to which damp gum will not adhere,

and to treat only the face of the stamp with the bleach by means of a camel hair brush on the actual spots affected. Here it may be said that talcum powder is a most useful article in hot climates, since if mint stamps are mounted on unsurfaced album leaves well dusted with the powder the mint copies will not stick down in a moist atmosphere. In fact I have always used this method when sending stamps to the tropics and, even in countries such as Burma in the wet season, I have never had any trouble with sticking. The powder does not harm the stamp and can be blown or dusted off the face or back at any time.

It should be remembered that it is never advisable to continue the application of a bleach until all the stain has disappeared as, on drying out, if 25 per cent. of the foxing was left, this will disappear. This particularly applies where treatment is confined to the foxed spot only. Complete removal of the foxing in the wet state will result in additional bleaching of the paper when dry and so show "over white" spots. Also in the case of many of the early and classic issues the paper is naturally "off white" and too long treatment by the bleach will cause an unnatural whiteness of the paper.

There is one final warning I should like to add and that is in regard to the use of a bleach on the early hand-made papers. Most of these papers contained gelatine as a means of holding the fibres together. The bleach destroys this gelatine and makes the paper very porous and soft. In fact a bleached hand-made paper is almost like blotting paper and moisture will be absorbed in the same way as in the latter. Apart from "foxing," it became a habit a few years ago on the Continent to soak all the early used classics in a very weak solution of "Milton" or liquor sodae chloratae (of which basis "Milton" consists). The idea of this treatment was to remove any accumulated dirt and make the design stand out clearer. This object was attained, but too long a soaking or too strong a solution brought about an unlooked for result—it removed the gelatine and made a much softer and thicker paper. In some cases this "thick" paper was quite unnatural and good stamps were spoilt. In other cases it actually made a stamp of one issue into a copy apparently of another issue, as for example where the thin paper varieties of the first two types of Belgium were treated to bleach and became the thick paper varieties—thick that is to say in measurement but actually far too porous for the original paper.

Actually if by accident this does arise a remedy can be found if the stamp is afterwards soaked in a solution of gelatine, dried and ironed. The gelatine in solution will be taken up by the paper and the ironing finally recompresses the texture to its original thickness. Any ironing of damp stamps—always advisable after soaking in water or bleach (and bleach should always be followed

by a thorough wash in running water)—in order to remove "curl," must be done with blotting paper under the stamp and between the iron and the stamp, otherwise a gloss will be attained and, in the case of engraved stamps, the "bite" of the plate will be removed and a smooth, unnatural surface result.

I hope Mr. Gagel will forgive these further comments and that they will be of use to many philatelists.

O.F.S.

In the May number of Gibbons Stamp monthly "Seacombe" raises the interesting question whether or not Messrs. De La Rue were *entirely* responsible for the production of the O.F.S. stamps. He admits he may be following a will-o'-the-wisp, but wishes to have the opinion of students of O.F.S. on the question of production—if such people really exist!

[Now you O.F.S. specialists—here is a challenge to you.—Ed.]

He is a doubting Thomas because it is to him unthinkable that De La Rue would deliberately (or so it seems) have introduced pointless varieties of lettering in the words of value, as follows:

In the first three values (1868) the 1/- has the "S" of shilling a capital letter, the 1d. value has the "p" of penny in lower case type, and the 6d. value has a defective "p" (lower case) in pence which persisted from the 6d. of 1868 to that of the 6d. blue of 1900.

In 1878 the 4d. and 5s. values have a capital "P" or "S" but the 4d. is unique in the pence series in having no stop after pence.

In 1883-4 three new values appeared, the 1¹/₂d. with a lower case "p", but the 2d. and 3d. values with a capital "P".

BRITISH EMPIRE CHANGES.

Ceylon is to have a new 5c, orange and olive green, in the design of the K.G. V 20c. *Gibraltar*. The 1d., 3d., 1s. and 2s. denominations are now perf. 13 all round.

India. A new 3a. violet.

Newfoundland. A variety of the 5c. "Greenfell" stamps has been noted imperf. vertically on left.

Papua. The provisional surcharges foreshadowed have not been issued.

Solomon Islands. 10s. magenta and sage-green.

Somaliland Protectorate. The new issue appeared in full on 25th April.

ROBSON LOWE PUBLICATIONS.

From this house we have recently received beautifully illustrated brochures describing a number of collections offered for sale by private treaty.

Outstanding amongst these are the Snowden collection of Britannia type Trinidads; others are the late T. W. Hall's collection of Zanzibar, a collection of Russian proofs formed for Czar Nicholas II, and collections of Barbados, Austrian Italy, New Zealand, Tasmania and Transvaal.

"A Review—1940-41" describes the various activities of the organisation, outright sales, private treaty sales, and auctions with a list of outstanding prices received in the period under review for stamps and postal history items sold at specialized auction sales.

MADAGASCAR.

The island has recently been front page news, and its stamps have had a bit of a run in the overseas press. Amongst other things, it is pointed out how illogical it is that the stamps of the Norwegian Missionary Society are so consistently overlooked in the catalogues, while those of the British Consular mail and inland mail are listed in full.

Actually the Norwegian Mission stamps were used over a longer period and over a much wider area and the service was so useful that the French allowed it to operate for some time after they took over the island.

U.S.S.R.

In *Stamps* of 25th April, readers who take an interest in the stamps of the *U.S.S.R.* will find a long and most informative article by Mr. J. W. Lowey. It is entitled "A Philatelic Review of Events and Personalities of the *U.S.S.R.*" The article is an exceptional article of the educational possibilities of stamp collecting for, more than almost any other country, the stamps of Russia reflect her history and philosophy.

The stamps themselves are graphic, beautiful and artistic; there are interesting backgrounds to many of the commemoratives and in the article a number of them are sketched in.

The latest issue (30 kop., carmine) depicts a Red Army soldier leaving for the front, his mother standing beside him, urging him to "Be a hero." These words (in Russian, of course) appear at the foot of the stamp.

Stamps of all countries bought and sold.
Collectors duplicates wanted.

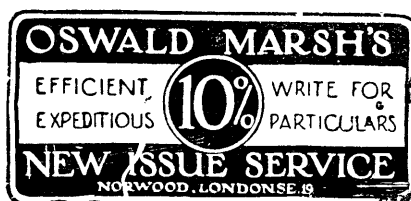
R. OSBORNE

Stamp Dealer.

58 LOVEDAY STREET, JOHANNESBURG.

P.O. Box 6710.

Phone 33-3989.



ETHIOPIA.

Mr. A. Lichtenstein reports arrival of the new permanent stamps, issued on 23rd March, and submits specimens for examination.

The issue consists of three values, 4, 10, 20 centimes — corresponding to 1d., 2½d., and 5d. sterling respectively. This means a unit of 100 centimes equals 1 Thaler equals 2s. 1d. The stamps are printed in sheets of 72, i.e., 9 across by 8 down, and dividing arrows are placed between the 3rd and 4th, and 6th and 7th vertical, and the 4th and 5th horizontal rows (giving 6 small panes of 12 [3 x 4]). To judge by the size and shape of the arrows, the



stamps have been printed, by the offset process, by the Security Press, Nasik, India. Three operations seem to have been employed in printing, viz., (1) centre head plate in black, (2) frame plate in colour, (3) value printed in afterwards *type set*. The "frame" for this type was set up in three vertical rows by eight horizontal, which is repeated three times (in all) to complete the sheet.

One major variety occurs in this type set printing of the value, viz., in the 3rd, 6th and 9th stamp of horizontal row 3 of each value in the upper line (the Amharic equivalent of centimes) the lower dot after the centre character is missing. There is also a minor variety on stamps 3, 6, 9 of row 7, consisting of the top loop of the first "e" of Centimes being open.

CEYLON.

The "Emco Monthly Journal" describes the forgeries of the Ceylon provisional 3c on 20c. as distinguishable by the overprint being dull instead of shiny, letters rather rough, and overall measurement 15½ mm. instead of 15 mm.

Jubilees, Mint, complete ..	£32 11 0
(in Jubilee Album)	
Coronation F.D.C. complete	£7 7 0
(in Album)	
Nigeria K.G. V. Mint, complete ..	£4 4 0
Gold Coast K.G. V., Used, complete ..	£0 11 0
Ceylon K.G. VI., Mint, complete ..	£1 5 0

BENONI STAMP SHOP

Box 485 - - - - BENONI.

A KENYA FREAK.

There recently appeared in the Nairobi *Sunday Post* the following note under the heading "Something Unique in Stamps":

"We have been shown what are probably the two most outstanding freak stamps in existence. They are the top left hand corner fifth and sixth stamp on sheet 11603 on which the word "Kenya" has been omitted from the uppernoted stamp, and the denomination value from the lower stamp in place of which is the distinctive Crown water mark."

Our friend, Mr. J. H. C. Godfrey, who is at present on service in Kenya, took the trouble to trace the owner of these wonderful stamps and saw them. The stamps are the current K.G. VI 10c.

The explanation was merely that a stray piece of paper had become lodged near the edge of the sheet in printing. On removal of the scrap of paper (which had stamp printing on it) white spaces were left in the stamps proper and on the lower one the watermark shone through very clearly.

If rumour gets around of rare Kenya errors, you will know what they are, although such freaks in Messrs. De La Rue and Co.'s printings are very unusual.

Special Offer —

1. Union of South Africa 1925 Airmail set Complete, 1d., 3d., 6d., 9d. Mint or Used. Price 18/6
2. 1929 issue, ditto, 4d. and 1/- . . . Price 4/6
3. Malta, K.G. VI. Mint set to 1/- (old colours) ½d., 1d., 1½d., 2d., 2½d., 3d., 4½d., 6d. and 1/- Price 8/6
4. Egypt Cotton Congress Commemorative—Mint complete set, Price 2/-
5. British Honduras, K.G. VI. 1c to 25c Mint. Price 5/6
6. British Guiana K.G. VI. 1c to 24c Mint. Price 5/-
7. Barbados K.G. VI. Mint, ½d. to 1/- Price 3/9
8. Australia 150th Anniversary of New South Wales, 3 different Mint. Price 2/-

WANTED TO BUY.

For spot Cash. Collections, Lots and Accumulations of any size or description.

Offers solicited.

E. BLUM

P.O. BOX 1669 - - - - - CAPE TOWN
Established in South Africa since 1930.
First class references.

"Linn's Weekly Stamp News" has gone tabloid in form as from the 26th March issue,

Society News

NYASALAND STAMP CLUB.

President, W. D. Farquhar, P.O. Blantyre; *Hon. Secretary*, L. J. Davidson, P.O. Limbe.

On the 11th of May seventeen members of the Nyasaland Stamp Club, along with a group of Junior collectors met at the Tobacco Auction Floors, Limbe, for their usual monthly meeting.

A varied and interesting programme had been arranged, and all who attended felt well repaid for their effort.

We were glad to have the Juniors with us, and Miss Taylor had ably prepared a programme and items of interest for them.

A stamp quiz was given by Mr. Jewell in the form of riddles. We never realized before that there was any similarity between a man who has a stamp collection of the world and a Christmas dinner, but so there is, for it's incomplete without Turkey. Mr. Davidson was the winner of the quiz.

At first some were pessimistic as to the enduring qualities of these stamp meetings, but the club continues to grow, and each successive meeting seems to increase the interest and ardour of those attending. Anyone interested in any phase of stamp collecting is always welcome, and your assistance and interest would be much appreciated by other club members. Meetings are held the second Monday of each month at 5 p.m. at the Tobacco Auction Floors, Limbe.

L.J.D.

+ + +

PORT ELIZABETH PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

President, G. K. Forbes; *Hon. Sec.*, C. W. Sheffield, P.O. Box 88; *Meetings*, 2nd and 4th Tuesdays, 8 p.m., Public Library.

The annual general meeting of the Port Elizabeth Philatelic Society was held in the Library Buildings on Tuesday evening, 26th ultimo, when there was a large number of members present. The minutes of the last meeting, the president's address, the secretary's report and the report of the exchange superintendent having been read and dealt with, the meeting proceeded with the election of officers for the ensuing year. The following were elected: *President*, Mr. G. K. Forbes; *vice-presidents*, Messrs. J. McGregor and T. Nicholson; *hon. sec. and treas.*, Mr. Chas. W. Sheffield; *exchange superintendent*, Mr. A. S. Campbell; *librarian and curator of the Society collection*, Mr. J. McGregor; *hon. auditor*, Mr. J. McMillan; *press correspondent*, Mr. W. H. Berrington.

The secretary and treasurer stated in his report that the average attendance was very good, the membership had increased during the year, and the financial position of the Society was very fair; the latter the members presumed to be very good in view of the fact that he even supported a motion in connection with a donation being made.

The exchange superintendent said that the turnover in stamps had increased on the previous year and reflected a very satisfactory position.

The Society had sent over half a million stamps to the Lord Mayor of London and various other societies to be disposed of in aid of war funds.

The president welcomed Mr. A. S. Campbell, our exchange superintendent, back after an absence of over six months, and thanked Mr. McGregor for so ably carrying on during his absence.

The meeting decided to hold an auction sale in September, and the matter was left in the hands of a committee which was appointed. W.H.B.

PHILATELIC SOCIETY OF NATAL.

President, P. C. Bishop; *Hon. Sec.*, G. Milner Palmer, P.O. Box 588, Durban; *Meetings*, Merchant Navy Club, 17 Gardiner Street, 1st and 3rd Wednesdays, 8 p.m.

At our June meeting, held on June 3rd at the Publicity Bureau, five new members were enrolled: Miss E. M. Robinson and Messrs. W. R. McCall, W. N. Mudie, F. E. Oliver, and E. G. Walker. Two new applications were noted.

The meeting of over 40 members and visitors discussed the proposal of the Union postal authorities to reduce all our current stamps to half-size as a means of saving paper. To this strong objections were voiced on the grounds that (1) the saving of paper per million stamps would be trifling, (2) the reduction of the standard-size values would produce tiny stamps very difficult to handle, (3) the move might be open to a suspicion that it was not a bona fide plan to save paper, but a scheme to create new varieties for collectors.

A motion protesting against the movement was moved, seconded, and supported, but in view of the probability that the smaller stamps were already in preparation, the motion was withdrawn and the matter allowed to drop.

Mr. V. B. Crockett gave an extensive display of U.S.A. stamps from 1870 to the present time, and as a prelude to this the president gave a general address on American issues. Mr. Hurst, in voicing a vote of thanks to Mr. Bishop for his paper and Mr. Crockett for his display, recalled his own visit to New York, and spoke of the enthusiasm for their own stamps of the American collectors.

New Meeting Place. As a result of staging an extra meeting of the Society at the rooms of the Merchant Navy Club, 17 Gardiner Street, it was resolved to hold all meetings of the Society there in the future. Meetings will therefore take place there henceforth on the first and third Wednesdays of each month. Will all philatelists in other centres please take a careful note of the new venue, for all are welcome at our meetings when visiting Durban.

G.M.P.

+ + +

CAPE TOWN PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

President, K. Alexander; *Hon. Sec.*, K. Cameron, 9, Pineway, Pinelands, Cape; *Meetings*, 2nd and 4th Thursdays, Medical House, 35, Wale Street, Cape Town, at 8 p.m.

The annual general meeting of the Society was held on the 28th May.

The president, Mr. M. Rothkugel was in the chair. Owing to the extremely inclement weather prevailing, the attendance was not as large as could have been expected under more favourable conditions.

The chairman submitted the annual report and financial statement.

The financial statement showed the Society to be in a sound position financially, and the report that there was a considerable increase of membership, the total number, at present, being 115, classified as follows: Active members, 94; country members, 14; junior members, 2; members on active service, 5.

It was decided to write off subscriptions of members on active service during their absence.

The report referred to the excellent attendances at meetings and to the high order of the displays provided. Thanks were accorded for the valued services rendered by Messrs. K. Alexander and W. L. Ashmead who had acted throughout the year as auctioneers for the sales of stamps at the meetings of the Society, while similar mention was also made of Mr. L. Simenhoff's able handling of the exchange section. Sixteen packets, comprising 131 books valued at about £688, had been circulated, and the sales amounted to £247 odd.

Stamps donated for sale for war funds resulted in £29 odd being handed over to various war funds.

The meeting then proceeded to the election of office-bearers for the ensuing year. The following were duly elected: *President*, K. Alexander; *vice-president*, W. D. Vallance; *hon. secretary and treasurer*, K. Cameron; *hon. exchange superintendent*, W. J. H. Gregory; *committee*, J. A. Pearson, C. O. Plumbridge, M. Rothkugel, L. Simenhoff, E. C. Solomon.

Tribute was paid at this meeting to the retiring president for his unflinching courtesy and the tactful and pleasing manner in which he had presided over the meetings of this Society during the past two years of his presidency.

11th June, 1942. An evening of unusual interest was provided by the collaboration of members of the Numismatic Society in collaboration with our members for a joint display of coins and stamps. The result proved beyond all expectations, for the exhibits were not only extremely valuable ones, but exceptionally interesting and varied, and the "talks" provided by the exhibitors were most instructive as well as interesting.

Amongst the exhibits by members of the Numismatic Society calling for special mention were those of Major J. L. Knobel (S.A. Coin), Messrs. F. J. Wagener (Africana Literature), and G. J. Els (S.A. Ribbons and Badges—military and other), while Mr. K. Alexander, who is also a member of that Society, provided an interesting display of war medals and emblems.

Amongst the display of stamps provided for the evening, the most valuable exhibited were provided by Mr. A. Jurgens who had selected items of particular interest from his outstanding and valuable collection of Cape Triangulars and postal history of the Cape of Good Hope. Other items of interest were those of Mr. Simenhoff (stamps based on the designs of coins), Mr. W. L. Ashmead (stamps of Iceland), and a further selection by Mr. O. Hansen. E.C.S.

+++

THE PHILATELIC SOCIETY OF JOHANNESBURG.

President, Dr. J. H. Harvey Pirie; *Hon. Secretary*, L. Buchen, Box 4967, Johannesburg; *Meetings*, 2nd Tuesdays, Sanlam Buildings, Loveday Street, Johannesburg, 8 p.m.

The June meeting was the annual meeting, and the reports of the various officials were read and adopted. Although a large number of members are on active service the Society is flourishing, and was able to donate freely to the various war funds.

The exchange department showed a great increase in sales, and was exceptionally well patronised.

It was decided to donate the Society's stamp collection of Southern Africa to the Africana Library, who undertook to display it and improve on it, and Dr. Pirie was elected as the hon. curator. The new committee appointed for 1942-1943 are as follows:

President, Dr. J. H. Harvey Pirie; *vice-president*, F. J. Lang; *secretary*, L. Buchen; *treasurer*, M. Jecks; *exchange superintendent*, J. Demasius; *publicity officer*, Dr. Alec Kaplan; *auctioneer*, M. Rose; *committee*, I. Isaacs, F. Ingham, W. Redford, E. C. Sprighton, and Dr. F. Hossack.

A.K.

+++

PRETORIA PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

President, A. E. Basden; *Hon. Secretary*, H. A. Wager, P.O. Box 514; *Meetings*, 1st and 3rd Mondays, 8 p.m., Technical College.

June 2nd.—Mr. Hawke read some interesting philatelic extracts.

Mr. Carleton Jones first gave a very interesting account of the history of Newfoundland from the time of its discovery by Cabot in 1497. It soon became the centre of a large fishing industry for nearly the whole world, and being the nearest land to Europe it had a great future before it for aerial services. Mr. Jones' exhibit of old Newfoundland stamps was of outstanding merit and was eagerly examined by enthusiastic members. The pre-stamp covers were especially of interest dating back as far as 1783. Many proofs and colour trials were included in the exhibit, as well as some superb blocks of four of these early stamps. The writing up of the collection was perhaps one of its greatest delights.

June 15th.—Dr. Broughton gave an interesting account of his career as a philatelist, or rather as a stamp collector, there being a considerable difference between the two. He described some of his earliest experiences and pointed out how he had been led to specialize in St. Helena and Ireland. Some of his early recollections were full of interest, and he showed how his collections had also helped

him financially. The paper also drew out reminiscences from Mr. van Ablefeldt and Mr. Basden. Dr. Broughton tabled a fine lot of miscellaneous sheets. H.A.W.

+++

EAST RAND PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

President, Mrs. Woods; *Hon. Secretary*, E. N. Rigg, 103 Kemston Avenue, Benoni; *Meetings*, 3rd Tuesdays, 8 p.m., Hotel Regent, Benoni.

Our June monthly meeting was very well attended. The news of the month was given by Mr. Suklje.

A competition for the evening was arranged by Mr. Lydall in the form of a number of questions dealing with stamps, e.g., the different Reds, Blue and Brown which are catalogued, then various papers and printings of stamps, and their different perforations. This competition was very interesting, and was won by Mr. Riodan with 31 points out of a possible 38 points.

The exhibits of the evening were provided by Mrs. Woods, who exhibited China; Mr. Reckling, first flight covers of South-West Africa with a variety of the stamps and overprints then in use; finally Mr. Rigg provided two small straightforward collections of Canada and Ceylon. E.N.R.

+++

O.F.S. AND BASUTOLAND PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

President, Mr. J. B. Levy; *Hon. Secretary*, Mr. R. C. Lyon, Box 702, Bloemfontein; *Meetings*, 3rd Fridays, Oranje Koffiehuis, Bloemfontein.

The June meeting was very well attended. One new member was enrolled.

During topical discussions it was brought forward that there will probably be no issue of Union stamps in "baby size" as announced in the lay press, but merely a reduction in size of the broad medium values to conform with that of the 1d. stamp, as has already been done in the case of the ordinary 1½d. stamp.

Mr. A. Lichtenstein reported in humorous manner how a rumour about Union stamps overprinted "Madagascar" turned out to be a hoax issue of a practical joker. Among the many items of interest, tabled by Mr. Lichtenstein, genuinely used revenue stamps of Stellaland on original pieces aroused special attention, as they gave convincing proof that all doubts about Stellaland authorities and issues are unjustified.

In the course of a stamp auction, several covers of sentimental value, donated in aid of the Governor-General's Fund, found ready buyers. The covers were addressed to a S.A.A.F. Pilot and bore cachets to the effect that they were returned as the addressee had been killed in action.

A specialised collection of Newfoundland was exhibited by Mr. J. B. Levy. Although the early issues showed some gaps, most of the later issues were shown complete. The condition of the material was flawless throughout. The *piece de resistance* was a "DoX" flight cover.

Quite an excitement was caused by a short talk of Mr. Robertson (of the "Friend" editorial staff) who reported some sensational facts concerning the early Free State postal history which are unknown yet. It is hoped that Mr. Robertson will publish his findings in the *South African Philatelist*. K.F.

U.S.A. OVERSEAS BASES.

The *Stamp Magazine* of April reprints an article by George C. Hahn from *Stamps* of January listing and illustrating the various postal and censor marks of American bases in Iceland, Newfoundland and various West Indian ports.

A P.O. regulation of 10th April has forbidden all "philatelic cancelling" at Army post offices. Apparently the genuine work of these offices has been seriously hampered by collectors sending large batches of covers to receive their special cancellations.

The SOUTH AFRICAN PHILATELIST

Proprietors and Publishers :

The Philatelic Federation of Southern Africa

Honorary Editor: Dr. J. H. HARVEY PIRIE, P.O. Box 7012, Johannesburg.
Honorary Business Manager: WILLIAM REDFORD, Broadcast House, Commissioner
Street, Johannesburg.

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

Vol. 18. No. 8.

AUGUST, 1942.

Whole No. 209.

Union Notes

The following information about printings of Union stamps for the period 11th April to 7th July, 1942, has been received from the Controller of Propaganda, P.O. Publicity Department:

ORDINARY POSTAGE STAMPS.

½d.—Job No. 13909. A total of 396,500 sheets have now been delivered on this order, commenced on 29-4-41.

1½d.—Job No. 16782. A total of 410,770 sheets have now been delivered on this order, commenced on 24-6-41.

3d.—[This note was omitted from the list published in our June issue.] Job No. 8698. 30,700 sheets of 120 delivered between 5-2-42 and 12-2-42. Cylinders 55 int. and 30 ext. as before.

WAR POSTAGE STAMPS.

½d.—Job No. 1277. A total of 344,900 sheets of 240 have now been delivered on this order, commenced on 6-11-41.

1d.—Job No. 1278. A total of 312,200 sheets of 240 have now been delivered on this order, commenced on 30-9-41.

1½d.—Job No. 1279. A total of 351,100 sheets of 240 have now been delivered on this order, commenced on 23-12-41.

4d.—Job No. 10,096. 17,400 sheets of 120 delivered 9-6-42 to 11-6-42. Cylinder No. 37 as before.

(NEW SERIES).

1½d.—Job No. 1614. 32,500 sheets of 240 delivered on 7-7-42. Cylinder No. 7019, new. This order is for 200,000 sheets.

ROLL STAMPS.

½d.—Job No. 5972. The totals for the order on which delivery started on 10-2-42 are now 1,189 sheets x 240, 1,931 rolls x 500 and 636 rolls x 1,000. Cylinders as before, 7020 int. and 5 ext.

1d.—Job No. 7659. Total deliveries on this order, commenced on 11-3-41, are now 4,853 sheets x 240, 1,231 rolls x 500 and 3,400 rolls x 1,000. Cylinders as before, 23 int. and 24 ext.

BOOKLETS.

Job No. 12906. On this order, started on 21-5-41, deliveries of booklets containing ¾d., 1d. and 1½d. stamps now total 198,000 booklets and 25,500 sheets x 180 at 1d. Cylinders for the three denominations as given in our June issue, p.61.

POSTAGE DUE STAMPS.

3d.—Job No. C10084. 8,400 sheets of 60 delivered 9-6-42. Cylinders 6935 int. and 39 ext., as before.

SOUTH WEST AFRICA OVERPRINTED WAR STAMPS.

During the period covered, the following quantities were supplied from the P.M.G.'s stocks and overprinted S.W.A. on a flat bed printing machine from old formes:

½d., 5,000 sheets; 1d., 5,000 sheets; 1½d., 6,000 sheets; 2d., 3d., 4d., 6d. and 1s., 1,000 sheets each.

POSTAL STATIONERY.

ACTIVE SERVICE LETTER CARDS.

Job No. 8085 (now worked with Job No. 10080, an order for a further 5,000,000). First delivery was made on 12-3-42; a total of 4,346,640 cards have now been delivered of the full order of 10 million. Cylinders as before.

PICTORIAL POST CARDS.

Job No. 647.—A total of 1,625,760 cards have now been delivered on this order, commenced on 27-11-41.

"BANTAM" STAMPS.

It will be noted from the above list that a start has been made with the delivery of the new series of stamps, i.e., the "bantam" or reduced size stamps. In this connection, the following note has been received from the P.O. Publicity Department:

"The Postmaster-General in amplification of the notification which has already appeared in the press regarding the intention of the Union Post Office to reduce the size of postage stamps as and when stocks of the existing stamps become exhausted, announces that the first stamp to be reduced in size will be the 1½d. in the War Series, and this it is anticipated will be on sale shortly.

"There will be no 'first day' issues, but the reduced size stamps will be placed on sale at individual post offices as soon as supplies of the existing stamps become exhausted at such offices.



The new 1½d. war stamp is somewhat similar in design to the previous one, as the portrait of Capt. Bob Kershaw, D.S.O., by Capt. Neville Lewis is retained. The omission of the Fighter Aeroplane has been necessary in order to reduce the size of the stamp with a view to conserving paper. This measure has meant a simplification of detail and, although emphasis has been placed as much as possible on the lettering and the value of the stamp, it has made it impossible for more than one main decorative motif to be incorporated in the design. In spite of its size, the new stamp achieves a pleasing aspect equivalent to the existing one. The colour is red-brown.

"The new stamps are also printed alternately in the English and the Afrikaans languages."

The actual size of the new stamps is not stated, but we gather from information given in a note in the public press that it is something more like two-thirds than one-half of the standard size. It will be interesting to see how the watermarks fit in.

REVENUE STAMPS.

Collectors of revenues will be interested to learn that a shortage of the 2s. 6d. denomination has been met by issuing "Native Tax" stamps of that denomination overprinted "Revenue" or "Inkomste."

+ + +

POSTAL CENTENARY.

The *Philatelic Magazine* records four meter marks celebrating the postal centenary: One from London, used by Harris Publications, Ltd., the owners of that magazine; one from Bournemouth, used by Robson Lowe; one from Washington, D.C., used by the Washington Philatelic Society, and one from Toronto, used by the Canadian Philatelic Society.

(Stamps, obliterations, etc., commemorating the centenary were listed in our March issue.)

COLLECTORS' WANTS AND OFFERS

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

Orange Free State.—Approval selections wanted. Must be fine, well-centred copies.

William Redford, Box 7012, Johannesburg.

Transvaal, Griqualand West, O.F.S. covers and varieties wanted by A. E. Basden, Box 238, Pretoria.

For Quality and Variety—Globe Packets.—Extensive price lists free. Serious collectors write for finest approval books of your country. References.

Globe Postage Stamp Company, 117 Longmarket Street, Cape Town.

Wanted.—Many items in Foreign Colonials, French, German, Italian, Spanish, Dutch, Belgian, Danish, Portuguese; all issues up to 1933 (inclusive). Mint for preference. E. Hunt, Box 2437, Johannesburg.

If interested in Union large or small Mint Blocks, Postage, Dues, Officials, write to:
E. Tamsen, Box 13, Nlystroom.

Wanted.—Mint Free French and used high values of George VI for cash or exchange against any British Colonials, send offers and want lists to S. Kaganson, 440 Albert Road, Salt River.

Stamps of all countries bought, sold and exchanged. Approvals sent on request. Sidney Harris, 67 Ninth Avenue, Mayfair, Johannesburg.

Wanted.—Natal (before 1874); Transvaal (First Republic and Boer War "locals"); Griqualand West. Rev. Noel Roberts, Booyens, Johannesburg.

Rare Airmail Covers. Fine Selection of Airmail stamps. Open for inspection at

R. OSBORNE,
Stamp Dealer,

58, Loveday Street - Johannesburg.
P.O. Box 6710. Phone 33-3989.

ANGOLA.

Mr. A. Lichtenstein reports two recent provisionals, 35c. on 85c. red and 50c. on E1.40 blue, reaper type.

COLLECTION OF COMMEMORATIVE HUGUENOT COVERS

With reference to two articles which appeared in the September and October issues of *The South African Philatelist* last year, 1941, which dealt with the collection of Commemorative Huguenot Covers collected by Miss Louie Boshoff, of Observatory, C.P., we now have much pleasure in announcing that the collection has been housed in the Huguenot Museum at Paarl.

The old parsonage at Paarl was purchased by the Paarl Municipality some years ago and converted into a museum, and a picture of this old parsonage appears on the halfpenny denomination of the Commemorative Huguenot stamps which were on sale from 17th July till 15 November, 1939. What more fitting habitation could have been found for this collection of Commemorative Huguenot covers?

In May, 1941, Miss Boshoff received an invitation to hold a private exhibition of her covers in the presence of the late Hon. F. S. Malan, who was the Chairman of the Central Huguenot Committee which organised the commemorations in 1939. Other members of the committee were also present at this exhibition, as well as the chairman and secretary of the Paarl Museum Committee. The upshot of this exhibition was that these gentlemen decided to purchase the collection from Miss Boshoff on behalf of the Paarl Municipality.

A magnificent glass case was then made, and the collection is displayed in it. The glass case stands on a pedestal and looks like a monument on a small scale.

The collector presented an album to the Museum containing carbon copies of all the letters which she wrote in connection with this collection, and the replies she received on her letters. Her correspondence was conducted in four languages, Afrikaans, French, English and Hollands. In years to come this album of correspondence in itself will constitute an interesting study of history, apart from the covers which portray more than 400 years of continuous history from 1517 up to the present day. As long as the collector lives she will continue to take an interest in this collection, and will add information by means of little typed cards in the glass case and so keep up the continuity. All correspondence she might still receive will be inserted in the album from time to time.

Mr. H. J. de Wet, a philatelist of Cape Town, and designer of the special Huguenot Commemorative Covers used on the first day of issue on 17th July, 1939, and on the 18th

September, 1939, when the Paarl Huguenot Museum was opened, and also designer of the post office date-stamp which was used on 18th September, 1939, is bringing this collection of covers to the notice of the Huguenot Society of the United States of America. Mr. de Wet himself has been honoured by this said society on account of his covers and date-stamp.

Mr. A. A. Reynolds, a philatelist of Johannesburg, has written to Mr. A. Lancelot Sharpe, M.A., of London, a prominent student of the stamps of South Africa and of its postal history, asking him to bring this collection to the notice of the Royal Philatelic Society of London. Dr. E. C. Pienaar, a professor at the University of Stellenbosch, is bringing the collection to the notice of the South African Academy of Language, Art and Science. Two years ago *Die Burger*, a Cape Town Afrikaans daily, described this collection as a work of art which it is, in more than one sense. It is a work of art to portray more than 400 years of history by means of stamps and postmarks on the stamps, and in SOUTH AFRICAN history to give members of opposing parties each one of whom has contributed to the history of his country in his own way, the credit which is due to him, without meddling with politics herself. In this the collector has succeeded. It may also be a matter of interest to know that the collection has been insured for £300, and that the collector, acting on the opinions of interested people, has decided to write a book on the collection.

THIS MONTH'S SPECIAL OFFER

KENYA surcharged on Union, 4 pairs cpl. mint
mint at 5/6. Blocks pro rata.

—
O.F.S.

I am breaking up a specialised collection, and shall be glad to forward selection to interested collectors. Strong in numeral, etc., cancellations, also many unlisted errors and varieties, "Specimen," etc., etc.

—
UNION.

Another specialised collection now being broken up. Many out-of-the-way items such as proofs, biserts, double prints, Voortrekker autographs, Pigeongrams, etc., etc. Available for inspection.

A. LICHTENSTEIN

P.O. Box 576,
BLOEMFONTEIN, O.F.S.



VRYBURG ISSUES

(STEPHEN G. RICH—S.A. Phil., p. 76)

COMMENTS BY A. A. JURGENS.

In Par. 5 Mr. Rich says "The Boers brought no stamps, etc., etc." This is wrong. The Republican forces who occupied towns in the Colony during the early part of the Boer War not only carried supplies of stamps of their respective Republics, but they also had members of the postal department accompanying them.

The reason why the Boers used Cape stamps during their early occupation of Vryburg was because these stamps were found in the post office and overprinting the stamps of the enemy with the initials of the Republic Z.A.R. was naturally more effective in showing and proclaiming their victory. Who knows it may also have been done in retaliation for what the British did to the stamps of the Republic when they were overprinted V.R. Transvaal, in 1877? The same overprint Z.A.R. would most probably have been made on Natal stamps during the Boer occupation of towns in Natal had any stamps been found by them.

Par. 7. The double impression referred to here can be found on Half-Penny and One Penny stamps as well, the cause of this is as Mr. Rich has explained.

Par. 9. Mr. Tamsen is perfectly in order in stating that the italic Z appears in all values. The "Z" in this case is definitely italic and not a damaged letter. In this connection I can supply some information but I am not at liberty to disclose the name of the lucky purchaser, a well-known South African philatelist, who will in all probability be supplying the world with some valuable information in connection with these overprinted stamps.

Quite recently a quantity of mint Vryburg stamps were purchased in Cape Town, and they are perfectly genuine in every respect. These will consist, when put together, of a mint pane of each of the four values, ½d., 1d., 2d., and 2½d.

The original owner unfortunately divided these panes into blocks of various size. They contain all the varieties including the Italic Z once only on each of the four values. The 2d. on 6d. with the Italic Z in this case is believed to be the only known mint specimen in existence.

Pars. 11 and 12. Now that complete panes of these stamps in all values are known, I have no doubt that the owner will, when time permits, give us such information as is now lacking.

Par. 14. I am not disputing Mr. Rich's contention that this date stamp is a fake but the reasons given do not appear to me to be sufficient definitely to declare it such. Mr. Rich no doubt has good reason for making this statement and not having the date stamp

under discussion before me, I am merely stating my reasons for saying that the defects mentioned could easily be found on a perfectly genuine postmark.

There is sufficient evidence to prove that more than one date stamp of similar type was in use at Vryburg at the same time, and whilst I do not claim this as correct, it may be just possible that the one differed from the other by the measurements between the "R" and "Y" of Vryburg. There is also sufficient evidence to prove that genuine date stamps were used to deface faked surcharged stamps, both during the time that Vryburg was the capital of British Bechuanaland and also after the country was annexed to the Cape Colony.

Mr. Rich mentions three dots at the bottom of the date-stamp. There was never such a date-stamp issued for use in the Cape Colony or even used in Bechuanaland at that period. I do not really understand Mr. Rich's allusion to three dots. The reproduced drawing in the Journal "Stamps" shows the genuine postmark with one dot and two dashes to right and left.

Mr. Rich is quite correct in what he says in paragraph 25 about the Boers chipping out the letters "B.B." but it is rather misleading to refer to them as dots when the reproduction shows them as dashes. Such a postmark as illustrated by Mr. Rich (dot and dash to left and right) does exist and was caused by the removal of the "B.B." at the bottom. The two dashes being remains of the "B's" and the dot being the original stop between the two B's.

It is possible to find a block of 4 Vryburg stamps showing 4 impressions of this date stamp with perhaps one or two showing the dot only and not the dashes. (In fact I have just such a block of both the ½d. and 1d. in my collection.)

It was evidently necessary for a hard blow to be struck with the date stamp to produce the remains of the B's in the form of dashes, these being probably below the level of the dot.

The date stamp with the B.B. at the bottom is of the 1895 issue and we know that the Boers removed the B.B. but when the British re-occupied Vryburg the date stamp used on the overprinted Transvaal was of the same type so that this definitely proves that two must have been in use.

In the same par. 14 Mr. Rich mentions the closed "9". This cannot be taken as conclusive proof of faking.

It is a well-known fact that post office supplies were supplied to the Republican Governments through the Cape Town post office. All the date stamps as used in the Cape Colony were manufactured in England, and quite a number of the Transvaal and O.F.S. date stamps upon careful examination will be found to be of similar design to those used in Cape Colony.

In the circumstances as described above it would be quite feasible to assume that the type denoting the day, month and year used

with these date stamps, which were interchangeable, could be used in both the Republic as well as the Colony's date stamps.

There is sufficient evidence to show that the Boers did use the closed "9" when they were in occupation of certain towns in the Colony. This type of 9 is also found on Natal postmarks on Transvaal stamps where the Natal date stamp had been used, such as "Dundee" for example.

In the same par. 14 Mr. Rich mentions a square stop at the bottom of the date stamp as being indicative of the genuine article. In Vryburg there were actually two date stamps in use at this period, one with a square stop, the other with a round stop. The standard date stamp of the Cape of this period all had round stops, although I will admit that some do look as if they are square, but this is merely due to overinking, wear, or the way in which the stamping was done. I have a Rondebosch postmark of this type dated 1899 on which the left-hand stop appears round and the right square, and another one of the same office also dated 1899 showing both stops round this latter being a beautiful clear impression.

[Seven specimens in my collection, dates 28 and 29 NO all show a square stop with no sign of the dashes on either side.—Ed.]

Par. 15. The fact that a postmark shows the abbreviation "DC" for December cannot possibly be taken as a fake. Postmasters were provided with the following type to denote the twelve months of the year: JA. FE. MR. AP. MY. JU. JY. AU. SP. OC. NO. DE. It is quite possible, therefore, that in setting the type in the date stamp a "C" may have been accidentally inserted in the place of an "E", such mistakes I may mention are very common and are very often found upon examination of Cape postmarks. The fact that the month was placed before the date or the date before the month was purely the fancy of the postal official, and in my collection I have hundreds of these both ways, including also some with the year at the top and the day and month at the bottom.

Mr. Rich does not appear to be quite clear about the relative positions of the day and month on the date stamp as his statement in pars. 15 and 19 are contradictory.

When the Boers used Transvaal stamps at Vryburg after the overprinted Cape stamps were used up, these are found defaced with the circular Vryburg date stamp showing one square stop at bottom but with the year in full—1900—the "9" being of the closed type and the noughts narrow.

Par. 18. I do not wish to dispute Mr. Rich's opinion about what he declares to be a fake, but I do not think he can place much reliance on shades in the case of the 2^d. stamp in coming to any definite conclusion. The pale ultramarine was the first to be issued in 1896. The Boers only used these stamps in 1899 and by that time there were several shades of the

ultramarine blue in use ranging from the pale to the deep ultramarine.

Par. 19. If Mr. Tamsen is correct that the only genuine cancellation dates are Nov. 24-29 inclusive, the date 17 Dec. would seem to indicate faking. But might not some stamps have been held over by an individual till this time? It is hardly likely that they would have been refused by the postal authorities.

I admit, of course, that the summation of evidence is in favour of the cancellation being a fake, but only wish to point out that no one of the pieces of evidence is sufficient by itself to condemn it.

Par. 25 already referred to.

Par. 27. [Neither Gibbon's Catalogue, Mr. Rich or Mr. Jurgens refer to how the overprint "V.R. SPECIAL POST" is found on the Transvaal stamps. Actually I have one specimen on the 1^d. reading up and another reading down; of the 1^d. I only have a specimen reading up.—Ed.]

Par. 28. Mr. St. Quintin makes no reference to the 2^d. and 2^½d. stamps being hand-stamped by him, and it is more than likely, as Mr. Rich suggests, that both these values are bogus.

Par. 30. Cape date stamps of this period normally show 1900 thus: "00" and Mr. Rich is wrong when he says "19" was the accepted usage for 1900. The figure 19 was used during the Boer war by both Boer and British forces, probably owing to absence of the usual "00" but it is quite possible that postmasters may have used this abbreviation at times in towns far removed from the war zone.

Par. 31. The 25 mm. date stamp showing the letters C.G.H. at the bottom was brought into use about 1896, and continued in use for many years, in fact long after Union in 1910 both the date stamps with C.G.H. at the bottom and the one with B.B. at the bottom were still in use. When later the circular date stamp reading "Vryburg South Africa" came into use the two previously mentioned date stamps were still in possession of the Vryburg post office, and evidence of this can be found on stamps defaced showing either of these used on various dates.

The initials of Mr. St. Quintin as figured by Mr. Rich are not correct. Perhaps the poorly reproduced illustration in my June, 1940, article, is responsible. Here is what the initials really look like.



Par. 34. Dealt with under Par. 31.

Par. 35. The Vryburg C.G.H. date stamp was still in occasional use as late as 1921.

Correspondence

To the Editor,
The S.A. Philatelist.

NIEUWE REPUBLIEK.

Sir,

Can any of your expert readers throw any light on the problem of why some of the New Republic stamps were printed on plain paper, while others were embossed?

In *Africa* and in the *S.G. Catalogue*, the embossed stamps are classified separately, and referred to as "the second issue." One hardly dares to question the accuracy of this classification on the part of such eminent authorities; but I have failed to find any reasons given, anywhere, on which it is based.

On the other hand the dates on the stamps of both issues were contemporary, and continue to run parallel in time.

Klagsbrun (*S.A. Philatelist*, Vol. xvi. p. 104) tries to explain this anomaly by saying: "The dates found on the first issue are those of the printing, and not necessarily those of issue;" but here, again, no grounds are stated on which this assumption is based.

I therefore venture to suggest another, very simple solution to the problem, viz.: that the stamps embossed with the republican Coat of Arms, were those used in the Government Offices, and correspond to the "Official" stamps of our own day. Most of the correspondence handled by the postal authorities at that time would have been the official Government communications, and this would account for the large proportion of official embossed stamps in use.

But this is only arguing by analogy, and I am sure many of your readers would be grateful if some of the older and more experienced students of this group would enlighten us.

Yours, etc.,

NOEL ROBERTS.

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

(except recent issues)

and can generally offer most stamps of a want list, however difficult. Let us know your requirements. We never worry with unwanted selections.

BRIDGER & KAY, Ltd.,
86 Strand, London, W.C.2, England.

SIERRA LEONE.

"Stamp Collecting" reports Mr. Thomas Lamford as having found a pair of 1d. K.G. VI of 1938 imperf. between vertically. This is believed to be the first variety of the kind both for Sierra Leone and for any K.G. VI. colonial issue.

The "Philatelic Magazine" of 8th May and 22nd May deals with "The First 5s. Stamp of Sierra Leone." This is an item catalogued by Whitfield King and Robson Lowe, but not by Gibbons or Yvert.

It was the 1s. of 1884 with a local overprint of "Sierra Leone 5s." The stamp is well-known as a remainder cancelled with a red line, but is apparently not known in genuine used condition.

The controversy turns upon whether this stamp was intended for use as a postage or a fiscal stamp or for both purposes. Data and documents are given, to which readers are referred. They can come to their own conclusions, but we quote herewith the conclusions arrived at by Mr. A. H. Harris:

(1) The only stamps authorised for fiscal use during the eight months, June 1, 1884, to February 28, 1885, were the then current postage stamps.

(2) The 5s. stamp was prepared on May 30, 1884, as an addition to the "Postage" series, three days before the Ordinance came into force, in anticipation of the "Postage" series being thus authorised for fiscal use.

(3) The four other stamps, which had been overprinted "REVENUE," were withheld from issue because the Regulation-in-Council of June 2, 1884, had only authorised the use of stamps which were available for postal purposes as well.

(4) The absence of postally used copies is not evidence of non-availability, or non-existence in that condition. If so, there are many other stamps which should be struck out of our postage stamps catalogues.

The proved currency of any stamp, with documentary evidence of availability for postal purposes during that currency, has commonly been regarded as entitling such a stamp to recognition as a legitimate issued postal variety.

The 5s. Sierra Leone of 1884 should be no exception.

LAGOS

10 —	3/-	11 —	5/-
20 —	10/-	23M —	6d.
26 —	3/-	30 —	1/3
49 —	6/-	58M —	1/6

CYPRUS

Plate 201 —	4/-	33 —	3/-
41 —	12/6	70 —	3/6
90M —	5/-	126 —	1/3
127 —	3/-	159 —	1/6

SUDAN 4½/8 p Provisional — 30/-
S.G. Numbers — All used.

BENONI STAMP SHOP

Box 485

BENONI.

TRANSVAAL REPRINTS

The subject of Transvaal reprints is much to the fore at the moment:

(1) Mr. P. L. Pemberton, in the April-June issue of the "P.J. of G.B." summarises the features of the reprints of the Otto types I and II. He states there are no facts given which cannot be dug out of Yardley, Luff or Curle and Barden, but here is, in handy form, with clear illustrations, descriptions of the reprints and the reprints alone.

An account of reprints of later issues may be expected to follow, as the article is "to be continued."

(2) On another page Mr. A. E. Basden deals with some points arising from the recent articles by Mr. McKee and Mr. Emil Tamsen.

(3) In "Stamp Collecting," of 23rd May, Mr. McKee returns to the subject, with a colleague, Mr. E. Dunsmore Dalrymple. After referring to the sale of remainders by Messrs. Enschede to the Persian dealer in Paris on condition that the plates and dies were destroyed, they go on to state categorically, as if it were established fact (perhaps it is, but the proof isn't here.—Ed.) the following: (a) During the ten years the plates were thought to have been undisturbed in the printing works of Messrs. Enschede, an employee had surreptitiously removed them one by one, printed from them in enormous quantities and returned them after use. The plates were carried out from the office under a folded copy of the "Oprechte Haarlemmer Courant," a newspaper published by Messrs. Enschede. (What gorgeous details!—Ed.). (b) The surreptitious printing was either ordered by, or later became the property of, a philatelist who is well-known by name to all Transvaal collectors. With great skill he forged the various surcharges of 1885, 1887, 1893 and 1895 on the faked issues, and it is probable that he also forged the V.R.I. and E.R.I. overprints which exist in such large quantities. The whole of the surreptitious printings with and without the forged surcharges and overprints were thrown on the stamp market at the same time that Messrs. Enschede disposed of their remainders to the dealer in Paris. When it became apparent that they were not the remainders but a different printing, an attempt was made to make them semi-respectable by allegations that they were the work of Messrs. Enschede. These efforts to make black white have failed.

OSWALD MARSH'S
EFFICIENT, EXPEDITIOUS, WRITE FOR PARTICULARS
10%
NEW ISSUE SERVICE
NEWWOOD, LONDONSE. 9

NEW ISSUES.

U.S.A.—A new issue with patriotic motives, has been foreshadowed in a recent speech by the P.M.G.

Switzerland has sprung a new idea in stamps on us, by Salvage Propaganda stamps, and you collect in 3 languages, French, German and Italian.

Wallis and Futuna Is.—Whitfield King's "Bulletin" states that the Free French overprinted stamps of this colony must still be put in the "prepared for use but not issued" category. The overprinting was done in New Caledonia (of which the islands are nominally a dependency) but the islands have not yet rallied to De Gaulle.

+++

S.G.—A FOREIGN SUPPLEMENT.

Although we have not yet seen it, announcements have appeared that Messrs. Stanley Gibbons, Ltd., have issued a supplement to their 1941 catalogue, Part II, Foreign. This includes stamps issued from September, 1940, to February, 1942.

Stamps of enemy countries are not listed, nor those of occupied countries issued since the German conquests.

There is also an extensive list of price revisions. A supplement to Part I (British Empire) will not be issued.

+++

ETHIOPIA.

According to "Stamp Collecting" the first batch of the new stamps (3 denominations, as recorded in our last month's issue) had the denominations added at Khartoum, the stamps themselves having been printed in India as we surmised. There were approximately 100,000 of each value, an amount expected to be exhausted in a week. A second issue, printed entirely in India, was to follow, this time with two additional values, 8 centimes orange and 12c. purple.

Mr. Lichtenstein intimates that he received a second supply early in May, but that it was still the first printing.

BRITISH COLONIAL.

500	All different	12/6
1000	" "	42/6
1500	" "	85/-
2000	" "	£8
3000	" "	£20
4000	" "	£35

All packet collections are warranted to contain only standard varieties of used and unused stamps.

If not satisfied money will be immediately refunded. Payments by any manner most convenient for you, but payable in India.

S. M. A. JAFAR,

263, Narkula Gunj, Bareilly, India.



TRANSVAAL REPRINTS



By A. E. BASDEN.

They say that "fools step in where angels fear to tread." Well, although I'm usually circumspect, I can't help it this time—I must put in a word in the McKee-Tamsen controversy; but only a note or two.

First, I should explain that when I wrote my first article on Transvaal reprints and forgeries, and later the notes for the relative chapter in "Transvaal Postage Stamps," I had but a meagre lot of material to work on. Since then I have managed to get together a fairly large quantity of material, deliberately collected for the purpose of research in the hope that I might be able to solve some of the problems dealt with by the aforesaid antagonists.

Second, it would appear that Mr. McKee is definitely wrong about the perforations. I now have many sheets and blocks of the reprints, and they are all comb perforated and (important to note) the stamps are well centred. Mr. McKee says that "Enschedé always used comb perforating machines." On what evidence he makes such a statement I don't know, but if he will refer to the "Speciaal-catalogus van de Postzegels van Nederland en Kolonien," officially published by the Netherlands Association of Postage Stamp Dealers, he will find that Enschedé used both comb and line perforating machines for the stamps of Holland from 1864 onwards. The latest issues of Holland are, I think without exception, all line-machine perforated.

On page 28 of the Holland Catalogue twelve different perforations, line and comb, are listed for the 1872-88 issue, and, on page 32, six are listed for the 1876 issue. The following appearing in those lists might have been (Nos. 3 and 4 certainly were) used for Transvaal stamps: :

Page 28—

- (1) D. Comb: $12\frac{1}{2} \times 12$ — small holes.
- (2) G. Comb: $13\frac{1}{2} \times 13\frac{1}{4}$ — large holes.
- (3) H. Comb: $12\frac{1}{2} \times 12$ — large holes.
- (4) J. Comb: $11\frac{1}{2} \times 12$ — large holes.

(The same machine as H. with the first vertical row only showing the variation).

Page 32—

- (5) E. Comb: $12\frac{1}{2} \times 12\frac{1}{2}$ — small holes.
- (6) F. Comb: $12\frac{1}{2} \times 12\frac{1}{2}$ — large holes.

If Mr. McKee wanted to imply that all Transvaal stamps supplied by Enschedé were comb perforated, I think he is right. But is he quite sure that the block illustrated and labelled "Reprints" and stated to be single-line perf. is not comb perf.? I have sheets of comb perfs. showing overlapping, not to mention bent needles.

Third, I think on the other hand that Mr. McKee is right when he expresses the opinion that the firm of Enschedé & Sons did not make the reprints; but that the reprints were made from their plates there can be no doubt. They may have been surreptitiously printed in the Enschedé works by persons with access to the plates (otherwise it is difficult to account for the apparent fact that much smaller quantities of reprints were made of some issues than of others, indicating that supplies of paper and/or ink as well as time and opportunity were variable. If the plates were removed to some other premises it is still difficult to account for the peculiarity that of some items comparatively few reprints were made while of others there were large quantities.

Fourth, Mr. McKee is mild for him in his reference to the note in "Gibbons" about the £5 Transvaal, No. 187. Like the note about the C.S.A.R. stamps, one cannot comprehend how such a responsible firm can continue to repeat such inaccuracies. They are not merely incorrect but stupid and harmful; and tend to create unwilling prejudice against their authors.

Fifth, now that some of his own statements have been refuted, without recourse to inelegant language, Mr. McKee should, I think, be more careful in future both as to his assertions and the form and manner of his criticisms.

Sixth, I want to say a word in defence of the dealers. In Mr. Tamsen's rejoinder to Mr. McKee he says: "Let anybody look at dealers' stocks or approval books or club sheets and he will find them full of reprints." Well, I make a point of seeing all those that I can get hold of, and I can say that I have rarely found (with one exception) reprints in dealers' stocks or books, and seldom in club sheets.

How to find the time to make the study the reprints demand is the difficulty, but I hope in time to be able to work out and make public definite pointers for distinguishing between originals and reprints, as has been practically done for distinguishing between genuine and forged surcharges and overprints.

To sum up there is no difficulty (in spite of what Mr. Tamsen says) about detecting the false surcharges and overprints both on reprints and remainders—there are tell-tale differences from the genuine. The original stamps and reprints are both comb perf., but the perf. of the reprints is always large holed, whereas in the originals there were also one

or more printings with small holes (usually rough perfs.). That brings us down to the fact that, when not surcharged, reprints may only be detected by paper and shades of colour, other than the 2d. brown and 2d. on 3d., 1885, where the reprints measure 12½ all round, whereas the originals measure 12½ x 12. It may be remembered that remainders are perfectly genuine originals on hand from authorised printings, whereas reprints are unauthorised printings. For the moment I cannot add anything more to what I have hitherto published; and neither Mr. McKee's article in the "Philatelic Magazine" nor Mr. Tamsen's rejoinder helps the main point at issue, viz., how to help the novice to detect reprints from originals.

+++

FORGERS FOILED.

By London Printers of Stamps for Colonies of Free France.

A new "fugitive" ink for cheques and other documents which spreads when tampered with by forgers has been developed by London printers. Successful experiments had been made when war broke out, but in spite of being very busy on war work they have found time to develop their discovery.

Printers of postage stamps for Britain and the Colonies, the latest war job to come their way is the series issued for the Free French colonies. Only a few weeks after General de Gaulle's troops landed on the islands of St. Pierre and Miquelon, near Newfoundland, these printers were at work on the colony's new stamp, the most recent of the series.

Designed by Edmund Dulac, famous illustrator of French and English books who was also responsible for Britain's Coronation stamp, there are separate issues in 14 different colours for each colony. All of them embody the traditional "R.F." and the Cross of Lorraine, emblem of Free France, as well as the words "France Libre," but there the similarity ends.

The Cameroons stamp bears a shield similar to those of thick leather borne by the native huntsmen of the Mandate; French Equatorial Africa's stamps depict the Phoenix, symbol of France's re-birth; while that of the French

Establishments in India features the lotus flower. For Oceania, the Tahitian tipairua, or double canoe, is an emblem of local significance, as is New Caledonia's unique Kagu bird. The air mail stamp shows an aeroplane of such recent type that it was not even under production when the stamp was designed.

Although the British postage stamps can be turned out at the rate of 5,760,000 an hour, each sheet of 480 stamps has to be carefully examined by hand, and every scrap of paper accounted for. Even the tiny pieces left by the perforating machine must be collected and re-pulped.

Facts from Messrs. Harrison and Sons, Ltd., St. Martin's Lane, W.C.2.

Special Offer —

1. Union of South Africa 1925 Airmail set Complete, 1d., 3d., 6d., 9d. Mint or Used. Price 18/6
2. 1929 issue, ditto, 4d. and 1/- . . . Price 4/6
3. Malta, K.G. VI. Mint set to 1/- (old colours) ¼d., ½d., 1d., 1½d., 2d., 2½d., 3d., 4½d., 6d. and 1/- Price 8/6
4. Egypt Cotton Congress Commemorative—Mint complete set. Price 2/-
5. British Honduras, K.G. VI. 1c to 25c Mint. Price 5/6
6. British Guiana K.G. VI. 1c to 24c Mint. Price 5/-
7. Barbados K.G. VI. Mint, ½d. to 1/- Price 3/9
8. Australia 150th Anniversary of New South Wales, 3 different Mint. Price 2/-

WANTED TO BUY.

For spot Cash. Collections, Lots and Accumulations of any size or description.

Offers solicited.

E. BLUM

P.O. BOX 1669 - CAPE TOWN
Established in South Africa since 1930.
First class references.

**Collectors of REALLY FINE BRITISH COLONIALS
should get into touch with me AT ONCE**

Selections of choice Mint or Used

AFRICANS, AUSTRALIAN STATES, NEW ZEALAND, WEST INDIANS, Etc., on approval to medium and advanced collectors. These books can be selected from at ONE-THIRD of Catalogue price. Also a choice lot of EDWARDIAN and GEORGIAN issues, Mint or Superb Used, at 50% off Catalogue. REFERENCES ESSENTIAL.

J. BIRD 6 Westhill Rd. London S.W.18, England

K.U.T.

Perforations. In 1938 the stamps for the combined territories of Kenya, Uganda and Tanganyika were issued, as may be seen by reference to catalogues, perforated either $13\frac{1}{2}$ allround or $13\frac{1}{4} \times 11\frac{1}{4}$. In 1941 the 10c, 20c, 30c and £1 appeared perf. $14\frac{1}{4}$ all round; this year the 2s. followed suit.

The *Philatelic Magazine* states that new printings of the 1c, 5c, 50c and 1s. have been announced, and that if they run true to form they may also be expected $14\frac{1}{4}$ all round.

This may not be the case. Last month we announced the 30c and 1c as reported in a new combination, $13\frac{1}{4} \times 14$; since then we have definitely seen the 30c of this variety. So which form are the others to run true to?

Specimens of the 1s. have recently arrived of a much darker brown shade. They are of the old perforation, $13\frac{1}{4} \times 11\frac{1}{4}$.

Slogan Postmarks. Mr. N. Tunstall writes that the machine which was originally in use in Nairobi was later transferred to Mombasa. In the *South African Philatelist* of February, 1937, p. 29, he listed a number of slogan postmarks in use at that time in Nairobi. Since then he has found Nos. 2, 3, 4, 5, 7, 8, 9, 10 and 11 of that list used in Mombasa; also one, "Come on the telephone" with two straight lines above and below, not used to his knowledge in Nairobi. He promises a list of new Nairobi slogans and meter marks soon.

+ + +

MALAYA AND HONG KONG.

Mr. R. Roberts, of 430 Strand, writes pointing out that a statement made in an April issue was not in accordance with facts. It was stated that some new issues for use in these territories, supplies of which have been obtainable from the Crown Agents, probably never reached their proper territories of usage.

He informs us that the Crown Agents never release stamps for sale in London until they had had advice that such stamps were actually on sale in the colony itself. It is quite true that some of the new printings of Hong Kong and some of the Malay stamps could only have had very short use before enemy occupation took place, but this is a very different thing from their not having been in use at all.

We are indebted to Mr. Roberts for this correction, and regret any false impression our previous statement may have given rise to.

+ + +

ST. PIERRE AND MIQUELON.

The "Free France" stamps from these two small islands are giving dealers many headaches. Scott has already listed some 67 but the *Journal Officiel* of the islands gives 128. The numbers of each individual stamp overprinted vary from as low as 27 to as high as 86,000 odd. Complete sets will be impossible for Mr. Average Collector but representative groups should be fairly easily obtainable.

"MAILOMAT."

The Pitney-Bowes Postage Meter Co., of Stamford, Conn., U.S.A., introduced in April a new type of meter post machine which they call the "Mailomat." This machine, electrically worked, is for attachment to a built-in mail box. To post a letter in it you (1) drop coins in designated slots, (2) dial the postage value you desire, (3) insert your letter. The machine does the rest, automatically stamping, postmarking, and depositing your letter for collection. It does not affix an adhesive postage stamp but prints a coloured meter stamp of the selected value directly on the envelope.

A few machines were built before Pearl Harbour, and these have been installed in various cities as educational units and final testing models, but the company's efforts have now been entirely diverted to war work. No more are to be manufactured at present, but it is expected that the type will come into extensive public use after the war.

+ + +

BELGIAN CONGO.

Supplies of the new issue, printed by Messrs. Waterlow & Sons, Ltd., London, are now to hand here. There are 20 values, but 39 stamps will have to be collected for a complete set. The lowest denomination, 5c, is a single, being inscribed Belgisch at left, Congo at top and Belge on right: all other denominations have two varieties, one inscribed Belgisch Congo, Congo Belge; the other Congo Belge, Belgisch Congo. Each variety is printed on a separate sheet, not alternately on one sheet, as in the case of the Union stamps.

The central designs and values are as follows:

Palm Trees—5, 10, 15, 20, 25, 30, 50 and 60 centimes.

Native Woman—75c 1f. and 1f. 25.

Leopard—1f, 75, 2f. and 2f. 50.

Askari—3f. 50, 5f., 6f., 7f., and 10f.

Okapi—20f.

The semi-postal, 10f. and 40f. surtax for war funds, announced some time ago, has also arrived. There are actually two stamps for Belgian Congo, differing only in colour and two similarly for Ruanda-Urundi.

Thanks to several correspondents for above information.

+ + +

CANADA.

A "War Effort" series was issued on Dominion Day (July 1). This consists of eleven denominations (1c to \$1.00) for ordinary postage, one airmail (6c) stamp and one special delivery (10c) stamp, and one (16c) for combined airmail and special delivery.

Readers interested in Army Postal markings will find a good account of Canadian ones in *Stamps* of 21st March, and Patriotic Meter Slogans are considered in the same magazine of 9th May.

Society News

O.F.S. AND BASUTOLAND PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

President, Mr. J. B. Levy; *Hon. Secretary*, Mr. R. C. Lyon, Box 702, Bloemfontein; *Meetings*, 3rd Fridays, Oranje Koffiehuis, Bloemfontein.

At the July meeting a philatelic treat of the highest order was given by Mr. K. Freund, who has periodically shown portions of his great Mafeking collection, which is believed to be one of the best of its kind in existence. This time he showed pages from the book of introduction which contains many rare Africanas, forming the background to the famous siege. There were also emissions from other sieges (Ladysmith Siege Post Office, Schweizer Reneke Besieged) and a complete set of the Mafeking Paper money, including the rare 3s., the 10s. error ("Commanding" for "Commanding") and the £1 note which was printed in the same chemical process as the blue Mafeking stamps. Of special interest was a page "How letters were sent out," explained and illustrated with original items.

Some of the "gems" from the main books, also displayed, were copies of S.G. 15 and 16 with B.P.A. certificates; an imperf. corner pair of Bicycle stamps, from a proof sheet; a small sized Bicycle stamp (uncatalogued) from a trial printing; half a sheet of Baden-Powell stamps; the variety "Broken Baden-Powell plate," of which several copies with different stages of the crack were shown.

The collection was arranged artistically on large grey art card boards.

Several members commented in appreciative words on the high standard of the exhibit. Dr. Freund promised to show at an early date the great Mafeking errors, listed but not priced by Stanley Gibbons.

Mr. A. Lichtenstein displayed, as usual, new issues, which included the Belgian Congo set of 39 stamps and the different printings of the new Abyssinia set.

Four new members were enrolled.

The next meeting, an "open" one, will be on Friday, August 21.

+++

PRETORIA PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

President, A. E. Basden; *Hon. Secretary*, H. A. Wager, P.O. Box 514; *Meetings*, 1st and 3rd Mondays, 8 p.m., Technical College.

July 6.—Mr. Hawke read an article from a stamp magazine on the stamps of Samoa. The first issue was printed in 1877 and was reprinted later, and collectors are warned against them, although they are fairly easy to distinguish. The very mixed history of Samoa can be followed in the stamps, the different phases being the original colony, then the German occupation, then the New Zealand occupation when New Zealand stamps were overprinted and finally the present colonial state. The number of surcharged stamps is surprisingly large, being found on nearly all the issues. The R. L. Stevenson issue of 1939 is especially interesting. Many stamps of Samoa although 50 years old are still quite common.

Prof. Wager showed a collection of Angola, and Mr. Basden tabled Mr. Klagsbrun's collection of specimen stamps of Argentina.

July 20. Mr. Hawke read an interesting extract on Madagascar illustrated by a fine map.

Mr. Beyers read a paper on Albania and its stamps. He first gave a brief description of the country, and then a historical review going right back to early times, showing what troublous times the country had passed through. The country was dominated by Turkey for the most part, but there were many revolts. The form of government also often changed from a republic to a kingdom. The stamps are very interesting, starting in 1913 with Turkish stamps overprinted with a double-headed eagle and coming to local historical and scenic designs. There were very many overprints and surcharges of an extremely varied character.

H.A.W.

EAST RAND PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

President, Mrs. Woods; *Hon. Secretary*, E. N. Rigg, 103 Kemston Avenue, Benoni; *Meetings*, 3rd Tuesdays, 8 p.m., Hotel Regent, Benoni.

At the July meeting the attendance was fair. News of the month was given by Mr. Suklje. Items of interest: Covers were handed round by several members. Exhibits: Mr. Lydall first exhibited Union of South Africa, starting with the 2½d. 1910 issue up to and including stamps of George V; this collection included plate flaws. Blocks and various varieties in mint and used condition. The second exhibit was Gambia, starting with the embossed stamps of 1880, ½d. to 1s. value 1886-7, 1898 ½d. to 1s. value, 1902-05 ½d. to 3s., 1904-06 ½d. to 2s., 1906 2s. 6d. and 3s. stamps overprinted. Half penny and one penny, 1909 ½d. to 3s. King Edward issue, 1912-22 ½d. to 5s. wmk. Multi Crown C.A. and ½d. to 4s. Multi Script C.A., 1922-27 ½d. to 5s. Script C.A. and ½d. to 1s. Multi Crown C.A. complete Jubilee and Coronation sets.

Mr. Suklje exhibited his collection of Yugoslavia stamps, the first issue were stamps of Hungary overprinted S.H.S., then in 1918 the issue was the Broken chain variety. All the issues were very well represented, and included Child Welfare Charity stamps, Queen Marie, and King Mourning stamps.

+++

CAPE TOWN PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

President, K. Alexander; *Hon. Sec.*, K. Cameron, 9, Pineway, Pinelands, Cape; *Meetings*, 2nd and 4th Thursdays, Medical House, 35, Wale Street, Cape Town, at 8 p.m.

The second meeting in June, held on the 25th June, was devoted to exhibits in general by "all members." Many varied and interesting displays were given by the following members, who exhibited on this occasion, namely, Messrs. G. Ackerman, K. Alexander, W. J. H. Gregory, W. M. Mathieson, L. Meyer, C. O. Plumbridge, L. Simenhoff, E. C. Solomon, and one or two others. The sheets laid on the table were of great variety, ranging from early Great Britain to recent Norwegian stamps with German overprints. Interspersed with these were selections of Unions, O.F.S., Cape Triangulars, Mafeking besieged, Tristan da Cunha covers, of which several have now become scarce, while other interesting and rare covers were shown as well.

Added to this was Mr. E. C. Solomon's somewhat comprehensive special collection of Seychelles.

For variety this exhibition excelled many of the past "all members" displays, having regard to the many fascinating and unusual items that were laid on the table on this occasion.

Added interest was found in the short talks which each exhibitor gave in respect of his display, which was thoroughly appreciated by the large attendance at this meeting.

10th July, 1942.—The display of the evening was provided by Mr. W. L. Ashmead, who, though unable to be present in person owing to his recent bereavement, had considerably sent his fine collection of Persian stamps for exhibition. Any stamps shown by Mr. Ashmead were always of the highest class, and the present case was no exception to the standard he has maintained for so many years. The display was ably introduced by Mr. Wm. Muller and Mr. C. O. Plumbridge voiced the appreciation of the members present.

After the minutes of the previous meeting had been read and confirmed, the President referred to the sad loss sustained by one of the oldest members of the Society, Mr. W. L. Ashmead, whose wife had recently died. Mrs. Ashmead had always taken a keen interest in her husband's hobby and was loved by all who had had the pleasure of knowing her. The members rose in their seats as a mark of respect.

A letter was received from Lieut. A. Fisher, of H.M.S. Hecla, thanking the Society for its hospitality, and for the stamps and magazines donated to the stamp collecting community on his ship.

Discussion arose on the holding of meetings in the event of a permanent "blackout" in Cape Town. Various suggestions were made, and it was finally agreed to leave the matter to the General Committee to make such arrangements as circumstances might demand.

The usual auction sales were proceeded with at both these meetings, and bidding thereat was brisk.

E.C.S.

PORT ELIZABETH PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

President, G. K. Forbes; *Hon. Sec.*, C. W. Sheffield, P.O. Box 88; *Meetings*, 2nd and 4th Tuesdays, 8 p.m., Public Library.

The monthly meeting of the Society was held in the South African Room of the Public Library on the 23rd June, 1942.

There was one visitor present, Lieut. Commander Martin, of the Coastal Defence, who was welcomed by the president.

After the minutes had been read and confirmed, etc., the evening was devoted to a display by Mr. and Mrs. J. E. Jewell. On this occasion they showed the second portion of their wonderful collection of Great Britain, which I understood is the best in the country. This section was devoted to King Edward VII, which consisted of no less than 36 pages.

A very pleasant evening terminated at 9.30, and we are all looking forward to the time when Mr. and Mrs. Jewell will display further sections of their outstanding collection.

W.I.L.B.

+++

TRANSVAAL NUMERAL CANCELLATIONS.

Mr. A. E. Basden records that the number 31 which he guessed at in his list given on page 65 (June issue) of our Vol. 17, 1941, can now be definitely recorded as having been at Marico. This is distinct from Zeerust which is recorded as No. 8 Zeerust (Marico) meaning in the Marico district. A friend has supplied him with a covering showing this missing numeral.

This makes the list of numeral cancellations in concentric circles complete from Nos. 1 to 43 inclusive.

The numbers probably ran up to 48 and the numbers in triangles still remain as a study for Transvaal collectors to make.

FORGERIES.

The Marks Stamp Co., Ltd., of 258 College Street, Toronto, have issued a booklet by Alden C. Johnson, *Forgeries Old and New*. This carries on the work previously done by Mr. Aretz and deals with counterfeits currently on the market, many of them comparatively cheap items, so that the booklet should appeal to the ordinary collector, not merely to the specialist.

There is a very useful Reference List at the end giving references by countries to other books where information can be obtained on forgeries.

+++

CHANGES OF PERFORATION.

These seem to be the fashion now in most of the British Colonies. Have old machines been "blitzed" at the printers? Among the latest announcements are:

Ascension.—The 1d. is now perf. 13.

Ceylon.—3c. now 14 x 14½. Has already occurred 13½ x 11½, 13½ x 13½ and 13¾.

Gibraltar.—1d., 3d., 1s. and 2s. now perf. 13, and the 1d. has the watermark sideways.

+++

CURACAO.

A series of six postage and 15 air mail stamps are on order from Messrs. Bradbury, Wilkinson and Co., Ltd. These will be bi-coloured, with various pictorial designs and a vignette of H.M. Queen Wilhelmina in one or other of the upper corners.

The

SOUTH AFRICAN PHILATELIST

Published Monthly by the Philatelic Federation of Southern Africa

All Rights of Reproduction Reserved.

Hon. Editor—J. H. Harvey Pirie, P.O. Box 7012, Johannesburg.*Hon. Business Manager*—William Redford, P.O. Box 7012, Johannesburg.

COMMUNICATIONS :

Business and Advertising to be addressed to:

William Redford, Broadcast House, Commissioner St., Johannesburg.

SUBSCRIPTION: 5s. per annum post free to any part of the world.

CORRESPONDENCE: The columns of this Journal are open to correspondence on subjects of Philatelic Interest. In particular, the Editor, will be pleased to receive information regarding new issues, discoveries of errors and varieties, etc.

ADVERTISING TARIFF :

1 Page	£3 0 0 per insertion	½ Page	0 10 0 per insertion
¼ Page	1 12 6 per insertion		
⅛ Page	0 17 6 per insertion	1/16 Page	0 6 0 per insertion

Less 5 per cent. for 6 insertions. Less 10 per cent. for 12 insertions.

Small Prepaid Advertisements: 2d. per word per insertion.

The SOUTH AFRICAN PHILATELIST

Proprietors and Publishers :

The Philatelic Federation of Southern Africa

Honorary Editor: Dr. J. H. HARVEY PIRIE, P.O. Box 7012, Johannesburg.

Honorary Business Manager: WILLIAM REDFORD, Broadcast House, Commissioner Street, Johannesburg.

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

Vol. 18. No. 9.

SEPTEMBER, 1942.

Whole No. 210.

EDITORIAL

In our last two numbers we published an article by Mr. Stephen G. Rich (Vryburg Issues), with comment thereon by Mr. A. A. Jurgens. This month we give another article by Mr. Rich—this time dealing with certain O.F.S. overprints—and this will be criticized by Mr. A. E. Basden.

We trust our readers appreciate this type of philatelic communications—it appears to us to be at least one possible method of arriving at the truth over debateable points, and that should surely be the aim of scientific philately.

Whatever else may be said about Mr. Rich (and we will have a little to say further on), he has at any rate the great merit of not accepting every statement made just at its face value—he wants proof. That is as it should be and it is good for us to get jolted out of our complacency occasionally by provocative articles such as these and be made to think or study.

Mr. Rich has the great advantage for certain aspects of philately in having an expert knowledge of printing methods. As many of our readers are no doubt aware, he was at one time resident in Natal, and since going to America he has never lost his interest in South African stamps. In a personal communication he writes: "I think that nearly all our confusions about South African (and other) overprints are due to our lack of knowledge of printing. I was fortunate in that I had to teach printing as part of my work in Natal in 1917. It was wished on to me and I had to keep just a lesson or two ahead of my pupils—but I learned a great deal more than they did. I have learned much more in the last eight years and am almost at the point at which I find it hard to realise that so many collectors don't know anything about it. Owing to the fact that most of us are interested in either line engraved or roto-

gravure products, typography from ordinary loose type is too little studied by stamp people."

But Mr. Rich cannot expect to be himself above criticism and we trust that he will accept the following remark in the friendly spirit it is meant—we are all out for the same aim, getting at the true facts. In our opinion he is sometimes too ready to reach a sweeping conclusion on too little evidence. One example of this occurred in his "Vryburg" article, viz., in connection with the Italic Z variety. He states: "I have not yet seen this variety, but my own belief is that it is probably a damaged letter instead." This is not in the true scientific spirit. Had he seen a specimen (as we have) we do not think he could have made such a statement. It may be true, as he states in the personal communication already mentioned, that in the case of Z and one or two other letters the designs of the italics are made by removal of portions of the roman design. But the italic Z on Vryburg stamps is, we consider, a perfectly produced letter and cannot by any stretch of the imagination be considered as merely a damaged letter.

The whole story of the Vryburg stamps is not yet told and probably cannot be until an extensive collection of stamps and postmarks is got together for study. Since our publication of Mr. Rich's article we have had submitted a set of stamps with a postmark which does not agree in character with either his "genuine" or his "fake" postmark. This illustrates very well the need for fuller evidence—what may seem to be legitimate conclusions drawn from scanty evidence may turn out to be wrong when more material is available for investigation.

+ + +

MOZAMBIQUE.

The transfer of the Mozambique Company's territory to regular Portuguese Colonial Administration duly took place as advised. The last day of validity of the Company's stamps was Saturday, 18th July; the stamp of the Colony of Mozambique superceding these on Monday, 20th July.

CAN THESE OVERPRINTS BE HANDSTAMPED ?

By STEPHEN G. RICH

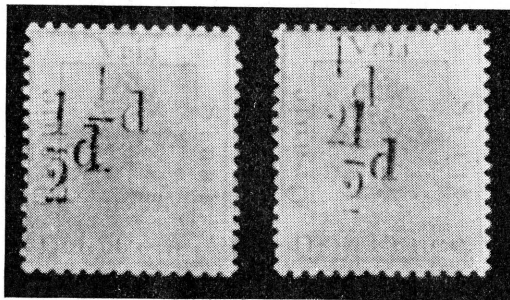
(Reprinted by permission from the "S.P.A. Journal" of September, 1941)

A philatelic ghost bobs up every now and then . . . not often enough to bother most of us, but often enough to be worthy of an attempt to put it to rest forever. The ghost was excited by the articles on Orange Free State that were published in 1938 by A. E. Geldhof. Again, during the past year, I have run across traces of the ghost in other quarters, when well informed collectors have talked about the stamps of Sarawak and Seychelles.

Now what is this ghost?

The ghost is the idea that certain overprints, most of them in the class of "surcharges" because they do not add a surcharge of postage but reduce the amount for which a stamp is valid, were made by handstamping with ordinary printers' type. The story usually runs about this way: "Here are these very poorly executed surcharges, or these double surcharges, and they are so poorly printed, so irregularly entered or aligned, but they must have been done by handstamping. Labour is cheap in the Seychelles and in Sarawak, and the leisurely Dutch people of the Orange Free State had plenty of time to do handstamping."

Now I cannot claim to be well enough informed on Seychelles or Sarawak stamps to know exactly which stamps are considered by



the cognoscenti as being handstamped with printers' type. But on Orange Free State I know, and own, the majority of the stamps that are alleged to be so made. I have one point of attack on the problem that may really contribute to laying the ghost. I have been around print shops a good deal and I do have ample opportunity to consult a well-informed printer, one of the old school of craftsmen, who has handled everything from a Franklin press up to a fast rotary, on any printing problem.

The claim that the Orange Free State surcharges, the doubles of the 1d. on 3d. of 1896, are handstamped with ordinary printers' type was advanced first by one Leon de Raay, and was copied from him in the Royal Philatelic Society's "Africa Part III." The idea was questioned by Geldhof in his articles; but in June, 1939, it was again advanced, entirely without supporting evidence, by a writer in the South African Philatelist, A. E. Basden.

Let us examine the situation.

The double of the O.F.S. 1d. surcharge, the first 1896 lot, Scott Nos. 35a, 36a, 40a, and 41a, are characterised by the fact that the second overprint was done on only a part of the sheet. The inking of the first overprinting was very uneven, and certain parts of the pane of stamps were only lightly printed



with the new value. We find that these and only these parts, along one edge of the pane, furnished the doubles. Clearly something was done to fix up these parts of the sheet.

Now it never occurred to Mr. de Raay, Mr. Basden, or anyone else to ask some practical printer of the old school how he would fix up such a portion of the pane—how he could with least trouble get the new values clearly on to the stamps on which it was faint. I was stupid or inquisitive enough to inquire how it could be done and what defects could occur if it was done that way.

Here is what I found would be done—bearing in mind that I asked in terms of the old style methods of printing such as existed in the Orange Free State in the '90's—handset type, a Franklin or clamshell style press, and none of the modern special equipment.

The printer would set up a special form of as many subjects as needed to hit all the defectively printed stamps a second time. He would naturally use portions of the form:

which had been used for the regular run, and so the new printing would be just a few subjects identical with those on the original. He would then cut a piece of manila paper, called an "overlay," to protect the rest of the sheets of stamps from blurring, smudging, or accidental markings when being run through the second time, and would have holes in it at the proper places to allow the new form to print on the stamp that needed additional overprinting. In this case, we suspect that the holes were one long slot, perhaps two stamps wide and five stamps high.

Having locked up the form, set the overlay in place on the frisket of the press, and set pins or guides on the platen to hold the sheets of stamps in the proper position, he would then run the defectively printed stamps through in order to get a second overprinting on to each at the points where needed.



The result of such handling is to give us exactly what we find on O.F.S. stamps. One printing is always noticeably clearer and more fully inked than the other. We get sextenants with one stamp showing double overprint, and the other protected by the overlay and not having any subject of the form set to print on it—with a single overprint.

It does not follow that the boss printer himself did this press job. Given into the hands of an apprentice to run, we might well find that the sheets were fed in by an unskilful hand, were not set squarely and evenly against the guides on the platen, and accordingly the second overprint might be expected to be often set diagonally or crooked.

That is exactly what we find: the second overprint, which can even be definitely seen to be the one on top when examined under a high power magnifier in good light, often is tilted and is not always tilted the same way.

The tilting of the overprint is the same on both stamps of a pair, in the very few cases in which pairs of these doubles exist. This alone is pretty good evidence that more than one subject of the doubling was printed in a single operation.

The most definite evidence that the O.F.S. doubles were not handstamped comes from the character of the second overprint. In using a piece of type, such as a large figure "1/2," probably 48-point size in this case, as a handstamp, it is very difficult to set it down squarely so that both sides print evenly. The uneven imprinting of postmarks, in which a long handle makes approximate straightness of aim much easier, indicates how much more likely this unevenness may be if a piece of type, only .918 inch high, were used. And yet we find on all these overprinted doubles a striking lack of such sidewise or endwise unevenness within the overprint.

Again, since two pieces of type, "1/2" and "d," were used for each subject, we might expect that with handstamping there would be such slippage of one against the other, no matter how tightly the two are tied together. The only way they are put together by a printer is to tie them with string; and this tying allows of slight movement. Now we don't find any signs of such relative movement of either letter.

I have been assured by two well known collectors, whose names I prefer not to quote, that the Seychelles and Sarawak (in one of which each of them specialises) did have handstamped overprinting done with type in this way. But neither of them quotes to me anyone who has actually reported seeing it done thus or getting word from anyone who saw it done. A long and circumstantial story was told to me of a system of guides used in Sarawak, consisting of straight-edges set over a sheet of stamps, and against the edges of which the type was held when handstamping the overprint. It sounds plausible but improbable.

In the absence of specific information that the overprinting was done by handstamping with type, I believe we should consider the entire story, as applied to all three countries, Orange Free State, Sarawak, and Seychelles, as one of those philatelic legends which has been uncritically accepted and passed on without any attempt to verify it. My judgment at this writing is that the validity of the story is exactly as great as that of the one that the U.S. 2-cent Navy in green is a stamp at all instead of a finished, perforated, and gummed plate trial purposely done in an ink not to be confused with actual stamp production.

[Comments on this article by Mr. A. E. Basden will appear in next month's issue.—Ed.]

Unrecorded Correspondence in connexion with the Edwardian Stamps of the Cape

By A. A. JURGENS.

The designs, etc., for the new Cape of Good Hope Stamps showing the profile of Edward VII were submitted by Messrs. De La Rue and Co., London, to the Colonial Treasurer who in turn submitted them to the Postmaster-General and the following is a copy of this gentleman's reply thereto.

The Assistant Treasurer,

The frame of the design for the postage stamp is, I observe, very similar to that of the current halfpenny denomination, the insertion of the crown effecting, however, a very marked improvement.

Under Convention we are unable to vary the colours of these stamps, and as by artificial light there is a considerable resemblance between the colours of the 3d. and 6d. and the 1s. and 5s. denominations, I am inclined to think it desirable to have some variation in the frames of the 6d. and 1s. at least, so as to make the check upon the prepayment of postage more easy than it is at present. There is in fact a good deal to be said for a different frame for each denomination, a principle which is adopted in connection with the stamps of Great Britain and—to look nearer at hand—with those of Natal also. The stamps of the United States are likewise all different in design as well as those of very many of the countries. The portrait of the King, with the crown above, makes an exceedingly effective centre to the stamps and would of course be retained in every denomination no matter what the design of the surrounding frame might be.

I attach a set (used) of the postage stamps of the present issue which show the colour difficulty if all the designs are identical. It is assumed that in any case the numerals of value for the shilling and five shillings denominations would be followed by the letter "S".

As this Department is only concerned with Revenue stamps as a vendor on behalf of the Treasury, I hesitate to express an opinion on the new design as proposed to be applied to them. I may, however, mention that no difficulty in sale is experienced in connection with the design and colour scheme at present existing.

(Signed) S. FRENCH,
Postmaster-General.

G.P.O.
28.8.1901.

From the above, therefore, it will be seen that the frame design of all the nine nomi-

nations ½d. to 5s. of the Cape Edward stamps as submitted by De La Rue and Co. were the same, and as Mr. French says, very similar to that of the current halfpenny which at that time was the "Hope" standing variety and that it was mainly due to his (Mr. French's) efforts that the frame designs of these stamps are all different.

It is unfortunate that the original essays submitted by De La Rue and Co. are missing because Mr. French's remarks about the similarity of colour, by artificial light, of the 3d., 6d., 1s. and 5s. denominations seems to imply that these must have been very different to those which were eventually adopted for these denominations.

All the alterations and suggestions made by Mr. French were carried out vide letter from the Treasury dated 8th November, 1901.

Cost of the plates, dies, etc., of the Cape of Good Hope postage stamps showing the head of King Edward VII, including also the revenue stamps, post cards, newspaper wrappers, letter cards and registration fee stamps.

110 Bunhill Row,
London E.C.
3rd April, 1902.

Sir,

With reference to your letter of the 2nd inst. (?) enclosing copy letter of the 12th March from the Assistant Treasurer, at Cape Town, we beg to give you on Appendix A a complete list of the dies and plates in connection with the King's Head postage stamps, with the several prices showing a total cost of £2,027 18s. 10d.

We regret to say that it is not possible for us at the present moment to give you a definite date for the completion of the whole of the above dies and plates, but we can undertake to furnish before the 30th June the dies and plates shown at the foot of the Appendix.

The work is already well in hand and we will push on with the completion as quickly as possible. You may rest assured that there shall be no delay.

We may say that the Post Card dies will be available for the News Wrappers, Post Cards and Letter Cards.

We are, etc.,

(Signed) Thomas De La Rue and Co., Ltd.
The Agent General
For the Cape of Good Hope.

DIES ALREADY SUPPLIED.

1 Original Head Adhesive	£200 0 0
1 Original Head Post Card and Newswrapper	100 0 0
1 Original Head Embossing	175 0 0
	<hr/>
	£475 0 0
	Less 6%
	28 10 0
	<hr/>
	£446 10 0

DIES AND PLATES YET TO BE SUPPLIED.

9 Postage Dies, 1d., 1d., 2d., 2½d., 3d., 4d., 6d., 1s., and 5s., each £50 ..	£450 0 0
9 Postage Plates, each £85	765 0 0
1 Revenue Die	50 0 0
1 Revenue Key Plate	76 0 0
18 Duty Plates, 1d., 1d., 3d., 6d., 1s., 2s., 2s. 6d., 3s., 5s., 7s. 6d., 10s., 12s., £1, £2, £4, £5, £10, £20, each £20	360 0 0
3 Postage Embossing Dies, 1d., 1d., 2½d., each £38	114 0 0
1 Registration Embossing Die, 4d.	38 0 0
½d., 1d. and 1½d. Post Card, Newspaper, Letter Card Dies, each £45 ..	135 0 0
½d. and 1d. Single and Reply Postcards, 4 Plates, each £12	48 0 0
1d. Letter Card Plate	12 0 0
½d., 1d. Newspaper plates, 11.13/16 x 4.15/16, each £12	24 0 0
1d. and 1½d. Newspaper Plates, 7 x 15, each £12	24 0 0
10 Postal Order Plates, 1s., 1s. 6d., 2s. 6d., 5s., 7s. 6d., 10s., 12s. 6d., 15s., 17s. 6d., 20s., each £5 10s.	55 0 0
	<hr/>
	£2,151 0 0
	Less 6%
	123 1 2
	<hr/>
	£2,027 18 10

Special Offers—

1. Australian War Provisionals, 2½d., 3½d. and 5½d. surcharged. Per set Mint 3/-
2. Free French Equatorial Africa Rarities—4c. Red, opt, used. (London price £5) £1/15/-
3. 4c. Black, opt, Mint. (London price £5) £1/15/-
4. 75c. Black, opt, (Great rarity) only 4,000 issued £2/5/-
5. Special set of 4 cards—Visit of General de Gaulle, opt, date 24.10.40 15/-
6. Free French Cameroons, 9 different, Provisionals Mint, including scarce values 5/-

WANTED TO BUY.

For spot Cash. Collections, Lots and Accumulations of any size or description.

Offers solicited.

E. BLUM

P.O. BOX 1669 - CAPE TOWN
Established in South Africa since 1930.
First class references.

MALTA—used :

26 — 1/-	30 — 3/6
33 — 5/-	34 — 20/-
44 — 3/6	51 — 1/-
52 — 1/-	54 — 2/6
55 — 2/9	57 — 1/6
62a — 2/-	67 — 2/6
68 — 17/6	75 — 1/-
80 — 1/6	81 — 2/3
89 — 2/6	91 — 2/6
110 — 2/-	113 — 23/6
119 — 2/6	127 — 1/-
131 — 6/6	139 — 1/-
142 — 1/-	164 — 1/-
182 — 9d.	184 — 1/9

BENONI STAMP SHOP,

BOX 485.

BENONI.

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
(except recent issues)

and can generally offer most stamps of a want list, however difficult. Let us know your requirements. We never worry with unwanted selections.

BRIDGER & KAY, Ltd.,
86 Strand, London, W.C.2, England.

UNION NOTES

THE 1919 PIGEON POST.

In our February issue we mentioned that a fourth specimen of the rare South African Pigeon Post of 1919 had come to light. Mr. L. A. Wyndham has written to say that the specimen in question (No. 85) is not a new find; that he was the "discoverer" of this particular item and sold it to an overseas firm in 1938, its existence being actually notified in our Air Mail Notes as far back as July, 1938 (p. 99).

Mr. Wyndham goes on to point out that in his Air Mail Notes for June and July, 1938, he gave particulars of the seven known messages. Four of these are complete with the original envelopes which bear the "Pigeon Post" postmark, viz.: Nos. 255, 318, 342 and 409. In the case of messages No. 85, 92 and 100, the envelopes are missing.

UNION MINIATURES.

The 1½d. appeared on sale before the middle of August at some post offices. The stamps are exactly half the size of the full sized 1½d. mine dump stamp, a pair fitting vertically into the width of the latter. Along the sides of the sheet is printed, in the same brown colour as the stamps, "Buy Union Loan Certificates. Koop Unie-leningsertifikate"; top and bottom of the sheet, in line with each pair of stamps are the following: "Dra Nasionale Veiligheid op u Hart. Koop Unie-leningsertifikate" and "make National Security Your Own. Buy Union Loan Certificates."

The sheets have the multiple Springbok head watermark, vertically. The perforation shows a novelty, the stamps being perf. 14 on three sides rouletted on one vertical side. Each alternate vertical line of separation of stamps (cutting vertically down the middle of what would have been the old size of stamp) is not perforated but rouletted. It has been stated in the public press "that owing to technical difficulties each alternate vertical row of perforation is imperfect (apparently rouletting was considered too difficult to explain

to the uninitiated!), but that this defect will be remedied in future printings." We may therefore expect to have these stamps appear later perf. all round.

ISSUE OF ½d. UNION POSTAGE STAMP (WAR SERIES) IN REDUCED SIZE.

The Postmaster-General of the Union announces that it is anticipated that the reduced size ½d. war stamp will be on sale shortly.

There will be no "first day" issues but the reduced size stamps will be placed on sale at individual post offices as soon as supplies of the existing stamp become exhausted at such offices.



The reduced size ½d. stamps are printed alternately in the English and the Afrikaans languages and these are 360 in a sheet. The design of the existing war stamp of the same denomination has been modified by the omission of the marching figures in the background and, in order to retain legibility in the reduced stamp, the relative size of the lettering and value has been increased. The colour is verdian green.

Persons overseas may obtain supplies by writing to the Under-Secretary, Staff, Room 7(A), G.P.O., Pretoria, and provided they forward a money order, postal order or bank draft to the value of the stamps they require, plus a sum sufficient to pay the registered postage, their orders will be executed as soon as possible after receipt.

CORONATIONS.

The July "Stamp Magazine" puts Coronation sets, mint or fine used, as the star item of the month. The future of all Coronations is brighter; in the case of the Union stamps so many of the original excess indulged in by speculators has been used up either postally or by exchange at a five per cent. charge that sets are now being snapped up at 25 per cent. over face.

Collectors of REALLY FINE BRITISH COLONIALS should get into touch with me AT ONCE

Selections of choice Mint or Used

AFRICANS, AUSTRALIAN STATES, NEW ZEALAND, WEST INDIANS, Etc., on approval to medium and advanced collectors. These books can be selected from at ONE-THIRD of Catalogue price. Also a choice lot of EDWARDIAN and GEORGIAN issues, Mint or Superb Used, at 50% off Catalogue. REFERENCES ESSENTIAL.

J. BIRD 6 Westhill Rd. London S.W.18, England

RHODESIAN PRIVATE POSTS

Mr. E. F. Hurst has been conducting in *The Philatelist* (Robson Lowe) a series of articles on the private and local posts of the world. For Rhodesia he claims three private posts:

(1) Moffat's. A missionary post conducted by the Rev. J. S. Moffat in co-operation with the Bechuanaland postal service. This was a runner service between Bulawayo and Tati, organised after the B.S.A. Company were given the Matabeleland Concessions on 30th October, 1888.

Later a few letters were marked with the postmark "Gebulawayo," though there is no evidence showing whether this was applied at Bulawayo or on arrival at Tati. After a short time stamps of Bechuanaland were used on the letters cancelled "Gubulawayo-Bechuanaland."

(2) British South Africa Company. This was of course the post of the B.S.A. Coy., which issued its first stamps in December, 1890, after receiving the Royal Charter.

It may come as a shock to purists that these are really a private issue, but so it is. They were ordered by and for the Company for their postal service in a territory held by charter only. What is more important they disposed of remainders!

This sale of remainders was a great disservice to collectors of Rhodesian stamps, not so much because of the quantity sold (2,700,000 of the issues 1890 to 1910) as because they were mostly sold cancelled to order in sheets, the whole stock being taken up by a London dealer in 1924.

As it is not as widely known as might be how to tell these cancelled-to-order stamps, the cancellations (and dates thereof) used on these remainders are given hereafter in full:

Bulawayo-Matabeleland: 20.1.98, 23.5.99, 7.7.00.

Gwelo-Matabeleland: 27.9.97, 21.11.98, 0.3.99, 20.4.99, 19.6.99, 4.9.99.

Salisbury-Mashonaland: 11.7.97.

Umtali-Rhodesia: Jan. '97, Jan. '98, Dec., '98, July '99.

Umtali-Rhodesia, with large "4": 29.1.97, 23.5.97, 18.7.97, 10.8.97, 20.1.98, 7.12.98, 19.7.99, 5.3.00, 23.5.00.

Gwelo - S. Rhodesia: 26.12.95, 24.11.98, 20.1.05, 22.2.12.

Salisbury-Rhodesia: 20.11.97, 16.1.00, 21.11.03, July '04.

Bulawayo-Rhodesia (circle and arc type): April '00, 17.6.00, Dec. '00, Nov. '05, 28.8.07, 24.11.10, 12.8.11, 22.8.11.

Salisbury - S. Rhodesia: 22.4.03, 4.6.09, 12.12.09, 2.9.10, 23.9.10, 23.10.10.

The only uncanceled remainders were a few varieties and the 1910 Double Head £1 in the colour of the 10d. (100 only).

(3) Reuter's Telegraph Service. This operated from March to June, 1894 during the construction of the telegraph line from Bulawayo to Tati after the Matabele War. The object was to get messages to the telegraph line and to reduce costs of the runner service; it was opened to the public at the following charges from Bulawayo: to Figtree 2s. 6d., to Mangwe 5s., to Ramagatose River Station 10s.

Fifty sheets of stamps, 18 to a sheet, were printed by cyclostyle on plain wove paper, gummed but imperforate, the top row 10s. value, middle row 5s. value, and the lower row 2s. 6d. value. Each value having the name of the wirehead to which it was valid.

Of the stamps printed there were used 72 of the 10s., 135 of the 5s., and 151 of the 2s. 6d. The service was given up a month before the completion of the telegraph line as the Company's postal authorities ran a rival, and somewhat cheaper runner service, using high value postage stamps.

The "Telegraph Service" stamps were affixed to the message forms and cancelled thereon by Reuter's agent, Capt. Newman, with his initials and date in blue pencil. They were not sold to the public or dealers, and only copies of the telegraph forms were actually sent by runner.

"PACIFIC OFFERS"

- | | |
|---|-------|
| 6. Hong Kong Centennial cpl. used .. | 17/6 |
| 7. New Guinea, various | 1/6 |
| 2. Dutch Indies Bomber Fund, used .. | 2/6 |
| 1. Fiji 2½d. War Prov. m. or u. . . . | 1/- |
| 8. Philippines 1936, 2—30c. mint. . . | 5/6 |
| 6. New Zealand, Commerce cpl. m. . . | 4/6 |
| 11. New Zealand, Centennial, ord. and | |
| off. to 1/- m. | 7/6 |
| 4. Papua Silver Jubilee cpl. m. | 6/6 |
| 2. New Guinea, SG 100 and 101 used .. | 50/- |
| 2. New Guinea, Air £2 and £5 used .. | 250/- |

(See Fyndem in S.C. page 165).

Nett, Post Free.

Approvals of "Pacific" countries
on request, against references.

A. LICHTENSTEIN

P.O. Box 576,
BLOEMFONTEIN, O.F.S.



ANGLO-BOER WAR PRISONER-OF-WAR CAMP MARKS

By J. H. HARVEY PIRIE and ANDREW WATSON

The writers have previously collaborated (with others) in writing up the Army postmarks and other postmarks found on "stamps used abroad" during the South African war of 1899-1902. They had contemplated going on to deal in similar fashion with the Censor marks of that period, but have, temporarily at all events, abandoned this project. Their reason for this is that, judging from their own material available for study, the Censor marks are so numerous and of such variety that the work would have amounted merely to the compilation of a huge check-list without any great interest. Apart from one or two common types of Censor's marks which were in use at several of the large centres, each Censor was apparently at liberty to supply himself with any kind of stamp he chose or could obtain. By the end of the war there seems to have been a Censor in practically every town and dorp in South Africa so that there are, literally, hundreds of varieties of Censor's marks to be found on covers.

One compact group of Censor marks appeared, however, to the writers to be of more general interest, namely, marks on correspondence to or from Prisoners-of-war—hence the present communication. The study is based on a fairly large collection of covers and cards either sent to or coming from Prisoner-of-war camps; it is not claimed that it is necessarily complete, but it will at any rate provide a good base for others to build on. In one particular respect the record is definitely incomplete inasmuch as no material was available for a study of the marks on the correspondence of British Prisoners-of-war in the Boer camp(s) in the Transvaal.

The material from the British camps for Boer Prisoners-of-war is dealt with on a geographical basis, firstly, camps in South Africa, and then camps in other places, Bermuda, St. Helena, Ceylon, and India, to which Prisoners-of-war were later transferred.

SOUTH AFRICA.

(1) *Green Point* (Cape Town).

(a) This was the first camp to be set up and its first mark gives no indication by itself of locality. It consists of a double-line circle, 24 m.m. in diameter, with the wording inside the circle "Censor / Prisoners of War." The mark may be in red, black, blue or violet.

(b) A mark probably introduced after the Belle Vue camp (See below) had been started.

Similar to the first but with, in addition, "Green / Point" in two lines across the centre. In violet.

On some covers re-addressed from this camp to others there may occur "Prisoner of War" stamped on them in black or in violet.

(2) *Belle Vue* (Simonstown).

A mark similar in all respects to the second type from Green Point described above but with "Belle Vue" across the centre. Occurs in violet, purple, or blue.

(3) *Ladysmith* (Natal).

(a) A double circle mark, the outer circle 25 m.m. in diameter. "Prisoners of War / Ladysmith" between the circles and "Passed / Censor" in the centre. In violet.

(b) A double-lined rectangle, 59 m.m. x 31 m.m., with the date in the centre, round the top and sides "Staff Officer / For Prisoners of War / Ladysmith," at the bottom, all in manuscript, a signature followed by "Censor." Mark in red, signature in black.

(c) A double lined oval, 44 m.m. x 30 m.m., with the date in the centre. Around the top two words indistinct but probably "Staff Officer" followed by "Prisoners-of-War." At the bottom, "Ladysmith." In violet. Only one specimen seen and on the same cover is the next mark.

(d) A triangle, sides 25 m.m., base 31 m.m. Wording inside is "Passed / Censor / P. of W." in violet.

A matter on which the writers would like light to be thrown may be referred to here although it is not strictly speaking a purely Prisoners-of-War affair. On numerous censored covers of the period are to be found stamped the following initials "P.B.C.," "N.P.R.," or "H.P.Y." They are to be found on covers sent to or from prisoners of war, but also occur on other correspondence quite unconnected with them. "P.B.C." might be guessed as being "Passed by Censor," but what are the others? It may be added that such initials are certainly commonest on, if not entirely confined to, letters posted in, or sent to, the Orange Free State, so it may be that they are merely the initials of individual Censors in, say, Bloemfontein. Has any reader certain knowledge?

BERMUDA.

The Censor marks of Bermuda have been described and figured in a paper by M. H. Ludington entitled "The Postmarks of Bermuda," published in *The Stamp Lover*, Vol.

XXXII, 1939, p. 131. We can only confirm his statements with the addition of a few other scraps of information. The marks are as follows:

(a) Double circle, the outer 24 m.m. in diameter. Wording between the circles, "Prisoners of War / Bermuda;" across the centre, "Passed / Censor." In blue or in violet.

(b) Double lined circle, 28 m.m. in diameter. Round the circumference inside, "Prisoners of War / Bermuda;," in the centre, "Passed / Censor / 2." In black, blue-black or violet.

(c) A triangle, apex down, sides 35 m.m., base 43 m.m. Wording, "Prisoners of War / Passed Censor / 3 / Bermuda." In mauve or magenta.

(d) A rectangle with concave corners, 44 m.m. x 21 m.m. Wording, "Prisoners of War / Passed Censor / 4 / Bermuda." In shades of violet, mauve, purple or magenta.

Correspondence from Bermuda never shows more than one censor mark, No. (a) in blue being probably the commonest. Correspondence to Bermuda may show no Bermudan censor's mark if the letter has been already censored. This, of course, applies mainly to letters from South Africa. On the other hand there is also not infrequently one or other of the Bermuda marks additional to the original censoring. In not a few instances all four of the Bermuda marks are to be found on one cover, but we have never seen a combination of two or of three of them—either none, one or four seems to have been the rule.

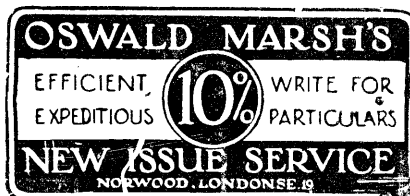
There were camps at Bermuda on a number of islands, Burt's, Smith's, Darrell's, Morgan's, Hawkins' and Tucker's. It was apparently not always clearly recorded in which camp a prisoner might be as covers addressed to them not infrequently bear inscriptions such as "Not Smith's," "Not Darrell's," or "Try Morgan's" or "Try Hawkins'." These inscriptions are mostly in manuscript, but one fairly common one, "Try Tucker's" is a rubber stamp in red.

(To be continued).

INSECTS DAMAGING STAMP ALBUMS.

A correspondent writes: You have recently been publishing valuable articles on the prevention or cure of "rust" on stamps, but I have never seen any mention of trouble caused by insects eating album leaves. Could any of your readers give me advice on this matter?

I use Rapkin specialist albums and I find that the transparent interleaving is being eaten by insects, of which there appear to be two different kinds. One is very small, just a tiny black speck, and when removed it leaves a black powder like soot; the other is rather larger and of a chestnut colour. I would be very thankful of advice on how to prevent these ravages.



(Continued from page 108).

Northern Rhodesia.—Mr. R. Roberts, in the "Philatelic Magazine," reports new shades in the latest printings of the ½d., 1d., 1½d., 3d., 2s. 6d., 3s. and 10s.

Ruandi-Urundi.—A new set of 20 denominations, with designs mainly similar to those of the Belgian Congo chronicled last month.

Palm Trees—5, 10, 15, 20, 25, 30, 50 and 60 centimes.

Head of a Chief—75c, 1f and 1f 25.

Leopard—1f 75, 2f and 2f 50.

Askari—3f 50, 5f, 6f, 7f and 10f.

Zebra Head—20f.

A. Lichtenstein.

Syria and Lebanon.—New stamps, indicative of the independence of these territories, are expected soon.

U.S.A.—A new 5c is announced in honour of China's war effort. This will show China's emancipation, Dr. Sun Yat Sen, alongside of Abraham Lincoln.

On 4th July there was issued what is described as a 3c "Win the War" Commemorative. Is it usual to commemorate an event in advance? The maritime eagle, with its wings in the shape of a V, the official symbol of the U.S. Maritime Commission, is the basic design of this stamp. The stamp does not appear to have won general approval in philatelic circles. One writer says that although this eagle may have punch in a large coloured poster, in the small colourless stamp it looks "more like a glamourized parrot begging for a cracker" than a fighting bird. Well, well, there is nothing like a free democracy for criticism!

BRITISH COLONIAL.

500	All	different	..	..	..	12/6
1000	"	"	..	..	..	42/6
1500	"	"	..	..	..	85/-
2000	"	"	..	..	..	£8
3000	"	"	..	..	..	£20
4000	"	"	..	..	..	£35

All packet collections are warranted to contain only standard varieties of used and unused stamps.

If not satisfied money will be immediately refunded. Payments by any manner most convenient for you, but payable in India.

S. M. A. JAFAR,

263, Narkula Gunj. Bareilly, India.

TANGANYIKA T.P.O.'s

By W. TUNSTALL.

There are two railway lines in Tanganyika Territory, one from Tanga to Moshi (known as the Usambara Ry. under the German administration); the other, the Central Ry., from Dar-es-salaam to Kigoma on Lake Tanganyika, with a branch going off at Tabora to Mwanza on Lake Victoria.

The Post Office Guide states that a P.O. car is attached to the Tanga-Moshi, Dar-es-salaam-Kigoma and Dar-es-salaam-Mwanza trains, also that there is a T.P.O. on Lake Tanganyika, based on Kigoma.

These services are in operation at the present time.

Registered letters are accepted in these T.P.O.'s. I have a label reading T.P.O. No. 1 DSM T.P.O.

KIGOMA
In some countries "Up" and "Down" services mean towards or away from railway headquarters. Here they are to be interpreted literally; "Up" on a T.P.O. mark meaning that it was applied on a train running up (inland) from the coast, and "Down" the reverse.

Following are the marks in my collection:

TANGA-MOSHI LINE

These seem harder to get than those of the Central line, and they are nearly always poor impressions.

(1) Only a single copy. Double circle mark, outer circle approx. 30 m.m. in diameter. Wording between circles is TANGA MOSHI T.P.O. Across the centre in 3 lines UP 18SP 1929.

(2) Double circle mark as before, but wording now is KILIMANJARO T.P.O. with two heavy bars separated by a small cross at the bottom. Centre as before with either UP or DN. The earliest date I have is 24 MY 1933.

CENTRAL LINE.

Type and size of marks in general same as that on the Tanga line, but usually lighter and more clearly struck.

(3) Worded DARESSALAAM-KIGOMA T.P.O. No. 1 with a short heavy bar at bottom. Date in two lines in centre. The same stamper seems to have been used on both up and down runs.

(4) Worded DARESSALAAM-TABORA T.P.O. with UP or DOWN and short heavy bar at bottom. Date in two lines in centre. Earliest seen 1931.

(5) Worded DSM-MWANZA-T.P.O. with two bars separated by a cross at bottom. Date in two lines in centre. Same stamper seems

to have been used in both directions. Earliest seen June, 1932.

(6) Worded TABORA-MWANZA T.P.O. with two bars at bottom. 1933.

(7) As No. 6 but with UP or DOWN after T.P.O. 1935 and later.

(8) Worded TABORA-KIGOMA T.P.O. with UP or DOWN. Bar at bottom and date in two lines in centre.

(9) Single 30 m.m. circle. Date 1933. Wording TAB KGO TPO. Date in two lines in centre.

COLLECTORS' WANTS AND OFFERS

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

Orange Free State.—Approval selections wanted. Must be fine, well-centred copies.

William Redford, Box 7012, Johannesburg.

Transvaal, Griqualand West, O.F.S. covers and varieties wanted by
A. E. Basden, Box 238, Pretoria.

For Quality and Variety—Globe Packets.—Extensive price lists free. Serious collectors write for finest approval books of your country. References.

Globe Postage Stamp Company, 117 Longmarket Street, Cape Town.

Wanted.—Many items in Foreign Colonials, French, German, Italian, Spanish, Dutch, Belgian, Danish, Portuguese; all issues up to 1933 (inclusive). Mint for preference.
E. Hunt, Box 2437, Johannesburg.

If interested in Union large or small Mint Blocks, Postage, Dues, Officials, write to:
E. Tamsen, Box 13, Nylstroom.

Wanted.—Mint Free French and used high values of George VI for cash or exchange against any British Colonials, send offers and want lists to
S. Kaganson, 440 Albert Road, Salt River.

Wanted.—Natal (before 1874); Transvaal (First Republic and Boer War "locals"); Griqualand West.
Rev. Noel Roberts, Booyens, Johannesburg.

Natal Covers Wanted; also Boer War Entires used in Natal.
Hurst, Box 512, Durban.

SOCIETY NEWS

PHILATELIC SOCIETY OF JOHANNESBURG.

President, J. H. Harvey Pirie; *Hon. Secretary*, L. Buchen, Box 4967, Johannesburg. *Meetings*, 2nd Tuesdays, 8 p.m., Sanlam Building, Loveday Street, Johannesburg.

At the July meeting Dr. Pirie exhibited a remarkable collection of the stamps of East Africa. Beginning with the stamps of British East Africa, he showed a particularly complete collection, including numerous imperforate varieties, and the set of the 1891 hand-stamped provisionals. Indian stamps used in Mombasa were also shown.

In the Kenya collection a remarkable display of mint stamps up to and including the various 50 rupee and £20 values were shown. In the 1925 set, Dr. Pirie showed specimen stamps of the highest values.

The early Uganda stamps were well represented and many of the typewritten stamps were shown. In the 1902 set, the overprint varieties were included.

This collection is one of the finest ever shown at this Society, including as it does nearly all of the great rarities of this interesting group of countries. The mounting and writing up of this collection was in Dr. Pirie's own inimitable style.

On the 11th August, the Philatelic Section of the Jewish Guild were the visitors of our Society. After the formal business of the meeting had been disposed of, Dr. Alec Kaplan took the chair on behalf of the Jewish Guild, and thanked the Society for the honour and privilege accorded to the Jewish Guild by this invitation.

Mr. Buchen exhibited an almost complete collection of Bosnia and a selection of German Tete-Beche.

Mr. Gladstone then exhibited a little lot of Modern Russian stamps.

Mr. I. Isaacs showed rather an unusual exhibition. This consisted of a collection of stamps annotated with quotations from poets since the days of Chaucer. These quotations were very apt, and as Mr. Isaacs explained in his short introductory talk, the stamps must have been based on the poetic quotations (??).

Dr. Kaplan wound up the evening with a specialised collection of the stamps of Rumania.

The attendance was remarkably good, and great interest was shown in these out-of-the-way foreign collections.

+ + +

A.K.

PRETORIA PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

President, A. E. Basden; *Hon. Secretary*, H. A. Wager, P.O. Box 514; *Meetings*, 1st and 3rd Mondays, 8 p.m., Technical College.

4th August.—Mr. Hawke read some interesting philatelic extracts.

Five short papers were read. Mr. Beyers read an article dealing with the financial stability of philately. He compared the prices of some stamps in 1900 and 1942. Dr. Broom gave a short account of the stamps of Zululand. He commented on the low price of many of the stamps considering the small number printed of some of them. Mr. Giovannetti described some of the aspects of philately in Australia, including the part played by Rowland Hill. Mr. Hawke read an article dealing with the cancellation of the Mozambique Charter and the official taking over at Beira by the Portuguese Government. Prof. Wager gave a short account of the Island of Timor and of the Portuguese stamps issued for use in the island. He showed his collection of the stamps of Timor.

17th August.—In the unfortunate absence of a paper Mr. Konya stepped into the breach and gave the members an interesting description of the different methods employed in the printing of stamps. He showed how the different impressions were made on the dies which may be of copper, steel or stone. He then went on to the modern roto-gravure process. Some of the best stamps printed, however, are still to be found amongst the old classics.

H.A.W.

PHILATELIC SOCIETY OF NATAL.

President, P. C. Bishop; *Hon. Sec.*, G. Milner Palmer, P.O. Box 588, Durban. *Meetings*, Durban Camera Club, 319 Smith Street, 1st and 3rd Wednesdays, 7 p.m., Natal time.

Braving the blacked-out streets, over 30 members and visitors attended the meeting of 5th August at our new rendezvous, the Durban Camera Club, 319 Smith Street. It was a pleasure to welcome Mr. McGregor, a member of the Port Elizabeth Society, also a number of Service philatelists "passing through." We provisionally accepted two applications for country and one for town membership, for confirmation later.

Discussion as to holding earlier meetings, enabling us to take advantage of Natal's daylight saving, ended in a resolution to begin all future meetings at 7 p.m., Natal time.

The president gave his postponed display and notes on Madagascar, taking in the whole of the Madagascar Archipelago, with references to Nossi Be, Diego Suarez, Mayotte and other islands of the Comoro Group. Mr. Bishop expressed surprise that the stamps of the "British Consular Mail" and the "British Inland Mail" are allowed full catalogue status, though palpably only local issues, while the locals issued by the Norwegian Missionary Society are ignored. He advocated a little more consistency in the treatment of local stamps for catalogue purposes, if allowed entry to the catalogue at all. A vote of thanks for the paper and display was moved by Mr. Hurst, and cordially endorsed.

G.M.P.

+ + +

CAPE TOWN PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

President, K. Alexander; *Hon. Sec.*, K. Cameron, 9, Pineway, Pinelands, Cape; *Meetings*, 2nd and 4th Thursdays, Medical House, 35, Wale Street, Cape Town, at 8 p.m.

23rd July, 1942.—The exhibitor of the evening was one of the stalwarts of the Society, Mr. J. A. Pearson, an old and valued member of the Society, who displayed his fine collection of the stamps of Sweden. These included the first issues and many rarities, the condition of the stamps being of a very fine class and were most attractively displayed, that ranged from 1855 to the present day issues. Items calling for special mention amongst this collection were:

1855 4, 6, 8 sk. bec.

1858 complete set mint containing the 3 shades of the nine ore.

1862 The rare 17 öre grey mint.

1872 Complete mint set including 6 öre, grey, mint and used.

1886 Mint set, with 10 öre Carmine on grey paper.

1891-1936 Complete mint sets including all commemorative stamps, Postal Union Congress and Universal Postal Union issues.

There were many other items of interest, almost too numerous to mention.

Mr. Pearson was suitably thanked by Mr. O. Hansen, who gave a short account of the postal history of Sweden.

The President referred to the bereavement suffered by one of the old and esteemed members, Mr. Frank Cartwright, of Somerset West, who had recently lost his wife. The members rose as a mark of respect.

Appeals to the members were made by the president for the donation of stamps for sale in aid of war funds.

13th August, 1942.—The display portion of the evening was reserved for Mr. Elizer Blum, who offered for sale the selection of stamps laid on the table by this esteemed and respected member of the Society. The selection comprised, comparatively speaking, the most sought after modern issues of a variety of countries. The stamps were eagerly snapped up by the members who, undoubtedly, appreciated the temporary change from the routine of set displays.

Thereafter the usual auction sale was proceeded with, as was done at the previous meeting, and the bidding was brisk.

At both meetings there were a considerable number of visitors present, and these meetings were well attended by the members of the Society.

Stamps donated at this meeting for war funds raised £5 18s. 7d.

E.C.S.

NYASALAND STAMP CLUB.

President, W. D. Farquhar, P.O. Blantyre; *Hon. Secretary*, L. J. Davidson, P.O. Limbe.

June Meeting.—Dr. Baird was in the chair, our president being away on a well-earned holiday in South Africa.

Attendance was slightly below average, but an interesting evening was well spent by all those who were able to turn up. Mr. Anson was welcomed as a new member.

Many queries and questions of wide interest were raised and discussed.

A set of "Quiz" teasers, arranged by the hon. sec., proved to be none too crusty for our versatile Mr. Hullneck who solved most of the posers, showing his flair for the type of teasers chosen for the evening.

Mr. C. J. Christowitz gained both first and second draw for the evening.

Exchanges and sales were well supported by most members present, though fresh material is very hard to obtain.

July Meeting.—Dr. Baird again took the chair; attendance was above average despite some of our members having to attend the Nyasaland Community Chest meeting.

The hon. sec. reported on matters discussed and arranged at a meeting of the Club's Advisory Committee. Mr. H. Booth was thanked for his offer to assist in the purchase of certain requisites which the Club has been needing for a long time. News items were passed round and discussed, members were asked not to be backward in raising any points that to them were obscure or awkward, as other members were always keen to offer help or advice.

A large batch of approval books was available, but there is a dearth of recent new issues and modern material that most members are on the look-out for.

Refreshments, as usual light and dainty, brought the pleasant evening to a close round about 7 p.m.

L.J.D.

+++

EAST RAND PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

President, Mrs. G. Wood; *Hon. Sec.*, E. N. Rigg, 103 Kemston Avenue, Benoni; *Meetings*, 3rd Tuesdays, 8 p.m., Hotel Regent, Benoni.

At the August meeting after the news of the month, given by Mr. Suklje, and the formal business, the members were shown two extremely fine collections of stamps.

The first exhibit was portion of the late Mr. Cohen's collection, displayed by Mr. Pine. It consisted of stamps from the following countries: Denmark, Sweden, Norway, Palestine, Finland, Transvaal from 1883 up to 1909, with various overprints and surcharges and postage dues, Orange River Colony up to the Edward issue, Natal, St. Helena, Gold Coast, Hong Kong, Strait Settlements, and India.

The second exhibit was Mr. Riordan's very fine all mint collection of the following: Gambia, starting with 1898 issue right up to the 1938 issue of Geo. VI, Ascension, 1922, 1924, 1934, and 1938 issues, St. Helena, 1912-1916, 1912-1913, 1922-27, Centenary Set 1934, and 1938 issue, British Somaliland 1921 right up to 1941-42 issue, Aden 1937 and 1939, Cyprus 1912, 1924, 1928 issues, 50th Anniversary of British rule, 1934 and 1938 issues.

The following countries were also shown: Malta, Gibraltar, Kenya, Gold Coast, Seychelles, Sierra Leone, Nigeria, Southern Rhodesia, South-West Africa, Northern Rhodesia, Basutoland, Bechuanaland, Swaziland.

This collection consisted of some very fine material and was well written up and there was very few vacant spaces in the whole collection.

E.M.R.

+++

O.F.S. AND BASUTOLAND PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

President, Mr. J. B. Levy; *Hon. Secretary*, Mr. R. C. Lyon, Box 702, Bloemfontein; *Meetings*, 3rd Fridays, Oranje Koffiehuis, Bloemfontein.

At the August meeting four new members were enrolled, which seems to be the average increase at every meeting lately. Mr. J. Lewis, the exchange superintendent, reported that this increase will necessitate the creation of a fourth exchange district,

and members all over the country are urgently requested to send in more material for exchange packets.

On Mr. Lichtenstein's proposal, the meeting decided that the Society adopts a prisoner of war. The monthly contribution will be raised by stamp sales and individual contributions. In this connection, a general appeal is made to send stamps to the secretary for this good cause.

An interesting paper on Free State stamps was read by Mr. E. Robertson, who gave unknown particulars about the negotiations preceding the first order and supply of these stamps.

Dr. K. Freund displayed some more pages from his great Mafeking collection, with mint and used blocks, and reconstructed rows (complete settings) of the higher denominations.

Mr. J. B. Levy displayed a sheet of the new Union 1½d. which had not appeared yet in Bloemfontein.

A humorous display was given by Mr. Lichtenstein which consisted of modern pictorials arranged according to shades as "All Blacks," "Oranges and Lemons," "Basket with Greens," etc.

Another exhibit, arranged in lighter vein, was shown by Mr. C. A. Larsen, who showed stamp oddities from his "Scrap Book."

There was so much to be seen and discussed about stamps at this meeting that two more displays had to be postponed for the next meeting on September 18.

K.F.

SOME NEW ISSUES

Barbados.—The 1½d. and 3d. are now perf. 14 all round.

Belgian Congo.—One sheet of the Provisional 75c on 1.75 fr orange Albert Memorial has been found with the overprint inverted.—"Mekeel's Weekly Stamp News."

Brazil.—Recently issued Commemoratives received from Dr. Mario de Sanctis are: (a) A blue 1200 reis for the centenary of Presidente de Moraes, and (b) a red 1000 reis for that of Bernardino de Campos; (c) 200r blue and 400r chestnut issued on 1st May in square lozenge shape for the 2nd Agro-Pecuarian Exposition of Central Brazil. These stamps bear a picture of the head of a bull of the Indu-Brazilian strain of cattle.

Dr. de Sanctis also reports the issue, in January, of a special transparent one mil reis stamped envelope for the purpose of sending paper money.

Fiji.—A new 2d. frame and medallion as before but the central vignette shows a picture of Government House. Magenta and Green, perf. 13½.

Iraq.—The first stamp, 10 fils, to bear the portrait of King Feisal II has appeared.

Mexico.—In connection with the opening, in February, of an astro-physical observatory, there were issued a very striking series of astronomical stamps figuring such things as a solar eclipse and various nebulae, or star clusters.

Nigeria.—The latest printing of the 2s. 6d. value is in a new perforation, 13½ all round.

(Continued on page 105).

The SOUTH AFRICAN PHILATELIST

Proprietors and Publishers :

The Philatelic Federation of Southern Africa

Honorary Editor: Dr. J. H. HARVEY PIRIE, P.O. Box 7012, Johannesburg.
 Honorary Business Manager: WILLIAM REDFORD, Broadcast House, Commissioner Street, Johannesburg.

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

Vol. 18. No. 10.

OCTOBER, 1942.

Whole No. 211.

UNION NOTES

PHILATELY IN HIGH QUARTERS

In olden days rulers and potentates, when sending each other gifts as expressions of goodwill, used to exchange such things as jewelled swords, ropes of pearls, batches of slaves (male or female, as the occasion indicated) or, perhaps, if feeling very generous or wanting something very badly in exchange, they might even hand over a border satrapy or two.

Times change, and manners with them. What happens to-day? In some quarters a few squadrons of dive-bombers, complete with crews and ground staff, appear to be considered suitable expressions of goodwill. *Timeo Danaos et dona ferentes!*

In more respectable circles a collection of the stamps of the donor's country is thought to be more fitting.

Through the courtesy of the Bureau of Information we have been shown photographs of collections of the current issues of South African stamps sent by our gallant leader, the Prime Minister, to H.M. The King and to President Roosevelt.

The collections are in beautiful leather bound albums with the Union coat of arms on the outside.

The inscriptions read:

"His Most Excellent Majesty, King George VI. May it please your Majesty to accept this album containing specimens of the current issues of postage stamps of the Union of South Africa and the Mandated Territory of South-West Africa. It is offered with my respectful homage and duty, in the hope that it will be of interest to your Majesty.

"I have the honour to be, your Majesty's most humble and obedient servant."

(Signed) J. C. Smuts,

Field Marshal,

Prime Minister of the Union of South Africa,
 "Libertas," Pretoria, May, 1942.

and

"The Honourable Franklin Delano Roosevelt, President of the United States of America. As a gesture of goodwill I send you this album containing specimens of current issues of postage stamps of the Union of South Africa and the Mandated Territory of South-West Africa."

(Signed) J. C. Smuts,

Field Marshal,

Prime Minister of the Union of South Africa,
 "Libertas," Pretoria, April, 1942.

1½d. "Bantam" Error.

The marginal imprint, "Buy Union Loan Certificates," etc., round sheets of these stamps is apparently printed at a separate operation from the printing of the actual stamps. Probably the same forme is intended to be used for all denominations of reduced size stamps. Anyhow, some sheets appeared on sale in which the top marginal imprint was misplaced and took the form of an overprint on the first row of stamps.

When this error was discovered instructions were immediately sent out that all such sheets were to be returned to store. How many have actually got into circulation is not known.

New Denomination.

We have it on good authority that the 1s. 3d. denomination is to be revived, mainly with the object of meeting the air mail rate. What the design is to be has not yet been divulged.

Airgraphs from Britain.

The Union Airgraph Service to Great Britain was started, it will be remembered, on 1st May. The return service to the Union and intermediate points began on 10th September.

War Postmarks.

The slogan postmark, "Don't Talk About Ships," is now in use at Port Elizabeth. A new type of Army Postmark has been noted, reading "A.P.O./U51."

"½d. Bantam."

This is now on sale at some offices..

CAN THESE OVERPRINTS BE HANDSTAMPED ?

By STEPHEN G. RICH

COMMENTS BY A. E. BASDEN.

Dear Mr. Editor,

You have invited me to say a word in reply to Mr. Rich's article in "The S.P.A. Journal" dealing with the large 4d. double surcharges O.F.S., S.G.76. He questions the method of application of the second surcharge, hitherto accepted as being done by hand-stamp. His hypothesis is ingenious—such as one would be glad to accept, especially if anxious to solve a problem. But I fear it must be rejected—unless, of course, he can solve the following riddles which invariably come to mind in thinking over his theory:

- (1) how does he account for the fact that in all double surcharges one is always type g (S.G.75)?
- (2) how does he account for the treble surcharges—two of which are always type g?

These questions may appear easy to answer off-hand—but not when you look at these stamps in your album.

I admit we are generally too apt to accept as gospel (without due enquiry into the facts) the apparently authoritative statements of our forefathers; and I am afraid many are too apt also to jump to conclusions on scanty evidence. These are very common failings.

I must, however, say that I put great faith in statements in publications such as the "London Philatelist," because I have seen something of the work and methods of the members of "The Royal"; and generally I accept de Raay as I have found him painstaking and reliable.

In support of the contention that the second surcharge was applied individually and not in the manner suggested by Mr. Rich, I offer the following arguments, which, I think, are typically borne out by the illustrations to his article:

- (1) the second surcharge is seldom, if ever, central but is usually to the left of the stamp;
- (2) the second surcharge is always of the same type and it would have been extraordinary if the printer (and more so if it were the apprentice!) had set up a fresh form exclusively of one type from the mixed lot at hand;
- (3) even an apprentice would have set the type to bring the surcharges evenly at each printing if he were working as methodically as suggested;

- (4) he would have set his type equally vertically and horizontally;
- (5) he would have made some effort at alignment more particularly horizontally;
- (6) why (and would he) set up a form for only one stamp on the upper pane?
- (7) why go to all the trouble of setting up two new vertical rows (and excepting two stamps in the second!) when he could have re-surcharged in the way suggested by Mr. Rich with the type in the form already set up?

Yet there is one quite important point in favour of Mr. Rich's hypothesis (apart from the smoothness of the additional surcharge) viz., the fact that stamps Nos. 5 and 7 in the second vertical row, bottom pane, were neither doubly nor trebly surcharged, according to de Raay's diagrams, while in both cases all the rest of the stamps in that row were.

But against this has to be set off the fact that there are doubles that do not correspond to the complete setting (two panes) illustrated in diagram in de Raay! This is illustrated by the photograph on page 338. So what?

This brings me to my penultimate objection to the Rich hypothesis, viz., would the printer (or the apprentice) go to the trouble of setting up more than one form and cutting out more than one overlay; and to cutting out overlays that would give the result shown in the diagram (de Raay) where only one stamp is doubled on the upper pane and two stamps are excluded in the second vertical row of the lower?

And, finally, Mr. Rich suggests that the printer "would naturally use portions of the form which had been used for the regular run." But it is clear from the information set out above that he did not do so. Nevertheless it is what one would have expected him to do seeing that the form had not been broken up. If the printer had taken any vertical rows he could not have got two rows all of type g; and we know that the form had not been broken up because it was used (probably clandestinely) in the production of those fancy surcharges (S.G.82a to 82k) where the 3d. was surcharged with both the figure "½" and the words "Halve Penny."

Possibly Mr. Rich has gone wrong in the use of terms, as is so frequently the case (unfortunately) in philately. The terms "hand-stamp" and "hand-struck" seems to be used on occasion synonymously with "hand-press."

I refuse to be emphatic, but my opinion remains (as the bulk of the evidence favours the view) that these extra surcharges were made individually; which, after all, is the real point at issue.

Yours faithfully,

A. E. BASDEN.

[The following comment received from Dr. Mosely is so apposite that it is also given. It appears to us that Mr. Rich will be hard put to it to counter his critics.—Ed.]

The Editor,
"South African Philatelist."
Sir,

I am surprised to read in the reprint of the article by Mr. Stephen Rich in your September issue that he supports the mistaken and exploded view that the double overprints on the O.F. State No. 76 were produced by running the sheets a second time through the press with an overlay to protect some of the stamps from unnecessary overprinting.

One ounce of fact outweighs a ton of theory no matter how ingenious. If readers will refer to the "Philatelic Journal of Great Britain," April, 1940, they will find an article by me on these double overprints, with illustrations of a complete sheet. Apparently it has escaped Mr. Rich's notice; it contravenes by ocular proof every one of his theoretical submissions.

If they will examine the illustration of the lower half of the sheet, they will see in Row 9 of the left lower pane Nos. 1, 2 and 3, are consecutive doubles; that No. 1 is tilted to the right and displaced downward almost to the perforations; that No. 2 is still more tilted to the right and slightly displaced upwards, while No. 3 is normal, both as regards tilting and position. This disproves that the sheet could have been fed in by hand whether skilled or unskilled, were not set evenly or squarely against the guides on the platen, and the further statement that "the tilting of the overprint is the same on both stamps of a pair."

Since writing the article I have seen yet another pane so that I have seen altogether six complete left panes and a block of the first two columns and the number of doubles in a pane varies from one to twenty being one, two, five, seven, eighteen and twenty. Not only do the number of doubles per pane differ, but in no two panes are they alike either in number or position. So much for machine printing.

No one will contradict Mr. Rich that the surcharging of Seychelles was done by machine printing, but the varieties double overprint and overprint omitted in pair with normal occur from defective printing due to the misplacement of a sheet or sheets on the press similar to the like varieties in St. Helena S.G. 18E and 18L, but I fail to see how this supports a belief that the O.F.S. doubles occurred from a like cause.

Yours faithfully,
EDWARD MOSELY.

STUDY YOUR COUNTRY'S STAMPS

The Editor,
"South African Philatelist."
Sir,

I was much interested in the article on the "FRANCESTOWN, S. AFRICA" postmark, by Mr. A. A. Jurgens in your June issue just to hand. Since my article in the "London Philatelist," to which he refers, appeared, in August, 1941, I made a further reference to this postmark in the issue of April last, and I venture to think that it cleared up some of the points he mentions. The "LOBATSI" postmark which he illustrates, and of which he was kind enough to send me a tracing some time ago, is also referred to.

My remark, "They are extremely rare, probably unique," naturally refers to the context regarding the fifteen registered covers, and not the stamps; the latter, however, are scarce here.

I would like to hear from anyone who has any covers used during the Boer War, bearing the "FRANCESTOWN, S. AFRICA" postmark. Many of these covers bear postmarks of places down the line which are of historical interest as may be seen in my article in the "London Philatelist" of October, 1935, under the title, "Tati Concession. Some echoes of the Boer War."

Yours, etc.,

H. C. DANN.

15 Woodlands Road,
Bushey, Herts, England.

Now in stock:

STANLEY GIBBONS' BRITISH EMPIRE CATALOGUE

1942 Edition.

Price 12s., registered postage 10d. extra.

Also in stock:

NEW UP-TO-DATE SUPPLEMENT TO
GIBBONS' 1941 FOREIGN CATALOGUE.
Thousands of alterations to prices in 1941
foreign catalogue and list of all new issues
since 1941 catalogue was published.

Price 4s., post free.

STAMP ALBUMS:

We still have a fair stock of springback loose-leaf albums in all sizes, but as no more may be imported those requiring new albums should get into touch with us without delay. Extra leaves for most of Gibbons' and Rapkin's loose-leaf albums can still be supplied, but stocks are small.

**ROBERTSON STAMP COMPANY
(PTY.) LTD.**

P.O. Box 5826.

JOHANNESBURG.

Shop at 14 Old Arcade, 100 Market Street,

REVIEWS

STANLEY GIBBONS CATALOGUE, Part I. British Empire, 1942.

The new Gibbon's Catalogue recently published is a credit to the publishers and the British printing trade. Considering the fact that the standing type and illustration blocks of all the Gibbon's catalogues were destroyed by enemy action in 1941, it is all the more remarkable that the catalogue was reset in such an excellent manner. The quality of the paper, the printing, and the plates are of a remarkably high degree of excellence.

In their Introduction the publishers state "that many hundreds of prices have been altered, but so rapid is the swing of the stamp market at the present time that a number of quotations will probably be already obsolete by the time this volume is published. For this reason we have had to refrain from quoting many of the stamps of King George VI in used condition, as these change so rapidly in value that any figure inserted at the time of going to press might be hopelessly wrong on publication. Revision has consisted mainly of the addition of new issues, and owing to pressure of work on our depleted editorial staff, we have had to hold over the majority of the suggestions for textual correction and improvement received since the last edition was published."

There can be no doubt that there is a boom in Britain at the present time. Many new collectors have been created by Black Out conditions, and the dealers are experiencing great difficulty in replenishing their stocks; more particularly so as they cannot import from non-Sterling countries.

This greater demand for stamps has accordingly resulted in a large increase in the catalogue prices of stamps. But this tendency to increase prices has been borne out by the auction prices realised.

There is an all-round increase in the prices of all George V and George VI issues.

In the African group it is pleasant to know that the Union stamps have at last begun to go up in price. The 1925 and 1929 air sets both show healthy increases. The London and Pretoria printed pictorials show uniform increases, and the Government Commemoratives, Jubilees, and the Huguenot stamps all show increases.

Basutoland, Bechuanaland and Swaziland stamps have increased in prices in the George V issues. South-West Africa and the Orange Free State are still in the doldrums, showing little or no variation.

As the publisher explained, the Cape triangulars and most of the rectangulars, and Mafeking and Vryburg and Natal issues between 1857 and 1864 and overprinted issues,

and the Edwardian stamps are shown at increased price quotation.

In the Rhodesian group, the early Rhodesian stamps show a rise, but the Double Heads and the Admirals show little or no fluctuation. All the George V issues of Southern Rhodesia are increased in prices. Southern Rhodesia is still a very popular country, and all the stamps up to 1937 have increased in price. It is worth noting that the 1s. Perf. 14 of 1937 has again risen to 25s. mint and 20s. used. Even at this price this stamp is under-catalogued, more particularly so in the mint state.

The stamps of Kenya have been providing philatelists with surprising changes of perforation, and the George VI £1 value, Perf. 11½ x 13½, has jumped from 25s. to 70s. mint and from 17s. 6d. to 80s. used, as in the supplement issued recently, whilst in the new catalogue it is unpriced.

The George VI issue of British Somaliland only had a short life before the Italians occupied that country. Since the reoccupation, a new series of stamps bearing a portrait of the King has been issued. Since the issue of the 1941 catalogue, the first set of George VI stamps has risen from 27s. to 251s., an increase of 900 per cent. This set is selling at approximately £10 on auction at present, and one can fully expect a further increase in catalogue prices in the near future.

It is noteworthy that whilst there have been steady increases in prices of stamps this year, it is quite evident that there is no sign whatever of any price inflation. The increases are normal reaction of the great diminution in supplies of stamps, of the large number of stamps destroyed owing to war conditions, and to the increase of the number of stamps collectors.

MORE FAMOUS STAMPS.

(By L. N. and M. Williams. Published by W. and R. Chambers, Ltd., 11 Thistle Street, Edinburgh 2. Price 8s. 6d. net.)

In this work the authors carry on in the vein of their companion volume "Famous Stamps." Here are given the stories of a number of issues which could not be included in their first book for lack of space.

It is well illustrated; in many instances biographies and illustrations are given of all or nearly all known specimens of the particular rarity. But, as will be found on reading the volume, rarity is by no means the only claim to fame; general and philatelic renown comes first, rarity only secondary. Hence the inclusion of such stories as that of the Post Paid Mauritius, Bomba heads, Gambia Camoos, Uganda Cowries, and the Zurich Fours and Sixes.

Actual rarities include some five U.S.A. "Postmasters"; India 1854, 4 annas, inverted head; Baden 1851, 9 Kr. black on green, a number of British rarities, etc., etc.

: **CURACAO** :

Messrs. Bradbury, Wilkinson and Co., Ltd., are turning out 20,000,000 postage stamps of a new issue for the Netherlands West Indies Colony of Curacao. This is the first time that stamps for Curacao have been engraved and printed in Britain.

The first consignment will soon be on their way to Curacao, and on the date that they are issued there, quantities will be available to wholesale dealers for sale to the public. The Netherlands Colonial Office in London are supplying the United Kingdom and Curacao itself will supply the rest of the world.



Printed in two colours by the recess process, and designed by Lt.-Col. Dr. P. A. de Bliock, of the Netherlands Colonial Office, the surface mail stamps are in six denominations, 1, 1½, 2, 2½, 5 and 6 cents which show respectively views of the islands of Bonaire, St. Eustatius, Saba, St. Maarten, Aruba and Curacao.

The air mail stamps are in 15 denominations, the 10, 35 and 70 cent showing the Netherlands and Curacao on a map of the North Atlantic, with an aeroplane superimposed; the 15 and 40 cent and 1.40 gl. stamps an aeroplane flying over the islands, with an aeroplane and a windmill; the 25 and 50 cent and the 5 gl. a twin-engined Douglas plane of the Dutch airlines; the 30 and 60 cent and the 10 gl. a plane landing on an airfield in Curacao.

All stamps have the engraved portrait of Queen Wilhelmina in a panel. "Cents" in the photographs is an error. It should read "Cent."

—Industrial Publicity Unit.

BRITISH COLONIAL.

500	All	different	..	..	..	..	..	12/6
1000	"	"	..	..	..	..	..	42/6
1500	"	"	..	..	..	..	..	85/-
2000	"	"	..	..	..	..	..	£8
3000	"	"	..	..	..	..	..	£20
4000	"	"	..	..	..	..	..	£35

All packet collections are warranted to contain only standard varieties of used and unused stamps.

If not satisfied money will be immediately refunded. Payments by any manner most convenient for you, but payable in India.

S. M. A. JAFAR,

263, Narkula Gunj. Bareilly, India.

		U.S.A.			
	Mint	Plate No.	Blocks :		
320	—	2/6	382	—	2/6
383	—	2/6	421	—	2/6
423	—	2/6	424	—	2/6
425	—	2/6	6c Air	—	3/6
		Mint Blocks :			
297	—	1/6	326	—	2/-
336	—	1/6	338	—	1/6
339	—	1/6	340	—	1/6
		Used Sets and Singles :			
Poets	—	1/6	Composers	—	1/6
Educators	—	1/6	Scientists	—	1/6
Artists	—	1/6	Washington	—	2/-
109	—	2/-	111	—	2/-
179	—	2/-	225	—	2/-
etc., etc.					
BENONI STAMP SHOP,					
BOX 485.		BENONI.			

GOOD OLD CAMEL!

The following bit of news comes to us through the "Star" (Washington, D.C.) and "Linn's Weekly Stamp News":

Postal authorities in Cape Town, South Africa, are boasting of the record of one of their veterans, a 40-year-old Australian camel, Lalla. For ten years Lalla carried mails in Central Australia. He travelled about 100 miles a week, 52,000 miles in 10 years. Sold to South Africa, he was used to carry mails across a waterless desert 100 miles wide in the northern Cape Province. Every week for 25 years he has made the desert crossing, covering the journey in about eight hours. His total record for the two countries is 312,000 miles.

Recent and New Arrivals :

- 14. Free French Cameroons cpl. m. .. 10/6
- 14. Free French New Caledonia m. .. 10/6
- 14. Free French Central Africa m. .. 10/6
- 3. Hong Kong, latest ptg. 2-5-8c. m. .. 1/6
- 5. North Borneo, latest pictorials m. 1/6
- 5. Russia, Architects, used 1/6

AUSTRALIA:

Entirely new and re-made selections now available of the King's Heads, Kangaroo and Pictorial issues. On request, against references.

A. LICHTENSTEIN

P.O. Box 576,

BLOEMFONTEIN, O.F.S.



CAPE OF GOOD HOPE WOODBLOCK —TYPE 1 b.

By A. A. JURGENS.

In both my articles, "South African Philatelist" of November, 1941, and "London Philatelist" of December, 1941, on the correction of the so-called flaws which, according to the late G. J. Allis, are supposed to exist on the Cape Woodblock stamps, I stated that there was only one stamp of Type 1b. on the sheet of fourpence, i.e., printed from the plate in its present state, and that this type appeared as stated by Allis on stamp No. 10, row 4. (See Allis's book, page 47).

I now find, however, that stamp No. 1 row 1 shows a stroke on the left-hand side of the "O" in "Postage" similar to that found on stamp No. 10 row 4.

Several of the fourpence stamps on the sheets printed both in 1940 and 1941, as well as the museum sheet, in block, printed in 1927, show minute white spots under the "O" of "Postage," but these cannot in any way be confused with the small white stroke which forms the "Q" in the type 1b.

I have examined all the sheets available both in black and in colour of the 1940-1941 printing as well as the Museum print in black made in 1927 and all of them show this stroke on the "O" of "Postage" in exactly the same position in which it appears on stamp No. 10 row 4.

Even the illustration in Allis's book, page 47, shows this distinctly, and if I am correct in saying that there are two stamps of type 1b on a sheet I must express surprise that this has not been discovered long ago considering the number of years this book has now been available to philatelists.

After this discovery I made a careful study of the stereo No. 1 row 1 as well as that of stereo No. 10 row 4 on the plate in the Museum, and on both stereos small nicks below the "O" are plainly visible.

What, however, may upset my theory is the fact that on some of the prints the small stroke under the "O" appears slightly pointed,

but again on others it is identical with the stroke under the "O" of stamp 10 row 4.

If the stamp No. 1 row 1 is found post-marked so as to obliterate the white dot between the "G" and "E" of "Postage" it would be difficult to distinguish it from stamp 10 row 4 which we definitely know to be type 1b.

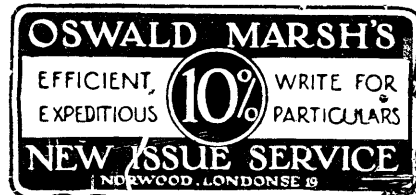
Owing to this dot between the "G" and the "E" we know that stamp No. 1 row 1 is type II and therefore cannot really be type 1b, but as it certainly has the same characteristics from which type 1b is identified there is need for some serious investigation.

The type 1b is certainly a very scarce variety, and if all the 1861 printings of the 4d. Woodblock stamps were made from the plate as it now is, it would certainly be listed as extremely rare.

However we know that such is not the case, and we have the opinion of that eminent philatelist, Mr. P. L. Pemberton, to the effect that the first plate of 24 casts was made up entirely of types 1 and 1b, and that nearly all the clichés of the type 1b were damaged and were, therefore, discarded when the plate of 64 casts was assembled.

I would like to mention here that in both my articles mentioned above it would appear that the discovery of the various types of the woodblock stamps was the work of the late G. J. Allis, whereas it was Mr. Pemberton who made the discovery, and the credit must therefore go to him.

I feel sure that the many collectors of the triangular stamps of the Cape of Good Hope, not only in this country, but all over the world, would like to have Mr. Pemberton's opinion on the above matter expressed through the medium of the South African Philatelist.



Collectors of REALLY FINE BRITISH COLONIALS should get into touch with me AT ONCE

Selections of choice Mint or Used

AFRICANS, AUSTRALIAN STATES, NEW ZEALAND, WEST INDIANS, Etc., on approval to medium and advanced collectors. These books can be selected from at ONE-THIRD of Catalogue price. Also a choice lot of EDWARDIAN and GEORGIAN issues, Mint or Superb Used, at 50% off Catalogue. REFERENCES ESSENTIAL.

J. BIRD 6 Westhill Rd. London S.W.18, England

WAR ISSUE.

Now that the full-sized war effort stamps are becoming obsolete, specialists may be interested in the following list of minor varieties (printing flaws) which have been noted, all constant or at any rate present on most sheets.

- 1d. Row 15, stamp No. 1. Dot in K of AFRIKA.
- 1d. Row 18, stamp No. 4. Dot over D of SUID.
- 1d. Row 2, stamp No. 12. Cut in ambulance.
- 1d. Row 8, stamp No. 3. Line on right shoulder.
- 1d. Row 14, stamp No. 11. Blot on uniform.
- 2d. Row 5, stamp No. 16. White spot on chest.
- 2d. Row 6, stamp No. 16. Line through 2 of 2d.
- 3d. Row 1, stamp No. 1. Smudge in left panel.
- 3d. Row 18, stamp No. 2. Smudge on face.
- 4d. Row 5, stamp No. 1. Smudge over I of SUID.
- 4d. Row 6, stamp No. 1. Letters OU of SOUTH smudged.
- 4d. Row 4, stamp No. 19. Smudge over A of AFRICA.
- 1s. Row 2, stamp No. 2. Coloured line to left of tanks.
- 1s. Row 2, stamp No. 6. Coloured line to larger tank.

The 6d. and 1s. values also occur on toned paper.

The 1d., 1d., 1½d., 3d., and 1s. have the normal watermark, whilst the 2d., 4d., and 6d. have appeared on paper, with the watermark reversed.

Special Offers—

- 1. Australian War Provisionals, 2½d., 3½d. and 5½d. surcharged. Per set Mint 3/-
- 2. Free French Equatorial Africa Rarities—4c. Red, opt, used. (London price £5) £1/15/-
- 3. 4c. Black, opt, Mint. (London price £5) £1/15/-
- 4. 75c. Black, opt, (Great rarity) only 4,000 issued £2/5/-
- 5. Special set of 4 cards—Visit of General de Gaulle, opt, date 24.10.40 15/-
- 6. Free French Cameroons, 9 different, Provisionals Mint, including scarce values 5/-

WANTED TO BUY.

For spot Cash. Collections, Lots and Accumulations of any size or description.

Offers solicited.

E. BLUM

P.O. BOX 1669 - CAPE TOWN
Established in South Africa since 1930.
First class references.

The S.A. Philatelist.
The Editor,

Bethlehem, O.F.S.,
Box 72,
28.9.42.

Dear Sir,

Has it ever occurred to the Government Printer in his efforts to conserve paper, especially paper that is gummed and watermarked, that the field represented by 12 complete stamp spaces at the top and bottom of each sheet of stamps has been left untouched?

To elaborate: It appears to me when reading the records of stamps issued that, when stamps are printed in a continuous strip for the purpose of making rolls, a remainder is cut into sheets of the usual 240 and sent to Post Offices for sale over the counter.

These sheets have no top or bottom margins, neither have they the usual arrows in the side margins, who cares?

I have observed that, in practice the margins of the ordinary sheet are often removed by postal officials before the stamps are placed in the stamp book from which they are sold to the public. No doubt this is done to facilitate the detaching of small quantities and in checking up the daily stock and 1 for one, see no objection to this or to any other method that makes for speed and efficiency, my only reaction being in view of the obvious need of paper saving, why have these margins at all?

If the Department is under the impression that, by using these margins for slogans they are bringing anything to the notice of the public, the idea would soon be corrected by an inspection in the sorting room of any post office; these slogans are conspicuous by their absence on envelopes and it would not be an exaggeration to say that the general public never sees them as, no doubt, the Minister of Finance expects them to be seen.

Let us see how much paper can be saved on an order for 500,000 sheets of the new brown 1½d. (one hundred and twenty million stamps) which is not an unusual quantity, if the top and bottom margins are used for stamp printing.

There are 12 complete stamp spaces at the top and bottom of each sheet, and since these spaces are all gummed and watermarked and serve in practice only as waste paper to be torn off and thrown away, the wastage is high, let us see how high.

Since a sheet contains 240 stamps, if the 24 stamp spaces were used for printing stamps instead of slogans it would result in a saving of 10 per cent.

Put in another way, for every 11 sheets printed one would have been gained from what is now thrown away. In the total order of 500,000 sheets the nett gain would be twelve million stamps, or fifty thousand sheets, 4,687 square feet of paper, or a roll of paper 2,300 yards long.

S. C. W. WAREHAM.
+++
PRETORIA PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

President, A. E. Basden; Hon. Secretary, H. A. Wager, P.O. Box 514; Meetings, 1st and 3rd Mondays, 8 p.m., Technical College.

September 7.—Mr. Hawke reviewed the advance in prices of some stamps in the new catalogue.

Alan Cup Competition: There were four competitors and all the collections were tabled. Mr. Mummery showed Gilbert and Ellice Islands; Prof. Wager, United States of America; Mr. Giovanetti, a complete set of covers following the journey of the Voortrekkers in 1938, including all the literature on the subject; Mr. Wright, the Seychelles. After careful consideration, the judges awarded the cup to Mr. Mummery for his collection of Gilbert and Ellice Islands. The chairman, in presenting the cup to Mr. Mummery, remarked on the excellence of the exhibit. He also paid tribute to the unique exhibit of Mr. Giovanetti.

September 21.—Mr. Giovanetti read a very interesting paper on the establishment of a mail service between Sydney and Melbourne in Australia. It started in 1838 by means of local agents and the journey was fraught with danger. In some places rivers had to be crossed by swimming. As this took place near Mr. Giovanetti's home, he had many reminiscences to relate. He eventually led up to the permanent air mail service now in use. Mr. Basden tabled an exhibit of Brazil pictorials.

H.A.W.

ANGLO-BOER WAR PRISONER-OF-WAR CAMP MARKS

By J. H. HARVEY PIRIE and ANDREW WATSON

(Continued from page 105, September issue).

BERMUDA (contd.)

The only Bermudan postmark found on correspondence to Bermuda, usually as a back-stamp, is the circular date-stamp "Hamilton / Bermuda." This mark is also the only one seen on correspondence from Bermuda, with one exception, viz., "Devonshire North / Bermuda" on a postcard from a prisoner on one island to a prisoner on another island of the group.

ST. HELENA.

(a) Double-line circle, size and wording same as Type (a) of *Green Point*. Usually, however, but not invariably, there are also censor's initials in manuscript in the centre. In black, blue-black, red or violet.

(b) Single-line circle 30 m.m. in diameter with "Prisoners of War / Broad Bottom Camp" round the circumference and "(Initials in manuscript) / Censor" in the centre. In violet.

(c) A double triangle, outer one 40 m.m. sides and 50 m.m. base; between the lines "Passed / By (at the apex) / Censor / Head Office;" "St. Helena" in the centre. In violet.

(d) Like the above but wording "Passed by / Censor / Deadwood." With or without initials in manuscript in the centre. In violet.

The postmarks on correspondence from St. Helena may be (1) the single circle date stamp "St. Helena" only, or (2) the stamp may be obliterated by a (?) cork cancellation made up of four groups of short bars, the date stamp being elsewhere on the cover.

CEYLON.

(a) Double oval, outer one 34 m.m. x 22 m.m. Between the lines, "Passed Censor P.O.W. / Diyatalawa." Various initials, in type, in the centre. In violet.

(b) Single line oval 62 m.m. x 34 m.m. Wording, "Diyatalawa Camp / Passed / . . . / Censor." In violet. The space for the censor's name or initials never seems to have been filled in.

Two covers, one from Diyatalawa to South Africa and one to Diyatalawa from South Africa show a mark identical with (a) of *Green Point*. It is possible, of course, that the letters passed through the *Green Point* camp although there is nothing else to show that they actually did so.

The two commonest postmarks on correspondence from Ceylon are small single circle marks, 20 m.m. in diameter, reading either

"Diyatalawa Camp" or "Diyatalawa" with the date in the centre in two lines thus—
JU 2 / 01. Two other marks of similar type also occur, however, but much less commonly, "Ragama Camp" and "Calkissa."

INDIA.

We have covers or cards addressed to or from no less than nine different camps in India. They are given in the order in which they happen to be most abundant in our material but of course this does not necessarily correspond with the order or size of the camps. For the last four on our list we have actually only one specimen of each. Only one camp appears to have had its own special camp post office, viz., Trichinopoly, which has a mark reading "Boer Camp / Trichinopoly." The others show the ordinary town marks of the district.

(1) *Ahmednagar.*

(a) Double circle, outer one 30 m.m. in diameter. Between the lines, "Passed Censor, Prisoners of War / Ahmednagar, India." In centre, "W. Harris" (facsimile signature). In violet.

(b) Double oval. Outer one 48 m.m. x 30 m.m. Between the lines, "Censor P.O.W. / Ahmednagar, India." In centre, B. P. O'DOWD" or "C. F. NIXON B.A." In violet.

(c) A very elaborate design with wording "Passed Censor // B P O D / Ahmednagar, India." in violet.

(2) *Fort Govindgarh (Amritsar).*

Double oval, outer one 50 m.m. x 31 m.m. Between lines, "Passed Censor / Boer P.O.W. Enclosure." In centre, "(Date / Fort Govindgarh."

(3) *Bellary.*

Double lined oval 50 m.m. x 30 m.m. Wording, "Censor's Office / (Date) / Signature / Bellary." In violet.

(4) *Trichinopoly.*

(a) Double circle, outer one 25 m.m. in diameter. "Censor's Office / Trichinopoly" between the lines; "Boer Camp" in the centre. In violet.

(b) Rectangle with concave corners, 60 m.m. x 31 m.m. "Examined / (Manuscript initials) or T. L. Thorne (printed / Boer Camp, Trichinopoly." In violet.

(5) *Umballa.*

Double triangle (apex down), base 81 m.m. sides 53 m.m. "Umballa / Passed / Censor"

between the lines; "C. van der Spuy" in the centre. In blue.

(6) *Kaity*.

Rectangle with concave corners, 55 m.m. x 27 m.m. "Examined / A. Grant (facsimile signature) Censor / Boer Camp / Kaity." In purple.

(7) *Sialkot*.

Double triangle, base 48 m.m., length of sides not known as single specimen is incomplete. Between lines, "Passed / Censor / Sialkot;" initials in centre. In purple.

(8) *Shahjahanpur*.

Double circle, outer one 24 m.m. in diameter. Between lines, "Prisoners of War / Shahjahanpur;" in centre, "Passed / Censor." In violet.

(9) *Dagshai* and *Solon*.

In design of a folded riband "Passed Censor / R. W. vand re Hoven / Dagshai and Solon." In violet. The postmark in this case was "Dagshai."

U.S.A. 1869, 3 Cents Blue

By EMIL TAMSEN.

Some years ago I sat in the office of a prominent stamp dealer in Johannesburg when in came a collector, who was a good buyer of expensive stamps. He took out of a letter a small approval card which contained three used 4d. Cape Woodblocks and handed same to the dealer and he to me.

There were three shades of blue and the argument which arose between us three as to which shade the sender had priced them in comparison to Gibbons Catalogue was long and ended up with us all in disagreement.

This scene was vividly recalled to my memory when quite lately I read an advertisement of a New York dealer in an American philatelic paper.

This advertisement consisted of a whole page which offered **Only One Stamp**, namely, the 3c Blue of 1869 Locomotive design, Gibbons No. 202. It mentioned **thirteen (13)** shades of blue priced from 4c to \$150.00 each, besides this four paper varieties priced from 4c to \$4.00, then came Plate and Printing varieties five items from 75c to \$5,000.00, further four Grill varieties priced from 50c to \$150.00 then 24 different cancellations priced from 4c to \$100.00 further 11 collections of Postal Cancellations, containing from 10 to 750 varieties priced from \$1.20 to \$2,150,000. The advertisement ended up with the offer of **One** highly specialised collection of this 3c Blue stamps, over 4,000 varieties net price \$12,500.00.

Of this stamp 386,475,900 were issued in two years, more stamps than I think were issued in all South African Colonies together.

To say that I was astounded, is putting it down very mildly.

COLLECTORS' WANTS AND OFFERS

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

Orange Free State.—Approval selections wanted. Must be fine, well-centred copies.

William Redford, Box 7012, Johannesburg.

Transvaal, Griqualand West, O.F.S. covers and varieties wanted by A. E. Basden, Box 238, Pretoria.

For Quality and Variety—Globe Packets.—Extensive price lists free. Serious collectors write for finest approval books of your country. References.

Globe Postage Stamp Company, 117 Longmarket Street, Cape Town.

Wanted.—Many items in Foreign Colonials, French, German, Italian, Spanish, Dutch, Belgian, Danish, Portuguese; all issues up to 1933 (inclusive). Mint for preference.

E. Hunt, Box 2437, Johannesburg.

If interested in S.A. Colonies or Union Mint Blocks, Postage Dues, Officials, write to:

E. Tamsen, Box 13, Nylstroom.

Stamps of all Countries bought, sold and exchanged. Approvals sent on request. References. Write:

Sidney Harris, 67, 9th Avenue, Mayfair, Johannesburg.

Wanted.—Natal (before 1874); Transvaal (First Republic and Boer War "locals"); Griqualand West.

Rev. Noel Roberts, Booyens, Johannesburg.

Telegraph Stamps wanted, especially O.F.S. Please send on approval to A. E. Basden, Box 238, Pretoria.

I have a fair good eye for colours, but to distinguish **Dark** ultramarine from **Deep** ultramarine or **Dark Bluish** ultramarine from **Deep bluish** or **Dark** ultramarine Blue from **Deep** ultramarine blue beats me hollow.

In the next number of this same paper it was stated that the used copy priced at \$100.00 had been sold the day after the advertisement had appeared, this shows that American collectors will pay big money for a stamp and dealers in that country for advertisements.

Where does South Africa come in? Who collects shades and cancellations?

ROLL OF HONOUR

Mr. C. H. Thornton, of East London, was elected to the Roll of Honour of distinguished South African Philatelists at the Pretoria Congress held in 1939.

He is well known in philatelic circles in the Union, having been a very faithful attender of congress meetings ever since they were instituted. In his home town he is a stalwart supporter of the local Philatelic Society.

Of a modest disposition, it has been difficult to persuade him to provide any material for a biographical note, but at long last he has sent in the following few notes:



"A schoolboy collection was given to a pal when leaving England about 50 years ago.

"In Bechuanaland, before the South African war, I gathered a few stamps for a brother who was collecting, but didn't take up the hobby myself until my son, Len, then a boy of about 15, was in danger of losing interest in stamps. With him I then started what we thought was the simple matter of making a South African collection.

Soon getting disillusioned, I concentrated on Cape Triangulars with, later, more modest shows of the Rectangulars, Natsals, O.F.S. Republic, Rhodesia and Bechuanaland.

"My later loves are Old Imperfs and Classics, Bisects, Curios and Ship Letters."

Collections or single pieces of any country wanted. Fine collection of Air Mails and Covers open for inspection.

R. OSBORNE, Stamp Dealer, 58 Loveday Street, Johannesburg. P.O. Box 6710. Phone: 33-3989.

SOME NEW ISSUES.

Brazil.—Commemoratives, 8th Brazilian Congress of Education, 400 reis, chestnut, and official inauguration of Goiania, 400 reis, violet. July 5.

Postage Due stamps, 100r carmine, 200r blue and 400r red-brown.

Ordinary stamps 50r sepia, 600r violet, and 1,200r blue.

—Dr. Mario de Sanctis.

Barbados.—The 2d. is on order in red. It is only little more than a year ago since this value was issued in claret.

—Philatelic Magazine.

"*Fighting French*."—"Scott's Monthly Journal" brings together the scattered information listing the various stamps which have been overprinted "Free France," etc., in the Cameroons, French Equatorial Africa, India, Oceania, New Caledonia, New Hebrides and St. Pierre and Miquelon.

In the Cameroons "Stamps" reports that the high value stamps are being exhausted and that air mails are being sent without stamps, the covers being endorsed by the postmasters with the amount paid.

Kenya.—The 20c denomination has now appeared in the third variety of perforation 13½ x 14.

—W. Tunstall and Robertson Stamp Co.

Swaziland.—The 1½d. has come out in a darker shade and with a change of perforation, being now 14.

Southern Rhodesia.—The 3d. Active Service Letter Card is now of a thicker paper.

—Robertson Stamp Co.

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
(except recent issues)

and can generally offer most stamps of a want list, however difficult. Let us know your requirements. We never worry with unwanted selections.

BRIDGER & KAY, Ltd.,
86 Strand, London, W.C.2, England.

SOUTH GEORGIA PROVISIONAL.

In 1928, owing to a temporary shortage of 2½d. stamps—the value most needed for the mail from the island to Norway—the overprinting of the 2d. value locally was authorised as an emergency measure. According to the "Kenmore Collector" the number of stamps so surcharged has been officially announced as 1179.

SOCIETY NEWS

PORT ELIZABETH PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

President, G. K. Forbes; *Hon. Sec.*, C. W. Sheffield, c/o P.O. Box 88; *Meetings*, 2nd and 4th Tuesdays, Public Library, 8 p.m.

At the meeting held on Tuesday, 28th July, there was a good attendance of members.

Owing to the Library closing at 6 p.m. from 1st August, and as a consequence the South African Room not being available for our meetings, it was decided that the Society meet only once during August, the meeting to be held in one of the Committee Rooms in the basement of the City Hall.

After some new issues had rapidly been disposed of, Mr. G. K. Forbes displayed his collection of Natal, Hawaii, and Hayti, the first mentioned being of a particularly valuable and interesting nature.

The August monthly meeting was held in the Toc H room, the Committee Room at the City Hall not being available.

We were in a dilemma as to where to find a suitable meeting place when one of our old members, Mr. Barfoot, came to the rescue by obtaining the use of the Toc H room.

The display for the evening was supposed to consist of two sheets from each member, but very few sheets were placed on the table.

The evening was devoted to discussion re carrying on under "black out" conditions. The meeting was very well attended, and everyone was most enthusiastic about carrying on, so it was finally decided to approach Toc H for the use of their room for future gatherings.

+ + +

W.H.B.

At the September meeting the attendance was 13 members.

A warm welcome was given to a visitor, Mr. Liss, a member of the Bloemfontein branch.

On behalf of the members, Mr. Forbes welcomed back Mr. McGregor, a prominent Port Elizabeth member, who has been on holiday in Durban for over three months. Mr. McGregor gave us a few of his ideas of Durban, and said he had visited the society during his stay there. He was very pleased to be back in Port Elizabeth again, and felt the benefit of the change.

Mr. McMillan was responsible for the evening, and entertained us by displaying a part of his first day Air Mail covers, amongst which were some very fine specimens.

After a vote of thanks, the evening closed at 9.30.

+ + +

L.E.C.

PHILATELIC SOCIETY OF NATAL.

President, P. C. Bishop; *Hon. Sec.*, G. Milner Palmer, P.O. Box 588, Durban. *Meetings*, Durban Camera Club, 319 Smith Street, 1st and 3rd Wednesdays, 7 p.m., Natal time.

At our meeting of 2nd September, despite the deterrent of the black out, we had a good attendance of members and visitors. Four new members were enrolled: Messrs. J. E. Jewell (Port Elizabeth), H. W. Munro, H. A. Wisc, and F. J. H. Kotze. Two members have resigned, Miss I. Johnstone (on leaving Durban), and Mr. K. Thiele. Another, Mrs. L. Johnstone, is transferred from town to country membership on taking up residence in Cape Town.

One of the most interesting displays we have ever had was the fine "Cape" show put up at this meeting, when Mr. H. H. Hurst staged an exhibit of "Perkins Bacon" and "De La Rue" printings of the Triangulars designed to illustrate their colour-differences and so assist collectors to differentiate between them. A most illuminating show was accompanied by explanatory notes, for which Mrs. Melville returned the thanks of the members.

The Society has now settled down comfortably in its new rendezvous, the rooms of the Camera Club, 319 Smith Street, and the decision to meet at 7 p.m. (Natal time) "for the duration" has given general satisfaction.

+ + +

G.M.P.

PHILATELIC SOCIETY OF JOHANNESBURG.

President, Dr. J. H. Harvey Pirie; *Hon. Secretary*, L. Buchen, Box 4967, Johannesburg; *Meetings*, 2nd Tuesdays, Sanlam Buildings, Loveday Street, Johannesburg, 8 p.m.

A meeting of the Philatelic Society of Johannesburg, held on the 8th of September, was exceedingly well attended. Paymaster Lieut. Commander C. E. D. Enoch, R.N.R., F.R.P.S.L., gave an interesting little chat on his philatelic adventures in the Middle East. He discussed Port Said, and mentioned a collection which he bought there, which included many fine items and an almost complete Egyptian collection put up in a specially printed album. This album and stamps were displayed at the meeting, and proved a very popular exhibit. The stamps were in fine condition, and several rarities were on view. There were a few empty spaces, but these were few and far between. Altogether a very fine lot of Egyptian stamps.

Mr. E. Jourdan displayed a remarkable collection of the stamps of Czechoslovakia. The collection, mostly in the mint state, was practically complete, only the great rarities being absent. It was tastefully written up, and members were delighted to see this foreign country, as it was such a great change from the usual British collections exhibited.

Amongst visitors present was Mons. Soutre, the Postmaster-General of French Equatorial Africa.

+ + +

A.K.

O.F.S. AND BASUTOLAND PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

President, Mr. J. B. Levy; *Hon. Secretary*, Mr. R. C. Lyon, Box 702, Bloemfontein; *Meetings*, 3rd Fridays, Oranje Koffiehuis, Bloemfontein.

At the September meeting members noted with satisfaction the figures given for several exchange packets which had finished their circuit. In nearly all cases the percentage of sales was above 50 per cent., giving an indication that stamps are more popular than ever and that good material finds ready buyers.

The Society's appeal for stamps in aid of the Prisoners of War Fund had a good response from the general public, but a disappointing one as far as members are concerned. It is hoped that our members throughout the Union will make good and do their share for this good cause.

An initial sale of some of the lots which had come in during the month was held right away, and although the material was throughout of the more "common" grade, good prices were realised, the bidding members having in mind the unknown prisoner in Italy they adopted.

+ + +

K.F.

EAST RAND PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

President, Mr. J. Sheppard; *Hon. Sec.*, E. N. Rigg, 103 Kemston Avenue, Benoni; *Meetings*, 3rd Tuesdays, 8 p.m., Hotel Regent, Benoni.

The September meeting was our Annual General Meeting, and the following office-bearers were elected for the forthcoming year: *President*, J. Shepherd; *vice-president*, H. Suklje; *secretary-treasurer*, E. N. Rigg, 103 Kemston Avenue, Benoni; *delegate to Philatelic Federation of Southern Africa*, H. Suklje, P.O. Box 485, Benoni; *club committee*, three members, Messrs. Wood, Gutsche, Riordan.

Items of interest: Covers were exhibited by Messrs. Shepherd, Suklje and Rigg.

News of the month was given by Mr. Suklje. Mr. Suklje donated a set of British stamps overprinted M.E.F. to be raffled for the Governor-General's War Fund.

Exhibits.—Mr. Suklje exhibited Geo. VI stamps used in the Dominions and Colonies.

Mr. Gillmore's collection of Union of South Africa was really two collections—one mint and one used—and included singles, pairs, and blocks of four. Very few of the higher values were missing in the blocks.

E.N.R.

CAPE TOWN PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

President, K. Alexander; *Hon. Sec.*, K. Cameron, 9, Pineway, Pinelands, Cape; *Meetings*, 2nd and 4th Thursdays, Medical House, 35, Wale Street, Cape Town, at 8 p.m.

27th August, 1942.—A magnificent collection of the stamps of King George V was laid on the table by Mr. Gus Ackerman. The collection itself was practically complete, even as to the high values, and a special feature of same was the number of rare Jubilee varieties that had been included in the exhibit. The arrangement of Mr. Ackerman's stamps and the writing up of same were most artistically done, and certainly showed up to advantage in the mounting of same. While everyone was pretty well acquainted with the stamps of that period, nevertheless Mr. Simenhoff, in thanking Mr. Ackerman on behalf of the Society for his admirable display, made some interesting remarks concerning this exhibit.

There was a fairly large attendance at this meeting, and three new members were elected.

Discussions arose as to the advisability of holding a "stamp Bourse." This matter was left in the hands of the committee.

10th September, 1942.—At a well attended meeting Mr. O. Hansen exhibited his fine collection of Jubilees. These were complete, and comprised both mint and used on covers. The exhibit was made particularly interesting through the information that Mr. Hansen gave in a short talk on how he came to acquire so complete a collection without the assistance of dealers. His account of this might well have formed the subject of a short story on the "art and romance" of stamp collecting, and, whilst space in this "write-up" will not permit of more than a passing reference to some of the interesting "tit-bits" which Mr. Hansen gave the members of the Society, it is hoped that some day he might himself publish more details of the story of his collection. As can be imagined, everything did not proceed in quite an easy manner in the way, through his own efforts, he had got together this fine collection of the Jubilee stamps. There were occasions for more than one rebuff from the Postmasters who refused to comply with his requests, drawing his attention (sometimes not too courteously!) to the

fact that the department did not permit of officials affixing stamps to letters or the cancelling of stamps not affixed to letters. So other methods had to be resorted to for the obtaining of these. In his concluding remarks Mr. Hansen referred to the fact that all the mint sets, of issues of the Crown Colonies in his collection, were obtained direct from the respective colonies. This fact can conclusively be proved as long as the collection remains intact, with mint set and used cover together; adding, as he did, that most of the collections of the "Mint Jubilees," to his knowledge, were obtained complete from the dealers in Europe, who, in turn, got their supplies direct from the Crown Agents, while actually the stamps themselves had never reached the Colonies they represented.

An interesting feature of the collection was that a considerable number of the covers had been conveyed all the way to their destination by Air Mail, while there were several others that bore post marks indicating that part of the journey only had been by air. These latter, in particular, had come from the West Indian group of Islands, and the first stage of their journey had been to the United States by air mail.

An instance of a particular act of courtesy on the part of the Postal Authorities was given by Mr. Hansen in referring to a letter which he addressed to the Post Master General, at Melbourne, to whom he applied for the issues of the three mandated territories, as well as the issues of the Commonwealth, and who replied as follows:

"With regard to the stamps of the three Dependencies, these are not available at this office, and consequently it has been necessary to forward remittance on your behalf to these places. A money order has been forwarded to Nauru, and Postal Notes to Papua and New Guinea, and at the same time a request has been made to the Postmasters at the chief postal towns there, to stamp the envelopes you enclosed and forward the stamps you require."

These stamps and covers were all duly received by Mr. Hansen, who in his remarks added, "That is what I call service with a smile!"

Mr. Plumbridge suitably thanked Mr. Hansen for the display.

E.C.S.

The SOUTH AFRICAN PHILATELIST

Published Monthly by the Philatelic Federation of Southern Africa

All Rights of Reproduction Reserved.

Hon. Editor—J. H. Harvey Pirie, P.O. Box 7012, Johannesburg.

Hon. Business Manager—William Redford, P.O. Box 7012, Johannesburg.

COMMUNICATIONS :

Business and Advertising to be addressed to:
William Redford, Broadcast House, Commissioner St., Johannesburg.

SUBSCRIPTION: 5s. per annum post free to any part of the world.

CORRESPONDENCE: The columns of this Journal are open to correspondence on subjects of Philatelic Interest. In particular, the Editor, will be pleased to receive information regarding new issues, discoveries of errors and varieties, etc.

ADVERTISING TARIFF :

1 Page £3 0 0 per insertion	½ Page 0 10 0 per insertion
½ Page 1 12 6 per insertion	
¼ Page 0 17 6 per insertion	1/16 Page 0 6 0 per insertion

Less 5 per cent. for 6 insertions. Less 10 per cent. for 12 insertions.

Small Prepaid Advertisements: 2d. per word per insertion.

The SOUTH AFRICAN PHILATELIST

Proprietors and Publishers :

The Philatelic Federation of Southern Africa

Honorary Editor: Dr. J. H. HARVEY PIRIE, P.O. Box 7012, Johannesburg.
 Honorary Business Manager: WILLIAM REDFORD, Broadcast House, Commissioner Street, Johannesburg.

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

Vol. 18. No. 11.

NOVEMBER, 1942.

Whole No. 212.

UNION NOTES

TWO "GOLD MINE" VARIETIES.

The "Stamp Magazine" illustrates two varieties of the small sized 1½d. gold mine stamps. The first shows the tablet bearing the words "Suid Afrika" in white instead of being printed in the normal grey. The second variety, also on an Afrikaans stamp, shows a dot or stop between the "1" and the "½" in the value tablet. Whether these are constant varieties or not is not determined.

"BANTAMS."

The ½d., illustrated in our September issue, appeared on sale at some offices early in October, and the new 3d., 4d. and 6d. stamps in the latter part of the month.

The ½d. gives us still another perf. variation. Imagine a piece of paper of size and shape like the original 3d. of the war effort series, i.e., about 40 mm. horizontally and 24 mm. vertically. This is perforated 15 horizontally and 14 vertically, and divided vertically by 2 rouletted lines, thus making 3 stamps; one is perf. at top, bottom and left, rouletted on right; the centre one is perf. top and bottom, rouletted both sides; the third is perf. top, bottom and right, rouletted on left. With the two language varieties it requires a block of six to give all the variations. The individual stamps are slightly smaller than the 1½d. denomination.

The 3d. retains almost the full design of the original and the colour is the same blue; the result being a very crowded little stamp.



The size is that of the ½d. and the same perf. and roulette varieties occur, except, of course, that the roulettes are top and/or bottom; again, blocks of six will be required to give all combinations.

The 4d. is of a completely new design and colour. The motif is still the Artillery, but we now have an illustration of an entire heavy gun firmly embedded in its concrete turret. The colour is dark green instead of brown. There are 360 stamps to the sheet, the same as in the 3d. denomination. Each stamp is bilingual, not alternately in English and Afrikaans as in the case of the original



issue. At time of going to press, we have not seen the actual stamps, but presumably the size and perforation arrangement will be the same as in the case of the threepenny. In that case a vertical strip of three will be sufficient to give all varieties.

The reduced size 6d. retains as its motif the war worker as depicted by a welder. No change has been made in the design other than a slight alteration in lettering and the colour remains light orange. There are 240



stamps to the sheet; the size of individual stamps is the same as in the case of the 1½d. Perforation is 14 both ways, and a block of four gives all the combinations of perforation, rouletting and language.

All denominations have the sheet margins occupied by the "Buy Union Loan Certificates" slogan as described for the 1½d. denomination in our September issue. These are printed in the colour of the particular denomination.

PRINTINGS.

The following information has been received from the P.O. Publicity Department in respect of printings of stamps, etc., carried out

during the period 8th July to 6th October, 1942. The last information was published in our August issue.

(a) Ordinary postage stamps.

½d.—Job No. 13909. A total of 433,000 sheets (out of 500,000 ordered) have now been delivered. Cylinders as before.

10/-.—Job No. 4056. These were delivered, in full completion of the order, 8,140 sheets of 60, on 6.10.42. Cylinders as before 6918 Int. and 6434 Ext.

(b) Roll stamps.

½d.—Job No. 3049. 2,328 sheets x 240, 1,100 rolls x 500 and 2,460 rolls x 1,000 delivered since 30.7.42. Cylinders as before, 7020 int. and 5 ext.

(c) War postage stamps, reduced size.

½d.—Job No. 1608. 97,500 sheets of 360 delivered since 18.8.42. Cylinder No. 40, new.

1½d.—Job No. 1614. Delivery of 223,400 sheets of 240 completed 4.8.42. Cylinder 7019 as before.

Job No. 2135. On an order for 200,000 sheets there were delivered 4,500 sheets on 6.8.42. Cylinder as before.

3d.—Job No. 1611. 68,000 sheets of 360 delivered on 17.9.42 on an order for 150,000 sheets. Cylinder 7014, new.

6d.—Job No. 1610. 13,500 sheets of 240 delivered since 2.10.42 on an order for 50,000 sheets. Cylinder No. 6916, new.

(d) Active Service Letter Cards.

A total of 6,098,640 have been delivered to date on the order for ten million referred to in our August issue. Cylinder as before.

(e) Pictorial Postcards.

Job No. 647. This order, commenced on 27.11.41, has now been completed by a total delivery of 2,070,480 cards.

Job No. 10,186. A fresh order for 1,200,000 cards. No delivery yet made.

(f) S.W.A. Revenue.

The following postage stamps were supplied by the P.M.G. and overprinted "Revenue—Inkomste" on a flat bed printing machine from old forms. Delivery 9.7.42. 3d., 1,000 sheets x 120; 1/-, 1,000 sheets x 120; 2/6, 100 sheets x 60; 5/-, 100 sheets x 60.

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
(except recent issues)

and can generally offer most stamps of a want list, however difficult. Let us know your requirements. We never worry with unwanted selections.

BRIDGER & KAY, Ltd.,
86 Strand, London, W.C.2, England.

COLLECTORS' WANTS AND OFFERS

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

Orange Free State.—Approval selections wanted. Must be fine, well-centred copies.

William Redford, Box 7012, Johannesburg.

Transvaal, Griqualand West, O.F.S. covers and varieties wanted by
A. E. Basden, Box 233, Pretoria.

For Quality and Variety—Globe Packets.—Extensive price lists free. Serious collectors write for finest approval books of your country. References.

Globe Postage Stamp Company, 117 Longmarket Street, Cape Town.

Wanted.—Many items in Foreign Colonials, French, German, Italian, Spanish, Dutch, Belgian, Danish, Portuguese; all issues up to 1933 (inclusive). Mint for preference.

E. Hunt, Box 2437, Johannesburg.

If interested in S.A. Colonies or Union Mint Blocks, Postage Dues, Officials, write to:

E. Tamsen, Box 13, Nylstroom.

Wanted.—Transvaal (1st Republic), Early Natal, Tati Concession, Boer War Locals and Commando Stamps.
Noel Roberts, Booysens, Johannesburg.

Telegraph Stamps wanted, especially O.F.S. Please send on approval to
A. E. Basden, Box 238, Pretoria.

STUDY YOUR COUNTRY'S STAMPS

BRITISH COLONIAL.

500	All different	.. .. .	12/6
1000	" "	" .. .	42/6
1500	" "	" .. .	85/-
2000	" "	" .. .	£8
3000	" "	" .. .	£20
4000	" "	" .. .	£35

All packet collections are warranted to contain only standard varieties of used and unused stamps.

If not satisfied money will be immediately refunded. Payments by any manner most convenient for you, but payable in India.

S. M. A. JAFAR,

263, Narkula Gunj, Bareilly, Inda.

UNION WAR ISSUE VARIETIES

The list of these given in our October issue was contributed by two Union collectors, although their names did not appear. Several correspondents have written in on this subject; the gist of their contribution is as follows:

Mr. J. G. Richards: The varieties mentioned in the March issue, p. 26, should be added on. There is also a variety of size of each denomination, which is consequent on an adjustment of the perforating machine to correct off-centring. One row in each sheet is narrow, either horizontally or vertically according to the shape of the stamp, and measures 23 mm. instead of 24 mm. I believe that this was corrected in the later issues or printings. This abnormality occupied the attention of Mr. A. O. Crane, who referred to it in his notes in the Bulletin published by Messrs. H. & A. Wallace of London (June issue) and the latter firm were then offering a set of blocks of four (for both South African issue and the S.W.A. issue) at 60s. the set, of each country.

The difference in shade of colour of the ½d., 4d. and 1s. may also be noted, as these are sufficiently definite in my opinion to warrant separate listing in any catalogue.

Mr. G. N. Tyrrell: I think possibly the three following further varieties which appear to be constant may be of interest: Row 6 No. 5 2d., a white mark at stern of ship giving the appearance of a flag; row 10 No. 6 1s., "SU" of "SUID" joined by white line; row 3 No. 9 1d., "U" of "SUID" possibly the Greek character "mu."

Further I have the top left half of a sheet of the 4d. value which shows a distinct white line across the 6 stamps in row 1, and it would be interesting to know if any other subscriber has come across a similar variety.

Mr. A. Lichtenstein: Add 2d. row 1 No. 1. Dark line from sailor's ear to right hand inner frame, and row 6 No. 5, white flag at the stern of the destroyer.

He questions whether the following two items are constant, regarding them as merely accidental hair-lines: 1d. row 8 No. 3, line on right shoulder, and 2d. row 6 No. 16, line through 2 of 2d.

He states that all sheets he has seen (Union and S.W.A.) have had the watermark normal, not reversed.

Incidentally, Mr. Lichtenstein states that he has had reported to him the 1½d. Bantam with the side marginal print overlapping the stamps. This occurrence is not yet verified, however.

Finally, Mr. S. C. W. Wareham writes as follows about the statement the 2d., 4d. and 6d. have appeared on paper with the watermark reversed:

"This is a misstatement and misleading, appearing as it does in a statement of fact

by the Magazine itself and not merely as an opinion expressed by a correspondent.

"Actually, for the ordinary collector in this or any other land, the information should have been that, in the 2d., 4d. and 6d. values the watermark appears *sideways*, incidentally Gibbons Catalogue should state this, it is done in the case of other country's stamps.

"For the more serious collector and specialist, it might be explained that, if a sheet of the ½d., 1d., 1½d., 3d. or 1s. is placed on top of a sheet of the 2d., 4d. or 6d. value, it will be noticed that the sheet No. is in all cases in the right hand margin and the watermarks the same way up, that is with the horns on top.

"This is the strongest indication if not actual proof that the paper was put through the rotary printing press in the same way, but that in the 2d., 4d. and 6d. cylinders the design of the stamp was sideways. Really if a complete sheet of all these values were laid side by side and viewed from the same angle, the conclusion that some values are sideways on the sheet and that others are upright is inevitable.

"I agree that to a collector or any other person in another land, viewing a pair of these stamps without margins, the *watermark* appears sideways, and we can let it go at that, but to say that it is *reversed* is not fair to say the least; imagine a watermark enthusiast's elation at having found a sideways watermark when the stamp is listed as having a reversed watermark; imagine also when he had been enlightened, his disgust in that we cannot describe our own stamps correctly.

"Reversed watermarks can occur from several contributory factors, of which I have made a study, but do not intend to go into now, but it would be an unusual man who could prove that a Multiple Springbok's Head Watermark was reversed, the design is so symmetrical.

"And this brings us to a matter that has been mentioned before in this Magazine, I refer to the greater clarity, when describing watermarks of using the words 'Upright' and 'Inverted' instead of 'Normal' and 'Reversed.'

"It should always be borne in mind that, in spite of what the catalogue says, the printer may involuntarily or deliberately put a whole printing through a press with the watermark inverted, in which case 'Inverted' would be synonymous with 'Normal'."

V V V V V

WAR POSTMARKS.

The A.P.O. U51 mark recorded last month appears now to be replaced by one of standard type, i.e., A.P.O.—U—M.P.K./51.

An Egyptian postmark recently seen on Union stamps franking letters from "Up North" differs somewhat from the common handstamp "Egypt (a Number)/Postage Prepaid." This is a machine cancellation with an asterisk in place of a number.

THE BARBARA JURGENS COLLECTION OF POSTAL HISTORY OF THE CAPE OF GOOD HOPE

By Capt. L. SIMENHOFF, E.D., F.R.P.S.L.

The South African Museum at Cape Town now houses the complete collection of philatelic and historical records depicting the postal history of the Cape of Good Hope. This has been made possible by the magnificent collection presented to the nation by Mr. A. Jurgens, in memory of his daughter, Barbara.

Prior to 1941, the S.A. Museum only housed, apart from the original dies of the so-called "Woodblock" stereotypes, a unique collection of "Post Office Stones." Mr. Jurgens' gift covers mainly the Cape postal story from 1652 to 1910, the date of the South African Union.

Prior to 1652, when the First Settlement was formed by van Riebeeck, ships of the Dutch and English East India Companies used to call regularly at the Cape for water and to barter fresh meat from the local aborigines, or Hottentots, as they were called. Their barrels were filled about where the present General Post Office now stands, and here outward bound ships used to deposit packets of letters to be taken back by homeward bound ships. Inscriptions on stones indicated where the letters were hidden and by whom, with dates and other particulars. (Readers will find a very fine description of these and other stones in Guide Pamphlet No. 1 issued by the S.A. Museum and entitled "Inscriptions left by the Early European Navigators on their way to the East," by L. Peringuey. The cost is 6d., plus postage.)

On Thursday, 17th April, 1941, the Minister of the Interior, the Hon. H. G. Lawrence, performed the opening ceremony at the South African Museum in the presence of a large and distinguished gathering of philatelists and citizens of Cape Town. Mr. Lawrence said that the gift was a most generous one, for had Mr. Jurgens cared to sell it, it would have been worth a small fortune. Its real value, he added, however, was as a picture of history. Mr. Lawrence also described the contents of the collection. The Minister was introduced by Mr. W. J. Thorne, chairman of the Board of Trustees, who presided. Mr. Thorne said that the Museum did not have enough space to display the collection adequately, but it was hoped that the Museum would be enlarged at the end of the war, increasing the accommodation. Mr. D. Ferdinand Bosman, a member of the Board of Trustees, in moving a vote of thanks to Mr. Lawrence, referred to the presence there of Mr. and Mrs. Jurgens and Grannie Jurgens.

The Barbara Jurgens Collection is located on the landing, opposite the top right staircase, and is contained in seven imposing teak

frames under glass and protected from light by dark blinds. On the adjacent wall, in a glass case, are the Original Dies of the "Woodblocks" (defaced) with Impressions in black taken from them in the Museum in 1932.

A SUMMARY OF THE CONTENTS OF THE BARBARA JURGENS COLLECTION.

Panel I. This exhibit covers the period of the *Discovery of the Cape* and the *First Dutch Settlement* to the year 1691.

There are printed particulars dealing with the discovery of the Cape by Bartholomew Diaz in 1486; photographs from the Elliott Collection, viz., Landing of Van Riebeeck in 1652, Van Riebeeck's Settlement about 1656, Arrival of the Dutch Fleet in Van Riebeeck's time, Early Portuguese Map of the West Coast of Africa, and of Johan Van Riebeeck and Vasco da Gama.

Superb specimens of original letters to Van Riebeeck, Cornelis van Quaelberg, Jacob Borg-horst and Pieter Hackius, the first commanders at the Cape. There is an original letter to Isbrand Coske, the first Governor and builder of the Castle, as well as original letters to Johan Bax and Simon van der Stel.

Panel II. DUTCH SETTLEMENT, continued, THE ESTABLISHMENT OF THE FIRST POST OFFICE AT THE CAPE, 1792, THE FIRST BRITISH OCCUPATION, 1795, and THE BATAVIAN REPUBLIC, 1803-1806.

The selection of original letters is continued, and include those to Louis van Assenburgh, Mauritz Pasques de Chavonnes, Jan de la Fontaine, Hendrik Swellengrebel, Ryk ("Father") Tulbagh, Joachim van Plettenberg and the last Governor before the collapse of the Dutch East India Company, Cornelis Jacob van de Graaff. A number of the autographs of these Governors are also to be seen.

There is a photograph and autograph of Jacob Isaac Rhenius, the Acting Governor, who, in 1792, signed the First Postal Proclamation.

Original letters showing both single and double impressions of the rare V.O.C. (monogram of the Dutch East India Co.) Letter Stamp brought into use on 2nd March, 1792, are shown, as well as a letter carried by Hottentot Runner in cleft stick, circa 1770. There is a photo of the Castle as it appeared during the Dutch period. An original letter addressed to Commissioner-General Abraham Sluysken is also depicted here and Sluysken's auto-

graph. Also included are original Letter Seals used during the Dutch Period and the autographs of the first Dutch Postmasters.

FIRST BRITISH OCCUPATION.

This exhibit contains an original letter addressed to Major-Gen. Craig who was appointed the first Military Governor, and his autograph. There are also original letters addressed to Earl Macartney and Sir George Yonge with photographs of these Governors and the autograph and seal of the latter.

In this frame are to be seen all the Letter and Official Seals used by the British during their temporary occupation of the Cape (1795-1803).

THE BATAVIAN REPUBLIC PERIOD.

Representing this period is a photograph from the Elliott Collection showing British and Dutch ships in Table Bay prior to the handing over of the Cape to the Batavian Republic in 1803. (Photographed from a drawing made by one of the British officers on the spot.) There are a photograph and autograph of Gen. Jan Willem Janssens, the first Governor appointed by the Batavian Republic, as well as an original letter addressed to Janssens.

There is a photograph of Commissioner Jacob A. Uitenhage de Mist who was sent out to take over from the British, also a letter written by de Mist to the Landdrost of Stellenbosch.

There are also several letters that had passed through the Post Office during this period, including a letter from Holland stamped at the Cape with a double impression of the V.O.C. Letter Stamp as used by the late Dutch East India Company and which was again brought into use by the Batavian Government.

Panels III, IV and V. SECOND (PERMANENT) BRITISH OCCUPATION PERIOD TO THE ESTABLISHMENT OF THE FIRST COUNTRY POST OFFICES, CIRCA 1816. EARLY LETTERS, ETC., TO YEAR 1853.

In this frame are photographs of Sir David Baird and Commodore Popham, and an original letter addressed to Sir David Baird. There are several superb specimens of the First British Letter Stamp (the oval medalion), all on letters dated 1806.

A photograph of the Castle as it appeared during the Second British Occupation showing the brick parapets built by the British is also included, (photo by Elliott), as well as another photograph from the Elliott Collection showing the First Post Office to be established outside the Castle in Cape Town in 1809.

Panels IV and V contain early letters sent to the Cape from 1806 showing British ship and other Letter Stamps. There are letters to the Earl of Caledon, Sir Rufane Donkin, Sir Lowry Cole, and several more of the early

Governors together with the original Seals and autographs of some of them. A fine item is an original letter "franked" by Sir George Napier and others.

The complete collection of all the types of Letter Stamps used in the Colony from 1806 to 1853 (the Pre-stamp Period) are depicted in perfect condition, with clear, superb impressions and all on original letters. The autographs of all the early Postmasters-General and Postmasters are also exhibited.

Of interest are original letters addressed to prominent citizens at the Cape, as well as letters addressed to people of note by the inhabitants of Cape Town, such as Governors, Lady Herschel, Lady Maclear, Sir Thomas Maclear, Sir John Herschel, Sir Andries Stockenstrom, Charles Bell, John Montagu.

A selection of the Letter Seals and Government Seals used during this period can be seen, including the Post Office Seals, Landdrost Seals, the latter being of special interest as the Landdrosts acted as Postmasters during the period before proper post offices were established.

There is a photograph of the Post Office in St. George's Street, on the site now occupied by the Cape Times. From here the Post Office moved to its Adderley Street position in 1897.

A very interesting item is a "Criss-Cross" letter showing how people economised in those days when letters were charged for at per sheet in addition to distance.

This collection is complete in every detail for the period 1792-1853 and is unique.

Panel VI. THE ADHESIVE STAMP PERIOD.

THE CAPE TRIANGULARS OF 1853 TO 1863.

This exhibit opens by showing examples of the first postage stamps in the world, the PENNY BLACK and THE TWOPENNY BLUE of Great Britain. This is followed by specimens of the 1841 printing, some of which are shown in reverse to illustrate the blueing of the paper through chemical action which in 1853 appeared in the stamps of ONE PENNY and FOURPENCE of the Cape Colony.

The complete series of the *Perkins Bacon Printings* are shown.

There are photographs of Sir Harry Smith and Colonel C. C. Michell, together with their autographs. (Both these personages were connected with the Colony's first adhesive stamps).

Blocks of four of the One Penny and Fourpence on blued paper are shown on original letters. Single Copies are also exhibited.

THE WOODBLOCKS OF 1861.

Photographs and autographs of Saul Solomon, who printed the "Woodblocks," and Charles Bell, who designed the triangular stamps, are shown.

Specimens of bisected stamps showing the 6d. bisected and used with a 1d. stamp for a 4d. rate during the shortage of these stamps in 1861 are shown on the original letters.

Specimens of the original Woodblock stamps are included together with a forgery for comparison.

A sheet of the ONE PENNY in carmine and a sheet of the FOURPENNY in blue which were specially printed on 3rd March, 1941, at the Museum from the original woodblock plates are included to illustrate the issue of these stamps. A direct print from the original ONE PENNY and FOURPENNY dies engraved by Mr. C. J. Roberts of Cape Town, and from which all the 1d. and 4d. stereos for the woodblock stamps were made is shown printed in black.

THE DE LA RUE PRINTING.

A complete selection of all values are shown together with 1d., 4d. and 6d. stamps on the original letters.

Triangular stamps of this period with cancellations of both the triangle and oval date stamp in red are shown on the original letters. *A complete set of the Rouletted triangulars is included.*

A triangular 1s. stamp bisected and used as a 6d. stamp on piece of the original is shown. There are also several of the defacing stamps and Post Office Date Stamps in use during this period to be seen.

Included in the exhibit are several specimens of the triangular stamps showing manuscript cancellations. These are shown in addition to the manuscript defacement, with and without subsequent Post Office defacements. Similar cancellations can be found on the stamps of other British Colonies, notably India, where the stamps were precancelled to prevent theft.

Panel VII. THE ADHESIVE STAMP PERIOD, Continued.

THE RECTANGULAR STAMP PERIOD, 1864-1910.

This exhibit contains a complete set of all the values and designs of the stamps issued during the period 1864 to 1910.

The stamps are shown in mint and used condition.

A bisected Sixpence rectangular used with a One Penny of the same type for a Fourpenny stamp during the shortage of Fourpenny stamps in 1868 is shown on the original letter. These rectangular bisects are far rarer than the triangular bisects and only about nine genuine specimens are known.

A complete set of the stamps issued during the *Siege of Mafeking*, 17th March to 24th May, 1900, are shown together with a few specimens of the overprinted Cape and Transvaal stamps used by the Boer and British forces during their respective *Occupations of Vryburg* in November, 1899, and May, 1900.

(Continued on page 131)

IN MEMORIAM BARBARA JURGENS

A few miles from Cape Town, on the Great North Road, is the Wingfield Aerodrome, terminus of the great Imperial Airways route.

On the southern side of the road is the Woltemade cemetery. Two graves close to each other mark the last resting places of two unsung benefactors to South Africa, Arthur Elliott, children's friend and photographer of rare Africana and historical monuments, and his little friend, Barbara Jurgens, whose tragic death was the means of giving South Africa the wonderful collection described in this issue.



Barbara was all that a noble girl could be. From her mother she had inherited a deep, religious feeling, from her father that love for the great open spaces; to her grannie she was a congenial companion and a light in the evening of her life; to those of us who knew her she was an innocent girl with a radiant smile, ever willing to be of service to her fellow beings.

Perhaps no better memorial of this quality could have been left us than in the Barbara Jurgens Collection, which will be a real "service" to posterity.

After this cruel war, civil planes will again fly across Woltemade, and as they dip their wings to alight at their journey's end, maybe passengers, visitors and philatelists, will likewise bow their heads in silent salutation of these two noble souls!

L.S.

CORRESPONDENCE

VRYBURG.

The Editor,
South African Philatelist.

Sir,—On page 89 of the *S.A. Philatelist* for August, 1942, you mention that "Neither Gibbons Catalogue, Mr. Rich nor Mr. Jurgens refer to how the overprint 'V.R. SPECIAL POST' is found on the Transvaal stamps. Actually I have one specimen on the 1d. reading up and another reading down; of the 1d. I only have a specimen reading up."

Following this paragraph I mention the fact that Mr. St. Quintin makes no reference to the 2d. and 2½d. overprinted as above, and in order to settle this question I tried to get direct information from Mr. St. Quintin himself, but I have now been informed that he is dead.

These stamps were all overprinted with a rubber hand stamp which accounts for the fact that both the ½d. and 1d. values can be found with the overprint reading upwards as well as downwards.

A pane of 60 stamps measures approximately 5¼ x 9½ inches and in applying the hand stamp to these the pane would, it is safe to presume, be placed horizontally so that starting from the lower left hand corner of the pane the overprint would appear on the stamp reading upwards. Starting from the upper right hand corner of the pane the overprint would appear reading downwards.

I only have specimens of the ½d. with the overprint reading up and the 1d. I have on original cover with overprint reading down.

The 2½d. I have seen with a horizontal overprint which is undoubtedly a fake. Apart from the fact that Mr. St. Quintin only mentioned the ½d. and 1d. stamps and made no reference whatever to the 2d. and 2½d. it is a known fact that after the Boers, during their occupation of Vryburg had used up all the Cape stamps found by them and which they had overprinted Z.A.R. they commenced using ordinary Transvaal stamps which they defaced with the same Vryburg circular date stamp which they had used for defacing the overprinted Cape stamps, the only difference being that the Transvaal stamps show the date as "1900" in full whilst the former show "99" (1899).

I have seen quite a number of these Transvaal stamps both on and off cover. I have seen as many as six one penny stamps on a letter, and I have a strip of three in my collection but apart from the two values ½d. and 1d. I have never seen either the 2d. or the 2½d. with the Vryburg post mark.

Mr. C. Courlander, of East London, has a 3d. Orange Free State Stamp showing the Vryburg postmark, and dated, I believe, 1900. There is nothing to indicate that this postmark is faked and it is quite possible that there

were Free State Boers with the Commando which occupied Vryburg. Anyway there is no evidence to show that when the British re-occupied Vryburg that they found any O.F.S. stamps, otherwise Mr. St. Quintin would no doubt have overprinted some of these as well.

The Orange Free State stamps used in Vryburg in 1900 must be extremely rare.

Yours, etc.,

A. A. JURGENS.

The Editor,
The South African Philatelist.

THE 1942 GIBBONS CATALOGUE.

Sir,—In the footnote immediately after South African Postage Due stamp No. 130, the figure 125 seems to be an error; should it not be 126?

South African "Official" stamps, No. O.25 1d. value (12½ mm.). Upon examination, a sheet of these stamps contained only 20 stamps with 12½ mm. between the lines of the overprint and 169 with 12 mm.

The whole sheet when analysed had spacings as follows:

11¼ mm.	6 stamps
11½ mm.	30 stamps
11¾ mm.	3 stamps
12 mm.	169 stamps
12¼ mm.	4 stamps
12½ mm.	20 stamps
13 mm.	3 stamps

240 stamps

Could not this stamp be listed as, at least, 11½ to 13, instead of just 12½?

Similarly, O.24 listed as 12½ has stamps of 11.

O.28 listed 12, has stamps of 13.

O.28a listed 12, has 11½, 12, 12½ and 13.

(The foregoing figures represent mm. between the lines of overprint.)

The above suggestions are not of course vital, but Messrs. Gibbons pride themselves on the completeness of their catalogue, a pride I may say that is second only to our high sense of appreciation for such a wonderful and indispensable guide to philately, but if a space can be spared in Stanley Gibbons' Monthly for a correction, I for one will be grateful; these little details count when specialising.

Yours, etc.,

S. C. W. WAREHAM.

+

ANGLO-BOER WAR.

P.O.W. CENSOR MARKS.

With reference to the list of these marks appearing in our September and October issues, Mr. A. A. Jurgens has submitted a fifth Ladysmith variety. This is a square rubber stamp on violet; the wording inside the square is "P. of W./Passed/S.O.P. Natal/Censor." The most interesting feature of the cover, from Mr. Jurgens' point of view, is that, although posted at Ladysmith, Natal, on 13th April, 1901, it is franked by a current Cape 1d. stamp (an "Intercolonial").

REVIEWS

UNITED STATES WATERWAY PACKET-MARKS—SUPPLEMENT, 1818-1899. By Eugene Klein, 212 S 13th St., Philadelphia.

An addition of 190 newly recorded packet-marks to the original book of 1,940 reviewed in our issue of May, 1941 (Vol. 17, p. 56).

The original gave descriptions of 620 and its publication obviously stimulated a search for specimens of this highly interesting phase of American postal history.

Like its predecessor it is lavishly illustrated with tracings and photographic reproductions. The edition is limited to 500 numbered copies. Even if you do not collect such items yourself, you will find the stories fascinating and for American postal history fans the supplement is, of course, as indispensable as its predecessor.

WHITFIELD, KING & CO.'s "STANDARD CATALOGUE," 1943.

Published at 7s. 6d., postage 7d. extra. This volume foreshadows eventual separation into two volumes—British Empire and Foreign. The present volume, in the style of past issues, consists of a British Empire section with a supplement, as full as has been possible, to the Foreign Countries as given in their last year's number. There are 376 pages with 1,873 illustrations. Price revisions are on a large scale, especially of coronations and various Colonial commemoratives.

MISCELLANEOUS:

S.G. Numbers—Used:

EGYPT: Jubilee Seal F.D. Cover	84/-
NATAL: 139 '— 12/6. Mint	12/6
PAPUA: 163 to 168, Mint	10/6
INDIA: 220 to 225, Mint	12/6
247 to 261	5/-
262 — 3/6. 191	5/-
CEYLON: 387 to 398	20/-
CANADA: Map — 1/-. Blue Nose	3/6
AUSTRALIA: McArthur Set 3/6, Anzac Set 2/6	
Jubilee 8/6, Victoria Cent. 3/6	
SUDAN: Palm Trees, Mint: 2p — 1/4, 3p — 1/8	
8p — 3/6, 20p — 12/6	
BRITISH GUIANA: 80	5/-

BENONI STAMP SHOP,

BOX 485.

BENONI.

BRITISH USED IN ICELAND.

Specimens of British stamps used in Iceland will not be easily obtainable, but they were actually used whilst British troops were there, for parcels and registered post. They may be recognised by the use of Army P.O. obliterations numbered 2, 3, 304, 306 and 308. Since these obliterations may be re-issued for use elsewhere, genuine "used in Iceland" stamps will need to bear dates not later than the time of the withdrawal of British troops, which was about April of this year.

SILVER JUBILEE, 1935

SPECIAL OFFERS OF COMPLETE MINT SHEETS.

BASUTOLAND 1d.	(60)	20/-
do. 1d., 2d., 3d., 6d. (240)		£20
NEW GUINEA 1d.	(30)	30/-
PAPUA 1d.	(40)	20/-
SOUTH RHODESIA 1d.	(60)	20/-
S.W.A. 1d.	(60)	35/-
do. 2d.	(60)	60/-
do. 6d.	(60)	£25
do. 1d., 2d., 6d. (180)		£28/10/-
UNION ½d. Plate I (Horseshoe, etc.)		£5/10/-
do. ¾d. Plate II (long 1910, etc)		75/-
do. 1d. Plate I (dots abt. head, etc.) £7/10/-		
do. 1d. Plate II (long 1910, etc.) £5/5/-		
do. 1d. Plate III (smoking buck, etc.) 75/-		
do. set of 5 diff. ¾d. and 1d. sheets		
as above		75/-
(catalogued as normals £46/10/-).		

A. LICHTENSTEIN

P.O. Box 576,

BLOEMFONTEIN, O.F.S.



Special Offers—

1. South Africa—"Jipex" 2 panes, mint .. 3/6
2. Ditto, used on 1st day cover .. 4/-
3. S.W. Africa, war issue, complete set, Mint pairs. Face 5/- 6/6
4. Ditto, used pairs 8/-
5. M.E.F. complete set of 5 overprint on Great Britain K.G. VI, old colours .. 2/6
6. South Africa, K.G. V. 6d. Mint variety, missing "Z," Cat. 12/- 5/-
7. Ditto, Airmail set, 4d. & 1/- Mint 5/-
8. 100 all different Union of South Africa 12/6
9. 500 all different British Africans .. £3/10/-

WANTED TO BUY.

For spot Cash. Collections, Lots and Accumulations of any size or description.

Offers solicited.

E. BLUM

P.O. BOX 1669 - CAPE TOWN
Established in South Africa since 1930.
First class references.

BACK TO THE FOLD "PAN PHILATELY"

By E. F. HURT, B.P.A., A.P.S.
Dalkeith Road, Harpenden, England.

If you have access to any early philatelic journals between, say, 1865 and 1900, or early "standard" catalogues of the same period, it would be interesting to turn them over in order to compare where they differ from similar productions of to-day. Apart from the vast quantity of new stamp issuing countries, of new stamps and designs—the most usual way in which the past and the present are compared by those who take the obvious and easiest route—there are two essential differences. One of these is progressive and the other retrograde.

Modern standard catalogues are more specialised, set out in more detail, from a scientific point of view, and modern philatelic journalism, in the more serious journals at any rate, tends to give more information about the use of stamps and the history and administration of the posts. That is progressive.

But look back at the old journals and catalogues and see how much more embracing they were and how logically adhered to facts. By this I mean that they gave just as much importance to the new issues of and facts about the private and local stamps as to the Government issues, on the one hand. On the other they embraced the Postal Stationery. Both these actions were logical.

It would be impossible to write a history of or to form a museum exhibit of the progress of the motor car without starting at the beginning and without laying as much importance on the work of the pioneers, who produced their cars by individual craftsmanship and hard work, as on the modern products of the machine and the conveyor belt. One is part and parcel of the whole, and the latter depends on the former.

So with the Private Posts. They came first. It was the family of Thurn and Taxis, which, starting in the 13th century, mapped out and laid, not only the foundations of the posts of Europe throughout six centuries, but drew the plan and produced the blue-print of every post of to-day. It was due to such pioneers as Dockwra in England, Todd in La Guaira, the Missionaries in Uganda and the Express posts of America that the early mails were carried and the way laid open for the wider administrations of the Government posts. In fact, even after the establishment of the latter, it was often left to private enterprise to step in and help the Government Posts out of tight corners, as in the case of the San Francisco-Fresno Bicycle Mail, the Cycle Posts of the

Australian Goldfields and the Treaty Port posts of China, or the Lianos Post in Constantinople. Therefore, I say that these posts deserve as much prominence as the Government issues and the early collectors were right in taking their stamps as part of their collection of the World and as an essential part of the postal history, development and stamps of any one country. The old-timer, the true philatelist, still follows the same reasoning.

Turn up the old standard albums and you will find in all of them spaces for the stamps of the Private and Local posts.

Britain led the way philatelically, since in Britain was published the first catalogue, the first philatelic journal and the first albums. Perhaps as a result of this Gibbons led the way in World Standard catalogues and others followed Gibbons lead. Up till 1899 Gibbons included all the local stamps; in fact for some years before that date Gibbons published a part III to their catalogue which was devoted entirely to the "Local" stamps. Gibbons "Imperial" album was a pioneer of its kind with a world wide reputation and that Album was in four parts, (i) British, (ii) Foreign, (iii) Local, (iv) Postal Stationery.

After 1899—probably due to the growing mass of new issues turned out by the Government printing presses—Gibbons decided that they could not stock everything and disposed of their business in Local Stamps and Postal Stationery. A kind of pruning which every business has to undertake which is expanding too rapidly for its space and efficient organisation. Since any catalogue is only a price list of the goods a firm has for sale it followed that, when they had no Local stamps to offer, Gibbons saw no reason to continue their Local catalogue. In due course also they ceased to publish parts 3 and 4 of their Imperial Album. No one can blame Gibbons, but one can look with some surprise on all the other publishers and dealers who meekly followed suit like a flock of sheep.

In the ordinary way this need not have led to the neglect of Local Stamps had the philatelic press done their part, and particularly the publishers of other albums. But in the early part of this century the album with fixed spaces for every stamp was still in vogue and, naturally, if there was no space for Locals collectors were apt to ignore them. But the worst part about the whole show was that the newcomers to philately started off with the handicap that there was neither catalogue,

album nor journal to tell them about Locals, and they were therefore left entirely in ignorance of their significance and came even to look on them with suspicion, or at least to discard them among the junk of "fiscals and labels."

In the last decade there has been a revival in the collection of Locals, and the specialist regards them more and more as being an integral part of his collection of any country. In certain directions this revival has been more marked than in others, due to the publication of certain local catalogues, either as books on their own or as part of other catalogues. Examples of these are some excellent catalogues of the stamps of the Treaty Ports of China, the Zemstvos of Russia and the Express Companies of Germany and the addition of the Swiss Hotel Posts to Zumstein's catalogue of Switzerland.

A few of the Private Posts still linger in the Standard Catalogues, some in all, some in one and some in another. Of these we still find Suez Canal; Tierra del Fuego; Medellin; Thurn and Taxis; Trinidad No. 1; the Turkish Admiralty; Manizales; St. Thomas-La Guaira; Hamburg Amerika Line and a few others, in one or other of the catalogues of Gibbons, Michel, Scott or Yvert. Why these have remained one does not know as it seems an empirical choice and one is inclined to suspect that in some cases the publishers are not quite certain whether these stamps are Government issues or not. It is true that some are semi-official since Todd produced his stamps, and his Service from Venezuela, because he was asked by the Postal Authorities to help them out in the way of an overseas service; and the Turkish Admiralty S.S. Co. came to the rescue of the official mails.

Other local posts have been well written up in various handbooks and journals of recent years, and this has helped to maintain or increase the interest in them.

The excuse that there are no spaces in our albums to-day no longer exists because none but the veriest beginner and lazy accumulator uses any but a blank loose-leaf album.

What some of our ancestors would have done without these private enterprises it is hard to say, but it is certain that not only would world trade progress have been retarded, but that many Government posts would have been much later in coming into being. In fact even after the Government posts had taken over they were often forced to call on local enterprise to make their administration effective and to see them out of an impasse. The posts of Russia in the last century would have been impossible without the Zemstvos, so would the posts of Norway without the By-Posts and the posts of England without the private mail boats plying in their vast and intricate archipelagoes.

There is word that a catalogue of the private posts of the world is now in preparation in England and if this comes to pass there is no doubt that the locals will again have a tremendous revival. Information is all that is

needed. Not only are their designs in many cases as attractive as the most glorious commemoratives or the stateliest of the classics, but some of their production is marvellous, as for instance the five colour lithography of some of the Zemstvos, some are only excelled in rarity by the 1c. British Guiana, many are far rarer than the Post Office Mauritius, and, more than that, behind almost every private post and every Local stamp is a thrilling story of the pioneers of the posts.

The Royal Mail Steam Packet may have issued only one stamp, but behind that stamp lies the history of the West Indies, the Caribbean and Central America and of the posts of those regions over many years.

The Danube Steam Ship Company issued only four stamps—a bare two values—but their postal service *alone* served not only the whole of the Danube basin from Hungary to the Black Sea over a period of more than forty years, but also stretched its tentacles to Odessa and Constantinople.

Who can look at a stamp of the Pony Express without picturing those thrilling rides from Coast to Coast of America, against every conceivable obstacle of man and nature?

The "Courier Provisoire," which issued a single stamp in Brussels during the early days of the German Occupation of 1914, is a story of courage and daring in maintaining an "underground" post for patriots when discovery meant death by the firing squad.

A full history of all the private posts would fill an encyclopedia.

There is no lack of scope, for, exclusive of posts that changed hands and of the railway letter stamps, and a number of posts that never had any distinguishing marks as far as we know (among which are the Natal Witness Express and Moffat's Post in Rhodesia in 1888, to think only of South Africa) there are over 660 private posts which either issued stamps, used handstamp franks or had postal markings of their own!

The range of value of these stamps is from ½d. to any thing you like to pay—if you can find the rarities—and the Lady McCleod of Trinidad, in spite of its high catalogue value, is very far from being in the rarest class, so a big and interesting showing can be got for very little.

But there is another aspect worth thinking of when deciding whether to collect Locals or not. The collection of Government stamps has gone on in increasing vogue and the mass of stamps turned out seems without end, in fact has almost reached the stage of a ramp to swamp the collector with commemoratives and needless issues. It is largely for this reason that the "Whole World" collector has almost disappeared and many, seeing no chance of keeping pace, have turned to dot-and-dash philately, which, while interesting and amusing to themselves, is a somewhat selfish form of philately and certainly not a means to increase the spread of our hobby.

But the Locals are static. Their active days are almost past, except for sporadic out-

breaks here and there due to war and other unforeseen conditions. One therefore knows what there is to collect, where one starts and where one stops. Further one can once more turn to a general collection of the world—for the private posts almost cover the world—with some hope of obtaining completion.

Lastly there is the interesting story behind all the Local stamps. A collector of these can write up his collection in a way that will not only be of interest to non-philatelic friends (a certain way of getting in recruits) but he can make a show at his local society which he knows will not be duplicated by his neighbour at a future meeting and which can not be put together from any local dealer's store by the simple mechanical process of taking out his wallet. The very getting together of the information—which is available—in order to write up a Local collection, will offer many interesting hours, whereas the collection of modern stamps, once purchased, ends with a few lines of writing and the licking of a hinge.

The collection of Local and Private posts is almost bound to be both educative and interesting, while the collection of stamps, most of which are sold by the dozen or the hundred in the Trade, is far from necessarily so.

QUARTER PERFS.

The Catalogue Editor of Gibbons Stamp Monthly admits having landed himself in a horrible mess by listing quarter perfs. The listing of perfs. is arbitrarily taken as the number of holes in a length of 2 m.m., but those responsible for perforating stamps have no interest in the philatelic scale and arrange the number to suit their own convenience and the strength of the paper they are using. If measured absolutely accurately, few perfs. will gauge exactly, say, 12, 12½ or even 12¼. If absolute accuracy is required there is no reason save convenience why eighths or even sixteenths should be ignored.

Actually stamps perforated in the same gauge by the same machine are sometimes given a quarter gauge and sometimes not.

They feel the time has come to call a halt to this nonsense and propose in future only to list to the nearest half. If the perforation gauges exactly between say, 12 and 12½ (i.e., true 12¼), they propose to give this as the

nearest half above—in the instance quoted it would be 12½ therefore.

We fancy most collectors will be grateful if this policy is carried out.

U.S.S.R.

Over a year ago we received a letter from "Mezhdunarodnaja Kniga," Moscow (which we understand is the official Philatelic Bureau), offering to send us photographs and descriptions of stamps about to be issued, in return for copies of the "S.A. Philatelist" featuring any information sent.

We accepted the offer, writing on 5th October, 1941. This was replied to by Moscow on 3rd April, 1942, stating that our letter had just been received. In it they regret that it is not now possible to send photographs, but that descriptions of stamps will still be sent. This letter arrived here at the end of September, but no descriptions of stamps have yet come to hand.

In the circumstances it will not be easy to keep up to date, as we should like to do, with the new issues of our gallant Allies.

(Concluded from page 126)

A set of the embossed and perforated *Revenue Stamps* which were prepared under the Stamp Act of 1864 and which were genuinely used for the prepayment of postage on letters, unofficially, are shown, all on original letters.

A specimen of each of the varieties of Revenue Embossed stamps as used by the Dutch and later by the British is shown, together with a selection of the different designs of Revenue stamps in use in the Colony up to 1910.

Various items on the original covers are also shown.

Examples of Cape stamps overprinted "G" for use in *Griqualand West* and which were distributed among various post offices in the Colony to be used as ordinary Cape stamps after the territory of Griqualand West had been annexed to the Colony in 1880 are shown all bearing Cape Colony postmarks.

The whole collection, with the exception of the errors, is complete in every detail.

The Barbara Jurgens Collection will no doubt become as famous as the Tapling Collection in the British Museum, although in scope they may differ.

Collectors of REALLY FINE BRITISH COLONIALS should get into touch with me AT ONCE

Selections of choice Mint or Used

AFRICANS, AUSTRALIAN STATES, NEW ZEALAND, WEST INDIANS, Etc., on approval to medium and advanced collectors. These books can be selected from at ONE-THIRD of Catalogue price. Also a choice lot of EDWARDIAN and GEORGIAN issues, Mint or Superb Used, at 50% off Catalogue. REFERENCES ESSENTIAL.

J. BIRD 6 Westhill Rd. London S.W.18, England

SOCIETY NEWS

THE PHILATELIC FEDERATION OF SOUTHERN AFRICA.

The Executive of the Federation has decided that Congress will not be held during 1942.

The last Congress was held at Pretoria in November, 1939, and it was then hoped that Congress would subsequently be held annually. In 1940, however, because of war conditions, the Executive decided not to hold Congress for that year and similar decisions were taken for 1941 and again for 1942.

The Executive hopes that conditions will be such that Congress will be held during 1943.

In the meantime the Executive is carrying on with the routine work of the Federation. *The South African Philatelist* is published by the Federation, and the members of the Executive meet at intervals to hear reports from the Hon. Editor and Hon. Business Manager of this magazine.

In the meantime it is requested that constituent societies of the Federation will send in any information of philatelic interest to the Hon. Editor of the *Philatelist*. Details of philatelic research should also be sent in.

Any information about the Federation can be obtained from the Hon. Secretary, Mr. I. Isaacs, 910 His Majesty's Buildings, Eloff Street, Johannesburg.

+++

ORANGE FREE STATE AND BASUTOLAND

President, Mr. J. B. Levy; *Hon. Secretary*, Mr. R. C. Lyon, Box 702, Bloemfontein; *Meetings*, 3rd Fridays, Oranje Koffiehuis, Bloemfontein.

At the annual general meeting in October, the president, Mr. J. B. Levy, could look back in his report on a most active and successful year of the Society. The membership has increased to round a hundred; stamp sales in the exchange department compared favourably with former years; some outstanding displays had been given in the past year; and last, but not least, the Society has been very active working in aid of the various war funds to which handsome sums had been contributed. In this connection, the adoption of a prisoner of war might especially be mentioned.

All officers had done their jobs with admirable keenness, and this was acknowledged by the meeting in re-electing them all for the coming year. Including some newly elected committee members, the committee will consist of the following members:

President, Mr. J. B. Levy; *vice-president*, Mr. C. A. Larsen; *hon. secretary-treasurer*, Mr. R. C. Lyon; *exchange superintendent*, Mr. J. Lewis; *press correspondent*, Dr. K. Freund; *hon. auditor*, Mr. W. Dickie-Clark; *committee members*, Squadron-Leader Atkinson, Mr. W. W. Hornby, Mr. A. Lichtenstein.

Mr. Lichtenstein presented several new issues of various Free French Colonies for the benefit of the Prisoner of War Fund. These stamps were auctioned at the meeting, as were several perfect copies of Cape Triangulars, donated for the same fund by Mr. G. K. Forbes, of Port Elizabeth.

An appeal is again made to all members throughout the Union to send stamp lots, etc., to the secretary in aid of the last mentioned fund.

Four new members were enrolled. Country members who might pass Bloemfontein may note that the next meeting will be held on 20th November.

+++

K.F.

PRETORIA PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

President, A. E. Basden; *Hon. Secretary*, H. A. Wager, P.O. Box 514; *Meetings*, 1st and 3rd Mondays, 8 p.m., Technical College.

6th October. Mr. Hawke read an extract on the financial aspect of philately.

Mr. Dodd gave a paper on Argentina—a country which had been his home for many years. He gave a brief account of the geographical and climatic aspects of this large country. He then dealt with

the main industries which were chiefly farming and described the enormous areas that were given over to ranching and grain-growing—many of the products being exported. A recent issue of Argentine stamps depicts many scenes and incidents of this large industry.

Exhibits were tabled by Mr. Dodd who showed Argentine, Chili and Uruguay and, Mr. Basden, who showed his fine collection of the bull's eye issue of Brazil.

19th October.—After welcoming members from the Johannesburg Society, Mr. Basden vacated the chair in favour of Mr. Lang, vice-president of the Johannesburg Society, who then introduced the members who were providing exhibits. Mr. Redford his fine collection of the Gold Coast; Mr. Crowl showed a nice lot of Mozambique, including Nyassa; Mr. Schubart showed an almost complete collection of Australia; Dr. Hossack gave a short description of the Solomon Islands, and showed a nice collection of the stamps; Mr. Lang showed a fine lot of Cape stamps—the triangulars being exceptionally fine.

Dr. Broughton thanked the visitors for the very enjoyable evening they had provided.

H.A.W.

+++

CAPE TOWN PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

President, K. Alexander; *Hon. Sec.*, K. Cameron, 9, Pineway, Pinelands, Cape; *Meetings*, 2nd and 4th Thursdays, Medical House, 35, Wale Street, Cape Town, at 8 p.m.

It is not surprising in these times of stress that interest in the Society continues to grow while the opportunities for relaxation and diversion are so happily catered for in the activities of our philatelic Society. The large and continuous attendances of members and visitors at the meetings have been ample evidence of this and the displays have been of an exceedingly high order and in many cases showing great originality on the part of the exhibitors.

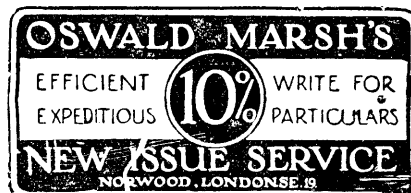
On the 24th September, 1942, Mr. L. Simenhoff provided the exhibit of the evening. He chose for his fine collection of American stamps, ranging from the Columbus issues to the present day commemoratives, and added to these a very comprehensive collection of French commemorative stamps. Outstanding amongst the former were several high values of the Columbus set, in particular the three and five dollar ones, mint, and in immaculate condition, while in the Omaha set there was the beautiful one dollar stamp in mint condition (depicting Western cattle in storm), which was much admired. The picturesqueness of both the American and French stamps and their artistic qualities, are so well known to all that no further comment on this side of the exhibit seems necessary. The admirable mounting of the stamps and the artistic setting-out of the collection as a whole was, however, worthy of the highest praise.

Mr. E. C. Solomon expressed the appreciation of the members to Mr. Simenhoff for his excellent display.

8th October, 1942.—Mr. F. P. Rousseau entertained the meeting with his remarkable collection of stamps depicting Travel and Transport. The display was outstanding in many respects—variety, originality, artisticness and educational value—and Mr. Rousseau's ability as a journalist was exemplified by the lucid descriptions supplementing the stamps and by the interesting paper which he read. Mr. Simenhoff expressed the appreciation of the meeting for the exhibit.

The usual auction sales were proceeded with and further enrolments of members.

E.C.S.



The SOUTH AFRICAN PHILATELIST

Proprietors and Publishers :

The Philatelic Federation of Southern Africa

Honorary Editor: Dr. J. H. HARVEY PIRIE, P.O. Box 7012, Johannesburg.
Honorary Business Manager: WILLIAM REDFORD, Broadcast House, Commissioner Street, Johannesburg.

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

Vol. 18 No. 12.

DECEMBER, 1942.

Whole No. 213.

UNION NOTES

ONE SHILLING "BANTAM."

The reduced size 1/- denomination appeared on sale at some offices about the middle of November. These stamps, like the full-sized original, are bilingual and do not need to be collected in pairs. They are printed in sheets of 240.



The design, representing the Tank Corps and the various other mechanised services under this unit of the army, has not been changed, other than that the circular space of the value tablet is no longer shaded. The stamp is printed in a slightly lighter shade of brown than the full sized original.

Collectors overseas can obtain supplies by writing to the Under Secretary, Staff, Room 7A, G.P.O., Pretoria, and sending a money order, postal order or bank draft sufficient to cover the value of the stamps required, plus the necessary fee covering registered postage.

BANTAMS "UNROULETTED BETWEEN."

At least one sheet of the 1½d. reduced size Union war effort stamps has been purchased and found to have no rouletting where it should normally be.

This variety may come to be described as "imperf. between," but it should, of course, be called "unrouletted between."

V V V V V V V V

BRASIL.

A commemorative, 400r, sepia, has been issued in connection with the 4th National Eucharistic Congress, held at São Paulo. There has also been a new issue of a 300r denomination in the ordinary series.

Dr. Mario de Sanctis.

BRITISH BECHUANALAND.

The July-September number of the P.J.G.B. has an interesting article by Mr. H. R. Holmes on the first (1886-87) issue of Bechuanaland, in which he points out there are few British Empire stamps of so late a date of which so little is known. We know nothing of the setting of the overprint and not even the name of the firm who made the overprint or where it was done. The exact date of issue of the various denominations are also unknown.

We understand that Mr. A. A. Jurgens has been continuing his delving into the Archives in Cape Town and that he may be able to throw light on some of these points shortly. Our readers have something to look forward to in the way of new information on an old subject.

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 (except recent issues)

and can generally offer most stamps of a want list, however difficult. Let us know your requirements. We never worry with unwanted selections.

BRIDGER & KAY, Ltd.,
86 Strand, London, W.C.2, England.

AIRGRAPHS.

The Green List published by Mr. A. Phillips of Newport, Mon., in his Air Mail Magazine, has the October issue devoted to Airgraphs. There are already something like 127 varieties of 19 types given, mainly from Middle East and India. Other countries like Rhodesia, Canada, U.S.A., etc., just beginning to come into the picture. Here is a big new field for collectors.

UNION KING'S HEAD ROLLS: THE ISOLATED PERFORATION AND THE METHOD OF PRODUCTION

By H. E. LOBDELL, Cambridge, Mass., U.S.A.

Through the co-operation of Messrs. Thomas De La Rue and Co., Ltd., it has become possible to clarify a philatelic controversy which has long perplexed students of the Union King's Head series of typographed adhesives produced by that firm beginning in September, 1913. It can now be stated definitely that the lateral or "isolated perforation" frequently to be found on roll stamps of the series was put into the perforation die in order to provide an automatic means for holding a sheet of stamps in position when trimming and cutting into panes from which to make the rolls.

Four denominations of the King's Heads— $\frac{1}{2}$ d., 1d., $1\frac{1}{2}$ d., and 2d.—were issued perforated 14 x imperf. in rolls of 500 and 1,200 consisting of a series of 50 or 120 joined strips of 10 stamps each, with a strip of white paper approximately the size of one stamp affixed to each end of the roll. Strips were joined together by leaving about one-quarter inch sheet or gutter margin attached to the *top* stamp of each strip and pasting this to the gummed side of the *bottom* stamp of another strip at its lower edge. The "isolated perf." variety, which occurs in each of the four denominations, ordinarily shows as part of a hole near the left or right bottom of a stamp 4 mm. centre to centre above and on an axis with a hole of the regular horizontal perforations. Rare examples are known where it appears as a complete hole, but the existence of "isolated perf." holes on *both sides* of the same stamp is unknown.

Controversy as to the origin and purpose of the "isolated perforation" began in 1926 with the appearance of Mr. Ritchie's classic handbook⁽¹⁾ in which he advanced the theory that:

"The sheets of stamps used to prepare the rolls are evidently, after printing, perforated either by a single line machine when there are no side perforations, or by a comb machine in which only as many needles are left in the vertical direction at every stamp width as there are side holes. A variety which exists, although most uncommon, consisting of a single perforation hole at the side near the top of the stamp instead of the bottom is evidently the result of a sheet being perforated upside down. (Perforation inverted) . . .

"The side perforations are evidently intended as a guide for cutting the sheets into strips, but even the rolls with the side perforations often show a big variation in the way the strips are cut, very wide margins occurring on either the right or the left of the stamps, the other side then being cut very close."⁽²⁾

Messrs. A. Lichtenstein, of Bloemfontein, and A. H. Sydow, of Capetown, with whom I corresponded last year in the course of preparing a monograph on the King's Head issue⁽³⁾, helpfully made available to me certain data obtained from studies they had made as to the occurrence of the holes. Upon the basis of their observations and my own, Mr. Ritchie's theory, although ingenious, seemed untenable. Mr. S. G. Rich, of Verona, N.J., concurred in this belief but he and I accepted Mr. Ritchie's further opinion as to the method by which sheets were converted into rolls, which was summarised in my monograph as follows:

"Mr. Ritchie reasoned that sheets intended to be made into coils (ordinary sheets of 240 consisting of four panes, 6 x 10) were perforated horizontally and assembled into lots of 50 for making coils of 500, or of 120 for coils of 1,200. A lot of 50, for example, was then cut in half horizontally across the horizontal gutter, and the two half lots were matched to form two pads. Top and bottom margins of each pad were trimmed to leave only the width required for the join. The pads were sliced vertically to yield 24 little pads each of which consisted of 50 strips of 10 stamps, the quantity required to make one coil of 500. All top marginal pieces of the little pads were retained to make joins; all bottom marginal pieces were discarded *except one* to which one of the white end-papers was joined."⁽⁴⁾

Subsequently Mr. Rich and I came to doubt that the rolls had actually been prepared as Mr. Ritchie supposed. Our reservations were strengthened upon consulting with Mr. F. Pfeifer, also of Verona, and a widely experienced practical printer; and they were confirmed by further examination of a number of joined pairs. For example, we were unable to discover a single paste-up join in which the vertically trimmed edges of one of the stamps were not *accurately aligned with and in exact prolongation* of the corresponding vertically trimmed edges of its mate. Other characteristics which one would expect to find present in paste-up joins if they had been prepared from strips taken from "little pads,"

(1) Ritchie, J.: "The Adhesive Postage Stamps of the Union of South Africa, Incorporating Mr. G. W. Reynolds's Handbook of 1921." Southern Stamp Co., Johannesburg, 1926.

(2) *Ibid.*, pp. 29-30.

(3) Lobdell, H. E.: *The De La Rue Georgians of South Africa. Collectors Club Philatelist*, Vol. XX, pp. 229-247, October, 1941; Vol. XXI, pp. 13-32, January, 1942, and pp. 105-122, April, 1942.

(4) *Ibid.*, Vol. XXI, p. 29, January, 1942.

were likewise absent. Mr. Rich and I were thus impelled to conclude that the paste-up operation must have preceded the cutting operation by which the stamps of a pane were divided vertically into strips of single-stamp width.

In the meantime it had become possible for us to postulate several further theories as to the origin and purpose of the "isolated perforation," and additional correspondence had ensued with Messrs. Lichtenstein and Sydow, and with other philatelic authorities in South Africa and England. No wholly satisfactory answer eventuated, however, until the problems were taken up with Messrs. De La Rue through the agency of Mr. L. J. Gilbert-Lodge, Honorary Secretary of the Royal Philatelic Society of London.

Since the information sought related to manufacturing methods long since abandoned rather than to any of the necessarily confidential relationships between that firm and its clients, two of De La Rue's officials definitely confirmed the fact that *two* extra punches were put into the perforation die in addition to the single straight line of perforations as an adjunct to the procedure then in use for making rolls. These two extra punches were placed so as to coincide with the *outer vertical edges of each of the panes*. Their purpose was to provide an automatic means for holding a sheet of stamps in position when trimming and cutting into panes from which to make the rolls.

After perforation, the sheets of stamps intended to be made into rolls were trimmed on a special machine known as a circular trimming table. The usual long knife descended as in all ordinary paper-cutting machines, but instead of the usual fixed table with adjustable stops against which the pile of sheets was butted, a revolving iron bed was provided, with detents or stops to secure uniformity of location whenever desired.

Each sheet of the pile was held in position on the iron bed by four protruding pins which passed through two pairs of these extra perforation holes. By revolving the table and

shifting it to the several locations for which the detents had been set, the operator was able by successive strokes of the knife to remove unwanted portions of the right and left sheet margins and the vertical gutter, and to remove all of the top and bottom sheet margins and the horizontal gutter *except such portions* as were retained to make the paste-up joins to form the rolls.

These trimming operations thus yielded a supply of trimmed and separated panes ready for joining to make a web. This web was then slit into the actual rolls on a machine using rotating circular knives and capable of producing continuous roll strips of 500 or 1,200 stamps, the two sizes in which the King's Head rolls appeared. Each stamp in *either* the left or right vertical row of each pane in the web had one "isolated perf." at its left or right side, respectively. The slitting operation ordinarily cut through each of these holes, but misadjustment sometimes permitted the knife to miss the hole. This would account for the rare instances in which the "isolated perf." appears as a complete hole on an issued stamp.

The opinion seems to be general in philatelic circles that the "isolated perf." is to be observed more often on the left than on the right side of the roll stamps. This probably is an error, as the material in the Rich and Lobdell collections and duplicates gives such preponderance only by counting, not the strips or total number of pieces, but the numbers of stamps. Much of the unused 1d. material which gives this preponderance is known to have come out of one long roll strip, once owned by Mr. A. E. Le Roy, of Braden Castle, Florida. It is probable that the supposed frequency of left side "isolated perfs." is merely a statement that once held true, due to one source having supplied many of the copies in philatelic hands. The *used* copies which have been seen by Mr. Rich seem to be about evenly divided between the two sides in this respect, except that a used copy of the 2d. with the "isolated perf." on the right has not happened along.

Collectors of REALLY FINE BRITISH COLONIALS should get into touch with me AT ONCE

Selections of choice Mint or Used

AFRICANS, AUSTRALIAN STATES, NEW ZEALAND, WEST INDIANS, Etc., on approval to medium and advanced collectors. These books can be selected from at ONE-THIRD of Catalogue price. Also a choice lot of EDWARDIAN and GEORGIAN issues, Mint or Superb Used, at 50% off Catalogue. REFERENCES ESSENTIAL.

J. BIRD 6 Westhill Rd. London S.W.18, England

SOUTH AFRICAN TELEGRAPH STAMPS

By A. E. BASDEN.

It is really very extraordinary (when you come to think of it) that stamp-collectors (who, as a rule, are very independent and rightly collect what they like and in their own way) so blindly follow their pet catalogues; if the stamp or class of stamps is not mentioned—then they are just not interested! One can understand, to some extent, the neglect of postal stationery, because it is rather bulky (although many who do not touch postal stationery collect similar bulk in the form of first-day and air-mail covers!) but "locals," telegraph stamps, and private postage stamps, aid stamps "used abroad" are also neglected.

Now once upon a time our favourite catalogue tabled all the items above-mentioned (except "used abroad" which is now quite a feature under "Great Britain") but now it only catalogues Telegraph Stamps—which is to be the subject of this note—under Great Britain.

As the telegraph is part of our postal system (in that it conveys messages handed in at post offices for delivery to the addressees by the post offices at the points of destination) so telegraph stamps are truly postage stamps, and are to be regarded as such. They are pretty fully catalogued by Yvert & Tellier but not by S.G.; and because they are not catalogued by S.G., (other than G.B.) they are almost entirely neglected in South Africa. But advanced and specialist collectors do not reject them; and there is no reason why the normal collector should do so. On the contrary he is losing much of interest by doing so.

How many readers of the *South African Philatelist* collect telegraph stamps, even of their favourite countries? One per cent? What do our home collectors know of the telegraph stamps of Natal, O.F.S., and Transvaal? And they are many, and there is much of great interest, as will be found on reference to the three countries mentioned in "Africa," Part II (Natal) and Part III (Transvaal and O.F.S.), where telegraph stamps are fully tabulated.

Natal first issued telegraph stamps in 1881—a Queen's head definitive set from 1d. to £5, inscribed "NATAL TELEGRAPHS" and the value. Most are scarce, the £5 being very



valuable used or unused. A scarce provincial, date unknown, is the 6d. Q.V. mauve overprinted "TELEGRAPH." In 1902 fiscal stamps surcharged with new value and overprinted "TELEGRAPH" were used, there being four different types of the "Three Pence" surcharge on 4d.; one of the 6d. on 9d., and two of the "One Shilling" on 9s., on £1, and on £1 10s. Most of these are scarce to rare.



Telegraph stamps were first issued in Transvaal in 1901 (Yvert says 1897) when the current 1d., 6d. and 2s. 6d. were overprinted "Transvaal Telegraphs." The 2s. 6d. value was later surcharged "One Shilling." All are fairly scarce. A rare item is the E.R. I. 6d. overprinted in 1904. From 1900 to 1902 certain fiscal stamps were similarly overprinted—



10s., £1 and £5 and 5s. surcharged on £2. All are scarce to rare and hard to come by. The 1s. Cape revenue of the period, surcharged "TRANSVAAL" was also used for telegraphic purposes.

O.F.S. gives us an extraordinary selection of telegraph stamps, probably larger than any other country; capable of forming an attractive collection in themselves; of considerable interest; and occasionally used on letters and parcels. Everyone that collects O.F.S. should collect the telegraphs; many of them are inexpensive but others are rare. The first set was issued in 1885 and consisted of four values 1d. to 1s. overprinted (hand-stamp) usually in violet, "TELE-GRAAF" in two lines; but to mention all the issues, with particulars and varieties, would make this article much longer than was originally intended. Perhaps some day the Editor will permit me to submit for publication in the *South African Philatelist* a reference list, with notes, of the telegraph stamps of O.F.S. Many readers will be surprised and interested.

KENYA NOTES

Mr. W. Tunstall supplies the following list of plate numbers of Kenya stamps, stating that it may not be complete for the values above 1/-.

The first figure for each denomination is that of the Duty Plate, the second figure that of the Centre Plate.

	1ct	5ct	10ct	15ct	20ct	30ct	50ct.	1/-	2/-	3/-	5/-	10/-	20/-
Geo. V ..				1A 1B									
Geo. VI ..	1 1A 1 1B	1 — 1 1A 1 1B 2 — 2 1A 2 1B 3 1A 3 1B 4 1A 4 1B	1 — 2 — 2 1 2 1A 2 1B 2 4A 2 4B	1 — 1 2A 1 2B 1 3B 2 2A 2 2B 2 3A 2 3B	1 1A 2 — 2 2A 2 2B 2 3A 2 3B 3 3A 2 3B	1 1 1 2	1 — 1 1A 1 1B	1 — 1 1A 1 1B 1 4A 1 4B	1 — 1 3A	1 —	1 1	A1	1

PRICE LIST OF STAMPS IN SETS AND PACKETS

New 1942-3 Edition

Price one shilling, post free.

You will not need this list if you possess our 1943 Standard Catalogue, but all other Collectors will find it an invaluable help. There are no longer any free lists and requests for copies must include remittance. Only a few available.

WHITFIELD KING & CO.,

IPSWICH - - - ENGLAND.

Established 1869.

CAPE POST OFFICE STONES.

The "London Philatelist" for August has a fine article by our old friend A. A. Jurgens on the inscribed stones used in the early days as post offices at the Cape. There are six beautiful reproductions of photographs of these stones. We hope it may be possible sometime to reproduce these in our pages.

He notes incidentally that the 1c stamp is not much seen locally in postal use; its main function seems to be to make up odd amounts on Customs forms.

The 70c overprint on 1/- Union, meant for Airgraph rate, is also not much used for ordinary postal purposes, although one with a 5c stamp meets the rate for a 1 lb. parcel, and a pair with a 20c stamp meets registered air mail rate to the Union.

MISCELLANEOUS:

S.G. Numbers — Used:

EGYPT: Jubilee Seal F.D. Cover	84/-
NATAL: 139 — 12/6. Mint	12/6
PAPUA: 163 to 168, Mint	10/6
INDIA: 220 to 225, Mint	12/6
247 to 261	5/-
262 — 3/6. 191	5/-
CEYLON: 387 to 398	20/-
CANADA: Map — 1/-. Blue Nose	3/6
AUSTRALIA: McArthur Set 3/6, Anzac Set 2/6 Jubilee 3/6, Victoria Cent. 3/6	3/6
SUDAN: Palm Trees, Mint: 2p — 1/4, 3p — 1/3 8p — 3/6, 20p — 12/6	12/6
BRITISH GUIANA: 80	5/-

BENONI STAMP SHOP,

BOX 485.

BENONI.

PHILATELIC DEFINITIONS.

Blocks.—Stamps collected by persons who have four times as much money as those who collect one of a kind.

Exhibition.—A place where everybody shows their stamps and other collectors win awards.

Coils.—Stamps issued in rolls like amusement tickets and very useful for wrapping packages when in large strips.

—"Stamp Collectors' Fortnightly."

EARLY FRANKING MACHINES.

Machines which may be regarded as the forerunners of the meter machines, but were minus the meter, were first used in New Zealand in 1904. Britain followed next in 1912, with a machine which simply impressed a stamp—1d. Postage Paid—on the envelope which then passed to a letter box. This was withdrawn after some months because (a) it functioned badly, (b) required frequent cleaning, (c) similar impressions could readily be made by rubber stamps.—"British Philatelist."

"MADE - TO - ORDER" COVERS

By A. A. JURGENS.

A Post Office Regulation which was in operation both in Cape Colony and Bechuanaland, as well as in the Transvaal and Orange Free State Republics from the very commencement of the use of adhesive postage stamps up to the time of Union in 1910, made it compulsory for all letters to be backstamped on arrival.

Postmasters did not always carry out this regulation according to instructions in that they often applied their date stamp on the face of the letter, but this slight infringement appears not to have been censured by the Postmaster-General. On very rare occasions they even omitted the backstamping or "front stamping" altogether.

This backstamping at the period was, despite the rare omissions mentioned above, nearly a 100 per cent. job so that at least 99½ per cent. of letters passing through the post from 1853 to 1910 are to be found back-stamped.

The instructions given to postmasters was to the effect that the office from which the letter was despatched, described in the Act as the "Despatching Office," had to deface the stamp with the defacing implement in such a way as to make it impossible for the stamp to be used a second time. The office date stamp had to be applied to the letter either at the back thereof or alongside that of the defacing stamp.

The Post Office in the town to which the letter was addressed was referred to as the "Receiving Office," and the postmaster of this office was instructed to apply his Office Date Stamp to the back of the letter showing the date upon which the letter had been received by him.

In the event of a letter being sent from a despatching office "A" to the office of destination "C" and it so happened that the letter had to pass through a post office "B", which was on the postal route and where mails had to be remade for "C", then the postmaster at "B" was required to impress the letter with his office date stamp both on the date of receipt and the date of despatch from his office to "C".

In such cases covers are often found showing the date stamp of "B" impressed twice on the letters, both being of the same date, which means that the letter was received and despatched by "B" on the same day. Different dates can naturally be found according to the number of posts passing between "B" and "C" per day or per week.

Although the Postmaster-General overlooked the infringement of the regulations by postmasters applying their receiving office date stamps on the face of the letter instead of on the back, he took a very serious view of the infringement of the regulations when postmasters omitted to date stamp the letter altogether, and there is a case in point where a certain postmaster at X, who had already been cautioned for this omission, became involved in a dispute about the arrival of a certain urgent letter, and upon a complaint being made by the addressee of the letter to the P.M.G., and there being no date stamp evidence to prove the case in the favour of the Post Office, he, the postmaster, X, was dismissed.

The above information is given merely to show that the backstamping of letters during this period was rigidly enforced and as such it has a great bearing on the "Made-to-Order" covers in distinguishing such from those which had genuinely been conveyed through the post.

The first of the "Made-to-Order" class I will refer to is the Palapye bisect of Bechuanaland. There is in existence very convincing proof that the Station Master at Palapye Siding did run out of a supply of stamps of two pence denomination. It is also necessary to explain that the stocks carried by him of the lower values would not have helped him out of the difficulty had he resorted to their use to make up the two pence rate of postage (two pence being the rate of postage on letters under the half-ounce at this time). He was a station master who acted as postmaster as well, and his office was only a Siding and of very small consequence so that his stock of postage stamps was very limited.

This information comes from a highly informed Bechuanaland postal official, whilst another account was given to me also by a postal official to the effect that only 4d. stamps were available at Palapye Siding at the time.

This clash of information however does not in any way alter the main theme of things.

The fourpence stamp of Great Britain overprinted for use in Bechuanaland was bisected and used as a twopenny stamp, the postmaster adding his initials to all such letters stamped thus and passing through his office.

Then came the speculative element and large quantities of 4d. stamps brought from other post offices where there happened to be large supplies were bisected, placed on envelopes, addressed with fatuous addresses, and stamped to order. These were in addition endorsed by

the postmaster as he had done with the previous letters and handed back to the person who had brought them.

The main culprit, or the person who really started these bogus covers, was an officer in the Bechuanaland Border Police, who, incidentally, was also a stamp collector.

The making of these faked bisected Palapye covers was only a mild example of the faking that was going on in the Territory by a certain postmaster assisted by "Get rich quick" philatelists.

The fourpenny on halfpenny vermilion with overprint inverted (which was at one time listed by Stanley Gibbons until it was discovered to be a fake), the halfpenny on threepenny (S.G. No. 29) with the overprint inverted and the one penny (S.G. No. 5b.) overprint double, all of which can be found defaced with the genuine Vryburg circular date stamp, are a few examples of what was manufactured in the Protectorate at that time.

All Palapye bisect covers must be backstamped to be regarded as genuine, those not backstamped are made-to-order and merely curiosities.

Vryburg Covers. Practically the same remarks made about the Palapye bisect apply to covers with the local Vryburg issue. Here we find the complete set of stamps, viz., $\frac{1}{2}$ d., 1d., 2d. and 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ d., a total value of 6d. used on letters which could have reached their destination for the sum of one penny. These covers were also made-to-order, the stamps were cancelled by an obliging postmaster, and the covers handed back to the owner.

The genuine covers of this issue which had been conveyed through the post must be backstamped.

Of course it must be understood that even some of these backstamped covers were in a way made-to-order, an example can be found in those covers addressed to the Postmaster, Johannesburg. These bear the full set of Vryburg stamps (Cape overprinted "Z.A.R.") and are beautifully backstamped with the Johannesburg date stamp. Although it is known that these latter were made for speculation, there is no evidence to show that they were not actually conveyed to Johannesburg through the proper channels, the post office.

The Vryburg covers are also to be found with the following:

- (1) Genuine stamps defaced with a fake date stamp.
- (2) Faked stamps defaced with the genuine date stamp.

None of the above have been seen by me which had been backstamped.

In regard to the Transvaal stamps overprinted "V.R. SPECIAL POST" which was used by the British during their reoccupation of Vryburg, I have not sufficient evidence at my disposal to give any decided opinion for or against, but it is my firm belief that both the 2d. and 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ d. of this issue are bogus, and therefore covers showing the complete set of

the four values would require very careful study.

Coming to the last of the Vryburg covers, viz., the ones on which can be found Cape stamps (S.G. Nos. 58, 58 and 67) initialled by Mr. C. S. St. Quintin. I have definite proof that these stamps which instead of the usual date in the centre of the Vryburg circular date stamp show the initials of Mr. St. Quintin (see *South African Philatelist* August, 1942, page 89) were genuinely used by the Military authorities in the Civil Post Office at Vryburg.

It would appear, however, that Mr. St. Quintin must have initialled the sheets of mint stamps, each stamp separately, and that when the date stamp (Vryburg) was applied it was stamped neatly on the cover so as to bring the initials directly in the centre of the Vryburg circle.

This is merely assumption on my part because so many of these covers are found addressed to people resident in Vryburg, and which are not backstamped. This, in my opinion, brings them within the category of "Made-to-Order," and I can hardly associate Mr. St. Quintin as being a party to this. It must be understood that although the letter may be posted at Vryburg to an address in Vryburg it must still, under postal regulations, be backstamped by that office on the date of despatch.

The argument has been put forward about these initialled covers that owing to the date slugs, or type, having been removed by the Boers when they left Vryburg, the backstamping of a letter with a stamp showing no date would have served no purpose. This argument appears reasonable at first sight, and I would have been prepared to accept it had it not been that I have seen some of these covers which had been dated in manuscript.

The Mafeking covers come under the same category as those of Vryburg, and only those backstamped should be considered as genuine and not made-to-order.

During the Boer War there were several of the war correspondents who accompanied the Boer forces into Natal and upon the occupation of such places as Dundee, Newcastle, Charlestown, etc., the Burghers who were allowed to write home to their people had to purchase Republican stamps from the Field Post Offices which accompanied the Commandos. In Dundee the original circular date stamp used by the Natal Post Office was used by the Boers to deface Transvaal stamps on letters. No Natal stamps appear to have been found by these forces, otherwise they would most certainly have been overprinted "Z.A.R." as in the case of the Cape stamps at Vryburg.

In Newcastle and Charlestown, and probably other towns invested by the Republican forces, a special rubber stamp was used by the Field Post Office, such as "Veld Post Kantoor," etc., and these were in the majority of cases impressed on the letters and across the stamps in violet ink.

The several war correspondents mentioned here were to a great extent responsible for the speculation which resulted in this type of South African War Covers. Had the matter been left to the Burghers themselves, these covers to-day would have had very high philatelic rank. As it is the Hoofd Postmeester, a Mr. Hugo, seems to have associated himself with this speculative element, with the inevitable result that the whole business was overdone.

Hundreds of these covers showing either ½d. or 1d. Transvaal stamps (S.G. Nos. 216 and 217) were stamped to order and handed back to the owners, and these appeared in the windows of the Rand Daily Mail, Johannesburg, where at first they fetched good prices, but as the stock of covers seemed inexhaustible the racket was soon bust wide open, and the remaining covers were sold for whatever they would fetch.

The genuine covers in all such cases are those which show either the Johannesburg Post Office date stamp at the back or the date stamp of the town of the letter's destination.

The above information was given to me by one of the war correspondents some years ago who offered me about 25 such covers for five shillings.

All these South African War Covers, therefore, to be of any value at all must be back-stamped. Backstamping, as already mentioned, does not guarantee that the cover was not specially prepared as a financial venture, but it does make it smell better than those that were simply stamped and returned to the owner.

It is most unfortunate that there is no way whatever in which a perfectly genuinely used war cover can be identified from one made for financial gain, but it is advisable, when purchasing such covers, to get those addressed to some old Boer family or some private individual. Those addressed to Box numbers, and especially those addressed to the Box number of the Rand Daily Mail, are in the majority of cases the very ones manufactured to order.

If they are backstamped then although they are addressed as above, there is still the possibility that they were actually conveyed through the post, but personally I would much prefer a cover addressed to the relations of some Burgher in the field.

Whatever objections there may be by readers of this journal to what I have said here, the fact remains that the information given here was obtained many years ago by me from the very people who were responsible for this Boer War philatelic ramp, and a considerable sum of money was collected by these people. To those readers who to-day have such non-backstamped covers in their collections I would suggest that they cut their losses and treat their treasured Boer War items merely as non-philatelic curiosities.

STUDY YOUR COUNTRY'S STAMPS

SPECIAL CHRISTMAS AND NEW YEAR OFFERS

8. Aden 1939 Centenary ½a—8 as.	3/-
20. Burma 1935/39 3 pies—8 as.	5/6
9. Br. Somaliland 1938 ½a—1 R.	27/6
8. do. 1942 ½a—12 as.	5/-
12. Fiji, incl. War Prov. etc.	3/6
8. Kenya o/ptd on Union cpl. mint	5/6
9. do. KG6 1c to 2/- used pict.	2/-
20. So. West Africa Voortrekker cpl.	15/-
16. do. Coronation cpl.	7/6
18. do. War issue cpl.	8/6
32. India KG6, 3 pies to 12 as. used	3/6
4. Zanzibar Sultan's Jubilee cpl.	2/6
24. Australia 1913/36 KH & Kangaroo to 2/-	4/6
23. do. 1937/42 KG6 to 5/-	4/6
24. do. Commemos and Airm	4/6
4. do. War issue cpl.	4/6
3. do. War Provs. cpl.	2/6
11. Union & SWA Triangulars cpl.	7/6
12. do. Huguenot issues cpl.	8/6
22. Union Voortrekker 1933/38 cpl.	15/-
20. Union War issue (large types) cpl.	8/6

FOREIGN:

30. Argentina, with recent pict. etc.	2/6
25. Free French Colonials	4/6
8. Ethiopia 1942, 2 issues cpl.	4/6
50. Mozambique Co. 1918/31 pictorials ½c to 20 Es.	7/6
39. Mozambique Co. 1935/7 obsolete pict., triangles and airm to 5 Es.	7/6
50. Soviet Russia, Polar Flights & other recent Commemos	12/6

SPECIAL:

202. Empire Coronation cpl. in De Luxe Souvenir album	£4 10 0
---	---------

All nett, c.w.o., Post Free.

Approval selections on request, against references.

A. LICHTENSTEIN

P.O. Box 576,
BLOEMFONTEIN, O.F.S.



CORRESPONDENCE

Sir,

PERIOD OF ISSUE OF MAFEKING STAMPS.

In his summary of the contents of the remarkable Barbara Jurgens collection, Capt. L. Simenhoff mentions that "a complete set of the stamps issued during the Siege of Mafeking, 17th March to 24th May, 1900, are shown . . ." ("S.A. Philatelist, Nov., 1942).

These dates are wrong, as might be seen from the following:

All catalogues without exception state as period of issue of the Mafeking stamps: 24 March to 17 May, 1900, which, however bold it may sound, is not quite correct, either. The 23rd of March was the actual first day of issue, when first printings of S.G. 1 and 3 appeared, notable for their regular, undamaged lettering, while later printings of the following days show certain settings and characteristics. Besides having a genuine Mafeking cover in my possession with a stamp of "first printing" affixed and cancelled on the 23rd March ("first day" cover, to use a modern expression), Mr. J. V. Howat, the late siege postmaster, has confirmed to me in a letter that the 23rd March was the first date of issue.

Therefore, all Mafeking stamps bearing a cancellation date before 23rd March must be fakes, and the date of 17th March must have been stated in error in the above-mentioned article.

With regard to the last day of issue, the date of 24th May is also not correct. It is true that Mafeking stamps have been used on letters after the Relief by inhabitants who had some stamps still on hand. Such letters were passed by the authorities, who cancelled them with the general cancellation "Field Post Office B.O.—British Army, S. Africa." I have such a cover in my collection.

But the last date of issue was officially the day of relief, i.e., the 17th May. Actually, stocks were exhausted a few days before that date, according to Mr. Howat's information.

Yours, etc.,
K. FREUND.



ANTARCTICA.

The "Australian Stamp Journal" quotes from the "Revista," published by the Argentine Philatelic Society, that the Argentine is to open a post office in the S. Orkney Islands. A meteorological station has been maintained there since 1902, the staff being changed once a year. A post was operated there in the opening year (see "S. African Philatelist," Vol. XI, 1935, p. 54), but this appears to be a recrudescence. It may be questioned if there is any real need for such an office and possibly it is meant mainly as a gesture to support the claim of the Argentine to ownership of this group of islands. They are generally supposed to be a dependency of the Falklands Islands, which are also, of course, claimed by the Argentine as theirs.

Special Offers—

1. South Africa—"Jipex" 2 panes, mint .. 3/6
2. Ditto, used on 1st day cover .. 4/-
3. S.W. Africa, war issue, complete set, Mint pairs. Face 5/- 6/6
4. Ditto, used pairs 8/-
5. M.E.F. complete set of 5 overprint on Great Britain K.G. VI, old colours . 2/6
6. South Africa, K.G. V. 6d. Mint variety, missing "Z," Cat. 12/- 5/-
7. Ditto, Airmail set, 4d. & 1/- Mint 5/-
8. 100 all different Union of South Africa 12/6
9. 500 all different British Africans . £3/10/-

WANTED TO BUY.

For spot Cash. Collections, Lots and Accumulations of any size or description.

Offers solicited.

E. BLUM

P.O. BOX 1669 - CAPE TOWN
Established in South Africa since 1930.
First class references.

In spite of war difficulties, Messrs. Whitfield King & Co. seem to be able to carry on. As can be judged from an advertisement appearing on another page, they have not only been able to issue their Standard Catalogue, but also their usual (now 73rd edition) Price List of Stamps in sets and packets. From this it appears that there are still a few stamps to be bought in England at reasonable prices, although some folks would have us believe that there is almost a stamp famine. There also does not appear to be any great difficulties in the way of sending remittances to purchase stamps and, as we know, stamps (and other things) still have a habit of arriving here safely.

**O.V.S. "V.R.I." 1d. PURPLE
HANDSTRUCK DOUBLE
OVERPRINT**

By S. C. W. WAREHAM.

The stamps concerned in this note consist of a right hand marginal block of 4, of the 1d. purple "thick V" setting, stamps 5 and 6 in two rows. The top No. 6 stamp having a break in the thin stroke of the "V," and the lower No. 6 stamp a thick "V."

Examination of other panes shows only one position where a thick "V" is immediately under a thin "V" (with a broken stroke) and that is stamp No. 6 in both rows 1 and 2 of a right hand pane. This would indicate that the block in question came from the top right hand corner of a right hand pane, but for the purpose of reference in this article, I will number the item horizontally left to right, 1 and 2, 3 and 4.

I have known of this item for some years, but since it has only lately come into my possession, I am only now in a position to describe it in detail, and since I think it unique, I hope you will find space in the Magazine to describe it.

On stamp No. 2, the loop, the period and the front leg of the R, were originally missing and a complete R without a period and rather out of register was printed over the remaining portion, i.e., the back leg.

On stamp No. 4 (thick V) the same thing has occurred except that the period is not missing and the registration is good, so good in fact that, unless a magnifying glass is used, it might be passed as normal.

By a strange coincidence I have also, as a single, a "thick V stamp" of the same value showing the loop and the front leg of the R practically non-existent, but the period has remained and this stamp coincides with the "thick V" stamp in the block of 4 under review (stamp No. 4) showing most graphically the reason for the double overprint.

Anyone seeing this single stamp as the printer must have seen it, would immediately realise that, either the R would have to be overprinted or renewed, and according to the evidence before me, I have no hesitation in saying that it was overprinted with a piece of loose type and no doubt renewed at once, unless of course there are other similar items.

Reverting to stamp No. 2, the absence of the period is significant in that the loop, front leg and period being originally absent and the loose type used to overprint having no period included as an integral part of itself, the item is obviously a quick emergency hand overprint with a single piece of type without the period attached.

Upon first examining these stamps, I was under the impression that a broken R on stamp No. 2 had been replaced with an I and an R

handstruck over it, but the discovery of the stamp immediately below it with the same correction caused me to examine them both at greater length and with a glass of 60 magnifications I was able to decide and to here state definitely that both stamps have broken R's, with handstruck double overprints.

Since I have never heard of stamps similar to these, and since both stamps are on one block and are in horizontal pairs with a normal stamp, failing the existence of others, of which if they exist I will no doubt hear, I regard the item as unique.

**COLLECTORS' WANTS
AND OFFERS**

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

Orange Free State.—Approval selections wanted. Must be fine, well-centred copies.

William Redford, Box 7012, Johannesburg.

Transvaal, Griqualand West, O.F.S. covers and varieties wanted by
A. E. Basden, Box 238, Pretoria.

For Quality and Variety—Globe Packets.—Extensive price lists free.
Serious collectors write for finest approval books of your country. References.

Globe Postage Stamp Company, 117 Longmarket Street, Cape Town.

10,000 Space Fillers wanted to complete World Collection of Normals to 1933 issues. Good prices for good specimens, mint or used. Want list any country on application.

E. Hunt, Box 2437, Johannesburg.

If interested in S.A. Colonies or Union Mint Blocks, Postage Dues, Officials, write to:

E. Tamsen, Box 13, Nylstroom.

Wanted.—Transvaal (1st Republic), Early Natal, Tati Concession, Boer War Locals and Commando Stamps.
Noel Roberts, Booysens, Johannesburg.

St. Helena, all issues wanted urgently for cash. Good prices paid, rare or common stamps.

Thiele, 455 West Street, Durban.

Telegraph Stamps wanted, especially O.F.S. Please send on approval to
A. E. Basden, Box 238, Pretoria.

SOCIETY NEWS

PORT ELIZABETH PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

President, G. K. Forbes; *Hon. Sec.*, C. W. Sheffield, P.O. Box 88; *Meetings*, 4th Tuesday, 7.45 p.m., Toc II Rooms, Norfolk House, Main Street.

At the meeting held on the 27th October the attendance was not so large as on former occasions, which was probably owing to the blackout. Members found it difficult to locate the new premises of the Toc II, which have moved from the P.E. Assurance Building to Norfolk House, Main Street.

The new room is much larger than the one vacated, with a table nearly the length of the room, which gives members plenty of space to exhibit their specimens.

A shadow was cast over the meeting when Mr. Forbes announced that the secretary, Mr. Sheffield, had that morning been knocked down by a motor car and had sustained a badly broken arm. Mr. Sheffield was greatly missed, as he had always a fund of dry humour.

Another member, Mr. McGregor, was in St. Joseph's Nursing Home waiting to undergo an operation. We wish them both a speedy recovery, and hope to have them with us at our next meeting.

Our exchange superintendent, Mr. Campbell, said that owing to the illness of his wife he had to go away for some time, but didn't wish to resign. Mr. Coetzee kindly stepped into the breach, and said he would carry on for a month when Mr. Campbell would definitely know what his plans were.

A warm and hearty welcome was given to one of our members, Mr. Robinson, who is on active service, and being in Port Elizabeth for a few days, came to the meeting. You can always be sure Mr. Robinson has something of interest to tell us about stamps.

Mr. Forbes then read us a humorous chapter from the book "Many a Green Isle," about Cayman Isles and the Turtle, and we all enjoyed it.

The books of stamps from Stanley Gibbons was then put up for auction; business was brisk and the stamps were quickly disposed of.

The evening should have been given over to a debate, but owing to the absence of the secretary, and the small attendance it was decided to postpone it.

Mr. Forbes can always be relied upon in an emergency, and he didn't disappoint us this time. He displayed some albums of British Colonials, among which were some very fine specimens, also blocks and half sheets.

+ + +

L.E.C.

PRETORIA PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

President, A. E. Basden; *Hon. Secretary*, H. A. Wager, P.O. Box 514; *Meetings*, 1st and 3rd Mondays, 8 p.m., Technical College.

Nov 2.—Mr. Hawke read some philatelic extracts.

Mr. Rudd read a paper on the wonderful things called to mind by an examination of the Commemorative stamps of the United States of America. For instance, a commemorative to Edison, who, when he died, had 1,000 patents in his name. Then there was Emerson, one of the world's most renowned writers. The Army and Navy series depicted many famous fighting men and Mr. Rudd described some of their notable careers and showed how closely they were connected with the history of the United States.

November 16.—Several short papers were read. Mr. Hawke gave an account of a philatelic exhibition held in Prague in Czechoslovakia in 1938. He showed the large striking catalogue connected with it and he stressed the value of such an international exhibition.

Mr. Rudd described his first possession of the 1898 Map stamp of Canada which was also a Christmas stamp. He pointed out that this stamp was probably the origin of charity stamps, later taken

up by many countries, for instance, Switzerland, Holland, Belgium, etc.

Mr. Basden showed and described some rare S.A. items lately added to his collection. Two of the items were rare combination covers and two others were unique examples of covers each carrying two very rare varieties of the Transvaal stamp surcharged "Halfpenny." H.A.W.

+ + +

O.F.S. AND BASUTOLAND PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

President, Mr. J. B. Levy; *Hon. Secretary*, Mr. R. C. Lyon, Box 702, Bloemfontein; *Meetings*, 3rd Fridays, Oranje Koffiehuis, Bloemfontein.

At the November meeting, the president welcomed as visitors several officers of the Bloemfontein Air Schools.

The usual feature, "philatelic news of the month," was presented by Mr. A. Lichtenstein, who reported interesting excerpts from current philatelic papers.

Mr. F. Carter gave the complete inside story of the Free State "Commando" stamps, mentioned recently in the Union daily press.

The display of the evening was given by Mr. J. Lewis, who exhibited his outstanding Free State stamps covering the time until the British occupation. Starting with pre-stamp covers, the collection contains nearly all known varieties, and many unknown ones, as for instance a stamp with "double impression." A section dealing with cancellations showed the majority of the numerals.

An auction sale in aid of the Prisoners of War Fund concluded an interesting evening.

On Saturday, 28th November, members had a special treat at Mr. J. B. Levy's residence, where Dr. Kaplan, of Johannesburg, as guest of honour, displayed some of his excellent material.

K.F.

+ + +

CAPE TOWN PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

President, K. Alexander; *Hon. Sec.*, K. Cameron, 9, Pineway, Pinelands, Cape; *Meetings*, 2nd and 4th Thursdays, Medical House, 35, Wale Street, Cape Town, at 8 p.m.

22nd October, 1942.—Dr. R. Follen produced an original display with his stamps depicting a tour from the Cape to Cairo. The items shown were exceptionally interesting, ranging from Cape Pro-stamp covers to modern Egyptian. The route covered all South Africa, Rhodesia, Mozambique, etc.—with an excursion to Mauritius—and up the East Coast to Zanzibar and Somaliland. The president thanked Dr. Follen for his unusual and attractive exhibit.

The usual auction sales were held, and also a raffle and sale of stamps for war funds.

12th November, 1942.—Mr. D. Harris chose for his exhibit his very fine and valuable collection of Newfoundland stamps, and coupled with these selections of Barbados and Bermuda. The Newfoundland collection was certainly an outstanding one, and apart from the intrinsic value of many of the early issues exhibited, the display was noteworthy for the fine condition of the stamps and the many valuable items, most of which were in mint condition. A special feature of the collection was the number of mint copies of the various issues of the "Royal Crown and Heraldic Flowers." The stamps ranged from very early issues to the most modern, and the exhibit was surprisingly complete in respect of most issues of the delightful and picturesque stamps of this island.

Mr. E. C. Solomon suitably thanked Mr. Harris for the display.

The hon. secretary reported a donation of stamps for war funds by Messrs. A. J. North and Co., and it was resolved to thank Messrs. North and Co. therefor.

In view of the prevailing blackout conditions in Cape Town, it was agreed that future meetings would commence promptly at the early hour of 7.30 p.m. so as to permit of members to return home by more convenient trains or buses.

Substantial amounts were realised by the sales by auction. E.C.S.

+ + +

PHILATELIC SOCIETY OF NATAL.

President, H. H. Hurst; *Hon. Sec.*, G. Milner Palmer, P.O. Box 588, Durban; *Meetings*, Durban Camera Club, 319 Smith Street, 1st and 3rd Wednesdays, 7 p.m.

The October meetings of our Society, held at our usual rendezvous on the 7th and 21st, were well attended and interesting. Mr. J. Lyle, our hon. exchange superintendent, favoured us with a display of Commemorative stamps, of which he is a keen collector, and some brief notes relating thereto. Mr. P. C. Bishop, in moving a vote of thanks, paid tribute to the enthusiasm that had resulted in such an interesting and well arranged exhibition. It was pleasing to welcome Mr. Maskell back among us to conduct the Society's auction. It was announced that the Phillips' Black Vapour Lamp, recently acquired by the Society for expertising purposes, would be installed at Mr. Bishop's office at 63 Club Arcade, where members desiring to use it could have access to it at any time.

The annual meeting of the Society was held on 4th November, when Mr. H. H. Hurst was elected President in succession to Mr. Percy C. Bishop, who was unable to accept nomination for re-election. The name of Mr. Bishop was added to the list of Vice-presidents. All the officers of the Society were re-elected, with the following members of the committee "without portfolio": Mrs. J. W. Melville and Messrs. R. G. Webb, C. D. Kettle, B. L. Cock and R. Morton.

By way of paying greater attention to the welcoming of visitors to our meetings it was decided to appoint a Fellowship Sub-committee. Also, to facilitate exchanges among our members, arrangements have been made to circulate lists of "Wants and Offers" with the monthly letter.

+++

G.M.P.

PHILATELIC SOCIETY OF JOHANNESBURG.

President, J. H. Harvey Pirie; *Hon. Secretary*, L. Buchen, Box 4967, Johannesburg. *Meetings*, 2nd Tuesdays, 8 p.m., Sanlam Building, Loveday Street, Johannesburg.

At the October meeting the East Rand Philatelic Society were the guests of the evening. They brought with them four excellent exhibits, which were greatly admired.

Lieut. H. Suklje showed a mint collection of the stamps of King George VI in blocks of four. The collection was practically complete and contained most of the rarer issues. Well displayed and written up, this collection showed the advantages of new issues.

Mr. P. Riordan showed a very comprehensive collection of the stamps of King George V issued in Africa. Here again most of the rare items were displayed.

A very fine collection of Canadian stamps was exhibited by Mr. W. D. Gillmore. And finally Mr. S. Legator showed a specialised collection of the O.P.S. Mr. Legator is well known for his many excellent collections, and this O.P.S. collection was well up to the Legator standard. Excellently displayed and written up, this collection contained many of the great rarities and most of the lesser errors.

A very pleasant evening was spent by the large number of members and visitors.

There was a record attendance at the meeting on 10th November, which was presided over by Dr. J. H. Harvey Pirie. The November meeting is always known as Hospital night, when an auction of items contributed by members is held, the proceeds of which are donated to the Johannesburg Hospital. For each pound realised from the auction, the Society contributes another pound, and hence as the auction realised £24 7s. it means that the Hospital will benefit to the amount of £48 14s.

A great variety of material was offered for auction, including albums, packets, sets or accumulations of stamps of several countries, etc.

After the auction, which took up most of the evening, Mr. I. Isaacs read some short notes of interest concerning the exhibit which he tabled which he described as a "foot-note to the description of airmails," and which consisted of picked flown covers which sketchily portrayed the developments of the air posts of the world during the past fifteen years. This display emphasised on the minds of all those who saw it how rapidly we become accustomed to new developments, so that in the short span of less than a generation we take for granted developments which at the beginning of the period seemed like mere dreams of visionaries.

An important announcement was made which will enable all kindly spirited stamp collectors with some

spare duplicates to assist in making a happier Christmas for the children of soldiers up North. Mr. and Mrs. Redford are endeavouring to accumulate at least 250,000 foreign, NOT UNION, stamps of comparatively low values from which to make up small packets to be distributed on behalf of the Mrs. Smuts fund, in the way of Christmas presents for the children of men now on active service. PLEASE send your stamp contributions to this worthy fund to either Mr. William Redford, Broadcast House, Johannesburg, or Mrs. W. Redford, 38 6th Street, Lower Houghton, AT ONCE.

H.E.B.

+++

QUARTER PERFS.

The "Philatelic Magazine" fully approves of Gibbons' suggestion to cut out listing of quarter perfs. and recommends that the practice should be adopted immediately and in entirety.

They do not approve, however, of the suggestion to move up all the recorded quarters to the nearest half; on measuring a large series of stamps (with a Gibbons gauge!) they consider that 19 should be moved up and 20 down.

The issue of 11th September gives a list of stamps of 25 countries with a correction table. We quote the two following:—Union of S. Africa 14 $\frac{1}{2}$ x 14 $\frac{1}{2}$ to be 15 x 14 $\frac{1}{2}$, and 14 $\frac{3}{4}$ x 14 to be 15 x 14. Kenya, 14 $\frac{1}{2}$ to be 14, 13 $\frac{1}{2}$ to be 13, and 11 $\frac{3}{4}$ x 13 $\frac{1}{2}$ to be 11 $\frac{1}{2}$ x 13.

+++

B.C.A. 1907 2d. & 4d. MULT. C.A.

Messrs. L. N. and M. Williams tell the story of these two rarest K.E. VII stamps in the "Philatelic Magazine." The issue of the new designs in 1908 made these two unnecessary and an attempt was made to dispose of the entire printing. Messrs. Stanley Gibbons were offered the lot (between 20,000 and 30,000 each value), but declined them. Apparently no further effort was made to sell them and almost the entire printing was destroyed. About ten years elapsed before specimens of the stamps came on the market.

The first found were sold at £15 each. Now there are 18 known specimens of each denomination, including blocks of four in the Royal collection. A pair in 1935 fetched £235 in London and in 1939 a pair was sold by auction in Philadelphia for 910 dollars.

+++

NEW "MULT. C.A." WATERMARK.

"Stamp Collection" draws attention to the fact that many of the wartime printings of British Colonial stamps are on a thinner and whiter paper than previously, and that the gum is whiter. Most important variation, however, is the evidence that a new dandy roll must have been brought into use in the manufacture of the thinner paper. This is proved by a comparison of the shape of the letters CA in the watermark; in the original type one leg of the letter A has a decided inward curve, whereas on the new dandy roll both legs are symmetrical.

Apart from these general characteristics, some issues present special features of their own due to wartime conditions—shades, changes in perforation, etc.