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## THE SOUTH AFRICAN PHILATELIST

## Volume 14 - 1938

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## Editorials

### THE P.M.G. AND PHILATELISTS.

In his latest annual report, Mr. Lenton, the Union Postmaster-General, expresses his views on philatelists in terms which are certainly vigorous, but, we think, not just altogether fair. He writes: "It is apparently thought in some quarters, and indeed I am afraid the belief is rather widespread, that the Post Office exists, if not wholly, at least in part, for the benefit of philatelists. This belief is erroneous. It is the function of the Post Office to provide certain defined communication and other services; it has no concern with philatelic matters in any way whatsoever."

In explaining the apparent contradiction of the P.O. in issuing the JIPEX stamps, he states that the organizers of the exhibition desired a special commemorative stamp to be printed. This is not correct. The organizers asked for normal stamps in sheets of six like the advertisement booklet, but with a special commemorative border in place of the advertisements. Also a limited issue was not wanted. The organizers were informed that these could not be supplied and no one was more surprised than they when they received the offer from the P.O. of the specially overprinted stamps. They realized the trouble sticking out by the issue being a limited one, but the P.O. brought that upon themselves.

However, as the P.M.G. says, "This entirely exceptional action is unlikely to be repeated, except on occasions of national importance, such as Royal Coronations, etc."

This is good news, but we venture to suggest to the P.M.G. that if the P.O. "has no concern with philatelic matters in any way whatsoever" he should not, in any future com-

memorative issue, have values up to one shilling. The 1s. value, according to a statement from the postal administration itself, was intended mainly for telegraphic use, so that from the point of view of the public (which the P.O. serves) there could be little "commemorative" about it. The only real service it could do was to act as a revenue raiser by sale to philatelists.

Admittedly the Union was not nearly such a sinner in this respect as S.W.A., whose Coronation set was simply unblushing philatelic exploitation, but we should like to see the Union clad, in future, in the white robes of a blameless (philatelic) life.

We are quite in sympathy with "the views long held in official circles that the Post Office should confine itself to its own business," as we believe that philately would then be a saner hobby than it is tending to become to-day. There is quite sufficient for philatelists to collect and study in stamps issued for ordinary everyday postal use without having stamps specially made for them to collect.

Mr. Lenton also says the P.O. "is willing at all times to supply information concerning legitimate Post Office services, when that information has necessarily been collected for official purposes and is consequently available, but it is not able to assemble details which have no Post Office value and are of interest only to stamp collectors."

We have in the past received much valuable information from the P.O. and hope to continue doing so in the future, but we think the view expressed above is rather a narrow one. There is much about the work of the Post Office that is of general cultural and historical interest and in many countries the P.O. has a historical department and/or a museum. There is certainly room in S. Africa for something of this sort.

## Philatelic Societies of Southern Africa

"CONGRESS" or "FEDERATION."

It will be remembered that the question of altering the Constitution of the present "Philatelic Congress of Southern Africa" to a "Philatelic Federation of Southern Africa" was raised at the Congress held in Johannesburg at the time of Jipex by the delegates of the Natal Society. The leading feature in the proposed change was to make fraternization more easy by adopting the principle that a member of any one of the affiliated societies should automatically become a member of all the others. Several other, less radical, ideas were bound up with the proposal.

A memorandum on the subject was circulated to the various societies in May, 1937, by the Johannesburg Society. The last reply to this has only just been received by the Permanent Executive Committee of Congress for its consideration, there being a delay on the part of the Natal Society, as their moving spirit in the matter, Mr. P. Bishop, was overseas.

Their reply took the form of a paper by Mr. Bishop, which outlined in some detail a scheme of Federation. This was read at the December meeting of the society and is to be the subject of a full dress debate at their February meeting.

Meanwhile the Congress Executive Committee (which, members may just be reminded, is made up of representatives from the three societies in the Transvaal) has met and considered in detail the replies from all the societies. They have prepared a Memorandum summarizing all the views expressed, together with some opinions of their own. This has been sent to the Natal Society, as the original movers in the matter, for consideration at their February meeting.

It seemed premature to the Executive Committee to publish either Mr. Bishop's paper or their own Memorandum at this stage. There are still very divergent views held by the various societies, even on the most fundamental aspect of the proposed Federation, and there is extreme vagueness on all financial details necessarily involved in any scheme. Until some of these differences can be more or less adjusted and the financial murkiness clarified it is difficult to put forward any scheme likely to be generally approved of.

It is to be hoped that the discussion at the Durban meeting in February will be helpful and that then it may be possible for the Executive Committee to put something more concrete and definite before all the societies for their consideration.

## AUSTRALIA'S 3d. K.G. VI. A SPECIAL COLOUR VARIETY.

Collectors of Australians must take note of a special "Royal Blue" variety of the King George VI. 3d., accounts of which appear from the pen of Mr. A. A. Rosenblum in the *Australian Stamp Monthly*, the *Stamp Collector's Fortnightly* and *Gibbons' Stamp Monthly*. It is apparently from the same plate as the general issue but appears to have been produced in a hurry as "advance" specimens for distribution to daily and philatelic papers both in Australia and overseas. Probably not more than six sheets were printed and distributed. Only about 100 or so copies have been located so far. The colour printed badly and a fresh ink of a more greyish blue was used for the main printing.

## THE "VACUUM MAGAZINE."

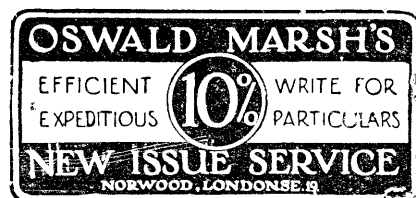
Many of our readers are no doubt motorists and we can recommend to their notice the *Vacuum Magazine*, which can be obtained free on application to the Vacuum Oil Company, Box 35, Capetown, or at any of its branches in Southern Africa.

This magazine contains many useful tips for motorists in all its issues. The latest number describes "Certified Mobilubrication," a guaranteed inspection, oiling and greasing service to motorists on the principle of preventive service in medicine as practised by the Chinese doctor to ward off disease in preference to prescribing the cure.

There is a very fine article on the "Gateways to South Africa" specially written by Mr. C. Graham Botha, Chief Archivist of the Union, which is illustrated by remarkable aerial photographs of the various ports.

## HOLD ON TO YOUR MINT CORONATIONS.

W. E. Fyndem, in *Stamp Collecting*, says "Do not be frightened into parting with your mint Coronations for a song." The demand for first-day covers and used stamps has been so keen that mint stamps seem to have been overlooked. This is only a passing phase and the mint will come into their own. By the end of the year they will be in much greater demand. So hang on and reap the benefit of your investment.



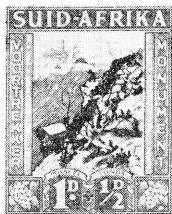
# THE VOORTREKKER CENTENARY

## 16th December, 1938

By L. SIMENHOFF, B.A., F.R.P.S.L.

In December next the Voortrekker Centenary is to be celebrated in South Africa.

The voortrekkers, or pioneers, need no introduction here. They were a band of people who, smarting under many grievances, decided to seek independence and pastures new. They were mostly farmers with their families from the Eastern frontier districts of the old Cape Colony and they "trekked" in parties across the Orange River. Leading a team of oxen in one of these parties was a ten-year-old lad who later became the famous President Stephanus Paulus Kruger, better known as "Oom Paul."



The main migration, known as the Great Trek, which started in 1834, had assumed large proportions in 1836. By 1838 it had fizzled out. It is estimated that no less than 40,000 emigrants had left the Colony by 1840. The then Governor of the Cape, Sir Benjamin d'Urban, described them as "a brave, patient, industrious, orderly and religious people, the cultivators, the defenders and the tax contributors of the country."

They crossed over into the unknown with their cattle and covered waggons, which were loaded with provisions and necessities, and, in the face of many privations and necessities, and, through sheer pluck and perseverance, won through and opened up the interior of South Africa to Western civilization.

The thrilling episodes, culminating in the Battle of Blood River on 16th December, 1838, need not be narrated here. Dingaan's Day is, as everybody knows, a statutory holiday, intended to be observed, as Sarel Celliers meant it to be, "as a Day of Thanksgiving, a Sabbath."

In 1933 a Central Committee was formed in Pretoria with the object of inaugurating a fund for the election of an appropriate national Voortrekker Monument, which, it was hoped, would be unveiled on 16th December, 1938, on the centenary of the Battle of Blood River and the overthrow of barbarism in this country.

This monument is now in course of erection on a chosen site overlooking Pretoria.

For propaganda purposes and in order to assist the fund, the Government and the Postal Department were approached at the time with the object of seeking their co-operation. The result was that the issue of special "Voortrekker" stamps was sanctioned and on 1st May, 1933, three stamps, viz., 1½d., 3d. and 4½d., were placed on sale in all post offices. Two-thirds of the value of the stamps represent postage and a third is allocated to the fund.

In the selection of designs the committee announced that the place of honour on the stamps should be given to the trekker, his wife, and the ox-wagon. Anton van Wouw's famous sculpture group, "Boervrou en Trekker," provided the necessary inspiration for the designs on two of the stamps, while an ox-wagon appeared on the third.

The stamps were printed in Pretoria in rotogravure and issued in sheets of 120 stamps. The details of the designs did not reproduce clearly as the rotogravure process is more successful when the design is of a simple nature.

The penny stamp is a photograph from Michell's original engraving of Cradock's Pass which is in the collection of Major Wm. Jardine, of Sir Lowry's Pass, Cape. A similar engraving, varying slightly in design, is to be seen in the South African Public Library at Cape Town. It represents an incident about the year 1840, viz., the crossing of the Cradock Pass, near George. This was long before the Montagu Pass road was constructed. The design shows the difficulties encountered in ox-wagon transport a century ago. It also portrays typical South African attributes, viz., the ox-wagon and span (team) of oxen, kopjes, and aloes.

On the twopenny stamp is seen a typical trekker with his rifle ("Ou Sanna" as it was



(Continued on page 16).

## Some Remarks on the Collection of Entires

(Read by Miss de Wet, at a meeting of  
the Pretoria Philatelic Society).

There is nobody more tiresome than the type of person who is always apologising for himself and his own performances, but I must be tiresome to-night, and tell you that I was forced to read this paper. There are probably very few people at this meeting who know less about stamps than I do. I could certainly not give you any new information about the issues of any country, and therefore I decided to give you my views about one of the controversial topics of present-day philately. I hope those whose views are very different from mine will forgive me if I express my opinions rather forcibly. I realise that philately would be a much less interesting hobby if we all had the same ideas—that there is no must or must not as to what one should collect, and that everyone is free to follow his own bent.

The collection of entires is no new craze. Philatelists have always collected interesting covers, but lately the craze for first-day covers and freak covers has assumed gigantic proportions. I cannot help feeling that this craze, especially as exploited by the non-philatelic press, is doing a great deal of harm to our hobby.

I see in the "South African Philatelist" that the Philatelic Society of Natal at their August meeting, held a debate on first-day covers. The chief arguments in favour of these covers were (a) that the post mark and the cover conveyed information as to the date of issue of the stamps, and that a stamp had not fulfilled its mission till it had passed through the P.O. (b) that present-day philatelists, who could not afford to form collections on the lines of the older philatelists, were able to specialise in these covers.

My chief objection to first-day covers is that the stamps are not used for the purpose for which they were issues, i.e., to prepay postage at a certain fixed rate. One would imagine that no person in his senses would pay 3s. postage on a letter which could be carried for 1d., and yet this is what hundreds of people in South Africa did on May 6. Future philatelists, if all other evidence were destroyed, could certainly deduce that Coronation stamps were first issued on May 6, 1937, but they would also have every reason for believing that our rate of postage on that day was 3s. per oz. or  $\frac{1}{2}$  oz.

An article in the "Rand Daily Mail" of August 23, stated that no specialised collection of the stamps of any country should neglect first-day covers of the issue of that country, if it is to be considered as of any

importance. I can only answer that there are many first-rate collections which contain no first-day covers at all, and that no collector, however rich, will be able to find first-day covers of issues prior to say, 1920, since in most cases such covers, franked with the full issue of stamps, simply do not exist.

The only justification for first-day covers, that I can see, is that new collectors can obtain them fairly easily, and that is not much of a justification. I collect them myself, and hope one day to exchange them for stamps which are of real value. Before passing on to freak covers, I must deplore the habit of many collectors, of covering their first-day envelopes with remarks and captions, often impressed with a rubber stamp, so that one is often not sure which are private captions and which are official surcharges.

There may be some justification for manufactured first-day covers — for manufactured freak covers there is no justification at all. Here are two examples of what I mean: We were shown, some time ago, a most fascinating collection of covers from Tristan da Cunha. These illustrated how the inhabitants of the island, which issues no stamps, have to struggle to get their letters posted, and at what rare intervals they manage to correspond with the outer world. The covers all seemed genuine, and the whole collection illustrated a most interesting piece of postal history. Since then two ships have called at Tristan da Cunha, and we have been deluged with an avalanche of covers of all kinds posted on the island—Jipex or other covers with Jipex stamps, S.A. stamps, English stamps, Rhodesian stamps, Nyasaland stamps, etc., etc.—not one of them used for purposes of genuine correspondence. Does anyone seriously think that these covers are of any philatelic value? Given the necessary patience and ingenuity, there is no end to the combinations of envelopes and stamps that could be achieved.

The newspapers, of course, have done much to exploit the silly craze for freak covers. Some time ago they all published columns about "such an interesting letter" received from Imperial Airways, "franked with the stamps of three reigns!" Of the same type are three pages of covers I have here, posted in Swaziland on February 3, 1933, showing stamps of the various South African provinces employed with Swaziland issues on the last day of availability. The Swaziland stamp, in nearly every case, prepays the necessary postage, but of course the other stamps are also cancelled. Where is the sense of all this?

It seems to be that the manufacturers of freak covers do not show nearly enough ingenuity. To show what can be done, I have here a pair of covers which I myself manufactured.

The first is franked only by 1d. stamps. (Because they are the cheapest and I did not want to waste more than I could help). It is franked, as I say, (a) by 18 1d. stamps, (b)

all green, (c) issued by 9 different countries, (d) all belonging to the British Empire. (e) The stamps belong to 16 different issues, and (f) comprise the stamps of five reigns, bearing portraits of Queen Victoria, King Edward VII., King George V., King Edward VIII., and King George VI. The stamps are all post-marked—unfortunately not on the 1st day of anything. This cover gives only a slender idea of what can be done in the way of freak covers. In fact, the number of issues and countries represented need only be limited by the size of the envelope, and they sell very large envelopes nowadays. I have seen some more than twelve inches square.

The other covers is franked with half of a 2d. stamp, bisected diagonally, to prepay our ordinary postage of 1d. The stamp is cancelled at the Pretoria Post Office on August 18, 1937. Unfortunately, I could say, the cover has been damaged—but I will be honest and show you the piece that has been torn off as well—surcharged "T 2d." and bearing a 2d. Postage Due stamp. Had I used a 1d. stamp with the bisected 2d., there would have been no surcharge, since the 1d. prepays the necessary postage.

Now I would like to tell you about a few covers, from my own and my mother's collections, which seem to me to be of genuine philatelic interest.

First of all there are three covers, posted at Vryheid, and franked with stamps of the New Republic, bearing also stamps of the South African Republic. One of these covers bears a 2d. stamp of the New Republic, obliterated with an oval handstamp inscribed: "Vryheid, Nieuwe Republiek, 12 Mar, '86." In addition there is a 2d. stamp of the South African Republic, also cancelled at Vryheid, and the envelope bears, in addition, the round stamp of the S.A.R., inscribed: "Utrecht, Zuid-Afrika, Ma 13." This cover, and the others, show us, on internal evidence, that the New Republic did not belong to the International Postal Union, and that letters intended for destinations outside its borders had to bear stamps of the S.A.R. in addition to its own issues.

Bisected stamps, though their use was never formally approved, were fairly often accepted by the postal authorities of the S.A.R. I have two covers, one of which was posted at Ventersdorp on Ja 29 (no year) for Pretoria, with backstamp impression of Potchefstroom and G.P.O., Transvaal, of Ja 29, 1887. It is franked with a diagonally cut half of the fourpenny, bronze-green, of the 1885 issue. The other cover was posted at Klerksdorp, 29th November, 1892, and is backstamped Pretoria, 1st December, 1892. It is franked with a penny stamp and the diagonal half of the twopenny stamp of the 1895 issue. Both covers were obviously used for genuine business correspondence, and both are intact, showing that no surcharge was made by the postal authorities. These covers, when included in a collection of

stamps of the Transvaal, show how often the postal authorities were unable to provide stamps of the denominations required by customers—a fact which is also illustrated by the many surcharges of the period — and what queer practices were tolerated as a result.

A third type of cover which is of genuine philatelic interests is illustrated by an envelope, posted at Pretoria during the peace negotiations in 1902, franked with a penny stamp of Great Britain (King Edward VII.) and passed by the censor. British stamps used in South Africa during the Boer War are of exceptional interest, but there are many experts here who can tell you much more about them than I can.

There are many other types of covers of genuine philatelic interest—for instance, air-mail covers and covers bearing slogans. I hope someone will one day read us a paper on the latter, illustrated, if possible, by statistics showing whether these slogans have been of any real use. My collection of the earlier slogans used in Southern Africa are, I am afraid, not arranged and mounted, but I have here a number of envelopes showing the slogans now in use. During the last two months there has been a marked increase in the number of these.

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1 Jugoslavia, Zefib .. ..	7/6
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2 South Africa, Jipex .. ..	7/6
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1 U.S.A., Tipex .. ..	2/6

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**A. LICHTENSTEIN,**

**B.P.A.**

P.O. Box 576 - - - BLOEMFONTEIN.



## Commemorative Issues

By C. G. MUMMERY.

(Continued from December issue).

*Stamp Collecting* of October, 1929, has an article which contains the following:

It must be confessed that stamp collecting as a whole would be a good deal the poorer were there no commemorative issues, although by many of such issues it has scarcely been enriched.

A Commemorative issue is desirable only when its existence can be justified, for example, when it is produced to celebrate some historical or national event connected with the country to which the stamps belong. The use of commemoratives for lesser events is always open to criticism, although in passing judgment it is necessary to bear in mind the sentiments of the populations concerned. Whether Centenaries and the like are good enough is a moot point but when it comes to celebrating exhibitions and other comparatively minor happenings, one begins to have serious doubts as to whether the commemorative can be justifiably employed.

Commemoratives are certainly not desirable when put on to the market for the sole purpose of exploiting stamp collectors and dealers.

A glaring example of an issue created purely for financial reasons is to be found in the now famous St. Kitts Tercentenary set, which was unblushingly issued for the avowed purpose of providing a public park for the island. Ostensibly it was to commemorate the tercentenary but the issue would never have seen daylight if the financial need had not been there. There was little that was commemorative about the stamps for they bore only one picture throughout the series and conveyed no information at all concerning the history or progress of the Island.

A later article published in September, 1935, says:

It cannot be denied that commemorative issues are most attractive and instructive and have a large and increasing following. General collecting has long passed the point where the average collector of moderate means can make anything but a very limited and inadequate show. Specialism, except in the smaller countries with not many rare early issues, absorbs too much money to be undertaken except by the minority. Where then is the younger collector, whose available spending power is limited, to find a field for his activities? He must confine himself to "Group" or "Sectional" collecting and many are solving the problem by taking up some section or sections of Commemoratives and this is borne out by the huge success of the 1935 Silver Jubilee is-

sue and the present demand for the Coronation Series. Rich in historical, biographical, artistic and romantic associations the commemorative stamp offers a fertile and fascinating field for the collector who has little time or inclination for the more scientific aspects of advanced philately.

Turning for a moment to the more mercenary side of the matter we find that few modern stamps tend to appreciate in value more rapidly and consistently than commemoratives. Generally they are limited both in edition and validity and once having passed into obsolescence must of necessity become more and more elusive as time goes on.

The present demand for Commemorative stamps and their popularity are reflected in the steadily increasing prices which have recently been realised at auction and as a matter of interest I quote a few recent realizations:

Silver Jubilee complete set (Mint)	£17 10 0
Falkland Is. Centenary Set (Face value £2) sold for . . . . .	15 0 0
Sierra Leone Wilberforce Set (Face value about £2) sold for	17 10 0
St. Kitts Tercentenary Set (Face value about £2 2s.) sold for ..	15 0 0
Caymans Is. Centenary Set (Face value about £1) sold for .. .	4 8 0
St. Helena Centenary Set (Face value about £1) sold for .. .	3 0 0

By mentioning these prices I am not suggesting that we should be carried away by or become too enthusiastic about the *monetary* value of our stamps to the detriment of our hobby as a "hobby" but it is only human I suppose to feel more satisfied and cheerful if we see prices going up.

Reverting again to the "pros" and "cons" of the matter I have tried in the foregoing to give you some idea of the different views held regarding Commemoratives generally and it will be interesting to hear the opinions and views of members present this evening. My own feelings are that if issued in moderation and for justifiable purposes Commemoratives are welcome but when overdone they become almost objectionable and tend to bring a country into disfavour. However the position has reached the stage where collectors' views and feelings carry but little weight and we may as well reconcile ourselves to "Men may come and men may go but Commemoratives will go on for ever."

Personally although I am a great admirer of the early classics and always feel envious when looking at an exhibit of same I must confess that I also have a very soft spot for the "pretty pretties" and I am not hesitant in admitting that I have a practically complete collection of all the Commemorative issues of the British Empire. I have had a lot of fun in getting together my collection and would be very sad to have to part with it. I always feel that one of the charms of our hobby is that we are not bound by hard and fast rules as to what we have to collect. Each can

follow his or her fancy and the main thing is to get enjoyment and pleasure out of the game. This freedom of action is well set out in Article 2 of the "Beverley Code" which is referred to in this month's *S.A. Philatelist* and which reads as follows:

"That each and every collector shall be free to follow his or her own individual preference in collecting, with neither let nor hindrance, ridicule or destructive criticism from any individual or group."

So, fellow members, if you have a fancy for Commemoratives, join me in collecting and studying them. We shall meet many celebrities, we shall study a big range in designs and we shall increase our knowledge of the world and past events.

To illustrate my paper I have brought along a few sheets of Commemoratives which I shall be pleased to show with the Chairman's permission and providing time permits.

## TRANSSVAAL RAILWAY STAMPS

By W. WARD

You can find in the English catalogues Bavarian Railway Official stamps of 1908 listed overprinted with a large "E" (Eisenbahn=Railway). Then you can turn to Transvaal and see a dismissing note that "stamps are found overprinted C.S.A.R. for use on the Central South African Railways."

Of exactly the same status as the Bavarian Officials, but uncatalogued. I believe the reason why the Transvaal stamps were "damned," was because a certain famous dealer more or less "boomed" them—that made them "opposition" goods.

They should be catalogued as they are a perfectly straightforward issue. The overprint was plate-printed, and there were to my knowledge no errors or varieties.

I can remember getting them in packets of stamps that three little girls in the O.F.S. sent me in exchange for various articles I was able to get them in Britain. I remember, too, the same girls sending me the Natal Officials which had practically the same status as the Transvaal Railway stamps—but that is another philatelic story that gained an English stamp dealer deportation from Pietermaritzburg, and a poor Zulu "stamp collector" imprisonment.

I might mention here, that I was very fortunate this year in picking up one of the C.S.A.R. Officials actually stuck on the outside of a sixpenny packet of British Colonials in a newsagent's shop. Doubtless neither the dealer nor his packet-making assistants knew much about the overprint. They rarely do.

It is interesting to note in connection with these Officials that "stamp people" substituted ordinary unsurcharged stamps for them with the result that the Transvaal Government ordered that all future supplies issued to the Railways administration must be

punctured. These punctured Officials are quite scarce, since they only had a short life—and like the Australian punctured stamps had very little philatelic interest.

All these Transvaal Officials are of interest, because they are now quite scarce, and not being listed in the catalogues, can be picked up at little over the price of the ordinary unsurcharged or unpunctured stamps. Naturally these stamps are always USED—hence the opportunity of spotting them among normals. All philatelists must be good at this, or they will never discover any bargains!!

The whole of the bi-coloured issue on the single watermark paper to one shilling was overprinted "C.S.A.R." in 1904-5, but only the halfpenny and penny values of the one-colour multiple watermark issue. The overprint can be found in varying positions, mainly across the face of the stamp.

The punctured Officials were issued in 1909 on the multiple watermark 2d., 3d., 4d., 6d. and 1s. and on the one-colour ½d. and 1d. The lettering was arranged C S and A R in two lines.

Excepting the halfpenny and penny values, pairs, strips and blocks must be very rare, singles are worth from ten to forty shillings. Should they be listed in the English catalogues, they can be expected to rise in value, for they are not common.

*Stamp Review.*

## SOUTHERN RHODESIA

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3d. Deep Ultramarine. IMPERFORATE  
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I can offer a superb mint pair of this  
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The Cheapest Dealer in the World for  
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Frinton-on-Sea, Essex - ENGLAND.



# The Bechuanalands

Prepared by Major W. J. Harrington,  
V.D.

(Contd. from p. 183 of December issue).

## CHAPTER VI.

### STAMPS USED BOTH IN BRITISH BECHUANALAND & IN THE BECHUANALAND PROTECTORATE.

From June, 1890, it was decided to cease overprinting stamps specially for use in the Protectorate and stamps overprinted "British Bechuanaland" only were issued and used in both territories until 1895.

#### 1. Issue of November, 1891.

The stamps used were those of the Cape of Good Hope (1d. of the 1885 issue and 2d. of the 1884 issue) watermark anchor, overprinted in Capetown in black ink with the words "British Bechuanaland," reading upwards. (See Figs. 28 and 29).

Measurements—"British" 9 mm., "Bechuanaland" 18½ mm. without stop, distance between lines 5½ mm.

##### (a) 1d. rose red.



Fig. 28.

British  
Bechuanaland.

Fig. 29.

- (i) No dot over either "i".
  - (ii) "B itish."
  - (iii) "Bri ish."
  - (iv) "British" omitted.
  - (v) No stop after "Bechuanaland."
  - (vi) Dot in centre of "u." (No. 6 in row 2 of left pane).
  - (vii) Dot on lower serif of "s."
- (b) 2d. Bistre.
- (i) No dot over either "i."
  - (ii) "B itish."
  - (iii) "Bri ish."
  - (iv) No stop after "Bechuanaland."
  - (v) Dot in centre of "u." (No. 6 in row 2 of left pane).
  - (vi) Dot on lower serif of "s."

The type for this overprint was used for the 1893-95 issue, but reading downwards.

#### SPECIMENS.

The word "Specimen" is overprinted in purple serif capitals from SW to NE, measuring 22 mm. by 3 mm.

#### 2. Issue of December, 1891, and July, 1894.

The stamps used were the 1881 and 1887 issues of Great Britain overprinted by De la

Rue of London horizontally in black ink with the words "British Bechuanaland" in two lines. (See Fig. 30).

**BRITISH  
BECHUANALAND**

Fig. 30.

Measurements—"British" 10 mm., "Bechuanaland" 17½ mm.

With the exception of the 4d. value, the stamps were printed in sheets of 240 (two vertical panes of 120—10 rows of 12) and overprinted in panes after the sheet had been divided.

The 4d. value was printed in sheets of 80 (four panes of 20—4 rows of 5) and overprinted in sheets.

##### (a) 1d. lilac (Overprint in the middle).

Controls N, O and R with continuous jubilee lines.

##### (b) 2d. green and carmine (Overprint in the middle).

(i) Overprint double—one heavy and one light, the latter overlapping the former and displaced about 2 mm. Discovered in San Francisco and reported in the *South African Philatelist* for January, 1937.

##### (c) 4d. green and purple brown (Overprint at bottom).

##### (d) 6d. lilac on red (Overprint in the middle).

##### (e) 1s. green (Overprint at top) July, 1894.

The following varieties, which are constant, occur in the 1d., 2d., 6d and 1s. values—

Small dot just after and a little below the word "British." Nos. 7, 25, 43 and 100.

Small line above "AN" of "LAND"—No. 11.

Small dot between "I" and "T" of "BRITISH"—No. 80.

A dot inside the letter "C"—Nos. 6, 24, 42 and 99.

Copies of this issue are known with the bottom margin bearing the overprint; it is therefore probable that some sheets existed in which the top row was without the overprint.

Bisects of the 2d. and 4d. (Gaberones and Palapye) were used but there is no record that these were ever officially authorised.

These stamps were registered at Somerset House, London, as follows:—1d., 2d. and 6d. values on the 10th November, 1891; 4d. value on the 7th November, 1891; and the 1s. value on the 16th January, 1894.

#### SPECIMENS.

(a) The word "Cancelled" is overprinted in black sans serif capitals horizontally about the middle of the stamp, measuring 14½ mm. by 2 mm.

(b) The word "Specimen" is overprinted in black serif capitals horizontally about the middle of the stamp, measuring 15 mm. by 2 mm.

(c) The word "Specimen" is overprinted in purple serif capitals SW to NE, measuring 22 mm. by 3 mm.

(To be continued.)

## Review

### THIRD AMERICAN PHILATELIC CONGRESS.

This was held in October under the auspices of the Chicago Philatelic Society and the "Original Papers on Philatelic Themes Presented by Invitation" have been published in a separate volume. Only 600 were printed, so that we feel much honoured by being sent one.

The Congress, under the permanent Chairmanship of Eugene Klein, has now become a strong feature in American philatelic life and the papers here given are of a high standard. Of the thirteen papers, six may be described as definitely U.S. specialist's papers; four deal with matters of general philatelic interest, including one on the origins and developments of envelopes, without which the philatelic world would be "all dressed up and nowhere to go." Another, by our friend Stephen G. Rich, is on "What philately does not teach." In this paper Mr. Rich proceeds to upset some commonly held beliefs such as that "In the very matter of placing his stamps in the album, the boy schools himself in neatness, persistency and exactitude." He admits to nearly losing his temper when he hears this sort of thing advanced as an argument in favour of stamp collecting and in a very interesting paper shows us why.

France, Germany and South Africa have one paper each in the volume. The German paper may be described as a family tree and genealogical chart of the German Empire's postal system from 1849 to 1935. The South African paper, "Post Tree to Flying Boat in the Union of South Africa," by Edson K. Rice, goes even further back, tracing postal activity from the days of Pedro d'Ataïda and his "Post Tree" at Mossel Bay in 1500 to the present day with its postal system on an air basis.

### SOUVENIR MINIATURE SHEETS.

In our October number the formation of a "Souvenir Issues Association" in America was noted. This has evidently got going as we have received copies of their official organ *The Souvenir Issue*.

Now comes a counterblast from Messrs. Stanley Gibbons. They announce that after giving the matter very careful consideration they have decided that "We shall not deal in future issues of special souvenir sheets and, in consequence, they will not be included in our catalogues." As they add, this is, of course, a matter merely of exercising the elementary right of every trader to decide what he will deal in. They are cutting out all *limited* issues of souvenir sheets just as in the past they cut out local stamps and stamped stationery, but they make no attempt to dictate to collectors what they shall do.

The principle they intend to act on is that they will not purchase or mention in their magazine or catalogues any souvenir sheets of which the trade generally are not able to get full supplies on a face-value basis. They refuse to be parties to robbing collectors for the benefit of promoters of speculative rubbish which is not used for the pre-payment of postage. They may make exceptions for the few sheets which are issued in large numbers and are used to a considerable extent for ordinary postal purposes.

"And that," in the historic words of John, "is that." Cheers!

"Fiat justitia, ruat coelum." A good thunderstorm to clear the air on this subject will be most welcome.

### NEW COLONIAL ISSUES DELAYED.

The Robertson Stamp Co. reports having received advice from the postal administration in Basutoland that the new Georgians are not likely to be obtainable before April and understands that the same probably applies to Swaziland and Bechuanaland.

Mr. W. Tunstall sends identical information as applicable to the new issue for Kenya, Uganda and Tanganyika.

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

## Correspondence

Sir,—In your December issue you publish Mr. Godfrey's "Chronological List of Air Mail Services in Southern Africa—May, June and July, 1937."

May I be permitted to add to the par. "June 27—Southern Rhodesia inaugurated Empire Air Mail Scheme . . .

June 30th, 1937. First direct air mail, Bulawayo to Beira (R.A.N.A. services).

This service was the first following the inauguration of the Flat rate of 2d. per  $\frac{1}{2}$  ounce to Great Britain and other participating countries (which include the Mocambique Company's Territory). The Bulawayo-Beira first direct flight of 30.6.1937 connected with the first service to Great Britain from S. Rhodesia inaugurating the 2d. flat rate. On the flight referred to some 25 letters were carried between Bulawayo and Beira—these were dated Bulawayo 30.6.1937 and back stamped "Beira, Correio, 30.6.37, 18H."

With regard to the first S.A.A. service Johannesburg to Lusaka, via Pietersburg, Bulawayo and Livingstone, June 9th; the mails from the Union to Livingstone were carried direct to Lusaka and thence to Livingstone by the return flight of June 11th. A cover in my possession addressed to Livingstone shows posted Johannesburg 9.6.1937

Lusaka 9.6.1937

Livingstone 11.6.1937.

Incidentally a mail bag was made up at Bulawayo for Livingstone by the flight of June 9, and covers are back date-stamped Livingstone 9.6.1937, so evidently the Bulawayo mail bag was dropped at Livingstone.

Yours, etc.,

A. MORGAN.

### STELLALAND TO BECHUANALAND.

Sir,—It was indeed well worth raising the question of the legitimacy of the stamps of Stellaland to have Mr. Tamsen come out in such splendid fashion, giving us information which had hitherto not been accessible in print; information that, if ever published, was long ago forgotten. We who collect South Africans, whether living in South Africa or at the opposite end of the world, must indeed thank Mr. Tamsen.

Mr. Tamsen's article brings into sharp relief two further points beyond those settled. It is in the hope of getting him to publish definite statements or to get such from other sources, that this letter is written.

1. The evidence for the actual issuance and actual use of the 2d. on 4d. overprinted stamp of Stellaland has not yet been brought forward. Pending such evidence, I propose to follow the idea of Sidney Lake, well-known collector of Netherlands living at Paterson,

N.J., U.S.A., and himself a former South African, who states positively that this stamp is a complete fake. Many others no doubt will likewise consider that even the "genuine" overprint is a forger's work uncritically accepted back in the '80's.

2. We still lack any information as to what postage stamps were used in British Bechuanaland between the occupation by British troops and proclamation of protectorate, March, 23, 1885, and the appearance of the first Bechuanaland issue in February, 1886—especially from the date of establishment of the Crown Colony in September, 1885.

STEPHEN G. RICH.

Herr Hans Goetze writes:

*Meter Posts in S.W.A.* I have been informed that only two Meter Postmarks have been in use in S.W.A. (a) S.W.A. 1. / SOUTH WEST AFRICAN / TRUST COMPANY / LIMITED / WINDHOEK P.O. BOX 246. This apparently went out of use, as the Francotyp machine was advertised for sale on 17.7.35. (b) S.W.A. 2 / LAND BANK OF / S.W.A. / LAND BANK VAN / S.W.A. / WINDHOEK.

*Union Posts in S.W.A.* In reply to the first of Mr. Sharpe's queries on p. 172, he is right in saying that the postmark No. 146 of Busch was in force before it was used at Windhoek G.P.O. The Army Base postmarks were in use as shewn in my article on p. 166. Later on (for camouflage, I suppose) the inscription was removed, except for the numbers. (My Type 2).

The troops landing towards the end of 1914 at Walvis Bay had a postmark numbered 6 of Type 2; later they entered Swakopmund and the postmark was in use there. I have in my own collection one dated 19-MAR-15 with a mail list, office of origin, "Swakopmund."

Later still the same postmark was in use at Windhoek from ? MAY-15 till about the end of AUG-15. As used at Windhoek it is of interest because from 19-VIII. to 24-VIII. the year is given wrongly as 14 instead of 15. This postmark is well known on covers and on pieces cancelled to order and collectors of such items should be on their guard about these.

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## Air Mail Notes

By L. A. WYNDHAM.

The following is the first instalment of a summary of the major South African airpost developments since, April, 1936:—

### GERMISTON-CAPE SECTOR OF TRANS-CONTINENTAL SERVICE.

As a preparatory step to the inauguration of their Empire Flying Boat Services to South Africa, Imperial Airways, with effect from 1st April, 1936, terminated their African service at Germiston and from that date S.A. Airways assumed responsibility for the full operation of the Germiston-Cape sector of the route. It was fitting that Capt. R. Casparenthus, the great South African airman, should have commanded the Atalanta airliner on the "farewell" flight from Cape Town on 31st March, 1936, for it was he who commanded the Heron airliner "City of Karachi" on the morning of 27th January, 1932, when it departed from Cape Town for the Rand to inaugurate the Cape-London service. Previously S.A. Airways had only operated, from August, 1935, a weekly "shuttle" service between the Rand and Cape Town via Kimberley and Beaufort West, connecting with Imperial Airways' "Duplicate" African service, which terminated at Germiston. The inaugural flight by S.A. Airways was made from the Rand on 1st April by the JU 52 aircraft "Jan van Riebeeck," under the command of Capt. Louw. The first flight from Cape Town to the Rand was made on the 3rd. An important factor was the inclusion of Bloemfontein as an additional stopping centre on the route and the dropping of Victoria West, which had been a point of call by the Imperial Airways liners. Flying schedules were so arranged as to give Johannesburg and Cape Town four inward and four outward air mails per week (two via Durban in each direction).

### AERODROME ACCEPTANCE OF LETTERS.

On 1st June, 1936, the aerodrome acceptance of letters scheme came into operation. Letters bearing air mail postage at the prescribed rates and additional stamps to the value of 2d. were accepted by accredited representatives of S.A. Airways at air mail centres within the Union and S.W.A. up to within ten minutes of departure of the air mail and handed over to the postal authorities after flight. This scheme is similar to the rail letter system. Covers representing the introduction of this important innovation in the aerial form of communication appear to be very scarce. An interesting feature is that these "late" letters receive an impression of the Airways rubber stamp of the aerodrome at which handed in.

### RAND-WINDHOEK SERVICE.

As from 6th October, 1936, the weekly "feeder" services between Windhoek and Kimberley by single-engined Junkers aircraft was discontinued and from the 8th October a weekly through service (since made bi-weekly) with twin-engined Airspeed Envoyes from Germiston to Windhoek via Kimberley substituted. The return flight was made on 11th October. Bloemfontein was included as a stopping centre on the route. Capt. Rademan was the pilot. This service afforded direct connection with Imperial Airways service at Germiston. Covers representing this new service—the first in which Airspeed Envoy aircraft was used—appear to be very scarce indeed.

### RAND-PORT ELIZABETH SERVICE.

As from 12th October, 1936, a direct service from the Rand to Port Elizabeth via Bloemfontein, operated by Airspeed Envoyes, was inaugurated. The return flight was made on the same day. This service connects with the coastwise service to and from Cape Town. Covers carried on the inaugural flights of this service appear to be very elusive.

### POSTAL RATES ON THE TRANS-AFRICAN AIR ROUTE.

There appears to be great confusion in the mind of the public in every country from Scotland to the Union (both inclusive!!) as to the rates payable for prepayment of postage by air. In all the countries affected there have been great numbers of underpaid letters. In most of them the Post Offices have been remitting the surcharges (is it the Xmas spirit about or merely far-seeing business acumen?) sometimes just marking the amounts due but not collecting them, sometimes, as in the case of Nyasaland, attaching a special notice saying that the surcharge is waived for a brief period and asking the recipient to advise his correspondents of the proper charges. Mr. Storey of Blantyre kindly forwarded one of these notices.

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430 Strand, London.

(25th September—25th November, 1937)

- ALGERIA.**—Pictorial. Commemorative of Paris Exhibition. Engraved, no wmk. p. 13. 40c green, 1f50 blue, 1f75c sepia. Constantine Commemorative. Engraved, no wmk. p. 13. Pictorial views of Constantine in 1837. .65c bright carmine, 1f sepia, 1f75 blue, 2f15 mauve.
- AUSTRALIA.**—Sesqui-Centenary of N.S.W. Commemorative. Engraved, C of A & crown wmk. multiple, p. 13½ x 14 comb machine. Pictorial designs, Governor Phillip at Sydney Cove 1788. 2d. bright orange, 3d. ultramarine, 9d. lilac.
- AUSTRIA.**—100 Years' Railway Commemorative. Photogravure, no wmk. perf. 12½. Design: Railway trains of 3 epochs. 12gr sepia, 25gr purple, 35gr terra cotta. New Winter Help set. Photogravure, no wmk. perf. 12½. Design: Charitable acts within oval. 5+2gr green, 12+3gr brown, 24+6gr deep blue, 1Sch+1Sch carmine.
- BELGIUM.**—Precancel. S.G. type 69 overprinted in black in 4 lines. "BELGIQUE"/1937/BELGIE/10c on 40c purple. Eugene Ysay Musicians Fund. Photogravure, p. 14 x 13½. Design: Portrait of Queen Elizabeth. 70c+5c black, 1f75c+25c bright blue. Also a miniature sheet perforated block of four, inscribed "FONDATION MUSICALE REINE ELIZABETH."
- BELGIAN CONGO.**—1937. Engraved, pictorial set of 1931/2, no wmk. p. 11½. 1f50 grey, Village; 2f50 blue, Tapir.
- BRAZIL.**—Engraved by Waterlow & Sons, Ltd., London, in two colours (centre in second named), no wmk. perf. 12½. Designs: View of Monroe Palace, Rio, and View of Botanical Gardens, Rio. 200r brown and blue, 300r orange and green, 2,000r green and carmine, 10,000r lake and black. Commem. of 200th Anniversary of Founding Rio Grande. Engraved, wmk. "BRASIL CORREOS" S.G. type 156 inverted, perf. 11½. Portrait head Brigadeiro J. D. A. Silva Paes. 300r blue. Esperanto Jubilee Commemorative, with date 1887-1937 and design of the Globe. Line engraved rotary, wmk. S.G. type 113, p. 11. 300 reis green.
- BULGARIA.**—Photogravure. no wmk. p. 11½. 1 leva green, 2 leva red brown, and 4 leva vermilion, all portraits of Princess Marie Louise; 2 leva red brown, portrait of King Boris.
- COLOMBIA.**—National Red Cross. Lithographed, no wmk. p. 11. Design of Charity. 5c red.
- CUBA.**—Commemorative, Centenary of Sugar Industry. Line engraved, wmk. large star, perf. 10. Pictorial designs. 1c green, 2c carmine, 5c blue.
- CURACAO.**—Typographed, no wmk. p. 13½ x 12½. Postage Due, figure type as before. 10c pale green. Post Due. S.G. type D 2, perf. 13½ x 12½. 25c pale green.
- CZECHOSLOVAKIA.**—Mourning stamps. Line engraved, rotary press. Masaryk portraits 50h small format (S.G. type 38), 2Kr large format (S.G. type 55); 50h black; 2Kr grey black. Engraved, no wmk., perf. 12½ line machine. S.G. 354, 356, 363 overprinted in block capitals "B.I.T.1937." 50h, iKr50, 2Kr.
- DANZIG.**—Town of Danzig Commemorative. Typographed, wmk. honeycomb, perf. 14. Design: Arms of the City. 25+25pf scarlet, 40+40pf blue and vermilion.
- DENMARK.**—Issued to commemorate the Copenhagen Jubilee Exhibition. S.G. type 43 (figure) overprinted in blue in three lines in block letters:—K. P. K./17. -26. Sept./19 37. 10 ore grey brown.
- DUTCH INDIES.**—S.G. type 38 Rice Cultivation. No wmk. perf. 11½ x 12½. 3½c grey.
- ECUADOR.**—Tax stamp overprinted "TIMBRE PATRIOTICO" in large black Roman capitals, no wmk. perf. 14 line machine. 5c brown.
- EGYPT.**—Commemorative, Montreux Conference, Abolition of Capitulations. Photogravure, wmk. S.G. type 48, p. 13½. 5m brown, 15m dull purple, 20m blue.
- FRANCE.**—Pictorial design commemorating the Constitution of the United States of America 17th September, 1787. Line engraved, no wmk. perf. 13. 1fr75c blue. Peace type. Perf. 14 x 13½ comb machine. 55c dull violet, 60c yellow brown, 65c ultramarine. Engraved, no wmk. perf. 13 comb machine. Design: Route du Col de L'Iseran (Savoie) Alt. 2,769m. 90c deep dull green. Peace type. Provisional 80/1fr orange, in red, two bars obliterating 1fr. Sower type. 35c green.
- GERMANY.**—New Winter Help Charity stamps. Engraved, no wmk. perf. 14. 3+2pf brown, Lifeboat; 4+3pf black, Lightship; 5+3pf emerald, Fishing Smks.; 6+4pf dull green, Merchantship; 8+4pf brick red, Windjammer; 12+6pf carmine, Buoylight; 15+10pf brown lilac, Dredger; 25+15pf grey blue, Liner (Bremen and Europa); 40+35pf mauve (same type as 25pf).
- GREECE.**—New pictorial set. Various mythological subjects. Upright, perf. 12½ x 13½. Transverse, perf. 13½ x 12½. 5 lepta blue and terra cotta, 10 lepta terra cotta and blue, 20 lepta, green and black, 40 lepta black and green, 50 lepta black and brown, 80 lepta brown and grey blue, 2 Dr ultramarine, 5 Dr rose red, 6 Dr olive, 7 Dr brown, 10 Dr red brown, 15 Dr blue green, 25 Dr indigo.
- GWALIOR STATE.**—Overprinted on India K.G.V. Nasik print, inscribed "INDIA POSTAGE" Typographed, overprinted by litho, wmk. multiple stars, perf. 13½ x 14.

- 1a deep green, 1a.3p mauve, 2a vermilion Die 1. Service. Typographed Nasik print, wmk. multiple star, K.G.V. design. Type set overprint S.G.9. spaced 10mm (top line 13mm long). 2a vermilion, re-engraved Die II, inscribed "INDIA POSTAGE."
- ICELAND.—Portrait King Christian IV. S.G. type 15 redrawn. Typographed frame, off-set photo, no wmk. perf. 11½. 1 eyr scarlet and yellow green.
- INDIA.—Nasik printing, wmk. mult. star K.G.V. overprinted "SERVICE" inscribed "INDIA POSTAGE." 6a bistre. K.G. VI. type, overprinted "SERVICE" S.G. type 117. 9 pies, slate green.
- INDORE.—Engraved, p. 14. S.G. type 7. 2a blue.
- IRISH FREE STATE.—Permanent Issue. Surface printed, chalk surfaced paper, wmk. S.G. type 10, perforated 14 x 15 comb. Irish allegorical design. 2s. 6d. green, 5s. claret, 10s. blue.
- ITALY.—Commemorative of the 2,000th anniversary of Emperor Augustus. Photogravure, wmk. crown, perf. 14. Postage: 10c deep blue green, 15c olive brown, 20c red, 25c green, 30c olive, 50c purple, 75c scarlet, 1L-25c blue, 1L75c+1L claret, 2L55c+2L grey black. Air Mail: 25c violet, 50c olive, 80c yellow brown, 1L+1L blue, 5L+1L slate purple. Commemorative. Photogravure, wmk. crown, perf. 14. Designs of five famous Italian artists. 10c olive brown, Centenary of Spontini; 20c rose, Centenary of Stradivari; 25c deep green, Centenary of Leopardi; 30c olive brown, Centenary of Pergolesi; 50c purple, Leopardi; 75c scarlet, Pergolesi; 1L25c deep blue, Centenary of Giotto; 1L75c orange, Spontini; 2L55+2L grey green, Stradivari; 2L75+2L brown, Giotto.
- JAPAN.—Typographed, wmk. S.G. 29a. Design SG types 27, 28, 29, 31, 36 on white paper. 1s olive, 6s carmine, 7s orange, 8s olive bistre, 10s carmine (1926 type Temple), 30s orange and green.
- JUGO SLAVIA.—New Pictorial Air Mail. Photogravure, no wmk. perf. 12½ x 13 (Transverse), 13 x 12½ (Upright). 50p brown, 1D green, 2D grey, 2½D carmine, 5D purple, 10D terra cotta, 20D myrtle, 30D ultra. National Philatelic Exhibition. Line engraved miniature sheet of 4 (perforated), one perf. extending each way at corners and centres. No wmk. n. 14. Inscription at top and foot and frame line in blue. National costumes design. D1 green, D1.50 mauve, D2 red, D4 blue. Sold at 18D.
- KELANTAN.—Further values of the new issue. Design: Sultan's portrait. 6c carmine, 10c purple, 30c scarlet and purple, 50c orange and reseda, 1\$ blue green and purple.
- KISHENGARH.—Photolitho on thickish glazed paper, no wmk. rouletted 14½, portrait type S.G. 17. 2a bright mauve.
- LIECHTENSTEIN.—Pictorial. Photogravure, no wmk. p. 11½. 5c deep green, 20c red orange, 25c red brown. 5c and 20c have also appeared with overprint, as before, encircling crown "REGIERUNGS DIENST-SACHE."
- LEBANON REPUBLIC.—No wmk., various designs. Op. 10 rose, Cedar tree, small; Cp. 50 pink, Cedar tree, small; 4P 50 lake, portrait, large; 10r red brown, pictorial, large. The small stamps are typographed perf. 13½, the large engraved, perf. 13. Engraved, no wmk. perf. 13. President's portrait. New values. 3P purple, 4P sepia.
- MANCHUKUO.—Recess printed, wmk. S.G. type 15 on granite paper, p. 13, design S.G. type 11, Orchids and Kaol ang. 2½f. purple. 5 Years' Plan Commem. Recess printed, no wmk. p. 12½. Two pictorial designs: (a) Pigeon pouting, (b) Flag, etc. Issue sold out in two—three hours. 2f purple, 4f carmine, 10f deep green, 20f deep blue.
- MEXICO.—Postage design Arms type, Palenque Cross. Wmk. CORREOS S.G. type 67, perf. 14, comb machine. 10c mauve.
- NABHA STATE.—Overprinted on India K.G.V. Nasik print, inscribed "INDIA POSTAGE." Typographed, overprinted by litho, wmk. multiple stars, perf. 13½ x 14. 1a deep green, 1a deep brown.
- NEW ZEALAND.—Official. Engraved printing, wet plate, with type set overprint. Mult. N.Z. and star wmk. p. 14 x 13½. Die II. Apteryx S.G. type 82 overprinted "OFFICIAL" S.G. type 184. 1d. carmine. Health stamp. Engraved, wmk. single N Z and star (two wmk. on each stamp) perf. 11. Design of mountaineer. 1d. + 1d. red.
- NICARAGUA.—1930 issue overprinted with official seal in black triangle in circle. Engraved, designs 79/80. 1c carmine, 2c blue, 3c sepia, 5c orange red, 10c olive, 15c blue green, 25c orange, 50c brown, 1C\$ deep blue.
- NORWAY.—Photogravure, wmk. posthorn S.G. type 7, perf. 12½ x 13½. S.G. types 12 and 22. Size of designs slightly larger than before. 1ore drab. 2o brown, 3o orange, 5o mauve, 7o green, 10o green, 14o orange, 15o olive, 20o scarlet, 25o red brown, 30o bright ultramarine, 35o violet, 40o deep myrtle green, 50o mauve, 60o blue.
- PHILIPPINE IS.—Recess printed, postage issue of 1935 overprinted "COMMON-WEALTH" in black. 8c violet, 10c carmine, 12c slate, 26c indigo, 2\$ black and brown, 4\$ black and blue, 5\$ black and green. P. Due type overprinted in deep blue "3 CVOS. 3" at foot, on the 4c carmine.
- POLAND.—Postage Dues, S.G. type D3, surcharged values in black. Thin wove paper, no wmk. 25gr on 40gr brown, 30gr on 40gr. brown, 50gr on 40gr brown. Commemorative of visit of King of Roumania to Poland. Engraved miniature sheet of 4 (perforated), one perf. extending each way at corners. No wmk. p. 12½ x 13. Inscribed at top in red. Arms and date "26.VI.1.VII"/1937 in two lines. 25gr olive green, Marshal Smigly Ryzd: 50gr blue, Marshal Pilsudski; 1ZL indigo, President of Poland.

PORTUGAL.—Geographical Society stamp. No wmk. single line p. 11½. Dull violet and rose.

SIAM.—Air Mail. Engraved by Waterlow. No. wmk. perf. 12½. S.G. type 74 "Garuda" Bird. 2 stang purple on yellow, 25 stang indigo, 50 stang black and orange.

SORUTH.—Typographed. S.G. type 15, portrait, but inscribed "POSTAGE AND REVENUE," no wmk. p. 14. 1a carmine and black.

S. AFRICA.—Mining design as before but overprinted "OFFICIAL." 1½d. blue green and gold, overprinted vertically reading down:—At left: "OFFISIEEL," measuring 17mm; at right: "OFFICIAL," measuring 15mm. Black overprint, typeset, 20mm apart, in block type letters 2mm high. 1d. new distinct shade, worn plate, "SUID-AFRIKA" with hyphen, perf. 14½ x 14. Rotogravure, new colours, perf. 14. 1s. deep blue and grey, 2s. 6d. yellow brown and deep blue grn., 5s. deep blue green and deep centre.

SPAIN.—Typographed miniature sheet imperf. on yellow paper. Commemorative issue, design Statue of Casanova. 5c black on yellow. Imperf. sheet of 4, Ayamonte type. 5c blue and "VIVA FRANCO" in red.

SPANISH MOROCCO.—Photogravure, no wmk. perf. 11½ line machine. Triangular shape. 5c brown.

STRAITS SETTLEMENTS.—Surface printed, script wmk. perf. 14 comb machine. K.G. VI. head type. 10c dull purple. The first K.G. VI. stamp on script paper. Surface printed, script wmk. p. 14 comb machine. K.G. VI. head type inscribed at top "MALAYA." 5c brown.

SUDAN.—Official. Camel type S.G. type 2, perf. 14, overprinted "S.G." as S.G. type 24, wmk. S.G. single line capitals as S.G. type 7. 10 Piastres, black and purple.

SWITZERLAND.—Automobile Post. Photogravure, no wmk. perf. 11½, design of the Motor Post Car. These can only be purchased at the Special Car of the movable Post Office, which is located, according to circumstances, all over Switzerland, and at each station there is a special postmark. 10c black and yellow. Postage Dues, S.G. type D 4, type set, overprinted in black (large block figures 5½mm high). 5c on 15c red and olive green, 10c on 30c red and olive green, 20c on 50c red and olive green, 40c on 50c red and olive green.

SYRIA.—Air Mail. Engraved, no wmk, perf. 13. Pictorial views of Aleppo or Damascus. ½P purple, 1P black, 2P blue green, 3P ultra, 5P mauve, 10P red brown, 15P red brown, 25P blue.

TURKEY.—Litho-offset, no wmk., perf. 12. Design: Stag or bust. 3Kr lilac, Stag; 6K pale blue, Bust; 7½K pink, Stag; 12½K indigo, Bust.

U.S.A.—Rotary press, pictorial design showing signing of Constitution at Convention of Philadelphia. Perf. 11½. A new colour

scheme for the 3c Commemoratives of a very violet nature. Issued 17th Sept., 1937. 3c bright magenta. Hawaii Commemorative. Engraved, rotary, no wmk. p. 10½ x 11. Design: Hawaiian Statue. 3c lilac. Alaska Commemorative. Engraved, printed by Rotary press, no wmk. perf. 11 x 10½. Design: Yukon River. 3c purple.

VENEZUELA.—Air Mail, new value. Photogravure, p. 11 line machine, no wmk. 20B greyish black.

#### STAMP COLLECTORS' ANNUAL.

The *Stamp Collectors' Annual and Diary* published by the *Philatelic Magazine*, has, as usual, lots of interesting articles and information. We can only mention some of them as a guide to readers. "Some of the World's Postal Museums," a brief description of the scope of them. "The Mystery of Tannou Touva"—The case is left to the reader to give a verdict on. If he can add two and two together he ought to be able to give the answer. "The Nationalist Stamps of the Spanish Civil War"—an illustrated guide for catalogue publishers and others. "Greek Posts in Thessaly." "The Universal Postal Union"—its functions and members with a complete record of all dates of joining. "Stamps Demonetized"—a record, but not yet quite complete.

## COLLECTORS' WANTS AND OFFERS

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

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

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

William Redford, Box 7012, Johannesburg.

Union of South Africa.—I am interested in everything appertaining to Union of South Africa, including Inter-Provincials, Specimens, Control Blocks, Freaks, Air Mail Covers, Entires, etc. Send approval selections for cash, or would consider exchange with Union specialists.

Sam Legator, Box 133, Brakpan.

The International Collectors' Club. Secretariat: 35 Kerstant v. d. Bergelaan, Hillegersberg, Rotterdam (Holland). Members in all parts of the globe. Prospectus free on application.

## Society News

### PRETORIA PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

*President*, Dr. A. J. Broughton; *Hon. Secretary*, Prof. H. A. Wager, Box 514. *Meetings*, 1st and 3rd Mondays, Technical College, 8 p.m.

December 6.—Dr. Broughton was in the chair. Two new members were elected. Mr. Hawke read some interesting philatelic news extracts.

Dr. Broughton read a paper on the Purchase and Sale of stamps. He gave some good advice on the subject but pointed out that although the financial aspect was not the aim of the hobby, it might be kept in mind when buying stamps.

Mr. Obermeyer tabler a fine display of Indian Native States.

December 20.—Dr. Broughton was in the chair. Mr. Hawke gave some philatelic press extracts.

Short talks were given by various members on philatelic subjects and experiences. Those taking part were Messrs. Obermeyer, Hawke, Blockey, Kriste, Giovanetti, Wager, de Boom, Baxter and A. Watson.

Mr. Obermeyer showed his fine collection of Natal.

H.A.W.

### PORT ELIZABETH PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

*President*, G. K. Forbes; *Hon. Secretary*, C. W. Sheffield, c/o. Joseph and Sons, Main Street, Port Elizabeth. *Regular monthly meetings*, Tuesdays nearest middle of month at 7.45 p.m. African Room, Public Library. *Monthly auxiliary meetings*, 1st Tuesdays, 8 p.m., B.E.S.L. Hall.

The December first Tuesday meeting place was changed to the Metro Tea Lounge where members were the guests of the President, Mr. G. K. Forbes, at an informal gathering at which, with the aid of more cheerful surroundings, musical accompaniment and a variety of beverages, even more than the ordinary amount of goodwill among philatelists was generated.

Mr. Howard Hemming once again provided the "food for thought" by sponsoring two most interesting competitions. The first of these constituted naming the countries of issue of 15 different stamps which were only partly visible and the manner in which a number of philatelists of long standing came to grief was remarkable.

The second competition was one in which it was necessary to name correctly the colours of certain common stamps each exhibited on a small card. Whether the failure of even the winner of this competition to name more

than nine out of 20 colours was due to artificial illumination, melancholy music or effervescent refreshment cannot be related here but suffice it to say that, in the main, P.E. philatelists on this occasion were poor judges of colour.

Mr. A. S. Campbell, an honorary member of this Society and until recently Post Master of Port Elizabeth, was wished a happy retirement and bon voyage on his forthcoming trip around the world.

Mr. Forbes, at the conclusion of the evening, was most heartily thanked for his generous hospitality.

The usual monthly meeting of the Society was held on Tuesday, 14th December. Two new members were elected and the evening was mainly devoted to the sale of new issues recently received. Just before closing, however, members were indeed pleased to be able to inspect at close quarters a few pages of choice rarities which Mr. Forbes had been requested to display in the showcase in the vestibule of the Library. A few of the more important of these items were as follows: Various Ceylon overprints and imperforates; imperforate Canada, Nos. S.G. 171a and 172a; Jamaica overprint sideways No. S.G. 75d; Tête Beche 1½d. Great Britain George V. No. S.G. 420a; various early Mauritius.

C.A.L.

### PHILATELIC SOCIETY OF NATAL.

*President*, H. H. Hurst; *Hon. Secretary*, Mrs. Reed, Box 588, Durban. *Meetings*, 1st Wednesdays, Durban Publicity Bureau.

There were 45 members and visitors present at the monthly general meeting on December 1, and two members were elected.

It was decided to open the meetings formally in future at 7.30 to give members an opportunity to exchange stamps, and to see the stamps that are to be auctioned. Business to start punctually at 8 p.m. A vote of sympathy was passed to Mrs. A. H. Lovejoy.

Notice was received from Cambridge, England, that the 24th Philatelic Congress of Great Britain was to be held in that town next year.

Three short papers were read. That by Mr. Percy C. Bishop being "What Federation can do for Philately in Southern Africa." This was listened to with great interest and it was decided to devote the whole of the February meeting to discussion on Federation, and the notes prepared by Mr. Bishop to be circulated with a questionnaire to all members previous to the meeting. Mr. H. Schroeder took an unusual subject for his paper, "Post Offices of the Frozen North," and this paper will be found elsewhere in this magazine. Mr. Norman Welsford read us a scathing article from the *Philatelist* exposing some of the frauds that unsuspecting collectors fall victims to.

G.R.



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

*President*, F. Carter; *Hon. Sec.*, F. Knight, c/o. Box 702, Bloemfontein. *Meetings*, 2nd Friday of each month at the Oranje Koffiehuis, Maitland St., Bloemfontein.

There was an average attendance in the Oranje Koffiehuis when the President, Mr. F. Carter, presided over the Society's monthly meeting on Friday, December 10.

The meeting took the form of an open meeting and several items were discussed, one of which was the difficulty in getting official information from the Postal Department with regard to the number of stamps issued, sold, withdrawn and destroyed.

It was also pointed out that very often we get our information from overseas in connection with South Africa's new issues and re-prints, etc., instead of being the first to know about our own country's doings.

It was decided to write the Post Master General for information about certain new issues according to the London Philatelic Press.

The exchange Superintendent reported on the sales of the packets circulating among members and it was pleasing to note that some of the sales amounted to 55 per cent.

F.K.

(Continued from page 3).

often affectionately termed) gripped in his hand, acting as silent sentry over the laager to guard it against a surprise attack. The ox-hide shields and sharp-pointed assegais at either side represent Zulu weapons, symbolic of barbaric Africa.

The indispensable "boervrou," with her bonnet (kappie) and typical dress, adorns the threepenny stamp.

On 16th January, 1936, the half-penny denomination appeared. It is undoubtedly the most beautiful of all our stamps thus far printed by the rotogravure process. It is a plain design of the "Church of the Vow," which was erected in 1840 on the spot where, two years before, Sarel Celliers and the trekkers made a covenant that if God gave them the victory they would build a church and consecrate that day "as a Thanksgiving Day, a Sabbath for evermore."

The building, which stands in Pietermaritzburg, now serves as a museum for Voortrekker relics. It is built of stone (slate) and originally had unplastered walls, with the doors at the sides. To-day, tiles have displaced the original thatch and a porch has been added. It is a solid edifice with gables of the typical Cape-Dutch style of architecture.

The Rev. Erasmus Smit, who accompanied the Voortrekkers to Natal, was its first minister. Regular services were conducted in the little church until 1861, when a new church was built beside it. The latter is the Mother Church of the Dutch Reformed Church of Natal, and still uses the original pulpit of the Voortrekker Church.

In 1874 the "Church of the Covenant" was sold, and served less worthy purposes until 1912, when it was re-purchased and restored, as far as possible, to its original design. On 16th December, 1912, the building became a museum for the housing of Voortrekker antiques.

### POST OFFICES OF THE FROZEN NORTH

In presenting my paper to-night on Unusual Postmarks, I thought that members would be very interested to hear about some of the loneliest post offices of the British Empire—those of the frozen north.

Every year a vessel belonging to the Hudson Bay Company makes a trip to the arctic regions, calling at the various trading and police stations of the North West Territories. This vessel, the "Nascopie," apart from carrying stores, officials and scientists, also carries a big philatelic mail. This mail is specially catered for annually by the Post Office, Montreal, and is posted from the various points of call that the "Nascopie" makes.

This year the "Nascopie" left Montreal on a Friday, the 13th, and after putting in at Hebron, Newfoundland, and other ports of Labrador, reached her first port of call, Churchill, Manitoba. Continuing her voyage, and being feted at all ports of call by the inhabitants, her last port was Pangnirtung, N.W.T. Between these places she also called at Port Harrison, Lake Harbour, Port Burwell, Chesterfield Inlet, and Craig Harbour. All these places have contributed their postmarks to my collection.

To give the members some idea of these outposts, I supply the following little items of interest.

Lake Harbour, N.W.T., is a trading and police post, with a population of 16 Europeans and 142 Eskimos.

Craig Harbour is the most northerly post office in Canada, and is only 830 miles from the North Pole. It boasts of a police post, and a small Eskimo population, which, however, is continually on the move.

Pangnirtung, Baffin Land, the last port of call, is regarded as an important centre, with a population of twelve Europeans and 54 Eskimos. In addition to the police post, trading station, and missions, there is also a hospital, which caters for all the urgent cases of the frozen wastes.

So seldom do they deal with mails in these parts that it was overlooked once to change the date stamps, making it necessary to alter the dates in ink.

Perhaps the most interesting point from the philatelist's point of view of the 1937 "Nascopie" mails, is the fact that all mails that bore Coronation stamps, can be regarded as "first day" covers, since it was on this particular trip that Canadian Coronation stamps were first offered for sale, and used, in Baffin Land.

H. SCHROEDER, Durban.

# The SOUTH AFRICAN PHILATELIST

*Proprietors and Publishers :*

**The Philatelic Congress of Southern Africa**

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No. 2.

## Union Notes

Under date of 29th December, 1937, the Government Printer writes:—

“Further to my minute of 9/11/1889 of the 9th March, I have to inform you that the order for 1d. postage stamps is now complete, the same cylinders, namely, No. 7022 interior and No. 20 exterior, being used throughout. The final delivery was made on the 30th ultimo, making a total of 508,150 sheets.

New orders have been received and 500,000 1d. and 250,000 ½d. sheets of 240 postage stamps are being reprinted. The same cylinders as for the previous issues are being used. The following are the dates of first deliveries and cylinder numbers:—

	Delivery Commenced.	Interior Cylinder No.	Exterior Cylinder No.
1d. Postage	2/12/37	7022	20
½d. Postage	23/11/37	6934	26

The following quantities of Postage stamps have been overprinted with the words

“OFFICIAL OFFISIEEL”:—

200 sheet	x	240	@	½d.
250	x	240	@	1d.
150	x	120	@	1½d.
150	x	120	@	2d.
50	x	240	@	6d.
75	x	120	@	1/-
25	x	60	@	2/6

These sheets were supplied from the Postmaster-General's stocks and overprinted from type on a flat bed machine.”

### AIRMAIL OVERTAX IN THE UNION.

Mr. I. H. C. Godfrey sends the following detailed information about the procedure which has recently been in practice over insufficiently prepaid airmails:—

“During the Christmas Season the Union Post Office, following the lead of Great Britain, decided to waive surcharge on under-franked correspondence from and to those Territories served by the Empire Airmail Scheme, which was inaugurated just over six months previously so far as British Territories in Africa are concerned. Instead of collecting Postage Due fees on letters bearing the Tax impressions, which were as usual placed on under-franked letters abroad, the local Postal Authorities affixed gummed labels (approximately 3in. x 1½in., on various shades of yellowish paper) reading:—

“The postage on this article was insufficiently prepaid. As an exceptional arrangement during the Christmas season a surcharge will not be raised. Kindly advise the sender that the letter rate of postage to the Union of South Africa and South-West Africa is 1½d. per ½ oz.”

“Te min posgeld is op hierdie stuk betaal. As 'n buitengewone reëling gedurende die Kersseisoen sal geen boete gehef word nie. Geliewe die afsender in kennis te stel dat die briefpostarief na die Unie van Suid-Afrika en Suidwes-Afrika 1½d. per ½ ons. is.”

These labels were printed in Strips of Five, rouletted top and bottom, and the total printing was 19,500 such strips—i.e., 97,500—according to advices kindly supplied by the Controller of Propaganda at the Post Office, Pretoria.

Covers bearing the labels, with the requisite Tax handstamp placed on them at the office of origin, seem to be extraordinarily scarce, considering the number printed. The major part of under-franked letters merely bore the Tax “chop” with no amount inserted, and no surcharge was collected. This just shows how many hundreds of thousands of letters enter the Union insufficiently prepaid—that is, of course, assuming that the Christmas Labels were used up. This, however, is not the case, and Mint specimens are obtainable.

## Sunset Covers of South Africa

By EMIL TAMSEN.

After the collecting of "First Day" — so-called "Sunrise Covers" started—the natural sequence was "Last Day" or "Sunset Covers." The only difference is that while Sunrise Covers are born every day, somewhere in the world the Sunset Covers die off gradually and are therefore few and far between; still, they will continue to die as long as new stamps are born.

The collectors of Sunrise Covers have an easy task because these covers are plentiful, but the collector of Sunset Covers will find it a rather difficult job to get a good representative collection together; that is simply because in the past Sunset Covers have been neglected. Is it perhaps the human touch that one does not like to think of one's own funeral?

Well, no matter what the reason is, both classes of these covers have come to stay and will be considered part and parcel of every specialised collection, and the sooner a collector starts to collect them now, while they are to be had, the better for his collection.

Current stamps become obsolete through new issues replacing them; still they usually retain their franking power for some time later, although after a year or two nobody but a collector or dealer may have any of them. As far as I remember of the South African stamps, only the Cape Triangulars, Natal embossed stamps, all Zululand issues and the Transvaal V.R.I. and E.R.I. (the last on account of the extensive forging of same) have been officially declared as being of no franking value; the old pre-1900 stamps of Transvaal and Orange Free State lost their value through conquest.

We have precedents in amalgamations of different stamp issuing territories into a larger one. For instance, Canada, four colonies combining into a Dominion, New Zealand annexing Cook Islands and Samoa, Italy on becoming a kingdom, absorbing nine separate states, Germany absorbing the several stamp issuing towns and countries, Colombia federating eight original states into a Republic. During the Great War, 1914-18, and afterwards under Mandate, the several German Colonies lost the legal use of their stamps, but remember, in all the above-mentioned instances, the then current postage stamps lost their postal franking value on the day of confederation, absorption or annexation, so their Sunset Covers would have to bear that date.

On the other hand, there is the Commonwealth of Australia, which started Federation of the six separate Colonies on 1st January,

1901, and which still allows the postal use of any of the postage stamps of the previous Colonies just as our Union of South Africa has done up to the end of 1937.

When in December last the Union Government gave official notice that all Pre-Union postage stamps of Cape, Natal, O.F.S., and Transvaal would become obsolete and lose their franking power on 31st December, 1937, I considered that such a great interesting philatelic event ought not to be passed over silently, but should be philatelically celebrated and thereby become a memorial to present and future stamp collectors of South African stamps.

After consulting a few friends about this matter, we now have a very limited series of real Sunset Covers, namely, covers franked with only Cape stamps, posted in O.F.S. and sent to Natal, also O.F.S. stamps posted in Natal to Transvaal, and similar ones; further a series of one or two stamps of each of the four colonies mixed and posted in one colony for transmission to another colony. All covers were registered and flown by Airmail.

When these King Edward VII. and Queen Victoria stamps were printed in London some 30 years ago, for the different colonies, then the Airmail service was not thought of. How these stamps must have wondered when being packed in postal bags, dropped into an aeroplane and flown to their destination.

I wonder how they must have felt during their trip and what they would say if they could have spoken, about the present state of postal transport!

### INTERNATIONAL PHILATELIC EXHIBITION, PRAGUE—26th June to 4th July, 1938.

We have received prospectuses of the International Philatelic Exhibition to be held in Prague, from 26th June to 4th July, 1938, under the Presidency of L. Bednar and the Patronage of Dr. Benes, President of the Republic of Czechoslovakia.

Prague is a most fascinating place to visit. The programme of the exhibition offers plenty of scope to all classes of collectors and we can furnish anyone thinking of exhibiting with prospectus and entry forms.

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## Air Mail Notes

By L. A. WYNDHAM.

The summary of the recent S.A. Airways developments is continued:

### RAND-LUSAKA SERVICE.

June, 1937, will always rank prominently in South Africa's aviation history as marking not only the opening of the Empire Flying Boat service between England and South Africa but the inauguration of the first extra-territorial air mail service by S.A. Airways, viz., from the Rand to Lusaka via Pietersburg, Bulawayo and Livingstone. Consequent upon the establishment of Imperial Airways Flying Boat Service between Southampton and Durban, the operation of the bi-weekly overland service between the Rand and Kisumu was taken over jointly by S.A. Airways and "Rana" (Rhodesian and Nyassaland Airways) and Wilson's Airways. Political considerations necessitated S.A. Airways operating only as far as Lusaka for the first month, Imperial Airways continuing to operate the northern section. The service was inaugurated on 9th June—northward by S.A. Airways and southward by "Rana." Capt. F. C. J. Fry was in command of the Junkers JU.52 aircraft "Lord Charles Somerset" from Germiston. Lusaka was reached the same day. It is interesting to note that mail for Livingstone was over-carried to Lusaka and from there flown back on the first return flight on the 11th. The first return flight from Lusaka was commenced on the afternoon of the 11th and Germiston reached the following day. Subsequently the return journey was completed in one day.

### THE GERMISTON DISASTER.

On 14th June, 1937, one of the new JU.52 aircraft which had just arrived from Germany and was commissioned on the Rand-Durban service crashed shortly after taking off from the Germiston airport and was completely wrecked. The aircraft was under the command of the senior commander, Capt. F. C. J. Fry. Of the 13 persons on board, two passengers lost their lives as a result of injuries sustained. It was announced that all the mail had been destroyed but on the following day a bundle comprising 112 letters was discovered amongst the charred wreckage. These letters were forwarded to the addressees in Durban under O.H.M.S. cover on the 15th, accompanied by a roneoed notification from the Postmaster of Johannesburg.

### EXTENSION OF RAND-LUSAKA SERVICE TO KISUMU.

On Sunday, 4th July, 1937, the Rand-Lusaka service was extended to Kisumu via Broken

Kill, Mpika, Mbeya, Dodoma, Moshi and Nairobi. Nairobi was reached on the afternoon of the 5th where an official ceremony of welcome was performed. The journey to Kisumu was completed the following morning. The return flight was commenced on the same day and Johannesburg reached on the 8th. Capt. L. Inggs was in command of the JU.52 "Lord Charles Somerset" which inaugurated the through service. It should be noted that the Empire Air Mail scheme had come into operation on 1st July and that all South African mail was carried "unsurcharged" at the 1½d. rate. Collectors have to be satisfied with South African covers only to represent the through service to Kisumu as it is understood that no Kenya mail is carried by S.A. Airways aircraft in Kenya. Covers posted in Kisumu and Nairobi, although superscribed "Per S.A. Airways" were forwarded by Imperial Airways Flying Boat service via Durban.

### RAND-LOURENCO MARQUES SERVICE.

On 14th July, 1937, without any prior official notice, an experimental air mail flight was made from the Rand to Lourenco Marques carrying overseas mail to connect with the Imperial Airways flying boat service. A single-engined Junkers F.13 aircraft was used. The success of the experiment led to the service being continued as a regular mail-only service. The establishment of this service results in a more expeditious treatment of the Rand, O.F.S. and South-West Africa mails which had previously been flown via Durban. It is understood that only the "late" posted mail for England was flown on the inaugural flight, the main mail having been previously despatched via Durban. Mail for Lourenco Marques itself was carried for the first time on the second service on the 17th. Owing to slight engine trouble the southbound Flying Boat "Centaurus" was late and arrived at Lourenco Marques at the same time as the following Flying Boat "Challenger" on the 19th July. Of the 8,345 lb. of mail carried by these two flying boats, 4,500 lb. was transferred to S.A. Airways at Lourenco Marques and conveyed to Germiston in four S.A. Airways aircraft on the 19th. Covers posted in Lourenco Marques carried on the first return flight are most interesting items in that they bear no postage stamps, but the air mail fee paid is indicated on the special space provided on the air mail label which was "tied down" by a special "Posta Aerea" postmark (see Notes for December, p. 180).

### THE "GOODWILL FLIGHT."

For some time past S.A. Airways have been planning a great extension of their extra-territorial activities and tentative negotiations have been proceeding with the British, Portuguese and Belgian authorities for a service from the Rand to Windhoek via Bechuanaland and thence up the West Coast to Angola and across Angola and the Belgian Congo to Kenya, linking up with the existing Kisumu-Rand

service, a total route mileage of approximately 7,000 miles. In August, 1937, a "goodwill" flight was made over the projected route by the Hon. O. Pirow, the Minister in charge of Airways, accompanied, amongst others, by Col. Holthouse, Airways Manager. Capt. R. D. Madeley commanded the JU.52 "Earl of Caledon" in which this historic flight was made. No mails were carried on the flight and, as far as is at present known, there are no collectable souvenirs thereof.

#### THE GEORGE CRASH.

On Saturday, 16th October, 1937, the single-engined F.13 Junkers aircraft "Sir George Grey" (one of the machines taken over from Union Airways in February, 1934) employed for mail carrying only, conveying from Durban the Cape Town portion of the mail which had left England by the service ex Southampton on the 9th idem, crashed when circling over George preparatory to effecting a landing for refuelling before completing the final stage of its flight to Cape Town. The machine was completely wrecked and both the pilot (Mr. L. J. van Wyk) and the flight engineer were killed. The mail was recovered intact and forwarded to Cape Town by train. As no special franking was employed to indicate that the mail had been slightly delayed as a result of the crash it is not surprising that comparatively very few covers were retained and are available as aero-philatelic souvenirs of this crash.

#### FORGED CORONATION COVERS.

Covers with genuine Gilbert and Ellice Islands stamps but with forged postmarks appear now to be definitely recognized in London. Descriptions of the forged marks have been published in *The Philatelist* and in the *Philatelic Magazine*, but unfortunately the two descriptions are not quite in agreement. The matter is in the hands of Scotland Yard and *Stamp Collecting* has joined in the hunt by offering a reward of £100 for information leading to the conviction of the offenders. Forgeries of Ascension, Solomon Is., Gold Coast and others are also suspected.

#### AIR MAIL ETIQUETTES . . . PORTUGUESE EAST AFRICA . . .

A new printing of the familiar Portuguese East African Airmail Label made its appearance in November, 1937. Very similar in format, colouring and general appearance to the labels so interestingly described by Mr. Norman Hill in the December issue of the "S.A. Philatelist," the new label differs in many respects from its predecessors. The most obvious change is that the words "PAR AVION—POR AVIAO" have been transposed and the Portuguese wording now takes precedence over the French.

I. H. C. GODFREY.

#### TRISTAN DA CUNHA.

On January 3 an Order-in-Council was promulgated in Great Britain declaring Tristan Da Cunha and the other nearby smaller islands (mostly uninhabited) recognised as British possessions, to be Dependencies of St. Helena.

Will Tristan use St. Helena stamps, overprinted St. Helena stamps, or have its own stamps in future? We must just wait and see. A warship is visiting Tristan in March en route from England to Simonstown and perhaps it has the answer on board.

—"Robertson Stamp Coy."

## COLLECTORS' WANTS AND OFFERS

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

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

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

William Redford, Box 7012, Johannesburg.

Union of South Africa.—I am interested in everything appertaining to Union of South Africa, including Inter-Provincials, Specimens, Control Blocks, Freaks, Air Mail Covers, Entires, etc. Send approval selections for cash, or would consider exchange with Union specialists.

Sam Legator, Box 133, Brakpan.

The International Collectors' Club. Secretariat: 35 Kerstant v. d. Bergelaan, Hillegersberg, Rotterdam (Holland). Members in all parts of the globe. Prospectus free on application.

Great Britain K.G. V. Photo set and K.E. VIII. set 1s., post paid. Corbett, 353, Goodwood Avenue, Hornchurch, Essex, England.

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

I am anxious to get postal matter of the Union: Stationary, labels, cachets, cancellations (special and slogans). Of any country I want airmail labels (letters and luggage), airmail stationary and airmail slogan cancellations. Dr. Murray, Murraysburg.

## For Stamp Collectors — Not for Philatelists

By W. J. E. BAXTER.

(Pretoria Philatelic Society, May, 1937.)

It is just about a year ago now since I learned wisdom and joined the Pretoria Society. I wish I had done so fifteen years sooner. But be that as it may, I have a very vivid recollection that on the first night I attended a meeting, quite a number of things were said about general collectors. Taken on the whole, the general collectors seemed to be regarded as a pretty mouldy lot, and a good deal of scorn was poured on the people who count up to see how many varieties they possess, or who take an occasional glance at the catalogue to estimate how values are progressing.

Well, Mr. Chairman, I had to admit to myself that I was one of the sinners. I was a pure and simple general collector. And once a year or thereabouts I had found considerable pleasure in conducting a little private census, seeing how the baby put on weight, and how the various countries had progressed during the year. As regards the financial aspect, certainly I had not given that side much thought, preferring to regard money spent on the collection as money spent on a recreation, which might or might not yield a dividend some day. But even there, I had fallen so far as to keep a rough note of my expenditure.

And as regards specialising, I had never kept two copies of any stamp where one would serve my purpose.

So, not unnaturally, every word that was said that night went straight home to the mark. My conscience pricked as it had never pricked before and I could feel myself blushing to the soles of my feet, as I realised the full depth of my depravity. I walked home that night with downcast head, fully resolved to burn the old collection and start right away specialising in Zululand postmarks.

But as I took a farewell glance at the collection, the other side of the question began to obtrude itself. The thought occurred to me, suppose every collector turned specialist and there were no general collectors left, what would happen to the stamp dealers? As far as I have known them, the stamp dealers are a very decent lot of men, who doubtless lead blameless lives at home and bring up highly respectable families of little stamp dealers. I could not bear the idea of seeing Mrs. Gibbons turned into the street and all the little Whitfield Kings going hungry to bed!

And besides all that, who the dickens wants to live in Bechuanaland all his life when he has the opportunity of seeing the whole globe? Who wants to gaze at page after page of

half penny Union when the artists and printers of the world are turning out pictorials full of beauty and interest?

I am afraid I came back to the next meeting of the Society an unrepentant general collector, quite past all hope of salvation.

From a recent issue of Gibbons' *Stamp Monthly*, I am pleased to find there is somebody equally unregenerate. In a very bright little article, entitled "Stamp Collecting for Fun," Mr. David Pullen writes on various ideas for arranging an exhibit in such a way as to be of interest not only to the stamp collector but also to the non-collecting public, and by such means attracting new "Victims" to the hobby. One of his ideas is to compile an exhibit of stamps depicting various birds and animals, and in this connection he bursts into poetry with an alphabet of the Postage Stamp Zoo. It starts off:

"A is for Antelope, and Argus Pheasant, too,

"It also stands for Anteater, the first thing in our Zoo."

In the exhibit you would show the Antelope of Liberia, 1918 issue; the Argus Pheasant of North Borneo, 1897 issue, and the Anteater of French Guiana, 1904 issue. And so on through the alphabet.

Well, I am no poet, but I have to thank Mr. David Pullen for giving me an idea for tonight's paper. It is a little game you can play all by yourself, quite simple, no rules—you just take a common or garden pin, turn to the index of your catalogue, close your eyes, and jab the pin amongst the numerous countries you will find there with initial "A." Then turn to your collection and see if you can produce a page containing something of interest from the selected country.

My pin missed Austria, Australia, Azerbaijan and all the other A's that turn out stamps by the million, and came to rest in the little republic of Andorra. It was not a very promising start, for all I know about Andorra is that it is a tiny independent state of some 190 square miles sandwiched in between France and Spain. I remember reading that the people, who are all agriculturists, are so happy and peaceable that the standing army of the republic consists of one solitary policeman. I have no doubt he will put up a stout resistance to General Franco, if that gentleman comes along. However, Andorra has some interesting stamps and I have here a page of pictorials from the issue of 1932, depicting characteristic buildings and the mountain scenery of the Pyrenees.



The next jab of the pin took me to Brunei, that out of the way British protectorate on the island of Borneo. The page of stamps I am showing depicts a scene on Brunei river and shows the chief town, which is also called Brunei, and has a population of 25,000. This town is said to be *on* the river but to judge by the stamp it is *in* the river, for the dwellings are built on piles embedded in the water.

The letter C carries us to the other side of the globe, to Canada. This country offers us a multitude of good things in the way of stamps but I think the four commemoratives issued in 1933-34 are outstanding. They depict the "Royal William," to celebrate the centenary of the first trans-Atlantic steamship crossing; the fourth centenary of the discovery of Canada, with Jacques Cartier approaching land; the 150th anniversary of the arrival of the United Empire Loyalists, those 40,000 settlers who relinquished their possessions after the American War of Independence and crossed over into Canada in order to retain their British citizenship (the Vootrekkers of Canada, we might call them); and the stamp celebrating the Bi-Centenary of New Brunswick. The four stamps are truly splendid examples of the producer's art and it is difficult to single out one as better than the others.

I was pleased when the pin next came down in the Dutch Indies, for the Child Welfare stamps of 1930 show us the curiously gabled dwellings; the Bali temple; the hundred up-pointing spires of the ancient Brahmin ruin, which we saw a few nights ago in the College lecture hall downstairs. In the charity set of the following year, 1931, we have Javanese domestic life depicted.

E for Egypt. A few months ago we were given a set of stamps to commemorate the signing of the Anglo-Egyptian Treaty, a treaty which in the outcome may possibly rank in history as one of the most important happenings of the century. They are big stamps, to mark a big event.

Next we find the pin leaves us in France, with plenty of stamps to choose from. Amongst the recent commemoratives, the Pilatre de Rozier stamp issued last year is worthy of a second glance. Pilatre de Rozier surely deserves a place in the list of the world's bravest airmen. He was the first human being to ascend in a balloon, in 1783. The balloonist took a fire up with him, in order to keep up a supply of hot air for the upper envelope. After several experiments Pilatre de Rozier decided to attempt the Channel crossing to England. He succeeded in travelling some distance, when the flames from the fire he carried reached the upper balloon and the airman fell 3,000 feet to his death.

G takes us across the Atlantic to the French islands of Guadeloupe, one of the principal products of which is sugar. A sugar refinery is depicted on the pictorial stamps of 1928.

The pin does not give us much rest, for back we come across the Atlantic again to Holland. Here we have lots of material to select from. I have chosen the Olympic Games set of 1928;

the stamps have the virtue of simplicity but there is abundance of vigour in the designs and the set covers the realm of athletic sport very effectively.

On we go to India, where I was uncertain whether to choose the Silver Jubilee set or the stamps issued in 1931 commemorating the inauguration of New Delhi. I have chosen the latter. Although there is a considerable similarity between the two sets, the New Delhi stamps are more delicate in their colouring and the design is not so over-crowded as in the Jubilee set. New Delhi, the capital of our Indian Empire, is about five miles from the ancient city and is magnificently laid out, with many splendid buildings.

We remain in India for the next page, for the pin pointed to Jaipur State. In 1931, this native state issued a handsome series of stamps to mark the investiture of Rajah Man Singh II. The designs combine all that is modern in production with all that is ancient in the East; up to date printing, paper and perforation conjoined with pictures showing warriors in armour of olden days, elephant and bullock-drawn vehicles, and architecture centuries old. It is interesting to compare these Nasik press productions with native printings of twenty years ago.

K brings us to Kedah in the Straits Settlement group, with the well known sheaf of rice design and the representation of a Malay busily ploughing his fields.

L — Liberia, an African republic originally formed by the freed slaves from America. The principal products are stated to be rubber and palm oil. They forgot to mention postage stamps. But the Liberians have little to learn in the art of selling stamps to collectors. At the end of last year they produced a set of thirteen surcharges on the issue of 1918. The set has this advantage, that some of the high values of the old series have been surcharged, and we can now include in our collections these designs, which are undoubtedly attractive, at a moderate outlay.

The pin selected Mexico for its next visit and here we have a nice little pictorial set issued in 1935, depicting local monuments, industries and scenery.

Travelling Northward to Newfoundland we find two interesting items on the same page. We frequently see ordinary stamps used for air mail postage, but in February, 1933, Newfoundland went to the trouble of over-printing an air mail stamp to convert it for everyday use. The overprint "L and S Post" is a trifle cryptic, but it merely denotes "Land and Sea" Post. The other interesting item might be called a philatelic joke. On the 30 cents Air Mail stamp of July, 1933, is depicted a group of seal hunters, gathered around a hole cut in the ice, eagerly waiting for a seal to come up to the surface. Just a little distance behind them is another hole, quite unguarded, and out of this a seal has popped his head. He seems to be wearing a cheerful grin and one can almost imagine him calling out to the hunters "I see you!"



The pin landed me in trouble amongst the "O's", for it struck Oubangui-Chari. Beyond the fact that this is a slice of French territory situated unpleasantly close to the Equator, I know nothing about it. The postage due pictorials of 1930 depict something that may either be a lake, a mirage, or a slice of the Sahara desert.—Pass on quickly to—

Penrhyn. Most men, no matter what their age, have a good deal of the boy in them (and some women a good deal of the tomboy) and the pictorial issues of Cook Islands and the others of the Pacific group hold always a fascination for me. I understand that Captain Cook was in reality a more or less respectable seafaring gentleman, but one cannot look at his portrait on these stamps without conjuring up visions of Treasure Island, pirates and buccaners; while the palm trees growing down to the beach irresistably revive memories of Robinson Crusoe. We even have a presentable likeness of the black man, Friday, on the 2½d. stamp.

Q.—I hope, Mr. Chairman, you have noticed how studiously I have endeavoured to avoid reference to the ladies in to-night's paper. But they had me beaten when I came to Q, for the pin said Queensland, and here of course Queen Victoria pops up. I am sorry I cannot show anything very attractive from Queensland. Somehow or other, I have never been able to muster up any great enthusiasm for the Australian issues prior to the Commonwealth. Another indication of my depraved tastes.

(To be continued).

#### AN HISTORIC "FIRST-DAY."

We have been shown an extremely interesting and historic cover by Mr. J. R. Jones, of Pontypool, Mon. This is none other than a First-Day of the Orange River Colony mailed on May 28, 1900, the day that the erstwhile Orange Free State was annexed to the British Crown. At that time the name Orange River Colony had not been officially made known, and the stamps, which are the ½d., 1d., 2d., 3d., 6d. and 1s. Orange Free State surcharged and overprinted "V.R.I." are cancelled "BLOEM-FONTEIN O.V.S." The envelope, which bears these stamps is also scarce, being an official cover of the ex-President Steyn's, printed in English.

—"Stamp Collecting."

#### LONDON—CAPE—LONDON RECORD COVERS.

Messrs. A. Phillips of Newport, Mon., England, have the exclusive handling of the covers carried by Flying-Officer A. E. Clouston and Mrs. Kirby Green on their record breaking flight last November. The prices for these may be obtained on application.

#### U.S.A. COMMEMORATIVES.

Mr. George H. Camp of Brooklyn, N.Y., writes that he has been "reading your magazine and enjoyed it very much." Thank you, Mr. Camp. He has also sent three of the most recent (Hawaii, Alaska and Puerto Rico) commemoratives on 1st day covers which he hopes may be mentioned and perhaps illustrated in our pages. Actually several correspondents in America have been sending us first day covers of quite a few of recent American issues. We regret that it has not been possible to make more use of them, but the fact is that in a monthly magazine of the size of the *South African Philatelist* it is quite impossible to do more than simply list in our New Issue Chronicle the ever growing list of the world's new issues and only a very, very few can be favoured with special mention or illustration. We regret especially that we are unable to give more attention to the U.S.A. issues, as there is always some interesting story attached to them. Those specially interested simply must take in one of the many American philatelic papers. We attempt to specialize on philatelic affairs appertaining to Southern Africa, we cannot hope to do more than deal in a very general way with any other region.

#### "JIPEX" IN GERMANY.

Miniature Sheets, or "Blocks" as they are more generally termed on the Continent of Europe, are highly popular amongst collectors there at present. The "Deutsche Briefmarken- und Flugpost-Zeitung" has published in its October number an article on "Die Jipex-Block," with illustrations of the full sheets of 21 "blocks."

#### HOLLAND—VOOR HET KIND.

Mr. W. Lambert reports having received the latest Dutch Charity set. There are five values: 1½c + 1½c, black; 3c + 2c, olive green; 4c + 2c, brick red; 5c + 3c, green; and 12½c + 1½c, blue. The uniform design is that of a child's head.

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73, Prison Reserve, Pretoria.

### SOME WONDERFUL CAPE ENTIRES IN THE COLLECTION OF MR. A. A. JURGENS

The day of making finds in "Capes" is not yet over, judging by an exhibit shown by Mr. A. A. Jurgens, at the meeting of the Cape-town Philatelic Society, held on 9th December, when he showed his collection of Cape Entires from 1853 to 1910.

This consisted of all the varieties of Cape stamps on their original covers, with the exception of the 5s. values, Mr. Jurgens remarked that he had never seen this denomination on a letter, but used on parcels they were fairly common.

A letter posted at Piquetberg on the 29th August, 1853, showing a block of four 4d. triangular stamps on deeply blued paper, and of which no doubt can exist as to its being a first day cover was among the exhibits.

This letter shows the stamps defaced with the triangular C.G.H. defacing stamp, and as a despatching office stamp the octagonal numeral p.m. of 1849 No. 17 was used. (No. 17 being the number allocated to Piquetberg).

Mr. Jurgens drew attention to the fact that the oval receiving and despatching date stamp (which is generally thought among philatelists, not only in this country but overseas as well, to have been brought into use on the 1st September, 1853, when stamps were first issued) only came into use in December, 1853, and that the distribution was not completed until early in 1854, and that meanwhile some of the postmasters made use of the old octagonal numeral postmark. The triangular defacing stamp appears to have been distributed throughout the Colony with the stamps and used from the 1st September.

Another outstanding item shown and of which only 5 specimens are known is the 6d. de la Rue triangular bi-sected and used with a 1d. rectangular as a 4d. stamp. This item was exhibited on the original cover addressed to W. J. Wicht, Capetown, and postmarked Oct. 1868. The shortage of stamps of the 4d. denomination became acute early in November, 1868, and orders placed by country postmasters could not be executed, hence the surcharge "Four Pence" on 6d. on the 17th November. To overcome the difficulty a country postmaster would most naturally revert to the bi-secting which took place in 1861.

### POSTAL PRECANCELS IN GREAT BRITAIN.

By S.G.R.

By courtesy of Kenneth King (Minneapolis, Minn.) and Miss Agnes Johnson (Washington, D.C.) we are able to report a definite and proven case of precancelling for postal purposes and with a special device in England.

The illustration, which was a careful reproduction of figure 168 in "Postmarks of British Isles" by George Brumell, was a device which Mr. Brumell states was used in London on printed matter for precancelling wrappers

used by the great paper distributing agencies. Mr. King states that he has it on the ½d. orange of 1887 with the date as shown; he further shows us the 1d. King George with this device on it in 1922, and the 1c. King George wrapper, quarter face with this same device on it dated 1913. Without recognizing its precancel nature, J. H. Daniels has shown this mark, dated Nov. 17, 1886 in his book on British Postmarks.

Mr. King also shows us the illustration which is figure 200 in Hendy's "Postmarks of the British Isles from 1840" and which was used as a private canceller by the firm of W. H. Smith and Son in August, 1876, and thereafter on pages of newspapers made up then to catch early mail. Whether this is strictly a precancel may be questioned; but it would appear quite evidently to be on a par with the recognized handstamped precancels of Hungary.

The short radiating lines in the four diagonal sectors of the circle as to these two cancellations, do not appear elsewhere among British postmarks as far as can now be determined. It therefore would appear that these are characteristic of precancel devices.

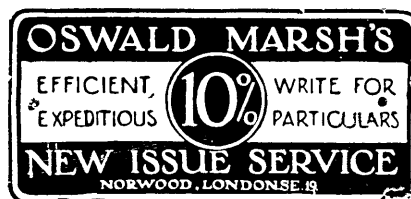
Suspicion of possible precancel use also attaches to the mark with D.S. above the letter F, usually a rough hand-cut device, used by William Dawson and Sons, Ltd., newspaper distributors and a similar one with S.S. above the letter F, used by W. H. Smith and Son. Vallancey in his book on British Postmarks quite definitely says that these "may have been postmarked . . . before dispatch by the firm mentioned," (page 35).

Further information and discussion is invited.

*The Precancel Bee.*

### UNION CORONATION CURIOSITIES.

Miss L. Boshoff reports the finding in Capetown of: (a) A sheet of the 1st printing of the 1d. value "joined paper" variety. The overlapping of the join occurs over the width of the 2nd and 3rd stamps of the left-hand pane of the sheet. (b) A used ½d. (Afrikaans) which is blue instead of green. (There may have been a blue printing instead of a green one, but it is much more probable that this is merely a colour changeling. It is well known that the ordinary Springbok ½d. can be readily changed from green to blue and probably the same can be done in the case of the Coronation ½d.—Ed.).



## The Bechuanalands

Prepared by Major W. J. Harrington,  
V.D.  
(Contd. from p. 8 of January issue).

### STAMPS USED IN BRITISH BECHUANALAND AND IN BECHUANALAND PROTECTORATE.

(Continued).

#### 3. Issues of 1893 and 1895.

The stamps used were those of the Cape of Good Hope (1d. of the 1885 issue and 2d. of the 1894 issue), watermark anchor, locally overprinted with the words "British Bechuanaland" in black ink reading downwards in two lines.

Measurements—"British" 9mm., "Bechuanaland" 18½ mm., distance between lines 5¼ mm. The same type was used as for the 1891 issue.

(a) 1d. *rose-red*. (1893) (48,000 supplied).

- (i) No dots over either "i."
- (ii) "British."
- (iii) "British."
- (iv) "British" omitted.
- (v) "British" omitted so that stamp without overprint.
- (vi) "Bechuanaland" omitted.
- (vii) Missing "l."
- (viii) "u" for "n."
- (ix) Small "s."
- (x) "Bechuanaland" over "British."
- (xi) Dot in centre of "u" (No. 6, row 2 left pane).
- (xii) Space between "t" and "i." (?)
- (xiii) Broken "c." (Bottom row number unknown).
- (xiv) Broken "l."
- (xv) First "i" short.

(b) 2d. *bistre*. (1895). (No record of number supplied).

Varieties as above, plus

- (xvi) Overprint double.

There is a forgery in which there is no full stop and the measurements of which are—"British" 9½ mm., "Bechuanaland" 19½ mm., distance between lines 5½ mm.

British Bechuanaland was absorbed into the Cape of Good Hope on the 16th November, 1895, and ceased to issue stamps as from that date. The stamps on hand were, however, handed over to the Protectorate, where they were used until the stock was exhausted.

### CHAPTER VII.—BECHUANALAND PROTECTORATE

(as a stamp issuing territory).

From the 16th November, 1895, British Bechuanaland, having been absorbed in the Cape of Good Hope, ceased to exist as a Crown Colony. Its stock of stamps was, however, handed over to the Bechuanaland Protectorate, which late in 1896 commenced to issue its own stamps.

#### 1. Issue of 1896/7.

Towards the end of 1896, owing to a shortage of ½d. stamps, an order was sent to the Government of the Cape of Good Hope for a supply of stamps of that value suitably overprinted. For some unknown reason the words "British Bechuanaland" were imprinted on the stamps and the same error was repeated in two subsequent supplies. There were three consignments sent at different times as stocks ran low, each being overprinted by a different firm.



Fig. 31.

The stamp used was the ½d. Green of the 1896 issue, watermarked anchor, overprinted horizontally in black ink with the words "British Bechuanaland" in sans serif capitals in two lines.

(a) ½d. *Yellow-green*. Overprinted by Messrs.

Taylor & Marshall, of Capetown, who supplied 24,000 on the 15th December, 1896.

Measurements—"British" nearly 8 mm., "Bechuanaland" 16 mm., distance between lines 12¾-13 mm.

(b) ½d. *Yellow-Green*. Overprinted by Messrs.

Townsend & Company, of Capetown, who supplied 18,240 on the 19th March, 1897.

Measurements — "British" 7¾ mm., "Bechuanaland" 15½ mm., distance between lines 13½ mm.

(c) ½d. *Yellow-green*. Overprinted by Messrs.

W. A. Richards, of Capetown, who supplied 48,000 on the 9th July, 1897.

Measurements — "British" 7¾ mm., "Bechuanaland" 15 mm., distance between lines 10¼-10½ mm.

In type (a) there is a broken "D" which looks like a reversed "C" and in type (b) there is a double overprint, one of which is faint.

There are a number of varieties (damaged or small letters) and different settings of the word "British" over "Bechuanaland" to be found which in respect of type (b) at any rate, would appear to indicate that the type for the overprint was set up in one row of six from which a stereotype was taken and used ten times for the pane of 60 stamps. This theory, though reasonable, does not apply, however, to a block of 24 (4 rows of 6) of type (a) in the possession of Mr. Stephen G. Rich, of Verona, New Jersey, U.S.A., as the small or broken letters which appear in one row are not repeated in the other rows and furthermore the letter "H" in "BRITISH" is over different portions of "LAN" in "BECHUANALAND." It is therefore possible that the type for the overprint of Messrs. Taylor & Marshall was set up complete for a pane of sixty stamps.

BRITISH  
BECHUANALAND  
Fig. 32.

It would be interesting to learn the results of research by specialists who have more material to work on in respect of these three overprintings.

### 2. Issue of October, 1897—1902.

The stamps used were those of Great Britain (1884-87 issues) overprinted horizontally in black ink with the words "Bechuanaland Protectorate" in sans serif capitals in two lines by Messrs. De la Rue in London.



Fig. 33.

- (a)  $\frac{1}{2}$ d. vermilion. (Overprint at top).

Controls P and Q with continuous jubilee line.

- (b)  $\frac{1}{2}$ d. blue-green. (Overprint at top).  
Control R with continuous jubilee line.

- (c) 1d. lilac. (Overprint in middle).

Controls V and W with continuous jubilee line.

- (d) 2d. green and carmine. (Overprint in middle).

- (e) 3d. purple on yellow. (December) (Overprint at top).

- (f) 4d. green and purple-brown. (Overprint at bottom).

(g) 6d. purple on red. (Overprint in middle).  
Bisects of the 1d. value were reported in the *London Philatelist* for April, 1900. The 4d. value divided vertically was used in November and December, 1899, as a provisional at Palapye Station on official mail initialled "R.M. Post Master."

The copies of the  $\frac{1}{2}$ d. blue-green for Berne were despatched in June, 1901, but the stamps were not issued until the 25th February, 1902, when they were used concurrently with the  $\frac{1}{2}$ d. vermilion.

#### SPECIMENS.

- (a) The word "SPECIMEN" is overprinted horizontally in black sans serif capitals— $14\frac{1}{2}$  mm. by  $2\frac{1}{2}$  mm. on all values.

- (b) The word "SPECIMEN" is overprinted horizontally in black serif capitals—15 mm. by 2 mm. on all values.



Fig. 35.

### 3. Issue of 1904 to 1913.

The stamps used were the Edwardians of Great Britain (1902-1911 issues) overprinted vertically in black ink with the words "BECHUANALAND PROTECTORATE" in sans serif capitals in two lines by Messrs. De la Rue in London.

- (a)  $\frac{1}{2}$ d. blue-green. (March, 1906).

Control B with continuous and also co-extensive jubilee lines.

It has been stated that of this value only 50 sheets (6,000 stamps) were overprinted.



Fig. 36.

- (b)  $\frac{1}{2}$ d. yellow-green. (November, 1908).

Controls E6 and F6 with continuous and co-extensive jubilee lines.

- (c) 1d. scarlet. (April, 1905).

Controls D4 and D5 with continuous and co-extensive jubilee lines.

Controls E6, F6, H8 and I10 with co-extensive jubilee lines.

- (d) 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ d. ultramarine. (29th November, 1904).

(i) Stop after "P" in first printing—No. 9 in row 5.

It has been stated that only 150 sheets of this value were overprinted.

- (e) 1s. scarlet and green. (October, 1912). Somerset House printing.

- (f) 1s. carmine and green. (1913). Somerset House printing.

#### SPECIMENS.

The word "SPECIMEN" is overprinted in black sans serif capitals,  $2\frac{3}{4}$  mm. high, in a semi-circle on the upper half of the 1d. value.

(To be continued).

### CORONATION STAMPS—S. RHODESIA.

In the letter from the P.M.G. quoted on p. 186 of the December number an error in the quantity sold in London of the 3d. value escaped proof correcting. Instead of 21,000 the number should read 240,000, the same number as of the 2d. and 6d. values.

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## Tristan da Cunha and its Mails

By J. H. HARVEY PIRIE.

Most of the information about the postal service of Tristan Da Cunha that I have to put before you is frankly taken from articles written by the late A. J. Sefi and published in the "Philatelic Journal of Great Britain" (Nov., 1924, Dec., 1932, and Feb., 1933), and most of the specimens I have to show come from a collection made by him, which is now in my possession. I have only been able to add very little to his notes, and that mainly pertaining to mails subsequent to 1933.

Tristan Da Cunha, often referred to, and probably correctly, as Britain's loneliest and most inaccessible possession, is situated in the South Atlantic, rather over 1,500 miles west of Capetown and some 1,300 miles south of St. Helena.

The main island of Tristan Da Cunha is an extinct volcano with a circumference of about 21 miles. It is the only inhabited one, the little settlement being known as Edinburgh. The two other islands in the group, distant about 20 miles, are called "Inaccessible" and "Nightingale." (Gough Island, which might also be considered as belonging to the Tristan group, lies much further off, 280 miles S. by E.).

The group was discovered and named by the Portuguese explorer Tristan d'Acunha in 1506. Towards the end of the 18th century sealers occasionally resided on the island for short periods, but it may be said to have been uninhabited until 1811, when one, Jonathan Lambert, reputed to have been a pirate fleeing from justice, settled there with a few shipmates. The island was in those days a port of call for whalers and sealers, and Lambert, calling himself "Emperor of Tristan Da Cunha," issued a proclamation inviting them and the world in general to trade with him and bidding none molest his sovereign rights.

He and his supposed pirate gang had dissensions which, coupled with too great a liking for rum ("Drink and the devil had done the rest"), swept them all away with the exception of one survivor, who was still on the island when the British Government took it over and landed a garrison there in 1816. This was to prevent the possible use of the island as a base for any attempted rescue of Napoleon from St. Helena.

The garrison was withdrawn the following year, but Corporal William Glass, his wife and family and two men, obtained permission to remain at Tristan.

The island received outside additions to its population at various times, such as shipwrecked sailors, who elected to remain there. In the early days of the settlement creole wives came from St. Helena. So for more

than 100 years the population has persisted and at the present time it consists of some 30 families and numbers about 140 persons. Suggestions have been made at various times to evacuate the islanders, but, although individual members of the population have left the island permanently, the bulk of them have strenuously resisted the proposals to remove them.

We come now to the postal arrangements of the island. There is probably no white community in the world with such restricted mail facilities. There is no regular service to the island; there is no post office and there are no special stamps.

At intervals the premeditated visit of a ship allows of incoming mails to be received, and the departure of such a ship, or of any other vessel that may happen to call, gives the inhabitants a chance of despatching an outgoing mail. As there is no postal administration, all out-going mails are considered as "paquetbot" letters posted on board the ship taking them away, and in consequence should be franked with the stamps of the country under whose flag the vessel sails.

In practice, however, as the islanders have no money wherewith to buy stamps from the ships, letters either bear no stamps or they have British stamps which may have been sent from Britain by friends of the community or are in the possession of the resident missionary. Of late years there has usually been a resident missionary sent there through the action of a body in England known as the "Tristan Da Cunha Fund," which has striven for years to ameliorate the conditions of the islanders. Unstamped letters are sometimes charged on delivery in their country of destination; but sometimes they are delivered free—one of the few examples, perhaps the only one, of a "compassionate mail."

Although they have no stamps, the islanders provided themselves years ago with a post-mark and impressed this on their out-going mail, either upon the stamp or upon the envelope. It has not been ascertained when this was first used, but it was probably, says Mr. Sefi, towards the end of last century.

This mark (Type 1) is a small one and consists of the name of the island enclosed within a double-lined circle.

From 1886 to 1900 the Admiralty had been accustomed to send a war-ship annually to the island from Simonstown, but this practice was then



Type 1 Mark.

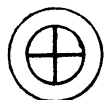
discontinued and the island was without an official visit until that of H.M.S. "Dublin" in 1923.

During the intervening twenty odd years the island had only occasional chance visits from merchant vessels. The first cover which I show (I have none of earlier date than this) was taken from the island in September, 1917, by a French clipper bound for Adelaide. The letter inside is dated December 1st, 1916, and is in answer to one posted in Ireland on October 16th, 1913, which only reached the island by the steam whaler "Ocean" in November, 1916. This letter states "how proud we were to hear from the outside world; it has just been 12 years since we had a mail for the island." Think of it—no mail from 1904 to 1916!

After this date there are no such long periods without communications. I will not give you the full list of those which have been identified; those specially interested can find them in Mr. Sefi's articles. I will merely refer to a few, particularly to such as have something of special interest in the way of postmarks.

Three covers of 1918 still shew Type 1 postmark, but they are all very faint. The letter in one of these, from a Mrs. Glass, widow of one of the descendants of the original "Governor," Corporal Glass, mentions that the hand-stamp "is nearly worn out." The Type 1 marks I have are all in violet and all are fading badly.

Two other 1918 covers have points of interest. They have no Tristan mark on them. One is franked with a St. Helena 1d. stamp which has not been cancelled, but 1d. "Postage Due" has been charged, the St. Helena rate at this date being 1½d. Enquiry made at this time elicited the information that there was now no communication between St. Helena and Tristan and that mail directed for Tristan should be directed via Capetown. The other



cover has a mark (cross within a double circle—, the origin and significance of which has not been ascertained. This mark appears again on a 1929 cover.

Type 2 Postmark, the die for which was made to the order of Mr. Percy Creaghe, was sent to the island by him in March, 1919, and is first seen on a mail brought off by H.M.S. "Yarmouth" on 1st



Type 2.

August of that year. This mark remained in use until 1929, but was not the only one employed during these ten years. It is a large heavy mark of real post office type. Most marks are in violet, a few in a light greyish or brownish black.

In 1922 there was brought into use a fresh type of postmark (Type 3), a "missionary" mark with a Maltese cross on it, presumably taken there by the Rev. Mr. Rogers, who landed in April of that year. During the next three years we find sometimes Type 2 and sometimes Type 3 in use. In May, 1922, the R.Y.S. "Quest," the ship of the Shackleton-Rowett Antarctic Expedition, called and took off mails; covers are shown with their special postmark in addition to Types 2 or 3 Tristan marks. Mr. Rogers left the island in 1925 and apparently took Type 3 mark with



Type 3.

him and for the next four years we find Type 2 mark only. Mr. Sefi illustrates it on a cover dated 1923, however, so apparently it found its way back again.

In 1927 Tristan comes into the limelight by becoming a place of call for tourist ships and I show a cover brought from Tristan as is proved by the letter inside, which was written on Tristan in May, 1926, although the cover itself only has the mark "R.M.S.P. ASTURIAS/ POSTED ON THE HIGH SEAS '19 FEB 1927" and the London Paquebot cancellation of Mar. 14, 1927. I have only seen Type 3 (and Type 4) marks in black.

In 1928 a new postmark (Type 4) first appears. This has been recorded by Mr. Sefi with the date added in MS to it. This is larger than the Type 3 mark and the Maltese cross is replaced by a 5-pointed star.



Type 4.

As already mentioned, Mr. Sefi records the mark which I have called Type 3 as used in 1929 and thinks that that year was the date of its introduction. I have shown samples of it, however, showing that it was in use from 1922 to 1926.

A mark illustrated by Mr. Sefi and which I show should not, I think, be included as a postmark without further evidence. It is a well stencilled production reading "From Tristan da Cunha, South Atlantic," but appears to have been put on the letter at some stage after the letter left the island.

What happened between 1929 and 1934 I am unable to say as I have not been able to obtain any definitely dated covers of that period, although I have notes of at least four vessels calling during that time.

A cover with a "Capetown Paquebot" cancellation, dated 24th February, 1934, with no stamps, has in the letter inside the statement "we have no stamper on Tristan, so I can only

write Tristan Da Cunha," which is written on the envelope. This letter was taxed 2d. on arrival in England.

A cover of later in the year, however, marked as received in London on 22 Oct., 1934, has a mark which I call Type 5. This is very similar to Type 3, but is slightly smaller and the space between the Maltese Cross and the beginning and end of "Tristan Da Cunha" is definitely smaller than



Type 5.

in the Type 3 mark.

This is the mark which is in present use and I have it on 1934, 1935, 1936 and 1937 covers. These are now rather definitely "philatelic" covers. Tristan has been discovered by stamp dealers, postmark and cover collectors, and the romance of Tristan collecting has partly gone with the commercialising of it. During 1934-1936 these marks seem to be all in blue ink; in 1937 both black and mauve occur.

I have a registered cover sent from Johannesburg on 11-3-35, to an addressee "Poste Restante, Tristan da Cunha," but by which boat it reached there I know not. It came back by the "Sylvia de Larrinaga," which called at Durban on 7-1-36. It has the "Registered-Durban" cancellation of 8-1-36 and a 3-line rubber stamp endorsement "Received without/endorsement from/Tristan Da Cunha" with two large 8-pointed stars on either side of the third line. Another cover coming on the same date registered from Tristan has the third line only of the above endorsement on it. Only a few of the covers coming by this mail seem to have received such endorsements.

To bring the story up to date it may be mentioned that covers with Jubilee stamps were not received back from Tristan until early in 1936, coming probably by the "Auditor." The island was visited by H.M.S. "Carlisle" at the beginning of March, 1937, and covers with King Edward VIII. stamps came

back by it. The ship itself had a special souvenir envelope for the occasion, reference to which will be found in the "South African Philatelist" of August, 1937. It should also be mentioned that on the covers coming by the "Carlisle," although the Type V. Tristan mark was present, the stamps were not as a rule cancelled by it. They received Capetown or London Paquebot cancellations. Finally, in January of this year (delivered in Johannesburg on the 22nd) there arrived a mail with covers bearing King Edward VIII. stamps and King George VI. stamps, Coronation or others; this time the stamps were cancelled by the Tristan Type V. mark.

Developments of the Tristan da Cunha post under the auspices of St. Helena (referred to on another page of this issue) are awaited with interest.

#### NEW POSTAL RATE FOR S. RHODESIA.

It has been announced that from February 1, S. Rhodesia will come into line with the rest of the British Empire's letter and post-card rates. To countries of the African Postal Union and countries participating in the Empire Air Mail scheme the letter rate will be 1½d. per ½ oz. (It has been 2d. so far). There is still 1d. rate inside the country.

#### MINIATURE BOOKLETS OF STAMPS.

Mr. L. Simenhoff writes from Capetown: "There was put on sale at the G.P.O. here in November what the local postal authorities call Air Mail Booklets. I am given to understand that they are supposed to be mainly for the benefit of ships' passengers. You get them from a special machine by putting 6d. in the slot and extracting a booklet, something like the chocolate machines. In all probability they may be installed at other South African ports, but as to that I have no definite information." Mr. Simenhoff kindly sent one of the booklets. They have a red cover and contain four 1d. and four ½d. stamps. The booklets are just the size of a pair of stamps side by side with a quarter of an inch of margin on one side through which the four pairs are stitched inside the cover.

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## Correspondence

### "USED PHILATELICALLY."

Sir,

I feel compelled to reply to two of the assertions made by Mr. Wyndham in his notes on this controversy. I entirely agree with him that the object of collecting entires should be "to portray postal history or symbolise some air mail development." I abominate covers plastered with stamps performing no postal duty whatever.

But I most certainly disagree with his final statement that "Covers franked with . . . stamps of Natal . . . are philatelic abortions!" The whole point of covers carried on the occasion referred to was the recording of the new air mail development. The rate was 6d. and it was absolutely immaterial what stamp was used provided it was valid and paid correct postage.

The use of a Natal stamp would have conveyed the interesting philatelic information that after 24 years of Union such a stamp was still valid! In your issue of March, 1934, you publish photographs of two covers bearing respectively stamps of Basutoland and Swaziland used with various Union stamps during the transition period. The postage paid was correct, but there was not the slightest need for Union stamps. Nevertheless the philatelic information conveyed by their use was of intense interest.

With regard to the Boer War entires in question, it is amazing that anyone can be blind to their historic significance, not to mention the fact that their use was permissible.

I am franking the cover of this letter with a Coronation stamp. I might as well have done it with a stamp of George V. or Edward VIII. None of these have been obtainable at any post office for a considerable time. I am not doing it philatelically, but because it is convenient so to do.

If the covers in question are abortions, here then is another!—Yours, etc.,

LANCELOT A. B. SHARPE.

### BRITISH USED ABROAD.

In the November "British Philatelist" Mr. C. Nissen lists quite a lot of newly discovered British stamps used abroad which are not given in the 1938 S.G. With the exception of one from Larnaca, Cyprus, they are all from offices in South America.

**STUDY YOUR COUNTRY'S STAMPS**

### MINIATURE SHEETS.

A storm shows signs of breaking out in the British Philatelic press over these, but whether it will be a real buster or only a teacup one remains to be seen.

One writer describes them as pests and abominations; the opposite view is expressed by another who says that many of us collectors like miniature sheets, like them indeed tremendously, and are quite prepared to pay fancy prices for them.

Meanwhile the French Government have done something which looks like giving a nasty blow to the goose which lays the golden eggs. (Readers may have a free guess as to whom the goose typifies). After getting the backs of the dealers well up by their method of distributing a limited issue of 30,000 sets of French Colonial miniature sheets, they have raised the dander still further by the issue of an additional 30,000 sets. There is talk of the dealers getting together and banning the issue. But will they?

The Editor wishes to express his thanks for Christmas greetings to: Messrs. Frank Godden and H. R. Harmer, London; Messrs. Field, Sutton Coldfield; Harker, Oxford; A. H. Sydow, Capetown; Park Smith, The Strand, and Lichtenstein, Bloemfontein.

## G. B. PENNY BLACKS

I have at present an exceptionally varied selection of these much sought-after stamps available for inspection. Prices are reasonable, and according to condition.

My offer of a special Summer Sale discount still holds good. Have YOU made use of it already?

**A. LICHTENSTEIN,**

B.P.A.

BLOEMFONTEIN.

P.O. Box 576.



## Society News

### CAPE TOWN PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

*President*, Dr. L. B. Goldschmidt; *Hon. Secretary and Treasurer*, Mr. A. A. Jurgens, 26 Woodside Road, Tamboers Kloof, Cape Town. *Meetings*, 2nd and 4th Thursdays, Medical House, 35 Wale Street, Cape Town, at 8 p.m.

23rd September, 1937.—Mr. L. B. Goldschmidt in the chair. A very fine collection of Coronation Issues was displayed by Mr. K. Alexander. The stamps were all on first day covers and very tastefully arranged.

14th October.—Mr. L. B. Goldschmidt in the chair. What can without doubt be considered the finest specialised collection of the stamps of the Orange Free State in South Africa was exhibited by Prof. J. J. Smith of Stellenbosch. Apart from the great rarities shown special mention must be made of the very fine quality and condition of the specimen exhibited. The collection also included a fine lot of the Boer War postmarks, etc. Three new members were elected.

28th October.—Mr. L. B. Goldschmidt in the chair. Mr. L. B. Wyndham tabled his collection of S.A. Airposts. This being the collection for which Mr. Wyndham secured the Gold Medal at J.I.P.E.X. the display was greatly appreciated by all present. Mr. Wyndham also read a paper in connection with his exhibit. One new member was elected.

11th November.—Mr. L. B. Goldschmidt in the chair. Dr. R. Follen in his display "Bits and Pieces" which contained selected items of stamps of the world gave a very fine example of what can be done in collecting only choice items of each stamp issuing country. One new member elected.

25th November.—The Vice-President, Mr. L. Simenhoff, F.R.P.S.L. in the chair. The Vice-President apologised for the absence of the President who had been called away from town. The display of the evening was open to all members, and a very good selection of stamps from various countries was shown. One new member was elected. The Vice-President in welcoming the visitors made special mention of the visit of Mr. Wm. Redford of Johannesburg, a member of the Society, and also an ex-President. Mr. Redford referred to Congress and expressed regret that this Society had not decided to hold Congress at Cape Town.

The Secretary replying, stated that this Society had discussed the matter and that Congress would have been held in Cape Town either in November or December, 1937, but that a request had come from Johannesburg asking us to hold the matter in abeyance until the proposed federation of Philatelic Societies had reached a more advanced stage. The Sec-

retary further reported that the matter was then dropped and that no further communication in connection with the matter had been received.

Mr. Redford then explained that as so many of the Congress Officials were at present absent from Johannesburg nothing could be done until their return. One new member elected.

9th December.—Mr. L. B. Goldschmidt in the chair. The notes on the Cape Entires shown by Mr. A. A. Jurgens are given separately on another page.

23rd December.—No meeting.

A.A.J.

### PHILATELIC SOCIETY OF JOHANNESBURG.

*President*, E. C. Sprighton; *Hon. Secretary*, F. E. Ingham, Box 4967. *Meetings*, 2nd Tuesdays, Carlton Hotel, 7.45 p.m.

The January meeting took place in Kelvin House and it was decided by all the members to hold our future meetings in this new building. After letters of the usual "wishing to make contact" type were read and new issues sold, Mr. Houbert showed us a portion of his large collection of "France."

It was really an outstanding display beautifully written up showing unlimited patience. Numerous shades of various values were shown whilst some perfect specimens of cancellations were found. Every stamp was in excellent condition, especially his 5 franc stamps. Mr. L. Buchen suitably thanked Mr. Houbert for his wonderful exhibit and members cannot remember seeing a better display.

F.E.I.

### PRETORIA PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

*President*, Major W. J. Harrington; *Hon. Secretary*, Prof. H. A. Wager, Box 514. *Meetings*, 1st and 3rd Mondays, Technical College, 8 p.m.

January 17.—This was the occasion of the annual general meeting. The chairman, Dr. A. J. Broughton, reported that the year's activities of the society showed it to be in a very flourishing position. There were now 166 members. The reports of the various officials were approved.

The following officials were elected for 1938: President, Major W. J. Harrington; Vice-President, Dr. A. J. Broughton; Secretary, Professor Wager; Treasurer, Mr. N. L. Watson; Librarian, Mr. H. N. B. Hawke; Curator of Society's Collection, Mr. C. G. Mummery; Curator of Forgery Collection, Mr. G. Blockey.

The Society's two collections were placed on view for the members.

It was resolved unanimously to enrol Mr. G. Blockey and Major J. Milligan as Honorary Members of the Society.

H.A.W.

The  
SOUTH AFRICAN PHILATELIST

Proprietors and Publishers :

The Philatelic Congress of Southern Africa

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MARCH, 1938.

No. 3.

Union Notes

SOUTH AFRICAN FLAWS.

Some of the flaws here noted have already been reported in our pages, but it may be of interest to quote the following from *Gibbons' Stamp Monthly*, as giving an overseas' point of view.

"The collection of plate flaw varieties in photogravure stamps presents a problem to many collectors on account of the difficulty of setting a standard as to what is not worth including. Those who collect flaws just because they are flaws are not troubled as they need select only those that take their fancy, but there are many students who collect them in order to discover fresh printings on new plates, particularly in South African issues which have no controls or sheet-markings.

"It may, therefore, be helpful to place on record the varieties found in the complete sheets of South African stamps recently received and examined. Those mentioned here are a selection of the most prominent and are considered sufficient to identify the plates, or more correctly, the cylinders."

1d.

No. 184 (centre). Oblique line between horns.

No. 185 (centre) Line omitted between horns and curved line extending into the green frame at right.

No. 205 (frame). White edge and heavy coloured line below AFR. Lines misshapen in top panel.

1½d.

No. 66 (frame). Flaw in chimney at left and faint impression of top of shaft-head.

No. 74 (frame). Damage possibly retouched to framework at right.

6d.

No. 58 (centre). Shaft of darker shading at left.

No. 239 (centre). Large green flaw below tree at right.

(These last two have also been reported by two local correspondents.—Ed.)

UNION 1d. CORONATION.

JOINED PAPER VARIETY.

A correspondent in East London reports having in his possession another specimen of "joined paper variety" of the first printing of the 1d. Coronation. The join is in the second last row of the sheet, right hand frame; if the stamps were separated some of them would have small pieces blank.

EMPIRE AIR MAIL SCHEME.

Here follows the essential parts of a notice issued by the postal authorities early in February:

The second step in the Empire Air Mail Scheme will be inaugurated when the air service now operating between Great Britain and the Union of South Africa is extended as far as Malaya.

The new route proceeds East of Egypt via Palestine, Trans-Jordan, India and Burma, and in addition to these countries other places adjacent to the route as well as Canada and Newfoundland will be brought within the scope of the Scheme.

The change will have effect in the Union and South-West Africa on the 18th February, 1938.

The complete list of countries to which all first class mail matter originating in the Union, and South-West Africa will be despatched by air mail is as follows:—

COUNTRIES AT PRESENT SERVED.

Great Britain and Northern Ireland, Eire (Irish Free State), Anglo-Egyptian Sudan, Kenya (Colony and Protectorate), Uganda Protectorate, Tanganyika Territory, Mauritius, Nyasaland Protectorate, Northern Rhodesia, Southern Rhodesia, Zanzibar Protectorate.

**ADDITIONAL COUNTRIES IN THE SCHEME WITH EFFECT FROM 18th FEBRUARY, 1938.**

Egypt, Aden, Palestine and Trans-Jordan, India (including British Indian Post Offices on the Persian Gulf, in French India and in Tibet, but excluding Portuguese India), Ceylon, Seychelles, Burma, Malaya, Federated Malay States (Negri Sembilan, Pahang, Perak, Selangor), Unfederated Malay States (Jahore, Kedah, Kelantan, Perlis, Trengganu, Brunei), Straits Settlements, North Borneo, Sarawak, Canada, Newfoundland.

The *Rates of Postage* to all the countries mentioned above will be:—

Letters, 1½d. per ¼ oz.

Postcards, 1½d. each.

There will be no option of despatching first class mail matter by any other means and the existing rates of postage for letters and postcards will be cancelled.

The air mail service will operate to the countries named twice weekly in each direction.

First class mail matter to and from Canada and Newfoundland will be conveyed by air only between England and the Union of South Africa.

It is not necessary to affix air mail labels.

**UNION ½d. OFFICIALS AND OTHERS.**

Sir,

With reference to your notes on the Union ½d. Officials which appeared in the July issue of the *S.A.P.* as I was away in England and have only now obtained my back numbers of the magazine, I have not had an opportunity of giving what information I have on these officials before.

As far as I know I have obtained sheets of every issue of the officials from the start, and the following particulars taken from my collection may be of interest. I would like to add that I do not agree with Messrs. Gibbon's listing of the spacing between the overprints, as unless my millimeter gauge is sadly out I make all the spacings from the second ½d. official issue up to date 12½ mm. and not 12 mm.

The first issue was, of course, the varied spacings—from 9½ mm. to 12 mm., and with several stops.

The next in 1932 was on Plate 2 sheets (with retouch between horns on row 9 No. 5). This was 12½ mm. throughout with the exception of vertical row No. 10 which was 13½ mm. No stops.

The third issue in 1933 was on Plate 3 sheets (with no retouch between horns). No stops. Spacing 12½ mm. throughout, and vertical row 10 is corrected in this issue.

The fourth issue in 1934 was overprinted on Plate 2 sheets with the headplate recleaned, and quite pale centres. Overprint slightly heavier and with shiny ink. Spacing 12½ mm. throughout. No different spacings at all. No stops.

The fifth issue in 1935 was on Plate 2 sheets, with normal headplates, and was 12

mm. throughout with the exception of vertical rows 10 and 12 which were 13 mm. spacing. This issue also showed the dropped "Official" on No. 12 rows 17-20. No stops.

The sixth issue (and as far as I know the one still in use) was overprinted on the *hyphenated* sheets. This issue was 12½ mm. again, but there are four rows which show 13 mm. spacing, viz., vertical rows 2, 7, 10 and 12.

There is no dropped official in this issue and no stops. The dates given above are merely approximate. Unfortunately I have not been able to get the official dates of issue of the various printings and have noted them with the dates when procured.

As mentioned by Mr. Jamieson in the same issue of the magazine, the dropped "Official" occurs in all the denominations of a certain printing, with the exception of the 2s. 6d., as far as my knowledge goes. If the 2s. 6d. has appeared with this spacing later, perhaps someone will be good enough to enlighten us in the *S.A.P.* The dates when this variety showed vary very considerably.

For instance I have noted in my collection the following dates against the sheets in which this occurs—viz., the ½d. in 1936, and 1d. in October, 1935, the 2d. in May, 1934, the 6d. in 1936 and the 1s. in April, 1936.

The last 2s. 6d. official I have is that printed on the lower halves of the sheets and with 21 mm. spacing. This does not show the dropped "Official."

G. N. GILBERT.

P.S. Since writing the above, I have just got a new lot of the 6d. and 2s. 6d. officials in from Pretoria and I find that there has been another printing of the sixpenny, still on the old sheets, but in this issue the dropped official on the last stamp in rows 17-20 has been corrected. The overprint is still 12½ mm., and as far as the portion of sheet sent me, there are no variations. The 2s. 6d. is also a new printing, 21 mm. spacing, and this issue has the dropped official on the same stamps as the other denominations showing this variety.

G.N.G.

## JUBILEES

We have the following Complete Jubilee Collections, each 250 stamps—including the Egyptian Seal in each case—for sale: Mint Collection, £26 10s.; Used Collection, £32 10s.; On Covers, £42 10s. We will accept £5 deposit and £5 per month.

CORONATIONS.—Collection of 202 used, £5 10s.; Collection of First Day Covers, £12 10s.

USED KING GEORGE V. PICTORIALS.—Kenya, set of 14, 55/-; Br. Guiana—set of 13, 32/6; St. Helena—set of 15, 50/-; Ascension—set of 10, 20/-; Bermuda—set of 9, 7/6; Samoa—set of 9, 15/-; Ceylon—set of 11, 6/-; Turks and Caicos—set of 11, 27/6.

Collection of 130 Miniature Sheets in album, £45.

### BENONI STAMP SHOP,

93b, Prince's Avenue - - - - Benoni.  
Box 485. Phone 1287.

## Basutoland Anti-Dated Jubilee & Coronation Covers

Conrad F. Jacobs, at one time a stamp dealer in Johannesburg, appeared before Mr. C. A. Backeberg in the Johannesburg Magistrate's Court on February 15 and 16 on eight charges of inciting to forgery. The following is an account of the trial, as reported in the Johannesburg *Star*.

The first three charges alleged that Jacobs wrote three letters in February, March and May, 1936, to Mr. W. H. Nettlingham, a postal agent at Makoalis, Basutoland.

The indictment alleged that the letters incited or instigated Nettlingham unlawfully to forge envelopes bearing the date May 1, 1935, in order that the stamps might purport to have been genuinely defaced in the regular course of business. It was further alleged that other letters were written to a housewife in Mafeking with the same purpose.

Jacobs pleaded not guilty.

Giving evidence on the first four counts, Mr. Nettlingham said he was a trader and postal agent at Makoalis, Basutoland. He had stamp transactions with one C. F. Jacobs, of Johannesburg.

In February, 1936, he received a letter from Jacobs. He cancelled the 76 stamps, which were enclosed, with the date stamp of the postal agency of May 1, 1935, as requested by Jacobs. The stamps were sent by registered post.

He posted the envelopes and stamps back to Jacobs after cancelling them. He altered the date on the date stamp when cancelling them.

He later complied with a request from the same correspondent to cancel Bechuanaland Jubilee stamps in such a way that only part of the postmark showed on the stamp.

In May, 1936, he received a letter with 24 Basutoland Jubilee stamps, which he cancelled. He followed the same procedure as before.

In May, 1937, he cancelled 368 envelopes to which he affixed the stamps supplied. He followed the same procedure, and again returned the covers to Jacobs.

In reply to Mr. Thompson, Mr. Nettlingham said he wrote to Jacobs suggesting that he (witness) could supply any quantity of Basutoland Jubilee stamps with the cancellation date stamp of May 4, 1935 (the first day of issue). **THREE LETTERS TO BECHUANALAND.**

Mr. William David Hayden-Thomas, postmaster of Mafeking, said he was also controlling postmaster of all post offices in Bechuanaland Protectorate. He produced three letters which he said were sent to him by postal agents in the Protectorate.

One was addressed to Mrs. C. Thomas, Connaught Street, Mafeking.

"I find that I can do with a lot more than I have on hand owing to orders received from oversea," stated the letter, which was dated May 17, 1937, and which was signed by C. Jacobs.

"Would it be possible if I sent you some more envelopes to have them cancelled with the same date as before—May 12, 1937—because collectors want that date particularly on their envelopes. The letters need not be registered separately, but I would like them all to be postmarked and put into one parcel and then registered off to me. For 500 envelopes I would pay £5 for the service if it could be done without causing difficulty or breaking regulations."

At the close of the Crown case, Mr. Thompson, who appeared for the defence, applied for the discharge of Jacobs in all eight counts.

In granting the application the magistrate said that on the first three counts it was clear that Mr. W. H. Nettlingham, a postal agent at Makoalis, Basutoland, originated the idea of ante-dating the stamps and first-day covers. He did not think that there was inciting, though there was a conspiracy between the two men.

On the fourth count he came to the conclusion that Mr. Nettlingham acted in the same way when cancelling Coronation stamps. The correspondence between the parties was continuous, and he found that the agreement on Jubilee stamps was extended to Coronation stamps.

Count eight fell away because the person supposed to be incited did not receive correspondence from Jacobs.

In the remaining counts, Mr. Backeberg also found that there was no incitement. There was an inquiry, but no incitement at all.

He therefore discharged Jacobs on all eight counts.

### NEW BRITISH 2d. AND 3d.

These two new values of King George VI. British stamps appeared on 31st January. The designs are the same as those of the lower values already issued; the colours are respectively an orange vermillion and a rather gorgeous shade of violet.

## 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

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170 STRAND LONDON, W.C.2.



# The Bechuanalands

Prepared by Major W. J. Harrington,  
V.D.  
(Contd. from p. 27 of February issue).

## CHAPTER VII. (continued).

### 4. Issue of 1910.

In January of 1910 there was a sudden shortage of sixpenny revenue stamps and to meet this emergency, 1,500 copies of the 6d. postage stamp of the 1905 (King Edward) issue of the Transvaal were overprinted by the Government Printing Works, Pretoria, on the instructions of the Transvaal Treasury with the words "Bechuanaland Protectorate" in Roman letters in two horizontal lines in blue black ink and sent to Mafeking. (Figs. 37 and 38).



Fig. 37.

#### Bechuanaland

Measurements are "Bechuanaland" 16½ mm., "Protectorate" 14¾ mm. and the distance between lines 9¾ mm.

#### Protectorate

Fig. 38.

As these stamps were not overprinted with the word "Revenue" they were still in effect postage stamps and there was nothing to prevent their use for postal purposes. A few covers are known to have been used at Francistown, Lobatsi, Gaborones and Mochudi in July, 1910.

The overprinting was done in blocks of thirty and the first stamp in each block has a raised "P" in "Protectorate."

### 5. Issue of September, 1912.

The stamp used was the Georgian 1d. stamp of Great Britain (June 1912 issue, re-engraved) overprinted with the words "Bechuanaland Protectorate" in sans serif capitals, reading up and down respectively, in black ink, by the Board of Inland Revenue. Somerset House, London. Watermark Imperial Crown.

Measurements are "Bechuanaland" 17 mm., "Protectorate" 17 mm., distance between lines 11½ mm.

#### 1d. scarlet.

- (i) No cross on crown  
Controls B11 and B12.

### SPECIMENS.

The word "Cancelled" is overprinted across the top of the stamp in black roman capitals and measures 13 mm. by 1½ mm. Control B11.  
6. Issue of 1914.

The stamps used were those of Great Britain (1912-22 issue) overprinted (a) in the case of values up to 1s. with the words "Bechuanaland Protectorate" in black sans

serif capitals reading up and down respectively, and (b) in the case of the 2s. 6d. and 5s. values with the same words in black sans



Fig. 39.

serif capitals in two horizontal lines, by Somerset House, London. Watermark (a) script cypher (b) large script cypher. (Figs. 39 and 40).

Fig. 40.

Measurements are (a) "Bechuanaland" 17 mm., "Protectorate" 17 mm., distance between lines 11½ mm., (b) "Bechuanaland" 17 mm., "Protectorate" 17 mm., distance between lines ¾ mm.

#### (a) ½d. green.

Controls C13, J17, O20, R21, and S22.

#### (b) 1d. scarlet. (15th September, 1915).

Controls C13, I16, J17, M19, S22 and V23.

#### (c) 1½d. red-brown.

Controls O19 and O20.

#### (d) 2d. orange, Die I.

Controls D14 and R21.

#### (i) Die II. (end of 1924).

Controls V23 and W23, the latter with perforated margin.

#### (e) 2½d. ultramarine.

Controls C13 and C14.

#### (f) 3d. purple.

Controls C13 and D14.

#### (g) 4d. slate-green.

Control C13.

#### (h) 6d. lilac-rose. (Chalky surface).

Controls C13, D14, T22 and W23.

#### (i) 1s. bistre-brown.

Controls C13 and U23.

Examples of defective printing are occasionally found in all values.

The Die I. of the 2d. value was printed in sheets of 240 while Die II. was printed in two panes of 120.

### WATERLOW PRINTING.

#### (j) 2s. 6d. deep sepia-brown.

(i) Re-entry.

(ii) Overprint double, one albino.

#### (k) 5s. rose carmine.

### SPECIMENS.

The word "SPECIMEN" is overprinted horizontally in black sans serif italic capitals and the measurements are 10 mm. by 1¾ mm.

### 7. Issue of 1916-1923.

The stamps used were those of Great Britain (1915-1918 issues) overprinted horizontally with the words "Bechuanaland Protectorate" in black sans serif capitals in two lines, applied in London. Watermark script cypher.

Measurements "Bechuanaland" 17 mm., "Protectorate" 17 mm., distance between lines  $\frac{3}{4}$  mm.

## DE LA RUE PRINTINGS.

- (a) 2s. 6d. *grey-brown*. (1916).
- (b) 2s. 6d. *dark brown*. (1920).
- (c) 5s. *carmine*. (1920).

## BRADBURY WILKINSON PRINTINGS.

- (d) 2s. 6d. *chocolate-brown*. (1923).
- (e) 5s. *dull red*.
- (f) 5s. *carmine*.

8. *Issue of May, 1921.*

In May, 1921, owing to a shortage of penny revenue stamps, a supply of the current 1d. postage stamps of the Union of South Africa was obtained overprinted horizontally with the words "Bechuanaland Protectorate" in black ink in two lines.

Measurements are "Bechuanaland" 17 mm., "Protectorate" 14 $\frac{1}{2}$  mm., distance between lines 4 mm.

As in the case of the overprinted 6d. Transvaal stamp of 1910, these stamps were in effect postage stamps and a few specimens are known postally used, generally with the Mochudi postmark.

The total number of stamps so overprinted is said to have been thirteen half sheets of 120 stamps each or 1,620 stamps in all.

(To be continued).

S. RHODESIA KING GEORGE V. 1 $\frac{1}{2}$ d. PERF. 12.

As is noted in the current report of a meeting of the Philatelic Society of Pretoria, the 1 $\frac{1}{2}$ d. of S. Rhodesia, perf. 12, which was recorded in 1934, has now been located in the stamp booklets.

## Review

*Standard Catalogue of Air Post Stamps.* Published by Nicholas Sanabria, Inc., 17E 42nd St., New York. Cloth bound \$2.00, De Luxe edition \$4.

We are in receipt of the 1938 edition which lists some 629 stamps more than last year. The big producers of 1937 were Nicaragua with 77, and Spain with 63. This edition is printed on a surfaced paper which much enhances the reproduction of the illustrations.

No serious collector of air post stamps can do without this catalogue. It is not confined merely to official government issues, but includes all semi-official issues as well; any stamp issued by a recognized authority being deemed legitimate for inclusion.

Prices are given for mint and used singles and for mint blocks of four: in a number of instances prices are also given for used blocks of four or for first day covers.

## RARE BRITISH COLONIALS ARE MY SPECIALITY

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FRINTON-ON-SEA, ESSEX, ENGLAND

## Air Mail Notes

By L. A. WYNDHAM.  
(Author of *The Airposts of South Africa*.)

### A FEW STATISTICS.

The following statistical information omitted from my previous notes regarding recent S.A. Airways developments is given for purposes of record:

#### *I. Rand-Windhoek Service.*

The mail from Johannesburg to Windhoek on the first flight on 8th October, 1936, weighed 14 lb. 5 ozs. This included transit mail, 2 lb. 3 oz. being in the London bag. It would appear that there was no mail despatched from Bloemfontein to Windhoek.

The mail despatched from Windhoek on the first return flight on the 9th was 8 ozs. for Bloemfontein, 10 lbs. 14 ozs. for Johannesburg (8 lbs. 4 ozs. of which was "transits"). The mail for Johannesburg from the other points was: Keetmanshoop, 15½ ozs.; Upington, 5 ozs.; Kimberley, 1½ ozs.; and Bloemfontein 5 lbs. 4 ozs.

#### *II. Rand-Bloemfontein-Port Elizabeth Service.*

The weights of the mail carried on the inaugural flights of this service on 12th October, 1936, are as follows:—

- Germiston-Bloemfontein 7 ozs.
- Port Elizabeth 15 ozs.
- Johannesburg-Bloemfontein 2½ ozs.
- Port Elizabeth 26 lbs. 4 ozs.
- London-Port Elizabeth 37 lbs. 8 ozs.
- Bloemfontein-Port Elizabeth 1 lb. 2 ozs.
- Port Elizabeth-Bloemfontein 1 lb. 2 ozs.
- Johannesburg 19 lb. 12 ozs.
- Germiston 1 lb. 4 ozs.
- Bloemfontein-Johannesburg 1½ ozs.

#### *III. Rand-Lusaka Service:*

The weights of mails despatched from the Union by the first flight on 9th June, 1937, was as follows:—Johannesburg, 69 lbs. 6 ozs. (including transits); Capetown, 16 lbs. 12 ozs.; and Pietersburg, 5 lbs. 7 ozs.

### ORDINARY MAIL AIR BORNE:

Away back in September, 1935, the Post Office, in collaboration with S.A. Airways introduced a special air mail propaganda scheme, whereby at certain principal centres a small number of letters, ranging from 20 to 30, was selected at random from the ordinary mail and included in the air mail, after the air mail had been weighed for accounting purposes. The covers of these letters were impressed with a rectangular franking inscribed:

Sent by air mail to demonstrate the  
rapidity of the air service.  
Per lugpos versend om die snelheid  
van die lugdiens te laat blyk.

The periods during which the scheme was in operation at the different offices are given below:

Port Elizabeth	9-14 Sept.
Uitenhage	16-28 Sept.
Durban	14-25 Sept.
Cape Town	16 Sept.-14 Oct.
Johannesburg	13-21 Sept.
Germiston Station	24-30 Sept.
Benoni	7-12 Oct.
Kimberley	15-30 Oct.
Pretoria	18-31 Oct.
Beaufort West	16-30 Oct.
East London	19-31 Oct.

Although a comparatively large number of covers must have been impressed with the special rubber stamp referred to I only know of the existence of two specimens.

### THE S.W.A. ARRANGEMENT.

A scheme somewhat similar to the above was introduced in South-West Africa although the conditions thereof were totally different. The subsidy of £7,000 per annum paid by the S.W.A. Administration to S.W.A. Airways entitled it, among other rights, to the free conveyance of mail matter up to 200 lb. on each trip on the Windhoek-Kimberley service. When the proper air mail matter did not make up this weight ordinary correspondence, usually official, was included to make up the weight allowed, the covers being impressed with a large circular rubber stamp reading "This article reaches you by Air Mail. Hierdie posstuk arriveer per lugpos."

Incidentally, this cachet was also impressed upon the covers which comprised the mail from Windhoek to Swakopmund on the special charter flight made on 9th December, 1935.

The agreement under which the £7,000 subsidy was paid expired on 31st March, 1936, and as from 1st April, 1936, a new agreement was brought into operation in terms of which the Administration no longer paid a fixed subsidy to S.A. Airways which had taken S.W.A. Airways over on 1st February, 1935. Under the new agreement mail was conveyed at a charge of 2s. 6d. per lb., subject to a minimum of 100 lb. per trip in each direction. Advantage was taken of this arrangement to include official and ordinary correspondence in the air mail when the weight was under the 100 lb. stipulated, and such covers were invariably impressed with the special cachet.

### THE NEW "RANA" SERVICE.

As from 1st February, 1937, a new service, known as the "Inter-town Air Mail Service" was inaugurated in Southern Rhodesia by Rhodesian and Nyasaland Airways. The service which operates three times a week in each direction covers the following route: Salisbury-Gatooma - Que Que-Gwelo-Bulawayo-Pietersburg-Johannesburg. The Municipalities of Gatooma and Gwelo took advantage of the occasion of the inauguration of the service to issue special souvenir envelopes as a publicity stunt. The envelopes were sold at 6d. per dozen. Owing to heavy rains and the sodden nature of the Gwelo aerodrome the machine did not land at this place on the inaugural flights and the mail was forwarded by surface transport.

### Tristan da Cunha

Expanding the brief note which appeared in our last issue Mr. I. H. C. Godfrey, of Johannesburg, sends the following:

"An Airmail of exceptional interest to Aerophilatelists left Durban by the Imperial Airways' Flying Boat on Thursday, the 3rd February, 1938. The local Postal Authorities issued a statement on the 1st February to the following effect:

'A Mail for Tristan da Cunha—letters only—will close this week. The letters will be forwarded via England and must connect with the flying-boat leaving Durban on Thursday (3rd February). The rate of postage will be 1½d. per half ounce.'

This means, in effect, that the world's most isolated inhabited island, being under the British Flag, has now been embraced into the Empire Airmail Scheme and, for the first time in its history letters are being conveyed by air the whole length of Africa, without surcharge, in order to connect with one of His Majesty's warships prior to her departure from England, on one of those rare visits to this extreme outpost of Empire.

As such very short notice was given, it will be interesting to know the actual number of letters despatched from South Africa on this flight to Tristan da Cunha, via England."

A notice appeared in the public press that the British Sloop H.M.S. Milford sailed from Portland for Tristan on 11th February with a collection of gifts for the islanders and 35 tons of stores.

\* \* \* \* \*

Mr. B. C. Wisberg, a correspondent in Southend-on-Sea, England, sends the following communication:

Rev. Harold Wilde (missionary and "Postmaster" of Tristan da Cunha) paid a visit to Southend-on-Sea a short while ago, where he was the recipient of a special all-wave radio receiver, a gift to the islanders from Messrs. E. K. Cole, Ltd., Southend-on-Sea.

The set has been so constructed that it entirely obviates the difficulty of power supply, being operated by car accumulators, and two of these have been supplied. The accumulators are charged by means of a wind charger, similar to the equipment used by the Post Office in remote districts of England. A cut-out is also provided, and a charging ammeter will enable Mr. Wilde to keep them in trim.

The wind charger consists of a tripod, with a single propellor, which drives a heavily-built, weather-proof dynamo, and is arranged with a device so that, when the wind is very strong, the speed of the rotation can be reduced. In view of the high winds which Tristan da Cunha is subjected to, this is a very useful feature of the equipment.

It is expected that the set will receive, at Tristan da Cunha, stations from all over the world, including N. and S. America, Germany, Italy, France and England.

\* \* \* \* \*

Messrs. G. W. Morris (Pty.), Ltd., of Simonstown, have sent for inspection a photograph of an interesting Tristan cover. This has no stamp (and was surcharged 1d. on arrival at Simonstown on 24th January, 1938), but has the Type V. Tristan Postmark; the interesting feature, however, is a printed cachet reading: "CERTIFIED POSTED ON THE ISLAND ON CORONATION DAY, 12th MAY, 1937." This is signed "William P. Pepetta, Headman."

\* \* \* \* \*

Mr. G. F. Britten, Johannesburg has filled in a blank in the postal records with three covers brought by H.M.S. "Carlisle," the post arriving in Johannesburg on 19 JAN. '32. The postmark is of Type V., thus ante-dating the recorded use of this type by two years. An interesting feature is that although each cover is surcharged "T 2d" and bears an cancelled 2d. Postage Due stamp, Mr. Britten says he was not actually called upon to pay this fee. Another "compassionate" mail, but who paid for the 2d. stamp so used?

#### S.-W.A. CORONATION VARIETY.

The "Stamp Magazine" reports that there is a strong re-entry on the 3rd stamp of the bottom row of the lower pane. The re-entry shows a doubling of the frame line 7½ mm. up from the left lower corner and a doubling of the leaves above SUID.

## APPROVAL SELECTIONS

If you are not yet on my mailing list for approval selections, why not drop me a line stating your requirements (and references) please? I have approval books for practically every stamp-issuing country, besides a special service for new issues, which are offered in sets.

My motto is: Good stamps at a fair price.

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**A. LICHTENSTEIN,**

B.P.A.

BLOEMFONTEIN.

P.O. Box 576.



## The Cape Triangular C.G.H. Obliterator

By  
A. A. JURGENS.

It is generally believed among philatelists that the triangular defacing stamp which was used for defacing the stamps of the Cape of Good Hope only came into use on the 1st September, 1853, when adhesive postage stamps were first used in the Colony, but a discovery made by me about eight months ago proves that this is not the case.

At the time that the discovery was made I kept it to myself as I first wanted to be quite certain of the facts before rushing into print.

Before going into the matter it will be necessary to give a brief outline of the method used in the cancellation of Revenue stamps by the Government Departments of the old Cape Colony.

When the British took over the Cape in 1806 the V.O.C. embossed stamps of the Dutch East India Company remained in use for some considerable time and it was not until about 1820 that the first British embossed stamps appeared on documents.

There was, at this time, what was known as The Stamp Office, situated in Cape Town. This stamp office had no connection whatsoever with the Post Office.

The Distributor of Stamps whose office was in Cape Town was supplied with stamp dies of different denominations. These when impressed made an embossed design in relief.

When a document required stamping it was taken to the Stamp Office whereupon the amount required being paid it was impressed direct on to the document, and in such cases the stamp was rarely if ever cancelled.

In cases where the document could not be produced at the Stamp Office, as for instance in country districts, the Government appointed Distributors of Stamps in each of the districts served with a Resident Magistrate (or Landdrost, as they were then called) and the Distributor of Stamps in Cape Town kept these people supplied with stamps of the denominations required. These stamps were embossed on pieces of paper approximately 4 x 6 inches. The paper was of a special quality imported solely for this purpose.

These were then used as adhesive stamps and the adhesive used was not gum or glue, but wafers, similar to that which was used on letters at the time. After the stamp had been fixed to the document an impression was made on the face of the stamp while the wafer was still moist. This impression consisted of a number of small cuts through the stamp into the composition of the wafer. The implement used for this purpose would probably have been a small stamp with a circular or in some instances square base with a surface somewhat resembling a grater.

It would have been quite impossible for the stamp to be used again but nevertheless when they were used as adhesives in the manner described they are nearly always found defaced with a manuscript cancellation.

Now the reason why stamps which were embossed direct on to the document were rarely defaced is obvious. The paper of the document was quite different to that on which the stamps were embossed if required for use in the country so that it would have been impossible for anyone to cut the stamp off an old document and use it a second time.

When searching through some Government records for Cape Postmarks I came across a Liquidation Account in a deceased Estate. This account was dated and filed in 1837. The stamp duty was embossed direct on to the document in the form of an embossed revenue stamp as described above and in addition it was cancelled with the large triangle showing the letters C.G.H. in the three corners and exactly similar to that which was used from about 1858-9 for defacing stamps on letters.

The ink used for this cancellation had turned to a light brown and was similar to the colour of the ink with which the date of filing was inscribed.

Upon examining further volumes of the same period I discovered more of these cancellations, and all of them appear to have been made with the same stamping implement and the same kind of ink.

In view of the fact that over 90 per cent. of these embossed stamps are to be found uncanceled and that the document in question was executed, stamped, and filed in 1837 it does not seem feasible that as the large triangular was only brought into use for postal cancellation between 1858 and 1859 that the stamp would be cancelled 21 years later.

There appears to be no doubt therefore that this large type of triangular defacing stamp was used in the Colony for defacing revenue stamps 16 years before postage stamps came into use and there may be the possibility that the idea of a triangular design for the Cape postage stamps originated from it.

### KING GEORGE VI. COLONIAL ISSUES.

It is now clear that the new Colonial issues are to come out gradually and not all within the space of a month or two—a state of affairs for which both dealers and collectors will be very thankful.

In many of the Colonies first printings of certain values of the current (George V.) stamps have recently been received or are still on order, some of them in replacement of Coronation issues, others merely normal fresh supplies. This is a pretty clear indication that the new reign stamps are not expected for some time to come.

STUDY YOUR COUNTRY'S STAMPS



# A GREAT PURCHASE AND A WONDERFUL OFFER

A BRITISH COLONIAL RARITY.  
AN HISTORIC AIR STAMP.  
A "CLASSIC" MINIATURE  
SHEET.

AUSTRALIA 1920 "Ross Smith" Air Stamp, mint with original gum and full margins as illustrated. Yvert (Poste Aérienne) No. 1 catalogued Frs. 17.500. Sanabria No. 1 \$1,250.

Messrs. David Field, Ltd., have just negotiated one of the most interesting transactions in their 53-years' history—a purchase of the greatest importance to the collector of rare British Colonials, Air Stamps and Miniature Sheets.

The purchase comprises 22 superb mint examples of the Australia "Ross Smith" Air Stamp, each with margins and original gum

The stamp in unused condition has always been one of the World's great 20th Century rarities, an item eagerly sought after by Air Mail, British Colonial and rarity collectors, and the few which have changed hands in recent years have always commanded very high prices, generally over £100. The last example sold at auction in New York on the 29th of October, 1937, realised \$670 (£134).

But Fields were fortunate, and purchased this unique stock at a reasonable price, and therefore are able to offer superb unused examples with full gum and complete margins, at

## £65 EACH

A written guarantee of genuineness accompanies each stamp.

Orders will be executed in strict rotation, and not more than two copies will be supplied to any one person. It might be wiser to phone, telegraph or cable, and make certain of the bargain of the year.

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The story of the "Ross Smith" flight from England to Australia and the special stamp, is published in the "West-End Philatelist," February issue. It is post-free on application.

## The Ross Smith England-Australia Flight

On another page will be found an advertisement of mint copies of the Ross Smith Australian air stamps of 1920. As this stamp is not mentioned in most of the ordinary British catalogues, although it is well known to aerophilatelists, we have much pleasure in giving a brief account of the pioneer flight in connection with which it was issued.

In 1919 the flight of the Smith brothers from England to Australia was a scarcely conceivable marvel; in these days of Melbourne Air races and overnight trans-Atlantic flights we wonder how our own generation could ever have become enthusiastic, nay, even interested in an Australia flight which took all but a month to accomplish.

It is only by transporting our minds to the period immediately after the Great War that we can recall some of the thrills of that not so distant past; a past which the philatelist can recapture by turning back a few pages of his album. There, if he is fortunate, on one page he will find a rather oversized stamp printed in blue, with no value expressed, and showing outline maps of Great Britain and Australia, a flaming torch and an aeroplane.

This unusual stamp occupies a unique position in philately; there is nothing quite like it, and in the eyes of the modern philatelist it is worthy of a place alongside the "Penny Black" and the "Sydney View" as one of the classics of the hobby.

The stamp was used on letters carried by Ross Smith on his flight to Australia. It was issued by a government which had hitherto been somewhat conservative in the matter of stamp production, but it was used to commemorate a great flight, and perhaps there had been some thought of lending an official character to the limited amount of mail carried on such an historic occasion. The stamp was never on sale to the public, but the addressees of letters carried on the flight received a specimen—free!

In 1919 the Australian Commonwealth Government offered a prize of £10,000 for the first aeroplane to fly from England to Australia within thirty days. The prize was offered only to Australian airmen.

Twenty-six-year-old Ross Smith, who had had extensive flying experience during the Great War and immediately afterwards, decided to attempt the flight. He came to the decision when in India. On the way to London, General Borton, with whom Smith had flown to India, agreed to approach Messrs. Vickers Ltd., with a view to their supplying a machine for the flight.

In October, after some hesitation, the company agreed to enter a machine for the competition. Ross Smith then enlisted the services of his brother Keith, as assistant pilot and navigator. As mechanics he obtained Sergeants J. M. Bennett and W. H. Shiers, both of whom had excellent war records and who

had accompanied Smith on a flight from Cairo to Calcutta.

The machine was an ordinary Standard Vickers "Vimy" bomber, of a type similar to that used by Alcock and Brown for their trans-Atlantic flight. The plane was equipped with two Rolls-Royce Eagle VIII engines, each of 360 horse power. The wing spread was just over sixty-seven feet.

The Air Ministry allotted to the aeroplane the registration letters G-EAOU. In view of the long and hazardous flight ahead, the crew's interpretation of this marking was "God 'elp all of us."

It was decided to set out on 14th November; however, owing to favourable weather the start actually took place two days earlier, the machine leaving the ground of Hounslow aerodrome at 8 a.m. on 12th November, 1919.

They had many struggles and some real adventures en route but at six minutes past two on 10th December the Australian coast appeared on the sky-line. Few sights could have been more welcome to anyone than was that strip of coast to the plucky aviators. It meant not only the attainment of their goal, and with it the well earned prize money, but a rest from the continuous roar of aeroplane engines which for twenty-seven days had faithfully played their part.

Before the flight started from England, it had been decided to carry a certain amount of mail on the plane. Some of the mail picked up in England received a violet cachet which read PER—VICKERS' "VIMY" AEROPLANE—TO AUSTRALIA, in three lines.

The cachet was applied by a rubber hand-stamp, but the ink-pad seems to have been almost dry, for the impressions to be found on most letters are very weak, and sometimes only partly legible.

Very probably the reason why only some of the mail was impressed with this cachet was that the flight started two days earlier than had been anticipated, and there was no time to apply the mark to letters received at the last moment. Apart from the cachet, the mail bore no marking or stamps to denote the method of its transport.

At several of the landing-places along the route, Ross Smith received requests to carry letters with him for the rest of his flight to Australia.

Thus, letters bearing the violet cachet originated in England; some of the letters picked up *en route* may be distinguished by postage stamps or postmarks of origin. Apart from these two tests there is no infallible method of distinguishing letters picked up at any given point on the route; but circumstantial evidence can be taken into account.

It seems reasonable to suppose that envelopes bearing Australian addresses with the addition of the word "Australia" originated outside the Commonwealth. Of course, this is not an infallible test.

The total amount of letters received at Melbourne, including the mail from England and that picked up *en route*, did not exceed 131.

At Melbourne preparations had been made to mark the mail with an indication of the manner of its arrival. The question whether normal postage stamps or only a cachet should be prepared had been discussed at some length, but in view of the fact that it would be virtually impossible to collect any fees from the addressors of the letters, and that addressees might refuse acceptance if an extra charge were made on delivery, it was decided eventually to issue a special stamp and affix it, without charge, to all letters.

The designing of the stamp was entrusted to Lieut. Courtenay-Benson. The central feature of the design was a flaming torch, on the left and right of which were maps of the British Isles and Australia respectively, against a background representing a portion of the globe. Centrally above the torch, which was symbolic of "Victory" was a Vickers "Vimy" biplane in flight over some clouds, and the inscription 12 NOV. appeared to the left, while to the right 10 DEC.—1919 was inscribed in two lines.

The stamp is illustrated in the advertisement.

At the top of the stamp appeared the inscription—FIRST—AERIAL POST in two lines, and at the foot in a tablet ENGLAND—AUSTRALIA. The whole was surrounded by a frame of leaves, broken at the top for insertion of the word FIRST, while centrally at the foot was a pair of R.A.F. "wings."

The stamps were printed by the "half-tone" process from a single die or block, and each sheet contained only one impression in the centre, with large margins on all sides. The stamp thus formed a classic example of what nowadays is termed a "miniature sheet." The paper bore the watermark then in use for the current issues of Australian postage stamps: Crown over A. The colour of ink used was deep blue, and the printing was carried out at the Commonwealth Printing Office in Melbourne. The perforation was 12.

When the fliers arrived in Melbourne, the bag containing the mail was handed to the secretary of the Prime Minister's Department, who then passed it over to the Commonwealth Postal authorities.

Each of the letters had one of the stamps affixed after the margins were removed. Later each stamp was cancelled with a cachet reading FIRST AERIAL MAIL—GREAT BRITAIN TO AUSTRALIA in a double lined oval, with the words RECEIVED—26 FEB., 1920 in two lines in the centre. Each letter was then enclosed in an official envelope which was addressed and forwarded to the addressee.

No record is available of the number of the sheets printed, but probably not more than 170 in all were made. Therefore, as 131 stamps were used on letters, only some thirty-nine sheets can exist in unused condition.

For their splendid achievement the Smith brothers each received a well earned Knighthood.

As a direct result of their gallant pioneer flight, we see to-day the regular bi-weekly Air services to Australia which have done so much to speed up communication between the Mother Country and the Antipodes.

—"Icarus" in the *West End Philatelist*.

## COLLECTORS' WANTS AND OFFERS

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

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

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

**Union of South Africa.**—I am interested in everything appertaining to Union of South Africa, including Inter-Provinceals, Specimens, Control Blocks, Freaks, Air Mail Covers, Entires, etc. Send approval selections for cash, or would consider exchange with Union specialists. Sam Legator, Box 133, Brakpan.

**The International Collectors' Club.** Secretariat: 35 Kerstant v. d. Bergelaan, Hillegersberg, Rotterdam (Holland). Members in all parts of the globe. Prospectus free on application.

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

I am anxious to get postal matter of the Union: Stationary, labels, cachets, cancellations (special and slogans). Of any country I want airmail labels (letters and luggage), airmail stationary and airmail slogan cancellations. Dr. Murray, Murraysburg.

**Exchangers Wanted.**—Only Medium and Advanced Collectors need apply. B. I. Vorster, P.O. Box 127, Volksrust.

**For Sale or Exchange.**—Cape Pre-Stamp Covers in excellent conditions. A. Jurgens, 26 Woodside Road, Cape Town.



## New Issue Chronicle

Kindly supplied by Mr. R. Roberts,  
430 Strand, London.

(26th November, 1937—24th January,  
1938).

- ALBANIA.**—Commemorative 1912-37. 25th Anniversary of Independence. Photogravure printing, no wmk., perf. 14. Various allegorical designs. 1 qind slate, 2 qind sepia, 5 qind green, 10 qind grey brown, 15 qind rose, 25 qind blue, 50 qind blue green, 1fr violet, 2fr yellow brown.
- ALGERIA.**—Paris Exhibition set. 50c carmine. 1936 set, new colour. 65c rose (Camel halt in desert).
- AUSTRALIA.**—Air. S.G. type 22 Hermes type, wmk. C of A mult., perf. 13½ comb. Engraved, white chalk surfaced paper. Design slightly longer and wider. 1s. 6d. plum.
- AUSTRIA.**—Gratulations issue. Pictorial, perf. 13, no wmk., engraved. 12gr green, 24gr carmine. "Noted Physicians" set. Portraits. Perf. 12, no wmk. Engraved. Issued at double face value. 5gr sepia, 8gr carmine, 12gr slate, 20gr green, 24gr purple, 30gr claret, 40gr olive, 60gr deep blue, 64gr violet.
- BAHAMAS.**—K.G. V. type design, S.G. type 8, new shade. 3d. pale lilac on bright yellow.
- BARBADOS.**—S.G. type 19 but with "POSTAGE REVENUE" tablet removed. Perf. 13½ x 12½ comb machine, script wmk. ½d. green, 1d. carmine, 1½d. orange, 2½d. blue, 3d. brown, 4d. slate, 6d. bluish purple, 1s. olive, 2s. 6d. lilac.
- BELGIUM.**—Charity Anti-Tuberculosis 1937. Photogravure, no wmk., perf. 14. Portrait Princess Josephine Charlotte. 10c+5c slate, 25+5c brown, 35+5c green, 50+5c olive grey, 70+5c claret, 1f+25c crimson, 1f75+25c violet blue, 2f45+2f55 magenta.
- BRAZIL.**—Sesqui-Centenary of Constitution of North America. Typographed, wmk. S.G. type 156, perf. 11. Arms type, eagle and shield. 400r blue.
- BRITISH HONDURAS.**—New pictorial designs with medallion head of K.G. VI. Perf. 11½, script wmk. 3c sepia and purple (Cohune palm); 4c green and black (Scrolls of Industry); 5c slate blue and purple (Grape Fruit).
- CANADA.**—Three new booklets K.G. VI. type. A. Green card cover and Arms contain 24 x 1c (4 blocks 6). B. Red card cover and Arms contain 8 x 3c (2 blocks 4). C. Blue card cover and Arms contains 4 x 1c, 4 x 2c. All are interleaved with tissue. All blocks are imperf. on three sides and the blocks of 4 have all wide extra plain margin perforated, the size of a stamp. The red and blue books are inscribed at back "POST OFFICE MCNEY ORDER COVER THE GLOBE USE THEM." The red 3c booklet has the inscription on the back cover in red in French "LES MANDATS DE POSTE SONT VALABLES DANS LE MONDE ENTIER SERVEZ-VOUS-EN." Bound between thick card with metal wire.
- CEYLON.**—Pictorial as before with head of K.G. VI. Perf. 11½. 6c blue and black (centre), 15c red brown and green (centre).
- CHAMBA.**—K.G. V. type inscribed "INDIA POSTAGE." 2a red, die 1; 2½a orange, die 1. Service K.G. V. Typographed, Die 1. inscribed "INDIA POSTAGE" overprinted as before. Nasik print, perf. 14, wmk. mult. stars. 2a vermilion.
- COSTA RICA.**—Philatelic Exhibition. Triangular design, S.G. type 113, inscribed "DICIEMBRE—1937" otherwise 'as before. Perf. 12, no wmk. 2c dark brown, 3c black, 5c green, 10c orange. Commemorative National Exhibition, December, 1937. All transverse except 2c postage, which is triangle. Ordinary Postage: 2c grey (Salmon); 5c dark green (Bananas); 10c deep rose (Coffee). Air Mail: 2c slate (Puntarenas); 5c pale green (Puntarenas); 20c deep blue (Puntarenas); \$1.40 olive green (Puntarenas).
- CZECHO-SLOVAKIA.**—Pictorial design of St. Barbara's Church, Kuttenberg. Engraved rotary press, perf. 12½, no wmk. 1Kr.60 olive green.
- DANZIG.**—Winter Help stamps. Allegorical designs, perf. 14, wmk. honeycomb. Typographed. 5+5pf purple, 10+5pf brown, 15+5pf blue and yellow brown, 25+10pf blue green, 40+25pf scarlet and blue.
- DUTCH INDIES.**—1937 Charity stamps, various designs, perf. 12½, no wmk. Photogravure. 2c+1c sepia and orange, 2½c+1½c grey, 7½c+2½c peacock blue and orange, 10c+2½c carmine and orange, 20c+5c blue.
- EGYPT.**—Ophthalmic Congress. Design from tomb of Tutankhamen. Perf. 13½, wmk. S.G. type 48. Photogravure. 5m brown, 15m dull purple, 20m blue.
- FALKLAND IS.**—New K.G. VI. head in medallion on various pictorial designs. Perf. 12, script wmk. Engraved. ½d. green and black (Whale's Jaw Bones); 1d. resin and black (Black-necked Swan); 2d. purple and black (Memorial); 2½d. blue and black (Sheep); 4d. violet and black (Upland Goose); 6d. sepia and black (H.M.S. Discovery II.); 9d. dull blue and black (Steamer); 1s. blue (Mount Sugar Top); 2s. 6d. black grey (Gentoo Penguins); 5s. yellow brown and blue (Sea Lions); 10s. orange and black (Deception Is.); £1 purple and black (Arms).
- FINLAND.**—Charity 1937-8 Red Cross. Portrait type with cross in red on each stamp. Perf. 14. 50p+5p green, 1¼MK+16p sepia, 2MK+20p chocolate, 3½MK+35p deep blue. Winter Sports. Photogravure, perf. 14, no wmk. except at edge of sheet. Three Skiing designs. M1.25+75p slate, 2M+1M carmine, M3.50+M1.50 blue.

FRANCE.—Sower type surcharged 80c in red on 1f orange. Overprinted in green "AFRANCHTs" in curve, used only as Pre-cancel.

GREECE.—Air Mail Issue. Modified types of 1935, both the designs and perforated stamps are slightly larger than before. Thicker opaque white paper. Line perf. 13 x 12½ as before, no wmk. 1 dr scarlet, 2 dr blue, 5 dr purple, 7 dr blue. Royal Wedding. Dual portraits. Engraved, perf. 14 x 12, wmk. crowns (diagonally). 3 dr orange brown.

HOLLAND.—Child Welfare 1937. Design, Child's head and shoulders. Perf. 14 x 13½, wmk. circles. Printed by photogravure. 1½+1½c slate, 3+2c sap green, 4+2c terracotta, 5+3c blue green, 12½+3½c deep blue.

HUNGARY.—Photogravure, wmk. S.G. type 64, perf. 12½ x 12 comb machine. Portrait of Horthy. 1P bright greenish blue, 2P brown, 5P dull blue. St. Stephen Commemorative, photogravure, wmk. S.G. type 64, perf. 12 comb machine. 1f brt. violet (Abbot Astrik receiving crown from Pope); 2f yellow brn. (St. Stephen as founder of Churches); 4f brt. blue (St. Stephen on throne); 5f crimson (St. Gellert teaching St. Emeric in presence of his father, St. Stephen); 6f brt. yel. grn. (St. Stephen offering crown to Virgin); 10f brt. orange (same as 1f); 16f grey purple (same as 2f); 20f scarlet (same as 4f); 25f myrtle (same as 5f); 30f olive bistre (same as 6f); 32f claret, background ochre half-length portrait of St. Stephen); 40f grey blue (Patrona Hungariae); 50f magenta, background brt. firm. (same as 32f); 70f deep olive, background pale blue (Design of Holy Crown).

INDIA.—New K.G. VI. issue. Annas, pictorial and King's head in frame to right of the design; Rupee values same design as before with new portrait of K.G. VI., perf. 14, wmk. mult. stars, typographed. 2a vermilion (Dak Runner); 2a 5ps purple (Dak Bullock Cart); 3a sage green (Dak Tonga); 3a 6p deep blue (Dak Camel); 4a brown (Mail Train); 6a slate blue (Mail Steamer); 8a black (Mail Lorry); 12a claret (Mail Plane); 1R brown and black; 2R sepia and purple; 5R deep blue and myrtle green; 10R claret and purple. K.G. VI. type as before, overprinted "SERVICE," wmk. mult star, perf. 14. Typographed stamps with type set overprint (S.G. type 117). 1a carmine. K.G. VI. Same type and sheet formation as 1a. Typographed. 3 pies slate, ½a reddish brown.

IRAN (Persia).—New portrait types, S.G. type 117. 50d pale brown, 75d claret, 10R sepia and blue.

IRISH FREE STATE (Eire).—Allegorical design. Perf. 15 x 14 comb machine, wmk. mult. S.G. type 10, typographed. 2d plum, 3d. blue. These stamps are issued to Commemorate Constitution Day.

JAPAN.—New Junk type. Typographed, solid

colour. Perf. 13 x 13½, wmk. wavy lines. ½s purple.

JIND.—Service K.G. V. Nasik print, inscribed "INDIA POSTAGE," overprinted as before, multiple star wmk. 6a ochre. Service K.G. VI., same type as 1a India, overprinted "JIND STATE"/SERVICE. 1a carmine.

JCHOR.—Postage Dues. Typographed. Script wmk., perf. 12½ x 13 line machine. Name at top, "POSTAGE DUE" at foot, value numeral in circle. 1c rose, 4c green, 8c ochre, 10c deep blue, 12c purple.

LIBAN REPUBLIC.—Air Mail. Pictorial, view of Baalbeck. Perf. 13, no wmk. engraved. 10 piastres purple.

LIECHTENSTEIN.—New Pictorial set. Photogravure printing, no wmk., perf. 11½. Postage: 15c slate, 30c ultramarine. Official: With overprint in circle and crown in centre "REGIERUNGS DIENSTSACHE." 25c brown, 30c ultramarine.

LUXEMBURG. — Photogravure (bicoloured) no wmk., perf. 12 x 13. New Charity Christmas stamps, Wenceslas design. 10+5c scarlet and black, 35c+10c violet and green, 70+20c blue and maroon, 1f+25c green and red, 1f25+75c deep brown and violet, 1f75+1f50 black and blue.

MANCHUKUO.—Commemorative of Japan's withdrawal of extraterritoriality. Photolitho, new pictorial designs, perf. 13, no wmk. 2f carmine lake, 4f green, 8f orange, 10f blue, 12f purple, 20f lilac brown.

MONACO.—Pictorial type, no wmk., perf. 13. 1fr.75c claret.

NEWFOUNDLAND.—Coronation, large type, map design. Re-engraved die, plate 2. 3c orange brown. New value, postage. Engraved. Perf. 13 x 13½ comb machine, wmk. Arms S.G. type 106. Pictorial design "Fishing Fleet leaving for the Banks." 48c red brown.

NEW ZEALAND.—Official. Pictorial type (Harvesting S.G. type 89), overprinted "Official" in black, S.G. type 184. Wmk. mult. stars and N Z, perf. 13½ x 14. 6d. carlet.

NICARAGUA.—Constitution Commemorative, Air Mail. Various pictorial designs, perf. 11. Surface printed in two colours (centres last), wmk. honeycomb network. 10c yellow, green and blue, 15c orange and deep blue, 20c carmine and blue, 25c maroon and deep blue, 30c emerald and deep blue, 35c yellow blue, 40c green and blue, 45c mauve and deep blue, 50c pink and deep blue, 55c pale blue and blue, 75c myrtle and blue, 1C blue and mauve. 75th Anniversary of Posts. Lithographed, no wmk., perf. 11. ½c green, 1c magenta, 2c purple brown.

NORWAY.—New portrait of King. Perf. 12½ x 13 comb machine. Wmk. posthorn, printed in photogravure. 1Kr deep myrtle green. Official Stamps: Arms type inscribed "Offentlig sak," photogravure. Wmk. posthorn, perf. 13 x 13 comb machine. 7 ore

orange, 10 ore deep green, 15 ore olive green, 30 ore deep ultramarine.

**NYASALAND.**—1938 types as before, with head of K.G. VI. substituted (facing left as before). Low values. Perf. 12½, words "PCSTAGE & REVENUE" omitted from design. ½d. deep green, 1d. deep brown, 1½d. carmine, 2d. slate, 3d. deep blue, 4d. magenta, 6d. purple, 9d. olive, 1s. orange and black. S.G. type 16 with head of K.G. VI. substituted, but facing left instead of right. Frame as before exactly, large receipt size stamps, perf. 14 comb machine, all script wmk. except £1 which is M.C.A. 2s. blue and purple on blue, 2s. 6d. red and black on blue, 5s. red and green on yellow, 10s. red and green on green, £1 black and purple on red.

**PANAMA REPUBLIC.**—Pictorial, commemorative of 50th Anniversary of the Corps of Bombardiers 1887—1937. Photogravure, no wmk., perf. 14 x 14½. Postage: ½c orange, portrait of Ricardo Arango; 1c deep green, portrait of Juan A. Guizado; 2c scarlet, The Burning of Concordia; 5c blue, Fire Engine; 10c purple, Monument 5th May; 12c sage green, portrait of David H. Brandon. Air Mail: 5c blue, Arms of Bombardiers; 10c orange, portrait of Florencio Arosemena; 20c carmine, portrait of Jose Gabriel Duque.

**PATIALA.**—K.G. V. design. Overprinted on K.G. type of India inscribed "INDIA POSTAGE." ½a green offset printing, litho surcharge. K.G. VI. India overprinted "PATIALA STATE." Overprinted S.G. type 4. 9 pies green typographed litho surcharge, 1a carmine typographed litho surcharge.

**RCUMANIA.**—Postage Due, S.G. type D4. Typographed, no wmk., perf. 14½ x 14. 3L black, 4L black.

**RUANDA URUNDI.**—1931/2 engraved issue, new values. 1f50 lilac, wooden pot hewer; 2f50 deep blue, leather makers.

**RUSSIA.**—Air Mail. Large transverse Aeroplane type. Perf. 12 line machine, no wmk., printed by photogravure. 10 Kop yellow, brown and black, 20 Kop olive and black, 30 Kop red, brown and sepia, 40 Kop sepia and black, 50 Kop slate and black, 80 Kop deep blue and sepia, 1R sepia and brown.

**SALVADOR.**—Air Mail. Official. Large pictorial design, perf. 12, no wmk. Line engraved. 15c orange yellow, 20c green, 25c purple, 30c brown, 40c blue, 1 Colon black, 5 Colon carmine.

**S. RHODESIA.**—New K.G. VI., portrait in uniform. Engraved, no wmk., perf. 14. King's head in second colour for the shilling values, pence values unicoloured. ½d. green, 1d. red, 1½d. brown, 4d. orange, 6d. grey black, 8d. greenish blue, 9d. ultramarine, 10d. purple, 1s. blue, green and black, 1s. 6d. orange and black, 2s. dark brown and black, 2s. 6d. purple and blue, 5s. green and blue.

**STRAITS SETTLEMENTS** (inscribed Malaya).—K.G. VI. head facing to right. Script

C A p. 14. 1c black, 2c green, 4c orange, 6c rose carmine, 12c ultramarine, 25c carmine and purple, 30c orange and mauve, 40c purple and carmine.

**SWITZERLAND.**—Pro Juventute 1937 set. Granite paper, no watermark, perf. 11½. 5+5c green, General H. Dufour 1787-1875; 10+5c mauve, Nicolas von der Flue 1416-1487; 20+5c orange, red and gold (child's head); 30 10c blue and gold (child's head).

**U.S.A.**—Puerto Rico Commemorative, pictorial design. Large transverse format, perf. 11½ x 10½, no wmk. Rotary print, engraved. 3c purple. Large type transverse. Virgin Is. Commemorative. View of Charlotte Amalie Harbour (St. Thomas). Perf. 10½ x 11, no wmk. Rotary press engraved. 3c lilac.

**URUGUAY.**—Lithographed, Artigas type, no wmk., perf. 12½. 5m yellow brown, 2c sepia, 5c blue. New pictorial type, Presa de Rio Negro. Lithographed, no wmk., perf. 12½. Postage: 1c dull lilac, 10c blue, 15c pink. Air Mail: 20c pale green, 35c red brown, 75c violet.

**VENEZUELA.**—Child Welfare stamp. Photogravure, no wmk., perf. 11½. Portrait in profile of Simon Bolivar. Overprinted in red diagonally "EE UU DE VENEZUELA CORREOS" in two lines, small block capitals. 5c deep slate green. La Guaiara Commemorative of purchase of the harbours by the Venezuelan Government. Lithographed, no wmk., perf. 11. Pictorial design. Postage: 25c blue. Air Mail: 70c emerald, 1B.80 ultramarine.

#### WHITFIELD KING & CO.

We have recently received an interesting little booklet entitled "Then and Now," written by Fred. J. Melville, giving the history of the firm, showing the rise from its foundation in 1869 to the present day when it requires a building with 150 foot frontage to house its many activities. Amongst the numerous illustrations is one of the famous room papered with 61,000 unused stamps (mostly European reprints).

We have also received their 1938 Annual Price List of stamps in sets and packets. There are nearly 5,000 sets listed and anyone wanting sets or packets would be hard to please indeed if he can't find something to please here.



## Society News

### PHILATELIC SOCIETY OF JOHANNESBURG.

*President*, E. C. Sprighton; *Hon. Secretary*, F. E. Ingham, Box 4967. *Meetings*, 2nd Tuesdays, Kelvin House, 7.45 p.m.

A very good attendance was registered at the second meeting in our new home—Kelvin House. The outstanding event of the night was a paper on, and exhibit of King Edward VIII. Stamps of Great Britain, by a junior member, Mr. J. E. Creewel. He gave a complete record of these stamps dealing with their design, their issue, their sale and the use of the cypher 8 for the watermark. His collection was extremely well mounted and showed considerable forethought. It included various cylinder numbers, control numbers and inverted watermarks. His notes will be published separately. Members then displayed special items of interest, the outstanding exhibit being Dr. J. Harvey Pirie's "Tristan da Cunha." F.E.I.

### THE PHILATELIC SOCIETY OF RHODESIA.

*President*, N. Rose; *Hon. Secretary*, B. A. Carnegie, P.O. Box 244, Bulawayo. *Meetings*, 1st Tuesdays, No. 20, Southern Life Buildings, Bulawayo, 8.15 p.m.

The attendance at the February meeting was fair. After formalities the President reported having had the pleasure, during a recent visit to the Transvaal, of attending meetings of the Johannesburg and Pretoria Societies. At both centres he had conveyed the greetings of the Rhodesian Society and these were warmly reciprocated. Members were especially interested in the description of "Morley's Evening."

The George V. 1½d. value reported perf. 12 in 1934 was now recorded as having been located in the stamp booklets.

The open competition for one page was initiated with six entries, all well arranged and written up. By popular vote the President, Mr. Rose, and the Vice-President, Mr. Porter, shared first place with "Modern Morocco Overprint Varieties," and "George V. St. Helenas" respectively.

Mr. Porter exhibited his well-known collection of Southern Rhodesia Admirals. Side and between imperfs. in every conceivable position were represented. Double and freak perforations also interested members.

After informal discussion on domestic matters, Mr. Burn proposed a vote of thanks to Mr. Porter for his very interesting exhibit which members received with much enthusiasm.

LAVRON.

### PORT ELIZABETH PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

*President*, G. K. Forbes; *Hon. Secretary*, C. W. Sheffield, c/o. Joseph and Sons, Main Street, Port Elizabeth. *Regular monthly meetings*, Tuesdays nearest middle of month at 7.45 p.m. African Room, Public Library. *Monthly auxiliary meetings*, 1st Tuesdays, 8 p.m., B.E.S.L. Hall.

The auxiliary meeting of the society held on January 4 was poorly attended, affected no doubt by New Year celebrations, but the regular meeting held on the 18th January was one of the best attended and most interesting for some considerable time.

The feature of the evening was the display of a very fine collection of the stamps of Great Britain by Mr. P. N. Barfoot, who read a most enlightening paper on the subject of his exhibition and whose contribution to the evening's entertainment was warmly appreciated.

A second feature was unexpectedly introduced by the display of a well-filled album wholly devoted to Union Coronation stamps by Miss Boshoff, a visitor from the Peninsula. The collection, very handsomely mounted and well displayed, paid tribute to the painstaking care with which the exhibitor had compiled the many varieties, known and unknown, chief of which were the joined paper and double paper varieties. Miss Boshoff was accorded a very hearty vote of thanks for having given the society the opportunity of examining such an interesting and highly specialised collection.

Attendance at the February monthly meeting was highly satisfactory, twenty-two members and two visitors being present. After the usual business formalities certain new issues were sold, but the highlight of the evening was the very excellent display of airmail covers by Mr. J. McMillan, a specialist in this most interesting branch of philately. The leaves from the exhibitor's albums were passed round seemingly unending in their numbers and in addition to the interest of the items themselves, the manner in which they were mounted and written up was indeed excellent.

C.A.L.

### EAST LONDON.

*President*, J. R. Rouse; *Hon. Secretary*, S. F. Fowler, c/o. Vacuum Oil Co. of S.A., Ltd. *Meetings*, 1st Thursdays, Technical College, 8 p.m.

At the December meeting there was very little business to be done, but a most interesting paper was given by Mr. Thornton on perforations. This was illustrated by stamps of various countries being displayed, showing pin perforations, rough, compounds, Roulettes in all forms, etc. It was a most interesting evening, and Mr. Thornton was accorded a very hearty vote of thanks for his excellent paper and display.

There was no meeting in January, owing to the holidays, and the college not being available.

There was a large attendance at the February meeting, when Mr. Courlander displayed Nyasaland. It was a magnificent exhibit, including a bisect of the 1895 issue 2d. and many high values used and unused. Dr. Kaplan from Germiston was present, and gave us an interesting talk on some of his experiences of stamp matters.

W.S.H.

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

*President*, F. Carter; *Hon. Sec.*, F. Knight, c/o. Box 702, Bloemfontein. *Meetings*, 2nd Friday of each month at the Oranje Koffiehuis, Maitland St., Bloemfontein.

At the February meeting one member was elected and there were four proposals for membership. After the business and correspondence had been dealt with and the members had refreshments, Mr. J. Lewis, the Exchange Superintendent, showed his beautiful and complete collection of Union Postage Due Stamps, among which were several items showing different varieties and blank spaces in the printing. He also showed various printings of the Penny Union Coronation used.

The Chairman expressed his delight in seeing so many present and thanked Mr. Lewis for his exhibition.

The next meeting will be held at the same place on Friday, 11th March, when the meeting will take the form of a "Spotting Competition."

F.K.

#### SWEDISH STAMP SOLD FOR £5,000.

The world's second most valuable stamp has recently been sold privately by Mr. H. R. Harmer. Only one specimen is known of this, the 3 skilling-banco of 1855 printed in yellow instead of green. Yellow is the colour of the 8 sk., and probably a cliché of the 3 sk. was made up accidentally in a plate of the 8 sk.

The stamp was discovered by a schoolboy collector when looking through some old letters, and was sold by him to a dealer for 8s. It passed into the Ferrari collection and when that was sold, fetched £700. Since then it has changed hands at £1,200 and £2,000. The latest purchaser is believed to be a Swede but he has asked that his name be not disclosed; the price of £5,000 is reported from Sweden, although it has not been either confirmed or denied by Mr. Harmer. The only stamp which has fetched more than £5,000 is the 1c British Guiana of 1856, of which also only one copy is known.

#### A NEW BOOK ON O.F.S. AND O.R.C. STAMPS.

A series of excellent articles on the Orange Free State have recently been published in the "American Philatelist" by A. E. Geldhof.

Mr. E. Tamsen writes that they are being reprinted in book form and that he has been asked to get subscribers for the book. His opinion of it is "the best ever written on the subject."

Anyone wishing a copy is advised to communicate with Mr. Tamsen. The price will be 4s. plus postage, but unfortunately, it is not possible to state yet how much the latter will be.

## The SOUTH AFRICAN PHILATELIST

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## Air Mail Notes

By L. A. WYNDHAM.

(Author of *The Airposts of South Africa*.)

### THE LAST SOUVENIR OF AIR MAIL PROPAGANDA.

With the introduction last July of the "All-up" air mail scheme the need for publicity measures to further the use of the air mail services no longer exists.

One of the interesting publicity measures adopted in the past was the issuing of special souvenir air mail postcards at the temporary post offices set up at special exhibitions. The cards were inscribed "If posted at the Exhibition this postcard will be impressed with the exhibition date-stamp and forwarded by first air mail, etc.," and depicted the Imperial Airways liner "Atlanta" in flight.

The first occasion on which these cards were issued was at the Post Office Exhibition held in Capetown from 7th to 11th May, 1935. They were subsequently used at the Windhoek Exhibition, 31st May to 1st June, the Radio Exhibition, Johannesburg on 24th October, at the Post Office Exhibition, East London in December, 1935, and at the Empire Exhibition from 15th September to 18th October, 1936.

They were probably used for the last time at the Windhoek Exhibition held on Coronation Day, 12th May, 1937, and it is interesting to note that three special postmarks were employed in English, Afrikaans and German, respectively.

### THE 1d. AIR MAIL.

As from 19th October a new type of souvenir air mail postcard (pictorial) was issued at the Post Office stall at the Empire Exhibition, Johannesburg. The design which is symbolic of Johannesburg's fifty years' progress, incorporates an ox-wagon being drawn by oxen and the Imperial Airways liner "Atlanta" flying towards the Tower of Light at

the Exhibition, with a part of the "Golden City" silhouetted in the background. The inscription (bilingual) is "Affix a halfpenny stamp on this card, post it at the Exhibition, and it will be sent BY AIR MAIL to any part of the world," and, vertically, dividing the design from the portion left blank for address, "Empire Exhibition, Johannesburg, 1936." On the reverse side of the card, ordinarily used for correspondence, a photographic picture of the Rand's air mail activity is printed, the pictures on the series of six cards being, respectively: (1) Air Station, Rand Airport; (2) Rand Airport, Arrival of Air Mails from Europe and Intermediate Countries; (3) Rand Airport, South African Airways Machine and Postal Van; (4) Delivery of Mails at Rand Airport; (5) Air Mail Section, General Post Office, Johannesburg; and (6) Posting Boxes, General Post Office, Johannesburg, with Illuminated Map of Principal World Air Mail Routes. The cost of the series of six cards was 3d.

10,000 sets (i.e., 60,000 cards) were sold at the Post Office Stall. The Post Office record of the postings indicates the diversity of destinations to which the cards were sent, covering practically every country from Alaska to Zanzibar. The record shows that 29,307 cards were actually despatched, the principal destinations being: Union, 10,792 cards; United Kingdom, 10,209; Germany, 1,417; Rhodesia, 1,163; Australia, 718; U.S.A., 716; Canada, 492; India, 386; New Zealand, 365; East Africa, 269; Holland, 248. The number of cards sent to South African countries was 282, and the number addressed to Tristan da Cunha was 11.

### A NETT PRICE CATALOGUE.

The Kenmore Stamp Co., a firm in the U.S.A. which deals only in British Empire stamps, has just issued a catalogue in which all the stamps are priced nett. This is following Robson Lowe's lead with the Regent catalogue and collectors have now no excuse for not knowing the real market values of all ordinary British Empire stamps.

## Remarks on the Stamps of the Feudatory States of India

by J. de Beer.

(A paper read before the Pretoria  
Philatelic Society).

For the sake of convenience a collection of the stamps of India can be divided into three sections:

The stamps of India proper.

The stamps of the six convention States and  
The stamps of the various Feudatory States.

In my own collection I include a fourth group, namely, the stamps of Afghanistan.

It is with the third group, namely, the stamps of the Feudatory States, that I propose to deal this evening.

There is one state, however, namely, Jhind, that issued its own stamps from 1874 until 1885, when this state fell under, or, was included in the convention states, and thereafter used the current stamps of India overprinted with the name of the state.

There are three different ways of spelling the name of this state, viz., Jeend, Jhind and Jind. It is no wonder that errors were made by the printers who did the surcharging, and we find that the stamps overprinted Jeind are highly catalogued. With all its varieties, Jhind stamps as a feudatory state number only 42. The fact that many of these states have ceased to issue stamps, makes the collection very interesting, for instance, by having only 6 stamps of Jhalawar, 6 of Wadhwan, 11 of Alwar, a dozen of Las Bela and 4 of Rajpepla, you have five countries complete, nor do you require spare sheets in your album for the stamps of these states have been obsolete for over 50 years.

Here I would like to make a little observation, and that is, that it is difficult to understand why these stamps are generally neglected by collectors. It seems strange that people should be falling over themselves today to buy Coronation stamps at ridiculous prices, when they have hardly emerged from the press and that some of the old classic stamps of the Indian states can be picked up for a few pence. Personally, I think the explanation lies in the fact that the commercial side of stamp collecting has in recent years found many adherents and that stamps are now being dealt in like shares. Stamp collecting has, of course, its commercial and financial side, but I do not think that it was ever so pronounced as it is nowadays. I am told that it is estimated that there are some 70,000,000 stamp collectors in the world today, so that there appears to be room for every kind of collector.

But to return to the states of which there are 41, those already mentioned by me, together with Bamra, Bhor, Dhar, Faridkot (I forgot to mention that Faridkot, like Jhind,

became a convention state, but unlike Jhind, it has now ceased to issue stamps of its own altogether. This makes this state particularly interesting), Jamnu and Kashmir, Poouch, Nowanuggur and Sirmoor, have all become obsolete—so that about 14 states no longer issue stamps. The rest of the states still continue to do so and they only issue stamps when they are needed for postal purposes—the idea of revenue and to commemorate every supposedly important or unimportant event has not yet penetrated these states that are much the same to-day as they were in the feudal ages, I leave it to you to judge whether their mediaeval sense is not preferable to our modern methods.

I suppose that the ordinary genuine collector has two things in view: (a) to assemble as many different stamps as he can and (b) to possess the rarest stamps that he can acquire. For sheer numbers he will be disappointed as far as the Indian States are concerned, but he can obtain many rarities and this is what is very important, at a comparatively low figure. Many collectors refrain from collecting these stamps because they say they know so little about them and because when paying fairly high prices they do not know whether they are buying genuine or spurious material. There is much to be said for this attitude; on the other hand, these stamps have been carefully investigated by very able philatelists, and if their works are studied, many of the pitfalls and gins that face the collectors of these gems can be easily avoided. It is true that the study involves a knowledge of the characters of the various languages employed, and of the numbers used, and it also involves a knowledge of the paper and the printing employed. But with some care and study, one soon learns how to distinguish the grain from the chaff. I think just as handwriting experts will tell you that it is easier to detect the forgery of the signature of a person who is almost illiterate, than it is to detect a forgery of one who has a perfectly good handwriting, so it is with these particular stamps. Once you have the genuine article before you, you find that by careful examination its distinctive characteristics, however crude, are easily determined. The formation of the characters, the peculiar designs, the frame, the type of ink employed and the peculiar nature of the paper all go to assist in the determination. You naturally ask how does one know that those that form the basis of your investigation are genuine. This is quite simple. In the first place the low price issues that are obtained from reputable dealers are invariably genuine and these compared with the designs appearing in Kohl's encyclopaedia for example, as far as designs and measurement are concerned places the collector on perfectly safe ground. As one goes on, of course, the special contributions by experts becomes necessary, but then to my mind this merely adds zest to the undertaking.

I cannot say whether the commercial and financial side of these stamps will become important in the course of time. I have given very little thought to this aspect, but it seems to me that the day must arrive when stamps that have been obsolete for 50 years must become valuable. Personally, they appeal to me strongly because of the peculiar study that surrounds them and perhaps I see more beauty in them than my fellow philatelists.

Under the new constitution of India and especially if the Indian princes are to participate it is possible that the whole of India will adopt stamps common to all the states and the old issues will then become of great historical value. Such an event, in my opinion, is bound to affect collectors, and it is not unreasonable to suppose that the old issues of the feudatory states will appreciate in value.

India after all is the greatest of Britain's dominions, and it is extraordinary that, philatelically speaking, she has not attracted greater attention in the past. We as a dominion, have much in common with India, and for my own part I should like to see South African philatelists take more interest in the collection of these stamps whose history dates back to 1854, when India was being controlled by the Honourable East India Company, and is going on to a period when she will be a self-governing dominion.

#### HONG-KONG FISCALS USED FOR POSTAGE.

Green 5 cent duty stamps were officially authorized for use as postage stamps from 11th Jan. to 21st Jan. The need for this arose through a shortage of the regular 5 cent purple postage stamp. It appears that a consignment of the latter had been too thickly gummed, with the result that the sheets arrived in Hong Kong stuck together in solid blocks. There was at the time an abnormally heavy run on this value on account of the large correspondence of refugees from the Chinese mainland who had taken refuge in Hong Kong. Hence the need for the provisional postal use of fiscal stamps. A new supply of the regular postage stamps was ordered by air mail, so that the provisionals were only required for ten days, after which they were declared invalid for postage.

#### AUSTRALASIAN EXCHANGE SERVICE.

We have received the Year Book of this service. It appears to be a good one and run on sound lines. There are numerous members throughout the world in addition to Australasia. Naturally, however, it will be of most service to those wishing to obtain Australasian stamps or other services in that quarter of the globe. Anyone interested should write to P.O. Box 3595 S, Sydney.

## RARE BRITISH COLONIALS ARE MY SPECIALITY

The ideal method of collecting is to have one of my approved selections of rare British Colonials beside your own collection

SELECTIONS SENT ON APPROVAL  
TO ANY PART OF THE WORLD

The Cheapest Dealer in the World for British Colonial Rarities is:

**T. ALLEN,**  
FRINTON-ON-SEA, ESSEX, ENGLAND



## Correspondence

### PHILATELIC ABORTIONS.

Sir,

Mr. Sharpe presumably does not appreciate that it was from an airpost and not from a philatelic point of view that I asserted that "covers franked with, for instance, stamps of Natal and sent by the first Empire Flying Boat Service from Durban to Southampton are philatelic abortions."

He concedes that "the whole point of covers carried on the occasion referred to was the recording of a new air mail development" but then goes on to say that the use of obsolete Natal stamps for the required postage on such covers "would have conveyed the interesting philatelic information that after 24 years of Union such stamps were still valid." Here we have a good illustration of the confused philatelic mind that any occasion should be used to provide items of interesting philatelic information—such information being in no way associated with that occasion itself, mark you!

I find it difficult to appreciate the mentality of those who seek to use, for instance, such an historic event in the Union's postal communications as took place at Durban on 6th June, 1937, as an occasion to illustrate what could have been equally well illustrated on any of the days of the 24 years preceding that event or on any of the 208 days that followed it. In other words, why use the occasion of an air mail development to manufacture covers recording some interesting philatelic information which is in no way germane to the occasion itself.

It is this tendency on the part of many stamp collectors to combine all sorts of philatelic stunts with air mail developments which justifies the serious airpost collector saying for Heaven's sake keep off my domain with your philatelic abortions.

It is not my wish to take part in the controversy raging about covers falling under the classification "Sunrise," "Sunset," etc. I frankly admit that they may have a philatelic interest and that some of them may be regarded as "philatelic plums," but when it is sought to give such covers an additional air mail status it implies they must be weighed for such status by airpost standards, and judged by such standards they are nothing else than philatelic abortions.

In the philatelic abortion category I would place a cover franked with, say, Queen Victoria stamps and flown on the first air mail from South Africa to Australia in December, 1934. Such a cover may conjure up philatelic dreams of how proud those stamps must feel at having been carried 16,000 miles in aeroplanes in two weeks whereas most of their more unfortunate colleagues could only boast thirty miles in a mail coach in two days. But

the cover does not portray any more air mail history than one correctly stamped with then current Union stamps, and the whole point of my assertion is that it is not desirable to have philatelic dreams combined with airpost developments. Are airpost covers to symbolise the fulfilment of philatelic dreams or are they to record actual air mail progress? If the latter, then let us have them unadulterated.

The concluding paragraphs of Mr. Sharpe's letter are quite extraneous to the real point at issue.

L. A. WYNDHAM.

(Correspondence on this subject is now closed.Ed.)

### USED £5 K.E. TRANSVAALS.

Did you hasten to get all your £5 K.E. Transvaals used up when the news came out a few months ago that all pre-Union stamps were to be demonetized? We did! We used most of them on postcards and asked the recipients to send them back; nearly half of them did so!

Seriously though, we see in *Stamps* that Stephen G. Rich suggests that the used specimens currently on the British market have been used within the last month or two of 1937. The date of cancellation should tell, but apparently those in question all fail to show a date. Could someone send a few along so that we could compare the postmarks with the real 1937 vintage?

## APPROVAL SELECTIONS

If you are not yet on my mailing list for approval selections, why not drop me a line stating your requirements (and references) please? I have approval books for practically every stamp-issuing country, besides a special service for new issues, which are offered in sets.

My motto is: Good stamps at a fair price.

Careful personal attention is given to specialist's requirements.

**A. LICHTENSTEIN,**

B.P.A.

BLOEMFONTEIN.

P.O. Box 576.



## Union Notes

The Government printer writes under date 4.3.38 that the following Postage and Postage

Description	Quantity	Date of Delivery	Interior Cylinder	Exterior Cylinder	Remarks
1d. Postage Due	20200 x 60	27/1/38	13	39	
2d. " "	20400 x 60	20/1/38	28	39	
3d. " "	14800 x 60	25/1/38	6935	39	
6d. " "	8200 x 60	25/1/38	12	39	} Part supply new cylinders.
1s. Pictorial Postage	18500 x 120	27/1/38	6926	22	
2s. 6d. " "	5950 x 60	24/2/38	27	7017	} One cylinder only.
4d. " "	10500 x 120	1/3/38	61	—	
3d. " "	24000 x 120	1/3/38	6914	15	} Order now complete.
2d. " "	7625 x 120	3/3/38	34	42	
½d. " "	271750 x 240	8/3/38	6934	26	

The method of printing is the same as for previous issues and the same cylinders were used as previously, except in the case of the 1s. Pictorial Postage for which two new cylinders were made, embodying the old design.

The reprint order for the ½d. postage stamps referred to in my Minute No. 9/111/10118 of the 29th December last, published in our February issue, is now complete. The same

Due stamps have been printed and delivered to the Postmaster-General:

cylinders were used throughout and the total number of sheets delivered is 271,730.

### RECENT AIR MAIL DEVELOPMENTS IN PORTUGUESE EAST AFRICA.

We are indebted to Mr. Virgilio S. Netto, of Lourenco Marques, for reporting the change in air mail rates and procedure which came into force there on March 14.

Prior to that date stamps were not usually (? never) affixed on letters carried by air. There was in use an etiquette which had a space provided for the entry in indelible pencil of the fee prepaid, in escudos and centavos, for air carriage. Such letters had to be handed in at the post office, just as in the case of a registered letter, but in this instance the franking was done by the inscribed etiquette, not by means of a postage stamp.

(Incidentally, the etiquette in latest use was one which only came into use in November or December last and was not described by Mr. Hill in his paper on etiquettes in our December number. This one was printed in black, on blue, and had the number M/13 in the top right corner. Inside a thin box frame was the wording *POR AVIAO-PAR AVION* and *Taxa recebida / Taxe percue*, with a dotted line for the entry of the fee paid.—Ed.)

From 14th March, the rates on letters sent by air are reduced and postage is prepaid in stamps. It is understood that new air mail stamps are being provided but they had not arrived at the time of introduction of the new reduced rates. A new type of etiquette has, however, been supplied. This is in blue, on white. It is numbered M. o 13, reading vertically upwards at the left, whilst the wording, *POR AVIAO / PAR AVION* is in white against a blue background. One million of these have been printed, in sheets of 56 (14 rows of 4). The sheets are perforated horizontally and rouletted vertically, as were the previous etiquettes.

## COLLECTORS' WANTS AND OFFERS

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

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

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

Union of South Africa.—I am interested in everything appertaining to Union of South Africa, including Inter-Provinceals, Specimens, Control Blocks, Freaks, Air Mail Covers, Entires, etc. Send approval selections for cash, or would consider exchange with Union specialists. Sam Legator, Box 133, Brakpan.

The International Collectors' Club. Secretariat: 35 Kerstant v. d. Bergelaan, Hillegersberg, Rotterdam (Holland). Members in all parts of the globe. Prospectus free on application.

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

# The Bechuanalands

Prepared by Major W. J. Harrington,  
V.D.  
(Contd. from page 37 of March issue).

## CHAPTER VII. (Continued).

### 9. Issue of 1925-1927.

The stamps used were those of Great Britain (1924-1926 issues) overprinted with the words Bechuanaland Protectorate" in black sans serif capitals in two lines reading up and down respectively, applied in London. Watermark block cypher.

Measurements are "Bechuanaland" 17 mm., "Protectorate" 17 mm., distance between lines 11½ mm.

- (a) ½d. green. (1927).  
Controls E26, H27 and L29.
- (b) 1d. scarlet. (August, 1925).  
Controls A24, B24, E26, G27, K29 and P31.
- (c) 2d. orange, Die II. (1925).  
Controls B24 and N30.
- (d) 3d. violet.  
Controls B24 and E26.  
(i) Inverted watermark.
- (e) 4d. grey-green.  
Controls B24 and G27.
- (f) 6d. purple, chalky surface.  
Controls C25 and D25.  
(i) Ordinary surface.  
Controls E26 and F26.
- (g) 1s. bistre-brown.  
Controls A24, D25 and J28.

### HIGH COMMISSIONER'S NOTICE No. 23 of 1938.

In view of the issue of a new series of combined postage and revenue stamps for the Bechuanaland Protectorate on the 12th December, 1932, His Excellency the High Commissioner has been pleased, in terms of section one of Proclamation No. 55 of 1933, to make the following regulations providing for the demonitisation of the old series of overprinted "Bechuanaland Protectorate" British postage stamps:—

(a) All overprinted postage stamps of each denomination of the old series shall be demonetised with effect from the date of publication of this notice;

(b) for a period of three months from the date of demonetisation stamps of the old series will be valid for postal purposes, but after that period postal matter bearing such stamps will be subject to surcharge.

By Command of His Excellency  
the High Commissioner.

H. E. PRIESTMAN,  
Administrative Secretary.

High Commissioner's Office,  
Capetown, 8th February, 1938.

### 10. Issue of 12th December, 1932.

Towards the end of 1932 the Government of the Protectorate decided to have its own distinctive stamps and on the 12th of December in that year issued an entirely new type of stamp for use in that territory. The design, the lower portion of which was produced from a photograph by the Resident Commissioner of Ngamiland, contained in an upright oblong format, measuring 23 by 34 mm., shows in an oval medallion at the top the bust of King George V., below which appears a view including a baobab tree and cattle drinking (Fig. 41). The stamps were line engraved and recess printed by Messrs. Waterlow and Sons, London. Watermark multiple script. Perforation 12½.



- (a) ½d. green.
- (b) 1d. red.
- (c) 2d. brown.
- (d) 3d. blue.
- (e) 4d. orange.
- (f) 6d. mauve.
- (g) 1s. black and olive-green.
- (h) 2s. black and orange.
- (i) 2s. 6d. black and red.
- (j) 3s. black and mauve.
- (k) 5s. black and blue.
- (l) 10s. black and red-brown.

The stamps were printed in sheets of 60 (10 rows of 6). The margins are plain with the exception of the inscription at the foot of the sheet "Waterlow and Sons, Limited, London Wall, London, E.C." No plate numbers were used.

### 11. Silver Jubilee Issue of 4th May, 1935.

A special set of stamps was, in common with the Dominions and Colonies of the British Empire, issued on the 4th May, 1935, to commemorate the Silver Jubilee of the reign of H.M. King George V.

The design includes on the right a profile portrait of the King wearing the Imperial Crown, framed by the collar of the Order of the Garter superimposed on the Royal Sceptre and the Dove Sceptre crossed and the Sword of State. Above the portrait is a ribbon bearing the dates "1910-1935." In the top left corner appears the Orb. The lower left corner has a duty label with the value in figures to the right of which is another label with the words "Postage and Revenue." The words "Bechuanaland Protectorate" in two lines are set across the sky of the vignette, the design of which consists of a view of Windsor Castle from the opposite bank of the River.

The stamps were recess printed by Messrs. Bradbury Wilkinson and Company, London. The watermark is multiple script. The perforation is 11 by 12 by single line machine.

- (a) 1d. deep blue and scarlet.
- (b) 2d. ultramarine and grey-black.

- (c) 3d. brown and deep blue.  
 (d) 6d. slate and purple.

*Varieties.*—There are three "extra flag-staffs" in each value as follows:—

- (a) No. 7 in the sheet—short line to the left of the staff on the main tower;  
 (b) No. 11 on the sheet—short line close to the right pinnacle of St. George's Chapel.  
 (c) No. 49 on the sheet—line to the right of the main tower.

#### 12. Coronation issue of the 12th May, 1937.

A special set of stamps was, again in common with the other Dominions and Colonies of the British Empire issued on the 12th May, 1937, to commemorate the Coronation of Their Majesties King George VI. and Queen Mary.

The design includes the portraits of the King and Queen. Between them appear St. Edward's Crown and below it, crossed upon sprays of laurel are the Dove Sceptre over the Royal Sceptre and below these again is the Orb. The Sword of State is shown to the right of the King and the Queen's Sceptre is to the left of the Queen. The date "12th May, 1937" is inscribed at the top of the design and the words "Bechuanaland Protectorate" are at the base of the stamps with duty tablets giving the value in figures in the lower corners.

The stamps were recess printed by Messrs. De la Rue and Co., London. Watermark Script CA. Perforation 13½ by 14.

- (a) 1d. scarlet.  
     Controls 1A and 1B.  
 (b) 2d. yellow-brown.  
     Control 1.  
 (c) 3d. bright blue.  
     Control 1.

The stamps were printed in sheets of 60 (10 rows of 6). The margins are plain except for guide crosses and plate numbers, the latter being placed below the second stamp from the right or left.

(To be continued).

## BILINGUAL STAMPS

The letter below has been sent by the O.F.S. and Basutoland Philatelic Society to the Chairman of Die Sentrale Volksmonumente Komitee.

It will be remembered that the last meeting of Congress approached the Minister of Posts on the same subject, a reply being received to the effect that such a proposal had been considered several times, but could not be adopted.

We all wish better success on this occasion.

J. J. Scheepers, Esq., M.P.,  
 C/o The Honourable,  
 The Speaker,  
 House of Assembly,  
 CAPE TOWN.

Dear Sir,

In view of the forthcoming Centenary Celebrations of the Voortrekkers on Dingaans Day, we most respectfully wish to make the following suggestions and comments in the event

of a Commemorative issue of stamps being printed.

Amongst the Stamp Collecting World the South African Government hold a high place in their estimation due to its conservative policy in the issuing of stamps. And that position would be still further enhanced were a fully bi-lingual stamp being issued instead of two, as at present.

As an example of what can be done there are enclosed two stamps issued by Canada, which are partly bi-lingual. There is space for making it a fully bi-lingual stamp and still leave room enough for the representation of scenes dealing with the life of the Voortrekkers, and of the monument itself.

If the printing of a series of stamps is contemplated, then the following values are suggested, i.e.,

- 1d. Internal postage,  
 1½d. Air mail postage,  
 3d. Foreign postage,  
 4d. Registration.

It is suggested that good publicity be given the issue, and that they be available to the public a week before the event. A special cancelling stamp would be an added historical memento of the occasion, and such cancelling stamp should be destroyed after use on 16th December.

Yours faithfully,  
 F. H. H. KNIGHT,  
 Hon. Sec. and Treas.,  
 Orange Free State and Basutoland  
 Philatelic Society.

## A A R A U

(Switzerland)

### NATIONAL POSTAGE STAMP EXHIBITION

Last term for Exhibitors May 31st, 1938

1938. Orders for special postage stamp block are to be addressed to the Committee of Organisation in Aarau. Price: New or obliterated Sw. fcs. 1.50 plus Sw. frcs.—.90 post tax, on letter addressed to receiver Sw. fcs. 1.60, plus Sw. fcs.—.50 post tax.

## New Issue Chronicle

Kindly supplied by Mr. R. Roberts,  
430 Strand, London.

(24th January—9th March)  
1938).

- ALGERIA.**—Parcel Post Stamps. Provisional surcharges, new values surcharged in black owing to increase of rate. Large upright format white inscription on coloured ground, additionally overprinted "CONTROLE/REPARTITEUR." 60c/50c black, 2f/1.50 green, f2.50/2f green, 3f/2f25c green, f4.25/f3.50c blue.
- AUSTRALIA.**—Engraved, wmk. C of A crown mult. perf. 13½ comb machine. Design: Koala. 4d. green.
- BELGIAN CONGO.**—National Parks. Pictorial designs, photogravure, no wmk., perf. 11½. 5c purple and black (Riv Molindi), 90c carmine and brown (Bamboos), 1f50c chocolate and black (Riv. Suza), 2f40c slate and brown (Riv. Rutshuru), 2f50c blue and black (Karisimbi), 4f50c green and brown (Mitumba).
- BERMUDA.**—K.G. VI Engraved, script wmk. C.A. and crown, perf. 12. Size of stamp as before, pictorial types with King's head in medallion. 1d. rosine and black, ships in port; 1½d. chocolate and blue, ships in port; 2d. sepia and sky blue, yacht; 2½d. slate and blue, seashore; 3d. carmine and sepia, lighthouse; 1s. green, seashore. The ½d., 6d., and 1s. 6d. values are unchanged from the 1936 issue, and the 2d. is unchanged except that it is a new colour. The high values are K.G.VI head, typographed, script wmk. C.A. and crown (except £1 which is M.C.A.), perf. 14. Design: Universal key plate, King's profile facing right. 2s. blue and purple/blue, 2s. 6d. red and black/blue, 5s. carmine and grn./yellow, 10s. carmine and grn./green, 12s. 6d. ochre and grey/white, £1 black and purple/red.
- BRITISH GUIANA.**—Pictorial K.G.VI. Script C.A. perf. 12½ line machine. Pictorial designs with K.G.VI head in medallion. 1c green (Ploughing Rice), 2c slate purple (Kaeteur Falls), 4c black and rose (Map S. America), 6c dp. ultramarine (Shooting Fish), 24c deep green (Sugar Cane Punts), 48c orange yellow (Forest Road), 60c brown (Log Rolling), 96c purple brown (Sir W. Raleigh), \$1 purple (Botanical Gardens).
- BRAZIL.**—Pictorial design Cataract of Iguassu. Perf. 12½, no wmk 1000 reis sepia and orange, 5000 reis black and green. Pictorial. Coffee plant, in five colours, no wmk., p. 12½. The frame is engraved (sepia) centre vignette four colour litho. 1,200r, sepia, green, blue, red and yellow. 4th Centenary of Founding of City of Olinda. Engraved, wmk., lettering as S.G. type 156, perf. 11, coin design dated "1537—1937." 400 reis lilac. 1st Crito Republica. Typographed, wmk., lettering as S.G. type 156, perf. 11. 400 reis olive.
- BULGARIA.**—S.G. type 120 of the 1936/7 issue, perf. 13. 30st grey blue, 50st claret.
- CANAL ZONE.**—Engraved, no wmk., perf. 11. Portrait of Sibert. 14c blue.
- CEYLON.**—K.G.VI. Line engraved, wmk. Script C.A. perf. 11½ comb machine. Design: Pictorial with King's head in medallion. 10c new design (Sigiriya) blue and black, 30c old design (Irrigation Tank) green and lake, 1R old design (Trincomalee) sepia and blue, 2R new design (Ancient Guard Stone) carmine and black. K.G.VI head in medallion. Line engraved. Script wmk., perf. 11½ 20c deep blue and black, 25c sepia and deep blue.
- COSTA RICA.**—Commemoratives. Wmk. wavy lines, perf. 12½. *Agricultural Industry* diamond shape, orchid design. 1c green and purple. *National Exhibition Air* rectangle shape, design: Bank National of Costa Rica. 1c purple.
- CUBA.**—Railway Centenary Commemorative. 25th Anniversary of Republic. Design: S.G. type 20 overprinted in blue. 1837 1937/"PRIMER CENTENARIO"/FERROCARRIL EN CUBA/10c 10c/ and railway train outlined. Two horizontal bars obliterating "25 ANOS DE REPUBLICA" and 25c. 10c on 25c purple.
- CURACAO.**—Typographed, no wmk., perf. 13½ x 12½ (which is new). Postage Due, types as before. 2½c green.
- CZECHO-SLOVAKIA.**—Winter Sports. Engraved by rotary press, no wmk., perf. 12½. Design: Eagle in Mountain Erie. 50h blue green, 1Kr claret.
- DUTCH INDIES.**—Photogravure, no wmk., new perf. 11½ x 12½. Postage stamp design: Queen Wilhelmina. S.G. type 39. 10c scarlet.
- ECUADOR.**—U.S.A. Constitution Commem. Two separate large elaborate pictorial sets, design in four colours embodying Arms in oval, Washington's head and combined flags, no wmk., perf. 12. The ground is engraved in colour mentioned, there are, in addition, subsidiary colourings in yellow, blue and pink by offset litho. *Postage* (Liberty type): 2c grey blue, 5c purple, 10c black, 20c brown, 50c black, 1S olive, 2S sepia. *Air* (Eagle type): 2c olive, 5c black, 10c brown, 20c brt. blue, 50c purple brn. 1S black, 2S violet.
- EGYPT.**—Royal Wedding Commemorative, dual portrait, Arms and date "20 Janvier 1938." Photogravure, wmk. S.G. type 48, perf. 11½. 5m terra cotta. Cotton Congress Commemorative. Photogravure, wmk. Crown and crescent S.G. type 48., perf. 13½ x 13 comb machine. Design: gathering cotton. 5 mills red brown, 15 mills purple, 20 mills deep blue. Radio Congress Commem. Photogravure, wmk. Crown and crescent, perf. 13½. Design: Telegraph wires and Aerial. (Sphinx and Pyramid in background). 5m brown, 15m purple, 20m deep blue.
- FRANCE.**—Museums Commemorative. Engraved, perf. 13. Design: Samothrace. 30c green, 55c scarlet. Ceres type. Typographed,

- no wmk., perf. 14 x 13½. Similar to the Pexip stamp. 1f75 deep blue. S.G. type 61 (peace) 1fr rose pink.
- GERMANY.**—Service stamps. Typographed, wmk. Swastika, perf. 14. Design: Spread Eagle on Swastika on column. 1pf black, 3pf brown, 4pf blue, 5pf emerald, 6pf deep green, 8pf orange red, 12pf carmine, 16pf grey, 24pf bistre, 30pf olive, 40 pf mauve. 30th January Comm. 5 years, Photogravure, wmk. multiple swastika, perf. 14 x 13½. Design: Fiery Charriot. 6+4pf deep green, 12+8pf carmine.
- GIBRALTAR.**—Engraved. Wmk script C.A., perf. 13½ x 14 comb machine. ½d. green (K.G.VI head), 1d. brown (The Rock), 1½d. rose (The Rock), 2d. grey (The Rock North side), 3d. blue (Europa Point).
- GREAT BRITAIN.**—2d. and 3d. K.G. VI type. 2d. bright orange, 3d. very deep red purple. Postage Due. Typographed, wmk. G VI R. Plate number B 37. 3d. violet, 4d. slate green, 1s. blue.
- GREAT LEBANON.**—Air Mail. Engraved, no wmk., perf. 13. Design: Pictorial (Beit Ed-dine). 50 paras blue.
- GREECE.**—Further values of Royal Wedding issue. 1dr green, 8dr blue. Balkan Entent. Typographed (Arms of the Entent). 6dr blue.
- GUATEMALA.**—Anniversary of Constitution. Typographed with type set overprint, no wmk., perf. 14. Design: G.F.O. S.G. type 92. 1c olive green, overprint in small block capitals: 1787 1789/CL ANNIVERSARIO DE LA/CONSTITUTION EE. UU./1937 1939/ Only 200,000 printed.
- HONG KONG.**—Typographed, wmk script C.A., perf. as before 14 comb machine, Postage Due type, scales design new colours S.G. type D 1. 2c grey, 4c orange, 6c carmine rose, 10c violet.
- ITALY.**—Marconi Commemorative. Photogravure, wmk. crown, perf. 14, portrait of Marconi. 20c rose, 50c purple, 1L25c blue.
- ITALIAN EAST AFRICA.**—New pictorial designs, wmk. crown, perf. 14. Postage set, photogravure up to and including 75c, higher values engraved. Air set photogravure up to and including 1L, higher values engraved; aeroplane design. *Postage:* 2c orange, 5c olive, 7½c purple, 10c olive, 15c blue grn., 20c rose, 25c green, 30c olive, 35c blue, 50c purple, 75c claret, L1.00 olive grn., L1.25c blue, L1.75c orange, L2.00 rose pink, L2.55c sepia, L3.70c purple, L5.00 blue, L10.00 red brn., L20.00 green. *Air:* 25c myrtle grn., 50c olive, 60c orange, 75c red brown, L1.00 slate, L1.50c purple, L2.00 slate, L3.00 claret, L5.00 brown, L10.00 mauve, L25.00 slate blue. *Express Air:* L2.00 slate blue, L2.50 sepia.
- IVORY COAST.**—Engraved, no wmk., perf. 13. Pictorial and portrait of L. Binger. 65c red brown.
- JIND.**—Nasik print. K.G.VI type of India overprinted, except 2½a which is K.G.V. Ordinary: 9 pies green, 1a carmine. Service: 9 pies green, 2½a orange.
- LIECHTENSTEIN.**—Photogravure, no wmk., granite paper, perf. 11½. Design: Pictorial Landscape. 60r purple, 90r slate purple, and 1.50 slate (Ordinary) 1.50 slate (Service). Service stamps are the same with overprint S.G. type 0 2.
- MALTA.**—K.G.VI. New Pictorial designs, already described in advance, in our November number, 1937. King's head in medallion in frame (central vignette in second colour) except ½d. which is similar to S.G. type 10 (size 25½ x 21½ mm.) with "GRI" (script type) and "GRAND HARBOUR" added. The other values are large format 33 x 29½ mm. (Transverse or Upright). Engraved. Script C.A. wmk., perf. 12½. Fifteen values, ½d. to 10s.
- MANCHUKUO.**—New Year greeting stamp. Perf. 12½. Blue frame engraved. Red Centre surface printed. 2 fen blue and red.
- MONACO.**—Engraved. No wmk., perf. 14 x 13. 5c red, 10c bright ultramarine. Post Dues overprinted for postal use and surcharged values. Large block type surcharge "POSTES" and new value, old value obliterated by two bars. 5/10c lilac, 10c lilac, 15c/30c bistre, 20c/30c bistre, 25c/60c red, 30c bistre, 40c/60c red, 50c/60c red, 65c/1fr blue, 85c/1fr blue, 1fr blue, 2f15/2f red, 2f25/2f red, 2f50/2f red.
- NEW ZEALAND.**—Official. Engraved. Wmk. mult. N.Z. and star, perf. 13 x 13½. Pictorial S.G. type 84, Maori house. Overprint type 184 in black. 2d. orange. Postal Fiscals, Arms type S.G. 157. £2, £2 10s., £3, £5.
- NICARAGUA.**—75th Anniversary of Posts 1862—1937. The following further values have appeared: 3c purple, 5c dp. blue, 7½c rose red.
- PANAMA REPUBLIC.**—Olympic Games 1938 Commemorative, Air Mail stamps. Photogravure printing, wmk. "Harrison and Sons London" in script, multiple form. Perforation: Upright 14 x 14½, transverse 14½ x 14. 1c scarlet, Netball; 2c green, Baseball; 7c grey, swimming; 8c red brown, Boxing; 15c ultra, "Soccer."
- PHILIPPINE IS.**—Official. "Commonwealth" overprint, S.G. No. 210 overprinted in black and additionally "O.B." in large block capitals. 2c carmine. Postage Due. Prov. S.G. No. D 8 surcharged in blue "3 CVOS 3" on 4c carmine. Engraved, no wmk., perf. 11. Design: Arms on shield surmounted by an eagle. 10 pesos slate, Plate number 136897; 20 pesos red brown.
- POLAND.**—Engraved. No wmk., perf. 12½. Portrait in profile of President Moscicki. 15gr. slate, 30gr lilac mauve. Post Due. 10gr. on 2Z brown, S.G. type D 7.
- PORTUGAL.**—Geographical Society. S.G. type P 24. No wmk., chalky surfaced paper, perf. 11 x 11½. Black, pale emerald and scarlet.
- ROUMANIA.**—Balkan Entent Commemorative. Photogravure, wmk. Crown and monogram, type S.G. 94. Perf. 13½ line machine. Design: 4 shields with Arms of Greece, Rou-

mania, Turkey and Jugo Slavia. 7.50 Lei ultramarine, 10.00 Lei blue.

RUSSIA.—750th Anniversary of the Knight in the Tiger Skin. Photogravure, no wmk., perf. 12½. Portrait of Shota Rustaveli, inscribed "750 Years Shota Rustaveli." 20K deep green. Paris Exhibition. Typographed. No wmk., perf. 12 x 11½. 20Kop rose. Len-in Commemorative. Typographed. No wmk., perf. 12. Design: Portrait of Lenin (head) in oval. 40K black. North Pole Commemorative. Photogravure, no wmk., perf. 12. Design: Maps, Aeroplane and Flags. 10K drab and black, 20K blue and black, 40K green and carmine, 80K carmine.

SEYCHELLES.—Photogravure, wmk. script CA on chalk surface paper. Perf. U 14½ x 13½ comb machine, T 13½ x 14½ comb machine. Design: New Pictorial designs: Coco Palm, Tortoise or Fishing Pirogue, with K.G.VI head in medallion. Note: The watermark on the transverse stamps is *not sideways* but upright. 2c purple brown, 3c green, 6c orange, 9c carmine, 12c purple, 20c blue, 25c bistre, 30c claret, 45c purple brown, 50c purple, 75c steel blue, 1R.50 yel. green, 1R.50 ultramarine, 2R.25 olive, 5R terra cotta.

SOUTHERN RHODESIA.—Engraved, no wmk., perf. 14. Victoria Falls design inscribed "POSTAGE AND REVENUE" at top. 3d. deep blue.

#### SOUTHERN RHODESIA—FIRST INTER-TOWN FLIGHTS.

Scheduled 1st and 2nd February, 1938.

1st FEBRUARY, 1938. SOUTH BOUND, SALISBURY TO JOHANNESBURG, scheduled to call at Gatooma, Que Que, Gwelo, Bulawayo, and thence to Johannesburg.

(THE GWELO AERODROME WAS UNFIT FOR LANDING ON THE 1st FEBRUARY. Mail from Salisbury and Gatooma to Gwelo was put off at Que Que and conveyed thence with the Que Que mail by train to Gwelo, arriving at the latter point at 2.15 a.m. on Wednesday, the 2nd February.)

*First Flight covers on 1st February, 1938, would therefore be*

Salisbury to Gatooma  
Salisbury to Que Que  
Gatooma to Que Que  
Gatooma to Bulawayo  
Que Que to Bulawayo.

(Salisbury-Bulawayo, first flights in this connection happened in 1931 with the Imperial Airways service.)

2nd February, 1938. NORTH BOUND, ex Johannesburg, scheduled to call at Bulawayo, Gwelo, Que Que, Gatooma and Salisbury (terminus).

(As the Gwelo aerodrome was still unfit for landing, mail from Johannesburg to Gwelo was conveyed by air to Que Que and returned to Gwelo by train on the morning of the 3rd Feb. Mail from Bulawayo to Gwelo on 2.2.1938 was conveyed by train on that date, arriving at Gwelo on the evening of the 2nd.)

STRAITS SETTLEMENTS.—K.G.VI head, Malaya type. Script C.A. and crown wmk., perf. 14. 8c grey, 50c black/green, \$1 carmine and black/blue, \$2 carmine and green/white, \$5 carmine and green/green. Postage Due figure of value type as before. 50c black.

SWEDEN.—Swedenborg Commemorative, Engraved, no wmk., portrait of Emanuel Swedenborg with tablet of name and date 1868-1938, surmounted by spray of laurel. Coils are imperf. x p. 12½. Sheets are perforated 12½ all round, but imperf. side margins. Coils: 10 ore purple, 100 ore grey green. Sheet: 10 ore purple.

SWITZERLAND.—New Post Due. Engraved type slanting figures, no wmk., perf. 11½. 5c, 10c, etc., etc., all scarlet.

SYRIA.—Photogravure. Provisional surcharge value overprinted in black in French and Arabic. Original value cancelled by two parallel bars. 10P on 100P orange red, (S.G. No. 260).

TRINIDAD.—Pictorial designs of 1935/6. Engraved, script wmk., perf. 12½—13 (which is new). 3c scarlet and black, 6c blue and sepia, 12c violet and black, 24c clive and black.

TUNIS.—Typographed, p. 14 x 13. S.G. type 23 (Mosque) provisional surcharge value, overprinted in red. 0.65c on 50c ultramarine.

*First flights covers on 2nd February, 1938, would therefore be*

Bulawayo to Que Que  
Bulawayo to Gatooma  
Que Que to Gatooma  
Que Que to Salisbury  
Gatooma to Salisbury.

(Bulawayo-Salisbury, first flights in this connection happened in 1931 with the Imperial Airways Services).

THE FIRST FLIGHTS FROM GWELO ACTUALLY TOOK PLACE ON THE 8th FEBRUARY, 1938, (SOUTH BOUND) AND 9th FEBRUARY, 1938, (NORTH BOUND)—Exactly one week later than the scheduled flights.

A. MORGAN,  
Bulawayo.

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## Stamps "Baghdad in British Occupation"

By  
H. JOHN BLAMPIED.

It is just 21 years ago since the famous stamps "Baghdad in British occupation" made their appearance and they have been eagerly sought and bought ever since.

At 5 o'clock on the morning of March 10, 1917, the Black Watch led the way into Baghdad, a terrific sand storm raging and blowing from the desert. As the Turks retreated, the Arabs, true to their instincts, started looting, but within a very few hours this was stopped and order and confidence restored. Events moved with great rapidity and in a few days General Stanley Maude was firmly established in his Headquarters at the British Consulate and Sir Percy Cox was High Commissioner. These two outstanding Englishmen have both passed to the great beyond, their lives spent in the service of their country. Sir Percy Cox was a very keen stamp collector, and as soon as he could spare the time he instructed one of his officers, a friend of mine, to collect all the Turkish stamps he could get, not only from the Post Office, but from merchants and others. In all, as far as my recollection serves me, he managed to get together stamps to the face value of only about £50. These were Turkish stamps of various issues and various values, by no manner of means a uniform lot; of some values there were very few and of no values were a large number issued.

It was decided to surcharge them "Baghdad in British Occupation" and they were only to be sold at the Baghdad Post Office, and only to the army, and a very limited number to each person so as to give as far as possible everyone a chance of getting one. As a matter of fact the supply was so small that comparatively speaking very few people got any, and the great majority were not even interested or knew anything about them.

The officer who had collected the stamps together unfortunately got none, he had gone to India on leave and when they were issued he was hundreds of miles away. I happened to be in Baghdad a few days before the issue and hoped to secure a set, but the day before, I was instructed to return immediately to my post as something was happening. I asked a fellow officer who was remaining, to send me a set, and a few hours later had forgotten all about them. A considerable time elapsed when one morning I received a letter enclosing about a dozen of these stamps with a short note from my friend stating that was all he was able to send, and the total value was under a rupee (1s. 4d.). I always remember that I never sent him the money, it being far more difficult to do so on active service than it is to-day, and I never saw him again. When I got back to London after the war, I sold them for £100.

## ARGENTINA ENDS DEPARTMENTAL OFFICIALS.

The Argentine stamps overprinted with the initials of the eight government departments are to be no more. They are being replaced by one set overprinted "Servicio Oficial."

Southern Rhodesian stamps of the King George V. series also Jubilee and Coronations will be demonetised after the 31st of May, 1938.

Morocco Agencies were finally closed on the 8th January, 1938. Offices issuing stamps were as follows:—

Rabat opened 1886, closed January 8, 1938.  
Casablanca opened 1887, closed August 15, 1937.

Mazagan opened 1888, closed August 15, 1937.

Magador opened 1891, closed August 15, 1937.

Safi opened 1891, closed August 15, 1937.

Fez opened 1892, closed January 8, 1938.

*Jamaica.* Forged booklets of the Jubilees are being sold. Genuine booklets measure 94 x 95 cm. and contain 24d. stamps, sold at a high premium to-day. Mounted on four pages, 6 stamps on each.

J. LEWIS.

## CORONATION STAMPS

### FIRST-DAY COVERS

Aden 1/3, Ascension (reg.) 5/-, Australia 4d., Bahamas (reg.) 1/-, Barbados 1/6, Basutoland (reg.) 1/6, Bechuanaland (reg.) 1/6, Bermuda 1/-, British Guiana 10d., Br. Honduras (reg.) 1/-, Cayman Is. 1/1, Canada 6d., Ceylon 1/3, Cook Islands 1/8, Cyprus 1/2, Gambia (reg.) 1/9, Gibraltar 1/3, Gold Coast 3/-, Great Britain 6d., Grenada 1/1, Jamaica 1/-, Kenya 2s., Leeward Is. 1/6, Malta 10d., Mauritius 2/6, Montserrat 1/6, Nauru 4/6, Newfoundland (3) 1/-, N. Zealand (reg.) 1/-, Niue 1/8, N. Rhodesia 1/3, St. Helena 1/6, St. Kitts 1/1, St. Lucia (reg.) 1/1, St. Vincent 1/3, Sierra Leone 1/3, Somaliland 2/-, S.W. Africa (reg.) 9/-, S. Africa (reg.) 4/7, S. Rhodesia, 9/-, Swaziland 3/3, Trinidad 1/8, Virgin Islands 1/6.

### FINE USED ON COVER.

Aden 1/3, Antigua 1/-, Ascension 1/-, Br. Solomon Is. 3/-, Br. Guiana (reg.) 10d., Cook Islands 1/3, Dominica (reg.) 10d., Falkland Islands 9d., Fiji 1/3, Gilberts (reg.) 3/-, Grenada 10d., Hong-Kong (reg.) 1/-, Leeward Islands 1/-, Mauritius (reg.) 1/-, Montserrat 1/-, Morocco 9d., Newfoundland (11), 12/-, Nigeria 1/-, Niue 1/3, Nyasaland 10d., Papua (reg.) 2/-, St. Kitts (reg.) 10d., Seychelles (reg.) 1/3, St. Settlements 1/-, Turks Islands 1/-.  
LISTS OF CORONATIONS, mint, used, First-day Covers, at competitive prices. Free on application.

**WANTED.**—Ascension Jubilees, 20/- offered; Mauritius Jubilees, 36/-; offered; Great Britain Coronations, "Colon" and "Comet" varieties, &c., in mint blocks of 4; U.S.A., 1851 1c. imperf. fine singles, pairs and blocks.

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## FOR STAMP COLLECTORS —NOT FOR PHILATELISTS

W. J. E. BAXTER.

(Contd. from *February issue*).

R. — Roumania. In 1926, as you all know, the Union of South Africa resurrected the design of the old Cape triangular stamps. There's nothing like setting a good example, and Roumania, in 1932, on the occasion of the 75th anniversary of their postal service, issued a set based on the designs of the Moldavian issues of 1858. Some of these early stamps are catalogued up to as much as £1,000, so it is satisfactory to be able now to include the designs in our collections without overdrawing our banking accounts. This is an attractive set, quite out of the ordinary run.

S brings us to Sarawak. There used to be a popular song, "I don't know why I love you, but I do, do, do," and these are very much my feelings towards this country. If ever I am tempted to specialise (horrible thought!) or even to prefer one country to another, I think it will be Sarawak. And I have not the remotest reason on earth for this preference; it is just that I like the stamps. There is certainly something romantic about the story of the Anglo-Indian officer, James Brooke, who went to Borneo in 1839 to help the Sultan of Sarawak in suppressing piracy and head-hunting. He became Rajah over a territory of 50,000 square miles and half a million inhabitants, brought the country under British protection and was knighted for his services. The good work was carried on by his nephew, Sir Charles Brooke, and grand-nephew, Sir Charles Vyner Brooke, the present Rajah. I believe one of the young female members of the family recently ran off and got herself married to a New York jazz band conductor, but that only shows that she is enterprising, too, in her own way.

Tannou-Touva. Somebody asked me at a meeting the other night where this place is, and I was proud to be able to air my knowledge and tell him that it is a Chinese republic, away up in Northern Mongolia. This country has recently been producing stamps at a remarkable rate—the inhabitants must write lots of letters! Fortunately, the stamps are cheap. I am showing a set of seven, all in nice brilliant colours, triangulars and all shapes, and lovely pictorial designs. The seven stamps cost me just seven pence.

From the wilds of Tannou-Touva, a pressure of the pin sends us flying to the other side of the world again, to Uruguay, in South America. Here we can show the set of stamps issued in June, 1930, to celebrate the centenary of the republic. For splendid workmanship and general effect this set must rank high amongst the numerous fine pic-

torial sets which have emanated from stamp issuing countries during recent years; it reflects credit on the house of Waterlow and Sons, London, who produced it.

After all this hopping about the world, a little rest seems necessary, and what more appropriate place could be found than the Vatican State. The higher values of the current stamps give us a dignified representation of St. Peter's, 500 years old, the largest church in the world and the chief shrine of Roman Catholicism. On the Express stamps of the same series we have a bird's-eye view of the Vatican State.

W. — Western Samoa. This country has up to the present issued only one set of stamps, the pictorials of 1935. They have been shown here more than once, but they are always worth looking at again, recalling as they do the memory of Robert Louis Stevenson and Vailima.

And now this is where my pin fails me so I have to slip over the next letter softly and quickly. I can only exhibit a set of four labels from the National Stamp Exhibition held in New York in 1934. These labels are of extra large size and depict that extraordinary and doubtless extremely expensive sky-scraper, the Rockefeller Building. It is exceedingly unlikely that we shall see an architectural extravagance of this sort in Pretoria in our lifetime, although Johannesburg is making an exceedingly fine attempt to emulate New York's example. I could go on all night, but that's enough for X. There is no stamp issuing country with this initial.

When I came to the "Y's" I hoped my pin would stick in Yugo-Slavia, but I see that country has moved up amongst the "J's", which seems to be its rightful place, according to the lettering on the stamps. I got Yunnan instead, which is, as you all know, a Chinese province to the North-East of Burma. I am showing the regular issues of 1926, which are the Chinese stamps of the junk and rice-cutter series overprinted. I suppose the Chinese characters of the overprint spell Yunnan; you will have to take Stanley Gibbons' word for that.

Z brings us to the end of our journey and the pin indicated Zanzibar as a good place to stop. Here we have something out of the common in the Postage Due Stamps (or labels, rather) of 1930. The stamps bear no name to denote country of origin. They simply say: "Insufficiently prepaid. Postage due 25 cents." I showed this set to my young son (who is not a stamp collector) and with the matter of fact realism of youth he declared them the most sensible of the lot. His argument was that the stamp was merely a notification from the postal authorities to pay up a stated amount of postage which was due to them and that there was no occasion to sweeten the demand with any fancy pictures or fine engraving. There is a good deal to be said for the argument.

I hope, Mr. Chairman, that our little game with the pin has not altogether been time

wasted. From the practical point of view it is quite educative to try to hunt up some little facts about the different stamps and the countries of their origin. Perhaps some other member will feel disposed to have a shot at it some night and let us see his (or her) results. There are 26 letters in the alphabet and these tables just fit 26 sheets nicely. If it has answered no other purpose, the paper may have served to demonstrate, in a very modest way, the tremendous variety of incident and interest covered by a general collection. We general collectors may not be true blue-blooded "philatelists" but we certainly get a lot of fun out of our collecting. Not to forget the food and raiment we provide for those dear little Whitfield Kings.

#### SWISS NATIONAL POSTAGE STAMP EXHIBITION IN AARAU.

Between the 17th and 25th September, 1938, the Philatelic Club of Aarau will organize in the Town Hall of Aarau a National Exhibition of Postage Stamps under the patronage of the Union of the Swiss Philatelic Clubs.

The Federal Department of the P.T.T. has given its agreement to the issuing of a special postage stamp block to commemorate the event. The edition is limited and this block will be obtainable during the Exhibition. (See advt. on page 55).

Any desired information will readily be given by the Committee of Organisation of the "National Stamp Exhibition of Aarau."

#### A NEW MONTHLY PHILATELIC REVIEW.

Papers published for stamp collectors are more numerous than those dealing with any other hobby. Many articles appearing in the hundred or so philatelic periodicals are both interesting and instructive, but who has time to study so many every month?

So writes T. Todd, Editor of the *Stamp Magazine*. With the idea of reprinting every month in convenient form the more outstanding articles from the world's philatelic press, he commenced last month the publication of *World Stamp Digest*. Details of new issues and new designs will not be dealt with. In South Africa it can be obtained from the Central News Agency, Ltd.

#### RASUTOLAND, BECHUANALAND AND SWAZILAND.

The King George VI stamps for these Protectorates were issued on 1st April. In the case of the two former territories there is merely a change in the King's head. In the last the word "Protectorate" has been omitted and the stamps have taken on a very unbalanced appearance.

STUDY YOUR COUNTRY'S STAMPS

#### AIR MAIL FROM NORTHERN NYASALAND IN 1934.

Some time ago there came into my possession a cover sent from Livingstonia in Northern Nyasaland, which I thought represented a hitherto unrecorded "first flight" in this part of the world.

The cover had a large brown cachet "AIR MAIL / Church of Scotland Livingstonia Mission / First Dispatch / LIVINGSTONIA-EUROPE / VIA MBEYA / 15th March 1934". There were also, in violet, from a rubber handstamp, the words "By Air to London" in a box frame. As none of the authorities on air mails from this part of the world made any reference to mail carried from Livingstonia at this date I wrote to the Principal of the Mission and received the following reply:

"From March, 1934, till June, 1937, air mail from Livingstonia Vua, and Karonga, was despatched and received via Mbeya. The mail travelled over-land by runner to Tukuyu and then proceeded to Mbeya by car or runner according to the season of the year and local conditions.

"Once a month connection was made by the Lake steamer taking mails to Mwaya for Tukuyu. This service was inaugurated on the 15th of March, 1934, and the cover to which you refer was prepared for that day. Unfortunately many of the covers were badly damaged by water and it would appear that the bag was soaked by rain on the way. (My cover shows such signs. J.H.H.P.)

"The cover accordingly was flown from Mbeya not from Livingstonia and so may not be of interest as a first flight. It is nevertheless of interest to North Nyasa as it marked the inauguration of air mail at this end of the country."

It will be seen from this reply that there was no actual flight from Northern Nyasaland; it was a new route opened up linking with Imperial Airways at Mbeya, but not a new air route.

J. H. HARVEY PIRIE.

#### AUSTRALIAN KOALA.

We are indebted to the *Australian Stamp Monthly* for a day-of-issue specimen 1.2.38 of the new Australian 4d. Koala Bear stamp. The stamp is rather disappointing when compared with some of the excellent photographic studies of the koala which we have seen.



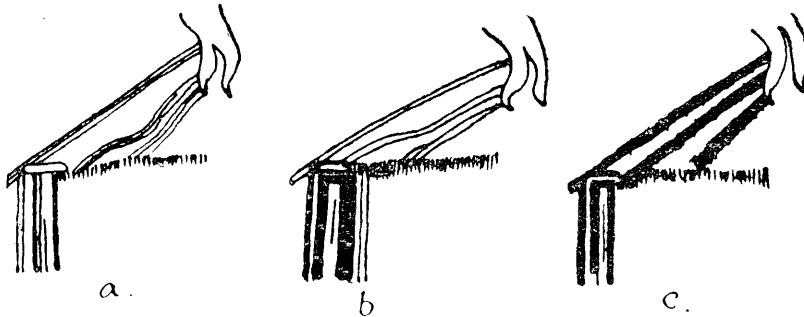
## UNION 4d. ISSUES THREE SETS OF PLATES

By DR. ALEC KAPLAN.

There appears to be some difficulty in differentiating between the three plates of the 4d. pictorial Union stamp. Originally the pictorial stamps were printed by Messrs. Bradbury, Wilkinson and Company, Ltd., of London.

This 4d. stamp was printed in recess. In 1930, when rotogravure printing was introduced at Pretoria new plates were made and the 4d. was reprinted in rotogravure. In 1936 the 4d. rotogravure was copied and a new plate was made. This plate has been in use since then.

The differences between the main plates are quite easy to detect.



### MAIN DIFFERENCES.

The following is a list of the main differences between these three plates, and I illustrate what I consider the main variations, the details being given in the order of the plates, namely, a. recess, b. first rotogravure and c. second rotogravure:—

Leaves at sides of design: a. spotted; b. with lines; c. with lines.

Spaces between leaves: a. criss-cross lines; b. solid colour within white frames; c. solid colour only.

Large hut: a. outlined; b. heavily outlined; c. no outline at left.

Value tablets: a. thin and distinct horizontal lines; b. thicker and fewer horizontal lines; c. thin, indistinct lines.

Stockade or kraal at right: a. three beams, each beam is of three lines; b. each beam is of two lines; c. each beam is a single rope-like line.

The following designs show these variations:

## EMPIRE AIRMAIL SCHEME RECENT SLOGANS.

*GREAT BRITAIN . . . Airmail Slogan Postmark.*

First Class Mail matter arriving in London from South and East Africa has been seen bearing a postmark on the reverse reading:

Note	ALL LETTERS	1½d
the	TO EAST AND	for each
Postage	SOUTH AFRICA	HALF
Rate	GO BY AIR	ounce

The date when this mark was first applied is not yet certain, but some of the mail (not all) which left South Africa on the 13th of February, 1938, was so treated on arrival in London.

This Slogan postmark has since been superseded by one reading: "All letters to East and South Africa, Egypt, Palestine, India, Burma, Malaya GO BY AIR" in the centre portion of the rectangle.

*CANADA . . . Airmail Scheme Post Office Mark.*

The Empire Airmail Scheme was inaugurated in Canada on or about the 21st of February, when all first class letters were carried

by Air from England to the participating countries in Africa and the East, at the rate of 6 cents per half ounce.

Underfranked correspondence addressed to South Africa was not taxed but bears a violet cachet, applied in Canada, reading:

PLEASE ADVISE YOUR CORRESPONDENTS THAT THE LETTER RATE FROM CANADA IS SIX CENTS PER HALF OUNCE.

The item seen arrived in Johannesburg on the 15th March, from Vancouver on the 21st February.

The cachet has also been seen in black.

*CEYLON . . .* The First Regular Airmail service from Colombo left there on the 28th of February, 1938, when the Empire Airmail Scheme was inaugurated in Ceylon. Special souvenir envelopes were issued in Colombo and a new Slogan postmark was brought into use on that date, reading:

EMPIRE AIR MAIL EVERY DAY IS MAIL DAY.
--

The first direct mails from Ceylon to South Africa arrived in Johannesburg on the 8th March.

I. H. C. GODFREY.

## Society News

### PHILATELIC SOCIETY OF NATAL.

*President*, H. H. Hurst; *Hon. Secretary*, Mrs. Reed, Box 588, Durban. *Meetings*, 1st Wednesdays, Durban Publicity Bureau.

The monthly general meeting held on Wednesday, March 2, was very well attended to hear the committee's report of the various points raised in the memorandum of the proposed Federation of the Philatelic Societies of Southern Africa. These were all approved by the meeting and the report has now gone forward to the Permanent Executive Committee.

Mr. Welsford showed a sheet of our 1½d. stamps on which there were "two broken chimneys." No one else apparently had noticed this error.

Mr. A. E. Church displayed a section of his collection of Air Mail covers which greatly interested members for, included in the two sections shown were a great number of rarities and we look forward to seeing the remainder of this valuable collection. Amongst the covers shown were:—

- (1) The Official Mail 1911-1929.
  - 1911 First South African Aerial Post.
  - 1914 German S.W.A. Flown Cards.
  - 1918 Our Day Aerial Post Cards.
  - 1918 First Aerial Newspaper in South Africa.
  - 1919 Cape Town Pigeon Post.
  - 1920 Handley Page Covers.
  - 1925 Government experimental Mail Service.
  - 1929 to
  - 1933 Union Airways.
- (2) The Unofficial Mails of South Africa. Amongst the items were a Dr. John West-on Document of 1911.
  - 1918 Cover carried by Major Miller.
  - 1925 Cover carried by Cobham, Cape Town to London, and other Covers carried by Casparenthus, Glen Kidston, Gordon Store, and Peggy Salaman, Victor Smith, Tommy Rose, and six covers carried by entrants of the Schlesinger Air Race—Scott and Guthrie, Halse, Clouston, Major Miller, Tommy Rose, and Bagshaw, Victor Smith, and last, but not least, the 1937 Cape record by Clouston and Mrs. Kirby Green.

G.R.

### EAST RAND PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

*President*, J. Linn; *Hon. Sec.*, J. Doyle. 41 Rose Deep, Germiston. *Meetings*, 2nd Thursday, Hotel Cecil, Benoni.

The February meeting was exceptionally well attended. After the preliminaries, items of interest were tabled by:

Mr. Newson:

Censored Covers from Spain,  
U.S.A. Dedication Covers.  
Air Mail Covers from Canada.  
Great Britain 2d. and 3d. King George VI.  
F.D.C. Gwelo—Johannesburg Air Mail.

Mr. G. R. Kent:

Tristan da Cunha Cover.  
First Flight Cover New Zealand—U.S.A.  
Tin Can Mail Cover.

The exhibit of the evening was provided by Mr. Johnston. This was preceded by a paper on Nova Scotia by Mr. Johnston.

The Nova Scotia exhibit commenced with a perfect specimen of the first one penny, continued by all the other values. There was also a copy of the 6d. forgery. Mint and used copies were well represented as well as blocks of 6 and 12 of the 8 cent. Then followed some fine New Brunswick specimens complete to the 17 cent black. To conclude Mr. Johnston tabled the classics of Newfoundland, which included a fine block of six of the 1861 sixpenny.

Kind appreciation to Mr. Johnston was expressed by the Chairman on behalf of the Club.

During and after tea lively chatter and exchange took place among the members, after which the meeting concluded.

H.S.

At the March meeting the attendance was fair, Mr. A. P. Linn being in the Chair. After the usual business had been dealt with such as last month's minutes and correspondence, pages of interest were exhibited by most of the members present. Pages of interest are generally made up of freaks and varieties, new issues, and first day covers. Owing to Mr. Sulkje being absent the notes of the month were not read.

*Paper and Exhibit.*—The exhibitor for the evening was Mr. Jack Shepherd. The collection exhibited was S.W.A. The paper read before the exhibit was placed on the table, and we hope it will be published in the S.A.P.

For almost a year past the members have just been showing their collection, but in future each exhibitor will be asked to prepare a paper or a few notes on the collection being shown.

J.D.

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

*President*, F. Carter; *Hon. Sec.*, F. Knight, c/o. Box 702, Bloemfontein. *Meetings*, 2nd Friday of each month at the Oranje Koffiehuis. Maitland St., Bloemfontein.

The Oranje Koffie Huis again attracted local philatelists when the Society held its monthly meeting on Friday, the 11th March. The President, Mr. Francis Carter, was in the chair, with a record number present.

After the President welcomed the members and visitors, the minutes of the last meeting were read and adopted.

Five new members were elected and three proposals for membership were made.

The President read a letter from the Society addressed to the Chairman of "Die Sentrale Volksmonumente Komitee" re the issuing of Bilingual Commemorative Stamps rather than separate stamps in two languages, in connection with the Voortrekker Centenary. (See page 55). The reply received from the Chairman is believed to be of a very satisfactory nature.

The Secretary, to the surprise of our worthy Chairman, announced that he, Mr. Francis Carter, had passed his 80th birthday and called on Mr. Dickie Clarke to speak. Mr. Dickie Clarke, on behalf of the Society, wished Mr. Carter many happy returns of the day and "Lang may his Lum Reek." On this occasion Mr. Carter was elected an Honorary Life Member of the Society.

Mr. Carter thanked the Society for their good wishes and the honour done in electing him life member, and congratulated Mr. Clarke on his election as City Councillor.

The Exchange Superintendent, Mr. J. Lewis, read his news topics.

During the meeting Mr. F. Carter was called away on business and Mr. J. Lewis, Vice-President, took the chair. Mr. Dickie Clarke wanted to know what had been done in connection with the holding of our meetings in the Public Library.

The Chairman explained that the Librarian was willing to allow the Society to hold its meetings in the Library. The Executive Committee were appointed to investigate and decide.

After refreshments the Society held its Spotting Competition. Keen interest was shown by all present and Master Brown (a Junior member) walked off with the prize. This was a surprise to older members, yet a pleasant one to see the younger members doing so well.

The usual exchange of stamps took place before the meeting adjourned. The next meeting will be held in the Public Library Hall on April the 8th, 1938, at 8 p.m.

F.H.K.

#### PHILATELIC SOCIETY OF JOHANNESBURG.

*President*, E. C. Sprighton; *Hon. Secretary*, F. E. Ingham, Box 4967. *Meetings*, 2nd Tuesdays, Kelvin House, 7.45 p.m.

At the March meeting Dr. Harvey Pirie showed a fairly complete range of the official air mails of Southern Africa, the 1914 S.W.A. flights and the Capetown Pigeon Post of 1919 being the only well-known air posts not represented. Most of the modern developments were included and there were a few specimens of unofficial flights.

F.E.I.

#### PRETORIA PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

*President*, Major W. J. Harrington; *Hon. Secretary*, Prof. H. A. Wager, Box 514. *Meetings*, 1st and 3rd Mondays, Technical College, 8 p.m.

March 4.—Major Harrington was in the chair. Mr. Hawke contributed some interesting philatelic press items.

Paper.—Mr. Obermeyer gave an account of the early issues of the stamps of Holland prior to the year 1890. These included those with the head of King William III. and those showing the coat of arms, all issued during the reign of King William.

Mr. Obermeyer showed his fine collection of Holland and Mr. Blockey some of his interesting special items of Holland.

March 21.—Major Harrington was in the chair. Five new members were elected.

Four members gave short papers. Mr. Obermeyer made a contribution on the 1895 provisional issue of the Transvaal. Mr. Blockey gave a synopsis of the sale of the collection of Mr. Blair. Mr. Giovanetti showed the Russian commemoratives of Lenin and gave a short account of Lenin's early life. Major Harrington described the details of the issuing of the two ½d. provisionals of Rhodesia.

Exhibits were tabled by Messrs. Harrington, Obermeyer and A. Watson.

H.A.W.

#### EAST LONDON.

*President*, J. R. Rouse; *Hon. Secretary*, S. F. Fowler, c/o Vacuum Oil Co. of S.A., Ltd. *Meetings*, 1st Thursdays, Technical College, 8 p.m.

At the March meeting the attendance was good despite the inclemency of the weather. Several members passed round sheets of the latest issues of British Colonials, which were advised, particularly British Honduras, Falkland Islands, Seychelles.

The display for the evening was given by Mr. B. S. Wilson and consisted of Rhodesia. The collection was beautifully mounted and written up. It was a very representative show and brought forth a great deal of praise. A hearty vote of thanks was accorded Mr. Wilson for this excellent exhibition.

It was decided to have the annual dinner at Deal's Hotel and to combine our annual general meeting with the repast. Members were requested to bring a few sheets of their favourite country for display to add to the social side of the evening.

W.S.H.

#### DUTCH EAST INDIES TWO PROVISIONALS.

Mr. W. Lambert records receipt of two provisionals: S.G. Type 17, 30c. slate surcharged 10c in red, and 32½c. violet and orange surcharged 10c in black.

The  
SOUTH AFRICAN PHILATELIST

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No. 5.

Union Notes

NEW PRINTINGS OF 1d. STAMPS.

Under date of 12th April, the Government Printer writes that with reference to the order for 500,000 sheets of 1d. stamps, which is mentioned in our February issue, it has been found desirable to make new cylinders to complete the order. The number of sheets delivered to the Postmaster-General from the cylinders previously in use was 361,500.

The numbers of the new cylinders now in use for completing the order are: Interior cylinder No. 52 and Exterior cylinder No. 25. Delivery from these commenced on 5.4.38.

A CONSTANT VARIETY IN THE 1d. ROLL STAMPS.

Mr. S. Legator records a new "rising sun" variety which occurs regularly on every 22nd stamp of the 1d. rolls. There is a streak of faint rosy red running vertically over the centre of the stamp just to the right of the vertical sun's ray. There are also faint traces of the streak on the stamps above and below.

A BOKSBURG SLOGAN.

Boksburg has now commenced the use of Postal Slogan No. 11 (Use C.O.D. Parcel Post—Maak Gebruik van Pos K.B.A. Stelsel), recorded in the January, 1937, issue of the *S.A. Philatelist*. Its number will be 11e.1.

As far as I am aware, this is the first slogan to be used by Boksburg.

B. L. CAIRNCROSS.

UNION HYPHENATED 6d. "OFFICIALS."

Although we have not yet been informed officially, we understand that the recently issued hyphenated 6d. has been overprinted "Official" and "Offisieel" in the usual way and is now on issue.

IDEAS FOR CLUB MEETINGS.

By JERE. HESS BARR, in *The American Philatelist*.

The "Liars' Meeting" was a great success. Perhaps those who do not like plain Anglo-Saxon may wish to use the Latin equivalent "Prevaricator." The story which took first prize may prove a suggestion to those who desire to hold such a meeting. Very briefly told it was as follows:

"Some years ago I insured John D. Rockefeller for five million dollars. With the commission I determined to voyage round the world and pick up the world's highest priced stamp. On my journey I finally arrived at the Island of Mauritius in the Indian Ocean. I found lodging in an ancient Inn which I later learned had been built about 1847.

"Being very tired and the time late I went to my room immediately and decided to retire. As I was dropping off to sleep I was aroused by a noise which seemed to come from an old bureau. Upon investigation I found that mice had built a nest in the corner of the drawer, and noticing a quantity of paper I pulled the nest apart and to my amazement found two entire envelopes upon which were pasted a superb block of four of the one penny orange 'Post Office' Mauritius and a similar block of the two pence dark blue.

"I knew that I held in my hand the end of my search. Did they belong to me or to the owner of the Inn? The question kept me from going to sleep for a long time before I finally dozed.

"I was suddenly aroused by a cry of 'Fire, fire.' I was alarmed to find that the fire was in the Inn. I sprang up, quickly dressed and ran down stairs and was just in time. The Inn, being of frame, was quickly destroyed. I had forgotten, in my excitement, all about the stamps. A fortune had escaped me and was beyond recall.

"When I arrived home I told my friends the amazing story, but none of them would believe me. The question is 'WHY?'" (Answer: See page 77).

## Meter Marks of the Union and of S. Rhodesia

Meter Mark collecting does not appear, so far, to have made much appeal in Southern Africa. At any rate we do not know of any serious collections of local marks, we have not seen any reports of collections having been shown at any of our societies, nor does anything seem to have been published on the subject in South Africa.

The following short article, taken from a recent number of *Stamp Collecting*, but with one or two illustrations added, will make clear to those who have completely ignored the possibilities of this phase of collecting what its scope might be and it may stimulate some who have trodden the meter path to add detail to what is given here.

There can be little doubt but that meter posts will play a bigger part in the future than they do at present. It will be very strange if collecting them does not catch on as a hobby here, as it has done in many other places, so *verb. sup.* get in early while the going is still good. Specimens from the early days of the Meters will always be the star turns of collections.

Also, there must be much more about Meters worth recording. Why don't you do it?

Editor, S.A.P.

### UNION OF SOUTH AFRICA.

#### (1) *Universal N.Z. Machines.*

Two machines of this make were taken into use late in 1925, they are numbered 1 and 87 respectively. The frank consists of an upright rectangle made of imitation perforations contained in which is a springbok's head surrounded by an oval ring in which the following inscription appears, "UNION OF SOUTH AFRICA" reading upwards at left and "UNIE VAN ZUID AFRIKA" reading downwards at right. At the top, between the two inscriptions, there is a crown. Above the oval the words "POST PAID" appear, and in the bottom corners there are tablets containing the value in figures. The meter number is placed below the central oval. This is the only bilingual frank used in South Africa in which the alternative language to English is Dutch. All other bilingual franks have Afrikaans. Fixed Value.

U.1. (a) Post-town and date in six wavy lines. Values available: ½d., 1d., 1½d., 2d., 3d., 6d.

(b) Date-case: double circle. Values available: ½d., 1d., 1½d., 2d., 3d., 6d.

#### (2) *Neopost Machines.*

The earliest machine of this type was introduced by the Neopost Agents, at Johannesburg, in 1926. It consists of an upright rec-

tangle surrounded by imitation perforations, and having the value expressed in words in a central oval which was franked by sprays of leaf. At the top the inscription "SOUTH AFRICA" appeared, and at the base "POSTAGE REVENUE" with a small square tablet between the last two words to allow for the insertion of the meter number. The date-case was a single circle. This frank, which was unilingual, is only known in Specimen form.



Later in 1926 the first actually issued Neopost machines were taken into use. These were bilingual, and bore the following inscriptions: "SOUTH AFRICA" along the top, "SUIDAFRIKA" along the bottom, "POSTAGE PAID" on a semi-circular label under "SOUTH AFRICA," with key letter "N" under the value, "POSGELD" reading downwards diagonally at the left, "BETAALD" reading diagonally upwards at right. Date-case either single or double circle. Sixteen machines were issued in this type, numbered from 1 to 16.

N.1. Values available: ½d., 1d., 2d.

(3) *Neopost Machines. Later Type.*

Date-case: double circle, various types. The figures of value also vary considerably. These machines were first issued during 1928. Numbered from 1 upwards. Key letter "N."

N.2. Values available: ½d., 1d., 2d., 3d., 6d., 1s.



#### (4) *Midget Machines.*

The franks used on these machines are broadly similar to those employed on the Universal N.Z., U.1., with the following variations: "POST PAID" is removed from the top and in its place we find "POSTAGE PAID" reading upwards at the left, and "POSGELD BETAALD" reading downwards at the right. The name of the country in Afrikaans reads "SUIDAFRIKA," the pence sign "d" follows the figures in the tablets of value, and the meter number is prefixed by the key letter "M." Date-case: double circle, which is also found with the inner circle broken at top and bottom. One machine, number M.82., has



a bilingual date-case. Later franks have the word "BETAALD" altered to "BETAAL." Fixed Value.

- M.1. (a) With Betaald. Values available: ½d., 1d., 2d., 3d., 4d., 5d., 6d., 1s.  
 (b) With Betaal. Values available: ½d., 1d.

(5) *Francotyp Machines.*

These machines may be distinguished by the presence of a four figure record number between the frank and the date-case. Numbered from 1 upwards, Key letter "F." Multi value.



F.1. Multi value. Date-case: either double or single circles.

(6) *Universal Multi Value Machines.*

Bilingual Franks numbered from 1 upwards. The first type may be found with the inscription BETAALD or BETAAL. Key letter "U." Date-case: double circle.



- U.2. (a) First type. Inscribed Betaald.  
 (b) First type. Inscribed Betaal.  
 (c) Second type. All inscribed Betaal.

SOUTHERN RHODESIA.

The first machines to be introduced were Limited Value Neoposts, and these were taken into use for the first time in 1931. The franks are upright rectangles made up of imitation perforations with the name of the country at the top in two lines. The Royal Cypher appears in the centre, and this is flanked by the words POSTAGE and REVENUE. The value in figures is at the base and to the right of this comes the meter number, whilst to the left is seen the prefix "N." The date-case is a double circle.

- (1) 1931. *Neopost. Limited Value.* Values available: ½d., 1d., 2d., 3d., 6d., 1s.  
 (2) A *Universal Multi Value Machine* was sent out for use in 1935, but the compiler of this article has not seen a copy taken into actual use.

WHY HE GAVE UP THE S.A.P.

A former reader in S. Rhodesia writes: "I do not wish to renew my subscription, but you mustn't be discouraged as I never could stand more than three months of *any* magazine.

But it is a mistake to go on sending your paper to people whose sub. has expired. Every month I thought I had seen the last of you but you kept rolling in.

If you think you should be paid for these extra copies that I didn't want I will send you a P.O. but really they are not worth more than 2d. each to me as I have given up stamps and gone in for Whisky Bottle Labels, yours truly."

Should we wish him good luck with his latest hobby?

A MOZAMBIQUE 40C PROVISIONAL.

The Robertson Stamp Co. informs us that a 40c provisional is just about to be issued in Lourenco Marques—may, indeed, be out by the time these lines appear. Apparently the ordinary 40c supply has run out, this value being one very abundantly used in multiples to meet various postal rates. To meet the deficiency the next higher value, the blue 45c, has been surcharged locally 40c.

COLLECTORS' WANTS AND OFFERS

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

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

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

William Redford, Box 7012, Johannesburg.

Union of South Africa.—I am interested in everything appertaining to Union of South Africa, including Inter-Propvincials, Specimens, Control Blocks, Freaks, Air Mail Covers, Entirets, etc. Send approval selections for cash, or would consider exchange with Union specialists.

Sam Legator, Box 133, Brakpan.

The International Collectors' Club. Secretariat: 35 Kerstant v. d. Bergelaan, Hillegersberg, Rotterdam (Holland). Members in all parts of the globe. Prospectus free on application.

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



## New Issue Chronicle

Kindly supplied by Mr. R. Roberts,  
430 Strand, London.

(14th March—6th April).

- BAHAMAS.**—Typographed, wmk script C.A. perf. 14. Design: K.G.VI head.  $\frac{1}{2}$ d. green, 1d. red, 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ d. blue.
- BRAZIL.**—Engraved (unicolour) portrait type S.G.108 (Barbosa) wmk. S.G. 156. 5,000r grey blue.
- BRITISH GUIANA.**—K.G.VI. Engraved, wmk. script C.A. perf. 12 $\frac{1}{2}$ . Design: Kaieteur Falls with medallion portrait. 36c purple.
- BRITISH HONDURAS.**—K.G.VI. Engraved, wmk. script C.A. perf. 11 $\frac{1}{2}$ . Various pictorial designs with King's head in medallion. 1c green and violet (Maya Figures), 2c carmine and black (Chicle), 10c brown and green (Logging on River), 15c blue and brown (Sergeant's Cay), 25c dark green and dp. blue (Dorey), 50c purple and black (Chicle Industry), 1 $\$$  olive and carmine (Court House, Belize), 2 $\$$  claret and steel blue (Mahogany Cutting), 5 $\$$  sepia and carmine (Arms).
- BULGARIA.**—Economic stamps. Photogravure, highly surfaced paper, no wmk. perf. 13. Design of rose and flask. 2L rose pink, 2L maroon.
- CEYLON.**—K.G.VI. Engraved, script wmk. perf. 13 x 11 $\frac{1}{2}$ . Pictorial design (Adam's Peak) and K.G.VI head in medallion. 3c green black.
- ECUADOR.**—P.O. rebuilding and Social Insurance Commemorative. Engraved, no wmk. perf. 14 x 13 $\frac{1}{2}$ . 5c carmine.
- EGYPT.**—Leprosy Congress Commemorative. Photogravure, wmk. crown and crescent as S.G. type 48, perf. 13 x 13 $\frac{1}{2}$ . Design of Spray of Balsam (Hydnocarpaceae). 5m maroon, 15m purple, 20m blue.
- FRANCE.**—Sower type S.G. type 15. 50c pale blue.
- GRENADA.**—K.G.VI. Pictorial issue similar to the 1934/6 all with King George VI head in medallion, except 10s. which is Badge of the Colony. Engraved, script C.A. and crown wmk. The  $\frac{1}{2}$ d. and 1 $\frac{1}{2}$ d. perf. 12 $\frac{1}{2}$  x 13 $\frac{1}{4}$ ; the 10s. 12 x 13; the others all 12 $\frac{1}{2}$ . The 10s. value is printed by De La Rue, all the others by Waterlow.  $\frac{1}{2}$ d. green, 1d. sepia and black, 1 $\frac{1}{2}$ d. carmine and black, 2d. orange and black, 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ d. blue, 3d. olive and black, 6d. mauve & black, 1s. brown & black, 2s. brt. blue and black, 5s. purple and black, 10s. carmine and grey. *Remarks:* The only new design is the 10s. which has for vignette design full size Badge of the Colony and GRI (script) and crown in top left and right corners of frame plate. Name of Colony in the top label, value in figures in lower corners in frame, 10s.
- INDIA.**—Service, King George VI head.  $\frac{1}{2}$ a brown, overprinted "SERVICE."
- JUGO-SLAVIA.**—Balkan Entente Commemorative. Photogravure, no wmk. perf. 11 x 11 $\frac{1}{2}$ . Design: Arms of the four Entente Countries. 3 din green, 4 din blue.
- MAURITIUS.**—Universal Key plate, Die 11, with head of King George VI. Script C.A. wmk. perf. 14 comb machine. 2c grey, 4c green, 5c violet, 10c carmine, 12c red orange, 20c pale blue, 25c maroon, 1R brown, R2.50 pale lilac, R5 olive green, R10 purple.
- NEW ZEALAND.**—New King George VI portrait type, engraved mult. N Z and star wmk. perf. 14 x 13 $\frac{1}{2}$ .  $\frac{1}{2}$ d. green,  $\frac{1}{2}$ d. green ovpt. "Official" (S.G. type 184). Engraved, wet print, mult. N Z and star wmk. perf. 13 $\frac{1}{2}$ . Maori girl design S.G. type 86. 3d. brown, overprinted "Official" (S.G. type 184). Photo-litho, mult. N Z and star wmk. S.G. type 98, *upright* (instead of sideways of local printing) perf. 14 x 14 $\frac{1}{2}$  comb machine. New local printing, S.G. type 91 (Maori Panel). 120 set instead of 240, no jubilee line, *thick paper no impression showing through*. Pale reddish smudgy colour. 9d. grey and pale red, 9d. grey and pale red overprinted "Official" (S.G. type 84).
- NORTHERN RHODESIA.**—K.G.VI. Engraved, sheets of 120 (10 x 12) script wmk. Crown C.A. perf. 12 $\frac{1}{2}$ . Same design as K.G.V with new head substituted facing right.  $\frac{1}{2}$ d. green, 1d. sepia, 1 $\frac{1}{2}$ d. rose, 2d. ocre, 3d. blue, 4d. violet, 6d. grey, 1s. black and ochre, 2s. 6d. green and black, 3s. slate blue and purple, 5s. purple and grey, 10s. black and green, 20s. purple and carmine.
- PATIALA.**—K.G.VI type of India, overprinted with S.G. type 25. Type set printing, with litho off-set overprint, wmk. multiple star. 1a carmine, SERVICE.
- PHILIPPINE IS.**—Current design overprinted "COMMONWEALTH" in black in S.G. types 28 or 29. 4c green, type 29; 20c olive green, type 28.
- PORTUGAL.**—Lusiadas type (S.G. type 90), typographed, small format as before, perf. 14. 1E75c deep blue.
- RUSSIA.**—typographed, no wmk. 5K Statue design, Paris Exhibition, p. 12; 20K Peasant design p. 11 $\frac{1}{2}$ .
- ST. VINCENT.**—Engraved, wmk. script C.A. perf. 12. Various pictorial designs with K.G.VI head in medallion.  $\frac{1}{2}$ d. green and blue (Seal), 1d. maroon and blue (Young's Is. and Fort Duvernette), 1 $\frac{1}{2}$ d. scarlet and green (Kingstown and Fort Charlotte), 2d. slate and green (Seal), 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ d. blue and slate purple (Villa Beach), 3d. purple and orange (Seal), 6d. claret and black (Seal), 1s. green and purple (Victoria Park Kingstown), 2s. purple and blue (Seal), 5s. green and carmine (Seal), £1 black and purple (Seal).
- SALVADOR.**—Provisionals, engraved, S.G. type 138a perf. 11 $\frac{1}{2}$  the others 12 $\frac{1}{2}$  as before. S.G. type 138a J. S. Canas overprinted in red, S.G. types 178, 181 and 182 over-

printed in black. 3c/5c blue, S.G. type 138a, red ovpt.; 1c/5c carmine, S.G. type 178, blk. ovpt.; 3c/10c orange, S.G. type 181, blk. ovpt.; 8c/15c bistre, S.G. type 182, blk. ovpt. The 1c/5c, 3/10c, 8c/15c are on security paper lithographed all over in faint yellow "EL SALVADOR" and the overprints are die sunk engraved and stamp up in relief. The 3c/5c has type set overprint and is impressed.

TRIPOLITANIA.—XII Tripoli Fair. Photogravure, wmk. crown perf. 14. *Postage*: 5c. olive brown, 10c olive, 25c green, 50c purple, 75c carmine, L1.25c blue. *Air*: 50c olive, L1 indigo.

#### S.W.A. 1½d. "OFFICIALS."

The following note, dated 22.4.38, has been received from the Director of Ports and Telegraphs, Windhoek:—

It is desired to inform you that this Administration contemplates the issue of an additional "Official" stamp as from 1st July, 1938.

The new denomination will be the current 1½d. postage stamp overprinted in red alternately "Official" and "Offisieel." (We presume "alternately" is really meant.—Ed.)

First day covers will be attended to at a charge of 5s. per hundred, but such orders, accompanied by remittances, must reach this office not later than the 15th June, 1938.

#### NEW PHILATELIC SOCIETIES IN SOUTH AFRICA.

##### *Johannesburg Jewish Guild Philatelic Section.*

The first annual general meeting of the Jewish Guild Philatelic Section was held on March 24, with Adv. I. Isaacs in the chair.

In his report, the chairman said that this was the newest section of the Guild, having come into existence in August last. In spite of its youth, however, the section was progressing very favourably, and although the membership was not very large, the enthusiasm of the members made up for their paucity. There had been many interesting exhibits since the inception of the section, and some educative discussions.

The Committee for 1938 were elected as follows:

Chairman, Adv. I. Isaacs.

Vice-Chairman, Dr. A. Kaplan.

Hon. Secretary, Miss H. Gromer.

Committee, Mr. L. Buchen, Mr. S. Legator, and Mr. Jack Shepherd.

##### *Rustenburg Philatelic Society.*

Mr. C. A. Grist, of White Cottage, Modderfontein, P.O. Kroondal, Rustenburg, informs us that a Philatelic Society has been constituted in Rustenburg with himself as the Honorary Secretary.

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## Notes on Union Interprovincial Stamps and Postmarks 1910-1914

By A. Hilton Sydow, A.S.A.A., C.A. (S.A.)

The Department of Posts and Telegraphs of the Union of South Africa was created and vested in a Postmaster-General on the 31st May, 1910, when the unification of the self-governing colonies of the Cape of Good Hope, Natal, Orange River Colony and Transvaal took effect and simulacrum the Colonies were eliminated from the Universal Postal Union as independent stamp-issuing countries.

The new Unified State acquired the stocks of stamps of its constituent colonies, but procrastinated the issuance of stamps inscribed with its own name, bilingually, until approximately the 1st September, 1913.

Prior to this date it appeared that a large State in modern times conducted postal services for a period of over three years without postage stamps but elucidation of such a state of affairs is to be found in the edition of the Government Gazette of the 18th August, 1910, wherein the Union Department of Finance proclaimed under Notice No. 349 of the 15th August, 1910, anent the "Interchangeability of Colonial Stamps for Union Postal and Revenue Purposes" that:—

"It is hereby notified for general information that until further notice postage and revenue stamps which were in authorised use on the 30th May, 1910, in the four Colonies incorporated in the Union of South Africa are recognised as available throughout the Union and their use is no longer limited within the territorial boundaries of the original Colonies of issue.

"In due course postage and revenue stamps for the Union will be issued, when suitable arrangements will be made for the withdrawal of the separate issues."

It may be asked if the phrase "stamps which were in authorised use" embraced only the then current colonial stamps, or, such stamps together with all antecedent colonial emissions which had not been demonetised. The official answer is found after a hiatus of twenty-four years between the exoteric promulgation quoted above and the following esoteric intimation contained in Post Office Circular of the Union of South Africa No. 843 of the 20th August, 1934, to wit:—

Postage Stamps: Validity of Pre-Union issues.

"Attention is drawn to the fact that the undermentioned Pre-Union issues of postage stamps are still valid.

1. Cape of Good Hope Stamps.—Except the triangular issue.
2. Natal.—All issues.
3. O.F.S. Republican Stamps.—Overprinted V.R.I. or E.R.I.
4. Orange River Colony.—"King Edward's Head" issue.
5. Transvaal Stamps.—"King Edward's Head" issue, but not republicans overprinted V.R.I. or E.R.I.

"Care should be taken not to surcharge correspondence bearing valid pre-Union stamps. But public announcement should not be made in this connection."

By virtue of the proclamation of the 15th August, 1910, all the stamps of the incorporated colonies, with the exception of the demonetised Cape triangulars and the Transvaal republicans, became, ipso facto, the stamps of the Union of South Africa as from the 15th August, 1910. It will be noted that owing to lack of official prevision the authority is dated the 15th August, 1910—two months and a half posterior to the 31st May, 1910, the date of the consummation of the Union.

Incidentally it will be observed that in both the official intimations mentioned no reference is made to the stamped postal stationery of the four absorbed colonies.

It will be remarked that the somewhat minatory and monitory injunction to post office officials which terminates circular No. 843 of 1934 is a first adumbration that the pre-Unions had gained the antipathy of the Postal Department probably due to severe monetary losses during the preceding twenty-four years!

Three years later it was found that the pre-Unions had definitely reached their apogee in the empyrean of Union postaldom, and the Supreme Postal Potentate of Pretoria decreed and apprised the public in the Government Gazette of the 15th October, 1937, in Notice No. 1575 (and to his officials in Post Office Circular No. 1008) that:—

"It is notified for general information that on and after 1st January, 1938, all pre-Union stamps will become invalid."

Vale pre-Unions!

After the date of the accomplishment of the Union the pre-Union stamps opened a new field to philatelists in the formation of interesting collections of these stamps in used condition indicating by their postmarks the fact of their use in the former colonies for which they were not originally provided, because during the incipient years of the Union the stamps of the four colonies were distributed indiscriminately to post offices. It was a quite common occurrence to find stamps with the inscriptions of the names of the quarterternity of colonies on sale at the same post office. It was also quite common to find an envelope with a Natal stamp used concomitantly with a Cape of Good Hope one; an Orange River Colony stamp affixed contiguous to a Transvaal emission, etc.

As a consequence of this system of indiscriminate distribution a method of collection on a quadriform basis was introduced which is still favoured by South African specialists; for example, a collection would commence with four half-penny stamps of the Cape of Good Hope with postmarks showing usage after the 30th May, 1910, of the first one in the Cape Province; the next in the Natal Province; the third one in the Province of the Orange River Colony; and the fourth one in the Transvaal Province. This arrangement would be followed by quartettes of the other denominations of the Cape of Good Hope, and thus together with the half-penny stamps would constitute section one of the collection. Sections two, three and four would comprise the stamps of Natal, Orange River Colony and the Transvaal in similar arrangement respectively. Some philatelists favour a fifth section devoted to pre-Unions, other than the then current colonial Edwardians, used after the 30th May, 1910.

Some years ago I exhibited my collection of pre-Unions at a meeting of the Cape Town Philatelic Society. My stamps were arranged on the above-mentioned basis. In addition to the stamps in used condition, I included mint stamps of the four constituent colonies under the heading "Union of South Africa." One member monologised—"Quite correct." Another member fulminated loud censures against the inclusion of the mint stamps. I explained that the proclamation No. 349 of the 15th August, 1910, had metamorphosed all the colonial stamps despite their inscriptions of name into stamps of the Union of South Africa, with the exception of the Cape triangulars and the overprinted Transvaal republicans. In the case of a stamp in used condition the date immediately decides whether the stamp is, say a Transvaal stamp or a Union emission. In the case of a mint stamp there is a vinculum sive nexum juris between the owner thereof and the Government of the Union of South Africa, for the proclamation quoted devolved a duty upon the Government and vested the owner with a right, *inter se*. Consequently a Transvaal mint stamp pur-

chased from Union Government is a Union Stamp. So are the mint stamps of the Cape of Good Hope, Natal and the Orange River Colony.

It is considered by authors of certain handbooks and catalogues that in order to be truly representative Interprovincial collections should be confined to used stamps bearing dates between the 31st May, 1910, and 1st September, 1913, and consequently it appears to have become a *lex non scripta* amongst certain philatelists that stamps bearing dates subsequent to the 1st September, 1913, should be eschewed as jejune and should not be accommodated in Union collections as Interprovincials. The latter date is the date of introduction of the first definitive stamps bearing the profile portrait of H.M. King George V, but many Post Offices in the Union were not supplied immediately with all the denominations of the Georgian issues by the Union Distributor of Stamps, and continued to sell the pre-Unions until the end of 1913, and many more offices sold pre-Unions during the first six months of 1914. It is manifestly absurd to restrict the date of usage to the 1st September, 1913.

Although at the 31st May, 1910, the postal services of the four occluded Colonies passed to the single administration of the new Dominion, clerks in all the post offices continued erasing stamps affixed to letters with the pre-Union obliterators as if the Union of South Africa had not become an accomplished fact, and consequently a very interesting museum of postmarks applied to Interprovincials could be formed.

A large proportion of the postmarks show the name of the post office only and in such cases a knowledge of South African topography and toponomy is necessary to place the stamps but the date in the case of stamps in used condition immediately decides whether the stamp is, say, a Natal stamp or a Union emission. In many instances used pre-Union stamps are found bearing postmarks with the names of Basutoland, Bechuanaland, Swaziland and Zululand in addition to the names of the post offices and dates after the date of consummation of the Union, and the uninitiated may wonder whether stamps bearing the names of these countries are Union ones or not, as well as those bearing the names, initials, or abbreviations of the Cape of Good Hope, Natal, Orange River Colony and Transvaal in company with the name of a Union post office.

A collection of postmarks of the Union should include that of Walfish Bay, which although situate in South-West Africa, is a Union town, having been annexed by the Cape Colony in 1876.

The following is an anagraph of postmarks excerpted from my collection:—

## UNION POSTMARKS, 1910-1914.

1. *Name of Office only*  
e.g. Robben Island, French Hoek, Houses of Parliament, Senekal, Lichtenburg, Upper Paarl, Lower Paarl, Zak River, Ceres.
2. *Name of Office with the addition of:*
  - (a) *Bechuanaland*  
e.g. Keimoes, Setlagoli.  
*B.B.* (for British Bechuanaland)  
e.g. Vryburg
  - (b) *Basutoland*
  - (c) *Cape Colony*  
e.g. Steinkopf, Hex River, Riebeeck Kas-  
teel, Uniondale  
*Cape*  
e.g. Ladismith, Middelburg, Richmond  
*C.G.H.* (for Cape of Good Hope)  
e.g. Malmesbury, Paarl, Molteno, Si-  
beria, Paternoster  
*C.W.* (for Cape Western)  
e.g. Modderfontein.  
*Cape S. Africa*  
e.g. Modderfontein
  - (d) *Natal*  
e.g. Kingsley, Ladysmith, Greytown
  - (e) *O.R.C.* (for Orange River Colony)  
e.g. Edenburg, Bloemfontein, Thaba  
Nchu  
*O.F.S.* (for Orange Free State)  
e.g. Winburg, Westminster  
*O.V.S.* (for Oranje Vrij Staat)  
e.g. Villiers  
*F.* (portion of the "R" of O.R.C. removed)  
e.g. Fauresmith
  - (f) *Swaziland*  
e.g. Mahamba  
*Swazieland*  
e.g. Sandhlan
  - (g) *Transvaal*  
e.g. Volksrust, Magaliesburg, Venters-  
dorp  
*Transvaal S. Africa*  
e.g. Modderfontein, Balfour  
*Tvl* (for Transvaal)  
e.g. Zeerust, Randfontein, Leeuwklip
  - (h) *S. Africa*  
e.g. Pretoria, Cape Town, Woodstock,  
Johannesburg.  
*S.A.*  
e.g. Worcester and Worcester  
*South Africa*  
e.g. Cape Town
  - (i) *Zululand*  
e.g. Melmoth, Nkandhla

The following is a list of special postmarks taken from my collection:—

1. *Walfish Bay* (1912)  
Annexed by the Cape Colony in 1876. Still part of the Union

2. *Finger Prints* (1913) (on portion of reg-  
istered envelope)
3. *First South African Aerial Post* (1911-  
1912) Kenilworth and Muizenberg
4. *S.A. Stamp Exhibition—Durban* (1913)  
(To be continued).

(Concluded from page 76).

and excellent geographical position, has at-  
tracted so many tourists both from Europe  
and from America.

Rio is a city of nearly 2,500,000 inhabitants,  
situated at the side of the most beautiful bay  
in the world—Guanabara—and surrounded by  
mountains, with wonderful views; just outside  
the city lie dense forests, whereas the climate  
is very good and excursions can be made to  
all parts.

The trip round Tijuca, via Cavea, leaves  
the visitor breathless due to the unparalleled  
beauty of the views. From the Corcovado  
which is one of the most picturesque points of  
Rio, 2,300 ft. high, can be seen a panorama  
of a large part of the city, the bay and a big  
expanse of the ocean; reached by an electric  
track railway and a newly constructed motor  
road, this is one of the most popular excursions.

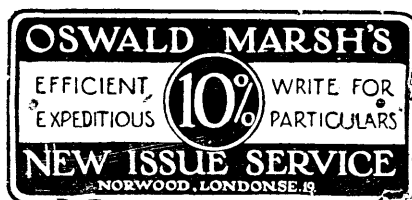
The Sugar Loaf, which towers above the  
entrance to the bay, is another point of rare  
beauty; it is served by an aerial railway from  
Urca (one of the modern parts of Rio) and  
has a very good restaurant for the conveni-  
ence of visitors.

As well as the Exhibition, there will be held  
the 1st South American Philatelic Congress  
and the 2nd Brazilian Philatelic Congress. All  
these affairs will be of an official character,  
having as president of honour H.E. the Presi-  
dent of the Republic, and being under the  
patronage of the Minister of Transport and  
the Minister of Finance, the International  
Philatelic Federation and the Federation of  
Philatelic Societies of Brazil. We will have the  
assistance of all the high authorities of the  
country, and the organisation has been en-  
trusted to the Philatelic Club of Brazil.

Every assistance will be given to visitors,  
including special discounts in hotels and  
restaurants; we have the help and collabora-  
tion of the official Tourist Department and  
of the Touring Club, so as to make the stay  
of our visitors as pleasant as possible.

For all information please apply to:

BRAPEX Caixa postal 195  
Rio de Janeiro.



## Correspondence

### POSTAL HISTORY OF CANADA.

By A. H. Lovejoy.

Sir,

As president of the l'Union Philatelique de Montreal, I deem it my duty to correct the many errors in the above article which I understand was read before the Philatelic Society of Natal, February, 1937, published in the *South African Philatelist*, April, 1937, p. 58, and reprinted in the *World Stamp Digest* for April, 1938, pages 118 to 122.

- (1) Winnipeg at one time used to be Fort Garry, not Fort William.
- (2) Ontario, the capital of which is Toronto not Ottawa, Ottawa being the capital of the Dominion of Canada.
- (3) Toronto to Hamilton, about 60 miles apart, not 100 miles.
- (4) The home of the Dionne quintuplets is Callander Ont., not the Province of Québec.
- (5) Across the St. Lawrence from Montreal there is no town called Hochelaga. Hochelaga being the name of a ward in the city and on the Island of Montreal.
- (6) As to the track across the frozen river, that paragraph is totally inaccurate. The official inauguration of the famous railway built across on the ice of the St. Lawrence River, from Montreal to Longueuil, took place on Saturday, January 31, 1880. This service was also in operation during the winter of 1881, from January 8 until the 23rd of March when traffic was suspended. The winter of 1882 was a very mild one and it was not until February that the service could be started, and the track was taken up about the 25th of March. *The winter of 1882 was the last time the railway crossed the river on the ice.*
- (7) The toboggan run on Mount Royal is about  $\frac{1}{2}$  a mile at the most, not 15 miles.
- (8) The old citadel at Quebec still standing today is not the same as in the days of Champlain. Samuel de Champlain, regarded as the founder of Canada, because it was under his leadership and guidance that the first permanent settlement was made, died on Christmas Day, 1635, after giving twenty-seven years of devoted service to Canada. The battle on the plains of Abraham took place on September 13, 1759, and the surrender of Quebec to the British on September 18, 1759. You will no doubt understand Champlain being dead for almost 125 years could not very well be at the above battle, and jumped from one of the windows of the fort.
- (9) The Blue noses come from Nova Scotia not from New Brunswick.

LIONEL A. LAPOINTE.

(We frequently find magazines in other countries making mistakes in their writings about South Africa. Now it is our turn to be caught out. When Mr. Lovejoy read his paper he was already suffering from the illness of which he died later in the year; this may have accounted for the mistakes which, as a former resident of Canada, he should not have made.—Ed.)

### AIR MAIL PROPAGANDA POSTCARDS.

Sir,

An interesting and, apparently, extremely scarce variety exists of the Air Mail Propaganda Postcard described by Mr. L. A. Wyndham in his "Air Mail Notes" in the April issue of the *South African Philatelist*. The pale and dark blue, on white, postcard depicting the "Atalanta" in flight beneath clouds, is to be found with the lighter blue printing INVERTED, and the Air liner "Atalanta" appears to be flying upside down above the clouds in the right hand corner of the postcard.

I. H. C. GODFREY.

### BRITISH GUIANA CORONATION RARITY.

Attention may be drawn to an apparently hitherto unrecorded British Guiana Coronation variety in the collection of Mr. O. J. Carey of Bloemfontein. This is referred to on page 79 under the report of the April meeting of the O.F.S. and Basutoland Philatelic Society.

### CAPE PRE-STAMP COVERS.

At a recent Postal History Auction held in the auction rooms of Messrs. Robson Lowe, Ltd., there were a fine lot of pre-stamp covers of the Cape of Good Hope offered and very good prices realized.

These covers, of various dates from 1806 till up in the eighteen forties, have various types of handstruck stamps, franks or postmarks—call them what you will—indicative of postage having been paid on the letters.

The star items were covers with a hand-stamp of the Royal Cipher "GR" and laurel leaves in an oval frame, specimens of which fetched ten and fifteen guineas. Other varieties of handstamped covers fetched various prices from one to five guineas, according to rarity and condition.

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## Philatelic Records of the Schlesinger Air Race, 1936

By  
MISS VAN HEERDEN.  
(Notes read at a meeting of the Pretoria  
Philatelic Society.)

My collection consists mostly of "first-day," "air flights" and "record attempts."

As far as possible I try to obtain postal cancellations from both ends, i.e., the date of posting and the date of arrival. This usually proves successful by fixing two stamps on the envelope, a Union stamp and an overseas stamp; the Union stamp being cancelled locally on the day of posting and the other stamp on its arrival at the end of the flight. Sometimes, however, both stamps are cancelled locally or the other stamp is not cancelled at all.

A short period before the South African 1936 Air Race from England was to have taken place arrangements were made for ten covers, out of which nine were for pilots taking part in the race and the remaining one by ordinary mail as a proof copy. Nine machines were entered for the race.

Major Miller (a South African), one of the favourites taking part, unfortunately met with engine trouble shortly after taking off. This handicapped him greatly and he withdrew from the race in Yugo-Slavia.

Another South African and great favourite (Captain S. Halse) took the lead and the race was his until he reached Domboshawa (Southern Rhodesia). In trying to land he struck an ant heap resulting in his fracturing an arm and damaging his plane badly. He carried twenty-four covers but unfortunately they were not autographed by him. At Salisbury an additional stamp was added to the envelope (making a total of three stamps), and the cover was endorsed by the De Havilland Aircraft Co., Rhodesia, Ltd.

The winner, Mr. C. W. A. Scott, carried 100 covers, out of which twenty-five were autographed on the back by him and his co-pilot, Mr. Giles Guthrie, the remaining seventy-five covers were not signed at all. The whole of the 100 covers are stated to be missing.

Like Major Miller, the unfortunate Victor Smith, had his first mishap in Yugo-Slavia and after several further unsuccessful attempts he finally landed at George (in the Cape Province) on the 9th October, 1936. The total number of covers carried by him was thirty-nine. They were all signed and were postmarked George, 9th October, 1936. The cover arrived in Pretoria on the 12th October together with the proof copy which was sent by ordinary mail.

After crashing 150 miles south of Salisbury the envelopes carried by Flying Officer A. E. Clouston were recovered from the wreckage and returned to England from whence they

were reposted bearing postmark "Aldershot, Hants," 14th March, 1937, and arrived on the 7th April, 1937, nearly eight months after the race! He carried forty-five autographed covers.

Tommy Rose, who crashed at Cairo, carried 100 covers, twenty-five of which were signed and inscribed, the remaining seventy-five were not signed.

The race ended rather drastically and with sad results.

Altogether out of the ten covers, four arrived. Whether the others will still come to light remains to be seen. I am living in hopes.

### MOZAMBIQUE AIR MAILS. DETA AIR SERVICES.

From Sunday, 10th April, a tri-weekly service has been maintained between Lourenco Marques and Johannesburg. This has been considered necessary in view of the accelerated service of Imperial Airways. The Deta planes leave Lourenco Marques on Sundays and Wednesdays at 3 p.m., and on Saturdays at 8 a.m.

On Monday, 11th April, a regular air mail service was started between Lourenco Marques and Quilimane, calling at Inhambane and Beira. Leaving Lourenco Marques on Mondays and Thursdays at 8.30 a.m. Quilimane is reached at 4.15 p.m. Return journeys on Tuesdays and Fridays, times of departure and arrival being the same.

VERGILIO S. NETTO.

### PORTUGUESE EAST AFRICA.

Although air mails were actually carried by Imperial Airways on the Portuguese East Coast very soon after the inauguration of the Flying Boat service from Southampton to Durban, no official agreement had been reached between the Portuguese Government and Imperial Airways Overseas for the regular conveyance of airmails up and down the Mocambique Coast, until some six weeks had elapsed.

On 1st August, 1937, arrangements having been concluded between the Portuguese Ministry for Colonies and Imperial Airways, the first Official (that is, sanctioned by the authorities in Lisbon) air mails were carried by Imperial Airways from Portuguese East African towns.

The first despatch of "Official" mails was made from Lourenco Marques on the 2nd August, 1937.

10th October, 1937. . . . On this date the Postal Authorities in Lisbon inaugurated a regular twice-weekly service from Portugal to Mocambique, the route being operated by "Lufthansa" (German) from Lisbon to Marseilles, thence by Imperial Airways to Lourenco Marques. Simultaneously, the inclusive air postage rate was reduced from 5 Esc.75 to 3 Esc.00 for a 5 gramme letter, and the transit time was reduced from 12 to 8 days.

Very few of the covers carried on the above services seem to have been preserved.

(Concluded on page 76).

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# £150,000 COLLECTION

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The African group is very strongly represented.

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**Transvaal**.—The finest lot that has come on the market for some years past. Two packed volumes, including single rarities, sheets, blocks, etc., in profusion. There is something here for every collector of Transvaals, however advanced his collection may be.

Of other countries, **Mauritius** has some magnificent early issues; **Lagos** is strong; **Natal** includes one or two nice items; **Gambia** includes a fine lot of the embossed; **Gold Coast** and **Sierra Leone** are moderate, except that condition, as throughout this collection, is superb. **Bechuanaland, B.E.A., Br. Somaliland, Griqualand, Nyasaland, Orange Free State, Rhodesia** and **Zanzibar** contain outstanding items.

**OUTSIDE AFRICA** the strongest countries are **Great Britain, U.S.A., India, Ceylon, Canada, Nova Scotia, Newfoundland, New Brunswick, Br. Columbia, Br. Honduras, Hong Kong, St. Vincent and Jamaica**, all of which are represented by first class collections. Apart from Australian States there is something interesting in every country.

PLEASE WRITE EARLY FOR FURTHER PARTICULARS OR APPROVAL SELECTIONS OF ANY COUNTRY OR GROUP THAT INTERESTS YOU.

Further details in GIBBONS' STAMP MONTHLY for APRIL (also 4 page plate and F. J. Melville descriptive article) and MAY (another "Melville" article). (Price 5d. per copy, each).

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## Air Mail Notes

By L. A. WYNDHAM.  
(Author of *The Airposts of South Africa*.)

### RAND—BULAWAYO SERVICE.

From 1st February, 1938, S.A. Airways established a new service between the Rand and Bulawayo, via Pietersburg, operating twice a week in each direction. This service is additional to the weekly Rand—Kisumu service, which also operates between these points. Simultaneously (as mentioned in previous notes) Rhodesian and Nyasaland Airways introduced two additional services a week between Salisbury and the Rand. There are thus six services a week between the Union and Rhodesia. I have not heard of any covers being available to represent this development of S.A. Airways.

### ADDITIONAL RAND—CAPE SERVICE.

An additional service between the Rand and Capetown via Bloemfontein and Victoria West was introduced on Saturday, 26th March, 1938, Capt. J. D. Louw being the captain in command of the JU 86 aircraft from Germiston to Capetown. The return service from Capetown took place on Monday, the 28th. With the establishment of this service the number of air liners leaving Capetown was brought up to nine a week, and for the first time there was a service to Johannesburg every day, either inland or via the coast.

The main significance of this service from an airpost point of view is probably the restoration of Victoria West on the air mail map of the Union. This town was included in response to representations made to the effect that it should share with Beaufort West as a port of call on the Rand—Cape route. Victoria West was a scheduled stopping place in the days when Imperial Airways operated the route.

Bloemfontein was placed on the air mail map on 1st April, 1936, from which date S.A. Airways took over the full operation of the Rand—Cape sector of the London—Cape service, but later this town was discontinued as a port of call.

The schedules of the Rand—Cape service were recast. Three services a week being via Kimberley and one via Bloemfontein and Victoria West and Beaufort West being alternate ports of call on the four services.

### MAILS TO ENGLAND IN FIVE DAYS.

Undoubtedly the foremost development in South Africa's air mail history since the introduction of the Empire Air Mail scheme last July, was the inauguration of the accelerated flying boat service between South Africa and England. The accelerated timetable of the

twice weekly service came into operation with the departure of R.A.M. "Calpurnia," commanded by Capt. W. Alderson, from Durban Harbour on Sunday morning, 10th April, 1938. "Calpurnia" reached Southampton to schedule on Friday morning, the 15th.

Southbound, the accelerated service was instituted with the departure of R.A.M. "Ceres" from Southampton on the morning of Wednesday, 13th April. At Alexandria, the following morning, after "Ceres" had passed "Calpurnia" over the Mediterranean, the mails were changed over to "Canopus," the first of the Empire flying boats to be commissioned, and at Kisumu, which was reached on the next day, a further transfer was made to "Coriolanus." Durban was reached on Sunday afternoon (17th), a few hours ahead of schedule. Capt. L. A. Eggesfield, who commanded the first flying boat to visit Durban, was in command as far as Kisumu, where he handed over to Capt. G. L. Bellin, the well-known South African pilot. It will be noticed that the journey to England takes slightly longer than to South Africa.

### A GLIMPSE AT THE FUTURE.

The following paragraph, which appeared in the "Cape Times" recently, will give an indication of what the future holds for postal communications between South Africa and the Empire:—

"Despite the fact that the present Empire flying boats are nearly new and the present speed-up of the service highly gratifying, it is interesting to note that Imperial Airways are already planning the replacement of their fleet. The new Empire boats will be twice as heavy and about 50 miles an hour faster. Together with introduction of night flying, they will bring Durban to within 48 hours of Southampton."

(Concluded from page 74).

At present South African Airways carry mails but no passengers between Johannesburg and Lourenco Marques and "DETA" carries passengers but no mails. An agreement has just been come to and very soon both airlines will be carrying mails and passengers between the Rand and Delagoa Bay.

I. H. C. GODFREY.

### INTERNATIONAL EXHIBITION—RIO DE JANEIRO, OCTOBER 22-30, 1938.

The International Philatelic Exhibition, "Brapex," to be held from the 22nd to the 30th October next in Rio de Janeiro, will certainly be of great importance, giving an opportunity not only of seeing fine collections of stamps belonging to Philatelists from all over the world, but also of visiting the wonderful capital of Brazil, which due to its natural beauty

(Continued on page 72).

THE £150,000 COLLECTION.  
A RECORD "GIBBONS" PURCHASE.

By Fred J. Melville.

What is without doubt the biggest outright transaction in the stamp trade for many years is the purchase by Messrs. Stanley Gibbons, Ltd., of a 52-volume collection formed by a Fellow of the Royal Philatelic Society, and consisting in the main of classic issues of the Empire. It does, however, include a magnificent collection of U.S.A. and a small but choice album of the King Bomba stamps of Sicily.

The whole collection is of a catalogue value well in excess of £150,000 and considering the superfine state of the stamps throughout, much of the material including pairs, blocks and on covers, is scarcely to be evaluated on the ordinary catalogue basis.

The "A" collection was formed over a long period of years by a wealthy collector who pursued his hobby in a quiet way. A study of the fifty-two albums affords abundant evidence of his quality as a connoisseur of fine old stamps. He appears to have taken all old stamps that came his way if they were fine enough in condition, and many rare stamps are here by the page-full. Such stamps as the lovely shilling Nova Scotia, the pence Newfoundlands, New Brunswicks and Canadas. On the other hand he appears to have allowed historic great rarities of high price to be passed by. It may be that such copies as came his way were not perfect enough to admit to his beautifully selected store. So we do not find the Post Office Mauritius, the Canada 12 pence, the costly provisionals of the Niger Coast, or the most famous of the errors like the Western Australia with inverted swan, or the 4 annas India with the head inverted.

Having mentioned briefly what the "A" collection does *not* contain, it remains to indicate the great strength of the albums with their abundance of glorious copies of most of the Empire's loveliest stamps. Collectors will remember the exquisite exhibition of rare Empire stamps organised by the Fellows of the Royal Philatelic Society in honour of the Silver Jubilee of the Society's Patron, the late King George V, in 1935. More than seventy items were specially loaned from this great collection at the invitation of the selection committee, and each piece was chosen for its impeccable quality.

The Great Britain volumes alone would rank among the major collections of our country specialised from 1840 to modern times. There are over 2,000 Penny Blacks, plated, and an exceptional proportion of them unused. The used are all choice, and there are two on letters of the first date of use, May 6, 1840. The 2d. blues, and all the later line-engraved stamps are here in large numbers and in grand blocks. Here also are some of the rarest of the "abnormals," mint sets of the high values including the "Anchors," and quite a unique display of the £5 orange, including seven on the blued paper.

Great Britain stamps used abroad make a finely specialised collection occupying seven volumes, and would have merited a highest award at any of the great international exhibitions of recent years.

Where so many sections are in fact superbly specialised collections which would stand on their own in any competitive exhibition, it is difficult to single out any for particular reference in a short article.

Each of the British North American Colonies is of a high degree of completeness, richness and quality. Over and over again as we turn the pages our amazement grows at the rare stamps shown not merely as singles but in ranges of shades, sometimes a row, sometimes a page-full and often several pages devoted to some fine old favourites of the Canadian, Newfoundland, New Brunswick, Nova Scotia (*only* thirteen of the N.S. shillings!), while Prince Edward Is. and British Columbia are represented as front rank specialised collections.

Almost wherever we look we find the same abundance and character. The Cape of Good Hope albums are richly filled, and the many copies of the "woodblocks" are matchless. There is here one of the two used copies known of the 4d. engraved stamp in black. The Transvaals are extraordinary in their wealth of large blocks, and some of the rarest of the early overprint errors.

It is the same with India and Ceylon, to each of which two wonderful volumes are devoted. The early Mauritius (without the two "Post Office") are of the same high order throughout.

Several of the West Indian colonies are collections of the first class, with the brilliant St. Vincents leading in beauty, but in value perhaps exceeded or equalled by British Guiana, Trinidad, British Honduras, Grenada, Jamaica, and followed closely by others.

Nearly all the Colonies everywhere come into the picture (except the Australians) and there are thrills for the specialist in each of them. Among those that stand out most vividly from my earliest general canter through these volumes, are Natal, Straits Settlements and Hong Kong.

Only two countries beyond the Empire come within the range of the collection, and they have close historical and philatelic interests for Britons, U.S.A. and Sicily. The United States albums contain a magnificent range of the general issues, and some of the rare reissues. The collection, had we space to discuss it, would require an article to itself. We can follow throughout it the same sense of the beauty of the fine old stamp in the acme of perfection. You can sense this too in the magnificent copies of the Sicilian King's Heads.

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The answer to the liar's story is that the "Post Office" Mauritius was issued in singles; there are no blocks of four.

## The Stamps of Great Britain King Edward VIII.

By J. E. CREEWEL.

*(Notes on Exhibit shown at a meeting  
of the Philatelic Society of Johannesburg.)*

The first stamps of the reign of King Edward VIII.—the ½d., 1½d. and 2½d. were issued to the public on September 1, 1936, followed by the 1d. value on September 14.

This proved, afterwards, to be the complete issue, as a statement by the Assistant Post Master General of Great Britain will explain. "The stamps," he said, "could not be considered a permanent issue, and were in fact only being issued tentatively in the hope that the public would approve of them. For that reason the higher values had not been prepared."

The stamps were on sale from 1st to 5th September, after which they were supplied only if specially asked for, and were to have been withdrawn after Christmas, had they not gained the approval of the public.

The head portrayed, was taken from a photograph by Hugh Cecil Portraits, Ltd., the first occasion on which such a step had been taken, and the actual printing was performed by Messrs. Harrison and Sons, Ltd., by the photogravure process.

The design originates from a sketch by 18-year-old Mr. H. J. Brown of Torquay, who, as far back as April, 1936, anticipating that a design for the new stamps would be required, set to work and forwarded his attempt to the postal authorities.

It will be observed, however, that three slight modifications were made—One, that the word "revenue" was omitted altogether, two, that the words of value were replaced by the word "postage," and, three, that the Imperial Crown was used, not the State Crown.

A further departure from current practice was the use of the cypher 8 for the Watermark—as a roman 8 would have weakened the paper too much.

I will not go into detail about printing, save that the stamps were printed in sheets, afterwards divided into two panes of 240 stamps each, the only distinguishing feature being the cylinder number. That on the right pane, has a stop, while that on the left pane has none.

Owing to the absence of any ornate design the possibility of minor varieties occurring was reduced to a minimum. Only one is known. A white spot in the head in the ½d value—the second stamp, ninth row, from the cylinder No. 10.

There are two varieties in the control numbers, both of which are shown. A "retouch" of cylinder No. 15 is known—the A/36 being so faint that it has apparently been outlined with dots in an attempt to make it more visible.

The three lower values are known with inverted watermarks, and have been taken from booklets.

These have their own series of cylinder numbers, different from those on the sheets, by way of the letter preceding the figure.

The stamps have been used in Army Post Offices in China and Palestine, while all values were overprinted for use in the Morocco Agencies.

They remained on sale after the abdication of King Edward VIII. on December 10, 1936, but were finally withdrawn on the 2nd October, 1937.

The postage due stamps, however, were of the existing design on paper watermarked E 8R sideways. They were issued at intervals during and after the reign and are still in use.

### TRISTAN DA CUNHA.

H.M.S. Milford arrived at Simonstown from England via St. Helena and Tristan da Cunha on 5th April.

The stay of the ship at Tristan was apparently not long enough for mails taken to the island to be answered in time to come away again by the Milford and we have received no information as to what is now the postal status of this dependency of St. Helena.

## APPROVAL SELECTIONS

If you are not yet on my mailing list for approval selections, why not drop me a line stating your requirements (and references) please? I have approval books for practically every stamp-issuing country, besides a special service for new issues, which are offered in sets.

My motto is: Good stamps at a fair price.

Careful personal attention is given to specialist's requirements.

**A. LICHTENSTEIN,**

B.P.A.

BLOEMFONTEIN.

P.O. Box 576.



## Society News

### EAST LONDON PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

*President*, W. S. Hoale; *Hon. Secretary*, S. F. Fowler, c/o. Vacuum Oil Co. of S.A., Ltd. *Meetings*, 1st Thursdays, Technical College, 8 p.m.

The attendance at the April meeting was a record one, there being only four members absent, two of whom were away from East London. The meeting was preceded by the annual dinner which was a huge success. No speeches were made, these being reserved for the annual general meeting.

A very good display was given by all members of their favourite countries and amongst them was noticed Germany commemorative issues; Sierre Leone, including the Wilberforce issue in blocks of four mint and used; some first flights air mail; Rhodesia double heads in blocks of four mint; and many complete sets of the new King George issues of the British colonies.

The following were elected for the ensuing year:

President, W. S. Hoale.

Vice-President, J. F. Paviour.

Secretary and Treasurer, S. F. Fowler.

Other Committee members, C. H. Thornton, J. A. Hayser and B. S. Wilson.

W.S.H.

### PHILATELIC SOCIETY OF JOHANNESBURG.

*President*, E. C. Sprighton; *Hon. Secretary*, F. E. Ingham, Box 4967. *Meetings*, 2nd Tuesdays, Kelvin House, 7.45 p.m.

At the April meeting Mr. W. Redford exhibited his collection of Orange Free State stamps, prefacing his exhibit by a series of notes. He pointed out that although the O.F.S. was supposed to be an easy country to collect it was not really an easy matter to obtain good copies of quite a large number of its stamps, and this fact accounted for quite a few of the still rather numerous empty places on his sheets. Despite this disarming introduction his audience was treated to a very fine display, including numerous rarities and unlisted varieties.

The Society is contemplating returning to fortnightly meetings instead of monthly and if a sufficient number of members will intimate during the next two months their willingness to read papers and/or show exhibits a start will be made in July.

F.E.I.

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

*President*, F. Carter; *Hon. Sec.*, F. Knight, c/o. Box 702, Bloemfontein. *Meetings*, 2nd Friday of each month at the Oranje Koffiehuis, Maitland St., Bloemfontein.

One of the best displays of stamps yet seen by the members of the Society was tabled by Mr. O. J. Carey, in the Public Library on Friday, 11th April. It consisted of over 1,000 Coronation stamps in blocks, strips and complete panes. All the major errors were represented as well as all the known Control Numbers. Mounted on black leaves in an artistic manner the designs had a definite aesthetic appeal.

The collection was well written up, attention being drawn to the printers of each particular set of stamps, the peculiarities of the different printings, the watermark, the perforation, and the types of paper used. The collection has taken months to build up, and has been done in conjunction with several dealers and well-known collectors.

One particular item appears to be unique as none of the dealers who have been approached have yet heard of it and no mention has been made in any of the well-known English or American philatelic magazines. This being the Br. Guiana with control No. on top margin instead of the bottom.

One of the finest items is a complete set of S.W.A. with the printer's imprint between two pairs of stamps, and not, as is commonly the case, at the bottom of a pair.

During the evening six new members were elected. Mr. J. Lewis, Vice-President, presided over the meeting which was well attended.

F.K.

### EAST RAND PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

*President*, J. Linn; *Hon. Sec.*, J. Doyle, 41 Rose Deep, Germiston. *Meetings*, 2nd Thursday, Hotel Cecil, Benoni.

The attendance was good at the April meeting. The exhibits of the evening were provided by the following members, each member tabling a few pages:—

Mr. Johnston.—A fine lot of Unions used in S.W.A., in a variety of towns; there were also entire, including censored War Covers.

Mr. Grey.—A mint collection of the last of the Georges, all in complete sets.

Mr. Kent.—Two frames of Tête-Bêches; a nice lot including some rare items.

Mr. Linn.—Interesting items from United States of America, and also a few pages of varieties from Mocambique and Lourenco Marques.

Dr. Shapiro.—A good collection of Bechuana-lands.

Mr. Shepherd.—A nice collection of New Zealand classics and a block of six S.W.A. proofs, with centre missing, double overprint, one inverted and overprint missing.

Mr. Suklje.—A collection of all issues of King Edward VIII. and a selection of interesting covers, including one from the late King George V.

Tea was then served and, after some interchanging of stamps and horse-talk, the evening concluded.

At the next meeting of the Society, to be held on May 12, the Johannesburg Society will be the visitors providing the exhibits.

#### PRETORIA PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

*President*, Major W. J. Harrington; *Hon. Secretary*, Prof. H. A. Wager, Box 514. *Meetings*, 1st and 3rd Mondays, Technical College, 8 p.m.

April 4th.—Major Harrington was in the chair. Mr. Hawke gave his usual interesting notes from the press.

Paper.—This was the ladies' night and some very interesting papers were read. Miss Versfeld described all the issues commemorative of Royal Weddings and she also read a paper on why she collected the stamps of Belgium. Miss Hean contributed a paper on the interest attached to the ways in which some of her stamps came into her possession.

Exhibits connected with the papers were displayed.

April 19th.—Major Harrington was in the chair. Mr. Hawke gave some recent philatelic press extracts.

Three short papers were read. Mr. Gregory described a journey by air-mail from England to Singapore, pointing out the items of interest to be passed on the way. Miss de Wet gave an interesting talk on some ideas that had occurred to her of making philatelic meetings more interesting. Mr. Shapiro gave the reasons why he considered philately to be not only a real hobby, but an instructive hobby.

Mr. Basden tabled a fine show of items of the Union of South Africa, and Mr. Gregory some of the items connected with his talk.

H.A.W.

#### PHILATELIC SOCIETY OF NATAL.

*President*, H. H. Hurst; *Hon. Secretary*, Mrs. Reed, Box 588, Durban. *Meetings*, 1st Wednesdays, Durban Publicity Bureau.

There was a large attendance of members and friends at the monthly general meeting held on April 6th, when Mr. Malan showed his collections of Canadian and Newfoundland stamps. Newfoundland was represented by the complete Coronation. Following is an account of the Canadian exhibit:—

1. 1859 Issue: Re-entry on 5c (beaver) stamp.

2. Fine selection of the Queen's Head stamps 1868-1893 issues, all in fine used condition.

3. Representative selections of the "four maple leaves" and "two maple leaves" issues of 1897 and 1898.

4. Four distinct shades of the 1898 map stamp.

5. 2c imperf., 1903 issue.

6. Complete set of Quebec Tercentenary issue, 1908.

7. Plate and imprint block of 6 of the 1928 air stamp.

8. Plate No. 6, block of 4 of the scarce die II. of the 2 cents of the 1930 issue.

9. Used and mint strips of most of the slot machine stamps.

10. First day Jubilee cover.

11. Plate and imprint blocks of 4 and 6 of all issues since 1935, including the Jubilees, and high values up to the one dollar value.

Note.—The thick gum used on Canadian stamps causes stamps to stick in this climate so that all my mint Canadians are mounted on wax paper!

Mrs. Reed passed round for members to see an issue of the East Anglian magazine, showing an illustration of the famous library in Mr. Whitfield's house in Ipswich. This is the only room in the world papered entirely with unused postage stamps. The walls are covered with 61,242 stamps having a total face value of nearly £1,000, and are designed in panels each carried out in delicate patterns like Mosaic work.

Our President, Mr. H. H. Hurst has been transferred to Salisbury (S. Rhodesia) for a few months and during his absence Mr. H. de Terrason will act for him. G.R.

#### £3,000 STAMP LIBRARY SOLD.

The world-famous library of philatelic literature formed by the late Mr. F. A. Bellamy, of Oxford, has been purchased intact by Mr. Albert H. Harris, Editor of the *Philatelic Magazine*.

Mr. Bellamy was a well-known astronomer, who made his chief relaxation the study of stamp literature. His aim was to form the finest philatelic library in the world for presentation to the Oxford University, and he spent over £3,000 in doing so. The University declined the offer mainly owing to lack of accommodation.

The Bellamy philatelic library ranks second only to that of the late Earl of Crawford, now in the British Museum. It comprises literature on stamps and postal history in all languages, amounting to over 200,000 items, and weighs over ten tons. Many of its items are unique.

This is by no means the first large library that Mr. Harris has bought. In fact he has been the biggest buyer of philatelic literature for many years. Three years ago he acquired the library of the late Walter Howard, of the Royal Philatelic Society. Prior to that he bought the libraries of many well known philatelists including Hugo Griebert, of London; Dr. E. W. Floyd, of Manchester; Alderman Young of Cambridge; and Sir John Dickenson, the Bow Street Magistrate. When Walter Morley, a well known philatelic publisher, retired, Mr. Harris took over his entire stock.

*The*  
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### HOLIDAYS—"ROUND-IN-NINE"

Even stamp collectors need holidays sometimes, and folks who desire to put a glow of warmth into the winter months this year should join one of the Round-in-Nine touring trains, which leave Johannesburg on 2nd and 16th July. Every day of these popular land cruises holds the thrill of sight-seeing, and every night there is the fun and gaiety of dances, and entertainments.

The morning after departure the train arrives at Nelspruit, and a drive through the citrus estates of White River precedes arrival at the Pretorius Kop gateway, where a motor tour of the Kruger National Park begins. Almost everywhere along the route there are wildebeeste and often zebra beside them. A scampering among the bushes and a flash of brown coats and you have seen impala. Sometimes lions and lionesses sun themselves in the roadway. The giraffe is always looking for tit-bits at the tops of trees, whilst the graceful kudu tries to hide in the bushes. The warthog is a clownish fellow, and if you get to a water hole at the right time you may catch him in his bath.

For two days you drive through the Park, storing up memories of wild creatures and picnic lunches and camp-fire sing-songs. Then you find yourself at Lourenco Marques in an exciting continental atmosphere. Open air cafes, casinos, dance halls, colourful homes and golden beaches are among the attractions of this gay town, to say nothing of the opportunity of getting Mozambique stamps at ground-floor prices, whilst a cruise up the Incomati River to the Hippo pools is a highlight of the tour.

After two days at Lourenco Marques the train carries you away from the sea to the Northern Transvaal. From Tzaneen there is an all-day motor drive through the wooded hills and valleys of Magoeba's Kloof and the luxuriant foliage of the Woodbush country to Duivelskloof.

A thirty-mile sightseeing tour of Pretoria fills the last morning; the adventurous trip

comes to an end at Johannesburg in the afternoon, and you can then come back to your stamps with renewed zest and energy.

### UNION STAMP BOOKLETS.

Under date 22.4.38 the Government Printer writes:-

I have to inform you that orders for the printing of the following postage stamps have been received and are being executed:-

- (a) 200,000 booklets containing 12 stamps at  $\frac{1}{2}$ d. and 24 stamps at 1d.—value 2s. 6d. each.
- (b) 600,000 booklets (Razor Blade) containing 4 stamps at  $\frac{1}{2}$ d. and 4 stamps at 1d.—value 6d. each (These are booklets referred to in our February issue, p. 30.—Ed.)
- (c) 600,000 booklets (Razor Blade) containing 2 stamps at  $\frac{1}{2}$ d. and 2 stamps at 1d.—value 3d. each. (These booklets have not been chronicled before.—Ed.)

The method of printing the stamps referred to in (a) is the same as for previous issues, the stamps being printed, perforated and cut into large sheets of 180 stamps in one operation on the machine.

In the case of items (b) and (c) the stamps are printed in sheets in the same manner as the 2s. 6d. booklets except that the number of stamps to a sheet in each case and for both values, is 160.

Further particulars regarding these booklets are:-

(a) Delivery commenced 14.4.38; Interior cylinders No. 8 for the  $\frac{1}{2}$ d. and No. 6 for the 1d.; Exterior cylinders No. 10 for the  $\frac{1}{2}$ d. and 6930 for the 1d.

(b) Delivery commenced 23.9.37; Interior cylinders No. 16 for the  $\frac{1}{2}$ d. and No. 9 for the 1d.; Exterior cylinders No. 6920 for the  $\frac{1}{2}$ d. and No. 38 for the 1d.

(c) Delivery commenced 12.4.38; Interior cylinders No. 16 for the  $\frac{1}{2}$ d. and No. 9 for the 1d.; Exterior cylinders No. 6920 for the  $\frac{1}{2}$ d. and No. 38 for the 1d.

New cylinders were made for each item.

## Interprovincial Stamps and Postmarks 1910-14

By A. HILTON SYDOW.

(Contd. from p. 72 of May issue).

5. *Union of S.A. Ocean P.O.* (with number) 1912-1913

I have in my collection Nos. 2, 7, and 9. A note in a postal guide of 1912 printed by the Cape Times, Limited, reads:—

“Ocean Post Offices.—There is an agency of the Post Office on board each of the Mail Steamers between South Africa and the United Kingdom. The Purser acts as Postmaster.”

The Mailboats plying between the countries in those days were the R.M.S. Balmoral, Edinburgh, Armadale, Kenilworth, Walmer, Kildonian, Kinsfauns, and Carisbrook Castles, Saxon, Briton and Norman. Information is being sought as to whether the numbers apply to any of the boats mentioned.

6. *Cape of Good Hope Ocean Post Office* (1910)  
7. *Shipping Postmaster—Cape Town*  
8. *Paquebot* (with Durban Postmark) (1910-1913)

9. *Deutsche See Post* (Letters posted on board the German boats)  
10. *Overseas Parcels P.E.* (Port Elizabeth)  
11. *Western T.P.O. Cape Colony* (1910) (Travelling Post Office)  
*Western T.P.O.* (1910 onwards) (with Nos. 2 to 6)  
12. *Returned L.O. Cape Town* (1910) (Returned Letter Office)  
13. *Cantonments Potchefstroom*  
14. *Parcels Durban Natal*  
15. *Parcels P.E. C.G.H.*  
16. *Registered Cape Town* (oval postmarks) Also Kimberley, East London, Port Elizabeth, King Williamstown  
17. *Registered P.M. Burg Natal*  
*Registered Johannesburg*  
18. *Cape Town N.P.B.* (newspaper box)  
*Cape Town P.B.S.* (private box section)  
*G.P.O. Cape Town*  
19. *Railway Cancellations*  
(a) Metal—S.A.R. with name of Office (in black ink)  
e.g. Boshof, Johannesburg  
(b) Rubber—C.G.R. with name of Office (in violet ink)  
e.g. Ceres Road, Laingsburg  
S.A.R. with name of Office (in violet ink)  
e.g. Constable, Carnarvon  
20. *Cape Town—Paid* (in red) 1910-1913.

### MACHINE POSTMARKS.

	<i>Date Stamp.</i>		<i>Lines and Slogan.</i>
1	1910-1911	Cape Town	8 Liner — equidistant in length equidistant in spacing
2	1912	Cape Town	4 Liner — Union of South Africa Unie van Zuid Afrika
2a	1912	Cape Town	4 Liner — With above slogan removed equidistant in length unequal spacing
3	1914	Cape Town	2 Liner — Paquetbot
5	1913	Cape Town	6 Liner — unequal in length equidistant in spacing
	(I have different copies of the date stamp showing the Nos. 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10 and 11, and without a number)		
6	1913	Port Elizabeth	4 Liner — Union of South Africa Unie van Zuid Afrika unequal spacing
	(I have different copies of the date stamp showing Nos. 1, 2 and 4)		
7	1913	Port Elizabeth	6 Liner — Unequal in length equidistant in spacing
8	1913	Durban	4 Liner — Union of South Africa Unie van Zuid Afrika unequal spacing
9	1910 1912	Johannesburg Transvaal	8 Liner — Transvaal vertically between broken equidistant horizontal lines
10	1912	Johannesburg	8 Liner — Union of South Africa Unie van Zuid Afrika equidistant in length equidistant in spacing
11	1914	Pretoria South Africa	5 Liner — equidistant in length equidistant in spacing

## Correspondence

S. RHODESIA—1½d. PERF. 12.

Sir,—I have in my collection two copies of the 1½d. Brown, Southern Rhodesia 1931-6 issue, perforate 12. I have so far seen no announcement of this variety (the normal perf. of course being 11½) and wondered if any of your readers could give me information regarding date of issue, withdrawal, etc., and numbers issued. On only one of my copies can I read the postmark date, which is 30 JUL 1936.—Yours, etc.,

E. B. ALLAN.

### SLOGAN POSTMARKS—GREAT BRITAIN/ SOUTH AFRICA.

In addition to the two Slogan Postmarks described in our April issue, a third propaganda postmark in connection with the Empire Airmail Scheme has now made its appearance. This is in the same format as the two already chronicled, but the inscription within the rectangle reads:—

PLEASE ADVISE SENDER THAT  
LETTERS SHOULD BE PREPAID  
1½d. FOR EACH HALF OUNCE.

This imprint appears on the back of underfranked correspondence posted in Great Britain to countries participating in the Empire Airmail Scheme and is in addition to the customary hexagonal "T" mark applied by the despatching Post Offices.

### SWISS NATIONAL STAMP EXHIBITION IN AARAU.

Between the 17th and 25th September, 1938, the Philatelic Club of Aarau will organize in the Town Hall of Aarau a National Exhibition of Postage Stamps under the patronage of the Union of the Swiss Philatelic Clubs.

The Federal Department of the P.T.T. has given its agreement to the issuing of a special postage stamp block to commemorate the event. The edition is limited and this block will be obtainable during the Exhibition. (1 block: Fr. s. 1.50).

Orders for this block are already now being taken by the Committee of Organisation. Besides, it is understood that the post office will use special stamps for obliteration and that special postal plane-flights will be organized during the Exhibition.

Any desired information will readily be given by the Committee of Organisation of the "National Postage Stamp Exhibition of Aarau."

## PHILATELIC CONGRESS OF SOUTHERN AFRICA

A meeting of the Permanent Executive Committee was held in Johannesburg on 10th May, the main business being to consider the notes received from the Philatelic Society of Natal concerning their proposals on Federation, and about the *South African Philatelist*, the replies on these proposals received from the various societies and the comments thereon made by the Permanent Executive Committee. All of these had been before the Natal Society for discussion at their February meeting.

The Committee decided to ask the Philatelic Society of Natal to put their proposals into concrete form for submission to the next Congress.

It is understood that the Capetown Society is now prepared to hold a meeting of Congress. Further information will be published as soon as possible.

The Hon. Secretaryship of the Permanent Executive Committee has been resigned by Mr. E. C. Sprighton and has been taken on by Mr. I. Isaacs. His address is 617 New Empire Bldgs., Kruis St., Johannesburg. Society Secretaries please note.

### A TRANSVAAL HANDBOOK.

The news has just leaked out that about the end of the year we may expect to see published under the auspices of the Royal Philatelic Society a Handbook on the stamps of the Transvaal by Messrs. J. Herbert Curle and A. E. Basden.

This is good news indeed for a readable, comprehensive, reliable book on Transvaal is much wanted, and if we can only be told how easily to distinguish the true from the false, Transvaal stocks should be in for a boom.

When this appears we will only be short of a good book on Natal, so far as the major parts of the Union are concerned. Durban, we look towards you!

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## THE STAMP CENTENARY EXHIBITION OF 1940

We are indebted to the *Stamp Magazine*, London, for the following report on the progress of plans for the great event of 1940:-

Representatives of the British philatelic press were the guests at tea of the Royal Philatelic Society on Tuesday, 3rd May, with the object of learning what preliminary arrangements had been made by the Committee appointed by the Royal Philatelic Society to organise the international stamp exhibition which will, in 1940, commemorate the centenary of the introduction of postage stamps.

The question of the name by which the exhibition should be officially known was the subject of lively discussion, the result of which was that the title suggested by Mr. A. O. Crane, representing the *Stamp Magazine*, viz. the *Stamp Centenary Exhibition* was provisionally adopted.

It is proposed to hold the Exhibition on the first floor of the exhibition building at Earls Court, which possesses more advantages than any other building available.

It was generally agreed that there could be no other date for the opening of the Exhibition than that of the actual centenary of the first postage stamp—6th May, 1940. This date very conveniently falls on a Monday, and the Exhibition would last for one week from the Monday to the Saturday night, the following Monday being Whit Monday.

Sir John Wilson, Bart., the President of the Royal Philatelic Society, in discussing the various points, recalled that, at the New York Exhibition, a walk of six miles was required in order to see all the frames, and this is rather too much to expect of even a serious philatelist. In order to avoid such fatigue to the visitors, he proposed that there should be a limitation of the amount of space to be allotted to any one country or type of stamp. The putting into practice of this principle would require the co-operation of all exhibitors, and the Committee would welcome comments and advice on the possible methods of doing this.

In regard to such special groups as Air Mail stamps, Postal History and Junior exhibits, it was proposed that, as these could not compete on the same basis as, for example, a collection of the stamps of Hawaii, these special groups should have their own annexe, separate from the main exhibition, and that the Air Mail Stamp Club, the Postal History Society, and the Junior Philatelic Society should be approached by the Committee to organise these groups in order to achieve the greatest appeal to the public. A definite amount of space would be allotted to each group, which would feature in the Exhibition catalogue. Each group would have its own special judges and its own special awards; but these groups would not compete against the rest of the exhibits for the main awards.

As an attraction for the general public, some special exhibit calculated to interest the

philistine, or the beginner is under consideration, and a tentative proposal is that this should consist, firstly, of a collection of the first stamps of each country, to emphasise that the Exhibition commemorates the centenary of the introduction of postage stamps; and secondly, a display illustrating the development of stamp designs during the century just completed and illustrating all methods of stamp production. This suggestion, however, is merely provisional and all constructive criticism and advice upon this idea would be welcomed by the Committee.

The scope of the Exhibition is to be fully international, with the competitive section covering as much of the whole world as possible. Any section which may be compulsorily excluded from the competitive classes is to be covered by invited exhibits.

It is further proposed that the jury should be international and amateur, but that all the members should be capable of following discussions in English. In case of need, the jury would have power to consult other authorities, whether amateur or professional.

### BARCELONA STILL COLLECTS STAMPS.

Despite bombardments, stamps are not put aside or forgotten. We have just received a note (censored!) from a collector wanting certain South African emissions to complete a set.

## APPROVAL SELECTIONS

Entirely new approval books available of the following countries, viz.:—

Bechuanaland, Swaziland, The Rhodesias, Newfoundland, Airmails (Whole World), South Sea Islands, Union of S.A. (Specialised), G.B. Penny Blacks (on entire covers), S.W.A. and G.S.W.A., Kenya-Uganda-Tanganyika.

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**A. LICHTENSTEIN,**

B.P.A.



P.O. Box 576,

BLOEMFONTEIN, O.F.S.

# Transvaal Provisional 1d. on 2½d. of 1895

By A. P. OBERMEYER.

(This paper was originally read by Philatelic Society in 1912 but was not the facts in it appear to be well worthy not as blue blooded as it might be. The misrepresented in the catalogues.—Ed.)



Surcharge inverted but of normal type.

Everyone will probably agree with me that the subject of this article is not so interesting as some of the stamps of the Transvaal.

I think, however, it is sufficiently interesting to draw the attention of philatelists to this provisional. The investigations here noted can easily be made at present but later on this might not be the case. Although we had up to 1895-6 some very good papers appearing in philatelic journals on Transvaal stamps the later provisionals seem to have been woefully neglected.

Is it that philatelists did not think these of sufficient interest to be carefully examined, or is the neglect due to the fact that many collectors regard these provisionals with the utmost suspicion? Personally I have not a high opinion as to the status of this particular stamp, and although I have investigated the whole business as far as it was in my power to do so, I have not yet altered my opinion. The reason for this will appear later.

Whatever the status of these provisionals may be, speculative or not, the fact remains that they exist; and as we have now no fear that in future there will be any such recurrences, we have to accept them as they are, and they must be now-a-days included in any Transvaal collection.

To prove that there was no great need for the stamps in question, I will recall some facts concerning them. The postal authorities of the Transvaal said at the time that owing to a large quantity of the 1d. stamps being used, and the stock of this value becoming exhausted, they had to have recourse to surcharging another value and for this purpose they utilised the 2½d. violet of 1893. They ordered a fresh stock of the 1d. value from the printers in Holland but this not arriving in time, they had a supply of 900,000 overprinted with the new value. As these sheets were always printed in panes of sixty stamps, six horizontal rows of ten, there were thus printed 15,000 sheets, a rather large quantity to be surcharged, taking into consideration that the stamps ordered were expected daily. At the commencement of 1895, 1,322,000 of the

Mr. Obermeyer before the Pretoria published. It has been resuscitated and of being recorded, even if the stamp is stamp suffered for many years by being

1d. stamps were sent out from Holland to the Transvaal in the altered type (pole) so the necessity of a provisional was not very apparent. Moreover, early in 1896, the new type in uniform colours with those of Cape Colony were received in Pretoria, so that hardly any break in the supply was felt. The provisional was issued in July, 1895, when it is hardly to be expected that 1,322,000 were exhausted; and these doubts are strengthened by the fact that a large quantity of these sheets have been found stuck on foolscap paper, and then neatly obliterated to order. This last is beyond the shadow of a doubt, as all these obliterations are very neatly and carefully executed and found on the centre of blocks, i.e., where the perforation meets in a cross. A stranger fact is, that all the sheets I have seen were cancelled with the obliteration of Pretoria, dated 6th January, 1896, a date when it would be expected that the postal authorities were too exhausted in their stock to furnish collectors with whole sheets; for if the authorities had used up their supply of over a million and a quarter from January to July, 1895, it is beyond any doubt that they would have exhausted their supply of provisionals, being only 900,000, between August, 1895, and January, 1896. Hence I cannot understand this seeming waste of supplying collectors with whole sheets of stamps, and leaving the regular postal system without any. So much for the speculative aspect of this provisional; I leave you to form your own opinion.

It is, however, now too late to suppress these stamps, and as they exist, I have looked over a quantity and have found material enough to give quite a list of varieties, either not yet noticed or chronicled. It is the aim of this paper to give a list as complete as possible, and to illustrate the setting, so that any collector may be in a position to reconstruct a whole sheet.

The surcharge was done in a large italic figure and letter, in green ink, with a thick obliterating bar crossing the original value. The figure measures 6 m.m., and has a horizontal bar at top, and serifs at bottom. The

letter measures  $4\frac{1}{4}$  m.m., and has also top and bottom horizontal serifs. The overprint, generally speaking, is well centred.

I have met with the following major varieties:—

- 1 Normal surcharge
- 2 Inverted surcharge
- 3 Double surcharge
- 4 Sideways surcharge
- 5 Slanting surcharge
- 6 Omitted surcharge
- 7 Defective surcharge
- 8 Surcharge on back

It is hardly necessary to add that No. 2 was brought about through sheets going through the press inverted; No. 3 was occasioned by accidentally (?) putting surcharged sheets a second time in the press; Nos. 4 and 5 defective feeding of the sheets in the press; 6 due to the same cause, an entire row missing being surcharged, this being the last vertical row in the sheet. The surcharge omitted can only be recognised as such when in pair with the surcharged; No. 7 is also another variety caused by defective printing, the surcharge being divided across two stamps.

No. 8 has been caused by accidentally (?) putting a sheet with the gummed side upwards in the press.

So much for the major varieties, of which whole sheets are to be met with. I will now proceed to enumerate the various minor varieties, all of which occur on one and the same sheet.

1. Normal surcharge with round stop on a level with the letter. Size of figure "1" 6 m.m., size of letter "d"  $4\frac{1}{2}$  m.m., distance of stop from letter  $\frac{1}{2}$  m.m.
2. Same as above, but distance of stop from letter  $\frac{1}{4}$  m.m.
3. Same as 1 but stop above the line.
4. Same as 1 but with square stop.
5. Same as 4 but with square stop above the line.
6. Bottom serif of "d" turned upwards to a point.
7. Normal surcharge as 2 but letter "d" measuring only  $4\frac{1}{2}$  m.m.
8. Very thin figure and letter.
9. Broken serif to the figure.
10. Curved top serif to figure.
11. Broken bar.
12. Letter and figure varying in distance from each other.

These varieties appear on all sheets in the same place, proving that there was only one setting; and as all these varieties have different positions—notably variety 12—it is of interest to note their respective positions on the sheet.

First row.

- Variety 1: Second, third, fourth, fifth, sixth, seventh, ninth and tenth stamps.
- „ 2: First and eighth stamps.
- „ 7: First stamp.

Second row.

- Variety 1: Second stamp.
- „ 2: First, fifth and ninth stamps.
- „ 3: Tenth stamp.
- „ 4: Third and seventh stamps.
- „ 5: Fourth, sixth and eighth stamps
- „ 6: Second stamp.
- „ 7: First stamp.
- „ 11: First stamp.

Third row.

- Variety 1: Ninth stamp.
- „ 2: Second and third stamps.
- „ 3: First and sixth stamps.
- „ 4: Fourth and fifth stamps.
- „ 5: Seventh, eighth & tenth stamps.
- „ 10: Fourth stamp.
- „ 11: Tenth stamp.

Fourth row.

- Variety 1: First, second, third, fourth, fifth, sixth, seventh, eighth, ninth and tenth stamps.
- „ 8: Seventh stamp.

Fifth row.

- Variety 12: All stamps in the row, measuring figure and letter  $1\frac{3}{4}$  m.m. distances.
- „ 1: All stamps.
- „ 9: Fifth stamp.

Sixth row.

- Variety 1: First, second, fourth, fifth and ninth stamps.
- „ 3: Sixth stamp.
- „ 4: Tenth stamp.
- „ 5: Third, seventh & eighth stamps

Moreover, the last row shows all variety 12, divided as follows:—

- (a) Distance between figure and letter  $1\frac{3}{4}$  m.m. First, second, fifth, sixth and ninth stamps.
- (b) Distance between figure and letter  $1\frac{1}{2}$  m.m. Fourth and seventh stamps.
- (c) Distance between figure and letter 2 m.m. Third stamp.
- (d) Distance between figure and letter,  $2\frac{1}{2}$  m.m. Eighth and tenth stamps.

All the normal surcharges mentioned above in the first four rows have the figure and letter  $1\frac{1}{4}$  m.m. apart.

We thus get the varieties divided as follows:—

Variety 1	.. . . . .	35 stamps.
„ 2	.. . . . .	7 stamps.
„ 3	.. . . . .	4 stamps.
„ 4	.. . . . .	5 stamps.
„ 5	.. . . . .	9 stamps.
Total .. . . . .		60

These are subdivided thus:—

Variety 1	.. . . . .	18 stamps.
„ 1	in combination with 6	1 stamp.
„ 1	in combination with 8	1 stamp.
„ 1	in combination with 9	1 stamp.
„ 1	in combination with 12	14 stamps.
„ 2	.. . . . .	5 stamps.
„ 2	in combination with 7	2 stamps.
„ 3	.. . . . .	3 stamps.

” 3 in combination with 12 1 stamp.  
 ” 4 .. .. . 3 stamps.  
 ” 4 in combination with 10 1 stamp.  
 ” 4 in combination with 12 1 stamp.  
 ” 5 .. .. . 5 stamps.  
 ” 5 in combination with 11 1 stamp.  
 ” 5 in combination with 12 3 stamps.

Variety 1 with 9 and 12.  
 Variety 2 with 7 and 11.

Without a sheet for comparison it would be rather confusing to the collector to reconstruct a sheet properly, so I give the following diagram to make my meaning clearer:—

Total .. .. . 60

1d. on 2½, green on violet.  
 Provisional issue of July, 1895.

There are only two stamps with treble combination, viz.:—

Normal surcharge, distance between figure and letter 1¼ mm.

2	1	1	1	1	1	1	2	1	1
7									
2	1	4	5	2	5	4	5	2	3
7 11	6								
3	2	2	4	4	3	5	5	1	5
			10						11
1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
						8			
1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
12(a)	12(a)	12(a)	12(a)	12(a)	12(a)	12(a)	12(a)	12(a)	12(a)
1	1	5	1	1	3	5	5	1	4
12(a)	12(a)	12(c)	12(b)	12(a)	12(a)	12(b)	12(d)	12(a)	12(d)

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## The Bechuanalands

Prepared by Major W. J. HARRINGTON,  
V.D.

(Cont. from p. 55 of April issue).

### CHAPTER VIII.

#### "MAFEKING" STAMPS.

Among the stamps of Bechuanaland probably the most interesting are those issued and used during the famous siege which took place at the beginning of the Anglo-Boer War of 1899-1902, lasting from the 12th October, 1899, until the 17th May, 1900.

The following extract from a memorandum stated by the "London Philatelist" for January, 1901, to have been furnished by the General Post Office Authorities in Capetown on the 7th December, 1901, described the circumstances in which these stamps were issued:—

"After careful inquiry into the matter, the following would appear to be the facts, so far as can be ascertained, in connection with the overprinting, surcharging and reissue of the stamps, now known as Mafeking Siege Stamps: a complete list of which, showing the number of each denomination issued, is appended.

"Shortly before the 23rd March, 1900, it was found possible to forward despatches by runners from Mafeking, both by the north and south routes, and a service was accordingly established by the military authorities. Owing to the high amounts which had to be paid to the runners, it was decided to charge special rates for any private letters conveyed, and the following rate was adopted, viz.: via the north, 1s. per  $\frac{1}{2}$  oz., and via the south, 6d. per  $\frac{1}{2}$  oz.

"From a statement made by the military authorities it would appear that, in order to provide a sufficiency of stamps to admit of the prepayment of private letters, it was further decided to surcharge all the unused stamps in the possession of the local postmaster, and Lieut.-Colonel Lord Edward Cecil, under whose supervision the Post Office was carried on during the siege, accordingly purchased the stamps at their face value, and caused them to be overprinted and surcharged at the works of Messrs. Townshend & Son, the publishers of the "Mafeking Mail" newspaper. On the 23rd March the stamps as overprinted were issued for the first time at their enhanced values, and it is understood that the whole of the overprinted issues had been disposed of before the relief of the town was effected.

"Owing to the interruption of communication, the postal authorities at Capetown could not be consulted in the matter, either as regards the sale or overprinting, and from the time the stamps originally passed out of the hands of the civil postmaster, the Colonial

Post Office Department ceased to have any control whatever over their treatment. In view of these circumstances and of the fact that the whole of the additional revenue derived from the sale of the stamps at their surcharged value was retained by the military authorities, the postal administrations of the Cape Colony and the Bechuanaland Protectorate have decided to regard the stamps in question as purely military issues and (in the month of November last) official notices have consequently been published in the Government Gazette proclaiming their non-availability for the prepayment of mail matter posted either in Cape Colony or in the Protectorate.

"The average number of letters per week forwarded via the north from the 23rd March was approximately 60, a runner leaving Mafeking twice per week, and via the south 30, once per week. It is however more than probable that many of the runners were captured by the Boer forces and that the letters being conveyed by them never reached a British Post Office.

"It is evident from specimens which have been submitted to the Postmaster-General at Capetown that extensive forgeries of the overprinted stamps have taken place, the fraud consisting of the unofficial overprinting, surcharging, and in many cases date-stamping of genuine Cape Colony Stamps."

Particulars of the stamps referred to in the foregoing memorandum, together with supplementary information are set forth in schedules which appear later in this chapter.

In the Mafeking Mail Special Siege Slip of Thursday, the 22nd March, 1900, the following notice was published:—

#### "LOCAL MEMS.

Private letters will in future be sent by the Intelligence Department by runners in batches of 30 letters (not runners) at a time. First come first served. The communications will be despatched in the order they are received. Don't all speak at once."

On the 24th March the following notice appeared in the same publication:—

#### "NOTICE.

New arrangements for the transmission of telegrams and dealing with letters.

The bombproof at the end of Minchin's yard, at Headquarters, will be open daily to receive letters and telegrams for north and south between the hours of 9 a.m. and 10 a.m. (Sundays excepted).

The following are the rates for telegrams: via the north, 9d. per word, plus a fee of 1s. for a receipt duly stamped: telegrams for Cape Colony and Natal will also be accepted by this route.

Telegrams via the south for Cape Colony and Natal will also be accepted, the rate being 1s. for 12 words plus a fee of 1s. for a duly stamped receipt.

Cablegrams, 4s. 9d. per word, via the north, plus 1s. receipt fee.

Cablegrams, 4s. per word, via the south, plus 1s. receipt fee.

The sale of stamps for local letters will be restricted.

Letters for northern and southern routes must be handed to the postal official on duty, and the stamps cannot on any account be sold.

RATES OF POSTAGE—LETTERS.

Local delivery (within town limits), 1d. per half ounce.

Delivery at outposts and forts, 3d. per half ounce.

Letters for United Kingdom, Cape Colony and Natal via the south, 6d. per half ounce.

Letters for United Kingdom, Cape Colony, Natal and Rhodesia, via the north, 1s. per half ounce.

Mafeking, 22 March, 1900."

The following is a schedule of the overprinted and surcharged stamps. The overprint consists of the words "Mafeking," and "Besieged." in two lines (a) in fancy capitals 1½ mm. high, the first word being 12½ mm. long and the second 12 mm. long; or (b) in plain capitals 1¼ mm. high, the first word (without comma) being 12 mm. long and the second 11 mm. long.

Surcharge Value.	Stamps used.	Date of issue. 1900.	Number printed.
1d.	Cape of Good Hope (Hope seated) ½d. green . . . .	Mar. 23	7,680
1d.	Cape of Good Hope (Hope standing) ½d. green . . . .	Apr. 4	5,280
1d.	Bechuanaland Protectorate on Great Britain ½d. vermilion — ditto — inverted.	Mar. 28	6,000
3d.	Cape of Good Hope (Hope standing) 1d. carmine . . . .	Mar. 23	6,000
3d.	Bechuanaland Protectorate on Great Britain 1d. mauve — ditto — double.	Apr. 4	1,800
3d. X	Bechuanaland Protectorate on Great Britain 1d. mauve	Apr. 25	1,800
6d.	Cape of Good Hope (Hope seated and anchor water- mark) 3d. magenta . . . . .	Mar. 24	840
6d.	Bechuanaland Protectorate on Great Britain 2d. green and carmine . . . . .	Apr. 6	1,200
6d.	Bechuanaland Protectorate on Great Britain 3d. purple on yellow . . . . . — ditto — inverted. — ditto — double.	Apr. 4	1,440
6d.	British Bechuanaland (Unappropriated Die) 3d. lilac and black . . . . .	Mar. 27	3,600
6d. X	Bechuanaland Protectorate on Great Britain 2d. green and carmine . . . . .	Apr. 25	1,200
1s.	Cape of Good Hope (Hope seated) 4d. sage green . .	Mar. 24	1,440
1s.	British Bechuanaland on Great Britain 4d. green and purple brown . . . . . — ditto — double. — ditto — triple. — ditto — double one inverted.	Mar. 29	2,320
1s. X	Bechuanaland Protectorate on Great Britain 6d. rose red	Apr. 25	1,440
1s. X	British Bechuanaland on Great Britain 6d. rose red . .	May 3	240
2s. X	British Bechuanaland on Great Britain 1s. green . . . .	Apr. 25	570

The X = Overprint in thin small sans serif capitals.

It should be noted that the stamps issued prior to April 25th were overprinted in fancy capitals, while those issued after that date were overprinted in small thin sans serif capitals.

(To be continued).

SANDJAK OF ALEXANDRETTA.

Collectors of French Colonies, Protectorates, etc., will have a new heading to make in their albums. The current series of Syria have been overprinted "Sandjak d'Alexandretta" for use in this small territory, comprising the cities of Alexandretta and Antioch on the Turkish border, which has recently been separated from Syria and given autonomy.

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## Air Mail Notes

By L. A. WYNDHAM.

### HANDLEY PAGE COVERS.

The question of the number of "Handley Page" covers in existence has periodically been raised and I feel that for purposes of record the following list that I have compiled will be found useful:—

No. 1.—Owned by the writer. Addressed to Mrs. Verster, Beaufort West. Autographed by the pilot.

No. 2.—Owned by Mr. I. Greenbaum, of Pretoria. Addressed to Mrs. Donaldson, Beaufort West. Autographed.

Nos. 3 and 4.—Owned by Mr. Church, Durban. Addressed to W. Keulder, Beaufort West, and to Messrs. Coll Lewis & Co., Johannesburg, respectively. Autographed.

No. 5.—Ex Mr. Simonhoff's Collection. Addressed to H. Long, P.O. Brandvlei, via Beaufort West.

No. 6.—Owned by Dr. J. H. Harvey Pirie. Addressed to B. Saby, Randfontein, Transvaal.

No. 7.—Owned by Dr. C. L. Murray. Addressed to H. J. Finch, Beaufort West.

No. 8.—Owned by Prof. J. J. Smith. Addressed to J. Friedlander, De Aar.

No. 9.—Owned by Mr. Park Smith. Addressed to Miss Van Reenen, Kimberley.

No. 10.—In overseas collection. Addressed to Miss H. M. Fox, Bremersdorp, Swaziland.

No. 11.—In overseas collection. Addressed to J. B. Williams-Jerrard, Belgian Congo, via Johannesburg.

No. 12.—Cover stated to be in possession of a Mr. Stern, of Capetown. Details not known.

Should any readers have details of covers not included in the above list it will be appreciated if they will make them known.

### THE SOUTH AFRICAN PIGEON POST.

Until recently the existence of only two complete specimens of the 1919 Peace Celebrations (Cape Town) Pigeon Post were known in collections, viz.:—

Pigeongram No. 255 owned by Mr. L. Simonhoff of Cape Town.

Pigeongram No. 318 owned by the writer. Towards the end of last year I was instrumental in locating the existence of two more complete specimens. These are:—

Pigeongram No. 409, now owned by an overseas collector. (The souvenir card on which this pigeongram is mounted is numbered 410).

Pigeongram No. 342, now owned by Mr. Church, of Durban.

In addition to the above, it is understood that Mr. Park Smith, of the Strand, has Pigeongram No. 92, but it is not known whether this specimen is complete with the cover.

### AN UNFLOWN SOUVENIR.

A "discovery" of some importance was recently made by Mr. A. E. Church, of Durban.

It is the fact, hitherto unrecorded, that in addition to the special letters of greeting sent out to South African firms by Imperial Airways in their "Speedbird" souvenir envelopes as a publicity measure on the occasion of the opening of the First Regular Air Mail London-Cape Town in January, 1932, the company also prepared similar letters for despatch from South Africa to firms in England by the first Cape-London Air Mail.

The wording of the letter was identical to that of the one prepared for despatch from England, but the printed heading was different, being "First Regular Air Mail Cape Town-London" (in blue) and "Imperial Airways (Africa), Ltd., Germiston Airport, Johannesburg, 25 January, 1932" (in black).

The envelopes (addressed to firms in England) in which these letters were enclosed were the "Springbok" type in which Imperial Airways had sent out its Christmas Greetings to South Africa on the special delivery flight in December, 1931.

Unfortunately the batch of letters reached Imperial Airways' offices at Germiston too late to be despatched by the inaugural flight of the Cape-London service and were consequently not posted. It is understood that with the exception of two specimens the entire lot of these letters was destroyed.

### A FAMOUS SOUTH AFRICAN PILOT.

Captain R. F. Caspareuthus, who is now an Empire Flying Boat Commander, was the first South African airman to have his pilot's B licence endorsed for flying boats. He is also the holder of the Master Pilot's certificate—the greatest honour that can be bestowed upon a commercial pilot to-day.

What a wonderful record this great airman has had! "Caspar," as he is affectionately known as, was one of the fortunate ones to have survived war service in the R.F.C. and R.A.F. After the war he joined the newly-formed S.A. Air Force, and his daring and almost reckless courage in the air in those early days is almost legendary to-day. He was one of the pilots selected for the operation of the Government's three months' experimental air mail service between Cape Town and Durban in 1925, and participated in the inaugural flights. When this service closed down on 15th June, 1925, it was "Caspar" who had the honour of carrying the seven bags which comprised the last of the aerial mails from Cape Town.

Then for a long period he was one of the pilots entrusted by the Government to conduct its "Diamond Service," and regularly carried valuable freights of diamonds from the Alexandra Bay field to Cape Town.

In 1929 he joined Union Airways and was one of the four pilots (Major Miller, Capt. Bellin and the late Capt. Davenport being the others) who started the first regular air mail service in South Africa with small open Puss Moth machines—a weekly service between Cape Town and Durban with a connection from Port Elizabeth to Johannesburg.

In October, 1930, he made a solo record flight from England to Cape Town in 8½ days in a Puss Moth machine—a flight which is undoubtedly one of the greatest that has ever been made over the African Continent, for it must be remembered that it was made at a time when the advance in aeronautical engineering and the development of the aero engine had not made itself perceptible as it did the following year as reflected in the exceptional number of record flights accomplished from 1931 onwards. On this flight Caspar carried two letters entrusted to him by the late Sir Sephton Brancker, Director of Civil Aviation in England, on the day before his departure to India in the ill-fated British Airship R.101 (one of these is now in the writer's collection). In addition he carried a small souvenir mail of about 20 covers and a few copies of London newspapers; these were all addressed to a Cape Town address and bear a special oval vignette "Airpost Special." They had been put through the post in England and bear a London postmark of 4th October. On arrival in Cape Town the covers were again post-marked on the back, 13th October. All the covers and the newspapers were pilot-auto-graphed.

In 1931 Caspar joined Imperial Airways. It was a fitting gesture to South Africa on the part of Imperial Airways when it selected from its commanders this great South African airman for the honour of commanding the three-engined Hercules air liner "City of Karachi," which left the Wingfield Airport, Cape Town, at dawn on Wednesday, 27th January, 1932, to inaugurate the regular weekly 11-day air mail and passenger service from South Africa to England.

Many and varied have been the experiences of South Africa's greatest aerial postman. Of these I will, in conclusion, cite only one. It will be recalled that in October, 1937, General and Mrs. Lewin, when on a flight to East Africa, crashed in the Sudan swamps and as five days passed without any news of their whereabouts, grave fears were entertained as to their safety. From here the story is perhaps best told in General Lewin's own words: . . . "Kites and vultures began to flock around us . . . a plane appeared and we succeeded in drawing the pilot's attention. . . . The machine, the Imperial Airways flying boat 'Cassiopeia,' dropped a bag of food and a message of greetings. . . . All night we wondered if they would be able to find us again in the vast plain (a swamp as big as England and Scotland) with no landmarks. Mr. Caspareuthus, the pilot of the 'plane, saved our lives by deciding to return to Malakal. He had great difficulty in leading R.A.F. 'planes to our position next morning, and succeeded only by seeing our mirror flashing. . . ." Bravo, "Caspar."

Incidentally, the Cape Town portion of the mails on board "Cassiopeia" was involved in the S.A. Airways' crash at George on the 16th October.

## COLLECTORS' WANTS AND OFFERS

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

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

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

William Redford, Box 7012, Johannesburg.

**Union of South Africa.**—I am interested in everything appertaining to Union of South Africa, including Inter-Provincials, Specimens, Control Blocks, Freaks, Air Mail Covers, Entires, etc. Send approval selections for cash, or would consider exchange with Union specialists.

Sam Legator, Box 133, Brakpan.

**Wanted.**—Thousands of used ½d. and 1d. V.R. I. Transvaal to search through for special postmarks. Flat rate of 6d. paid for every one taken.

Dr. Pirie, P.O. Box 1038, Johannesburg.

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

**London Bank parcels with high values, new issues, Geo. VI. pictorials, etc. No rubbish. 3s., 5s., 10s. per packet. Satisfaction guaranteed.**

Denham, 42 Southway, Carshalton, Surrey, England.

**For Sale.**—BELGIUM, all different. 200 2s. 6d.; 500, 20s. Belgian Congo Ruanda, 100, 8s. The World, 3,000, 30s. Miniature Sheet King Albert, 3s. Lecomte F., Rue Frere, Orban, Jumet, Belgium.

### ANOTHER NEW BRITISH PAPER.

April saw the appearance of still another philatelic magazine from London. This is quite a bright effort entitled *The Stamp News*, monthly at 3d., or post free 4s. per annum. The name of the Editor is not given, but it is published by The Drysdale Press, Ltd., 30 Budge Row, E.C.4. The Central News Agency, Ltd., is the South African Agent.



### Are You a Collector of British Colonials ?

If you are, a fine opportunity offers to make some additions to your Ceylon collection.

When you have reached a certain stage with any country there is a great satisfaction in being able to point to certain items and say: "This came from the X collection and that from Y's." Well, you have the chance to-day of acquiring some Ceylons from what is undoubtedly one of the world's finest single-country collections, viz., that of the late Baron A. de Worms, which is being sold by auction in London on June 20th, 21, 22nd, and 23rd by Mr. H. R. Harmer.



Perhaps you follow the plan said to be that of many American collectors—when you start a new country you begin with one or more of its rarities, as the common items can be filled in at any time. It sounds quite a good plan and this would certainly be a fine opportunity for putting it in action for the de Worms collection bristles with rarities and superb exhibition pieces.

A word in your ear—Ceylon is not one of the terribly popular countries just at the moment, so prices are not likely to run to fantastic figures. All the more reason for getting in while the going is good.

If you have not already tried buying at London auctions on commission we can assure you from personal experience that you are in absolutely safe hands with Mr. Harmer. You can trust his descriptions (if by any chance something were knocked down to you that did not agree with the catalogue description, you would have no difficulty in getting your money back) and you will find that quite often you get stamps for less than the limit that you give as your bid, provided, of course, that your offer has not been an unreasonable one.

As mentioned in the advertisement on the inside front cover, the Editor has some copies of the sale catalogue for distribution and will be pleased to send them to anyone interested.

### PITCAIRN ISLAND'S POSTAL AFFAIRS.

Prior to the opening of the Panama Canal in 1914, Pitcairn Is. (the "Mutineers of the Bounty" island) must have run Tristan da Cunha a close race for being the world's most isolated inhabited island.

It is situated about midway between New Zealand and Panama, over 3,000 miles from

each. Prior to 1914 it might have a visit from a British warship once in three or four years and perhaps, equally irregularly and infrequently, from a mission ship. Then it found itself a landfall on the route between Auckland and London with the best mail service south of the equator but no list of correspondents!

The island is a British colony by settlement and comes under the jurisdiction of the High Commissioner for the Western Pacific. In 1921, it was visited by Sir Cecil Rodwell, the then High Commissioner, and he recommended the establishment of a post office. Up to this time letters from Pitcairn were either franked to New Zealand by means of a hand-stamp or they were handed over to any ship which called, the officers or passengers being expected to pay the postage.

In 1927 an arrangement was come to with the New Zealand Postal Department for the establishment of a postal agency on the island and since then this has been in operation as an extra-territorial postal agency operating outside the boundaries of New Zealand. It has its own date-stamp reading PITCAIRN ISLAND / N.Z. POSTAL AGENCY. There is still no regular schedule of calling for the mail boats plying on the Panama-New Zealand route and the island may at times be some months without a mail, but anyway this is better than being some years without one.

V. LeYoung Ardiff,  
in "The American Philatelist."

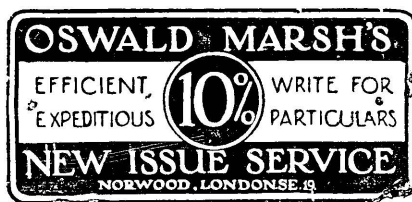
### U.S.A. "PRESIDENTS" STAMPS.

The first 22 Presidents are to appear on denominations the same as their order of tenure of office—e.g., the 9th President will be on a 9c stamp. Good for poor memories!

### AUSTRALIA'S 150th ANNIVERSARY EXHIBITION.

Thanks to Mr. K. F. Andersen and to the *Australian Stamp Journal* for a souvenir cover from the Exhibition, with the special commemorative postmark. This is hexagonal in shape with AUSTRALIA'S 150th ANNIVERSARY / PHILATELIC EXHIBITION round the perimeter and SYDNEY / 4 AP 38 / NSW in the centre.

Also congratulations to Mr. J. R. W. Purves for winning the championship with his collection of Victoria.



## New Issue Chronicle

Kindly supplied by Mr. R. Roberts,  
430 Strand, London.

It has been decided to discontinue this Chronicle as it has been appearing for some time past. It is not possible in a monthly magazine of this size to publish a list of new issues with full details and with illustrations as should be done to do the new issues justice.

We have decided, therefore, to limit our regular record to African countries, new issues of other countries only being referred to specially if we consider there is something of particular interest about them for our readers.

Those who are particularly keen to get the earliest and fullest information about all new issues are advised to join the Junior Philatelic Society. This has a membership of over 10,000, and for an entrance fee of 5s. and an annual subscription of the same amount you will receive monthly "The Stamp Lover" (in addition to the other benefits of joining the Society). This magazine has a splendidly full and illustrated chronicle of all new issues. The membership of the Society, incidentally, is very far from being limited to juvenile "Juniors." It is junior only to the Royal, or so we have heard! Apply to the Hon. Secretary, 44 Fleet Street, London, E.C.4.

**GAMBIA.**—The full set of King George VI. stamps for this colony,  $\frac{1}{2}$ d., 1d., 1 $\frac{1}{2}$ d., 2d., 3d., 6d., 1s., 2s., 2s. 6d., 4s., 5s. and 10s. was issued on 1st April. They are of uniform design, which is not quite the same as in the last issue. The same motif (a trumpeting elephant and a palm tree—the badge of the colony) has been employed, but the setting is different. The King's head is an inset on the left of the stamps.

**GOLD COAST.**—In the case of this colony also the general features of the previous issue have been retained (King's head vignette and Christiansborg Castle, Accra), but the details of the design have been considerably altered. The values are  $\frac{1}{2}$ d., 1d., 1 $\frac{1}{2}$ d., 2d., 3d., 4d., 6d., 9d., 1s., 2s., and 5s. The shilling values are of transverse format, the others upright.

**KENYA, UGANDA AND TANGANYIKA.**—The 5c value was put on sale about 11th April, the 1c, 10c, 50c, 1s., 3s., 5s. and 10s. about 1st May. The design remains the same as in the 1935 pictorial issue, with change of portrait.

**SIERRA LEONE.**—Five values ( $\frac{1}{2}$ d., 1d., 1 $\frac{1}{2}$ d., 2d. and 3d.) have appeared. The designs are pictorial (Freetown Harbour or Rice Harvest) with King George VI. head.

**SWAZILAND, BASUTOLAND AND BECHUANALAND.**—In the case of the new issues for these Protectorates, which have already

been chronicled as having appeared on 1st April, the values in all three are  $\frac{1}{2}$ d., 1d., 1 $\frac{1}{2}$ d., 2d., 3d., 4d., 6d., 1s., 2s. 6d., 5s. and 10s. The Basutoland stamps are 1 m.m. wider than in the previous issue.

### EXIT AUSTRIA.

Some interesting philatelic records of recent events in Austria can be collected. The following might be included:—

(1) Vienna postmark of March 12. "Mit Schuschnigg für ein freies Oesterreich? Ja! (With Schuschnigg for a free Austria? Yes!)

(2) March 14. Notices posted up that the three (mourning) stamps with portrait of the late Chancellor Dolfuss were invalid, effective at once. Such stamps could, however, be exchanged for others up till 30th March.

(3) Vienna postmark of March 15-17. "Der Führer in Wien" (The Leader in Vienna) with a large swastika above the words.

(4) 4th April. German stamps current in Austria. "Combination covers" Austrian and German stamps together. Special postmarks with the slogan "Am 10 Apr. dem Führer dein 'Ja'" (On 10 Apr. your "Yes" for the Leader.)

(5) 10th April. Special "Anschluss" stamps with the inscription "Ein Volk, ein Reich, ein Führer" (One people, one State, one Leader), 6 pf., dark green. Two varieties, the one, printed in Berlin, on paper with a swastika watermark, has a slightly larger format than the other, printed in Vienna on unwatered paper.

## TO DEALERS . . . .

We have the finest wholesale range of modern sets in the British Empire—and at the right prices!

Our Monthly Trade List is the only one which is sent by air to Australia and New Zealand, and it is free of charge to any bona fide dealer.

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## Reviews

*Stamps of the Orange Free State.* By A. E. Geldhof. The American Philatelic Society. Price 4s.

This is the best 4s. worth of philatelic research on a South African country which has come out for a long time.

We in this country are very deficient in books on local stamps. Walker on Natal stamps (in French) is long out of date, Allis's "Cape" is really the only one of which South African collectors can be proud, but now comes Mr. A. E. Geldhof with his book on the Orange Free State stamps, a fine work which shows what American research and business push can do.

It is surprising to me how Mr. Geldhof has been able to collect the different facts of printing, etc., as I personally know how difficult it is to get official information as to dates and quantities printed of certain stamps. I never could understand why certain postal authorities, even now, are so averse to allowing certain facts to be made public; these facts surely cannot be classed as "State Secrets."

The book is well printed and well illustrated, some of the illustrations being enlarged to show the details; there are many facts enumerated which will be quite new to the majority of South African collectors; the details of many surcharges are well described and illustrated and collectors will notice many more varieties than are mentioned in the catalogues. Finding such is where the pleasure of special-collecting comes in.

As regards the Revenue stamps used for postal purposes, all catalogues are wrong on this point, the Government never authorised this, but it is a fact that some low values, such as 6d. and 1s. occasionally passed through the post but high values never. It is ultra ridiculous for catalogues to quote prices, as for instance Gibbons 10s. for a used £5 stamp, if this could be found on a cover it would be worth at least £500.

Telegraph stamps also were never officially allowed for postal purposes although isolated instances of such usage have occurred. I once had long correspondence on these matters with the P.M.G. of the old Republic.

Plate number collecting is one of the items of which South African collectors are woefully ignorant; I only find an occasional collector taking small interest in those of the Union, King George V head but not in any of the four Colonies.

As regards the postal stationery, the lists of the postcards given in this book are conservative. Every collector should take these, not necessarily as a whole card, but cut square, or even soaked off, as ordinary stamps. In this instance the catalogues of the world are

curiously inconsequent, they all list Hong Kong stamps as specially surcharged for post-cards and price them very high but of Orange Free State stamps which did the same duty, they say nothing, only French and German catalogues making partial exception.

Cancellations, the list given is very interesting. How many O.F.S. specialists can duplicate this or improve on it? I think not one. I have always found that the South African collector takes little or no interest in this, they usually say "the stamp is the only thing." Well, this may pass in a general collection, but if said by a collector who thinks that he specializes he will never get a worthwhile collection together.

I come to the end of my review and I say that every South African collector who considers himself above "the spacefiller" stage should buy this book, it is worth every penny of the 4s. asked and very cheap at that. It is a mine of information which will often have to be consulted by the collector of Orange Free State stamps.

E. TAMSEN.

*Coronation Stamps*, by Douglas Armstrong. Stamp Collecting, Ltd., 428 Strand, London W.C.2. Price 3s.

A very well produced booklet of 42 pages, almost the size of our page, dealing with the 202 stamps commemorating the Coronation of King George VI which emanated from Great Britain, Dominions, Crown Colonies and Dependencies.

All the necessary information relative to the issues appears to be given. The more important varieties are dealt with in detail and many of them illustrated.

A copy of this should certainly be in the hands of everyone who has a Coronation collection.

*Stamps of the Empire*, by T. Todd. T. Nelson and Sons, Ltd., Edinburgh, London, etc. Price 3s. 6d. net.

This is the latest edition to the Nelsonian Library of books for readers of any age over eleven. The author is the editor of the *Stamp Magazine*, which is a guarantee of accuracy as to facts and of capability of giving those facts in an interesting manner. It naturally does not give a comprehensive account of all the stamps of the British Empire, but it does refer to a great many of them, with numerous anecdotes and stories.

The book has been given what seems to be the necessary cachet for any philatelic effort to-day, viz., an introduction by Mr. Fred J. Melville. He has been collecting stamps for forty years, but that, as he says, makes him forty years young, not forty years old. However, he admits to be wishing to start all over again, with a book like this to guide and help him. With such praise for the book we can well leave it.

STUDY YOUR COUNTRY'S STAMPS

## Society News

### PHILATELIC SOCIETY OF JOHANNESBURG.

*President, E. C. Sprighton; Hon. Secretary, F. E. Ingham, Box 4967. Meetings, 2nd Tuesdays, Kelvin House, 7.45 p.m.*

Mr. J. W. K. Schofield was unfortunately prevented by illness from giving his exhibit of early imperforate Australasians at the May meeting.

His place was filled at short notice by a joint exhibit of Transvaal given by Messrs. Basden, Redford and Pirie.

Mr. Basden gave an interesting talk on Transvaal philatelic history, following this up with an exhibit of many interesting items, most of them with a definitely historical appeal. Amongst these were:—A pre-stamp cover from Lydenburg of 1859; a reconstructed sheet of the Viljoen 1d.; some exceptionally fine wide roulettes of the Stamp Commission; vertical pair of 6d. and horizontal pair of 1s. of the first British occupation and a 1d. with the Transvaal error of the same period. Perhaps the rarest items in the lot were examples of the 2d. and 4d. V.I.R. errors and used copies on cover of some of the Northern Transvaal Express Locals.

Mr. Redford confined his exhibit to a few sheets of rarities, including a bisect of the last of the Otto stamps, a 3d. blue, the first barred 6 variety and a purple proof of the 1s.

Dr. Pirie's contribution was limited to the local issues, and included some nice entires with Vryburg, Lydenburg and Schweizer Renke issues. F.E.I.

### EAST RAND PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

*President, J. Linn; Hon. Sec., J. Doyle, 41 Rose Deep, Germiston. Meetings, 2nd Thursday, Hotel Cecil, Benoni.*

At the May meeting there was an unusually large attendance, as the Johannesburg Philatelic Society paid the local Society their annual visit.

After the preliminaries, the chair was handed over to the Chairman of the Johannesburg Society, Mr. Sprighton. The exhibits of the evening were provided by the visitors.

The first exhibitor was Mr. J. E. Creewel, a Junior member, who exhibited a collection of all the British issues of King Edward VIII. Prior to the exhibit, Mr. Creewel read a paper on these issues. The exhibit included nearly all the control numbers in mint strips of three, booklet panes, First Day Covers, covers from Army Post Offices abroad, and postage dues. The collection was excellently written up.

The next exhibit was tabled by Mr. G. J. Houbert. The first lot was Natal. This included two embossed items, overprint varieties and blocks. Then there were a few pages from O.F.S. These were a really nice lot, commencing with the first issues, mostly mint, with a host of shades. The varieties included double surcharges, inverted surcharges, no stops, and omitted overprints. The Edward issues were all in beautiful blocks. This was an excellent lot admired by all.

Dr. Harvey Pirie gave an interesting note on a side-line not previously tackled, viz., Civil Travelling Post Offices in South Africa, and their Postmarks, during the Anglo-Boer War period and subsequently, illustrated by actual specimens (of the Postmarks—not of the Post Offices!).

The last exhibitor was Mr. W. Redford, who showed some pages from his Transvaal collection, taking the early issues only. These included some interesting items, such as a 1s. proof, an 1869 one penny on entire dated 1871, the very rare 6 pence bisected and used as 3 pence, another rarity was a defective "Zes" specimen, a proof of the Queen's head ½d. and an immaculate block of four of the 2s. Queen's head in mint condition, and concluding with some C.S.A.R. overprints, with the double overprint variety. This was a most appreciated and fitting exhibit bringing the evening to a close.

After tea, Mr. Linn, the East Rand Chairman, thanked the visitors for their most interesting and educative collections shown. The visiting Chairman replied suitably, after which the meeting closed. H.S.

### THE PHILATELIC SOCIETY OF RHODESIA.

*President, N. Rose; Hon. Secretary, B. A. Carnegie, P.O. Box 244, Bulawayo. Meetings, 1st Tuesdays, No. 20. Southern Life Buildings, Bulawayo, 8.15 p.m.*

5th April, 1938.—Attendance at April meeting was up to average. One new country member elected.

Letters seeking exchange correspondents in Rhodesia are plentiful; unfortunately our membership is not sufficiently large to take up more than a very small proportion.

It was noted from the home press that the Southern Rhodesia "Falls" 3d. with "Postage and Revenue," as on the 2d., was on sale in London. No other intimation of the existence of the new stamp had been received in Southern Rhodesia.

Mr. F. W. Porter exhibited a fine collection of Malta and some amusing hand painted covers.

3rd May, 1938.—Attendance at May meeting was fair. Three new members were elected.

Exhibits were mainly of King George VI. pictorials, contributed by various members.

A copy of the new Southern Rhodesia 3d. Falls with "Postage and Revenue" was

shown. It was noted that the colour is slightly darker than its predecessor.

The meeting concluded with informal discussion.  
LAVRON.

#### PRETORIA PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

*President*, Major W. J. Harrington; *Hon. Secretary*, Prof. H. A. Wager, Box 514. *Meetings*, 1st and 3rd Mondays, Technical College, 8 p.m.

May 2nd.—Major Harrington was in the chair. Mr. Hawke read some philatelic press extracts.

Paper.—Mr. Basden gave a very interesting survey of the stamps of the Transvaal. He first pointed out that there was no authentic record of the very early history of this country, a state of things much to be deplored. The stamps of the Transvaal were of surprising interest, although it was not a favourite country with collectors. He described many unique items from his collection.

Exhibit.—Mr. Basden's fine collection of the Transvaal was tabled. It was one of the occasions when members were privileged to see a wonderful display.

May 16th.—Major Harrington was in the chair. Many new issues, etc., were shown.

Papers.—Mr. Blockey gave a short talk on the strained international relations that have occasionally arisen out of the issue of certain stamps, one stamp being actually the cause of a war.

Mr. Giovanetti gave a realistic account of the cycle and camel local postal service in Australia in the neighbourhood of the Coolgardie gold rush. He showed a few of the stamps in use at the time.

Major Harrington read a short paper on the establishment of postal services in China long before the Christian era. Well-organised postal routes were spread over the country and the service was apparently in great demand.

Exhibit.—Mr. Obermeyer tabled a fine display of British North America and Mr. Basden showed some unique items in the form of very early United States covers. H.A.W.

#### FORTHCOMING U.S.A. ISSUES.

Before the end of this year 32 new stamps may be expected from the U.S.A. Every President who has not yet figured on a postage stamp (and there are quite a few) will be featured, with the exception of the present President and the one living ex-President, Mr. Hoover. The Federal law provides that no living person may be thus honoured. The White House will also be included in the series.

The values of the new stamps will run from  $\frac{1}{2}$  cent to \$5, including four denominations which have not previously occurred, viz., 4 $\frac{1}{2}$ c, 18c, 35c and 40c. A number of the present issues will be discontinued. The 1c value—bust of Washington—has already appeared.

## The SOUTH AFRICAN PHILATELIST

Published Monthly by the Philatelic Congress of Southern Africa

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

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

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# The SOUTH AFRICAN PHILATELIST

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## Editorial

### JOHANNESBURG PHILATELIC LIBRARY.

Once a stamp collector has passed the most elementary stage he begins to realize the need of some literature in connection with his hobby.

His first venture in this direction is usually a Catalogue. There are a number of excellent general catalogues to be had, the work of different dealers in England, America, France, Germany, etc., in addition to a few specialized catalogues dealing in greater detail with some single country. One or more catalogues may be said to be a necessity for every collector and many never get beyond this stage in their reading, although even they realize the importance of keeping up-to-date with the yearly new editions of their particular "bible."

When a collector becomes a little more advanced still and begins "to study his stamps"—to become a "philatelist," in fact—he realizes that there is a lot more to be learnt about stamps than can possibly be put into any catalogue however excellent it may be. His hobby then becomes a much more interesting one; if at the same time it becomes rather more difficult that merely adds to the interest and fascination. The information he now wants to obtain cannot all be obtained from the stamps themselves, however deeply they be studied, some can only be had from philatelic literature, past or present. The difficulty now is to know firstly what literature to search through, secondly, and harder, to get access to the literature wanted.

There are an enormous number of philatelic journals, probably no other hobby having anything like the literature pertaining to it that philately has and it is utterly impossible for any private individual to amass anything like a complete library. Most of us are probably content with one magazine—perhaps, if we are very enthusiastic, a couple—plus an occasional handbook or pamphlet dealing with some country or subject which specially appeals to us.

What is to be done if we want to delve a bit deeper into philatelic lore? Well, this is where a Philatelic Society comes, or should come, in. One of the functions of a Society should be to provide library facilities for its members. The scope will naturally depend on its financial status but it should at least be possible to do more than the ordinary private individual can do by himself.

The difficulty faced by most Societies in connection with their libraries however, is the housing thereof. There are very few wealthy enough to have their own permanent home, housing a library, like the Royal Philatelic Society in London or the Collectors' Club in New York. Most societies merely rent quarters for their periodical meetings and their libraries have to be housed either in these quarters, where they are generally accessible only at meeting times; or they are dependent on the generosity of some member for house room. With the best will in the world libraries kept under such conditions can never be of full service to its would-be users.

The Philatelic Society of Johannesburg and its predecessors have always been in the position outlined and it has long been felt that the difficulty of getting at the library has been partly, at least, responsible for the little use made of it. A step has recently been taken which the Society hopes will make its library of more service, not only to its own members, but to other philatelists.

The library has been handed over in its entirety to the City's Public Library, where it is being kept as a unit in the Reference Department. The magazines (or most of them, at any rate) are being bound, and any philatelic literature already in the Library has been added to the unit. It will be added to in the future through purchase by the Library of books, whilst the Society will continue to hand over the magazines for which they subscribe. The *South African Philatelist* has also handed in its accumulation of books sent for review, and its exchange magazines.

This philatelic library will be accessible to anyone for reference in the building. By special arrangement made with the Librarian,  
(Concluded on next page).

## NEW ISSUES

**ASCENSION.**—The new issue was released about 12th May. The designs are similar to those of the 1934 set with change of the King's head. Values: ½d., 1d., 1½d., 2d., 3d., 6d., 1s., 2s. 6d., 5s. and 10s.

**AUSTRALIA.**—We should have chronicled earlier the new 5s. and 10s. which appeared on 1st April. The designs are portraits of Queen Elizabeth (5s., lake) and King George VI (10s. purple) in full Coronation robes.

**CAMEROONS.**—There seems to be a general shortage of all French colonial stamps owing to the change in the postal rates and the inability of the printers to supply stocks fast enough. Many colonies have hardly any supplies in hand. In the Cameroons letters have to be handed in and the amount due for postage paid in cash. Such letters are being postmarked and given a special cachet "P P" (Post Paye—Postage Paid).

**CANADA.**—Issued on 15th June, to complete the current reign regular series: 10c Memorial Chamber, Peace Tower, Parliament Buildings, Ottawa; 20c Fort Garry Gate, Winnipeg; 50c Entrance, Vancouver Harbour; \$1 Chateau de Ramezay, Montreal; 6c Air Mail. Scene on Mackenzie River, North West Territory; 20c Special Delivery. Canadian Coat of Arms.

**HOLLAND.**—A new semi-postal set of charity stamps for the benefit of cultural and social relief appeared on 16th May and was on sale only till 15th June although the stamps will remain valid for postage until the end of 1943. The set is: 1½c+1½c, Marinix van St. Aldegonde, grey-brown; 3c+2c, Ds. O. G. Heldring, green; 4c+2c, Maria Tesselschade, brown; 5c+3c, Rembrandt van Rijn, deep green; 12½c+3½c, Hermanus Boerhaave, blue.

**IRE.**—The Centenary of Father Matthew, the Apostle of Temperance, is to be celebrated by a special stamp.

**KENYA, UGANDA & TANGANYIKA.**—The new issue has been completed by the appearance of the 15c and 2s.

**MADAGASCAR.**—New 1c printed in blue-violet and green-blue. The dated corner bears the date January, 1938. A new series of seven values is in preparation with the portrait of Jean Laborde, the founder of the colony.

**NIGERIA.**—Issued on Sunday, 1st May, the full George VI set. The design common to the ½d., 1d., 1½d., 2d., 3d., 4d., 6d. and 1s is the head of the King with a border displaying a coconut palm on either side. The 2s. 6d. has the same design as in the 1936 series and the 5s. has that of the previous 10s.

**NORWAY.**—Has issued three very attractive pictorial stamps, the first scenic stamps she has had. The 15 ore figures a reindeer against a snowy mountainous background; the 20 ore one of the old wooden churches

of a 500-year old style of architecture and the 30 ore a beautiful view of one of the fjords.

**FORTUGUESE COLONIES.**—Whitfield King and Co.'s "Bulletin" reports new issues for a number of the Portuguese colonies, including most of those in Africa. For Mozambique there will also be a new Air Mail set of 10, 20 and 50 centavos and 1, 2, 3, 5, 9 and 10 escudos. The 40c Mozambique provisional reported in our May number as about to appear was only actually issued on 16th June. The issue numbers one million stamps. We are indebted to Mr. S. V. Netto of Lourenco Marques for a first day cover.

**ST. HELENA.**—The same values as Ascension and issued at same time. A common design to them all, the colony's badge with the King's head in vignette.

**SOMALILAND PROTECTORATE** (no longer "British Somaliland").—Another colony which has fallen for pictorials and has produced three rather fine designs. The ½, 1, 2 and 3a have a black headed sheep with the King's head in a vignette, top right; the 4, 6, 8 and 12a a fine greater kudu head with the vignette top centre between the horns; the 1, 2, 3 and 5 rupee values have an outline map of the country showing its relationship to the Gulf of Aden and Arabia, with vignette top right.

**UNITED STATES OF AMERICA.**—The 1½c Martha Washington was issued on 5th May; the ½c Benj. Franklin on 19th May, and the 2c Adams (2nd President) on 3rd June. All these are of the same type as the 1c Washington. The Jefferson 3c of this series is announced for 16th June. A new 6c Air Mail stamp, red and blue, featuring the American eagle, was issued on 14th May. On June 21 there was due to appear a 3c Commemorative at Philadelphia celebrating the 150th anniversary of the ratification of the constitution and on 27 June at Wilmington, Del., a stamp commemorative of the landing of the first Swedish and Finnish settlers in America.

*(Concluded from previous page).*

members of the Philatelic Society of Johannesburg will be allowed to take out books or magazines for study at home on presentation of their membership tickets. Philatelists in other towns will also be able to borrow from the library for reference purposes through the "Inter-library Loan Scheme," details of which they can obtain from the library of their home town. The only cost to them will be the postage on any books, etc., borrowed.

The City Librarian is having a catalogue prepared of the books and magazines in the unit and this should be ready in two or three weeks' time. Copies will be sent to each of the Philatelic Societies in Southern Africa but anyone wishing for a copy for personal use can obtain one on application to the Hon. Sec., Philatelic Society of Johannesburg, P.O. Box 4967.

## Air Mail Notes

By  
I. H. C. GODFREY.

(Our readers will learn with regret that Mr. L. A. Wyndham finds himself unable to continue contributing the monthly air mail notes which he has made such an interesting feature during the past few years. His mantle has fallen on good shoulders, however, in the person of Mr. I. H. C. Godfrey, who has undertaken to keep us posted in the modern air mail developments of Southern Africa.—Ed.)

### HANDLEY PAGE COVERS.

In the June issue Mr. Wyndham's list of the known Handley Page covers was published. He now advises that two further specimens have been reported to him, viz.:

No. 13: In overseas collection. Addressed to J. Robertson, Johannesburg.

No. 14: In overseas collection. Addressed to Mr. Ansell, Johannesburg.

Both these copies were sold by Mr. Robertson through H. R. Harmer of London some ten years ago.

### 1919 PEACE CELEBRATIONS PIGEON-GRAMS.

Particulars of the known specimens of the 1919 Peace Celebrations Pigeongrams were also published in the June issue. Mr. Wyndham now advises that pigeongram No. 85 (without cover) is owned by a Mr. A. Maag of Cape Town, and that there is also a specimen (without cover) in the Mossel Bay Public Library.

### UNION OF SOUTH AFRICA.

*South African Airways.*—Augmented Air-mail services:

Recent additional services put into operation—and which provide interesting covers showing the rapid growth of South Africa's Internal Air mileage—are:-

Rand-Durban. EIGHT services weekly 2nd Jan., 1938.

Durban-Rand. EIGHT services weekly 6th Jan.

Durban-Cape. FOUR services weekly 3rd Jan.

Cape-Durban. FOUR services weekly 5th Jan.

Durban-Cape. FIVE services weekly 2nd Feb.

Cape-Durban. FIVE services weekly 4th Feb.

Rand-Cape. NINE services weekly 26th March.

Cape-Rand. NINE services weekly 28th March.

May 5th, 1938.—Rand-Windhoek Accelerated service.

The first of the new fleet of Junkers JU 86 machines to be put into service on the South-West African route left the Rand Airport for Windhoek on Thursday, 5th May, effecting a considerable saving in transit time between the two centres.

Covers posted in Johannesburg by the first accelerated service are backstamped the same day.

*Imperial Airways.*—Accelerated Services.

April 10th, 1938 . . . On this date the Imperial Airways' Flying Boat "Calpurnia" left Durban to inaugurate a new accelerated service from South Africa to England. The mails reached Southampton five days and two hours after leaving Durban Bay.

On the same date the service between England and Malaya by Flying Boat was also accelerated, and covers from Durban connected with the second speeded up flight and are backstamped at Singapore April 19th.

April 13th, 1938 . . . The first despatch from Southampton in the opposite direction left on the 13th April and reached Durban approximately four and a half days later—17th April.

Mails were carried by the F.B. "Centaurus" (Capt. J. Sheppard) as far as Kisumu, whence they were transferred to the "Coriolanus" (Capt. W. Bellin), arriving in Durban Bay two hours and five minutes ahead of scheduled time. 38 bags, containing 1,670 lbs. of mail, were landed at Durban, after approximately 3,000 lbs. had been offloaded at Lourenco Marques for conveyance by air to Johannesburg.

The total flying time for the journey of 7,161 miles was only 49½ hours, an average speed of about 145 m.p.h.

April 14th, 1938 . . . On this date the West African Airmail was speeded up and a two and a half day service between Accra (Gold Coast) and Khartoum inaugurated. Covers for South Africa are backstamped at Khartoum, in transit, on the 17th April.

## APPROVED SELECTIONS

Entirely new approval books available of the following countries, viz:—

Gambia, South-West Africa, King's Head issues—almost complete, Seychelles, Morocco Agencies, Mauritius, Germany (Commemoratives) Union Postage Dues, Union Officials, Cape Triangulars (including perfect copies of the scarcer kinds).

### "GOOD STAMPS AT FAIR PRICES"

Selections willingly sent on request to responsible collectors, against the usual references.

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BLOEMFONTEIN, O.F.S.





## The Bechuanalands

Prepared by Major W. J. HARRINGTON,  
V.D.

(Contd. from p. 89 of June issue).

### CHAPTER VIII (contd.)

#### “MAFEKING” STAMPS.

We now come to the most popular of the Mafeking Stamps, i.e., the “cyclist” and “Baden Powell” stamps. The first type depicts Sergeant-Major Goodyear of the Cadet Corps on a bicycle and was designed by Captain Greener, the Chief Paymaster, while the other was designed by Dr. W. A. Hayes. The stamps were produced by D. Taylor by photographic process in sheets of twelve (3 rows of 4) on horizontally laid paper manufactured in Mafeking, and the perforating and gumming was done by Messrs. Townshend & Son, the publishers of the “Mafeking Mail.”

On the 8th April, 1900, the following notice

appeared in the “Mafeking Mail”:—

“NOTICE.

The new issue of stamps bearing the Colonel’s photograph will be produced on Monday, the 9th inst. These stamps can only be issued on production of letters addressed locally (Mafeking or forts). No person can for the present be allowed to hand to the officer in charge of Siege Post Office more than one letter per diem.

J. V. Howatt, Postmaster.

Mafeking, April 7th, 1900.”

From the above notice two points arise. The first is that although it is clearly stated that the stamps will be available on the 9th April, it is believed that the 3d. “Baden Powell” small size, was issued on the 7th April. The second point is that although these stamps were intended to be used as “locals” they were in some instances used on letters addressed to outside Mafeking.

The “Local” stamps issued were as follows:—

Value.	Description.	Date of issue.	Number printed.
1d.	Cyclist . . . . .	Apl. 10	9,476
3d.	Head of Baden Powell (small) . . . . .	Apl. 7	6,072
3d.	Head of Baden Powell (large) . . . . .	Apl. 10	3,036
	— ditto — design reversed.		

(To be continued).

Research has shown that, except in the case of the two stamps issued on the 23rd March, 1900, the fancy type once having been set up in a row of six was not broken up as the undermentioned varieties have been found in all subsequently issued stamps overprinted with that type.

*Column 1*—E of Mafeking battered at the top so that the serif of the centre line joins the top line; The third E in Besieged is so damaged that it almost looks like the figure 8.

*Column 2*—The lettering is fairly good.

*Column 3*—The B of Besieged is so damaged that it almost looks like the figure 8.

*Column 4*—The E of Mafeking has the bottom line broken in the middle; The G of Besieged has its back broken.

*Column 5*—The third E of Besieged has the tip of the bottom line missing; The comma after Mafeking is missing.

*Column 6*—The third E of Besieged has the left upper corner missing; The comma after Mafeking is missing.

The following varieties were reported by Mr. J. R. F. Turner in the *London Philatelist* for May, 1901.

Two settings of the fancy capitals in the distance between the words “Mafeking” and “Besieged” have been noted in the following stamps—1d. on 3d. (all three), 6d. on 3d. Cape,

6d. on 3d. British Bechuanaland, and 1s. on 4d. Cape. (The writer would be glad to receive particulars of these two distances.)

The figure of the surcharged value in the fancy type of overprint is usually under EK and I of Mafeking but in cases where it falls under FE, it invariably occurs in column 3.

That there were no “remainders” of any of the issues is evidenced by the following letter addressed to Mr. J. R. F. Turner on the 18th July, 1900, from the General Post Office in Capetown:—

“Sir,

In reply to your letter of the 18th April addressed to the Postmaster of Mafeking, and requesting to be supplied with some of the stamps used at Mafeking during the siege, I regret to say I am unable to comply with your request in this respect, the whole of the stock of the stamps in question having been sold at Mafeking prior to the relief of the town. I am therefore returning the inclosure which accompanied your letter.

I am, Sir, Your Obedient Servant,  
M. FRENCH,  
Postmaster.”

In view of the official statement that Mafeking stamps were not sold to the public in unused condition, and that even if a few had come on the market they would command a

higher price than used copies, it seems somewhat strange that it should have been deemed necessary in November, 1910, to issue the following notice:—

“DEPARTMENT OF POSTS AND  
TELEGRAPHS.  
MAFEKING BESIEGED POSTAGE  
STAMPS.

It is hereby notified for general information that the reissue of Cape Colony and Bechuanaland Protectorate Postage Stamps placed in circulation by the Military Authorities during the investment of Mafeking, as well as the specially issued local stamps, are not available for the prepayment of any article of mail matter which may be posted at any Civil Post Office in the Cape Colony. A list of the stamps referred to is published hereunder.

S. R. FRENCH,  
Postmaster-General.

General Post Office.  
1st November, 1900.”

The list quoted in the notice included all the stamps which had been issued by the Military Authorities.

#### FORGERIES.

The following forgeries are known, many of them having been discovered shortly after the relief of Mafeking:—

- 1d. on ½d. Cape (Hope seated),
- 1d. on ½d. Cape (Hope standing),
- 1d. on ½d. Bechuanaland Protectorate,
- 3d. on 1d. Cape,
- 3d. on 1d. Bechuanaland Protectorate,
- 6d. on 3d. Cape watermarked CA instead of Anchor.
- 6d. on 3d. “Bechuanaland Protectorate,” forged.
- 1s. on 4d. Cape.
- \*1s. on 4d. “Bechuanaland Protectorate” forged,
- \*1s. on 6d. “Bechuanaland Protectorate” forged,
- \*1s. on 6d. British Bechuanaland.

All the above with the exception of those marked “\*” are in sans serif capitals.

Another forgery is the 1s. on 6d. British Bechuanaland with double overprint—the fancy type superimposed on sans serif capitals. This was reported in 1935, but such a variety could not exist as the sans serif type was used after and not concurrently with the fancy type.

The activities of the fakers however did not stop at the overprints and surcharges, but also included postmarks and the manufacture of covers. In this connection the following article published in the *London Philatelist* for September, 1900, is of interest:—

“It is now evident that there are two distinct varieties of the forged Cape ‘Mafekings.’ Those of the first variety show the Mafeking postmark dated April 27th whereas the second type since to hand is dated April 23rd.

Messrs. Stanley Gibbons Ltd. in reply to an enquiry by Mr. Turner, write:—

“The first variety (dated April 27th) we think have all come from Mr. Shelvoke of Plein Street, Capetown, but it is possible they are made in London!

“It is unfortunately no longer possible to say that only the ‘surcharged-on-Cape’ Mafekings have been imitated. Under date August 28th, Mr. Alfred W. Bates of Norwood, sends us quite a sheaf of other forgeries, all on what purport to be original envelopes. We shall describe each envelope and stamp it bears.

“No. 1. (One stamp). 6d. on 3d. Cape, postmarked ‘Mafeking, February 12,’ with another postmark on the back of the envelope ‘Bulawayo, 15 January.’ Thus this wonderful letter reached its destination a month before it started on its journey.

“No. 2. (Four stamps). 3d. on 1d. Cape; 6d. on 3d. Cape; 6d. on 3d. Bechuanaland Protectorate; and 1s. on 4d. ditto. It will be sufficient comment on this envelope to note that the overprint ‘Bechuanaland Protectorate’ is forged as well as the Mafeking surcharge.

“No. 3. (Two stamps). 6d. on 3d. and 1s. on 6d. Bechuanaland Protectorate. Here again the Bechuanaland overprint is forged.

“No. 4. (Five stamps). 1d. on ½d. (both old and new types) and 1s. on 4d. Cape; 3d. on 1d. and 1d. on ½d. Bechuanaland Protectorate.

“In short all the twelve stamps on the four envelopes are bad, and these, with the postmarks and the general fakery employed, represent a vast amount of nefarious labour. Mr. Bates writes as follows regarding the envelopes:—

“They were bought early in June of this year from some Germans who were not regular stamp dealers. The purchaser was put off his guard by the original envelopes postmarked between 2nd November and 30th March.”

(To be continued).

#### “POST OFFICE” MAURITIUS.

At a recent auction in London at Mr. H. R. Harmer’s, an unused 2d. blue “Post Office” Mauritius fetched £1,350, the purchaser being Mr. T. Allen.

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## Bisected Rectangular Cape of Good Hope Stamps

By A. A. JURGENS.

### 1. FAKES.

Somewhere round about the year 1910 the late Mr. Gilbert J. Allis showed me a bisected Cape rectangular stamp on a small piece of the original. This however after thorough examination turned out to be a fake. The defacing stamp used to cancel the stamp in this case showed no circle or opening in the centre of the triangle as is usual with this type of stamp, and from what I can remember there were in all only 17 lines or bars forming the design of the triangle whereas the smallest triangle defacing stamp used at the Cape contained 19 lines or bars.

In 1934, there appeared a photograph in the Cape Times Intaglio of a bisected one penny (S.G. No. 29). The paper stated that the stamp had been found in the collection of a Mr. A. Walsh, a former general manager of Lennon's Ltd. It also further stated that "Owing to a shortage of half-penny stamps in 1877 the one penny stamps were bisected to make half-penny stamps."

It would however have been quite impossible for a shortage of halfpenny stamps at that time to have made it necessary for even the surcharging of a one penny stamp to halfpenny because there was then no halfpenny rate in the Colony.

The reason why halfpenny stamps were issued to the public in December, 1875, was because of the new Postal Union entered into between the Imperial and Continental Post Offices in Europe who required a stamp of one halfpenny denomination.

Although there was no halfpenny rate of postage these stamps were used to a great extent so that long before the halfpenny rate on newspapers came into force in 1882 there had been several repeat orders placed with the London printers after the first delivery in 1875 which consisted of no less than 1,842 sheets (442,080 stamps).

As I have already stated, had there been a half-penny rate it would have been within the bounds of possibility that a Postmaster running short of these stamps would have resorted to bisecting. This being the case there would be no call for stamps of this denomination.

Another thing which proved this bisect to be a fake was the fact that it had the fraction " $\frac{1}{2}$ " printed in black on the middle lower portion of the stamp which had been severed diagonally.

The fact that this overprint appeared would make the stamp an official production, yet there is nothing on record to this effect. On the other hand, all the official surcharged stamps of the Cape are recorded, the records being in the form of official authority for the

surcharge, and the reason why the surcharge was required.

Thus in 1882 when the postal rate on newspapers was reduced from 1d. to  $\frac{1}{2}$ d. for inland destinations, the Postmaster General contemplating a large demand for halfpenny stamps requested permission for the surcharging of some of the large stock of 3d. stamps to halfpenny. This is recorded in the correspondence between the Postmaster General and the Treasury.

This was now the second occasion on which a rectangular stamp of the Cape of Good Hope had been produced in a bisected form, but as they both proved to be fakes, the use of stamps in this form remained questionable.

Triangular stamps bisected were used to a far greater extent than what is generally known, and only on account of their scarcity are they believed to have been used only in a few isolated cases.

When the fact that very few collectors left these stamps on the covers when found is taken into consideration, and that it is only within the last few years that cover collecting has become popular, the scarcity of bisected stamps at once becomes explicable. The person finding a letter on which the half of a sixpenny and a one penny stamp had been used as a fourpenny stamp would naturally remove the one penny stamp, but the half of the sixpenny would be of no use whatever and this together with the cover would be thrown away or destroyed, hence the reason for the scarcity to-day.

### 2. A GENUINE CASE.

I think however that now the fact that these rectangular issues were bisected has been definitely proved as the following will show.

Some few months ago I had the good fortune to go through a large accumulation of old correspondence from about 1840 to 1897, and to my disgust I discovered that someone had already been through them and removed all the stamps, every letter showed where the triangulars had been cut off and on several occasions I was sorely tempted to give up the search as useless, but by persevering I was rewarded for my trouble.

I had already passed through the triangular period when I came on a batch of letters pinned together, and in the midst of this lot there was a small envelope with (as it appeared to me at first) a pair of 6d. and a 1d. C.C.

When first I saw this I was under the impression that the one penny stamp had been placed on the envelope overlapping the one 6d. but upon closer examination I discovered that the sixpenny stamp had been bisected.

On the letter is inscribed in manuscript, by the Postmaster, "Paid and Registered

fee 6d.
Postage 4d.
_____
10d.
_____

The letter is backstamped with the oval date stamp of 1853 Beaufort and Colesberg 1866. The letter is addressed to the Civil Commissioner Colesberg.

The three stamps are perfectly tied to the cover with the triangle defacing stamp and despite the fact that they have been subjected to all the tests known to philately they are perfect in all respects.

To the best of my knowledge and belief this is the first bisect of its kind that has come to light and from the circumstances under which it was found it cannot be anything but genuine, and I would like to hear from any reader who may know of any similar piece having been seen or heard of before.

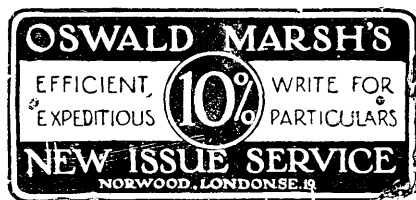
#### T.P.O. CENTENARY.

An exhibition has recently been on view at Euston Station, London, by the British P.O. of Travelling Post Offices. The first T.P.O. was tried out on 6th January, 1838, on the Grand Junction Railway between Birmingham and Liverpool. This was merely a converted horsebox, but from the start it was obviously such a success that before the end of the year a special sorting van was built by that railway which was capable of collecting and despatching mails while travelling at speed. To-day there are over 70 T.P.O.'s on daily service in Britain. T.P.O. cancellations are a favourite study and a T.P.O. club has recently been formed.

#### LEAGUE OF NATIONS.

According to the "Stamp Magazine," the recently issued set of four stamps for the League of Nations (all showing various buildings of the League in Geneva) have been indiscriminately overprinted for the League proper and for the International Labour Office. This means that the League will be using stamps overprinted "B. I. T." (Bureau International de Travail) and the Labour Office stamps overprinted "S.D.N." (Société des Nations). A very short life for these stamps is prophesied.

#### STUDY YOUR COUNTRY'S STAMPS



## Reviews

*The Commonwealth Specialists' Catalogue*, 5th Ed., 1938. Orlo-Smith and Co., 244 Collins Street, Melbourne. Price 3s. 6d.

A priced catalogue indispensable to every collector specializing on the stamps of Australia. This is a most excellent work of reference; it gives, so far as known, all major varieties, but draws the line at listing minor electro flaws and faults. Prices may be taken as fair market valuations.

There are, of course, full details as to watermarks, perms., shades, etc., in addition to the major varieties.

The Official punctured stamps are not included and the section dealing with flown covers has been omitted. Numerous air mail developments are expected in the immediate future and it is intended to rewrite this section completely for the next edition. Prices given in this section in the 4th edition still apply.

Really serious Commonwealth collectors will probably find the catalogue with stiff covers and interleaved (at 6s. 6d.) an even better bargain than the ordinary edition.

*The Postmark Slogans of Great Britain*, by George Brumell. R. C. Alcock, Ltd., 11 Regent St., Cheltenham, England. Price 2s. 6d.

A full and well illustrated handbook of British slogans. This is a comparatively new but rather fascinating branch of philately and the British field is not so large that anyone need be deterred from starting in on it. The first slogan appeared at the end of 1917 and up till the end of 1937 there are only 49 major varieties of them. They all fall into three groups, patriotic, post office propaganda and national exhibitions. The handbook is reprinted from the publisher's *Philatelic Adviser*, in which it ran as a serial. Heartily recommended to all Slogan and/or British specialists.

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## Union Notes

### NEW PRINTINGS OF 1d. AND ½d. STAMPS

In continuation of the note in our May number (p. 65) the Government Printer writes under date 28th May:

"I have to inform you that the balance of the order, viz., 158,100 sheets of 1d. Postage Stamps was delivered to the Postmaster-General on the 10th instant.

"An order for the printing of 250,000 sheets ½d. Postage Stamps is also being executed. 96,608 sheets of this value have thus far been completed and at this stage it was found expedient to temporarily discontinue the printing.

"New cylinders were prepared for this issue, the numbers being

31 Interior  
6932 Exterior

and the first delivery of 34,000 sheets was made to the Postmaster-General on the 17th idem."

Mr. R. Axer reports that this printing of the 1d. (from int. cylinder No. 52 and ext. cylinder No. 25) can easily be identified in sheets by the broad arrows in the centre of the margins. They are of a new type, being broader and having three white lines crossing the red arrow head diagonally. These were on sale at Capetown first on 17th May. (They are now obtainable generally.—Ed.) This type of control arrow first appeared on the hyphenated 6d. It is also present in the last printing of the 1s. value.

## INTERPROVINCIAL POSTMARKS

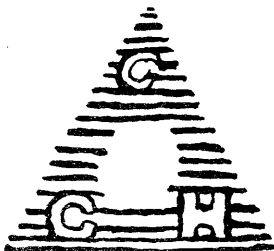
(Correction and additions).

In my list of special postmarks published in last month's issue, No. 13 should read "Cantonment Potchefstroom." The plural form was introduced at a somewhat later date—Cantonments—but prior to 1914 it was in the singular.

No. 20. The Cape Town "red paid" have also been noted in 1914.

Add the following:

21. Without name of office but with the letters C G H in a triangle as in the sketch. Seen on Orange River ½d. Edwardians.



22. Small triangular cancellation, used in Cape Town, enclosing above, between and below two horizontal lines, e.g., 11. JY 12. 12. Generally found on Transvaal Postage Dues used in the Cape.

8a. Machine cancellation. 1913. Durban, 6 Liner—equal lengths but uneven spacing.  
A. H. SYDOW.

### AUSTRIA.

All Austrian stamps were withdrawn from sale on May 15, on which date schillings ceased to be the currency in Austria.

—Whitfield King & Co.'s "Bulletin."

## COLLECTORS' WANTS AND OFFERS

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

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

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

William Redford, Box 7012, Johannesburg.

Union of South Africa.—I am interested in everything appertaining to Union of South Africa, including Inter-Provinceals, Specimens, Control Blocks, Freaks, Air Mail Covers, Entires, etc. Send approval selections for cash, or would consider exchange with Union specialists.

Sam Legator, Box 133, Brakpan.

Z.A.R. and O.V.S. Stamps used in Cape and Natal 1899-1900.

Dr. Pirie, Box 1038, Johannesburg.

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

For Sale.—British colonials, no dominions, all different. 100, 2s. 2d.; 200, 5s.; 300, 9s. Lists Free.

Davies, "Kelvedon," Wyndham Avenue, Liverpool 14, England.

London Bank parcels with high values, new issues, Geo. VI. pictorials, etc. No rubbish. 3s., 5s., 10s. per packet. Satisfaction guaranteed.

Denham, 42 Southway, Carshalton, Surrey, England.

## Correspondence

SO. RHODESIA—1½d. PERF. 12.

Please advise Mr. E. B. Allan, the writer of first letter in correspondence column of June S.A.P. that Southern Rhodesia 1½d. perf 12 was first reported to the Society in 1934. As late as December last year, however, it was discovered that the ½d., 1d. and 1½d. values in the booklets were all perf 12; it is doubtful if these stamps were sold in any but booklet form. The item is catalogued by Gibbons in a 1938 Supplement. A large percentage of the upper or lower perforations are closely cut due to the trimming of the booklets.

*Phil. Soc. of Rhodesia.*

### BRITISH PERFORATED "OFFICIAL" STAMPS.

Did you know that there were British stamps (all values of the King George V. photogravures) officially perforated for use in H.M. Stationery Office? We confess that we did not until we saw them referred to and illustrated in the "Philatelic Magazine" of May 27th in a paper read by Mr. J. W. Fairbairn at a recent joint meeting of the Scottish Philatelic Societies. The perforation consists of the letters S O and a crown.

## Obituary

### DEATH OF SIR EDWARD BACON.

We regret to see reported in the British philatelic papers, just arrived as we go to press, the death of Sir Edward Bacon, best known, perhaps, as having been for twenty-five years Keeper of the King's stamps. He was in his seventy-seventh year, and a Past President of the Royal Philatelic Society. A big piece of work he did was the classification of the Tapling collection in the British Museum; he was an abundant contributor to philatelic literature—his outstanding work being the "Line Engraved Postage Stamps of Great Britain," published in 1920.

### SOUTHERN RHODESIA.

There has recently been published in "Stamp Collecting" a series of articles on Southern Rhodesia's stamps, by Douglas Armstrong, the Editor of that paper.

The Philatelic Society of Rhodesia has had in preparation for some little time a Check List of the stamps of S. Rhodesia, which we hope to publish in our next issue. We understand there will be some points of difference from Mr. Armstrong's list.

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FRINTON-ON-SEA, ESSEX, ENGLAND

# THE EMPIRE AIRMAIL SCHEME

## in relation to Southern Africa

I. H. C. GODFREY.

A most important event, possibly the most important in the Postal History of the world, has been accepted by about nine-tenths of the Empire's population as a matter of course. This far reaching event, which is quite as significant as the inauguration of the Penny Post a century ago and the introduction of the adhesive postage stamp in 1840, has quietly edged its way into the private and business affairs of the British Empire practically without comment and with very little publicity.

It is appropriate that Great Britain, who gave the first postage stamp to the world, should again take the lead in revolutionising the methods of mail transport.

The EMPIRE AIRMAIL SCHEME was first devised in 1934 and details were announced in Parliament in December of that year. The following salient points are taken from the Government White Paper (Cmd. 5414) published in London in May, 1937.

By agreement between the Secretary for Air, The Postmaster General, Imperial Airways, Ltd., and the governments of the territories concerned, all first class mails would automatically be conveyed by Air between the component parts of the Empire without surcharge. The Scheme was to be introduced by gradual stages

- (1) To South Africa, via Egypt. Early summer 1937.
- (2) To India, Burma and Malaya. End of 1937.
- (3) To Australasia. Early in 1938.

The number of scheduled services to be operated by Imperial Airways and its associated companies were to be

NINE	a week to and from	Egypt
FIVE	"	"
THREE	"	"
THREE	"	"
TWO	"	"
TWO	"	"

The provisional list of participating countries is given on the last page of the White Paper:-

Aden	Burma
Commonwealth of Australia:	Ceylon
Lord Howe Island	Fiji
Nauru	Great Britain
Norfolk Island	Hong Kong
Papua	India (including Indian
New Guinea and other mandated Pacific Islands.	Post Offices in the Persian Gulf)
	Kenya
	Malay States:

Negri Sembilan	Sarawak
Pahang	Seychelles
Perak	Union of South Africa
Selangor	South West Africa
Johore	Basutoland
Kedah	Bechuanaland Protectorate
Kelantan	Swaziland
Perlis	Southern Rhodesia
Trengganu	Straits Settlements
Brunei	Anglo-Egyptian Sudan
Malta	Tanganyika
Mauritius	Uganda
New Zealand and mandated territories.	Western Pacific Territories
North Borneo	Zanzibar
Northern Rhodesia	
Nyasaland	
Palestine and Transjordan	

Owing to unfortunate delays in the production of aircraft and to unforeseen circumstances beyond the control of the Post Office, the initial stage was slightly postponed and, instead of coming into operation in the early summer, the first stage of the scheme was officially inaugurated on the 29th July, 1937. Meanwhile, Holland had been active completing a similar scheme, and by agreement between the Netherlands Government and the K.L.M. (Royal Dutch Air Lines) the first batch of unsurcharged mails by air from one continent to another, was despatched from Holland to the Dutch East Indies on the 5th June, 1937. Therefore, although the scheme originated in England, Great Britain unfortunately cannot claim to have been the first country to adopt the air as the normal means for the conveyance of long distance mails.

### THE FIRST STAGE.

The London Office of Imperial Airways took the opportunity on the 29th of June, 1937, to send circular letters to South Africa reading, inter alia:-

"It has come to you on the first Imperial Airways mail service from England on which all letters and first class mail for Imperial Territories in Africa have been carried by Air and without surcharge."

Special envelopes were printed to enclose these circulars and they arrived in the Union on the 5th of July. These, however, were not actually the first unsurcharged airmails to arrive from England, as certain mails post-marked the 25th June and carried by the pre-

vious flying-boat reached South Africa on the 2nd July. These latter items, if authenticated by arrival postmarks, are of considerable rarity.

The Imperial Airways' circular, quoted above, is ambiguous also in another respect, for a number of Imperial Territories in Africa were not at that date included in the scheme.

A uniform rate of 1½d. per half ounce be-

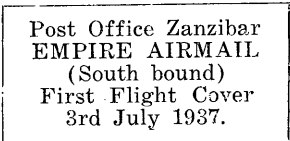
tween the countries participating in the first stage of the scheme was instituted by all territories with the exception of Southern Rhodesia, and Nyasaland where the postage was fixed at 2d. A 1d. rate for postcards from Great Britain was also brought into use.

Unsurcharged mails by air from the territories concerned in the first stage arrived in the Union of South Africa on the following dates:-

	<i>Date of Inauguration</i>	<i>Arrival of first Airmails</i>
Great Britain and Ireland . . . . .	25th June	2nd July
Southern Rhodesia . . . . .	27th June	30th June
Northern Rhodesia . . . . .	29th June	5th July
Nyasaland . . . . .	29th June	3rd July
Sudan . . . . .	1st July	7th July
Kenya, Uganda and Tanganyika . . . . .	1st July	7th July
Zanzibar . . . . .	1st July	7th July
Mauritius . . . . .	?	?
Union of South Africa . . . . .	1st July	—
South West Africa . . . . .	1st July	—
Bechuanaland Protectorate . . . . .	1st July	—
Swaziland . . . . .	1st July	—
Basutoland . . . . .	1st July	—

On the same date the internal postage rate in the Union and South West Africa was reduced to 1d. per half ounce.

Zanzibar was the only territory to use a distinguishing postmark and this reads:



The first North bound letters bore a similar cachet, with the date altered.

The first despatch under the arrangement of letters from South Africa reached England on the 12th July.

**CHRISTMAS MAILS 1937/38.**

The phenomenal growth of the quantity of mail carried by air on Empire routes is clearly shown in the statistics below:

1921	approximately	2 tons
1922	"	4 tons
1928	"	16 tons
1935	"	187 tons

Christmas airmails transported by Imperial Airways in 1936, alone, amounted to 34 tons, and in the 1937 season to 99 tons, an increase of almost 300 per cent!

As an exceptional arrangement insufficiently pre-paid Christmas mails were not subjected to the usual tax on delivery. All the Post Offices in the territories served by the Airmail Scheme agreed to this concession and, in most instances, special labels were printed and affixed to underpaid correspondence waiving the surcharge and requesting the recipients to notify their correspondents of the correct postage rates. These labels are interesting

mementos of a stupendous undertaking, and appear to be extraordinarily scarce, especially used. The numbers printed by the various countries were:-

Great Britain . . . . .	600,000
Union of South Africa . . . . .	97,500
Southern Rhodesia . . . . .	12,000
Northern Rhodesia . . . . .	9,000
Zanzibar . . . . .	1,000
Kenya, Uganda & Tanganyika . . . . .	(Unknown)
Nyasaland . . . . .	(Unknown)
Mauritius . . . . .	(Unknown)

The next minor development occurred on February 1, 1938, when Southern Rhodesia reduced its Empire rate from 2d. to 1½d. per half ounce, to fall into line with other countries. An internal rate of 1d. per ounce by air or surface was also introduced on that date.

February 3, 1938 . . . A further minor extension in the Scheme occurred on this date when letter mails destined for Tristan da Cunha were conveyed by air to connect with H.M.S. "Milford" before sailing from England, without surcharge.

(To be continued).

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## Is there a Future for Specialised Collections of "Unions" ?

By ERIC GILBERT ALLIS.

In this short article I do not intend harassing my readers (if any) with long description and detail of the various issues and printings of the stamps of this great Union of ours, but submit my humble view that at last the possibility seems to exist that the major varieties of the stamps of the Union will (eventually) come to the fore.

For some years past, wisely or unwisely, I have concentrated on "Unions," and my constant feeling has been one of trepidity and speculation as to the future of such a specialised collection.

Some of my readers will, I feel sure, agree with me in the view that so far we have not had due recognition from Gibbons and others of some of our fine major Union errors and varieties, and I should personally appreciate (with your consent, Mr. Editor) readers' views as to whether we Union collectors could not prevail upon Messrs. Stanley Gibbons to catalogue some of them in their next edition.

Reference to page 408 of the current S.G. catalogue will show a few minor varieties 1913-1921 King George V. issue, Nos. 3a, 6a, 8a, 9a and b, and 10a being the roll stamps perf. x imperf. and a tête bêche 1½d., also 3b ½d. doubly printed, but some of our finest errors and varieties remain only valuable to Union collectors in the Union and mean nothing to philatelists over the waters.

Mr. L. Simenhof and the Natal Philatelic Society have published the "Standard Catalogue" and "Guide to Values" respectively, and surely such stamps as Nos. 50, 70, 85, 153, 185, 189, 635, 636, etc., of the "Guide to Values" warrant an honourable place in Gibbons?

What about our Jubilees, which have risen so rapidly in price? In my opinion the cleft skull variety of each value at least is worthy of its place and also the missing "1" in "1910" and "1935" (Nos. 793 and 794) in the 1d. value. Similarly with the First Airs (1925), imperforate at left; strut error; and imperforate at foot, catalogued at £30, £50 and £50 respectively.

I don't of course include the "Flyspot philatelic phantasies" in my humble plea, but genuine and undoubted errors, etc.

The most is made in Gibbons of overprint varieties, etc., so surely we are being forgotten.

The silver lining appears, however, that in a recent issue of the "Stamp Collecting" magazine a note in Stanley Gibbons section draws attention to the fact that they have acquired some interesting South African errors—such

as the "solid gable" 3d. (current) blue—for sale. Long live Gibbons! for in time we may see some of the items quoted above in the catalogue which would bring our stamps into line with those of other Dominions and open up the world's popular stamp markets to South African specialists.

## QUESTIONABLE STAMP ISSUES

We take over the following notes verbatim, although not quite in full, from a recent report, published in "The American Philatelist," of the "Public Relations Committee" of the American Philatelic Society:—

The Committee submits the following as a possible guide and warning to the philatelic public. We do not propose to tell collectors what to collect. They are their own arbiters as to what stamps should be barred from their albums. We, however, can call attention to alleged abuses by a statement of available facts, and the collector may draw his own deductions and act as he or she wishes.

In the last few years the following countries in order named have been specially prolific in issuing unnecessary and speculative stamps:

Russia.—Stamps commemorating more or less important events are sold only against foreign exchange, precluding purchase by Russian residents, they being limited to the purchase of stamps of ordinary designs with native money.

Nicaragua comes next as a violator.

Guatemala.

Germany, with its never ending "miniatures" and special issues.

Panama, with its Fire Department and Olympic Games emanations.

Spanish War issues.—A plethora of stamps have been issued by the "Loyalists" and "Revolutionists." Concessions are sold to private individuals to issue stamps. It is claimed that many Spanish blocks have never seen Spain.

Egypt has fallen into bad ways. It is reported that the post office has ruled that it will not accept orders for stamps except from local dealers. A leading philatelic editor in the United States says Egypt is rapidly departing from the path of postal rectitude. An English stamp organ refers to the Egyptian stamp status as "The Egypt Scandal."

Teheran.—A new issue of stamps is limited in numbers and put in circulation for a limited period.

Mexico has established a philatelic agency at which current stamps are available at face, but a premium has to be paid on older issues.

That some, if not all, of these are purely speculative, unnecessary and intended for philatelic consumption, there can be but little doubt.

### The Die of the 2½d. Union Commemoration Stamp

Paper read to the Cape Town Philatelic Society by A. H. Sydow, A.S.A.A., C.A. (S.A.).

24th February, 1938.

The contemporary of the pre-Union Edwardians of 1910-1914, the 2½d. Union Commemorative Stamp, was designed by Mr. H. S. Wilkinson, the then Distributor of Stamps in Pretoria. Inter alia the stamp shows a full face portrait of His late Majesty King George V.

Catalogues and handbooks tell us that the stamps were printed direct from line engraved plates in the ateliers of Messrs. Thos. De La Rue and Co., Limited, of Bunhill Row, London. Are the catalogues and handbooks correct in their statements?

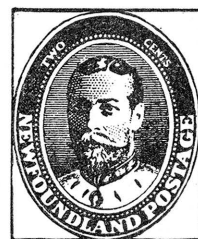
I will refer you to an item exhibited to-night, namely, the Newfoundland 2 cent. stamp of the Coronation Issue of 1911, which also shows, inter alia, a full face portrait of His late Majesty King George V. It will be observed that with a slight exception there is a marked similarity between the portrait shown on the Union stamp and that shown on the Newfoundland one.

On reference to the catalogue of Messrs. Stanley Gibbons, Limited, it will be observed that it is stated that the Newfoundland stamp was engraved and printed by Messrs. Whitehead, Morris and Co., Limited, of London.

Members will no doubt be surprised to see a Newfoundland stamp mounted in a specialised collection of the Union of South Africa. I have done this because as a specialist in the Stamps of the Union I found there is much to be gained from comparative methods of investigation. It is often found that a characteristic in a stamp of one country by itself seems to be inexplicable, but elucidation thereof may be found in the study of the stamps of another country.

I would mention that I hold a die proof of the Union 2½d. Commemoration, without any inscribed memoranda of the engraver or the printer.

My examination of the portraits on the Union and Newfoundland stamps mentioned has lead me to believe the respective dies of the stamps were engraved in recess by one and the same craftsman, and one not in the employ of Messrs. Thos. De La Rue and Co., Limited, or Whitehead, Morris and Co., Limited. It is merely my belief from an examination of the stamps. I have no ocular proof. But I have recently received intimation that a well known specialist in the Stamps of Newfoundland, Mr. S. A. Brown, acquired die proofs of the 1911 Newfoundland Coronation stamps which showed that the dies were engraved by Messrs. MacDonald and Sons, and that the stamps were printed by Messrs. A. Alexander and Sons, Limited, both London concerns.



The information quoted anent the Newfoundland stamps in Gibbons catalogue is ostensibly wrong. Whitehead, Morris and Co., Limited, may have been the original contractors to the Newfoundland postal administration, and Alexander and Co., Limited, the subcontractors, but the latter firm are the printers of the said stamps.

Let me now revert to the Union stamp. Did MacDonald and Sons engrave the die of the 2½d. Commemoration? Did Alexander and Sons, Limited, print the Union stamps or were Thos. De La Rue and Co., Limited, the printers thereof? Are the firms associated with one another, especially as some companies are associated with others as subsidiaries or auxiliaries?

Investigation in London should help to solve the problem and I commend this to our well known Union specialist in London, Mr. L. A. B. Sharpe.

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

## Society News

### EAST RAND PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

*President, J. Linn; Hon. Sec., J. Doyle.*  
41 Rose Deep, Germiston. *Meetings, 2nd*  
*Thursday, Hotel Cecil, Benoni.*

At the June meeting items of interest were: Mr. Linn—Interesting Covers. Mr. Newson—King George VI, First Day Covers. Mr. Shepherd—S.W.A. block of Pictorials, missing dot after W and A.

The exhibitor for the evening was Mr. Sam Legator. The country chosen was Zanzibar. Mr. Legator first read a most interesting paper on this country. He confined himself here mainly to the history of the country and the development of the postal service in the territory. He then tabled his stamps of Zanzibar. This was a beautiful collection and almost quite complete. It first showed Indian stamps with Zanzibar postmarks, these being used prior to Zanzibar's own definite issue. Then followed all the issues complete in mint and used condition, each issue preceded by complete specimen sets. There was a host of varieties of the overprints. The highlight of the collection was a page with the 10, 20, and 30R. To conclude, there were some pages of postage due labels of all the values with the cents variety (dot before the s). The last was the postage due set with a specimen set—perforated.

The exhibit was thoroughly enjoyed and appreciated by everyone present, as one seldom sees a good collection of this country.

After the Chairman thanked Mr. Legator for his fine show, the members of the Society wished the Chairman bon voyage as he is shortly leaving on an overseas tour.

H.S.

### PHILATELIC SOCIETY OF NATAL.

*President, H. H. Hurst; Hon. Secretary,*  
*Mrs. Reed, Box 588, Durban. Meetings, 1st*  
*Wednesdays, Durban Publicity Bureau.*

The June monthly meeting was very well attended and six new members were admitted to the society.

Some months ago Mr. V. B. Crockett showed us his Air Mail stamps of the British Commonwealth and at this meeting he displayed the remainder which embraced the rest of the world. In this area some of the most beautiful and artistic stamps are to be found, notably the latest Grecian issue of five values, each of which is in itself a gem of great beauty. This was indicated in the display as well as many bearing unconventional designs that do not figure in the subjects selected for the usual postage stamps, and stamps commemorating events such as the Russian Stratosphere Balloon Ascent and the Conquest

of the North Pole. This branch of philately is most absorbing and a very interesting evening was passed.

### THE PHILATELIC SOCIETY OF JOHANNESBURG.

*President, J. W. K. Schofield; Hon. Secretary,*  
*F. E. Ingham, Box 4967; Meetings, 2nd*  
*Tuesdays, Kelvin House, 7.45 p.m.*

The June meeting was the annual general meeting of the Society. Although the season 1937-38 has not been a spectacular one the reports of the Hon. Secretary and Hon. Treasurer showed that the Society was in a very healthy state. Its membership keeps up over one hundred, attendances at meetings are good and its finances sound. The report of the Exchange Superintendent, Mrs. Redford (who, we regret to say, is giving up her post after a most successful three years of it) showed that during the past twelvemonth packets of stamps to a value of about £1,200 had circulated among members and that the sales were well over £300. We hope equal success will attend her successor, Mr. Isaacs.

Mr. C. E. Sprightton's successor in the Presidential chair is Mr. J. W. K. Schofield. This is not his first occupancy of such a position as he was President of the Johannesburg United Philatelic Society in 1913. After that he gave up philately for a number of years, but some years back succumbed to a second, and more virulent, attack of the disease. He reassumes the Presidential office with the added glory of being one of that small but very select band of South Africans who are Fellows of the Royal Philatelic Society of London.

Mr. Mark Rose was elected Vice-President; two newcomers to the ranks of the Committee are Mr. Bowen and Mr. Demasius.

It may be mentioned that the Society has now no Hon. Librarian as the library has been handed over in its entirety to the City Library. It is housed there in the Reference Dept., where the books may be consulted by anyone, but members of the Society will be allowed to take out books or magazines on presentation of their tickets of membership.

The proposal to have meetings fortnightly instead of monthly, which had been submitted to the members for a referendum, was not sufficiently well supported to justify its being put into effect. It is one of the two reproaches which may be held up against the Society, viz., that in its large membership there is not yet a sufficiency of active members (i.e. those who will read papers or give exhibits) to ensure fortnightly meetings being successful.

The other bad feature is the slow growth of the Society's reference collection. The evening closed with an exhibit of this by Mr. G. J. Houbert, the Hon. Curator. The collection is now limited to countries of Africa south of the Zambesi. It is beautifully mounted and written up but there are still far too many

blanks in it. For growth it is dependant on donations from its owners, the members of the Society, but somehow it remains a rather neglected orphan child.

#### EAST LONDON PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

*President*, W. S. Hoale; *Hon. Secretary*, S. F. Fowler, c/o. Vacuum Oil Co. of S.A., Ltd. *Meetings*, 1st Thursdays, Technical College, 8 p.m.

At the May meeting the attendance was not good but the evening turned out to be an excellent one. It was decided that in future two or three displays should be given at each meeting.

The display for the evening was given by Mr. Harper and consisted of Imperfs of Great Britain, France, German and Italian states, Greece, Uruguay, Argentine, Brazil and Victoria. A magnificent show and highly commented on. This was supplemented by Mr. Paviour with a display of British Guiana and he also gave a short paper on the Colony. Mr. Fowler followed with another display of all the new issues of King George VI up to date.

The evening was voted a great success and the three gentlemen mentioned were accorded a hearty vote of thanks for their displays and the paper.

Members were requested to expedite the circulation of the stamp magazines and to bring stamps for raffling.

*Thursday, 2nd June.*—The attendance was very good and two new members were elected.

The display for the evening was given by Mr. Storey and consisted of the Union of South Africa. This was an excellent exhibition, most comprehensive, and included quite a number of scarce errors and printings and air mail covers.

Mr. Paviour followed with an excellent paper on St. Helena supported by a fine display of this country.

Mr. Hoal concluded with a display of Cape of Good Hope.

The evening was voted a great success and these gentlemen were heartily thanked for their contribution.

After refreshments had been served, a few raffles took place adding to the funds of the society.

The rest of the evening was given over to swops and talks.

Mr. Mitzer, who leaves us shortly for overseas, takes with him our best wishes for a good trip and happy return.

W.S.H.

#### CAPE TOWN PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

*President*, Dr. L. B. Goldschmidt; *Hon. Secretary and Treasurer*, Mr. A. A. Jurgens, 26 Woodside Road, Tamboers Kloof, Cape Town. *Meetings*, 2nd and 4th Thursdays, Medical House, 35 Wale Street, Cape Town, at 8 p.m.

*January 13th.*—Dr. Goldschmidt in the Chair. Unfortunately the member who had to provide the display for the evening was unable

at the last minute to do so and as there was no time to provide for a substitute the evening was spent in a social manner. One new member elected.

*Thursday, 27th January.*—Dr. Goldschmidt in the Chair. The display of the evening was provided by Mr. L. Simenhoff who tabled his collection of Union Errors and Varieties. Among the most outstanding items displayed were the one penny King's head with no plate number. Plates 1 and 2 in complete blocks, and 4d. King's head control block with Co-extensive Jubilee lines, Offsets, Freaks, and Wmk. varieties.

Mr. Lewis, of Bloemfontein, who was on a visit, in moving a vote of thanks to Mr. Simenhoff enlarged on the rarity of a number of the exhibits, and commented very favourably on the completeness of the sections shown.

*Thursday, 10th February.*—Mr. L. Simenhoff in the Chair. The display for the evening being open to all members, the following selections were shown: Malay States by Mr. C. O. Plumbridge; British African Pictorials by Mr. J. Douglas; Pictorials (General) by Mr. H. F. Rousseau; Pictorials (General) by Mr. S. Kagauson; Pictorials (Educational Series) by Mr. L. Simenhoff; Old Cape items by Mr. A. A. Jurgens.

This being Scholars' Evening there were about 90 visitors present. Competitions were held for the Scholars and two junior members of the Society were successful in winning a first and a second prize. Mr. Wyndham presented a copy of his book *The Air Posts of South Africa*, as one of the prizes, and Mr. Simenhoff a copy of his catalogue of the Stamps of the Union.

*Thursday, 24th February.*—Dr. L. B. Goldschmidt in the Chair. Mr. A. H. Sydow tabled his collection of the stamps of the Union, consisting of the Dies, Plates and Cylinders. Mr. Sydow gave a very comprehensive description of the various methods, etc., employed in the printing and preparation of these stamps. Both the President and Vice-President in thanking Mr. Sydow enlarged upon the highly specialised display.

*Thursday, 10th March.*—Dr. L. B. Goldschmidt in the chair. Mr. W. L. Ashmead showed a very fine collection of the stamps of the Bahamas. The President and Mr. Conisbee thanked Mr. Ashmead and Mr. Conisbee paid special tribute to the fine condition of the stamps of the first issue and remarked that these were extremely difficult to get in fine condition. Mr. Conisbee also referred to the exhibitor as one of the foundation members of the Society.

The President proposed Mr. Conisbee as an Hon. Member, and stated that although our Constitution made no allowance for the election of Hon. Members, he thought that this could be overlooked in the meantime, and that he hoped at some future date this would be provided for. Mr. Conisbee was elected unanimously.

*Thursday, 24th March.*—Dr. L. B. Goldschmidt in the chair. The display for the even-

ing was provided by Mr. H. T. Jones who substituted for Mr. B. G. Heydenrych, who was unable to attend. Mr. Jones showed a highly specialised collection of Rhodesia. Two new members elected.

*Thursday, 14th April.*—Mr. L. Simenhoff in the Chair. Mr. B. G. Heydenrych tabled his collection of Cyprus which was greatly appreciated by all present.

*Thursday, 28th April.*—Dr. L. B. Goldschmidt in the Chair. The display of the evening was provided by Mr. A. A. Jurgens who tabled selections from his collection of Cape triangulars. A short talk and paper was also given bearing on the exhibit. Miss Pat. Goldschmidt thanked Mr. Jurgens for the display and paid special tribute to a mint block of four sixpenny lilac on blued paper, which was among the exhibits and was probably a unique item.

*Thursday, 12th May.*—The 26th annual general meeting of the Society. Dr. L. B. Goldschmidt in the Chair. The meeting was well attended. 25 new members had been elected during the year. The Report and Balance Sheet was adopted and great satisfaction was expressed at the strong financial position of the Society. The meeting then proceeded to the election of office bearers for the ensuing year, and the following were elected: President, Dr. L. B. Goldschmidt; Vice-President, J. Pearson Esq.; Hon. Secretary and Treasurer, A. A. Jurgens. (The Secretary also to act as temporary Exchange Superintendent); Committee, Messrs. R. Axer, L. Simenhoff, J. Douglas, C. Mackenzie and M. Rothkugel.

*Thursday, 9th June.*—Dr. L. B. Goldschmidt in the Chair. Display for the evening by Mr. W. L. Ashmead, who showed a collection of Borneo Exhibition Overprint.

A letter from the Town Clerk, Cape Town, to Mr. Conisbee in connection with the 1940 Centenary Celebrations was read. Mr. Conisbee had been in communication with the Town Clerk to try to get the Council to have a stamp exhibition as part of the above celebrations. It was suggested that a non competitive exhibition be proposed and collections of the stamps of the Transvaal, O.F.S., Natal and the Cape be submitted by invitation. After discussion it was agreed to leave the matter in the hands of the President and Secretary to draw up a scheme to be submitted to the Cape Town Council.

A. A. J.

#### THE PHILATELIC SOCIETY OF RHODESIA.

*President*, N. Rose; *Hon. Secretary*, B. A. Carnegie, P.O. Box 244, Bulawayo. *Meetings*, 1st Tuesdays, No. 20, Southern Life Buildings, Bulawayo, 8.15 p.m.

A check list of Southern Rhodesia, King George V issue is in course of preparation and will be issued shortly. The different perfs have been catalogued from time to time, but there is a fair range of colours and shades in certain of the values. With the exception of

the sheet of 5s. value printed on gummed side and the 1s. value perf 14, which remained on sale for a very short time and is now rather difficult to secure, the issue has had a comparatively uneventful life.

Members met at the monthly meeting on June 7. Mr. D. H. Burn exhibited some splendid specimens of early embossed Gambia, the issues of 1869, 1874 and 1880 being complete with one exception. A hearty vote of thanks was accorded Mr. Burn for his excellent exhibit. Mr. Lowry was unfortunately detained, the pleasure of seeing his exhibit has therefore been delayed.

The first auction of new issues was a success, this should provide a regular interesting item at the meetings.

The meeting closed after informal discussion. LAVRON.

#### PRETORIA PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

*President*, Major W. J. Harrington; *Hon. Secretary*, Prof. H. A. Wager, Box 514. *Meetings*, 1st and 3rd Mondays, Technical College, 8 p.m.

*June 6.*—Major Harrington was in the chair. Two new members were elected. Many novelties and New Issues were shown.

The evening was devoted to an auction sale of stamps. About 250 lots had been received from members. All these were placed on view for the members before the sale, and a very successful auction followed, a large number of the lots being sold. Members appeared to appreciate this innovation.

*June 20.*—Major Harrington was in the chair.

Dr. A. J. Broughton read a very instructive paper on the different methods of printing stamps, confining himself chiefly with the process known as line-engraved. By means of appropriate models he demonstrated the whole process showing how the complete plate of dies from which stamps are printed was produced. He also explained how to distinguish line-engraved stamps from those printed by other methods. Dr. Broughton was asked many questions by members for further elucidation.

Dr. Broughton also tabled his fine collection of the stamps of St. Helena and pointed out different items that illustrated his paper.

H.A.W.

#### A STAMP QUERY.

A South African daily, which runs a philatelic column, recently published the following query from a correspondent, and answer:

"Sir,—I have a 2d stamp dated the year 1834. I would like to know if it is of any value."

(Ans. "It is possible that this stamp is valuable: if it could be sent to this office, we could advise the writer more precisely.—Ed.")

We wonder if the reply was from the philatelic editor, or if he were on holiday and his place was being filled by either the sports editor or the dramatic critic.

*The*  
**SOUTH AFRICAN PHILATELIST**

*Proprietors and Publishers :*

**The Philatelic Congress of Southern Africa**

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

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

Vol. 14.

AUGUST, 1938.

No. 8.

**Voortrekker Centenary**

16th December, 1938.

Two forms of Philatelic Records will be available for this historic occasion.

1. The Voortrekker Monument Committee have arranged an Ox-Wagon Post which will carry special commemorative envelopes issued by the Committee. These will receive special cancellation marks at certain historic spots en route and again on arrival at Pretoria in the Centenary Post Office at the Monument.

The ox-wagon leaves Capetown on 8th August; travelling via Mossel Bay and Oudtshoorn it reaches Graaff-Reinet on 20th September and Slagter's Nek (near Cradock; the site of the culminating scene of an armed struggle between British and Dutch in 1816—events which led up ultimately to the start of the Great Trek in 1836) on 28th September. Bulhoek, the reputed birth place of President Kruger is reached on 11th October. Continuing onwards via Bloemfontein and Kroonstad it reaches Vegkop (where the Trekkers had their first encounter with the Matabele) on 2nd November. The route is then via Potchefstroom, the first capital of the Transvaal, Zeerust, Rustenburg, Johannesburg and Pretoria.

The total distance travelled will be 1,705 miles, the time taken being four months and seven days.

There are no restrictions as to the amount of stamps put on the covers, so long as there is sufficient to cover postage to the address given.

The Monument Committee evidently expect, however, that full sets of Voortrekker stamps will mostly be employed and the envelopes are of a size (about 9ins. x 6ins.) to take these comfortably. The envelopes, designed by Mr. W. H. Coetzer, show Voortrekkers and a Wagon climbing the side of a kopje and it should be emphasized that only these special souvenir covers will be carried by the wagon-post.

The envelopes are obtainable at the various post offices along the route of the wagon-post or from the official distributing depot, the City Stamp Exchange, No. 43 Anglo-African Buildings, Joubert St., Johannesburg.

There is no doubt that many people, other than ordinary stamp collectors, will be keen to have a historic memento of this kind and will not object to paying their 6d. for an envelope and 1s. 8d. for a set of Voortrekker stamps (of which 7d. goes to the Memorial fund). In the circumstances it is a pity that the distributing committee called attention to the possible investment value of the covers; it rather vulgarises what otherwise would have been simply a philatelic souvenir of a most interesting historic occasion.

2. A new set of Voortrekker stamps. The present set is to be withdrawn from sale on 30th September, and to be demonetized on 31st December, 1938. On 15th December a special centenary set will be issued.

There will be  $\frac{1}{2}d. + \frac{1}{2}d.$ , 1d. + 1d.,  $1\frac{1}{2}d. + 1\frac{1}{2}d.$ , and 3d. + 3d. alternately in English and Afrikaans on the sheets. Total face value for the eight stamps, 2s. per set.

**Voortrekker Centenary Envelopes** obtainable at D'ARTS, 226, St. Andries Street, PRETORIA, 6d. each, Postage extra.

In the announcement of Messrs. Darracott & Roberts, Stamp Dealers, of 546, Grand Buildings, Trafalgar Square, London, which appeared in our JUNE issue, the statement was made that their Wholesale Price Lists are sent by air to any Dealers applying from Australia and New Zealand. This announcement should have read that their lists are sent by air to any Dealers applying from South Africa.

## Union Notes

### NEW PRINTINGS.

Under date 7th July the Government Printer advises:

I have to inform you that an order for the printing of 500,000 sheets postage stamps at 1d. is being executed.

The method of printing is the same as for previous issues. After 76,000 sheets had been delivered to the Postmaster-General it was found necessary to temporarily discontinue printing.

The printing was, however, proceeded with at a later date, an additional 100,000 sheets being delivered when printing was again discontinued. New cylinders were prepared for this issue, the numbers being:

Interior 52

Exterior 25

and the first delivery was made on the 30th May, 1938.

The following orders have also been executed:

Value, 6d.; No. of sheets delivered, 28,150; Cylinders Nos., interior, 6916; exterior, 53; new cylinders.

Value, 4d.; No. of sheets delivered, 23,900; (1 cylinder only, No. 61); same cylinder as was used for previous issue.

The following quantities of postage stamps have been overprinted with the words "Official Offisieel":

250 sheets x 240 at ½d.; 350 sheets x 240 at 1d.; 500 sheets x 120 at 1½d.; 250 sheets x 120 at 2d.; 100 sheets x 240 at 6d.; 100 sheets x 120 at 1s.; 50 sheets x 60 at 2s. 6d.

These sheets were supplied from the Postmaster-General's stocks and overprinted from type on a flat bed machine.

### ½d. "OFFICIALS."

The redrawn ½d. (which was issued in April, 1937), overprinted "Official/Offisieel," appeared on sale in the first week of July.

### NEW SLOGAN POSTMARKS.

A new slogan which reads "POST EARLY (between two short wavy lines)/FOR QUICK DELIVERY/ (two long wavy lines)// POS VROEG (between two short wavy lines)/VIR VROËE AFLEWERING (two long wavy lines)" has appeared.

The earliest dates we have seen this are 16th July for Benoni and 18th July for Pretoria. Will any reader who has seen earlier dates and/or other towns using this slogan please send word?

Continuing the list given in the South African Philatelist (December, 1936; January and October, 1937), this will be No. 23. It has been seen from Benoni, Bloemfontein, Cape-town, East London, Johannesburg, Pretoria

and Springs. Benoni and Springs are newcomers in the field of slogan postmarks.

Slogan No. 21 (Register Valuable Letters/ Registerer Waardevolle Briewe, chronicled in the October, 1937, number of the S.A. Philatelist) has been revived in Johannesburg, the letters being larger than in the original. It should be numbered 21.a.2.

B. L. CAIRNCROSS.

A postmark from Capetown (earliest date seen: 19-VII-38) provides a problem. It reads CUSTOMS DUTY PAID/INVOERREGTE BETAAL//INVOERREGTE BETAAL/CUSTOMS DUTY PAID. Is this to be regarded as a slogan postmark or not? Broadly speaking, slogans either admonish or advertise. This does neither; it is a postmark which is at the same time a receipt for customs duty paid. It would appear to be going to replace, more or less completely, the stamps overprinted "CUSTOMS" or "DOUANE," which have hitherto been affixed on covers, etc., containing advertising matter. If it is to be collected as a Union slogan (No. 24) it will be a peculiar one, inasmuch as it will not be found on Union stamps but only on foreign ones. What have the slogan specialists to say on this little problem?

## COLLECTORS' WANTS AND OFFERS

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

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

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.

London Bank parcels with high values, new issues, Geo. VI. pictorials, etc. No rubbish. 3s., 5s., 10s. per packet. Satisfaction guaranteed.

Denham, 42 Southway, Carshalton, Surrey, England.

Emil Chudoba, Stonava, Silesia, C.S.R. Exchanges and sells stamps and air mail covers of all countries. Guaranteed reply. Correspondence:— Esperanto, German or English.

## The Philatelic Congress of Southern Africa

The next Congress is going to be held at Capetown on Saturday, October 6, and Sunday, October 7. The Capetown Philatelic Society will be the hosts of Congress. Every society affiliated to Congress may send delegates as follows.

- (a) Each Society under 25 members — one delegate.
- (b) Each Society of 25 and under 50 members—two delegates.
- (c) Each Society of 50 members and under 75 members—three delegates.
- (d) Each Society of 75 members or more—four delegates.

Any member of an affiliated society may attend the Congress and may speak, with the chairman's permission, but only the official delegates may vote.

Each society sending a delegate or delegates to Congress must send to the Secretary of the Capetown Society a fee amounting to 5s. per delegate.

If any affiliated society wishes to have any notices of motion placed on the agenda for

Congress, it is requested that such notices be sent to the Hon. Secretary of the Permanent Congress Executive Committee not later than 15th September. The Hon. Secretary's address is 617 New Empire Buildings, Market Street, Johannesburg.

Affiliated societies are asked to remind their members of the Congress Award for the best paper on any South African Philatelic subject. Papers for the competition must be sent to the Hon. Secretary before Congress, but the writer should, if possible, be present at Congress to read the paper in person.

Societies are also reminded of the Skinner Cup which is presented to the person who has done the best work in connection with Philately since the previous Congress. Societies may send in the names of any person or persons they recommend for this award.

Nominations are also invited from the affiliated societies for the Roll of Honour of distinguished South African Philatelists. Such nominations must be sent not later than the 15th September to the Hon. Secretary. The qualifications for enrolment are, that the person nominated must be or must have been a Philatelist, distinguished in Philately by research work, journalistic work or good service in connection with Congress and societies. Nominations must be accompanied by fully detailed information. Not more than two names may be recorded on the Roll of Honour at any Congress.

I. ISAACS,  
Hon. Secretary.

### SCARCE BRITISH & COLONIALS

<i>Gr. Britain.</i> 1½d. Mint Pair. <i>S.G. No.</i> 420a . . . . .	£3 10 0
<i>British East Africa,</i> 4as. Unused <i>PAIR.</i> <i>S.G. No.</i> 10 . . . . .	£3 10 0
<i>Dominica.</i> ½d. Mint <i>S.G. No.</i> 14a . . . . .	£2 5 0
½ of 1d. Superb used on piece. <i>S.G. No.</i> 23ab. . . . .	£2 15 0
<i>Falkland Is.</i> 1928. 2½d. on 2d. Mint. <i>S. G. No.</i> 68 . . . . .	£8 10 0
<i>Newfoundland.</i> 1857. 2d. A nice used copy, slight thinning but very fine colour. <i>S.G. No.</i> 2. . . . .	£12 10 0

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# THE EMPIRE AIRMAIL SCHEME

## in relation to Southern Africa

I. H. C. GODFREY.

(Continued from page 107 of July issue).

### THE SECOND STAGE OF THE EMPIRE AIRMAIL SCHEME FEBRUARY/MARCH, 1938.

Early in February the South African Postal Authorities issued a circular notifying the public that the SECOND stage of the scheme would come into force on the 18th of that month, both for the Union and South West Africa. The Territories to be included were: Canada and Newfoundland, Egypt, Aden, Seychelles, Palestine and Transjordan, and all British Territories East of Suez, excepting Hongkong and Australasia. Certain other places, not part of the Empire but having British Postal Agencies were also to come within the scope of the scheme on that date, namely, French Colonies in India, and Tibet.

By inaugurating the scheme on the 18th of February, the Union and South West Africa were the first countries to send unsurcharged mails to the territories enumerated. Canada appears to have followed soon afterwards, and then Great Britain on February 23. The last

to have entered seems to be the Seychelles (21st March.)

Unsurcharged mails by air from the territories in the list arrived in the Union for the first time on the dates shown below.

Ceylon covers bear a new postmark reading: "Empire Air Mail Every Day is Mail Day," and underfranked Canadian letters bear a cachet in violet or black, drawing attention to the deficiency.

Covers posted to the undermentioned places are backstamped:—

Tibet (Yatung)	3rd March.
(Pharijong)	3rd March.
(Gyantse)	5th March.
Trans-Jordan (Amman)	27th February.
Persian Gulf (Muscat)	10th March
(Dubai)	15th March.

But no covers appear to have been received in South Africa from these territories by the first despatch under the Scheme, and the Authorities ignored the requests of collectors.

[Note: Officially the Empire Airmail Scheme only applies to those Countries and

#### Arrival in Union

Arrival in Union		Date Posted
8th March	*French India (Pondicherry)	27th February
	Ceylon	28th February
	India: Calcutta	28th February
	Karachi	1st March
	*Gwalior	2nd March
	Palestine	1st March
	Egypt	1st March
	*Burma	3rd March
11th March	Malaya: Kelantan	24th February
	Trengganu	25th February
	Johore	26th February
	Negri Sembilan	26th February
	Kedah	28th February
	Pahang	28th February
	Perak	28th February
	Selangor	28th February
	Straits Settlements	1st March
	Aden	1st March
15th March	Canada (Vancouver)	21st February
	*Sarawak	1st March
18th March	North Borneo	27th February
29th March	Seychelles	21st March
1st April	Brunei	8th March

\* Denotes that the items referred to were re-directed immediately from England and reached the Union approximately a week after the date shown.

Territories specified in the Post Office Circulars and to *First Class* mail matter only. Covers arriving in South Africa have, however, been found from GIBRALTAR carried by Air without surcharge (posted 28th April, backstamped 9th May), and also Second Class mail matter ( $\frac{1}{2}$ d. postage unsealed) from Great Britain has occasionally slipped into the air-mail bags and come through without postage due.]

CHECK LIST OF CHRISTMAS "CONCESSION" LABELS 1937/38. (Vide Page 107).

GREAT BRITAIN.—8 lines of print. Red on White. Imperf. Size: Approx. 2 ins. x 1 ins.

SOUTH AFRICA.—10 lines of print. Black on Salmon. Rouletted. Size: Approx. 3 ins. x  $1\frac{1}{2}$  ins.

SOUTHERN RHODESIA.—11 lines of print. Red on White. Imperf. Size: Approx.  $2\frac{1}{4}$  ins. x  $1\frac{1}{4}$  ins.

NORTHERN RHODESIA.—9 lines of print. Black on White. Imperf. Size: Approx. 3 ins. x 2 ins.

NYASALAND.—17 lines of print. Black and White. Imperf. Size: Approx. 4 ins. x 3 ins.

ZANZIBAR.—3 lines of print. Red on White. Imperf. Size: Approx.  $3\frac{1}{2}$  ins. x  $1\frac{1}{2}$  ins.

MAURITIUS.—3 lines of print. Black on White. Imperf. Size: Approx.  $3\frac{1}{2}$  ins. x 1 ins.

KENYA.—6 lines of print. Black on White. Imperf. Size: Approx. 2 ins x 1 ins.

(To be concluded).

#### LOURENCO MARQUES—SPECIAL POSTMARK.

The Medical Association of South Africa is holding its annual Congress this year at Lourenco Marques from 8th to 14th September. There will be a special post office provided at the Hospital which is to be the congress headquarters and it will have a special postmark for the occasion.

#### PRAGUE INTERNATIONAL EXHIBITION.

Thanks to Mr. Frank Godden for a Catalogue of this Exhibition, which was held on 26th June to 4th July. Mr. Godden, as usual, was the British Commissioner and took with him a large number of collections.

The Catalogue, a bulky affair in four languages, was franked with a miniature sheet and postmarked with one of the numerous official postmarks.

#### STAMPS FOR NORFOLK ISLAND?

According to the "Australian Stamp Monthly" there is a possibility of stamps being provided for Norfolk Is., either in the form of an overprint on Australian stamps or by a distinctive series.

Norfolk Is. lies out in the Pacific Ocean "somewhere between Australia and New Zealand."

#### BRITISH ROLL OF DISTINGUISHED PHILATELISTS.

Two names were added to this roll at the recent Cambridge Congress. One was that of Miss Winifred Penn-Gaskell, Vice-President of the Air Mail Society and well known as a collector and exhibitor of Pioneer Air Mails; she is the first lady to be awarded a place on the roll. The other recipient so honoured was Mr. Samuel Chapman, the leading specialist on the stamps of Mexico.

#### EXHIBITIONS.

##### Liechtenstein.

The 3rd Liechtenstein Philatelic Exhibition was being held in Vaduz from 30th July to 8th August. A special stamp is being issued with the effigy of Josef Rheinberger, a famous Liechtenstein composer. This will be engraved similarly to the stamp issued in 1934 on the occasion of the first exhibition.

Hermann E. Sieger.

##### Switzerland.

Don't forget the Swiss National Exhibition being held in Aarau, 17th-25th September. Have you ordered your commemorative block from the Committee of Organization?

##### Montreal.

The Union Philatélique de Montréal is holding its 3rd Exhibition, "EXUP," in Montreal on October 14-17. This will be a competitive exhibition. Further retails, prospectus, entry forms, etc., obtainable from 8595 Rue St. Denis.

Lionel A. Lapointe.

##### Rio de Janeiro.

"BRAPEX." We have received Catalogues and Entry Forms (in six languages!) of this International exhibition, which is being held on 20th-30th October and will gladly forward one to any purposing visitor or exhibitor.

##### Berlin—International, 1939.

Under the rules of the International Philatelic Federation only one International Philatelic Exhibition a year can be held in Europe (at any rate in the countries belonging to the "F.I.P."). That for 1939 will take place in Germany. That it will be held is now guaranteed, but it is apparently not finally settled where it will be held, the intimation we have received merely stating "probably in Berlin." Mr. Hermann E. Sieger has been charged with the planning of the Exhibition.

#### DEALERS . . . .

If you stock modern sets you must send a Post Card for our Monthly Trade List. It quotes lowest trade prices for all modern pictorial sets, and is sent free to any bona fide dealer on request.

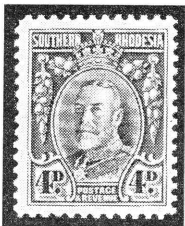
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LONDON, W.C.2, England.

# Check-List of the Stamps of the Second Issue of Southern Rhodesia

Compiled by the Check-List Sub-Committee of the Philatelic Society of Rhodesia.

## PREAMBLE.

Southern Rhodesia's first postage stamps, issued on 1st April, 1924, were adapted from the Admiral design of the last issue of the British South Africa Company. There was, therefore, no material change in the design of our stamps from 1913 to 1st April, 1931 (seven years after the first Southern Rhodesia issue), when a second issue, now described, was introduced.



September, 1934, a 9d. value was placed on sale following the reduction, in June, 1934, in the Air Mail postage rate to the United Kingdom from 10d. to 9d. per half ounce.

The 2d. and 3d. surface printed denominations fell short by a wide margin of illustrating the Victoria Falls to best advantage, and the inscriptions reveal many broken and joined letters which we do not propose listing. The failure of this initial attempt at pictorials is evidenced by the fact that the stamps were withdrawn and replaced on 1st May, 1932, after a life of only thirteen months, by more pleasing and suitably larger recess printed stamps. The inscription, Postage and Revenue, was omitted from the first printings of



the larger stamps, but now appears on both denominations.



All values were printed on unwatermarked paper, the ½d., 1d., and 1½d. denominations in sheets of 240 divided into four panes of 60 stamps each, and other values in sheets of 60.

Marginal inscriptions were Imprint in the centre lower and, after the first printing, sheet numbers in the top right hand corner.

A 12 x 12 line perforation was initially used for the King's Head type, but replaced in 1932 by a 11½ x 11½ comb perforation. Due to the difficulty of separating stamps with this coarse comb perforation, it was necessary to revert to the 12 x 12 line perf. The 1½d. denomination was issued during the "comb" period, and was known only perf. 11½ x 11½ until later printings for booklets were found to be 12 perf. The 9d. value issued in 1934 was perforated 12 x 12. Of the values on issue at the time, only the 5s. appears to have escaped printing during 1932-1933, and consequently the 11½ perf. comb experiment. To improve separation of stamps, a closer perforation, 14 x 14, was adopted in 1936 and used for all subsequent printings.

Only one major variety occurred in the King's head type; a sheet of 5s. denomination printed on gummed side. Imperforate varieties are confined to the 3d. value 1932 issue recess printed pictorial.

A set of four values, commemorating the



Silver Jubilee of His Majesty King George V,

was on sale for eight months. This attractive set portrays the King in the Uniform of Colonel-in-Chief of the Royal Highlanders, against a view of the Victoria Falls with indigenous animals in the foreground. The Postmaster-General has advised the following sales of this issue:— 1d.—5,182,251; 2d.—481,418; 3d.—254,377; and 6d.—402,123.

At the time of preparing this list, a Royal Commission, under the Chairmanship of the Right Honourable Viscount Bledisloe, is enquiring into and will at an early date report on means of co-operation or association between Southern Rhodesia, Northern Rhodesia and Nyasaland. The findings of this commission are awaited with the keenest interest, since it will doubtlessly have an important bearing on the future history of Southern Rhodesia and its Northern neighbours. Any major change adopted as a result of the Commission's report, will take its part in the postal history of the territories.

Bulawayo,

Southern Rhodesia.

June, 1938.

#### CHECK LIST OF THE STAMPS OF SOUTHERN RHODESIA.

##### FIRST ISSUE (ADMIRALS).

Addenda to official Check List:—

Item 11. Value 1s. 6d.

Imperf. between horizontal pair (6).

Item 13. Value 2s. 6d.

Imperf. between horizontal pair (6).

##### SECOND ISSUE.

Recess printed by Bradbury Wilkinson and Co. First issued 1st April, 1931. Demonetized 31st May, 1938.

##### *Single Working Plates.*

- (1) ½d. Green — Shades  
12 x 12 line  
11½ x 11½ Comb (1933)  
14 x 14 line (1935)
- (2) 1d. Scarlet — Shades  
12 x 12 line  
11½ x 11½ Comb. (1933)  
14 x 14 line (1935)
- (3) 1½d. Chocolate (1st April, 1932)  
11½ x 11½ Comb.  
12 x 12 line (booklet)  
*Double Working Plates.*
- (4) 4d. 12 x 12 Line  
Black and Vermilion  
Grey and Orange Vermilion  
Grey and Orange  
11½ x 11½ Comb. (1935)  
Grey and Orange  
14 x 14 line (1937)  
Grey and Orange.
- (5) 6d. 12 x 12 Line  
Black and Magenta — Shades

- Grey and Magenta — Shades  
11½ x 11½ Comb. (1933)  
Black and Solferino  
14 x 14 line (1936)  
Black and Solferino
- (6) 8d. 12 x 12 line  
Violet and Green — Shades  
Violet and Olive Green — Shades  
11½ x 11½ Comb. (1934)  
Bright Violet and Olive Green  
(7) 9d. (1st September, 1934)  
12 x 12 line  
Vermilion and Olive Green
- (8) 10d. 12 x 12 line  
Deep Blue and Carmine  
Blue and Pale Carmine  
11½ x 11½ Comb. (1933)  
Blue and Carmine
- (9) 1s. 12 x 12 line  
Black and Greenish Blue  
Grey and Greenish Blue — Shade  
11½ x 11½ Comb. (1935)  
Grey and Greenish Blue  
14 x 14 line (1937)  
Grey and Greenish Blue
- (10) 1s. 6d. 12 x 12 line  
Black and Orange-Yellow  
Grey and Pale Orange-Yellow  
11½ x 11½ Comb. (1936)  
Grey and Pale Orange-Yellow
- (11) 2s. 12 x 12 line  
Grey and Brown  
11½ x 11½ Comb. (1933)  
Grey and Brown
- (12) 2s. 6d. 12 x 12 line  
Deep Blue and Drab  
Blue and Slate Brown  
11½ x 11½ Comb. (1933)  
Deep Blue and Drab
- (13) 5s. 12 x 12 line  
Deep Blue & Blue Green—Shades  
Variety Printed on Gummed Side (60)
- TYPOGRAPHED BY WATERLOW & SONS,  
LIMITED.  
PICTORIAL DESIGN.
- First Issued 1st April, 1931—Demonetized  
31st October, 1932.  
*Double Working Plates.*
- (14) 2d. 15 x 14  
Black and Sepia — Shades
- (15) 3d. *Single Working Plate*  
15 x 14  
Blue
- RECESS PRINTED BY WATERLOW &  
SONS, LIMITED.  
PICTORIAL DESIGN.  
*Issued 1st May, 1932.*
- (16) 2d. *Double Working Plates*  
12½ x 12½ line  
Green and chocolate

- (17) 3d. Single Working Plate  
 12½ x 12½ line  
 Deep Ultramarine  
 Varieties: Imperf. between vertical pairs, 3rd and 4th rows (6).  
 Imperf. between vertical pairs, full sheet (6 rows of 10).
- (18) 2d. as item (16) but inscribed POSTAGE AND REVENUE (1935)  
 12½ x 12½ line
- (19) 3d. as item (17) but inscribed POSTAGE AND REVENUE (1938)  
 14 x 14 line

RECESS PRINTED BY WATERLOW & SONS, LTD.

COMMEMORATIVE ISSUE OF SILVER JUBILEE OF HIS MAJESTY KING GEORGE V.

Issued 6th May, 1935—Demonetized 31st May, 1938.

- Perf. 11 x 12 Comb.
- (20) 1d. Olive Green and Rose Carmine  
 (21) 2d. Emerald Green and Sepia  
 (22) 3d. Dull Purple and Deep Blue  
 (23) 6d. Grey and Purple.

CURATOR OF KING'S STAMPS.

The following announcement appeared in the Court Circular of 20th June: "Sir John Wilson, Bt., had the honour of being received by His Majesty upon his appointment as Keeper of the King's Philatelic Collection."

Sir John Wilson is the present President of the Royal Philatelic Society, London.

Mr. J. Herbert Curle, who is at present in South Africa, tells us that the late Curator, Sir Edward Bacon, visited him very shortly before his death in connection with photographs of certain items in the Royal collection for the forthcoming work on the stamps of the Transvaal being prepared by Messrs. Curle and Basden.

In the June number of the "London Philatelist" there is a short paper by Sir Edward Bacon, which is stated by the Editor to be the last article written by him, the proofs being actually examined by him on the morning before his death. The article is entitled "The Tête-bêche Varieties of the First Type Six Pence and One Shilling Transvaal Stamps."

A comparison of a number of the tête-bêche stamps has shown that they can be at once recognised from little flaws inherent in those particular impressions on the plates. By these flaws even single specimens can be identified.

The Six Pence has the following defects:

1.—There is a dent at the left side of the crown of the anchor.

2.—The last E of PENCE, at the right side, has a white spur jutting out from the left end of the top horizontal line of the letter.

3.—The A of MAGT, when clearly printed, has the left arm of the letter broken off at the bottom.

4.—Frequently there are smudges of colour on the white line below the letters FR of AFR. The One Shilling has:

1.—A distinct break in the right arm or blade of the anchor, dividing that part into two halves.

2.—Sometimes there is a coloured stop between the letters G and T of EENDRAGT.

TRISTAN DA CUNHA.

A mail reached Capetown from Tristan Da Cunha on 24th June. It came by the ss. "Innesmoor" which called en route from Chili.

Replies were received to correspondence sent there at the end of March on H.M.S. "Milford," but no alteration has yet been made in the method of franking letters from the island and, in particular, St. Helena stamps have not come into use although the island is now a dependency of that colony.

Most of the mail that we have heard of had no stamps and ordinary letters directed to S. Africa were taxed 1d. on delivery.

The Tristan "postmark," however, is a new one and may be classified as Type 6 for the island. It is very similar to Types 3 and 5 (see our February issue, pp. 29 and 30), but is slightly larger; the diameters of the outermost and innermost circles are respectively 30 m.m. and 17 m.m., whereas those of the Type 5 mark were 28 m.m. and 16 m.m.

STELLALAND

Special offer of a chance purchase of the scarce large-sized Fiscal stamps of this territory. All guaranteed genuine in every respect—and mint.

Set of 10 varieties, 1/6 to £5—some with overprint Monogram — others without overprint — some with the o/pt inverted, price for the set, 5/6.

Ditto, in mint blocks of 4, price 21/-

The very rare error: imperf. between, 10/-, no o/pt, horizontal strip of 3, price 15/6.

Ditto, 1/6 value with o/pt, uncatalogued, horizontal strip of 3, price 17/6.

Also: Complete mint sheets, of 42 stamps each, of: No o/pt 2/6 at 10/6, 5/- at 25/-, 10/- at 15/6, with o/pt 1/6 at 10/6, 2/- at 10/6, 5/- at 15/6, o/pt inverted 1/6d at 21/-; price per sheet.

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## NEW ISSUES

FRANCE.—(1) A long stamp of horizontal format commemorative of the visit of the King and Queen. This shows on the left the Thames and the Houses of Parliament and on the right the Arc de Triomphe. In the centre is a medallion with two hands clasped over an olive branch. Value 1 fr.75. (2) Tercentenary of the introduction of Champagne. A large stamp of upright format, value 1 fr.75. Design—a beautiful girl in characteristic costume of the country, holding up a glass of the sparkling wine.

JAMAICA (in preparation).—A complete new issue is in preparation and the following are details:— $\frac{1}{2}$ d., 1d. and 1 $\frac{1}{2}$ d. values, similar to existing 1d. stamp but with portrait of King George VI; 2d., 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ d., 6d., 5s. and 10s. values, same as existing issue but with portrait of King George VI; 3d., Banana plantation on the sea shore; 4d., Citrus grove; 9d., aerial view of Kingston Harbour; 1s. Sugar cane plantation; 2s., Bamboo Walk, Lacovia. The 3d., 4d., 9d., 1s. and 2s. values show a portrait of King George VI in the top left-hand corner.

—Whitfield King & Co.'s Bulletin.

PORTUGUESE EAST AFRICA.—Mr. V. Netto, of Lourenco Marques, advises that the new airmail stamps for the Colony were put on sale on 16th July. The design is a standard one for all the Portuguese Colonies, only the name and value at the bottom (which are printed in black) being variable. We cannot call the design a good one, because on submitting it to half-a-dozen different persons for an opinion as to what it

represented, six different ideas were given. There is undoubtedly a rather weird looking aeroplane casting its shadow, in the shape of a Portuguese cross on something below. The "something below" we rather fancy is meant to be a segment of the globe, but rising out of the (?) ocean is a structure which was guessed at as wildly as from a post-office mail-bag to an iceberg with polar bears climbing on to it. If it be meant for a rock or mountain then all that can be said is that it is more suggestive of a lunar scene than a terrestrial one. To come from fancy to fact: the panels on either side of the stamps contain the names of Pioneer Portuguese Aviators and the dates when the various colonies were first reached by air. The denominations and the numbers received in Lourenco Marques (first printing) are as follows. The design is common to all values, but the colours of each are different. Incidentally there is nothing on the stamps indicating that they are to be used only for



airmail. 1c (90,000), 5c (90,000), 10c (94,400), 15c (1,494,400), 20c (495,400), 30c (95,400), 35c (95,400), 40c (96,400), 50c (96,400), 60c (90,000), 70c (96,400), 80c (1,506,400), 1 Esc. (96,400), 1.75 E (98,400), 2Esc. (98,900), 5Esc. (198,000), 10 Esc. (198,900), 20 Esc. (98,900).

REUNION.—Our (comparatively) near neighbour Reunion issued some new varieties of the current, 1933, type. Three new values, 35c green; 55c orange-brown and 80c black; together with the 1 fr., which is now carmine instead of green, show the Anchain Peak, Salazie (S.G. type 26). The 1-75 fr. deep blue is changed to the Cascade design (S.G. Type 25). They were issued in May.

SIERRA LEONE.—The remaining values of the new reign series, viz., 4d., 5d., 6d., 1s., 2s., 5s., 10s. and £1, have now appeared. The basic designs are all as before.

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA.—The 4c value of the Presidential series (Madison) appeared on 1st July. The colour is pink, a new one for the U.S.A.

## RHODESIAN RAILWAY NEWSPAPER STAMPS.

An interesting article on the railway stamps of Rhodesia appears in our contemporary "Stamps" of 14th May. These stamps are not listed in any of the regular postage stamp catalogues as they are not issued by the Post Office and are not valid for ordinary postal uses. Being issued by a Government Department, however, and doing work which is equivalent to that done by postage stamps, they might well be considered as having the status of "Locals." The regulation covering their use reads "Single newspapers enclosed in wrappers, open at both ends, are carried at one penny per copy, irrespective of distance, when franked by stamps which can be obtained on application to the Chief Accountant, Bulawayo."

These "Prepaid Newspaper Parcel" stamps are of one denomination, 1d. only. Two varieties are illustrated in the article, one, now obsolete, of the Beira and Mashonaland Railways, the other of Rhodesia Railways, Limited.

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## More Philatelic Sunsets in Southern Africa

By EMIL TAMSEN.

When I wrote about "Sunset Covers" in the February number of this magazine I little thought that new covers would so soon be added to the list.

Of late years some British Colonies have followed the example shown by the Mother country of demonetizing certain stamp issues after a more or less short interval and very often only giving short notice of their intention to do so.

A country, however, which really did need to clear out some of its many and varied old issues of stamps was Bechuanaland Protectorate. In that country all stamps issued from the beginning of the existence in 1886 of British Bechuanaland had franking power up till 31st March, 1938. After that date all stamps prior to those of the 1932 pictorial issue became invalid for postage and were demonetized.

is positively indecent and compares most unfavourably with Bechuanaland.

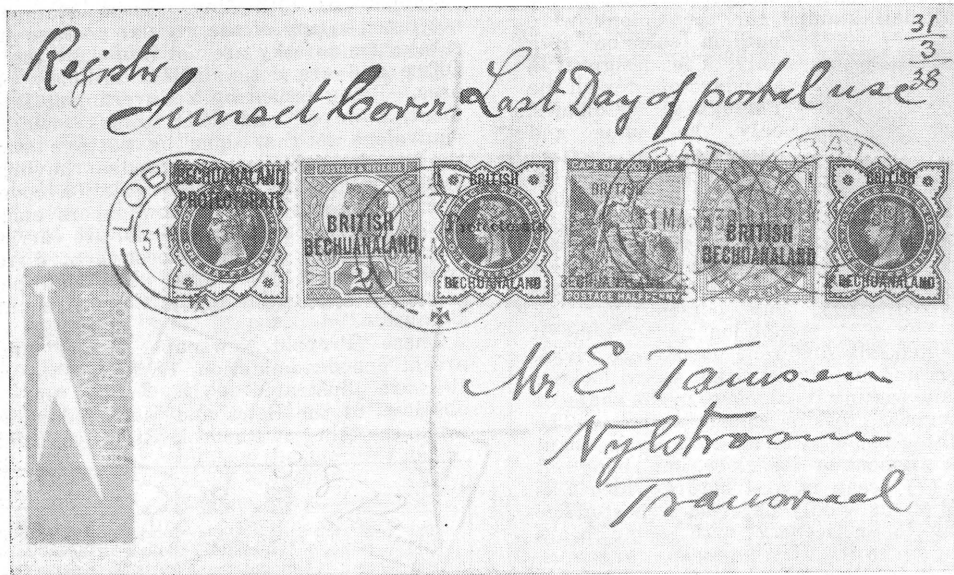
Northern Rhodesia had already followed the same path by demonetizing its one and only regular issue, that of 1925-29, and also its Silver Jubilee issue of 1935, on 28th February, 1938, after very short notice.

From now onwards there will not be many issues to put out of action in Southern Africa and complete sunsets can only be expected when the three Protectorates, Basutoland, Bechuanaland and Swaziland become absorbed in the Union and lose their own stamps.

Meanwhile the list of countries in this part of the world from which sunset covers can be collected stands as follows: Bechuanaland, Cape of Good Hope, Natal, Orange River Colony, Northern Rhodesia, Rhodesia, Southern Rhodesia and Transvaal.

I wonder how many collectors will be able to show the above items complete; personally I know that it will not be an easy task for anyone to fulfil.

To widen the scope still further and make a collection of sunset covers from other parts of Africa, or of the whole British Empire, would take much time and patience and would not be an easy job to complete, but, if it were done, it would result in bringing together a quite



This gave the 1d. vermilion of 1887 a life of 50 years, surely a good age even for Africa, but in spite of it the head of Queen Victoria still looks very youthful. The accompanying illustration shows this and some other veteran stamps.

The next country to clear up her old issues was Southern Rhodesia, which, on 31st May, 1938, demonetized all issue of King George V. reign, including the Silver Jubilee issue of 1935. Such rapidity in declaring stamps invalid

unique collection. This, after all, is what many collectors strive after but few attain; for the successful, however, a rich reward is in store.

### CHARLES HAND FUND.

This fund, having served its purpose well, is now being closed. A very considerable sum was raised and it tided Mrs. Hand and the Misses Hand over a very difficult period, but they have now all obtained posts.



### THE "REGENT" 10-YEAR PLAN.

No one can accuse Mr. Robson Lowe of being lacking in bright ideas or of being afraid of putting his ideas to the test of actual practice. Here, in his own words, is his latest notion in connection with the Regent Catalogue—we think it is sufficiently interesting for our readers to put it before them in detail:

"Our publishers have recently adopted an ambitious ten year plan for their well-known **Regent Catalogue of Adhesive Empire Postage Stamps**. This is due for its sixth edition next autumn, and from the many letters of constructive criticism received during the last few years it has been decided to adopt a plan which will place the Regent Catalogue in an even more outstanding class than heretofore.

In the past it has been the only catalogue to combine rational pricing, logical simplified listing and the specialised data which are so dear to the heart of the philatelist. Essays, proofs, specimens, covers, blocks and postmark varieties which are not listed in any other catalogue have always been included; in the new catalogue this information will be considerably extended and many of the essays will be illustrated.

Perhaps the innovation that will appeal most widely to both dealers and collectors is the introduction of the reference numbers of the Scott's Catalogue and the Gibbons' Catalogue before the Regent number for each stamp. This is a cross reference which has been sadly needed in the trade for many years as the majority of "want lists" received from the New World are in Scott's numbers and their transference to Gibbons' or Regent numbers has always been a distasteful task for the English dealers. Now English-speaking collectors and dealers throughout the world will have one volume that will act as a standard reference whichever catalogue numbers they use for their collections or stocks.

It has been necessary to increase the page size in order to accommodate the four extra columns of numbers, but in consequence the entire lay-out has been considerably improved and the entire catalogue has been reset. The Appendix that listed those issues made by foreign administrations has now been incorporated under the Colonies concerned and now the whole of Egypt come together, although

the foreign issues still have their reference number preceded with the distinctive initial.

The second most important improvement is the division of the catalogue into two volumes; no arbitrary division has been made, but all issues prior to 1931 will be found in Volume I, whilst Volume II will contain all issues which have appeared since.

Volume I will be issued on October 1, 1938, September 1, 1940, 1942, 1944 and 1946. The standard price for this volume will be 5s. plus 6d. postage, and the one volume will be sufficient for all collectors who only take issues that are included within its scope, unless they are interested in any price alterations that may be made between one edition and the next.

Volume II will be issued at the same time, but a new edition will appear every six months. This will include all the new issues, and any price alterations that have occurred since the previous issue of Volume I. As a matter of fact, in general practice it was the prices of the stamps issued during the past decade which showed the high proportion of price alterations in the old annual editions. The price for Volume II is 1s. 6d. per issue, plus 2d. postage. As each succeeding edition appears it is only necessary to scrap the old edition of Volume II, and the whole catalogue is brought up to date every six months.

Practically everyone will take advantage of the TWO YEAR SUBSCRIPTION RATE, which is 7s. 6d. plus 1s. postage, and includes Volume I and the four editions of Volume II."

### PHILATELIC CONGRESS OF GREAT BRITAIN.

The special postmark of the "25th Philatelic Congress of Gt. Britain, Cambridge," held on June 21-24, was a double lined hexagon with the wording as shown between the lines and the date in two lines in the centre with an index letter above. Thanks to Mr. E. F. Hurt for a cover.

A 1s. 4d. STAMP.

On 1st July Australia issued a stamp with the rather unusual value of one shilling and four pence. The design is that of the George VI 3d. stamp.

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## The Bechuanalands

Prepared by Major W. J. HARRINGTON,  
V.D.

(Contd. from p. 101 of July issue).

### CHAPTER VIII (Contd.).

#### "MAFEKING" FORGERIES.

As a guide to the detection of forgeries the following details are taken from an article by Messrs. L. N. and M. Williams published in the *Stamp Review* for November, 1937:—

"In the originals with the fancy type lettering, the length of the word 'Mafeking' is 12½ mm. and that of 'Besieged' is 11 mm.; in the forgeries the lengths are 13 and 12 respectively. In the originals, if the upright stroke of the B in 'Besieged' were extended, the line would pass through almost the centre of the M in 'Mafeking,' and the left-hand stroke of the M would be well to the left of the line; in the forgeries, the line would pass to the left of the M, either missing it altogether or just touching its left-hand stroke which would be to the right of the line.

"The letters of the two words in the originals are clear cut, evenly spaced, and are set in straight lines; the lettering on forgeries is usually somewhat ragged, the spaces are uneven and the last four letters of 'Besieged' are on a slightly lower level than the first four. In addition, the cross-bar of A is tilted upwards to the right in the originals, but is straight in the forgeries.

Forged cancellations are not so easily detected, mainly because as a rule they do not appear in full on the stamps, only part of the cancellation being legible. The postmark in use at Mafeking was a single lined circle type, and read 'Mafeking' at the top, 'C.G.H.' at the bottom, and the date in two lines in the centre. The lettering was very close to the outer circle. A large number of forged cancellations are dated 'AP 23 1900' and stamps postmarked on that date should at once be regarded with suspicion. Originals may exist with postmarks dated on any day between March 23rd and May 17th, 1900. Stamps bearing February or June dates can, therefore, be rejected at once. In the original the left stroke of the M of 'Mafeking' is slightly above the level of the M in 'MAR' or 'MAY,' or of the A in 'AP'; in the forgery the left stroke of the M lies parallel with the foot of the M or A as the case may be. In the original the foot of the G in 'Mafeking' has a small serif which is missing in the forgery. Another point to notice is the distance between the outer circle and the tops of the letters; in the forgery the space is considerably wider than in the originals."

### CHAPTER IX: BECHUANALAND STAMPS "USED ABROAD" AND STAMPS OF OTHER TERRITORIES USED IN BECHUANALAND.

Between August, 1888, and the end of 1890, the Bechuanaland Protectorate Government, which had decided to provide postal facilities for the residents in the territory of the British South Africa Company, sent from Mafeking supplies of current stamps of the Protectorate and of British Bechuanaland to Gubulawayo (later Bulawayo). These stamps, which were not additionally overprinted, can only be recognised by postmarks.

The following stamps are known to have been used:—

#### *British Bechuanaland.*

- 6d. lilac and black,
- 6d. on 6d. lilac and black,
- 1s. green and black,
- 2s. green and black.
- 2s. 6d. green and black.

#### *Bechuanaland Protectorate.*

- 1d. on 1d. lilac and black,
- 2d. on 2d. lilac and black,
- 4d. on ½d. vermilion,
- 6d. on 6d. lilac and black,
- 1s. green and black.

Covers bearing stamps of later issues up to 1900 are known with the Bulawayo postmark. These however probably arrived in Bulawayo without having been cancelled and the postal officials there applied the local postmark.

In April, 1894, the postal administration of the District of Tati, situated in the Protectorate, was handed over to the British South Africa Company. Stamps of the Company were used at Tati from April, 1894, to July, 1897 (when the post office was transferred to Francistown owing to the arrival there of the railway line) and at Francistown from July, 1897, to September, 1898, from which date the High Commissioner of South Africa decided the control of the posts should revert to the Protectorate. Stamps of the Company are known with the postmark of Palachwe.

It was reported in the "Monthly Journal" for March, 1900, that one of the post offices in the Protectorate, during the period of the Siege of Mafeking, had run out of stamps and that the deficiency was made up by stamps supplied by the British South Africa Company. These stamps it is understood were not overprinted, but it is possible to find copies with the words "Bechuanaland Protectorate" fraudulently imprinted on them. The name of the post office unfortunately appears not to have been recorded.

Anglo-Boer War, 1899-1902. A few Bechuanaland stamps have been found with the postmarks of British Army Post Offices; probably they were cancelled to order.

There is also at least one example known of a British stamp (1d. lilac Q.V.) used in a Bechuanaland Post Office, viz., Lobatsi.

"Stamp Collecting" for the 8th August, 1914, reports the existence of a cover with a 1d. Cape (wmk. C C) stamp bearing the letter

"G" (Griqualand West) and additionally overprinted "Bechuanaland Protectorate" used at Bultfontein in 1879. Unfortunately however the Protectorate was not in existence at that date.

CHAPTER X: POSTAGE DUE STAMPS.

In 1926, it was decided to adopt the system of using special stamps to cover the surcharge due on understamped mail matter and the ½d., 1d. and 2d. values of the 1914/1923 issue of the postage due stamps of Great Britain, suitably overprinted in England, were used for this purpose.

The overprint consists of the words "Bechuanaland Protectorate" in small sans serif black capitals in two lines: (a) vertically up and down on the ½d. and 1d. values and (b) horizontally on the 2d. value. The measurements are (a) "Bechuanaland" 14½ mm., "Protectorate"



Fig. 42.

BECHUANALAND

PROTECTORATE

13½ mm., distance between lines  
 16½ mm. (b) "Bechuanaland"  
 15 mm., "Protectorate" 13½  
 mm., distance between lines  
 1½ mm. (Figs. 42, 43 and 44).  
 ½d. emerald. Control B 24.  
 1d. carmine. Control B 24  
 and C 25.  
 2d. agate. Control B 25.

Fig. 43.

BECHUANALAND  
 PROTECTORATE

Fig. 44.

On the 12th December, 1932, in addition to the first distinctive type of postage stamps, the Protectorate issued its own postage due stamps.

The design consists of an upright oblong format measuring 18 by 22mm. The value appears in large figures in a circle at the bottom of which in a curved line are the words "Postage Due." At the top and bottom respectively are labels with the words "Bechuanaland" and "Protectorate." All the letters are in sans serif capitals. (Fig. 45).



Fig. 45.

The stamps were surface printed by Messrs. de la Rue & Co., of London, and were produced in sheets of sixty arranged in ten rows of six. The watermark is multiple script CA and the perforation is 14.

½d. sage green.  
 1d. carmine.  
 2d. violet.

NOTE.—The writer regrets that it is not possible to conclude this series of articles with chapters dealing with postmarks and postal stationery. The material he has to work on is at present too limited to enable him to publish information worth recording.

U.S.A. PRECANCELS TO BE ABOLISHED?

It rather looks as if the U.S.A. precancels are gradually to be abolished, which will be rather a blow to the army of collectors of these over there. It is rumoured that there has been dirty work going on and that despite the elaborate regulations aimed at preventing any defrauding of the mails, there has been re-use of these stamps going on.

At all events, whatever the truth of the rumours, the fiat has gone forth that values over 6 cents are no longer to be precancelled, that the use of precancelled stamps on 4th class mail matter must cease altogether, and that not more than one precancelled stamp may be affixed to any one piece of mail except when stamps of the correct denomination to pay the postage are not available at the post office.

Precancels have played a big part in U.S.A. mails, the latest figure indicating that they are in use in no fewer than 2,949 different towns. To collect all values from all towns is therefore "some job." Few collectors attempt it, we understand, most of them specializing on some group or other.

(Concluded from page 128).

came proofs and dies. The "woodblocks" were there in profusion, on entire, in pairs, of numerous shades and rouletted by various machines. Various combinations were shown as indicating different rates of postage, which led to the production of numerous bisects. An unusual item was a block of four steel-blue on blued paper. He also exhibited the bisected rectangular 6d. described in the July issue of the S.A.P.

A display of international standard which could not be duplicated, and the finest we have ever had. Mr. Jurgens was most warmly thanked for the trouble he had taken in coming to East London to give it.

The ordinary meeting on the 7th also drew a full house. Mr. Gotlieb gave a display of Gambia, Natal and St. Helena. This was followed by a paper and exhibit of Falkland Islands by Mr. Paviour and finally a show of new issue by Mr. Fowler. The beauty of the Queen's head issues in the old classics was specially commended on. This type of two- or three-man exhibits is popular and we have lots of such to draw upon.

W.S.H.

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## Air Mail Notes

By  
I. H. C. GODFREY.

### S. RHODESIA—NYASALAND—N. RHODESIA.

It is an extraordinary coincidence that the first regular airmail service between Blantyre-Lilongwe-Fort Jameson should have been inaugurated almost exactly five years after the Royal Air Force had pioneered the route on the 30th May and 5th June, 1933. On those occasions special envelopes were issued by the Government to commemorate the Colony's first airmail services, and cachets applied.

#### NYASALAND.

Rhodesia and Nyasaland Airways—Blantyre to Lilongwe.

23rd May, 1938.—At very short notice R.A. N.A. extended their twice-weekly Salisbury-Blantyre service (inaugurated 9-3-34) northwards to Fort Jameson (N. Rhodesia), via Lilongwe.

Mails were accepted in Nyasaland for despatch from Blantyre at the prevailing rates of postage for conveyance to Lilongwe on the first flight of this new service. No Nyasaland mail, however, was carried to Fort Jameson, despite the fact that mails converging at Salisbury, S.R., and destined for North-Eastern Rhodesian centres were carried by air without surcharge.

The only representative covers, therefore, are ones posted in the Colony so as to connect with the first northbound plane to Lilongwe, and these may be distinguished by the arrival postmark: "LILONGWE. 23-5-38. 9.15 AM."

25th May, 1938.—The return flight took place on Wednesday, 25th May, from Fort Jameson. Although mail was, apparently, carried from Fort Jameson to places in Nyasaland, no covers have yet come to light. Covers posted from Lilongwe to connect with this mail bear the backstamp (or transit postmark) "Blantyre. 25-5-38. 5.30 PM."

Pilot on both flights: Capt. R. A. Bourlay.

#### NORTHERN RHODESIA.

23rd May, 1938.—Fort Jameson, in North-Eastern Rhodesia, received its first regular air mail on this date, when the twice-weekly R.A.N.A. Southern Rhodesia-Nyasaland service was extended to that township.

Only mails emanating from Salisbury were carried on the inaugural flight and these are backstamped "Fort Jameson. 23 May 38. 2 PM."

25th May, 1938.—The first return service left Fort Jameson on Wednesday, the 25th May, and reached Salisbury the following day.

Pilot on both flights: Capt. R. A. Bourlay.

#### SOUTHERN RHODESIA.

22nd May, 1938.—On the 17th May the S.R. Government Gazette advertised the opening of an airmail service to Lilongwe (Nyasaland), and Fort Jameson (N. Rhodesia), via Blantyre, twice weekly.

Covers posted to connect with the inaugural flight are backstamped "Fort Jameson. 23 May 38. 2 PM."

The first return flight took place between the 25th and 26th May (night stop at Blantyre), but no covers seem to have been preserved from Fort Jameson. Covers from Lilongwe are, however, known.

Pilot on both flights: Capt. R. A. Bourlay.

#### BRITISH EAST AFRICA.

Wilson Airways—Coastal Service.

11th April, 1938.—On this date the Feeder Coastal service from Dar-es-Salaam was augmented and three airmail flights a week now operate between Tanganyika and Nairobi. The original service, inaugurated in 1932, was duplicated on the 29th July, 1936.

Wilson Airways—Highlands Service.

15th April, 1938.—Nanyuki was made a regular point of call on the twice-weekly Nairobi-Nyeri (Nanyuki) Nakuru-Eldoret-Kitale-Kakamega-Kisumu route which was commenced by Wilson Airways on the 1st July, 1937, and which superseded the service started on the 14th-15th January, 1935, by East African Airways, Ltd. (now defunct).

This is a Feeder line to the Southampton-Kisumu-Durban trunk line of Imperial Airways.

#### BRITISH WEST AFRICA.

Elders Colonial Airways—Sierra Leone to  
Gambia.

On the 24th June, 1938, the West African Associated Company of Imperial Airways began a service between Freetown, Sierra Leone, and Bathurst, Gambia (450 miles), via Conakry and Bolama, French Guinea. The first northbound airmails left Freetown on the 1st of July and connected with the German D.L.H. service to Europe. This route will eventually join the Khartoum-Accra line but, at present, the only connecting service southbound is by Aeromaritime (Air France).

#### PORTUGUESE EAST AFRICA.

The new airmail stamps appeared on 16th July. See under "New Issues" on page 121.

#### SOUTH-WEST AFRICA.

The 1½d. "Official," although not strictly an Airmail stamp, will probably be used mainly for airmail. It appeared on 1st July.

#### PHILATELIC BROADCASTS.

Mr. G. B. Allan has been giving a series of philatelic talks from the Johannesburg station recently. Listen in on Thursdays at 8.40 p.m.

## Society News

### PHILATELIC SOCIETY OF NATAL.

*President*, H. H. Hurst; *Hon. Secretary*, Mrs. Reed, Box 588, Durban. *Meetings*, 1st Wednesdays, Durban Publicity Bureau.

At the meeting on July 6 a large number of members and visitors were present.

There were two displays. Mr. J. E. Creewel of the Johannesburg Philatelic Society gave an exhibit of the King Edward VIII. stamps of Great Britain accompanied by a paper giving a complete record of the particulars of their design, their issue, watermark, and sales. His well mounted stamps showed all the various cylinder numbers and control numbers and every particular regarding this issue appears to have been noted.

Mr. J. Lyle read an interesting paper on "Pictorials" and the effect that these stamps have on the bringing into the fold of a very large percentage of serious collectors. This he supplemented by displaying a varied assortment of all the pictorials of note.

G.R.

### PRETORIA PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

*President*, Major W. J. Harrington; *Hon. Secretary*, Prof. H. A. Wager, Box 514. *Meetings*, 1st and 3rd Mondays, Technical College, 8 p.m.

July 4.—Major Harrington was in the chair. One new member was elected.

Mr. Baxter read a very interesting paper on the stamps of Rumania. He followed the very varied history of the country from early times and described most of the issue of stamps after the union of Moldavia and Wallachia to form one country. Most of the earlier stamps are highly priced but a later and quite representative collection of Roumania can be gathered together with little outlay.

Exhibits were tabled by Mr. Baxter (Rumania), Mr. Obermeyer (C. Colony), and Mr. A. Watson (Natal).

July 18.—Major Harrington was in the chair. Mr. Hawke gave his usual interesting philatelic notes.

Four short papers were read.

Professor Wager gave a short account of the stamp-issuing activities of Memel, a small state which only had four years' existence.

Mr. Giovanetti read an interesting paper on the early intrepid Portuguese navigators, who, he pointed out, were really the forerunners in South Africa who enabled our Voortrekkers to make it their home.

Dr. Broughton described some peculiar postmarks as found on some of his St. Helena stamps. He also gave particulars of the Voortrekker wagon trip.

Major Harrington pointed out the vagaries of different authors in trying to name some of

the different colours of stamps. He also described and showed a few unique Rhodesia covers.

Exhibits: Mr. Baxter and Mr. N. L. Watson showed pictorials and Mr. Obermeyer showed his collection of New Zealand.

H.A.W.

### THE PHILATELIC SOCIETY OF JOHANNESBURG.

*President*, J. W. K. Schofield; *Hon. Secretary*, F. E. Ingham, Box 4967; *Meetings*, 2nd Tuesdays, Kelvin House, 7.45 p.m.

The July meeting, first of the club's new year, was held at Kelvin House on the 12th, Mr. J. W. K. Schofield in the chair.

There was an unusually good attendance, particularly for this time of the year, which made it quite obvious that the club would have to be seeking a larger meeting place. This was further emphasised by the fact that five new names were proposed for membership in addition to a new member, Mr. J. E. Jewell, having been elected at this meeting.

There were two innovations in the usual programme, the continuance of which will depend on the co-operation and interest among members. The first of these is the provision of a half hour before the formal opening of the meeting for an informal exchange among members of duplicate stamps. No record is kept of such exchanges and the club does not charge any commission, as to all intents and purposes, it is assumed that no money will change hands in these exchanges. The second new feature in the programme met with the general approval of the many members present. It consisted of the auction of several lots of stamps. These auction lots were submitted by a few of the members, and it was announced that any members having either single stamps, covers, or lots of stamps which they wished to have auctioned at the next meeting, should submit these to the Exchange Superintendent before the meeting, so that they can be on display from 7.45 p.m. to 8 p.m. Ten per cent. of the value realised for these auction items is retained by the club. Due to his good humour and untiring efforts, Mr. Mark Rose, our Hon. Auctioneer, makes this feature of our programme one of lively interest and amusement. In addition to the members' lots to be auctioned there will also be new issues auctioned as usual.

Dr. Pirie's notes of the month, culled from several publications, were most instructive, covering items about Tibet, Venezuela, East Africa, British Stamps cancelled in Eire, and the Tierra del Fuego local stamps with some amusing and interesting anecdotes about King Popper. It could be easily seen by Dr. Pirie's off-hand and delightfully amusing manner in delivering his notes on these subjects that they were anything but dry statements of fact.

The Cape of Good Hope display tabled by Mr. G. J. Houbert provided a philatelic treat of the highest order, not alone due to the con-

tents of this collection, but also on account of the superb, clean condition of the collection and the manner in which it was drawn up. A few of the philatelic gems included in this collection are:

- Cape Triangulars, 1854—strip of 4 of the 1d. —very rare 2 pairs of the 4d. on blue paper.  
 1d. rose—3 mint, 3 used and 2 pairs.  
 1d. deep rose—strip of 4 and pair.  
 4d. blue on white—strips of 4 and pair.  
 6d. slate lilac—in pairs and singles on blue paper.  
 6d. deep lilac—in pair.  
 1s. yellow green—10 singles and a pair.  
 1s. deep dark green—6 singles and a pair.  
 1d. woodblocks—5 copies.  
 4d. milky blue and pale blue—5 copies.

Fine range of De la Rue, including 1s. emerald green in pair.

Fine range of rectangulars in pairs, blocks, etc., including the 1d. on CC watermark paper, which is very scarce, and a pair of the 5s. with the CA watermark.

It was announced that Mr. G. B. Allan, one of our members, beginning on July 14 at 8.40 p.m., would deliver a weekly philatelic broadcast, which we have no doubt will be particularly welcome news to our country members, who are not able to attend our regular monthly meetings.

The meeting was kept well in hand by the chairman on snappy lines, so that, even though we had to forego our usual tea interval because the building superintendent forgot about our meeting and almost locked us out, all agreed that they had had a most enjoyable evening.

H.E.B.

#### EAST RAND PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

*President*, J. Linn; *Hon. Sec.*, J. Doyle. 41 Rose Deep, Germiston. *Meetings*, 2nd Thursday, Hotel Cecil, Benoni.

The July meeting was well attended, with one or two new members.

After the preliminaries, Messrs. Newson, Kent and Johnston tabled their items of interest, comprised of various new issues on first day cover. Mr. H. Suklje then read the notes of the month.

The evening was then devoted to an exhibit of Rhodesian Double Heads shown by Dr. C. B. Shapiro. These were beautifully mounted and written up. They included practically the complete lot in mint and used condition, in singles, pairs, blocks of four and larger blocks. Among the star items were the 5d. and £1 error of colour, ½d. double dot, pair of £1 proofs and the Earmark varieties. The perfs. 15 were also all there mint and used.

During the tea interval a lot of talk and stamps were exchanged. Prior to closing a vote of thanks was passed unanimously to Dr. Shapiro for his nice show.

H.S.

#### THE PHILATELIC SOCIETY OF RHODESIA.

*President*, N. Rose; *Hon. Secretary*, S. A. Rowe, P.O. Box 601, Bulawayo. *Meetings*, 1st Tuesdays, No. 20, Southern Life Buildings, Bulawayo, 8.15 p.m.

The annual general meeting of members was combined with the July monthly meeting; attendance up to average. The President, Mr. N. Rose, presided.

The Chairman reported that a Check-List of the second issue of Southern Rhodesian Stamps, compiled by the sub-committee, had been completed and was going forward for publication in the South African Philatelist.

Mr. Fox reported the new Southern Rhodesia "Large Falls" 3d. value inscribed Postage and Revenue as line perforated 14 x 14.

Two new country members were elected.

The Honorary Secretary and the Honorary Treasurer submitted their reports for the year, and the President reviewed the year's work in detail. The reports indicated progress and were received with enthusiasm.

Messrs. N. Rose, F. W. Porter, and J. G. Giri were unanimously re-elected President, Vice-President and Honorary Treasurer for the ensuing year. Much to our regret, Mr. B. A. Carnegie, our Honorary Secretary, was unable to accept nomination. We are, however, fortunate in securing the services of Mr. S. A. Rowe, who was unanimously elected to fill the office. On behalf of members, the President asked the retiring Honorary Secretary to accept a small token of their appreciation of his invaluable services during the past two years, and presented Mr. Carnegie with a set of current Southern Rhodesia stamps. Mr. Carnegie replied in suitable terms.

The society's collection was exhibited, with recent additions, presented and purchased. Other exhibits were King George V. second issue of Southern Rhodesia by the Vice-President, in which we saw a block of the 5s. value printed on gummed side, and a general collection in two albums by Mr. Lowry. The exhibits were very well arranged and received with much interest.

The meeting closed with a hearty vote of thanks to the exhibitors.

LAVRON.

#### EAST LONDON PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

*President*, W. S. Hoale; *Hon. Secretary*, S. F. Fowler, c/o Vacuum Oil Co. of S.A., Ltd. *Meetings*, 1st Thursdays, Technical College, 8 p.m.

At a special meeting held on Monday, 4th July, three-quarters of our total membership turned out to see the collection of Cape Triangulars brought by Mr. J. Jurgens, of Cape-town, at the request of some of our members.

He exhibited over 700 stamps on entires. The collection was introduced by the signatures of most of the Governors and Postmasters-General from 1804 onwards, then

(Concluded on page 125).

# The SOUTH AFRICAN PHILATELIST

*Proprietors and Publishers :*

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No. 9.

### COMMEMORATIVES Again and Again and Again

Commemoratives! The recent Philatelic Congress of Great Britain is of opinion that "something should be done about them."

Apparently the Swedish Philatelic Society has set the ball rolling with the suggestion that a policy of "Collective sanctions" should be applied against them. It has solicited the support of philatelic organisations throughout the world against a menace that is like a cancer in the body philatelic, and threatens its very existence.

The Philatelic Congress of G.B. agreed with this view but had nothing more constructive to put forward than the opinion that collective action should be taken.

Very nice, but by whom, against whom and in what manner?

We are reminded of a Limerick:

There was a young lady of Spain  
Who liked kisses now and again  
But by "now and again"

As she begged to explain

She meant "Now" and "Again and again  
and again."

History does not say whether the young lady was of the "white" or "red" Spanish variety but when we come to stamps it does not seem to matter very much; we find postal administrations of countries of the most varied political hues all of the same opinion as the young lady of Spain.

Here is an extract from the June number of the "Philatelic Journal of Great Britain," dealing with new issues of France and the French Colonies:

"We have to record a flood of new issues from this philatelic Stromboli. As we have remarked before, it is the philatelic public of France and the French Colonies that assures the success of these raids on the philatelic purse, and as long as they will buy these pretty pictures, they will be issued.

First of all, there is a set of six new Charity stamps, for the benefit of unemployed intellectuals . . . This was followed by a

Charity stamp sold at a premium which goes to a musical society which gives popular concerts in various towns . . . Now we come to two more Charity stamps issued for the benefit of a War Memorial to the French Infantry. This comes a little late in the day, and will hardly be finished in time for the next war . . . Then we come to two necessary stamps, new values of the ordinary issue . . . There are forty-six new Railway Parcel stamps as well, but we will not inflict them on our readers (All of these in one month!)

While the Boulevard Brune is producing the gumpaps we have just recorded, it is also working overtime to supply the French Colonies with the stamps necessitated by the altered postal rates. So we have a lot of unnecessary stamps, beautifully designed and printed, for France, and a swarm of badly designed and produced, but legitimate, issues for the Colonies."

So much for France, but as was indicated in our July issue in an article "Questionable Stamp Issues," much the same could be written about any one of a dozen other countries.

Well, we know that these dozen postal administrations have the same views about Commemoratives as the young lady of Spain has about kisses.

We rather fancy that collectors have no objection to commemoratives "now and again" (in the sense that the term is usually employed, say, by a young lady of Tain or Maine), but when it comes to the Spanish sense, what do they think?

Are they agreed that they menace philately like a cancer? And, if so, are they prepared to apply sanctions vigorously and wholeheartedly? There is no alternative policy likely to be successful, and there is no use sighing for a Dictator. The Dictators, anyway, philatelically all love Spain.

#### CONGRESS.

Congress dates are Saturday, 8th October and Sunday, 9th October, not 6th and 7th as printed in our notice last month.

## Notes on the Official needle-perforated Stamps of the Union of South Africa

By  
A. Hilton Sydow, A.S.A.A., C. (S.A.).  
(Paper read before the Capetown  
Philatelic Society).

Prior to the date of the constitution of the Union of South Africa there existed three important colonial organisations known as the Cape Government Railways, the Natal Government Railways, and the Central South African Railways. These organisations were vested in and administered by, respectively, the Government of the Cape of Good Hope, the Natal Government, and the Governments of the Orange River Colony and the Transvaal jointly.

At the establishment of the new State the said railways were merged into one vast organisation in terms of the provisions of the "South Africa Act of 1909," and thereafter became known as the South African Railways.

As and from the 31st May, 1910, the date of the foundation of the Union, the South African Railways as a Government Department, used certain needle-perforated Edwardian stamps of its component colonies for all internal and external postal purposes, but as far as it can be ascertained from purely empiric philatelic knowledge needle-perforated stamps were affixed only to containers of correspondence which emanated from offices situated in the provinces of Natal, the Orange River Colony and the Transvaal. Synchronously in the Cape Province unperforated Edwardian stamps were used anent all railway internal and external correspondence. The custom of using needle-perforated stamps fell into desuetude during April, 1912.

The Union needle-perforated stamps and their Colonial precursors pertinaciously have been refused recognition and catalogue rank by British and Dominion editors and consequently there is a dearth of data available to students of South African Philately; in fact, searching for information in this connection by the neophyte is similar to searching at midnight in a dark room for a British penny black which was never there.

It is stated here, without periphrasis, that specialised collections of the Union of South Africa are incomplete without the inclusion of these needle-perforated *Union Official stamps*. The last three words are delineated because these stamps should not fall under the regimentation of railway stamps.

Let this narrative now retrograde to the year 1905. During the incipient days of January, 1905, the Government of Natal introduced certain denominations of the Edwardian stamps each bearing the overprint "OFFICIAL" destined for use anent all Government Departmental correspondence. Almost con-

temporarily with these stamps certain Transvaal Edwardian and certain Orange River Colony Edwardian stamps were overprinted with the letters C.S.A.R. and introduced for use anent the correspondence of the Central South African Railways in the Orange River Colony and the Transvaal.

A few months after their issuance the Natal overprinted official stamps were withdrawn from all Government Departments with the exception of the Natal Government Railways which relinquished their supplies during the month of July, 1906. It is not definitely known when the practice of using the overprinted C.S.A.R. stamps was abolished. So much for the overprinted official vancouriers.

On the 1st June, 1907, or thereabouts the Natal Government introduced certain Edwardian stamps each needle-perforated with the letters "NGR" representing "Natal Government Railways" and destined for use solely in connection with all correspondence emanating from that department. This practice was continued until the advent of the Union.

The following is a summary of the stamps then introduced:—

Natal Edwardians.—Official Stamps.—Perforated NGR. 1907. June 1st (approx). Wmk. Multiple Crown C.A., Perf. 14.

- ½d. blue-green
- 1d. carmine
- 2d. red and olive-green
- 3d. mauve and grey
- 6d. blue-green and brown
- 1s. carmine and blue.

During the year 1909 certain Transvaal Edwardians were introduced each stamp needle-perforated  $\begin{matrix} C & S \\ A & R \end{matrix}$  for use anent all correspondence of the Central South African Railways. This practice was continued until the date of the culmination of the Union of the four colonies.

The following summary of the stamps introduced is taken from Yvert and Tellier's catalogue:—

Transvaal Edwardians.

Timbres de Service.

1909. Timbres-poste de 1904-1906 avec C.S.A.R. en lettres perforées

- ½d. vert (green)
- 1d. carmin (carmine)
- 2d. violet et noir (purple and black)
- 3d. olive et noir (olive-green and black)
- 4d. brun et noir (brown and black)
- 6d. orange et noir (orange and black)
- 1s. brun-rouge et noir (reddish brown and black)

In addition to the Transvaal Edwardians, the Edwardians of the Orange River Colony have been seen with CSAR needle-perforation but no data are available as to the denominations so treated.

As already has been noted the South African Railways continued the practice of using needle-perforated stamps for some time subsequent to the date of the achievement of the

Union, and let it be ingeminated—"Official Stamps," for they must be classified as such just as much as the overprinted "OFFICIAL—OFFISEEL" stamps of the Union of South Africa that have been in vogue from 1926 until the present day.

During the pristine years of the Union the postage stamps of the four concorporated colonies were distributed indiscriminately to post offices in consequence of their being inter-provincially authorised. The same practice was probably adopted with the distribution of stamps to the ateliers responsible for the official perforations of CSAR and NGR, for as will be remarked from the summary given stamps of all four colonies may be found with the initials NGR, for example.

In August, 1910, the needles which represented the letter "C" of CSAR were removed from the perforating machine which then left the letters <sup>S</sup>AR to represent South African Railways.

In preparing the following summary it has been found necessary to resort to the excellent article contained in the defunct "Quarterly Review of Philately" of 1921 (Vol. 1, Nos. 2, 3 and 4) from the pen of the G.O.M. of South African Philately, Emil Tamsen, supplemented by items housed in the collection of the writer.

Summary—31st May, 1910—April, 1912.—In Used Condition.

1. CS  
AR needle-perforated Transvaal Edwardians 1d., 3d.
2. S  
AR needle-perforated Transvaal Edwardians ½d., 1d., 2d., 6d.
3. NGR needle-perforated Transvaal Edwardians ½d., 1d., 2d., 3d., 4d., 6d., 1s.  
Cape Edwardians ½d., 1d., 3d., 4d., 6d.  
O.R.C. Edwardians ½d., 1d., 2d., 3d., 4d., 6d.  
Natal Edwardians ½d., 1d., 2d., 3d., 6d., 1s., 2s., 2s. 6d.

In addition to the items given the writer owns the following stamps in mint condition:

1. NGR needle-perforated Cape Edwardians ½d., 1d., 2d., 3d., 4d., 6d., 1s.
2. NGR needle-perforated Natal Edwardians ½d., 1d., 1½d., 2d., 3d., 4d., 5d., 6d., (universal) 1s. (carmine and blue), 1s. (black on green).

In this paper it is desired to point out that during 1906 the department known as the Cape Government Printing and Stationery Department adopted a scheme of puncturing in con-

nection with the stamps used by them upon their foreign mail matter. The stamps used for such were punctured by a machine with a device which consisted of eleven round holes, in the shape of two triangles, having their apices meeting in the hole in the centre of the stamp, thus:

. . .  
. . .  
. . .  
. . .  
. . .

The writer's collection contains the following denominations:—

Cape Edwardians 1d., 3d., 4d., 6d., 1s. bearing portions of the Cape Town obliterator but in no instance is a date shown.

An Official in the Government Printing and Stationery Office in Cape Town assured the writer that the practice of using the punctured stamps, described above, on overseas correspondence was carried on for some time after the 31st May, 1910. If stamps showing the correct dates could be obtained then another official series could be added to the Union list.

It is believed that the CSAR and SAR series were perforated at the Railway Printing Works in Germiston. Confirmation of this is invited as well as information as to where the NGR series were perforated.

This paper is merely propaedeutic, but the writer desires to bring this Union Official series on to the Union philatelic screen, especially owing to the ineffable contempt meted out to them, *inter alia*, their omission year after year from the common pabulum of all philatelic education—Stanley Gibbons, and also from the South African Standard Catalogue by my friend Louis Simenhoff.

S.W.A. 1½d. OFFICIAL VARIETY.

The Westminster Stamp Co. report that in the second stamp from the left in the bottom row of the sheets there is what seems to be a constant minor error in the overprint, viz., the foot of the "L" in "OFFICIAL" being completely missing.

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# The "Occupational" Postmarks of the Mandated Territory of South-West Africa

By L. Simenhoff, B.A., F.R.P.S.L.

[NOTE.—The writer of this series is publishing the results of his researches extending over a considerable period, at the special request of the editor of this paper.

The introductory historical and postal statistical sections have been compiled mainly from information available in the following publications: "Union Year Book," "Post Office Guide (1914-1923, except 1917)," "History of S. Africa" (various), "S.A. Stamp Collector" (May-June, 1917), "The London Philatelist" (1900), "With Botha in the Field" (Ritchie), "Postwertzeichen, Etc" (Friedemann, 1921).

The later sections dealing with the postmarks are far from complete as they have been compiled mainly from material examined by or in the collection of the writer. The German works of Friedemann and Busch have been consulted, as also articles by Mallet-Veale, but the writer is concentrating on the "Occupational" period only, viz., 19th September, 1914—31st January, 1923, and is only recording postmarks actually seen by himself. He will be grateful for the loan of additional material or for reliable information. Notwithstanding what has just been written here, the series will be the most nearly complete and most reliable thus far printed in the English language.

"Occupational" entires and postmarks should be included in every specialised collection of Unions and South-West Africans; collectors of these countries will find the relevant pre-War data included in the introduction helpful, especially as S.-W.A. is much in the limelight politically at the moment.]

## 1.—THE HISTORY OF GERMAN SOUTH-WEST AFRICA: 1814—1914.

### (1)—Cape Government, the Pioneers.

In the year 1814 the Cape Government sent a German missionary, Von Schmelen, to carry on mission work among the Hottentots living in Great Namaqualand, as the territory was then called. Von Schmelen became a member of the Afrikander Hottentot tribe near Okahandja.

His communications with Germany led to the Rhenish Missionary Society of Berlin taking an active interest in Great Namaqualand and in Damaraland to its north.

About 1840 Cape traders affected the commercial enterprise of the missionaries, who formed a limited liability company. Religion and commerce thus went hand in hand till the outbreak of the Herero-Hottentot war in 1880, when the company became insolvent.

As early as 1874, the British Government had annexed the Guano Islands, and in 1875 the Cape Parliament passed a resolution annexing the coastline from the Orange River to Walfish Bay. Sir B. Frere had recommended the annexation of all unannexed territory between the Orange and Zambesi Rivers following on the visit of Commissioner C. W. Palgrave to the native chiefs in 1876, but the British Government feared the expense.

The Cape Government was ready for a smaller scheme of annexation, particularly of S.-W.A. In 1878 it sent a commission which visited the vicinity of Windhuk, where the war with the natives was impending. As war on the Cape Eastern Frontier had begun, the Cape Government annexed only the best portion, viz., Walfish Bay.

### (2).—The German Case.

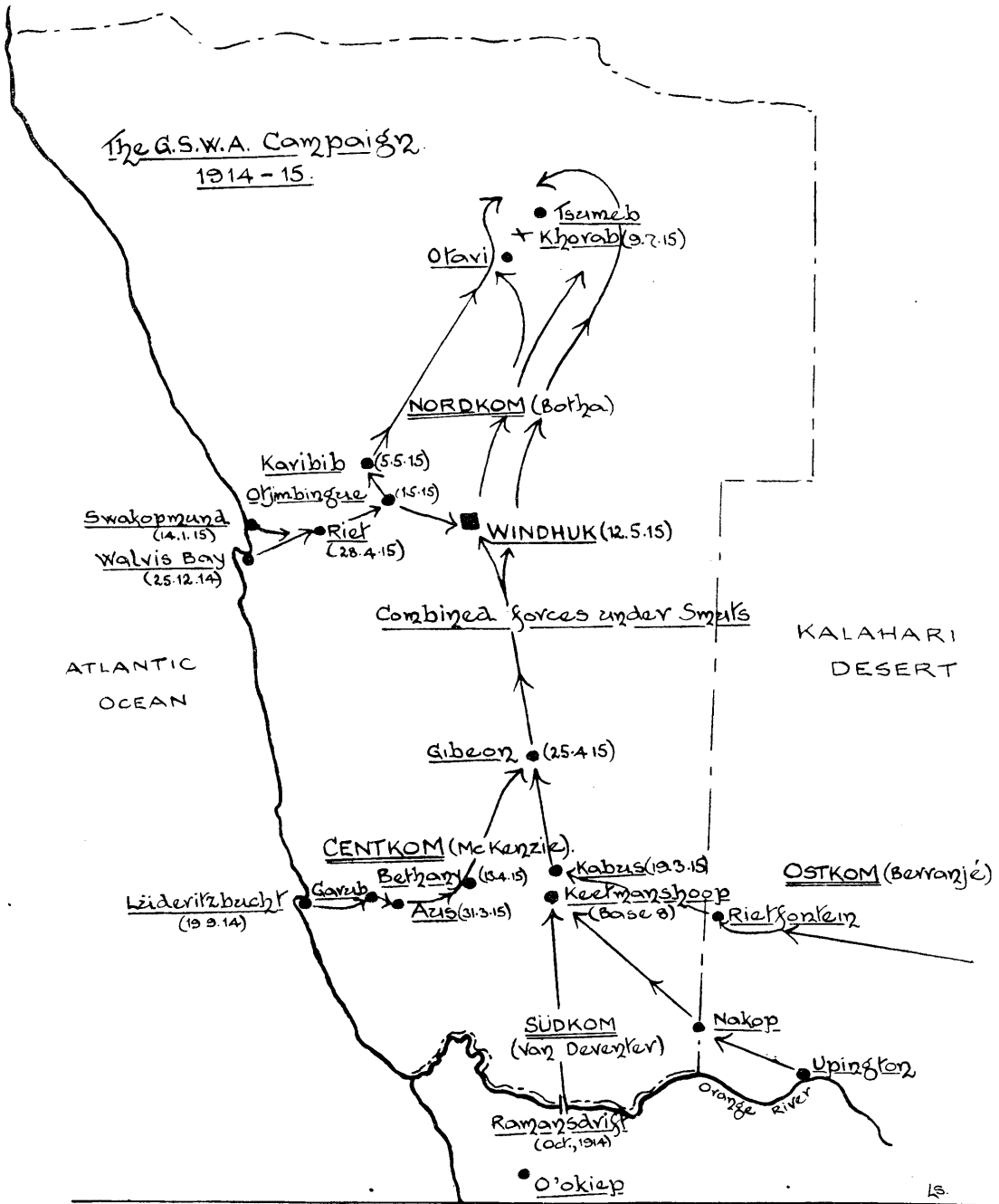
German enterprise was not slow to step in and Adolph Lüderitz, a merchant of Bremen, who had arrived in 1882, discovered that Angra Pequena (now Lüderitz) was the best harbour after Walfish Bay. So between 9th April and 25th August, 1883, he completed the purchase from the Hottentot chief, Joseph Fredericks of Bethany, a strip of territory situated between the 26th degree of latitude S. and the Orange River, bounded on the west by the sea and on the east by a line running 20 miles inland from north to south. This territory was called Lüderitzland.

Lüderitz approached the German Government (Bismarck), who asked what rights Britain had in S.-W. The reply of the British Foreign Office was vague. Upington's opinion was asked, but the latter did not find time to put the Cape's case strongly.

The Germans argued that if the British authorities were not prepared to protect German subjects (many missionaries) then Germany would do so. On 24th April, 1884, Bismarck authorised the hoisting of the German flag at Angra Pequena and placed Lüderitz and his acquisition under the protection of the German Empire as "Deutsch Südwestafrika." The first Governor was Dr. Gustav Nachtigal, the well-known African explorer, who also acted as Imperial Commissioner for all the German West African possessions.

In the same year, 1884, Britain resolved too late to annex the territory up to the Portuguese possessions.

In 1899 there were 1,557 Germans in D.S.W.A. and 1,840 other Europeans. In 1911, 5,050 German immigrants arrived, but 4,300



left again. In 1914 the population of D.S.W.A. was 200,000, of which 10,226 were Germans and 12,935 other Europeans.

II.—THE G.S.-W.A. CAMPAIGN: 1914-15.

The conquest of German South-West Africa, with its 300,000 square miles of barren and

waterless rock land and a thousand miles of "storm-beaten inhospitable coast," proved no easy matter. There were but three harbours, one of which, Walvis Bay, was British. Between these ports and the grassy interior lay some thirty miles of waterless desert; the southern approach was almost as difficult; the

line of attack from behind lay across the Kalahari Desert. Besides, £1,000,000 had been granted annually for equipping the territory with railways, roads, wireless, wells, arms and 3,000 soldiers and police out of the 12,000 white inhabitants.

In August 1914, the Union Government, on H.M. Government's suggestion, decided to destroy the coast wireless stations at Lüderitzbucht and Swakopmund, and in September, 1914, voted £2,000,000 for the maintenance of 15,000 troops for six months after news of the violation of Union territory by a German patrol had been reported. On 19th September, General McKenzie occupied Lüderitzbucht and in October Colonel Lukin held Raman's Drift on the southern border. On 15th September a detachment of S.A.M.R. and half a battery of Transvaal Horse Artillery suffered heavy casualties at the water hole at Sandfontein.

(To be continued).

## NEW ISSUES

**ST. HELENA.**—Messrs. Stanley Gibbons are listing two varieties of the 1½d. King George V, which were both issued just shortly before that series became obsolete. Both are colour varieties, viz., carmine-rose and deep carmine-red, which they consider sufficiently distinct from the normal rose-red to be worthy of catalogue status.

**AUSTRALIA.**—The issue of the ¼ value, which was announced for 1st July, has been postponed. New 1d. and 2d. stamps were issued on 1st August. These replace the current values, but have the same design merely modified so as to improve the appearance of the Royal portraits. In size and other particulars there is no change. Announced for the 1st September is a new 9d. value, replacing the Kangaroo. Brown-sepia in colour, it will be of horizontal format in the usual small size and will picture a duck-billed platypus.—*Australian Stamp Monthly.*

**UNITED STATES OF AMERICA.**—July 11, 4½c of the new issue. The White House. July 15, Northwest Territory 3c. At Marietta, Ohio. July 21, 5c Monroe of the President series. July 28, 6c John Quincy Adams of the President series. August 4, 7c Jackson. August 11, 8c Van Buren. August 18, 9c Wm. Henry Harrison. August 24, 3c Iowa Centennial, at Des Moines. August 29, \$1 Wilson.

**ANGOLA.**—The 80c was recently surcharged 0.15 c as a provisional.

**SUDAN.**—Four provisional air stamps were issued on 1st July, all current air stamps surcharged with new values. They are: 5m on 2½p; 3p on 3½p; 3p on 7½p and 5p on 10p. The numbers of the first mentioned were comparatively large, those of the second so small that they were sold out within a few days.

**GREAT BRITAIN.**—The *Philatelic Magazine* reports a new variety of the small group of Edward VIII stamps, viz., a 5d. Postage Due in deep yellow ochre instead of the normal yellow-brown.

**ADEN.**—Getting busy for a new stamp-issuing territory. The Crown Agents report the issue early next year of a commemorative set to celebrate the centenary of the capture of Aden in 1839. There will be twelve values running from ½a to 10R.

**MOZAMBIQUE.**—The denominations and numbers received of certain stamps (as given in our August issue) were by mistake credited to the new airmail stamps. They really refer to a new issue of ordinary stamps received at Lourenco Marques but not yet put on sale.

### S.W.A.—1½d. "OFFICIAL."

The S.W.A. 1½d., overprinted "Official" and "Offisiel" in red, reported in our May number as due to appear on 1st July, was duly issued on that date.

## UNION CORONATIONS

In Complete Mint sheets, with all the varieties. **FIRST ISSUE.** Watermark inverted (horns facing to left).

½d. grey-brown and green. Price per sheet 15/-  
1½d. orange and dull green. " " 25/-  
3d. blue " " 50/-  
1/- chestnut and pale blue. " " £12 10s.

**SPECIAL PLATE.** 1d. sepia and carmine.

Price per sheet . . . . . 50/-  
(This is the scarce first printing, which was made from a head-plate not used for any other value).

**SECOND ISSUE.** Watermark normal (horns pointing to right).

½d. grey-black and green. Price per sheet 7/6  
1d. black and carmine. " " 12/6  
1½d. orange and dull green. " " 25/6  
3d. blue. " " 40/-  
1/- chestnut and blue. " " £7 10s.

**THIRD ISSUE.**

½d. black and dark green. Price per sheet 12/6

(These have the watermark normal, and can easily be recognised, apart from the colour, by the plate characteristic: Africa crossed out on first two stamps of bottom row).

**BLOCKS OF 4** of all the 11 varieties listed above, mint. Price 25/-.

**SHEET CORNERS:** Complete sets of 4 corners ("small sheets") of all the 11 varieties listed above, mint. Price 75/- for the 88 stamps.

**ARROWS:** Complete sets of 4 arrow pairs of all 11 varieties, mint, for only 75/- for the 88 stamps.

### OTHER CORONATION OFFERS.

**SOUTH-WEST AFRICA.** Complete mint panes of 60, set of 8 values complete (Face £7 10s.), special price £8.

Ditto. Mint blocks of 4, set of 8 values, price 12/6  
Ditto. ditto. ditto. with imprint, price 17/6.

Ditto. Mint sheet corner pairs ("small sheets") complete, price 35/- for the 64 stamps.

**CROWN COLONIES:** Complete (45 sets) in mint blocks of four, price £5 for the 540 stamps.

Ditto, in small sheets (singletons only, each stamp a corner stamp with margin), very special. Price £7 15s. for the 540 stamps.

**NEWFOUNDLAND.** Special long set, in mint blocks of 4. Price 42/- for the 44 stamps.

Nett, C.W.O., Post Free.

**A. LICHTENSTEIN,**

B.P.A.

P.O. Box 576 - - - BLOEMFONTEIN.



## Southern Africa's Philatelic Roll of Honour

**Louis Simenhoff,**

B.A., F.R.P.S.L.

Born at Montague, Cape Colony, on 12th May, 1894.

Qualified as a teacher at the Cape Town Training College in 1911, and has been a teacher in the service of the Cape Education Department ever since. Held various posts in the Cape diamond fields and north-west. Was chief primary assistant at the Sea Point Boys' High School from April, 1918, to March, 1931. During that period he took a very active part in all school activities, especially in rugby football and cricket, training, amongst



other representative rugby and cricket players, Gerry Brand, the Springbok full-back.

Is now Head Master of the Dryden Street School, one of the largest primary schools in the Cape Province, with an enrolment of 640 pupils and a staff of twenty assistant teachers.

Has been an active member of the Western Province Rugby Referees' Society since 1919.

Is also a graduate of the University of Cape Town.

Has been a philatelist since boyhood, but has specialised only since 1925. Has been a member of the Cape Town Philatelic Society and Exchange Club since 1925, having served on the Executive practically all that time.

Also held posts of Honorary Secretary and Treasurer, Vice-President and President to the above Society. Is also a member of the Pretoria Philatelic Society, and was recently elevated to the rank of Fellowship of the Royal Philatelic Society, London. Represented the Cape Town Philatelic Society at the First South African Congress held at Durban in 1928.

Obtained Gold awards at the South African International Stamp Exhibition held at Durban in 1928 for his collections of the Union of South Africa and South African Air Mails. Also specialises in the stamps of South-West Africa and Belgian Congo. Has various other collections.

Is a regular weekly contributor of philatelic articles in the Afrikaans children's newspaper "Die Jongspan," and has given occasional broadcast talks on stamps to the schools of the Cape Province.

Wrote an article on S.A. Commemoratives in the "Cape Times Annual" of 1937, and is the compiler (honorary) of the "Standard Catalogue of the Postage Stamps of South Africa," published by the P.P.S. in 1931.

Is now contributing a serial to the "South African Philatelist" on the subject of South-West African "Occupationals."

### COLLECTORS' WANTS AND OFFERS

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

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

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.

London Bank parcels with high values, new issues, Geo. VI. pictorials, etc. No rubbish. 3s., 5s., 10s. per packet. Satisfaction guaranteed.

Denham, 42 Southway, Carshalton, Surrey, England.

F. Anderson, 150 St. Albans St., Christchurch, New Zealand, is desirous of contacting with genuine medium collectors in South African States. Gibbons basis. All stamp sendings and want lists promptly answered.

## Correspondence

### METER MARKS OF THE UNION AND OF S. RHODESIA.

Sir,

Firstly I wish to thank you for the article in your May number on Union Metermarks. It helped me a lot and I have no doubt it helped other metermark collectors.

I am sending you herewith some additional information, based on material in my own collection and will give it in the order followed in the article referred to:

(1) **Universal N.Z.**—You did not state that this, the first type of Universal Machine, has the key letter and number of the machine immediately above the word SUIDAFRIKA. In the later multi-value type, which you illustrate, the key letter U is in the bottom left-hand corner and the number of the machine in the bottom right-hand corner, both below the word SUIDAFRIKA.

(2) **Neopost. Type N2.**—Number N 82 has a single-circle date case (1-12-36); all the others appear to have double-circle date cases.

I would like to know if the following Neopost machines are intentionally without the key letter N. I have Nos. 37, 79, 81, 84, 85, 86, 87, 90 and 130 in which there is no trace of the letter N even on franks which are very clearly printed.

No. 130 is different from the others in that the figure of value is smaller and higher up whilst below the value there are two horizontal lines close together, the upper one straight, the lower one wavy.

(3) **Midget.**—Your article states that one machine, M 82, has a bilingual date case. I have two copies, dated 7-7-38, with an unilingual date case and the word CAPETOWN along the top.

Values available with "Betaal" are given as only ½d. and 1d. I have the following with Betaal: M 227, ½d., 1d. and 2d.; M 242, 1d. and 2d.; M 244, ½d., 2d. and 6d.

(4) **Francotyp.**—The normal has the word "Betaal" but I have two which are different, viz.: F 5 with "Betaald," value 1d., and F 16, with "Betaalt," values ½d., 1d. and 2d.

I have 28 numbers of Francotyp meters, the earliest date of use being 22-5-36, the machine at that time being in use by "The Cape Argus."

(5) **Universal Multi-Value.**—No U 28 has a bilingual date case, KAAPSTAD along the top of the circle and CAPETOWN along the bottom. This is the only one I have seen with a bilingual date case.

S. RHODESIA.—I have two Universal marks from S. Rhodesia. They are similar in design to those in use in the Union, with SOUTHERN in the top panel, RHODESIA at the bottom, POSTAGE PAID reading up at the left and down at the right. Key letter U

in left bottom corner and number of machine in right bottom corner, below the panel with RHODESIA. The date case is a double circle with the single word BULAWAYO or SALISBURY, as the case may be, along the top, with date across the centre of the circle. I have U 36 from Bulawayo, values all 1d., the earliest date being 23-5-36; and U 38 from Salisbury, the earliest date for this being 26-4-36 and values ½d., 1d., 3d., 4d. and 6d. U 38 is employed by the Rhodesian Printing and Publishing Co., Ltd.

Is it possible to obtain a complete list of the registered users of franking machines in the Union, and, if so, where?

I am anxious to obtain the older metermarks of the Union and to get in touch with other collectors for exchange, particularly of any metermarks from Southern Africa.

Yours, etc.,

M. TIMMS,

32a Henri Street, Braamfontein, Johannesburg.

### CATALOGUING OF UNION STAMPS.

Sir,

The article by Mr. Eric Gilbert Allis on page 108 of your July issue seems to suggest that "Union" stamps are being unfairly treated in the Gibbons Catalogue.

While I must admit that, due to a succession of editors with changing ideas, there is no absolute consistency in the catalogue in regard to what is listed and what is not, there are fairly definite groups of errors and varieties which are not included.

Of the examples which Mr. Allis quotes from the "Guide to Values" published by the Natal Philatelic Society:

No. 50 is described in that work under the heading "Freaks and non-recurrent varieties."

Nos. 70 and 153 are stamps without watermark, due to displacement of the sheet, and such varieties are not even included in the Gibbons Catalogue list of Great Britain, although they occur quite frequently in British issues.

Nos. 85 and 189 are control pairs with inverted watermark.

We do not list these marginal plate numbers in any country, nor do we as a general rule list inverted watermarks.

No. 185 is an inverted watermark, so that the last remark applies also to this number.

Nos. 635 and 636 are stamps with the frame or central design missing. These would qualify for inclusion in the Gibbons Catalogue, if I had proof that these stamps were issued in the ordinary way at the post office, and I shall be glad to hear from you, sir, or any other specialist on this point.

Nos. 193 and 794 with missing "1" in the date. These might deserve catalogue rank under certain conditions, and I shall be glad to have more information about them.

Air stamps, or other stamps, imperf. on one side, do not receive listing in any country.

The "Strut" error in the air stamp is admittedly interesting, but it is not of a class which is generally admitted into the catalogue.

The same remark applies to the cleft skull variety in the Jubilee stamps. If these two varieties were admitted, a host of similar ones in numerous countries could claim a place.

From what I have said, I think it will be clear that Union stamps are being treated (apart from one or two possible omissions) on the same basis as those of all other countries.

I have always felt that some of the varieties included in the S. African specialised catalogues found a place there because, in the early days of Union issues, there were so few really standard varieties to collect.

It would be interesting to see at what values the international stamp market would assess some of these, if they came up for public sale in London.

Since the rotogravure process was adopted for printing South African stamps, there has been plenty of scope for real philatelic study in the issues of the Union, so that it hardly seems necessary at this stage to attribute undue importance or exaggerated value to varieties which the general body of philatelic opinion would not consider deserving of a place in a general stamp catalogue.

Yours, etc.,

STANLEY PHILLIPS,

Editor, Stanley Gibbons Stamp Catalogue and Gibbons Stamp Monthly.

#### N. RHODESIAN STAMPS NOT DEMONETIZED.

Sir,

In your August issue Mr. E. Tamsen states that the N. Rhodesia K.G. V. ordinary and Silver Jubilee issues were demonetised on 28th February. This information is not correct as the stamps are still available for postage. When we order stamps from the Postmaster-General of N. Rhodesia we provide K.G. V. stamps for return postage and these are still being accepted and used by him on his answers. The ordinary K.G. V. issue was withdrawn from sale on 28th February but we have yet to hear that any British Colony has demonetised stamps on the last day on which they were on sale at post offices.

Yours, etc.,

ROBERTSON STAMP CO.  
(PTY.), LTD.

#### LOURENCO MARQUES MEDICAL CONGRESS POSTMARK.

The Postal Administration of Mozambique have kindly sent us, per Mr. V. Netto, an advance copy of the special cancellation to be used at the post office of the Medical Congress held September 8—14.

It is a double-line circle 39 m.m. in diameter with the date in a box frame across the centre. Above the date it reads "CORREIOS E TELÉGRAFOS/Estação Telégrafo-Postal/HOSPITAL" and below "1º Congresso/Médico de/LOURENÇO MARQUES."

## INTERESTING COLONIALS

Below are a few elusive and interesting items that are not seen in every collection:—

NAURU. 10/- Overprinted "Specimen." Mint. S.G. No. 18	£6 15 0
NOVA SCOTIA. 1c. Mint Pair. S.G. No. 18a . . . . .	£5 0 0
NYASALAND. 1903-4. £1. Superb mint. S.G. No. 66 . . . . .	£2 0 0
RHODESIA. ½d. Mint Pair. S.G. No. 75b . . . . .	£5 10 0
S. RHODESIA ½d. Mint Pair. S.G. No. 1a . . . . .	£2 10 0
1d. Mint Pair. S.G. No. 2a . . . . .	£2 10 0
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## Air Mail Notes

By  
I. H. C. GODFREY.

### UNION OF SOUTH AFRICA.

Imperial Airways—Flying Boat Service Durban to Sydney, Australia.

23rd June, 1938.—The Airmail dispatch from Durban on this date was advertised to connect with the inaugural flight of Imperial Airways' and Qantas' flying-boat service between England and Australia, which left Southampton on the 26th of June and reached the new terminus Sydney, N.S.W., on the 6th of July, after a day's delay at Port Darwin occasioned by the moored aircraft being involved in a collision. Union mails were, however, delayed en route to Egypt and, failing to connect with the first flight, did not reach Sydney until the 12th of July, having taken seventeen instead of the thirteen days scheduled.

The service marks the completion of the scheme for the use of flying-boats, instead of land-planes, over the established Empire routes and, with the exception of the shorter Feeder lines—Khartoum to West Africa, Bangkok to Hongkong, and internal services in the Near East and India—all long distance mails are now carried by the new type of aircraft.

The new route between Singapore and Sydney has meant eliminating the following inland points of call:—Rambang (N.E.I.), Daly Waters, Newcastle Waters, Brunette Downs, Camooweal, Mount Isa, Cloncurry, Winton, Longreach, Blackall, Charleville and Roma (Australia) and substituting the undermentioned Harbours:—Klabat Bay, Bima (N.E.I.), Groot Eylandt, Karumba, Townsville (junction for New Guinea), Gladstone and Sydney (Australia).

Mails reaching Darwin, the first port of call in Australia, diverge along three routes: part continue by flying-boat to Brisbane and Sydney; part across Central Australia to Adelaide for Melbourne and Hobart; and part follow the West Coast route to Perth and Western Australia.

The air distance between Durban and Sydney—the terminal points of the service—is 15,490 miles, and between London and Sydney, 12,847 miles. Although Imperial Airways and the Press report that the latter is the longest direct air route operated by any Company, Air France have for years been operating an airmail service from Saigon, Indo-China, to Santiago, Chili, which is an air distance of 17,215 miles.

4th July, 1938.—The first RETURN flight from Sydney to Durban started on this date. The aircraft used between South Africa and Australia and vice-versa on the initial flights were:—Great Britain to Singapore, "Camilla"

and "Cordelia" (Capt. E. Alcock); Singapore to Sydney, "Challenger" (Capt. G. U. Allan); Durban to Alexandria, "Castor" (Capt. E. Poole).

Return: Sydney to Singapore, "Cooee"; Alexandria to Durban, "Caledonia" (Capt. E. Alcock).

Note.—The K.L.M. (Royal Dutch Airlines) were prepared to start their Europe-Australia service, via Batavia, using American land-planes (Douglas DC3s and Lockheed 14s) some weeks before their competitors, Imperial Airways. Soon after Holland had advertised her intention of opening the Batavia-Sydney line, Imperial Airways endeavoured to arrange that their first flying-boat on a regular voyage should reach Sydney the same day—the 5th of July. K.L.M., on schedule, started their twice weekly service from London to Sydney two days' later than Imperial Airways (on the 28th June) and reached Port Darwin four hours after the flying-boat. The European mails carried by K.L.M. were, consequently, delivered in Sydney long before those on board the "Challenger."

The relative scheduled transit times between England and Sydney are at present:—Imperial Airways, 9½ days; K.L.M., 6½ days; but the latter Company anticipate reducing the time, by 1940, to three days.

No mails were accepted in the Union for conveyance to Australia by the first K.L.M. service.

### AUSTRALIA.

9th August, 1938.—Thrice Weekly Airmail Service to Africa.—Qantas Empire Airways took the opportunity of the inauguration of the thrice weekly service between Sydney-Alexandria-Southampton to issue special souvenir covers. These show a picture of the Globe with a flying-boat, and are inscribed: "Commencement of Thrice Weekly Flying-Boat Air Mail Service Australia-England. August 9, 1938. Operated by Qantas Empire Airways and Imperial Airways in association."

Letters which left Sydney on the 9th reached South Africa on the 22nd of August.

The service between Durban and Kisumu still operates only twice a week, but is expected shortly to be augmented.

"All Up" Mails to Australia.—The inclusion of Australia, New Zealand and British Australasia in general in the Empire Airmail Scheme, was announced briefly by the S.A. Broadcasting Corporation in the news service on the 20th of July.

South and South-West Africa and the three Protectorates adopted the Scheme on the 22nd, and the first unsurcharged airmails left by Imperial Airways on the morning of the 24th of July.

Other participating countries followed on the undermentioned dates:—Sudan (26th); Southern and Northern Rhodesia, Nyasaland, and British East Africa (28th); Great Britain

(28th); New Zealand (26th); Australia (1st August).

Australia, its Dependencies and Mandated Territories, have not yet adopted the Scheme in its entirety and airmail letters must be prepaid 5d. per  $\frac{1}{2}$  oz.

#### PORTUGUESE EAST AFRICA.

First Direct Air Mail from Portuguese East to Portuguese West Africa.

28th July, 1938—D.E.T.A. Airways.—The opportunity of the official visit of the President of the Portuguese Republic, General Carmona, and the Minister for the Colonies, Dr. Machado, to that country's West African Colonies, was taken by the Mocambique Authorities to despatch the first Airmails to Angola.

The D.E.T.A. Junker aeroplane "Lourenco Marques," which was sent to convey the Colony's delegates to greet General Carmona, took off from Delagoa Bay at noon on the 28th of July and, having traversed the Continent via Bulawayo, Broken Hill, Elisabethville and Vila Luso, arrived at Loanda, Angola, at 5.40 p.m. on the 30th.

The Lourenco Marques Postal Authorities issued a notice on the morning of the flight to the effect that all registered letters would be cleared at 10 a.m., and unregistered mails at 10.30 a.m. for conveyance by Air to Angola at ordinary postage rates. 57 registered and 118 ordinary letters were sent. Pilot: Major A. Pinto da Cunha.

5th August, 1938—Return Flight.—The plane left Loanda on the morning of the 5th

and reached Lourenco Marques at 9.30 a.m. on the 7th of August.

Sixteen registered and about 100 ordinary letters were carried on this return flight, the major portion of the latter being in transit to Europe and to the Union. Pilot: Major A. Pinto da Cunha.

(Acknowledgments to Mr. V. Netto).

#### FAMOUS COLLECTIONS ON THE MARKET.

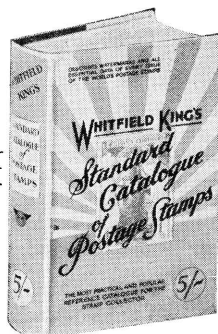
The name and signature of the late Mr. T. W. Hall must be familiar to many, as Chairman of the Expert Committee of the Royal Philatelic Society. His collection, embracing nearly every country in the world, and running to 350 albums, is being dispersed. Messrs. Séfi, Pemberton & Co., Ltd., are handling the general part, Messrs. Robson Lowe, Ltd., the British Empire. Countries are being offered complete in the first instance; what is not disposed of in that way will be put up for auction later. In the British Empire section, countries run from Zanzibar at £2,500 to Sudan at £7 10s. The value of the total collection is estimated at around £500,000.

Mr. C. Nissen has just bought a collection of Great Britain at a figure not disclosed, but believed to exceed £10,000. If you are getting your collection ready for the Centenary Exhibition in 1940, there will probably be some items in this little lot which you might purchase with advantage to it.

## ANNOUNCING . . .

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ENGLAND.



## Union Notes

½d. and 1d. perf. 13½ x 14½.

Messrs. Stanley Gibbons report having received some ½d. and 1d. stamps which are perf. 13½ x 14½ in place of the usual 14½ x 14½. These appear to have eluded the notice of everyone here and when enquiries were set afoot to find out where they came from, the mystery was solved by Mr. G. N. Gilbert. They belong to the sheets which were printed with a centre gutter but without any top or bottom margins.

This is confirmed by the reply received from the Government Printer to enquiry made of him. He writes:-

"I have to inform you that since the introduction of the Stamp Printing Machine now in use for the printing of postage stamps, there has been no change in the number of holes in the perforating die. All the ½d. and 1d. stamps printed on this machine have therefore the same gauge of perforations.

"It is possible, however, that the stamps referred to are from certain sheets of stamps that used to be supplied to the Postmaster-General, when the perforation of roll stamps was done on a separate machine. In the last paragraph of my letter dated the 17th February, 1937 (see *South African Philatelist*, 1937, p. 33) mention is made of this fact. The last delivery of the ½d. sheets of these stamps was made on the 28th July, 1936, and that of the 1d. on the 16th July, 1936."

As this printing was also employed for roll stamps it is quite possible that stamps with this perforation may still be obtainable from some stamp machines.

The 2d. value now on sale is a well marked shade variety, the centre being of a darker green and the frame duller than previously.

In the latest printing of the 6d. the printing varieties on Nos. 58 and 239 of the sheet

(see March number, p. 33) have been eliminated.

The Government Printer also writes, under date 6th August: With reference to the second paragraph of my letter of the 28th May last, (see the July number, p. 104) I have to inform you that the balance of the Order viz. 229675 sheets of ½d. Postage Stamps was delivered to the Postmaster-General on the 2nd instant.

The same cylinders were used viz.:

No. 31 Interior.  
No. 6932 Exterior.

A reply from Messrs. Stanley Gibbons to points raised by Mr. E. G. Allis in his article in our July number, will be found on page 136.

Slogan No. 23 "Post Early for Quick Delivery," reported in our August number has now been recorded additionally from Bethlehem, Brakpan, Durban, Potchefstroom, Um-tata and Vereeniging. This brings quite a few new towns into the category of slogan users.

### TWO MORE SPECIAL VOORTREKKER STAMPS.

In addition to the set of four semi-postal Voortrekker stamps to be issue on 15th December there are to be two more, fully postal, taking the place of the present 1d. and 1½d., on sale from 15th December to 28th February, 1939. Like the commemorative envelope, these have been designed by Mr. W. H. Coetzer.

The central design of the penny value is an old wagon wheel, splintered and repaired, symbolic of the hardships of the Great Trek. Two tree trunks in the foreground of the design are scarred but with strong new shoots springing from them, suggesting the trekkers' tragedies, but still a strong people coming from the old stock. The background shows the old Drakensberg, the border illustrates modern industry.

The 1½d. value shows a Voortrekker family at Vegkop where the Matabele were defeated at the battle of Blood River on 17th February, 1838. From the battlefield rises a double rainbow, symbolic of victory and deliverance.

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## KENYA NOTES.

FIVE-CENT K.G.-V. WITH RETOUCHE  
CENTRE.

It was originally intended to put the King George VI. issue on sale on 1st January, but when it was found impossible to get them ready in time the P.O. had to send to the printers for small quantities of certain values to carry on with.

One value so ordered was the 5c. When the order was received the centre plate (A Dhow on Lake Victoria) had already been retouched for use with the new King George VI. issue, so that this final printing of the King George V. five cent. value had to be made with the retouched centre plate.

This variety was brought into use sometime in February and was withdrawn in the middle of April. It had therefore a very short life and appears to be quite scarce.

The most obvious difference between the original plate and the retouched one is to be seen in the rope running from the tip of the



Original



Retouch

sail to the stern of the boat. (This may not be a good nautical description, but it should be clear enough to a philatelist). In the original plate the rope defies the laws of gravity and remains suspended taut in the air without the upper end being attached to the spar or sail—the rope ends in a small blob, but with a clear space between it and the sail. In the retouched plate, as it is seen in the King George VI. issue and in this final printing of the King George V. issue, the line of the rope is carried over the tip of the sail right to the spar.

The 5c. and 10c. values have been issued in coils and there has been an issue of Stamp Booklets containing twelve 15c. stamps and eight 20c. stamps. A £1 value is on order, the design to be as before, except for the portrait. W. Tunstall.

SIERRA LEONE—KING GEORGE V. ½d.  
VARIETY.

The Westminster Stamp Co. report the finding of a ½d. stamp of the 1932 issue which is imperforate on one side. The width of the side-margin attached suggests that probably a whole vertical row missed being perforated. This is a variety to keep a look-out for.

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## RECENT SLOGAN POSTAL MARKS.

UNION OF SOUTH AFRICA.—Early in August, 1938, the Union Postal Authorities commenced hand-stamping underfranked correspondence destined for countries where the 1½d. half ounce rate applies, with a cachet in purple reading:—

“Please advise your correspondents that the letter rate from the Union of South Africa is 1½d. per ½ oz.”

The impression, 2¼in. x 3/10in., closely follows the wording and format of the one brought into use in Canada last February.

SOUTHERN RHODESIA:—Insufficiently prepaid correspondence arriving in Bulawayo and Salisbury now receives a hand struck impression, in purple, reading:—

“PLEASE ADVISE SENDER THAT LETTERS SHOULD BE PREPAID 1½d. FOR EACH HALF OUNCE.”

This is almost identical in size—3¼in. x 4/5in.—and setting to the one used in Great Britain, but is without the rectangular border. The impression was first used early in August, 1938.

## S.W.A. FORGERIES.

In the first issue, that of 1923 with the “Zuid-West” overprint, there were inverted errors of the 1d., 2d. and 1/3 values, also of the ½d. Postage Due (S.G. D8a). No postally used copies of these errors are known.

Owing to their rarity overprints have been forged on genuine Union stamps, but the forgeries can be detected by the following points:—

(1) The forged overprints are well centered in all cases, but genuine overprints are out of centre; in the 1d. the words “Africa” and “Afrika” are close to the perforations, in the 2d. the overprint is close to the side of the stamp, and in the Postage Due the words “South West” and “Zuid-Afrika” are close to the words “Unie van Zuid Afrika.”

(2) The 1d. forgery is on carmine-red sheets, but the genuine overprint is on a pale rose-red sheet.

(3) On the pair of stamps the forged overprints are closer than those which are genuine; the “West” to “South” of from “West” to “Zuid” measuring between the stamps, is only about 5½ mm. in the forgery, but in the genuine overprint it is (whether upright or inverted) about 7 mm.

Some of these forgeries have been found postally used, they can be detected by the date of the postmark, which is later than when the 1923 issue had become obsolete.—W. JAGO, in *Stamp Collecting*.

## DEALERS . . . . .

If you stock modern sets you must send a Post Card for our Monthly Trade List. It quotes lowest trade prices for all modern pictorial sets, and is sent free to any bona fide dealer on request.

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## Society News

### PHILATELIC SOCIETY OF NATAL.

*President*, H. H. Hurst; *Hon. Secretary*, Mrs. Reed, Box 588, Durban. *Meetings*, 1st Wednesdays, Durban Publicity Bureau.

The August meeting was very well attended. Two new members were admitted to the Society.

Mr. H. Sumner Gibson, of the Philatelic Society of India, displayed his stamps of the Irish Free State, comprising all the major catalogue varieties and a representative selection of the minor varieties and errors.

In addition, Mr. Gibson read a paper supplying a wealth of detail about each issue and its varieties. To make his points clearer he had drawn large charts showing the wording of each overprint and was able to point out to a nicety each error in the type on the provisional stamps of Ireland.

The Commemoratives shown were the June, 1929, issue celebrating the Centenary of the Roman Catholic emancipation; 1930 stamp issued on the completion of the Shannon Hydro-electric scheme (showing the Shannon barrage at Ardnackushna); June, 1931, 200th anniversary of the Royal Dublin Society; May, 1932, International Eucharistic Congress; September, 1933, Holy Year; December, 1935, commemorating the New Constitution fifteen years after the Irish Free State was founded; and July, 1936, Golden Jubilee of the Gaelic Athletic Association. G.R.

### PRETORIA PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

*President*, Major W. J. Harrington; *Hon. Secretary*, Prof. H. A. Wager, Box 514. *Meetings*, 1st and 3rd Mondays, Technical College, 8 p.m.

August 2nd.—Major Harrington was in the chair.

Two papers were presented. Mr. G. B. Allan gave an interesting account of his researches into the genuineness of the 2 cent. surcharge on one of the early issues of Sarawak. He came to the conclusion that most of the known copies were forgeries, but that one or two of these known ones were genuine. He showed a photograph of the stamp under discussion.

Major Harrington gave a brief account of the early history and formation of the two Bechuanalands. He then gave a survey of the postal history of the two territories, including the different issues of stamps.

Major Harrington and Mr. Mummery both exhibited Bechuanaland.

August 15th.—Major Harrington was in the chair.

Mr. Hawke read some philatelic extracts.

Mr. Klagsbrun read an instructive paper on the stamps used during the Boer War in the occupied territories, all characterised by army postmarks. He discussed the reasons why some are catalogued and some not. This was a subject of great interest to members so the paper was a welcome contribution. Dr. Pirie also spoke, thanking Mr. Klagsbrun for his paper.

Exhibits were tabled by Messrs. Klagsburn, Obermeyer, Broughton and Wright.

H.A.W.

### THE PHILATELIC SOCIETY OF JOHANNESBURG.

*President*, J. W. K. Schofield; *Hon. Secretary*, F. E. Ingham, Box 4967; *Meetings*, 2nd Tuesdays, Kelvin House, 7.45 p.m.

At the August meeting, Mr. J. W. K. Schofield in the chair, it was announced that the next meeting would be held in the Insurance Conference Room in Sanlam Building, Love-day Street, Johannesburg, on September 13th.

We again had an overflow meeting, making it necessary for us to bring in extra chairs and again emphasizing the need for the larger quarters which we have secured in Sanlam Building.

Members were especially requested to donate stamps, covers, or other interesting philatelic items to be auctioned at our November meeting for the benefit of the Johannesburg General Hospital. Last year our Hospital Appeal Auction was very successful and a substantial amount was realised. The full proceeds realised from the items auctioned will be donated to the Hospital.

Amongst items of interest shown were: (a) A specimen of the CUSTOMS DUTY PAID slogan mentioned in last month's S.A.P., and (b) the Kenya 5c. retouch which is described elsewhere in this number.

It was announced that this Society would be the guests of the Pretoria Society on Monday, October 17th. All members wishing to appear at that meeting and not having transport, should communicate with this Club's Secretary.

A new set of Mocambique air stamps was brought to the attention of members, a few specimens being passed around. The denominations of this series are 10c, 20c, 50c, 1e, 11e, 111e, Ve, 1Xe and Xe.

Auctions of new stamps and lots of stamps submitted by members were again a special feature of interest. A few covers bearing Tristan da Cunha post marks were spiritedly bid for, and brought prices of between 4s. 6d. and 5s. 6d.

Dr. J. H. Harvey Pirie tabled the exhibit of the evening, which comprised Transvaal and Orange Free State stamps used in Natal and the Cape during the early months of the Boer War. Dr. Pirie read some instructive and interesting notes, part of a larger work which is being compiled by him, and some others on stamps "used abroad" in S. Africa

at this period. It is understood that the section dealing with these Republicans used in Natal and Cape is to be published separately in the "S.A. Philatelist," so we shall not give further details here.

At our next monthly meeting, to be held on September 13th, in Sanlam Building, Dr. A. Kaplan will exhibit his stamps of Southern Rhodesia. H.E.B.

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

*President*, F. Carter; *Hon. Sec.*, F. Knight, c/o. Box 702, Bloemfontein. *Meetings*, 2nd Friday of each month in the Public Library, Bloemfontein, at 8 p.m.

At the June meeting three new members were elected. The meeting was held for the first time in the big hall of the Public Library, which proved convenient in every respect. Arrangements have been made to put up there a bookcase for the Society's library.

The evening was reserved for a talk and display under the heading "Mafeking Stamps," given by Dr. Freund. In his address the exhibitor mentioned interesting facts in connection with the famous siege and in connection with his research work on these much-discussed stamps. Of special interest were his explanations regarding forgeries which are cleverly executed and which are unfortunately to be found in great numbers on the market.

The display itself was unique, there being about 40 pages of these scarce stamps in a most artistic arrangement, accompanied by sketches and press cuttings.

In the group of surcharged stamps, several settings were shown of each denomination. Among the blue local stamps there was a Bicycle Stamp in a smaller size which is not catalogued, and a Baden-Powell stamp made from a broken and rejoined negative.

Members of the Free State Society all over the Union will learn with regret that Mr. Lewis intends to leave Bloemfontein and he has asked therefore to be relieved of his post as Exchange Superintendent.

Through the efficiency of his work in this post the Exchange Department has become one of the most successful in the whole Union.

His successor as Exchange Superintendent will be Dr. K. Freund, 35, Harvey Road, Bloemfontein.

In conformity with other Societies, it was suggested to charge ten per cent. commission on sales.

The July meeting was an "Open Meeting" by request; the display of Mafeking Stamps was repeated as a number of members were unable to be present at the previous meeting. Again Dr. Freund's remarks and exhibit were greatly appreciated.

At the August meeting, before the business commenced, the Chairman referred to the recent death of Miss Jeffreys, one of the members whose cheerful company and interest in stamps had always made her a welcome

visitor. The meeting rose and stood in silent sympathy. The Secretary was instructed to send a letter of condolence to the late lady's brother.

After the usual business had been concluded, Mr. O. Carey exhibited a very interesting collection of Zoological stamps of many countries. The exhibit was nicely arranged and was very complete.

The Chairman expressed the thanks of the meeting to Mr. O. Carey for the very interesting display. F.K.

#### EAST RAND PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

*President*, J. Linn; *Hon. Sec.*, J. Doyle, 41 Rose Deep, Germiston. *Meetings*, 2nd Thursday, Hotel Cecil, Benoni.

There was a very representative gathering at the August meeting and, after the usual business, a ballot took place for two new members, who were duly elected.

Items of interest were tabled by various members, consisting mainly of covers.

The exhibit for the evening was provided by Mr. Sprighton, a visiting member of the Johannesburg Society. His exhibit comprised modern Holland. This was shown, as explained by Mr. Sprighton, with a definite purpose, viz.: the making of a collection which can be accomplished by the average collector, as a guide to the junior collector, and thus showing that it is not necessary always to specialise, or to spend large sums on one's collection.

The exhibit commenced with the 1891 issues, the first Queen Wilhelmina stamps. This was continued to the present issues, including all the Charity stamps, Commemoratives, Air Mails and Child Welfare stamps. The collection was practically complete.

As regards the writing-up of the collection, this was indeed well executed. All the information was printed on the pages—Mr. Sprighton having his own home printing-press. The stamps were first mounted on a black background and then on the page. It was a most interesting exhibit, more so due to the fact that the whole collection was got together by mere exchange with correspondents, thus not having laid out a single penny. A unanimous vote of thanks was passed to Mr. Sprighton.

After tea and exchange the meeting closed. H.S.

#### THE PHILATELIC SOCIETY OF RHODESIA.

*President*, N. Rose; *Hon. Secretary*, S. A. Rowe, P.O. Box 601, Bulawayo. *Meetings*, 1st Tuesdays, No. 20. Southern Life Buildings, Bulawayo, 8.15 p.m.

August Meeting.—A large number of members heartily applauded the announcement that His Excellency the Governor, Sir Herbert Stanley, G.C.M.G., has acceded to the request to become Patron of the Society.

Some time was spent on formal discussion as a result of which it was agreed amongst other matters to make representations to the responsible quarter for the issue of a short set of low value stamps to commemorate the 50th Anniversary of the occupation of Southern Rhodesia.

The exhibit for the evening was Mr. Slim's collection of "Mountains on Stamps." The collection was well arranged and fully described. This diversion was highly appreciated and the merits of the study were dealt with by Mr. Fox during the vote of thanks.

The meeting concluded with an auction in which the bidding was keen and informal exchange.

LAVRON.

#### N. RHODESIA.

##### WHY THE MAILS WERE LATE.

The mails from Fort Rosebery arrived at Ndola six hours late recently, and the reason for the delay has been divulged and recorded in Post Office history.

The journey, a distance of 170 miles, is covered in six days by six native runners who travel together for safety. The third day out from Fort Rosebery on this trip they were met by a pride of lions. The runners turned their bicycles upside down and held sticks against the revolving spokes. The rattling noise instead of frightening the lions away, made them curious, and all six runners were obliged to climb trees and remain in them for six hours.

—"Bulawayo Chronicle."

## Obituary

### C. F. SKINNER.

Mr. Skinner's many friends will regret to hear of his sudden death on 4th August.

His interest in stamps was aroused when he played with them to pass the time when in hospital after the war; from that he passed on to dealing in them. He was never just merely a dealer, however, but was always really interested in philately, especially perhaps in the social side of the hobby.

When things were not all that they should have been with the Johannesburg United Philatelic Society, he was actively concerned in the foundation of the Johannesburg Stamp Club and was a keen supporter of that body throughout the whole period of its existence. When the time became ripe for reunion in Johannesburg he became an equally staunch supporter of the new Philatelic Society of Johannesburg.

His name is perpetuated in the Skinner Cup, which he presented to the Philatelic Congress of Southern Africa at its third meeting in 1932. In presenting this he left the conditions of award entirely to Congress, although his taste was shown by his making the suggestion that it might be given either for Philatelic Propaganda or Publicity Work or for Philatelic Research.

The

# SOUTH AFRICAN PHILATELIST

Published Monthly by the Philatelic Congress of Southern Africa

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

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

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# The SOUTH AFRICAN PHILATELIST

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## Union Notes

### UNION 1d. PICTORIAL WITHOUT WATERMARK.

In a fairly recent number of *Scott's Monthly Journal* the publishers write:

"We have been repeatedly called to task for listing in the catalogue Nos. 81 and 82, it being stated that these stamps do not exist. Our answer to all enquiries has been the simple statement that we have a pair of these stamps in our reference collection, these being forwarded to us at the time the stamps were chronicled in the *Monthly Journal*. More recent reports indicate that while the two stamps do exist, they were not regularly issued."

These numbers in Scott's catalogue refer to the two language varieties of the 1d. pictorial. Referring this matter to one of our keen young Union specialists, Mr. S. Legator, he states that these stamps should certainly not be listed as they were never regularly issued. He states further that he knew of the existence of such items on plain paper, imperforate, which appeared illegitimately some time back but that he had not seen them perforate.

In the circumstances we think that "Scott" would be well advised to delete these items.

Mr. R. Axer records that a new issue of booklets was put on sale about the middle of August. This is a 2s. 6d. booklet, with no white selvedge to the stamps.

The 1d. Voortrekkers have recently appeared with watermark reversed.

Miss S. de Wet and Mr. B. L. Cairncross report that the recently introduced slogan "Post Early for Quick Delivery" (see August number, p. 114), is being used in no less than 33 towns. The list is as follows: Benoni, Bethlehem, Bloemfontein, Brakpan, Capetown, Cra-dock, Dundee, Durban, East London, Estcourt,

Graaf Reinet, Grahamstown, Heidelberg (Tvl.), Johannesburg, Kimberley, King-williamstown, Klerksdorp, Kokstad, Kroonstad, Ladysmith, Middelburg (Tvl.), Pietermaritzburg, Pietersburg, Port Elizabeth, Potchefstroom, Pretoria, Queenstown, Springs, Umtata, Uitenhage, Vereeniging, Vryburg, and Vryheid.

Mr. Cairncross also notes that Oudtshoorn is now using Slogan No. 12 (Tour South Africa—Reis in Suid-Afrika). This may be numbered 12 f 1.

A strange error occurred in the Johannesburg "Post Early" slogan of 2nd September. In one date-circle the date reads, correctly, —2 IX 38—17:45; in the other it reads 11 V 47—L1 15.

Mr. Cairncross is of opinion that the Capetown postmark "Customs Duty Paid" should not be regarded as a slogan postmark.

The following printing notes are all supplied by Mr. A. H. Sydow:

### ROTOGRAVURES 1930-1938.

The printing machine and concomitant apparatus used in Pretoria for printing the postage and revenue stamps of the Union of South Africa by the rotogravure process was installed by Messrs. Hunter-Penrose Limited of Farrington Road, London.

### THE TYPE OF THE OFFICIAL-OFFISIEEL OVERPRINTS.

The type used in the formes for overprinting the official stamps of the Union of South Africa were manufactured by Messrs. H. W. Caslon & Co. Limited of 82-83 Chiswell Street, London. This concern was placed in liquidation in 1936, and the assets purchased by Messrs. Stephenson, Blake & Co. Limited of London. In order to preserve the name of the old family of type-founders, the purchasers formed a subsidiary limited liability company with the name of H. W. Caslon Limited, to continue the manufacture of the famous "Caslon" type.

## AIR-MAILS 1925.

The 1925 Air-mail stamps were printed by the Cape Times Limited, of Cape Town, on a "Mann baby off-set press." The machine is still in existence and bears a tablet with the name of its manufacturers Messrs. George Mann & Co. Limited, Leeds and London, British No. 7218.

The master undenominated copper plate was engraved by Mr. A. J. Cooper and the photographic work on the sensitised zinc plates was performed by Mr. A. Myers.

## 1922-1926 POSTAGE DUES.

The lithographic postage due stamps were printed on white non-curling paper manufactured by Samuel Jones & Co. Limited, of London.

## 1927 POSTAGE DUES.

The frame plates of the surface-printed postage due stamps were made by the Royal Mint of London. The stereotyped figure of value plates were made in Pretoria. The names of the makers are unknown and information is solicited.

## Correspondence

## RHODESIAN STAMPS.

Sir,

In the *South African Philatelist* of June, 1938, I notice the following information is given:

On page 83 the 4s. is mentioned under plate 1 and *not* under plate 2.

On page 84 the 4s. is given as plate 1 with *Mitred* corner lines.

On page 84 the 4s. is given in plate 2 with square corner lines.

But I have a mint pair plate 2 with *Mitred* corner lines, but this does *not* have the two vertical lines on margin, and wonder if the pair I have is an error, especially as all the other stamps under plate 2 have the two vertical lines, except an 8d. plate 2 which also has *no* vertical lines, and I thought that the above information may be of interest to your readers. I might mention that the articles written by Major Harrington on Rhodesian Stamps are most interesting, and have been a great help to me in completing my Stamps of that Country.

Yours, etc.,

H. CHAPLIN,

101 Leadenhall Street,  
London, E.C.3.

## A DANGEROUS CUSTOMER.

Sir,

We wish to take the liberty of informing you of the following in case you wish to warn

other dealers and collectors about a certain individual who is visiting Stamp Shops and awaiting his opportunity to walk out with collections and stamps.

The following happened in our Pretoria Branch, at 243a Pretorius Street:

Giving his name as Mr. J— from the S— Hotel, Springs (all non-existent, of course), he eventually cleared off with a complete collection of USED Coronation stamps mounted in an F.G. Album, without paying, of course.

Perhaps you would care to warn the collecting public through the medium of the *S.A. Philatelist* of this, and they might be on the lookout for any offers of disposing the Collection at, probably, a ridiculous figure.

If we are able to give you a description of the said person at a future date we will do so.

Thanking you in anticipation,

Yours, etc.,

H.S.

Benoni Stamp Shop.

## PHILATELIC CONGRESS OF SOUTHERN AFRICA

A neatly printed programme has been issued by the Capetown Philatelic Society for the Seventh Philatelic Congress of Southern Africa.

## PROGRAMME.

*Saturday, October 8:*

Banqueting Hall, City Hall, 11 a.m. to 4 p.m.  
Display: Cape Postal History. Union Stamps and S.A. Airposts.

Official opening by His Worship the Mayor, C. W. Foster, Esq., at 11.30 a.m.

Supper—Constantia Nek Restaurant, at 7.30 p.m.

*Sunday, October 9:*

Medical House, 35 Wale Street, Capetown.

10 a.m. to 1 p.m.—Congress Meeting.

2.30 p.m.—Mountain Drive.

8 p.m.—Continuation of Congress Meeting.

Special Congress Labels have been printed for the occasion in Souvenir Sheets of four. The motif is a Postal History one, showing the V.O.C. handstamp of the Dutch East India



Company, introduced for postal use in 1792, and the 1d. triangular of 1853, the first adhesive stamp of the Cape of Good Hope.

## IMPORTANT ANNOUNCEMENT

### *The T. W. HALL Collection*

☞ We are offering for Sale, by countries, the whole of the Foreign Sections of the celebrated Collection formed by the former President of the Royal Philatelic Society, London—Mr. T. W. Hall, who died last year.

**THIS IS THE LARGEST AND FINEST GENERAL COLLECTION  
TO BE BROKEN UP SINCE THE DISPERSAL BY AUCTION OF  
THE HIND COLLECTION IN 1934.**

☞ The late Mr. Hall was famed as a specialist in South American stamps, and formed superb collections of Columbia, Peru, Uruguay, Argentina, Chili, etc. Though this is the strongest part of the collection, every country is represented, and we shall be pleased to hear from collectors interested in any particular section. Full details of contents and price will be sent to all enquirers by return of post.

★ *If there is nothing suitable in the Hall collection we must surely have something to suit every type of collector in our own huge stock, which covers the whole world, colonial and foreign*

**SEND US YOUR WANT LISTS.**

#### CAPE OF GOOD HOPE

1d. red. De la Rue, no outer frame, and 4d. blue, with outer frame, printed on chalk-surfaced paper, without watermark, imperforate, overprinted CANCELLED. A block of 24 of each, showing the division between the panes. A most unusual item. PRICE £45 the two blocks.

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## The "Occupational" Postmarks of the Mandated Territory of South-West Africa

By L. Simenhoff, B.A., F.R.P.S.L.

(Continued from page 134 of September issue.)

### (II) (continued) The G.S.W.A. Campaign, 1914-15.

Meanwhile a "rebellion" (Gewapende Opstand) in the Union (October 22nd) postponed operations. Lukin returned to the O.F.S. and McKenzie was delayed at Lüderitzbucht. In October, 1914, Maritz treacherously handed over to the Germans his loyal soldiers as prisoners of war, and threatened Upington, the capital of Gordonia. The sinking of Admiral Cradock's squadron off the coast of Coronel by the German Admiral Von Spee, revived hopes of the Germans in G.S.-W.A., but Admiral Sturdee's feat at the Falkland Islands frustrated the threat of external German assistance. Meanwhile, General Louis Botha, who had now 40,000 men in the field led by picked officers, his old Boer War colleagues, quelled the Rebellion by the end of 1914, and then concentrated on the S.-W.A. campaign.

Colonel Skinner, who landed at Walvis Bay on 25th December, 1914, had taken Swakopmund on 14th January, 1915. In February, 1915, General Botha arrived at Walvis to take charge of the Northern (Nordkom), Union Expeditionary Force and struck camp at Swakopmund, which became the first H.Q.'s and where Colonel Skinner was in occupation. The Nordkom with bases at Walvis and Swakopmund, would advance via the Swakop Valley and railway to Windhuk. The Swakop River was in flood and the advance into the Namib commenced on 18th March. On the 20th Botha had occupied Riet, Jakalswater, and Pforte on the desert fringe and next day captured Salem. On 26th March he returned to Swakopmund owing to a shortage of supplies.

The Union Government sanctioned a loan of £16,000,000 for two years of war, and on 25th April, 1915, all was ready for the general advance.

Meanwhile, three columns were converging on Keetmanshoop. A column from the south (Südkom) under General van Deventer advanced from Upington via Nakob, the Eastern Force (Ostkom) under General Berranjé, left Kimberley via the Kalahari and crossed the German border near Rietfontein, left Hasuur on 3rd March, and reached Kabus, near Keetmanshoop on the 19th. The German forces were thus threatened and escaped by rail. Berranjé followed them north.

Meanwhile, the Central Force (Centkom) under General McKenzie based on Lüderitzbucht, had reached Garub on 22nd February, 1915, and occupied Aus on 31st March. He

despatched a flying column via Bethany (13th April) and Maltahöhe to Gibeon, where a fight took place near the station on April 25th, 1915. The three southern forces, now under General Smuts, pushed northwards.

On 26th April, General Botha left Swakopmund on his record march. By the 28th he had made Riet his headquarters. Otjimbingue was reached on 1st May and Karibib on the 5th. By now detachments had been left in occupation of Albrechts, Okasise, Okahandja, Waldau and other stations on the railway. The Germans were retreating N. and N.E., whilst the southern armies were approaching Windhuk on the southern flank.

On 6th May, Karibib became the Army H.Q. and on 12th May, 1915, Botha occupied Windhuk, leaving Colonel Mentz in charge as Military Governor when he returned to Karibib on the 14th. The retreating Germans from the south effected a junction with their northern compatriots at Kaekfeld in the Omaruru district and Botha advanced from Karibib on 26th June under the following dispositions.

(1) General Brits advancing along the eastern side of the railway line from Karibib, reached Otjiwarongo, struck through Outjo and Okaukuejo and took the fort at Namutoni, where the British prisoners were confined.

(2) General Myburg marched westwards through Okanjande and Waterberg to Grootfontein and thence to Tsumeb.

(3) General Lukin's and General Manie Botha's columns continued along the railway line to Otavi Junction.

Colonel Franke, the German Commander, was at Khorab on the narrow gauge railway near Otavi Junction in a prepared position, but finding himself almost surrounded, surrendered on 9th July, 1915.

On the signing of peace at Kilo 500, between Otavi and Khorab, General Botha gave excellent terms to the defeated Germans, and all troops left for the Union save five regiments of S.A.M.R. and the necessary departmental services, such as the S.A.S.C. and S.A.M.C.

It is worthy of note that although we had 50,000 troops in the field, we never had more than 5,000 at any one point, whereas the 9,000 Germans were mostly concentrated

Since the Peace Conference, South-West Africa has been administered as a part of the Union under a mandate from the League of nations.

## III.—POSTAL HISTORY.

## (1).—D.S.-W.A., 1888—1914.

The first P.O. was opened on 16th July, 1888, at Otyimbingue, which was closed on 13th October, 1891, when it was transferred to Windhoek, which was opened on 18th October, 1891, with agencies at Höhewarte and Seeis.

Otjimbingue was re-opened on 1st July, 1895. (N.B.—Change of spelling).

By the year 1900 there were 29 post offices and agencies in the territory, many of the smaller ones being in charge of non-commissioned officers of local garrisons. At this period, in addition to the above-named P.O.'s there were: Cap Cross, Gibeon, Gobabis, Gross-Barmen, Keetmanshoop, Lüderitzbucht, with agency Bethanien, Okahandja, Omaruru, Outjo, Rehoboth, Swakopmund, Warmbad, with agencies at Ukamas and Ramansdrift, Okambahe (1899), Maltahöhe (1890), Kubub, Waterberg, Grootfontein, Otavi (all opened in 1900), Haris, Mariental, Kuis, Hatsamas (all opened in February, 1900).

These post offices were under the control of the "Ober Postdirection" at Hamburg. The then current German stamps were used until 1897 unoverprinted, having been printed at the Reichs Druckerei, the Imperial Printing Works, Berlin.

The postal rates between Germany and her colonies and inter-colonially were cheaper than the British 1d. rate, e.g., for letters up to 20 gr. ( $\frac{1}{2}$  oz.) the rate was 10 pf. and over 250 gr., 20 pf. (2½d.); postcards cost 5 pf. (½d.).

The first special issue of stamps for G.S.-W.A. was put into circulation in 1897 and comprised the following four denominations, viz., 3 pf., 5 pf., 10 pf., and 20 pf., of the German issue of 1889, which was overprinted "Deutsch-Südwest-Afrika" diagonally across the stamps in two lines. The 25 pf. and 50 pf. were sent to the International Postal Union at Berne, Switzerland, but were never sent to G.S.-W.A.

A new overprint appeared in 1898, when the second line of wording was changed to "Südwestafrika" as one word without the hyphen. This issue consisted of the same values as before, plus the 25 pf. and 50 pf.

In 1900, the new German Colonial stamps depicting the ex-Kaiser's yacht "Höhenzollern" were put into circulation. They were on unwatermarked paper and consisted of the following values, viz., 3, 5, 10, 20, 25, 30, 40, 50, and 80 pfennigs and 1, 2, 3, and 5 marks.

In 1906 a new issue appeared on paper watermarked lozenges. This was the last German issue until the occupation in 1914. The following values were printed, viz., 3, 5, 10, 20 and 30 pfennigs, and 1, 2, 3 and 5 marks.

By 1914 there were 76 post offices and agencies in D.S.-W.A., with Windhuk as the Chief P.O. The Governor was Dr. Seitz. The population was about 200,000 of which about 12,000 were Europeans.

P.O.'s—Arahoab, Aris, Aub (transferred to Bergland), Aus, Barseba, Bethanien, Bogenfels, Brackwasser, Brackwater (Windhuk), Chairros, Ekuja, Empfängnisbucht, Epukiro, Fahlgras (Windhuk), Gibeon, Gobabis, Gochas, Grootfontein, Gross-Barmen, Gross-Witvley, Guchab, Hasuur, Hatsamas, Hoachanas, Höhewarte, Jakalswater, Johann-Albrechtshöhe, Kalkfeld, Kalkfontein (Süd), Kanus, Karibib, Keetmanshoop, Khan, Klein-Nauas, Koes, Kolmanskuppe, Kub, Kuis, Lüderitzbucht, Maltahöhe, Mariental, Nauchas, Neudamm, Neuheuis, Okahandja, Okatjiomba, Okasise, Okaukwejo, Okambahe, Olukonda, Omaruru, Omitara, Onguati, Osona, Otavi, Otjihawera, Otjimbingue, Otjiwarongo, Otjosazu, Otjosenjati, Outjo, Pomonohügel, Prinzenbucht, Ramansdrift, Rehoboth, Seeheim, Seeis, Swakopmund, Tsumeb, Ukamas, Usakos, Waldau, Warmbad, Waterberg, Wilhelmstal, WINDHUK.

## (2) Occupational Period, 1914-1923.

## A. German Army Post Offices: 1914-15.

- (1) For Border Forces: Kalkfontein-Süd, Keetmanshoop, Warmbad.
- (2) For Lüderitzbucht Coast Guard: Aus.
- (3) An Army P.O. for the Coast Guard of Swakopmund was established at Rössing.
- (4) Mobile Field P.O.s, connecting up with railway stations were at Jakalswater, Abbabis, and Kubas.
- (5) Field P.O.s to April, 1915: Karibib, Omaruru, Usakos, Gibeon, Gibeon Bhf, Mariental, Rehoboth.

Towards the end of April, 1915, Karibib became the Central Base P.O., while Field P.O.'s were established at Otavifontein, April-30th June, 1915. Khorab, 1st July-6th July. Tsumeb, 7th July-10th July, 1915.

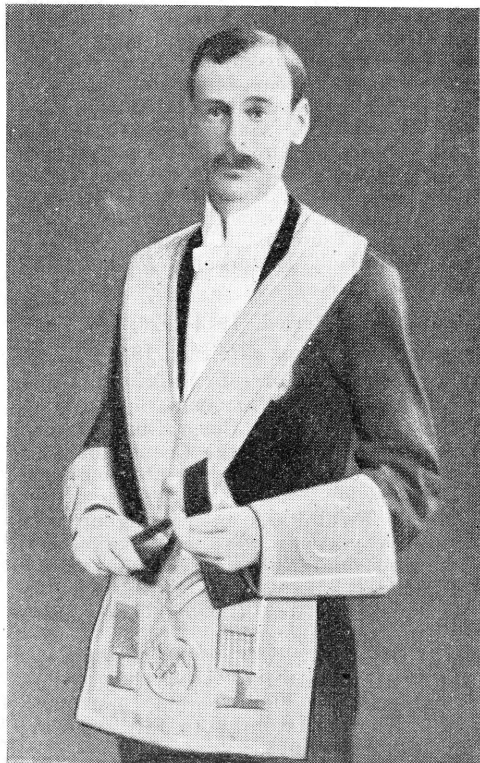
In addition to the F.P.O. cancellations, two rubber cachets were applied to postal articles emanating from the above Field P.O.s, viz.: No. 1 Otavifontein to 30-VI-15; then Khorab to 6-VII-15; then Tsumeb to 10-VII-15. No. 2 Gibeon, 20th-30th April, 1915 No. 2 was supplimented by handwritten "Gibeon Bhf."



Unfranked Active Service letters were endorsed: "Feldpost" or "Mit Parlamentär" (Armistice). Later on, interned Germans and troops had their post cancelled "Postage Free, Prisoner of War Camp," etc.

(To be continued).

## Southern Africa's Philatelic Roll of Honour



**THE LATE GILBERT J. ALLIS.**

Born in Scarborough, England, on March 21st, 1879. Elder son of the headmaster of a college in Scarborough. His mother is Mrs. Elizabeth Mabel Allis (born West), who is now living in Clapham, England, and has reached the ripe age of 86 years. His father died in 1890, when Allis was 11 years of age.

Even as a youngster Allis was possessed of boundless energy, and made use of every moment of his time in acquiring a solid education and a considerable knowledge of various specialised studies, which all proved very useful to him in later years.

After leaving school he spent some considerable time on the Continent studying art, architecture and painting. He also had a gift for acquiring a knowledge of different languages, in later years becoming an accomplished linguist, being fluent in French, German, Afrikaans and High Dutch. In his youth he made a hobby of carpentry and mathematics.

At the age of 19 he was appointed private secretary to Sir John Reckitts, M.P. for Scarborough. A possible political future was cut short when for health reasons he had to leave

England to reside in South Africa, where he arrived in 1901, accompanied by his sister Mabel and brother Leonard.

His first appointment in this country was as secretary to the Capetown Y.M.C.A. At a later date he became secretary to the Mayor of Capetown, and eventually secretary to the Divisional Council of the Cape, a position which he filled for many years.

In 1910 he married Miss C. E. Manning, of Mowbray, Capetown. There are six children, and the philatelic tradition is being carried on by his son, Mr. Gilbert Eric Allis, who is Town Clerk of Fort Beaufort, Cape.

Gilbert J. Allis had a knowledge of stamps which was positively astounding, and was the envy of his many philatelic friends. Fortunately for them he was always very pleased to pass on his philatelic knowledge to anyone who was interested. He was undoubtedly the greatest living authority on the stamps of the Cape of Good Hope.

It was due to Allis's initiative that the Capetown Philatelic Society was formed in 1911. He arranged a meeting of a few friends who were interested.

On May 4th, 1911, a meeting was held in the Y.M.C.A., Long Street, Capetown, with the late Mr. William Reid in the chair. Amongst those present were Messrs. George Lovelock, H. Conisbee, C. Smithers, the late Charles Hand, and the late Arthur Cripps. Mr. George Lovelock was elected first president, Mr. William Reid vice-president, Gilbert J. Allis secretary and treasurer, and Messrs. Cripps and Conisbee members of committee. Charles Hand was the well known expert on stamps of the Transvaal, and William Reid was an authority on the stamps of the Orange Free State. Owing largely to Allis's enthusiasm the Society flourished from its inception. At a later stage Allis became president of the society, a position which he occupied for some four to five years. Those were the palmy days of Cape of Good Hope collecting in South Africa. Most of the stalwarts of those days have passed away, and we recall amongst Cape of Good Hope enthusiasts the late Louis B. Smuts, H. H. Saby, George Smith (Junior), and others.

I doubt whether anyone in the world could have competed with Allis in setting out and writing up a collection—at any rate from the point of view of speed he was unbeatable. The writer possesses an album written up by Allis in half a day. When a page has to be added it has to be done by a commercial artist and takes at least one hour to do.

Allis was a Fellow of the Royal Philatelic Society of London. He did not go in for big exhibitions on a large scale, preferring to give his own philatelic friends the benefit of most of his knowledge. He was a holder of the Crawford Medal.

Allis's "Cape of Good Hope," published by Stanley Gibbons, Ltd., is the recognized standard work on "Capes."

When this Roll of Honour was instituted, his name was one of the first selected to go on it.

## Reviews

### NEW CATALOGUES.

The 1939 Catalogues are with us once again. What new can be said about that, except that Gibbons' gets more and more like a family bible, and Whitfield King's is already a very good sized testament?

Stanley Gibbons' Catalogue is priced 16s. in one volume (Stamps of the World), or Part I. (British Empire, with Egypt and Iraq) at 6s. 6d., and Part II. (Rest of the World) at 10s. may be had separately. Postage 6d. each extra.

A new feature is a "Simplification Table" at the beginning of many of the more complicated countries, indicating to the general collector the stamps he might strive to get, as opposed to the fuller selection which the specialist would want.

Two countries, Afghanistan and Sarawak, have their lists entirely rewritten, and there are important sectional revisions in the lists of Ceylon, China, French Morocco, S. Africa, S. Australia, Transvaal, Turkey and Zanzibar.

The publishers state that about 20,000 price alterations have been made; amongst them it may be noted that, in spite of all talk to the contrary, Coronation issues have risen—proof of their confidence in these issues. (Some of them, however, we must confess, seem too much over present market prices, e.g., S. Rhodesia sets at 15s.).

To come to a few individual countries:—Spain. Only a very restricted list of Spanish Civil War issues is given, the publishers regarding most of those produced as speculative issues made for collectors only and not for real postal use. South Africa. The listing of the "Officials" has been recast, to great advantage. There are rises in price of a number of the scarcer items, e.g., higher values of the King's Heads, Jipex Sheets, and of Postage Due. The Jubilees remain as last year.

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Bogota, Colombia, South America.

In Transvaal we note one big jump in price, No. 12 from £20 to £40. A note about the "V.I.R." error is introduced for the first time. Zanzibar. Many of the higher values are up. Several new items are listed in the postage due "labels."

The U.S.A. illustrations have been reduced to just under  $\frac{3}{4}$  linear size to conform with U.S.A. law permitting entry of works so illustrated. Perhaps a reduction of illustrations all round would help to solve the problem of size of catalogues.

In Great Britain the 1d. blacks and 2d. blues of 1840 show great increases.

Whitfield King's Standard Catalogues.—Whole World. Price 5s. Postage 6d. extra. This catalogue does not go into such detail of varieties, but is eminently suitable for the general collector. Illustrations are all  $\frac{1}{2}$  (linear) size. Countries whose lists have been thoroughly revised in this year's issue are Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, Czechoslovakia, Germany, Hayti, Lichtenstein, Luxembourg, Monaco, Newfoundland, New Zealand, Saar, U.S.A. and Uruguay.

The Franco issues of Spain are very fully listed, practically 400 being given, all considered by the publishers to be authentic postal issues.

The total number of stamps listed is of interest, 66,630. Europe still heads the list with 21,325; Africa comes next with 14,532. During the past year, 2,703 have been added, requiring 290 new illustrations.

### BRIDGER & KAY—CHANGE OF ADDRESS.

Will customers please note that Messrs. Bridger & Kay, Ltd., have changed their address, as from the end of September, from 170 to 86 Strand, London, W.C.2.

## COLLECTORS' WANTS AND OFFERS

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

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

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.

## A Cruise Round the World

By Miss A. F. HEAN.

(Reported to the Pretoria Philatelic Society, and illustrated by stamps showing ships, boats, canoes, etc., in their design).

Perhaps because I was born and brought up within sight of the sea, I have always liked ships and anything to do with shipping. Tonight, therefore, let us take a world tour in any ship we can find to take us, no matter what its size nor to which century it belongs.

We shall start from Table Bay in one of the ships that lie waiting for us there, on the stamps of 1893, with Hope to give us a good send-off, or on the ship of the penny value of 1900. Taking the East Coast route, we call in at Beira, where modern ships carry us in to a modern, bustling port. We do not patronize these for long, however, but tranship to a little Arab dhow, with widespread sail, and explore the palm-shaded river Buzi. The fourth ship on which we travel is not much larger than a dhow, yet it carried intrepid explorers from Portugal past the dread Cape of Storms to India. Vasco da Gama sails in it and under his leadership we go confidently on up the African coast.

Mauritius is our next port of call and we sail there in the high-pooed ship that waits for us on the Mauritian coat-of-arms.

From Mauritius we go to the land of the Pharaohs and float down the Nile in a graceful felucca to Alexandria, where we go ashore in a small native rowing boat to visit the palace of Ras-el-Tin.

Tiring of Egypt we go on to Malta where, apparently, the rudder of our two-sailed boat comes adrift and is returned to us by a haughty damsel. From there we travel to Portugal, returning to the ships of 1498; from the sides of the stamp we gather up a few essentials such as oars, anchors, compasses, and a star to guide our path.

Leaving Portugal, we come next to Great Britain, where we ride with Britannia in an ocean chariot drawn by three sea horses over the waves. In Denmark we have a rather top-heavy ship and a dolphin sports in the waves surrounding it.

A trip to Poland gives us the chance to try a more modern sailing ship which cuts through the waves with all sail set. Then back we go to a rowing boat to sail to the Ukraine. I am not sure that the rowers and the man in the bow of the boat are quite agreeing as to which way to go, so that I think we'd better leave them to argue and we will continue to Soviet Russia. There we

have a steamship which takes us quickly through Russia till we come to Turkey. In a quiet, peaceful bay a graceful boat with furled sails waits for us, to sail us down the river.

After the pleasant Turkish scene, we have an exciting time crossing a river in Iraq, mixed up with horses, donkeys, Mesopotamians and other livestock, in round coracles such as may still be seen in use not only in Iraq but also in parts of Wales.

From Iraq we travel to the Far East to journey gently in a Chinese junk up a wide river. In Brunei next we sample the long narrow native canoes, propelled so skilfully among the houses that rest on stilts high above the water.

But our quarters are cramped, so we change to a German steamship and sail away to the Marshall Islands, leaving plumes of smoke trailing behind us. A quick visit there is enough for we are keen to see the United States of America. This large land we explore first in the company of Columbus and his fleet, then of brave unfortunate Henry Hudson who, in 1609, set out "for Chesapeake Bay and China."

If we care we may travel the Hudson River again two hundred years later in the "Clermont," the first steam-driven vessel to navigate that waterway, or, later still, we may sail on the Great Lakes in one of the huge lake steamers.

Steamships do not carry us to Bermuda, however, but a little four-masted sailing vessel with four flags flying. Then to Jamaica, which provides us with many ships, from those of Columbus in 1494, or those of 1850 gathered in Port Royal harbour, to those of only twenty years ago, the troopships.

Cuba is the next island which we visit and here we meet our friend the dolphin from Denmark again, as we sail along in what looks like a rather grubby tramp steamer. There is an Exhibition in Brazil, so we sail there in a two-funnelled steamship, entering the modern harbour of the flourishing seaport.

Now we turn homeward, crossing the Atlantic to the French Ivory Coast, where we travel in a light, shallow canoe paddled from bow and stern. St. Helena is also on our homeward way; we sail in to the bay, and perhaps give a passing thought to Napoleon in his lonely exile.

Once again we sail with Bartholomew Diaz in his sturdy ship to Cape Cross in South-West Africa and, finally, home again in our own good sailing ship. That's the end of one of the cheapest world tours of which I know.

**STUDY YOUR COUNTRY'S STAMPS**

## S. RHODESIA CORONATION STAMPS

(From remarks made by Dr. A. Kaplan, exhibiting at the September meeting of the Philatelic Society, of Johannesburg).

"With regard to the Coronation Stamps, it has been fairly conclusively proved by Mr. N. Rose, of Bulawayo, that the Coronation differentiation is quite simple.

"The simplest way to differentiate the four plates is by the examination of the fourth stamp on the 9th row, that is, the 52nd stamp in the sheet. Plate No. 1, the Queen's Head does not show any marking, but on plate 2 there is a clear dot about the bridge of the nose between the eyes. Plate 3 shows a round dot above the left eye near the line of the hair, and the 4th plate shows a bar of colour crossing the bridge of the Queen's nose. All these marks occur in the colour of the plate and are probably due to damage to the Master-plate. These marks are distinct on all values with the exception of the 1d. value.

"Mr. Rose is correct as far as he goes. What actually happened was that, from the Master-plate four plates were made in one, thereby enabling the printer to print four of these Coronation plates at a time. The sheets were numbered by hand and are consecutive up to 500. No number above 500 was used, and the numbering was consequently repetitions of 1-500.

"In order to facilitate the cutting of the large sheet into four sheets, guide lines were drawn between the four individual sheets of stamps. These guide lines are in the colour of the duty plate. They consist of lines approximately one inch in length drawn vertically down the centre gutter in three portions, one line on top, one line in the centre and one in the bottom. In the horizontal gutter a similar three lines were drawn, these producing a cross in the centre of the full sheet.

"In my collection I show a format of the large sheet. The guide lines are 19 mm. from the edge of the stamp, and by obtaining corners that are larger than 19 mm. one is enabled to plate the four plates. Plate No. 1, that is, the top left plate, will show no horizontal lines on the top margin but on the bottom margin. This plate will show vertical lines on the right side of the sheet but not on the left.

"Plate 2, or top right plate, shows no horizontal lines on top but at bottom; vertical lines on the left but not on the right. Plate 3, or bottom left plate, and plate 4, or bottom right plate, shows exactly the reverse in its lines.

"A similar condition is noticeable in the Georgian stamps of Basutoland and the presumption arises as to whether all the new Georgian stamps are being printed four plates at a time.

"From the position of two sheets numbered consecutively, I deduce that these sheets were numbered vertically."

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## Air Mail Notes

By  
I. H. C. GODFREY.

### UNION OF SOUTH AFRICA. HANDLEY PAGE COVERS.

Mr. Wyndham furnishes the following details respecting the Handley Page cover numbered 12 in his check list: Owned by Mr. M. Stern, of Cape Town; posted at Cape Town 14th February, 1920, addressed to J. Hyam, Kimberley.

#### South African Airways—MOSSSEL BAY.

16th September, 1938.—Mossel Bay, C.P., was made a regular point of call on this date on the Cape-Durban airmail service and now acts as a distributing centre for mails twice a week in each direction.

Mossel Bay figured on the airmail map as long ago as 1925, when the Government Experimental flights were arranged, but it was abandoned as a landing stage at the outset owing to a plane, piloted by Major Meintzes, having crashed there. And, whilst mails were delivered at the town, often by parachute on a feeder service from Oudtshoorn, no mails were actually flown from Mossel Bay until the 13th May, 1937, when the South African Airways' plane ZS-AFB landed there as an experiment en route from Cape Town to Durban. The landing facilities proved to be inadequate and the original intention of making that aerodrome a regular call had to be postponed. Approximately half a dozen letters were carried on this 1937 despatch from Mossel Bay.

The "Kalahari Air Mail."—A survey flight over the proposed Kalahari Desert route was successfully undertaken by the South African Airways' Junkers JU86, "Sir Gordon J. Sprigg," during September, no mails being carried. It is proposed shortly to inaugurate a northern route to Windhoek, via Palapye Road, Maun and Gobabis, a distance of 1,032 miles, thereby completing a circular airmail service, once weekly in each direction, in conjunction with the present Johannesburg-Kimberley-Windhoek route. Air distances between the new stopping places are: Johannesburg-Palapye Road, 240 miles; Palapye Road-Maun, 320 miles; Maun-Windhoek, 472 miles.

### DEALERS . . . .

If you stock modern sets you must send a Post Card for our Monthly Trade List. It quotes lowest trade prices for all modern pictorial sets, and is sent free to any bona fide dealer on request.

**DARRACOTT & ROBERTS**  
(Members P.T.S., B.P.A., etc.),  
546 & 547 Grand Buildings, Trafalgar Square,  
LONDON, W.C.2, England.

Six years ago the journey between Palapye Road and Maun, in Ngamiland, could only be made by ox-wagon and lasted from four to six weeks; at present it takes about two and a half days by car, but when the new service is in operation the journey will be made in about two hours.

## NEW ISSUES

**ANGOLA.**—Commemorating the first Presidential visit to the Colonies, there was an issue of three values (80c., 1.75ang. and 20 ang.). The design of all three shows a marble column, surmounted by the arms of Portugal and a cross. At the top of the stamp is the wording, "Imperio Colonial Portugues" and at the foot of the column, "Primeira Viagem Presidencial As Colonias 1938." A similar set was issued at S. TOME E PRINCIPE.

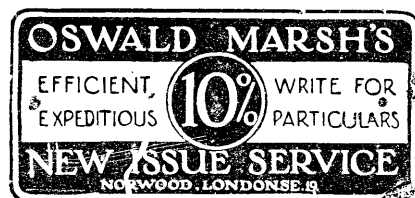
**AUSTRALIA.**—On August 1 there were issued new printings of the 1d. (Queen Elizabeth) and 2d. (King George VI.) from new plates made from re-engraved dies. In these the words "Australia" and "Postage" and the denomination are not outlined in colour, the background is uniformly quadrillé, and the portraits themselves are more finely engraved. We are indebted to the *Australian Stamp Monthly* for a first day cover with these stamps. There has also been a change in the Postage Due stamps, the duty plates of the current (1909) issue being retained, but the frame has been re-engraved.

**MOZAMBIQUE.**—According to *The Stamp Collectors' Fortnightly* the subjects depicted in relief on the surface of the globe (see illustration in our August number) are Portugal and a part of Africa. The values are 10, 20 and 50 centavos and 1, 2, 3, 9 and 10 escudos.

**U.S.A.**—The following values of the Presidentials were announced for issue in September:

2nd 10c. Tyler.  
8th 11c. Polk.  
14th 12c. Taylor.  
22nd 13c. Fillmore.  
29th 2\$ Harding.

We gather that first day covers of the low values issued to date have averaged round about 100,000 apiece, but it is hardly likely that the 2\$ Harding stamp will run to that. It is also stated that the hustle to get the Presidents all out this year is because there is a big programme for new stamps next year. Gee!



### WHO INVENTED THE SYSTEM OF MEASURING PERFORATIONS?

I do not think that many members of the "Collectors Club" could answer this question. It was one of the greatest of the early French collectors—Dr. Jacques Amable Legrand, perhaps better known under his pen name of Dr. Magnus.

It was in 1866 that he wrote his paper in *Le Timbre Post*, in which he expounded his system of counting the number of perforations in a space of two centimetres. At the same time he classified, for the first time, the different kinds of perforations. This article attracted considerable attention, both in France and in England. A large class of collectors ridiculed what was termed the French school of collecting, but they were finally vanquished by the articles of E. L. Pemberton and T. K. Tapling.

Dr. Legrand became one of the principal writers in the French philatelic press. He was Editor of *Le Timbrophile* and later of the *Gazette des Timbres*. During the period 1868-76 he wrote his magnum opus on "Stamped Envelopes," which was published by M. Moens in *Le Timbre-Poste*.

In 1876 he, with the aid of several of the leading French collectors, founded "*Le Societe Timbrologique de France*," with Baron Arthur de Rothschild as President and Legrand acting as Secretary for many years.

—Charles J. Phillips,  
in "The Collectors Club Bulletin."

### TIBETAN POSTS.

Tibet is so far off the beaten track that it has no postal agreements with the rest of the world. Letters from Tibet destined for delivery in other countries usually are sent through India, although a few may filter out through China.

The postal system, which hardly deserves that name, is the world's best example of how mails should not be handled. Most deliveries are made through the good offices of caravan leaders and such a thing as care in handling a letter is unknown. The Tibetan characteristically wears a heavy shirt, bound around his middle with a cloth. This forms a pouch, open at the top, into which he dumps all his personal belongings and food. Letters are carried in this fashion with such intimate neighbours as yak butter, tea bricks, food, dirt and fleas.

As there are no established postal routes, deliveries are more or less a matter of luck. If a caravan comes to a stream which it does not intend to cross but over which the letter should pass, the leader ties the letter to a stone and throws it in the general direction of the opposite bank. If it reaches the other side, well and good, it may be picked up by the next wayfarer who comes along and carried on its way. But, on the other hand, if the aim is poor or the river too wide the letter goes to the bottom and is lost for ever. And who will take the blame? The Tibetan gods, of

course, who have thus demonstrated their disapproval of the contents of the message and destroyed it.

There are times when even a Tibetan wants a letter to proceed with all possible speed. To indicate his wish the writer ties an eagle feather to one corner of his cover. The simile is apparent. Does it work? Who knows? "The Stamp Man" in the "*Boston Transcript*."

### THE PHILATELIC MAGAZINE— "AIRSPEED" EDITION.

An edition of the *Philatelic Magazine* is now being printed on thin paper for transmission by all-up air routes. We have received a copy seven days after publication in London. For those who want their news, advertisements, etc., red-hot this is just the thing. Postage still amounts to quite a bit, however (6d. a copy) and your airspeed edition will cost you 21s. a year as against 7s. 6d. for the ordinary edition.

### UNION CORONATIONS

In Complete Mint sheets, with all the varieties. FIRST ISSUE. Watermark inverted (horns facing to left).

½d. grey-brown and green.	Price per sheet	15/-
1½d. orange and dull green.	" "	25/-
3d. blue	" "	50/-
1/- chestnut and pale blue.	" "	£12 10s.

SPECIAL PLATE. 1d. sepia and carmine.

Price per sheet	50/-
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(This is the scarce first printing, which was made from a head-plate not used for any other value).

SECOND ISSUE. Watermark normal (horns pointing to right).

½d. grey-black and green.	Price per sheet	7/6
1d. black and carmine.	" "	12/6
1½d. orange and dull green.	" "	25/6
3d. blue.	" "	40/-
1/- chestnut and blue.	" "	£7 10s.

THIRD ISSUE.

½d. black and dark green.	Price per sheet	12/6
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(These have the watermark normal, and can easily be recognised, apart from the colour, by the plate characteristic: Africa crossed out on first two stamps of bottom row).

BLOCKS OF 4 of all the 11 varieties listed above, mint. Price 25/-.

SHEET CORNERS: Complete sets of 4 corners ("small sheets") of all the 11 varieties listed above, mint. Price 75/- for the 88 stamps.

ARROWS: Complete sets of 4 arrow pairs of all 11 varieties, mint, for only 75/- for the 88 stamps.

### OTHER CORONATION OFFERS.

SOUTH-WEST AFRICA. Complete mint panes of 60, set of 8 values complete (Face £7 10s.), special price £8.

Ditto. Mint blocks of 4, set of 8 values, price 12/6

Ditto. ditto, ditto, with imprint, price 17/6.

Ditto. Mint sheet corner pairs ("small sheets") complete, price 35/- for the 64 stamps.

CROWN COLONIES: Complete (45 sets) in mint blocks of four, price £5 for the 540 stamps.

Ditto, in small sheets (singletons only, each stamp a corner stamp with margin), very special. Price £7 15s. for the 540 stamps.

NEWFOUNDLAND. Special long sst, in mint blocks of 4. Price 42/- for the 44 stamps.

Nett, C.W.O., Post Free.

A. LICHTENSTEIN,

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## Transvaal and Orange Free State Stamps Used in Natal and Cape Province : 1899-1900

[This article constitutes one section of a work compiled by Messrs. Crouch, Hinde, McGowan, Pirie, Sharpe, Watson and Yates dealing with all varieties of stamps "used abroad" in South Africa during the Anglo-Boer War. It is being published separately here, as being of special interest to South African collectors.]

For the work in general the compilers have relied mainly on their own specialized collections, but for much additional information in this particular section they are indebted to Messrs. A. E. Basden and S. Klagsburn. If the records of specimens from the collections of these two gentlemen had not been available for inclusion, the check list would have been a woefully incomplete one.—Editor.]

The only paper we have knowledge of which is at all informative on the subject of Republican (Transvaal and Orange Free State) stamps used in Northern Natal and Cape Colony during the occupation of these territories by the Boer forces in 1899-1900, is one by Mr. S. A. Klagsbrun, published in the "Transactions of the Pretoria Philatelic Society," for 1931, p. 37, entitled "Comments on certain emissions issued during the Anglo-Boer War."

This article deals mainly with the Schweizer Reneke issue and with Republican stamps used in Natal and Cape. From it we quote the following translation of parts of Extraordinary Circular No. 80, published by the Postal Department of the Z.A. Republiek:-

"Pretoria, Nov., 29, 1899.

"1. Postal service in the portions of Natal occupied by the camps of the South African Republic:-

"In accordance with para. 2 of Circular No. 78 and of para. 5 of Circular No. 79 the following Post Offices are opened in Natal:-

Charlestown	Dannhauser
Mount Prospect	Hattingspruit
Keerstation	Waschbank
Ingogo	Wesselsnek
Ingagane	

all situated along the railway between Volksrust and Modderspruit, where there is a daily service.

"The post office at Glencoe has been changed into a post agent's office and the business there, as in the case of the other named offices has been transferred to the railway officials stationed on the spot, being under the post office at Newcastle.

"At Elandslaagte and Modderspruit special persons have been appointed for dealing with postal matter.

"All correspondence from the above-named places coming from the post offices of the South African Republic should be enclosed in the post bag for Volksrust, that is, should be sent to one of the 8 post offices mentioned in Circular No. 78 in order to be sent through to Volksrust.

"All correspondence posted at any post office in Natal and with destination to the above-named nine post offices must be made up into one packet addressed to the "Traveling Railway Post Official at . . . ." (here the name of the nearest station is to be filled in). As an exception to this, the 8 offices mentioned already in Circular No. 78 can, if the quantity of correspondence gives occasion therefor, make up direct mails for the offices at Elandslaagte and Modderspruit; but, where this correspondence is scanty, there is no binding duty to do this. If, however, a beginning has been made with the making-up of direct mails, they are to be completed.

"The direct transmission of mails to the Chief Camp ("Hoofdlager") near Ladysmith remains unaltered.

"For the regulation of return mails from Natal the postal officials and postal agents must receive instructions from the Special Inspector of Posts, who is now in Natal, Mr. S. G. Krieger."

A further portion of Circular No. 80 is also of interest, dealing as it does, with postal services in another area of operations, namely, the Vryburg area. It is quoted herewith:-

"3. New postal communication between Schweizer Reneke and Vryburg:

"Since 25th of November inst. direct postal communication has been established between Schweizer Reneke and Vryburg, via Leliefontein and Weltevreden, and the time-table below is now in operation:-

(Time-table omitted)

"4. Correspondence for the Commando under Field Cornet Visser, in the direction of Kuruman:

"This Commando receives its correspondence from Vryburg by means of mounted couriers.

"5. Postage stamps for the Post Office at Vryburg:

"In consequence of the lack of our postage stamps, the Cape Colony postage stamps were surcharged at Vryburg with the letters "Z.A.R." Only the following small quantity of them was printed:

"Of the ½d., for £5; of the 1d., for £10; of the 2½d., for £5; and of the 6d. (altered to 2 pence), for £12. Stamps of this State are



## KENYA NOTES

### K.G. V. 1s. PERFORATION VARIETY.

Kenya varieties are to the fore at the moment. In addition to the retouch variety in the 5c. reported last month, there has now been recorded in the *Stamp Magazine* the finding of the 1s. value K.G. V. pictorial (Lake Naivasha) perforated  $13\frac{1}{2} \times 11\frac{1}{2}$  instead of the normal 14 all round. This variety must have been in an early printing as a used specimen which we have seen is dated early in 1936.

We can add what we believe is a hitherto unrecorded variety of an earlier Kenya issue, viz.:

### AN UNCATALOGUED EAST AFRICA PROTECTORATE 1 R STAMP OF THE 1912 ISSUE.

Some time ago Mr. A. E. Basden brought to our notice a One Rupee stamp of the 1912-22 issue for the East Africa and Uganda Protectorates which was not catalogued. This variety was on an emerald surfaced paper, with olive back. The stamp is catalogued on emerald paper with emerald back, but (unlike the 75c. of this issue) not on the paper described by S.G. as "emerald surface." In the interim we had been on the outlook for further specimens of this variety but had not come across any. A recent application to Messrs. Bridger & Kay, however, brought forward a specimen. If one swallow does not make a summer perhaps two will be considered as doing so and the variety may attain catalogue rank.

### JINJA BRIDGE REDRAWN.

Talking of the redrawn sheet (the nautical one, not the printer's one) on the "Dhow on Lake Victoria," reminds us that the Jinja Bridge has been redrawn on the K.G. VI. issue. In the 1935 issue there was no mode of getting on to the lower level bridge from the left, there being a gap between the bank and the pier on which the lower deck of the bridge ended.

In the new issue the river bank comes out to the concrete pier on the left and there is also some redrawing of the road leading to the right-hand end of the bridge. This is seen on the 30c. and presumably also on the 5s. value, although we have not yet seen this stamp in the new issue.

### A K.G. VI. FIFTY CENT WITH UNCORRECTED CENTRE.

Last month we noted the occurrence of the 5c. King George V. stamp with the gap in the rope corrected. Now comes the finding, recorded in *Gibbons' Stamp Monthly*, of a King George VI. 50c. stamp with the gap in the rope still present. This is different from the other, however, inasmuch as it only occurs once in each sheet of 100 stamps.

Apparently separate sets of plates were used for the printing of the 5c. and 50c. values. The corrected plate of the 5c. K.G. VI. seems to have been a new one and not the old one touched up, the correction being made on the master die. The corrected plate of the 50c., on the other hand, is the old one retouched, the retouching having been done by hand on each subject of the plate.

This is going to be a real rarity, as probably the printers, having already corrected 99 stamps on the plate, will hastily correct the hundredth, if they have not already done so. This variety is No. 15 on the sheet.

Mr. W. Tunstall sends us the following notes from Kenya, mostly about Kenya:

The British P.O. at Larach, Spanish Morocco, was closed on 30-6-38. This only leaves British offices at Tangier and Tetuan.

As from 1-6-38, the postage from Kenya to the Belgian Congo, Mozambique and Anglo was reduced to 20 cents for the 1st oz., and 15 cents for each oz. after.

The following is a list of Post Offices in British Somaliland: Berbera, Borama, Burao, Erigavo, Hargusa, Sheikh, Zeelah. There may possibly be others but these are the principal ones.

I find that although mails are being sent "All Up" to Australia they are not coming back by air unless a special Air Fee is paid.

Since I wrote my article on Kenya Slogan Postmark and Meter marks the following have come into use:

(a) Post Mark, HELP THE KENYA-KING GEORGE VI-MEMORIAL FUND.

(b) Meter Mark. The Nairobi Municipal Council has now a meter type as before, slogan, Cleanliness, Better Health, Brighter Nairobi.

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## Society News

### EAST LONDON PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

*President, W. S. Hoale; Hon. Secretary, S. F. Fowler, c/o. Vacuum Oil Co. of S.A., Ltd. Meetings, 1st Thursdays, Technical College, 8 p.m.*

At the August meeting Mr. Thornton showed his Natal's, a beautiful lot, including many rarities. Mr. Paviour showed Morocco Agencies and read an interesting paper on them. Mr. Fowler joined in with some more new issues.

The attendance was good and the evening concluded with an auction and some raffles.

At the September meeting the attendance was again good. Members each brought six sheets for display and Mr. Paviour read notes on Sudan.

Mr. Thornton was appointed a delegate to Congress, also Mr. Courlander. The meeting concluded with the usual raffles and auction.  
W.S.H.

### THE PHILATELIC SOCIETY OF JOHANNESBURG.

*President, J. W. K. Schofield; Hon. Secretary, F. E. Ingham, Box 4967; Meetings, 2nd Tuesdays, Kelvin House, 7.45 p.m.*

At the September meeting, everyone seemed very pleased with the spaciousness of our new meeting place in the Conference Room in Sanlam Buildings. We had the best attendance we have had in several months, and it seems obvious that it was a wise move on the part of the Club to provide for a new meeting place where an increased attendance could be comfortably accommodated.

In addition to several items for auction comprising covers and lots of stamps submitted by members, there were several attractive new issue sets from Turks and Caicos Island, Hong Kong, Eire, Bahamas and Sudan offered for auction. All except the Hong Kong stamps were spiritedly bid for, especially the two sets of four overprinted Sudan Airmails which realised 4s. 6d. and 5s. respectively—i.e., more than double the reserve figure. During the unavoidable absence of our official auctioneer, Mr. Mark Rose, Mr. G. B. Allen stepped into the breach and did a good job.

We were favoured with a visit by a few of the Pretoria members who had come over to Johannesburg to attend a Congress Committee Meeting.

Four new members were elected.

After the usual preliminaries, Dr. A. Kaplan laid out a most interesting and attractive exhibit of Southern Rhodesians, all in mint condition with the exception of a few historically interesting covers. Some extracts from Dr. Kaplan's remarks about his exhibit are given separately on another page.

H.E.B.

### EAST RAND PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

*President, J. Linn; Hon. Sec., J. Doyle. 41 Rose Deep, Germiston. Meetings, 2nd Thursday, Hotel Cecil, Benoni.*

The Annual General Meeting of the East Rand Philatelic Society was held on Thursday, 8th September, at the Hotel Cecil, Benoni. The following officers were elected for the ensuing year:

Chairman, A. P. Linn; vice-chairman, Dr. C. B. Shapiro; secretary-treasurer, J. Doyle. Committee: A. F. Johnston, W. Bailey, H. Suklje.

Items of interest were shown by various members consisting mainly of First Day Covers.

The exhibit for the evening was provided by Mr. Kent. In his absence, due to illness, Mr. Randell brought the exhibit and read the paper. This was on Union Commemoratives. It commenced with the introduction of Penny Postage in the Republican days. The next was the 2d. commemorative of 1910. Following this was the Voortrekker Commemorative set in 1933. The Silver Jubilee stamps were the next. Then came the Jipex stamps and concluded with the Coronation Commemoratives. The exhibit concluded with a Pigeon Post Cover and a War Market Cover. The collection included all the stamps mint, used, singles, pairs, blocks, as well as all the known varieties. The mounting was well done and appreciated by everyone.

Tea interval followed and the evening concluded with exchange, and a unanimous vote of thanks to Mr. Kent.

H.S.

### THE PHILATELIC SOCIETY OF RHODESIA.

*President, N. Rose; Hon. Secretary, S. A. Rowe, P.O. Box 601, Bulawayo. Meetings, 1st Tuesdays, No. 20, Southern Life Buildings, Bulawayo, 8.15 p.m.*

The attendance at the September meeting was up to average. Three new members were elected.

Members were advised that the society had been invited to nominate a representative to serve on the committee appointed by the Government to deal with the question of an issue of postage stamps to commemorate the 50th anniversary of the occupation of Southern Rhodesia. A sub-committee was appointed to deal with the matter.

The president submitted two hitherto unrecorded varieties in the ½d. value B.S.A. Company 1910 double head issue, together with a description of each. The varieties are considered retouches due to damage to the plate in one case and possible wear in the other. The first item showed a very much thickened "H" in Rhodesia and in the second the serifs to the letters in the word Rhodesia were curved.

An account of these will be published separately.

Mr. F. W. Porter exhibited a collection of B.S.A. Company postmarks which was well received and resulted in much interesting discussion.

A hearty vote of thanks was accorded the exhibitors.

The meeting concluded with an auction sale of general items.

LAVRON.

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

*President*, F. Carter; *Hon. Sec.*, F. Knight, c/o. Box 702, Bloemfontein. *Meetings*, 2nd Friday of each month in the Public Library, Bloemfontein, at 8 p.m.

The September meeting was well attended, with Mr. F. Carter in the chair.

The business of the evening included the holding of the annual Junior Stamp Collectors' Competition in the Orange Koffie Huis on Saturday, 22nd October at 2 p.m., and the erecting of a show case in the public library for the purpose of displaying items of philatelic interest.

The evening was then devoted to an interesting display by Mr. Carter, who exhibited a volume of stamps from his general collection. This was very full and most interesting.

F.H.H.

#### PRETORIA PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

*President*, Major W. J. Harrington; *Hon. Secretary*, Prof. H. A. Wager, Box 514. *Meetings*, 1st and 3rd Mondays, Technical College, 8 p.m.

September 5.—Major Harrington was in the chair. Mr. Hawke read some interesting philatelic news extracts.

Mr. Allen gave an instructive talk on the postal history of Aden. Although recently made a British Colony with special issues of its own stamps, the postal history went back a long way and a very interesting collection of postmarks could be made. Mr. Allen exhibited a small collection of unique items connected with his paper.

September 19—Major Harrington was in the chair. He announced that Mr. G. B. Allen had very kindly presented a silver cup to the Society for a competition amongst its members.

He also announced that the quartz lamp belonging to the Society was now housed at D'Arts, St. Andries Street, Pretoria, and could be used free by members.

A debate was held on General versus Specialisation. Mr. Baxter presented the case for General and the opposition was led by Major Harrington. Both speakers made very interesting dissertations and made out strong cases for their respective sides. A keen discussion ensued, the speakers being Messrs. Obermeyer, Basden, Blockey, Hawke, Klagsbrun and Allen.

Mr. Basden showed a portion of his collection of O.F.S.

H.A.W.

#### PORT ELIZABETH PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

*President*, G. K. Forbes; *Hon. Secretary*, C. W. Sheffield, c/o. Joseph and Sons, Main Street, Port Elizabeth. *Regular monthly meetings*, Tuesdays nearest middle of month at 7.45 p.m. African Room, Public Library. *Monthly auxiliary meetings*, 1st Tuesdays, 8 p.m., B.E.S.L. Hall.

Although no notes of the doings of this Society have appeared in these columns for some considerable time, their absence must not be construed as evidence of the Society having gone out of existence. As a matter of fact the reverse is the case and the Society has been growing in strength ever since it celebrated its Silver Jubilee last year and the membership is now well over the half century mark.

At the Annual General Meeting held in May the previous office holders were unanimously re-elected.

The regular monthly meetings at which some very fine displays have been tabled have been very well attended.

The auxiliary meetings held in the B.E.S.L. Hall have been moderately well attended but it is now planned to make these more interesting by the introduction of organised features such as auctions, displays, etc.

A group of seven keen collectors in the Grahamstown area have now joined our Society and we welcome them with a view to making their associations with us mutually pleasant and valuable.

#### S.W.A. 1½d. "OFFICIAL" VARIETY.

This variety, mentioned in our last month's number (No. 56 on the sheet) is quoted in Whitfield King & Co.'s latest Bulletin at £2. This looks as if they expected it to be corrected.

#### STAMPS STOLEN.

In the Germiston Magistrate's Court, on 2nd September, for the theft of £10 worth of stamps from one dealer in Johannesburg and of £42 10s. worth from another, Norman Charles Weiss, aged 24, was fined £5 or 14 days' imprisonment and a further six weeks' imprisonment with hard labour suspended for 18 months on condition of good behaviour and that he paid back to the two complainants the value of the stamps.

Weiss pleaded guilty to the charges.

Both dealers testified to having received letters signed "Wills" and "Steyn" asking for approval sheets, which they sent. They had not received back either the sheets or the money for them.

Weiss admitted having written the four letters produced in court and had received the stamps. He was out of work, so had sold the stamps. He intended to repay the dealers.

*The*  
**SOUTH AFRICAN PHILATELIST**

*Proprietors and Publishers :*

**The Philatelic Congress of Southern Africa**

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No. 11.

**CAPE TOWN CONGRESS  
1938**

At last it is a delight to record that Congress has been held at Cape Town. For years associated societies have hoped to meet there, but hitherto the invitation was lacking. Our thanks are due to the present energetic officials of the Cape Town Society, who not only made a Cape Town meeting possible, but carried it through with commendable success. Everybody enjoyed themselves, particularly the visitors from distant parts, and look forward to the next reunion; for it cannot be denied that there is more comradeship among philatelists than any other groups anywhere!

Congress opened with a display, which was set out in the banquet chamber of the City Hall, and was opened by His Worship the Mayor, who subsequently entertained visiting delegates in his parlour, and gave us all tea at the Muizenberg Pavilion on the following afternoon.

Of that display space will not permit us to dwell at length, however much we should like to do so. The star turn (and no disparagement to the other exhibits) was Mr. A. A. Jurgens' marvellous display of hundreds of covers, photographs, illustrations, and extracts (to which was added some sheets of Miss P. Goldschmidt's delectable triangulars) demonstrating the postal history of the Cape from earliest times down to Union. There is nothing like it, of course, it is so vast and so complete; and we look forward to the early publication of the book which will give, for the benefit of all, a detailed account of this fascinating collection.

The combined display of interesting Union items by Messrs. Simenhoff & Sydow made a splendid exhibit, and testified to their extraordinary capacity for patient research. And last, but by no means least, we had a fine dis-

play by Mr. L. A. Wyndham, illustrating the air-mail history of the Union.

Altogether a feast to satisfy the most fastidious gourmand.

On that memorable Saturday evening, in the beauty of the full moon, we all supped together at the commodious resort on Constantia Nek. It was a delightful occasion, remarkable for the drinks and eats and humorous speeches, and all enjoyed it to the full. What a glorious drive home via Hout Bay Nek, Camps Bay and Sea Point!

On Sunday morning congress met for discussion under the chairmanship of Dr. L. B. Goldschmidt, president of the Cape Town Philatelic Society, and a right good chairman he made. There was nothing loose about that meeting, except some of the talk, which was hastily suppressed.

After lunch, to which we were entertained by Dr. Goldschmidt, we were taken for a drive round the Marine Drive, justly renowned and probably the finest of its kind. And what a glorious spring afternoon it was! We stopped off at Muizenberg for tea, and then home to prepare for the evening session.

The main feature of the evening was the paper by Mr. Jurgens, illustrated by lantern slides, on postmarks of the Cape; a brilliant paper, which was awarded the Congress plaque, and which will presumably form the basis of Mr. Jurgens' book.

Mr. Jurgens was awarded the Skinner Cup for his services to philately during the past year; and the award was richly deserved for the work he had done in arranging and carrying through Congress.

It was close on midnight before Congress concluded; and is not the business transacted recorded in the minutes? What a day! May we all meet again at Pretoria next year and enjoy ourselves as thoroughly as we did at Cape Town. And why not a bumper Congress at Pretoria in jacaranda time (last week in October?)  
A.E.B.

## FORTHCOMING VOORTREKKER STAMPS

The Post Office Publicity Department has furnished the following description and illustrations of the two sets of stamps to be issued in connection with the forthcoming Voortrekker Centenary celebrations.

There are to be two sets, both to be on sale at all post offices from 14th December, 1938, to 28th February, 1939.

The **Government Commemoration Stamps** will be fully postal and will replace the ordinary pictorial 1d. and 1½d. denominations during the period mentioned. Cost, 5d. per full set of two stamps in English and two stamps in Afrikaans.

The **Voortrekker Centenary Stamps** will be semi-postal, like those which have previously been on issue. Cost, 2s. per full set of four stamps in Afrikaans and four stamps in English.

### GOVERNMENT COMMEMORATION STAMPS.

1d. Stamp—Red and Black.



The old Voortrekker wheel, with all its cracks, with bolts through its fellow, and with its splintered and bandaged spoke, symbolizes the hardships the Voortrekkers encountered on their trek.

The "Remskoek and Chain" are in action and the wheel is descending the mountain. In the foreground are two old tree trunks, one completely rotted to the ground, but with its roots still deeply imbedded in the soil. These tree trunks symbolize the Voortrekkers. On the right is another battle-scarred trunk with a broken branch, symbolizing the tragedies encountered by the Voortrekkers. Out of the rotted tree trunk shoot forth new saplings with leaves, suggesting the new nation as we are to-day. All this is silhouetted against a mysterious background enveloped in mist with the Drakensberg towering above, and symbolizes South Africa in its embryonic stage.

The wheel, which is traversing unknown regions, is a true copy of a Voortrekker wheel, correct in every detail.

The border of this stamp symbolizes power (by the three electrical coolers) and industry (by the chimney stacks); all this is silhouetted against a rising sun. The border, therefore, contrasts the past and present.

The Drakensberg is here seen from the point where Retief crossed the berg at Blyde Vooruitsig.

1½d. Stamp.



In the foreground is seen a Voortrekker family gazing at the distant horizon. The horizon consists of mountains of historical importance. On the extreme left is seen Vegkop (the defeat of the Matabele); in the centre is seen the Bloukrans River with the Drakensberg Mountains in the distance. A deep death-shadow crosses this river, which symbolizes the massacre and tragedy of the 17th February, 1938. On the extreme right is seen Gelato Kop, also known as Vegkop, and the Blood River flowing in front of it. The dry donga leads into the river (extreme right) at the exact spot where the battle took place. A recent very heavy storm is just passing away, and from the battle-field of Blood River springs forth a double rainbow, symbolizing victory and peace and deliverance from the barbarous hordes of Dingaan. The child in the foreground gives full vent to her feelings and rejoices with outstretched arms.

The frame-work for this design suggests a yoke in each corner which symbolizes the yoke of hardship which the Voortrekkers had to bear. From this yoke there are drops falling down the side panels suggesting drops of perspiration, blood and tears.

Vegkop the Bloukrans River and environment, and the Blood River scenes, are all geographically correct.

### VOORTREKKER CENTENARY STAMPS.

1d. Stamp.

The picture on the 1d. stamp is that of a Voortrekker busy ploughing. The plough has



been sketched from a genuine Voortrekker plough in the Pietermaritzburg museum. In the background, on the extreme left, is shown Table Mountain (Cape Town), in the middle



Spandoukop (Graaff-Reinet), and on the left Soutpansberg (Transvaal).

The symbolic meaning of the three mountains is that the Voortrekkers ploughed South Africa from Table Mountain to the Soutpansberg. In the background can be seen the simple "Hartebeest-hut."

The frame work depicts the light of civilization which the Voortrekkers brought to dark South Africa—this is represented by a torch. The torch is a genuine Voortrekker chandelier turned upside down so that the flame comes out of the bottom. In the two top corners appears the plough used by the Voortrekkers and between the two corners four corn sheaves appear. That represents fertility.

**2d. Stamp.**

The picture on the 2d. stamp shows the manner in which Louis Trichardt crossed the Drakensberg in the Northern Transvaal. The mountain in the background is in the vicinity of the place where Trichardt outspanned on Xmas-day, 1837. The two back wheels were taken



off and a thick tree trunk lashed underneath the wagon. Two oxen pull the wagon and in this manner slide down the mountain with two Voortrekkers straining at reims to prevent the wagon from capsizing.

On the extreme left in the background is shown a "camelthorn-tree" with one broken branch trailing on the ground. This represents the tragedy of the Trichardt-trek, nearly all the members of which died of the fever.

The frame work is as follows:—

At the two sides and right at the bottom is the Voortrekker-wagonwheel. In addition there is the brake chain and between the chain and the wheel is shown the jack-screw which they used. All four corners are formed by "remskoene" (brakes) attached to the brake chain.

**3d. Stamp.**



The scene inside the framework depicts the signing of the Dingaan-Retief Treaty. Dingaan is seated on his stool with a feather in his hand, and Retief is bending down and showing him where to make his cross on the treaty. On Retief's left side is hanging the water bottle which was found ten months later on his skeleton.

Between Dingaan and Retief stands Thomas Halstead, the English interpreter. Immediately behind Dingaan is standing his chief induna Tambusu. In the middle foreground is seated Retief's son, curious to see what Dingaan is signing. On the extreme right are seated Retief's burghers, all disarmed, and in the background may be seen Dingaan's huts. Between them and the burghers can be seen an open space, the parade ground. Immediately behind the huts is a hill named Hlomo-Amabutu or "Murder-hill." The hill on the place where Retief and his men were murdered is overshadowed with a dark death shadow, vultures are flying above the place of execution, and in the background is the well-known mountain Thlalo, the direction in which Dingaan fled after his city was fired after the battle of Blood River.

The frame work represents the assegai, shield and knob-kерrie opposite the wagon-wheel and the powder horn. No guns are shown here since Retief and his men were disarmed when they were murdered. The assegais and kerries show the manner in which they met their death.

**6d. Stamp.**



The two side panels depict the adversity which the Trekkers suffered on their journey. Left: The oxen are shown pulling the wagon through the Orange River near Aliwal North. Right: Here the trek is descending the Drakensberg into Natal. In the foreground are shown Piet Retief with his son and the fallen tree trunk which depicts the murder of the 71 horsemen. In the middle is shown the monument to be (or not?) erected to their memory. A powder horn and shield support the frame work of the monument.

The landscape shown on all the stamps have been painted directly from Nature where the events occurred.

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# Philatelic Congress of Southern Africa

7th MEETING—CAPE TOWN, 8—9 OCT.

The minutes of the Congress Meeting are too long for reproduction here in full, but the following notes, based on the official minutes, give an accurate account of the main features of the meeting.

At the official opening ceremony by the Mayor of Cape Town, which took place in the banqueting hall of the City Hall at 11.30 a.m. of the 8th, the President of Congress, Dr. L. B. Goldschmidt, F.R.C.S., welcomed the Mayor, and, in his introductory remarks, stated that he thought the Exhibition was of outstanding merit from a historical point of view and he expressed the hope that the Municipality would deem it a good idea to have a similar display during the holding of the City's Centenary celebrations in 1940.

The Mayor, after formally inaugurating Congress and welcoming the delegates to the Mother City of South Africa, stated that the exhibition was a great eye-opener to him and that, having seen it, he would do all in his power to promote the holding of a similar show in 1940.

The exhibition remained open to delegates and their friends (it was not open on this occasion to the general public) till 4.30 p.m. It was in three sections: (1) A display of the Cape of Good Hope by Mr. A. A. Jurgens, (2) A display of Union stamps by Messrs. Simenhoff and Sydow, and (3) A South African air post collection, by Mr. L. A. Wyndham.

In the case of the two latter sections, collectors knew more or less their scope and were not surprised at their excellence, but the first was an eye-opener not only to the Mayor but to all visiting philatelists who had not seen any of it before, even if they might have heard tell of its munificence. The wealth of material got together of both the pre-stamp period and the stamp period was simply amazing, but as Mr. Jurgens' paper dealing with it will be published shortly in the "South African Philatelist," no description will be given now. It should be mentioned, however, that included in the display there were a number of sheets from Miss Pat Goldschmidt's collection, also various photographs of postal history interest from the Africana collection of Mr. Arthur Elliott, who kindly co-operated with Mr. Jurgens in supplying copies of these photographs.

In the evening the delegates were the guests of the Cape Town Society at a very pleasant supper party held at the Constantia Nek Restaurant.

Next day Congress got down to its serious business, although its sessions were interrupted in the afternoon for a drive round

Table Mountain and tea at Muizenberg. There were present four members of the Permanent Executive Committee, four delegates representing Cape Town, two representing East London, four representing Johannesburg, three Pretoria and, in addition, eight others, not actual delegates. Dr. L. B. Goldschmidt, President of the Cape Town Society, was in the chair throughout the sessions.

## Executive's Report.

The most stimulating news gleaned from Mr. Redford's report by the Executive Committee was the rapid increase in membership which was taking place in most, if not in all, of the Societies. Nothing could be more symptomatic of the popularity of philately.

## Research.

Reporting on philatelic research work (the stimulation of which was one of the main objects in view in the founding of Congress), Mr. Basden stated that the scheme planned out by Congress for allocating the various countries in Southern Africa to the various societies had not worked out quite as laid down. Research in any line of work was liable to be like that—it was not always best done to order. Nevertheless the mere formulation of a plan had been a fine stimulus and he was able to report that much excellent research work by individuals had been done and was in progress. He reminded Congress, however, that no country could ever be considered as finished and complete—there was always room for something more to be discovered. Here follows his stock-taking:—

**Cape of Good Hope.**—Fine work being done by Mr. Jurgens. It is to be hoped that his work will be available in extenso at no far distant date. (1940 would seem to be an appropriate date for publication. The City of Cape Town should be proud to foot the bill for publishing his work as part of their Centenary celebrations. It would be a magnificent permanent record of them and eminently fitting as it would coincide with the great Stamp Centenary.—Ed.).

**Transvaal.**—Nothing done by the Johannesburg Society collectively, but two of its members, Messrs. J. Herbert Curle and A. E. Basden, are publishing a book shortly under the auspices of the Royal Philatelic Society.

**Natal.**—The Natal Society seems to have missed its opportunity of producing its long-talked of work on Natal stamps as it is reported that Mr. Eric Mann, of London, will soon be in the field with a book. One is cer-

tainly badly needed, as Walker's work (in French) is long out of date.

**Orange Free State.**—Nothing done locally. In the meantime a good handbook, well got up and amazingly cheap, has been published in America by Mr. A. E. Geldhof. Actually there is very little that is new in this, as compared with De Raay, and there are some things which are wrong. There is still room for quite a lot of work in the O.F.S.

**Rhodesia.**—Has been fairly well covered by Major Harrington and the Rhodesian Society. The latter is keeping up-to-date check lists of both the Rhodesias. Always room for detail work.

**Bechuanaland.**—Was well worked up by a committee of the East London Society when a translation of the Bechuanaland section of Kohl's Handbook appeared. Permission was given to Congress to make free use of the latter, and Major Harrington undertook the welding of the two works into a composite whole. This was published in the "S.A. Philatelist."

**Griqualand.**—Mr. Basden proposes taking this up himself when Transvaal is off the stocks.

**War Issues.**—Partly covered by Dr. Pirie and Mr. Watson in the "S.A. Philatelist." A fuller account compiled by them in conjunction with five British collectors will be appearing shortly in a British journal.

**Portuguese East Africa.**—This territory should be included in our research programme, but so far it has been neglected.

**South-West Africa.**—Something more modern than Mallet-Veale's work is needed. Mr. Simenhoff is at present dealing with a phase (war post-marks) which so far has been neglected in English. Perhaps he can take up the country as a whole?

**Union of South Africa.**—Allotted to Pretoria but nothing serious done by the Society since it undertook the publication of Mr. Simenhoff's catalogue. Amendments and additions to these are now badly wanted and he had the privilege of announcing that Mr. Simenhoff was undertaking, in collaboration with Mr. Sydow, the preparation of an entirely new edition.

The Air Post history of S. Africa for the period up to 1936 had been so well covered by Mr. Wyndham in his book that little can ever be added for that period.

**General.**—There are a few other small stamp issuing territories that might have better accounts of their stamps and postal history written up than are at present readily available. Also there are many "sidelines" either untouched or only very partially worked up, e.g., postmarks of many kinds, postal stationery, railway stamps, meter marks, etc., etc.

After some discussion of this research report, two resolutions were submitted to Congress and unanimously agreed to. As it is desired to give these special prominence they

are printed separately elsewhere in this issue. (See page 172).

#### Motions from Societies.

(1) **Speculative and Unnecessary Issues of Commemoratives.**—Rhodesia proposed "That Congress is in sympathy with the resolution passed by the Philatelic Congress of Great Britain and agrees that it be adopted as a resolution of this Congress." (Their covering letter made it clear that the resolution referred to was that dealing with the issue by so many governments of floods of unnecessary and speculative "commemorative" stamps. War on such issues was first proposed by the Swedish Philatelic Society; the Philatelic Congress of Great Britain and numerous other societies have joined up and among the latest allies is the Convention of the Society of Philatelic Americans and that of the American Philatelic Society).

After some discussion on the pros and cons of commemoratives it was agreed: "That the Philatelic Society of Rhodesia be informed that Congress is in sympathy with the principle expressed in their letter and will do its best to promote such principle."

(2) **Constitution and Policy of Congress.**—A series of resolutions were on hand from Natal dealing with the Constitution of Congress and its policy (including that of the "South African Philatelist"). It was not clear either from the resolutions or from the letter accompanying them whether the resolutions were from the Philatelic Society of Natal as a whole or from Mr. Percy Bishop personally. This matter springs from a resolution put forward by Natal at the 1936 Congress. Further proposals emanated from Johannesburg about the middle of 1937 and were circulated to all societies. After the replies had been collated, Natal submitted further suggestions to the Executive in December, 1937. These were replied to at great length and Natal was requested to put their resolutions up to the next meeting of Congress. Unfortunately they did not do so in time for the resolutions to be circulated to other societies for further consideration before Congress met.

In view of the fact that serious changes in constitution and policy were proposed and that no previous consideration of the proposals had been possible, Congress decided to refer the Natal resolutions to the Executive for comment and circulation to the constituent societies. The Executive was further requested, after replies from the societies had been received, to draw up a further report and submit to the next meeting of Congress.

This postponement is regrettable, but seems to be the only thing which could be done in the circumstances.

A fairly lengthy informal discussion on the Natal resolutions was permitted, with the object of giving the Executive some pointers on opinions held. The diversity of opinions expressed, clearly showed the wisdom of postponing formal consideration of the resolutions.

This matter will be tackled by the Executive as soon as possible and the machinery set in motion.

Although the discussion was an informal one, Congress thought fit to pass one resolution bearing on the subject. This is also printed separately on page 172.

#### Congress Papers.

Only one competitive paper was entered, "The Postal History of the Cape of Good Hope, dealing chiefly with the letter stamps in use from 1792 to 1853, with a brief summary of the postmarks of the adhesive stamp period 1853-1910," by A. A. Jurgens. The reading of this paper was illustrated by a large number of lantern slides. Mr. Jurgens was awarded a Congress Plaque by acclamation, for "the most interesting and valuable paper ever given before this Congress."

A paper entered hors concours was not read, through lack of time.

#### Roll of Honour.

Several names had been submitted to the Executive Committee for consideration. Their recommendations to Congress (limited to two by the conditions of award) were Messrs. L. A. Wyndham and G. N. Gilbert, the former for his work on the Air Posts of South Africa and the latter for his various papers on the stamps of the Union. Both were elected. Mr. Wyndham signed the Roll, as did also Mr. Simenhoff, he not having had an opportunity to do so previously. Mr. Wyndham thanked Congress

in a graceful little speech for the honour done him.

#### Skinner Cup.

This cup is awarded by Congress to the individual who is considered to have done the best work for philately during the period since its previous allocation. Its donor, the late Mr. C. F. Skinner, suggested that either work for organised philately or research work might be considered in awarding it. On this occasion the Executive recommended Mr. A. A. Jurgens to be the holder, on the grounds both of research and of his work for the Cape Town Society. The proposal was unanimously agreed to.

#### Executive Committee.

This Committee (composed of members of the three Societies in the Transvaal) was re-elected en bloc. A resolution to widen the composition of the Committee, which had been put forward by Johannesburg, was referred to the Executive to consider, along with the Natal resolutions.

#### Next Congress Meeting.

In view of the undesirability of hanging up unduly the proposals re changes in constitution and policy, Mr. Basden proposed that the next meeting should be held in 1939, and on behalf of the Pretoria Society invited Congress to meet in Pretoria. This invitation was accepted.

After various suitable expressions of thanks, the meeting of Congress closed at 11.30 p.m.

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## Correspondence

### UNION 1d. WITHOUT WATERMARK.

Sir,—Just before the notes appeared in the last issue of the S.A.P. regarding the find of a pair of Union Pictorial 1d. with no watermark, I received a pair of Rotogravure Union 1d. from Mr. J. B. Levy, of Bloemfontein, who asked me what I thought about them, and if I had heard of any others.

Mr. Levy appears to have been under the impression that his pair were also pictorial, according to a letter he wrote to the S.A.P. noting his find, but there is absolutely no doubt about his pair being rotogravure. I examined the stamps very closely, and the first thing that struck me was the gum.

This is slightly yellowish in tinge, and much thicker and shinier than the gum which the ordinary rotogravure stamps have on the paper used for their printing.

A study of the stamps showed that, as far as one can judge, they can only be from the plate 7 cylinders, and for this reason.

As those who have read my article on the Union rotogravure stamps will remember, in the issue which came out in August, 1934, I illustrated the design characteristics, by which it is possible to tell whether a particular stamp came from the plates up to plate 6 as on every odd English stamp, and on every odd Afrikaans stamp there appeared their different design characteristics, viz., a tiny nick in the middle of the outside lefthand frameline in the case of the English stamp, and a missing line of shading, appearing like a tiny white spot immediately under the righthand top scroll, on the Afrikaans stamp.

Mr. Levy's pair show neither of these, and as the Afrikaans characteristic did not appear in plate 7, while plate 8 was from a different design altogether, it seems almost certain that his pair came from the plate 7 cylinders.

It struck me that there are three possibilities regarding these stamps:—

- (1) That they have been faked. This would require great skill, and it is, I think, very doubtful.
- (2) That they were similar to various other "wonderful" items which emanated from a certain person who was at one time in the printing works.
- (3) That they were accidentally printed in the works on unwatermarked paper, which is usually used for Christmas stamps, etc., and that a few got out before the mistake was noticed.

Regarding the second possibility, as it seems pretty certain that these were from the plate 7, and as plate 7 stamps these came out round about the end of 1931, by which time the per-

son who was responsible for the other items had long since left the works, I cannot see how he could have been responsible for these.

Without a microscope it is difficult to be sure that the paper is similar to that used for the roto sheets, but from an examination with a fairly powerful glass it appears to be the same.

The paper used for Christmas stamps, at any rate the 1930-1933 printings, was thicker, and can, I think be ruled out. The gum, however, seems to be similar, and also similar to that used on the pre-roto 6d. dues. It is a real puzzle, and unless the printing works can assist us with any information, or anyone else can come forward with any suggestions, or report others similar, I am afraid we cannot get any further. Will anyone who can throw any light on this please come forward?

Yours, etc.,

G. N. GILBERT.

### KOHL HANDBUCH.

Publication of this handbook, which has been suspended since Part 40 was issued, on account of Dr. Herbert Munk, the former editor, being a non-Aryan, is to be resumed. The next part (Kamerun, Karolinen, etc.) is to appear shortly under the editorship of Major von Rudolphi.

## Approval Selections

I specialize in sending selections of stamps, by countries or issues, to interested collectors, at very reasonable prices, and shall be obliged to hear from collectors not yet on my regular mailing list.

Entirely new selections are available of Great Britain, Rhodesia, St. Helena, Portugal, Portuguese African Colonies, etc. References please!

New Stamp Exchange List No. 10, just out, and sent free, on receipt of stamped addressed envelope.

**A. LICHTENSTEIN,**

**B.P.A.**



**P.O. Box 576.**

**BLOEMFONTEIN.**

# Transvaal and Orange Free State Stamps Used in Natal and Cape Colony : 1899-1900

(Continued from p. 157 of October issue).

## NORTHERN NATAL.

### (a) *Republican Postmarks.*

Rubber or type set stamps, in violet, unless otherwise specified).

#### 1. CHARLESTOWN.

*Type.* Similar to No. 3 but with CHARLESTOWN at the top.

*Stamps.* Z.A.R. Set of eight, ½d. to 1/- (216-223), all postmarked 12-12-99 in violet except the ½d. which is postmarked in pale red of date 28-12-99 and has also a Pretoria mark of 30-12-99.

##### 1a. CHARLESTOWN.

*Type.* Similar to No. 1, but without the letters Z.A.R. below.

*Stamp.* Z.A.R. ½d. (216).

*Date.* 1-1-00.

#### 2. DANNHAUSER.

*Type.* Similar to No. 3 but with DANNHAUSER at top.

*Stamps.* Z.A.R. Set of eight, ½d. to 1/- (216-223), all postmarked 15-12-99 in violet.

#### 3. ELANDSLAAGTE.

*Type.* As illustrated.

*Stamps.* Z.A.R. Set of eight, ½d. to 1/- (216-223), ½d. (213), 1d. (225), ½d. and 1d. postcards. O.V.S. ½d. (85),

1d. (68), ½d. and 1d. postcards. Stampless cover.

*Dates.* 15-12-99 to 5-2-00. On all dates up to 4-1-00 the postmark is entire; on dates from 12-1-00 onwards the letters Z.A.R. and the lower part of the frame are missing.

#### 4. INGAGANE.

*Type.* Similar to No. 3 but with INGAGANE at top.

*Stamps.* Z.A.R. Set of eight, ½d. to 1/- (216-223), 1d. (217) 1d. (225).

*Dates.* 1-12-99 to 2-4-00.

#### 5. INGOGO.

*Type.* Similar to No. 3 but with INGOGO at top.

*Stamps.* Set of eight, ½d. to 1/- (216-223) all dated 16-12-99.

##### 5a. INGOGO.

*Type.* Similar to No. 5 but without the letters Z.A.R. below.

*Stamps.* Z.A.R. ½d. (213), ½d. (216), 1d. (225), 2d. (218).

*Dates.* 19-1-00 to 26-1-00.

#### 6. MOUNT PROSPECT.

*Type.* Similar to No. 3 but with MOUNT PROSPECT at top.

*Stamps.* Z.A.R. Set of eight, ½d. to 1/- (216-223), all of 12-12-99 and 1d. (217) of 2-4-00.

#### 7. WASCHBANK.

*Type.* Similar to No. 3 but with WASCHBANK at top.

*Stamps.* Z.A.R. Set of eight, ½d. to 1/- (216-223) all dated 15-12-99.

#### 7a. WASCHBANK.

*Type.* Similar to No. 7 but without the letters Z.A.R. below.

*Stamps.* Z.A.R. ½d. (216) and 2d. (218), both dated 31-1-00.

#### 8. CHARLESTOWN.

*Type.* Similar to No. 11, but with CHARLESTOWN below.

*Stamps.* Z.A.R. ½d. (216) and 1d. (217). O.V.S. ½d. (85), 1d. (68), 2d. (49), 2½d. (83), 3d. (51), 6d. (7).

*Dates.* 14-3-00 to 9-5-00.

#### 9. DANNHAUSER.

*Type.* Similar to No. 11, but with DANNHAUSER below.

*Stamps.* Z.A.R. 1d. (217) and 2½d. (219), dated 22-2-00 and 29-3-00.

#### 10. KEERSTATION.

*Type.* Similar to No. 11, but with KEERSTATION below.

*Stamps.* Z.A.R. ½d. (216), 1d. (217) and 2½d. (219) dated 8-3-00 to 1-5-00.

#### 11. MOUNT PROSPECT.

*Type.* As illustrated.

*Stamps.* Z.A.R. ½d. (216), 1d. (217), dated 2-4-00 and 12-4-00

12. CHARLESTOWN ("Field Post Office").

*Type.* As illustrated.

*Stamp.* Z.A.R. ½d. (216), 1d. (228). No date.

In the specimen on 1d. the letters V and K are missing.



CHARLESTOWN  
V P K Z A R

## 13. COLENSO.

*Type.* As illustrated.**COLENSO. 19 JAN. 00***Stamps.* Z.A.R. ½d. (216), 1d. (217), ½d. postcard.*Dates.* 15-1-00 to 4-2-00.

## 14. GLENCOE.

**Veldpost Z. A. R.****Glencoe,****20 Nov. 1899.***Type.* As illustrated.*Stamps.* Z.A.R. ½d., 1d., 2d., 2½d. (216-219), and 1d. postcards. Stampless cover.*Dates.* 11-11-99 to 18-12-99.

## 15. GLENCOE.

**Veldpost****Glencoe,****11 Jan. 1900.***Dates.* 5-1-00 to 25-1-00.*Type.* As illustrated.*Stamps.* Z.A.R. ½d. (216), 1d. (217), 1d. (225), 2½d. (219), ½d. postcard.

## 16. GLENCOE.

**P K Z A R****Glencoe.****3 Dec 1899***Type.* As illustrated.*Stamps.* Z.A.R. 1d. (225), 2d. (218).*Date.* 3-12-99.

## 17. MODDERSPRUIT.

*Type.* Similar to ELANDSLAAGTE (No. 3); occurs in two varieties (a) with MODDERSPRUIT at top and Natal lager, Z.A.R. below, (b) Natallager, Z.A.R. at top and MODDERSPRUIT below.*Stamps.* Z.A.R. ½d. (216), Var. (a) 2½d. (219), 3d. (220) Var. (b).*Dates.* 23-12-99 and 20-2-00.

(To be continued).

## THE VOORTREKKER OX-WAGON POST.

The following letter was received by the Editor on 29th September, from a prominent S. African collector:—

"I shall be very pleased indeed if the Postmaster-General and the organisers of the Voortrekker Ox-Wagon Post will answer the following questions through the medium of the "South African Philatelist."

(1) How many of the wooden packing cases containing the Ox-wagon souvenir envelopes posted in Cape Town on or before the 6th August, 1938, were despatched by the two ox-wagons which left Cape Town on the 8th August, 1938?

(2) How many of the wooden packing cases containing the Ox-wagon souvenir envelopes posted in Cape Town on or before the 6th August, 1938, were despatched from Cape Town by mail-train to Pretoria?

(3) How will collectors be able to distinguish between souvenir envelopes carried by Ox-wagon and souvenir envelopes carried by the South African Railways in connection with the special postal service mentioned?"

Copies of this letter were forwarded by the Editor to the Postmaster-General and to the Organisers of the Ox-wagon post, with a covering note in which it was pointed out that in view of the fact that collectors had been invited to purchase envelopes and stamps not merely as souvenirs but as investments, they would seem to be entitled to an answer to these queries, as there were evidently doubts about the conveyance of the mail.

No reply has been received from the Organisers of the Ox-wagon post, but the following answer has come from the Postmaster-General:

"I am pleased to furnish the following replies to the queries raised by your correspondent:—

(1) 25,604 Souvenir envelopes were packed in three packing-cases and one very large box built into one of the wagons, and despatched from Cape Town on the ox-wagons. They are still on the wagons.

(2) No souvenir envelopes intended for conveyance by the ox-wagons were despatched from Cape Town by train.

(3) Falls away.

I trust that this information will settle any doubt regarding the means of conveyance. It is not the intention to forward the Souvenir envelopes by any other means than by ox-wagon."

We have to thank the Postmaster-General for his courteous reply. Souvenir collectors will be glad to learn that the possible investment value of their Ox-wagon envelopes has not been endangered. Philatelists are not so much concerned, as from their particular point of view this post has little interest.

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# THE EMPIRE AIRMAIL SCHEME

## in relation to Southern Africa

By I. H. C. GODFREY.

(Continued from Page 117—August issue).

### THE THIRD STAGE.

#### JULY-AUGUST-SEPTEMBER, 1938.

In preparation of the extension of the Empire Air Mail Scheme to Australasia, Qantas Empire Airways commenced their twice weekly flying-boat service between Sydney and Singapore at the beginning of July. The British Post Office thereupon announced that the "All Up" Scheme, whereunder all first class mail matter is carried by Air at 1½d. per half ounce, would be extended to Australia and the British Possessions in the Pacific, commencing with the service due to leave Southampton on the 28th July.

**UNION OF SOUTH AFRICA.**—The Union, South-West Africa, and the three Protectorates inaugurated the scheme on the 22nd July and the first unsurcharged mails for Australasia were carried from Durban and Lourenco Marques by the flying-boat "Corsair" (Capt. G. S. Long) on the 24th, with the intention of connecting with the Southampton-Sydney inaugural service — Southampton-Karachi, flying-boat "Calypso" (Capt. E. H. Attwood) and the "Capella" from Karachi to Sydney. The mails, however, failed to connect, and reached Sydney by the second service carrying unsurcharged mails.

Incidentally, it may be remarked that on the 22nd July an extra flying-boat, the "Ceres," left Durban for England, carrying in the case of letters to Australia mail posted up to the evening of the 21st, franked at the airmail rate of 1s. 8d. per half ounce. No mail bags were made up in the Transvaal, O.F.S., or Cape Province for this extra service, so that the last despatch of surcharged mails from South Africa to Australia consisted of Natal letters only. The total weight of mail for all destinations was only 167 lbs. 12 oz. The "Ceres" was involved in an accident at Wadi Halfa on the 25th July and the Australian mail she was carrying reached Australia on the same date as the following despatch from the Union, carrying unsurcharged mails.

**AUSTRALIA** and its Dependencies only partially accepted the Scheme on the 1st August, and, although Internal mails of the Commonwealth were carried by Air without surcharge, the air postage rate was fixed at 5d. per half ounce for intra-Empire destinations. The previous charge to England was 1s. 6d.; and to South Africa 2s. 9d. Mails may still be sent from Australia by surface at the old rate of 2d. an ounce.

The first Airmail despatch from the Commonwealth under the new arrangement, comprising 880 lbs., left Sydney in the flying-boat "Carpentaria" on the 2nd August, and reached England on the 11th. Mails addressed to South Africa arrived on the 15th August.

A week later, 9th August, Qantas Empire Airways inaugurated a thrice-weekly service to Singapore to connect with the Imperial Airways' service to Northern Africa and Europe and, to mark the occasion, issued official souvenir envelopes. Mail carried on the first of the augmented services reached the Union on the 22nd August; it included the New Zealand mails mentioned later, and comprised bags from Sydney weighing 3,360 lbs. for all destinations.

**NEW GUINEA AND PAPUA.**—These two countries closely followed Australia and despatched their first 5d. Airmails on the 5th August. The mails were flown to Townsville, where they received backstamps dated the 6th, by New Guinea Airways, and the few letters addressed to South Africa arrived on the 22nd idem.

**NEW ZEALAND**, its Dependencies and the Islands under the jurisdiction of the High Commissioner for the Western Pacific, applied the Scheme with effect from the 26th July, and adopted the standard rate of postage—1½d. per half ounce. The day of issue of a new three-halfpenny stamp for New Zealand was fittingly made to coincide with the date of coming into operation of the Empire Air Mail Scheme.

The first of the Dominion's "All Up" mail arrived in Sydney on the 7th August, from where it was despatched by flying-boat on the 9th. Letters addressed to South Africa reached their destination on the 22nd August, a number of privately printed souvenir covers being used. These letters are postmarked between the 26th July and the first week in August.

**BRITISH ISLANDS IN THE PACIFIC.**—Except for New Guinea and Papua, none of the British South Sea Islands are served by air services. Even Fiji and Samoa, the islands with the largest European populations, despatch and receive their surface mails very irregularly, and in the case of the lesser Islands only three or four mail despatches take place a year. The saving of transit time under the Empire Air Mail Scheme is consequently negligible in the majority of cases.

The last surcharged Airmail to South Africa from FIJI was posted on 21st July and reached the Union on August 15th. The first "All Up" mails from WESTERN SAMOA were despatched on 2nd July and reached South Africa, via Sydney, on the 4th September.

The schedules below give the dates of the inauguration of the Third Stage of the Empire Air Mail Scheme by British African territories, and the dates on which the first "All Up" mails reached the Union from the Territories mentioned:—

British African Territories.		Arrival of first mails in Sydney. New Zealand.	
Scheme Enforced.			
22nd July.	Union, S.W. Africa, Bechuanaland, Basutoland and Swaziland . . . . .	9.8.38	18.8.38
26th July.	Sudan . . . . .	—	—
28th July.	Southern Rhodesia . . . . .	9.8.38	18.8.38
	Northern Rhodesia . . . . .	9.8.38	18.8.38
	Nyasaland . . . . .	9.8.38	18.8.38
	British East Africa . . . . .	6.8.38	15.8.38
29th July.	Egypt . . . . .	6.8.38	15.8.38
28th July.	Great Britain . . . . .	6.8.38	15.8.38

Inward Mails.			
Arrival in Union.		Inauguration.	First Despatch.
15th August.	Australia (Sydney) . . . (5d.)	1st Aug.	2nd Aug.
22nd August.	New Zealand . . . . . (1½d.)	26th July	9th Aug. (ex Sydney)
	New Guinea . . . . . (5d.)	1st Aug.	5th Aug.
	Papua . . . . . (5d.)	1st Aug.	5th Aug.
4th Sept.	Western Samoa . . . . . (3d.)	29th July	22nd Aug. (ex Sydney)

STAGE THREE "A."

HONG KONG.—The first "All Up" mails from this Colony left there on the 1st September—postage 15 cents—and letters addressed to South Africa arrived on the 11th idem. Great Britain extended the Empire Air Mail Scheme to embrace Hong Kong on the 2nd September; Southern Rhodesia came into line on the 4th.

Up to the time of going to Press, the Union of South Africa had not extended the Airmail Scheme to include Hong Kong, and although letters reach the Union franked at the equivalent of 1½d. per ½ oz. it still costs 1s. 8d. to send a reply.

The use of the Air as the normal means of mail transportation by these territories almost brings to completion the original Scheme, and only Malta, out of the provisional Schedule embodied in the White Paper (Cmd. 5414), issued in London in May, 1937, has not yet come into line. All the remaining Colonies not specifically mentioned in that Schedule will, doubtless, enter one by one as British Air-lines are extended and augmented throughout the world.

British Possessions which do not benefit as yet, and to which the prevailing rates for airmail postage from Southern Africa range from 6d. to 8s. 9½d. (Northern Rhodesia to the Falklands) per half ounce, are:—

Africa.—Ascension, Gambia, Gold Coast, Nigeria, St. Helena, Sierra Leone and Somaliland Protectorate.

Europe.—Cyprus, Gibraltar and Malta.

America.—British West Indies, British Guiana, British Honduras and Falkland Islands.

The British Postmaster-General, at the official ceremony at Southampton on the 28th July to mark the opening of the Third Stage of the Empire Air Mail Scheme, stated that the weight of airmail carried from Great Britain to overseas destinations then averaged 13 tons but, with the inclusion of Australasia, the total was expected to reach 20 tons a WEEK—considerably more than was carried ANNUALLY less than ten years ago.

These figures speak for themselves:—

1920 (200,000 letters, say)	1 Ton.
1928 . . . . .	16 Tons.
1939 . . . . .	1,040 Tons.

In 1919 the brothers Ross & Keith Smith flew from London to Darwin in **twenty-seven days**, after suffering great discomfort and hardships. Both were knighted and awarded £10,000 for their remarkable performance. To-day, large mail planes carrying passengers in comfort ply between the two Continents in less than a week and 520 of these flights are scheduled annually by Imperial Airways and K.L.M.

In the same year it cost 2s. 6d. for a letter to be carried 250 miles by Air (London to Paris). To-day, a letter can be sent more than 30,000 miles (redirected) for 1½d., all the way by Air.

At the end of 1919 the total mileage of the world's air-lines was less than 3,000. To-day, that figure exceeds 300,000.



The Union of South Africa, likewise, has made gigantic strides in civil aviation. During the year ended 30th June, 1937, the weight of internal mails carried by South African Airways was 119,995 lbs. The corresponding figure for 1938 had risen to 1,279,292 lbs.

It is nothing short of a miracle that in less than twenty years such great progress has been made in airmail carrying. To quote from the Union Postmaster-General's Report, 1936/7:—

"All letters by air without surcharge throughout the whole of the British Empire. Who can foresee what it all may lead to? Who can visualize the developments that may come in the next fifty years?"

Truly the British Government was inspired when it conceived its intra-Empire Airmail Scheme."

#### Addenda and Corrigenda:

##### PACIFIC ISLANDS.

The first mails despatched from South Africa under the new arrangement on the 22nd July reached their destinations on the following dates:—

NEW GUINEA.—11th August.

PAPUA.—11th August.

FIJI.—22nd August.

NAURU.—25th August.

SAMOA.—28th August.

NORFOLK ISLAND.—7th September.

LORD HOWE ISLAND.—9th September.

XMAS NO-TAX LABELS, 1937/8.—Great Britain: 200,000 printed, not 600,000 as stated. Mauritius: 1,000 printed.

(Vide. Page 107).

##### SPAIN.

There are currently 518 varieties of Loyalist Spanish "stamps" and 863 varieties of Franco "stamps" on the Paris market. Ho hum. One can get them at about \$12.50 and \$60, respectively, but few will, of course, ever make Scott. The rest will clutter up packets of dubious origin for the next generation.

## CONGRESS RESOLUTIONS

### Research.

(1) "This Congress, having learnt with pleasure of the intention of Mr. Simenhoff, in collaboration with Mr. Sydow, to prepare for publication a revised handbook on the stamps and postal history of the Union of South Africa, desires to place on record its conviction that such a publication is very desirable and resolves that constituent Societies be requested to circularize their members, appealing to them to collaborate with Mr. Simenhoff in his compilation by communicating any information that they may be possessed of to the proposed authors," (Mr. Simenhoff's address is P.O. Box 2195, Cape Town.—Ed.).

(2) "When Congress is informed that any member is about to publish a work of philatelic interest, constituent societies should be asked to acquaint their members, with a view to co-operating with the author."

### The South African Philatelist.

"That the attention of the constituent Societies be called to the efforts made by Congress to continue the publication of the "South African Philatelist," which has hitherto been run at a financial loss, and that steps should be taken by each Society to increase the circulation by subsidizing the paper on a membership basis."

### Unnecessary and Speculative Commemorative Issues.

We have joined up in the war which has been declared on these by Societies in various parts of the world. We are pledged to do our best to rid philately of this menace. As individual collectors we can do a great deal and very effectively, by just not buying them. These issues are made purely to sell to us, to wheedle money out of our pockets. Much more fun can be had out of collecting stamps which are not just made deliberately for us to collect. (This is not exactly the wording of the resolution passed by Congress, but it is the sense of it.—Ed.).

## I am dispersing a super 19th Century COLLECTION of BRITISH COLONIALS

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## IMPORTANT ANNOUNCEMENT

### *The T. W. HALL Collection*

¶ We are offering for Sale, by countries, the whole of the Foreign Sections of the celebrated Collection formed by the former President of the Royal Philatelic Society, London—Mr. T. W. Hall, who died last year.

**THIS IS THE LARGEST AND FINEST GENERAL COLLECTION  
TO BE BROKEN UP SINCE THE DISPERSAL BY AUCTION OF  
THE HIND COLLECTION IN 1934.**

¶ The late Mr. Hall was famed as a specialist in South American stamps, and formed superb collections of Columbia, Peru, Uruguay, Argentina, Chili, etc. Though this is the strongest part of the collection, every country is represented, and we shall be pleased to hear from collectors interested in any particular section. Full details of contents and price will be sent to all enquirers by return of post.

★ *If there is nothing suitable in the Hall collection we must surely have something to suit every type of collector in our own huge stock, which covers the whole world, colonial and foreign*

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#### CAPE OF GOOD HOPE

1d. red. De la Rue, no outer frame, and 4d. blue, with outer frame, printed on chalk-surfaced paper, without watermark, imperforate, overprinted CAN-CELLED. A block of 24 of each, showing the division between the panes. A most unusual item. PRICE £45 the two blocks.

#### SOUTH WEST AFRICA

We are breaking up a very fine specialised collection almost complete, and will be pleased to attend to "want" lists or to send selections on approval.

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# The "Occupational" Postmarks of the Mandated Territory of South-West Africa

By L. Simenhoff, B.A., F.R.P.S.L.

(Continued from page 149 of October issue.)

## B. Occupation Period, 1914—31st Jan., 1923.

The Postal Department, under the Director of Posts and Telegraphs, who was responsible to the Administrator, commenced operations as from 1st August, 1915, the personnel being recruited from the Army Post and Field Telegraph Companies which saw active service during the campaign.

As the Union troops advanced and occupied places restricted postal facilities were made available by the Military authorities.

On August 1st, 1915, the number of Post Offices was 17, and from then onwards the extension was as follows:—

31st Dec., 1915.—46 Post and Telegraph Offices, 2 private bags.

31st Dec., 1916.—68 Post and Telegraph Offices, 7 private bags.

31st Dec., 1917.—88 Post and Telegraph Offices, 9 private bags.

31st Dec., 1918.—86 Post and Telegraph Offices, 16 private bags.

Private bag services were instituted where circumstances did not warrant the establishment of a post office.

By 1918, 20 head offices were in existence at:—Aus, Gibeon, Gobabis, Grootfontein, Kalkfontein South, Karibib, Keetmanshoop, Luderitzbucht, Okahandja, Cmaruru, Otjiwarongo, Otavi, Outjo, Rehoboth, Swakopmund, Tsumeb, Usakos, Walvis Bay, Warmbad, Windhoek.

In addition, there were 66 Post and Telegraph Offices subordinate to these and coinciding with magisterial districts.

Postal rates were identical with those of the Union, except that for overseas parcels the charge was 3d. per lb. in excess of Union rates and there was no Agricultural Post.

On 19th September, 1914, Luderitzbucht was occupied, and from then on all postmarks of the territory may well be called: "S.W.A. Occupationals."

(1) First we have letters and cards posted by our troops (1914-15). These were endorsed "On Active Service" or "On H.M.S." and were then cancelled with "Army Base P.O.," Field P.O., or Emergency postmarks, the latter usually in the shape of a rectangular figure subdivided into three horizontal compartments.

It would appear that military correspondence passed through eight Base P.O.'s, viz., I. Capetown. II. O'Kiep. III., Upington. IV.

Luderitzbucht. V. Walvis Bay. VI. Swakopmund. VII. Kuruman. VIII. Keetmanshoop.

Emergency bases were established during the Rebellion. It is difficult to obtain information, however, and I add the following surmises:—Base 2a. Bloemfontein. 4a. En route Garub. 6a. En route Namib or Kilo 14.

There must have been at least 61 Field P.O.'s. The following have been verified by me:—

18. Circular, probably Garub.
13. Swakopmund, three spaces between four horizontal lines, date in centre space and 13 in lower. Black. Unique.
15. Wynberg Hospital. Rectangular, three-compartment type.
23. Ukamas. Rectangular, three-compartment type.
25. Namib. Rectangular, three-compartment type.
26. Seeiheim or Gibeon. Rectangular, three-compartment type.
31. Mariental. Rectangular, three-compartment type.
41. Karibib. Rectangular, three-compartment type.
44. Okahandja. Rectangular, three-compartment type.
47. Usakos. Rectangular, three-compartment type.
50. Omaruru. Rectangular, three-compartment type.
57. Otjiwarongo. Rectangular, three-compartment type.
59. Otavifontein. Rectangular, three-compartment type.
60. Grootfontein. Rectangular, three-compartment type.
61. Otavi. Rectangular, three-compartment type.

## (2). Used by civilian population.

After the surrender of the territory on 9th July, 1915, the Union Government sent postage and postage due stamps to be used in the protectorate. Various new cancelling dies were also despatched to Windhoek for redistribution to other post offices. At the same time a number of old German cancelling dies were used both in the original and altered forms. All these dies were used contemporaneously.

The alterations effected to the German dies were mainly:—

I. Deletion of the words "Deutsch Südwest-Afrika."

II. Deletion of all the letters of "Deutsch Südwest-Afrika," except the s and w of Südwest, and the substitution of c for k in Afrika.

III. Deletion of all the letters of "Deutsch Südwest-Afrika," save the s and w of Südwest, and the a of Afrika.

IV. Alteration of the Swakopmund-Windhoek Rail Post die, by deleting one of the town names, Bahn of Bahnpost, Zug No., and altering the date and arrangement and inserting the time.

The following *Union King's Head* stamps were used in the territory 2½d. Commemorative, ½d., 1d., 2d., 2½d., 3d. (black and orange), 4d., 6d., 1s., 2s. 6d., 5s., 10s. from 1915 onwards. ½d., 1d., 1½d. perf. 14 x imperf., 1½d., 1s. 3d., £1 from 1920 onwards. 2d. perf. 14 x imperf., 1½d. tête-beche from 1922 onwards.

*Postage Dues.*

Transvaal 1907: ½d., 5d., 6d., 1s. 1915 onwards. Union De la Rue: ½d., 1d., 2d., 3d., 5d., 6d. 1915 onwards. Pretoria Rouletted: ½d., 1d., 1½d. 1922 onwards. Pretoria Perf. 14. ½d. 1922 onwards.

The 2½d. Commemorative was cancelled with the unaltered German Dies at Luderitzbucht, Swakopmund or Windhoek.

The 1s. 3d. is rare used. The 1922 dues are only found with the Windhoek postmark.

As Walvis Bay had always been Union territory, the issues of the *four* S.A. provinces were obtainable there, in consequence, a number of these stamps were available and used in S.W.A., mainly during the year 1916.

All unoverprinted Union stamps became obsolete after 31st Jan., 1923, and it became illegal to use them after that date, as the new overprinted issues had appeared on 1st Feb., 1923. Therefore, "S.W.A. Occupationals" were only used up to 31st Jan., 1923.

In 1923 there were 64 post offices or agencies in the territory.

*Postal Agencies* (9). Blumefelde, Duurdrift, Ekuja, Joint Nossob, Kanus, Okasewa, Ondonga, Orumbonga, Rheinpfalz.

*Post and Telegraph Agencies* (4). Gibeon Rail, Kub, Kuibis Rail, Rehoboth Rail.

*Postal Order Agencies* (3). Gaidib, Kieries West, Okambahe.

*Post and Telegraph and Telephone Agencies* (13): Aris, Aus Rail, Hatsamas, Hohewarte, Kapp's Farm, Klipdam S.W.A., Mier, Narubis, Neuheuis, Okasise Rail, Seeis, Stamprietfontein, Witvley.

*Postal Order, Telegraph, and Telephone Agencies* (9): Klein Karas Rail, Kolmanskop Rail, Nakop Rail, Omitara, Otjivero, Seeheim, Ukamas, Waterberg, Wilhelmstal, S.W.A.

*Postal, Telegraph and Telephone, Money Order, Savings Bank, and Postal Order Office* (26): Aarob, Aus, Bethanie, S.W.A., Gibeon, Gobabis, Grootfontein S.W.A., Kalkfeld, Kalk-

fontein North, Kalkfontein South, Karibib, Keetmanshoop, Luderitz, Maltahohe, Mariental, Okahandja, Omaruru, Otavi, Otjiwarongo, Outjo, Rehoboth, Swakopmund, Tsumeb, Usakos, Walvis Bay, Warmbad S.W.A., Windhoek.

In addition to the above, there were the following offices which did not cater for the general public:

*Telegraph Offices only* (6): Guchab, Keetmanshoop Rail, Ramansdrift North, Swakopmund Rail, Tsumeb Rail, Windhoek Rail.

*Telephone Call Office*, Govt. work only: Fransfontein.

*Railway Work only*: Grootfontein Rail, Kalkfontein Rail, Luderitz Rail, Okahandja Rail, Omaruru Rail, Otjiwarongo Rail, Usakos Rail, Walvis Rail.

Total Non-postal: 15.

(To be continued).

## PHILATELY'S POPULARITY.

The Sheffield City Librarian has recently issued a report entitled "The Use of Books in Sheffield." In this is to be found the interesting statement that among non-fiction books issued there was a tie for the first place—A Stamp Catalogue and Gen. Crozier's "The Men I Killed." The first reflects the strong hold of philately as a hobby, the second is typical of all the other successes among non-fiction—all dealt with one or other aspect of the contemporary scene, history in the making.

## COLLECTORS' WANTS AND OFFERS

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

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

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.

Australian Collector wants exchange quantities, Australian Stamps including Commemoratives for similar African Colonies. Archer, 14 Newbay Crescent, Brighton S5, Victoria, Australia.

## NEW ISSUES

U.S.A.—Presidential series. The following were scheduled for issue in October:—14c Pierce on 6th Oct., 15c Buchanan on 13th Oct., 16c Lincoln on 20th Oct., and 17c Johnson on 27th Oct. On the day of issue of the 1 dol. Wilson stamp (29th Aug., at Washington), there were 24,618 first day covers cancelled at the Washington post office.

HOLLAND & COLONIES.—Celebrating the 40th anniversary of Queen Wilhelmina's reign, an attractive set of stamps was issued for Holland and the colonies. The design was uniform in all, viz., a portrait of Her Majesty from a contemporary painting, with 1898-1938 at the top, WILHELMINA up the left side, and at the right side, reading downwards, NEDERLAND, CURACAO, NEDERL. INDIE or SURINAME, as the case might be. The value is below the portrait, there being four values in the case of the Indies, but only three for each of the others. The Nederlands stamps were put on sale on August 27th, the Colonial stamps on August 30th.

BASUTOLAND.—The colour of the 1d. Postage Due has been changed from carmine to vermilion. Robertson Stamp Co. (Pty.), Ltd.

### UNION 2½d. COMMEMORATIVE VARIETY.

Arising from Mr. Sydow's article on the dies of the 2½d. Union Commemorative, reprinted in "Stamp Collecting," Mr. E. W. Winsor records a variety in which in the inscription beneath the arms of the Cape of Good Hope the letter "O" in "OF" appears distinctly as a "B." This variety is present in only one stamp of a mint pair.

In a subsequent issue the position of the "BF" variety is identified by Mr. Hayward as being No. 77 in the sheet, i.e., the 5th stamp in the 7th horizontal row.

Some time ago in looking at a large block of these stamps it seemed to us that several minor varieties might be found. Has anyone ever studied this stamp carefully from this point of view?

### S.W.A. VOORTREKKER STAMPS.

In connection with the forthcoming Voortrekker Centenary Celebrations which are being held in Pretoria in December, two Voortrekker Commemorative postage stamps, of 1d. and 1½d. denominations, are being issued by the Department of Posts and Telegraphs in the Union of South Africa.

These stamps are being sold in South-West Africa and will therefore be overprinted "S.W.A."

The stamps will be on sale in this Territory for the period 14th December, 1938, to 28th February, 1939, and will be used solely for postal purposes in place of the existing 1d. and 1½d. series.

Director of Posts & Telegraphs, Windhoek.

The 3d. semi-postal Voortrekker stamps have now appeared with the overprint considerably lower than in previous printings.

Robertson Stamp Co. (Pty.), Ltd.

### ANOTHER HOLLYWOOD BLUNDER.

That Hollywood realises the exploitation value of philately but refuses to avail itself of expert consultation is again evidenced by Columbia Pictures' latest special, "You Can't Take it With You."

Opening at Radio City recently, this story, which presents the vocational and avocational escapades of the crazy Vanderhof family, goes to great pains in portraying Lionel Barrymore as a keen philatelic enthusiast.

So advanced is Mr. Barrymore that he is shown busily mounting French and United States postage stamps in the spaces provided for German issues in his album. Nor is the faux pas left at that. Il Barrymore is pasting them into the album without so much as removing the paper to which they are stuck. He fondly examines the stamps with his bare hands (not a tweezer in sight) under the helpful magnification of a Sherlock Holmes spy glass.

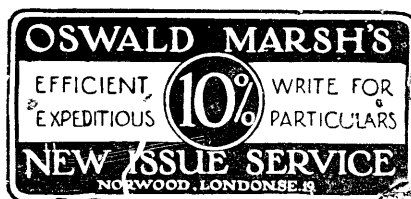
With scenes such as this brought before the public eye as a "typical stamp collector," is it any wonder that non-collectors ridicule our hobby as being but child's play?—Ernest A. Kehr, in "Weekly Philatelic Gossip."

"Air Mail Notes" and "Society News" have had to be omitted this month for lack of space.—Ed.

### DEALERS . . . . .

If you stock modern sets you must send a Post Card for our Monthly Trade List. It quotes lowest trade prices for all modern pictorial sets, and is sent free to any bona fide dealer on request.

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# The SOUTH AFRICAN PHILATELIST

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The Philatelic Congress of Southern Africa

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Vol. 14.

DECEMBER, 1938.

No. 12.

## S.A.P. CALLING

A MERRY CHRISTMAS  
AND  
A HAPPY NEW YEAR  
TO YOU ALL!

### Reviews

Gibbons' *Simplified Stamp Catalogue*. Price 5s. net (Stanley Gibbons, Ltd., 391 Strand, London, W.C.2).

A catalogue for the simple-life, the stamp's-the-thing collector who doesn't worry about varieties of paper, perforation, shade or watermark.

There is obviously a big demand for this type of catalogue, for this is the seventh edition in about four and a half years, and every one has been sold out. It has 7,816 illustrations, mostly full sized, and lists close on 60,000 stamps. This includes no less than 678 King George VI. issues (did you realize there were so many already?) from 62 different territories, and a very big proportion of these are now pictorials, even where previously there were merely "King's Heads."

The whole world is arranged in alphabetical order; stamp designs are described relatively fully. Prices are given for both used and unused stamps; these are naturally for the cheapest variety of the stamps listed, if there is more than one variety as recognised in the larger catalogues. In the advertisement pages at the end there are numerous priced sets of stamps.

The catalogue can be heartily recommended

to beginners or non-advanced collectors; the specialists had better stick to big brother.

*The "Propaganda" Forgeries*, By L. N. and M. Williams. Published by D. Field, Ltd., 7 Vigo St., Regent St., London, W.1. Price 1s.

This is an exceedingly interesting little book, giving the story, so far as it has been possible to dig it out—some details are still "wrapt in mystery"—of the Austrian, Bavarian and German stamps counterfeited by order of the British Government during the Great War.

The forgeries are described in detail and the fine differences between them and the genuine stamps are well illustrated.

As regards the object of the stamps, the conclusion come to is that the secret lies in the word "propaganda." It is believed that they were prepared with the intention of posting propaganda in the countries mentioned, but before many (? or any) could be so used the war ended and the necessity for their use disappeared.

Some were used in the Rhineland after the end of the war, but probably not with any authority.

Bond Street Stamp Auctions. Mr. H. R. Harmer's *Resumé of the Auction Season, 1937-38* would interest every collector who is the least little bit "advanced."

If you are in the class whose only blanks are stamps running into ten and hundreds you will need no introduction to auctions, as they are the only place where you are likely to get what you want.

But every collector beyond the most elementary stage can be recommended to try his hand at "Auction" (this sounds as if it were going to develop into a lecture by Culbertson—it isn't). They don't deal in high lights all the time, far from it. The vast majority of the lots are just the sort of stuff you and I want. This is the way to get it at real market value.

We can recommend the *Resumé* to anyone who hasn't tried buying at auctions. If you are a seller, or are thinking of insuring your stamps, you will also get good advice here.

## NEW ISSUES

U.S.A. Presidents.—The November issues were:—18c, Grant, 3 Nov.; 19c, Hayes, 10 Nov.; 20c, Garfield, 10 Nov.; 21c, Arthur, 22 Nov.; 22c, Cleveland, 22 Nov.; This leaves only the 24c, Harrison; 25c, McKinley; 30c, Theodore Roosevelt, and 50c, Taft, to be issued during this month and to complete the set.

BRITISH COLONIALS.—There is likely to be a long lull in new issues of these now, as the King George VI. stamps are almost all issued. The latest catalogue (Gibbons' Simplified) lists no fewer than 678 of these.

### A NEW LINE IN ALBUMS.

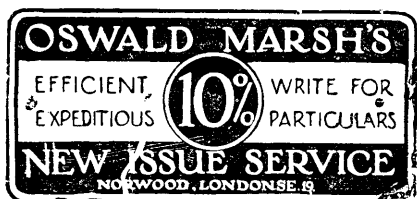
Messrs. Frank Godden, Ltd., have produced a new line in albums which they call the "F. G. Exhibition Series." These have been designed so that the average collector can arrange his stamps in albums written-up in the famous F.G. Exhibition Copper Plate style at nominal cost. These albums—loose leaf, of course—have the writing-up printed on the page in the copper-plate style which Messrs. Frank Godden have specialized in for many years. Many of our readers will remember a number of collections written-up in this manner at the Johannesburg International Exhibition.

So far only editions for Great Britain and for Canada are ready, but albums for Newfoundland and for U.S.A. are to be out early next year, and editions for other countries or groups are under consideration.

Sample leaves, prices, etc., can be obtained by collectors or dealers from Messrs. Frank Godden, Ltd., 110-111 Strand, London, W.C.2.

### SOUVENIR SHEETS.

"Scott Publications, Inc., announce the co-operation of the Souvenir Issues Association in the listing of souvenir sheets, and that all future listings of such issues in Scott's Standard Postage Stamp Catalogue, together with a gradual revision of the present listings, will be under the direct supervision of a special committee of the Souvenir Issues Association. Souvenir sheets not immediately endorsed by the committee will appear under 'Tentative Listings' and will be given regular listing only after their status has been definitely established."



### A COMEDY OF "WOODBLOCKS."

Mr. A. Gordon-Brown writing in *Stamp Collecting*, quotes some interesting correspondence from the Archives in Capetown (Official reference No. GH 1/8.149 in case you should want to go there yourself to check up), showing that the Cape Postal Authorities omitted to inform the P.M.G. in London of their first effort at stamp printing.

The first letter is from the British P.M.G. to the Colonial Office drawing attention to the fact "that many letters arriving from the Cape of Good Hope are prepaid with postage stamps which, in the opinion of some of the officers of this Department, are probably forgeries." A specimen of one of these stamps (a penny vermilion Woodblock) was sent together with an ordinary penny Perkins Bacon, for comparison. The letter goes on to add "the difference between these stamps and those which are genuine is, however, so marked, that it is difficult to believe they could, if forgeries, pass through the Post Office at the Cape without detection, and it appears to the Postmaster-General more probable that they have been manufactured in the Colony to meet some temporary emergency." It is then suggested to the Colonial Office to take such steps as may seem expedient.

A letter from the Colonial Office to the Cape Administration is then quoted. In this, the letter from the P.M.G. is quoted and a report asked for, "as doubts have arisen whether the stamps are forgeries or made locally to meet some temporary emergency."

Finally there is the reply from Capetown stating that the stamps had been made in the Colony and that in future, in similar cases, information would be sent to the P.M.G.

### KENYA.

This colony is coming into sudden prominence in the way of varieties. The latest discovery, reported by Mr. R. K. G. Blake in the "Philatelic Magazine," is a variety of a variety. The 5c. King George V. with retouched centre (rope of the dhow) has been found perf. 13½ horizontally x 11½ vertically, the ordinary being 14 x 14.

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---

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,,	1822. ½d. blue-green, C.A. mint block of nine with margin of the sheet on two sides . . . . .	9 0 0
,,	1908. £1 10s. 0d., orange and purple, mint, overprinted SPECIMEN . . . . .	3 15 0
LAGOS.	1884. 2s. 6d. olive-black, mint . . . . .	8 0 0
,,	1904. 10s., single C.A. mint . . . . .	10 0 0
BR. BECHUANALAND,	First Issue, pairs of the 2d. and 6d. used together on piece of original . . . . .	1 17 6
do.	1889. Green overprint on ½d. Cape, double, one vertical (S.G. 30c.), mint . . . . .	6 10 0
do.	Aug., 1888. On Gt. Britain, ½d. vermilion, Protectorate double. (S.G. 43a), mint . . . . .	2 5 0
RHODESIA.	1898-1908. £10 lilac, mint . . . . .	11 10 0
BRITISH GUIANA.	1853-60. 4c blue, unused and very fine, with large margin all round . . . . .	20 0 0
GREAT BRITAIN.	1911. 1d. aniline-pink, mint (S.G. 275) . . . . .	3 0 0
do.	1911-12. Somerset House print, 6d. bright magenta on chalky paper, surcharged SPECIMEN. (S.G. 296).. . . . .	2 10 0
ORANGE RIVER.	1896. 2½d. on 3d. blue, mint block of nine with Roman I variety in centre . . . . .	2 5 0
PENRHYN ISLAND.	1920. ½d. black and emerald, centre inverted, mint . . . . .	60 0 0
BRITISH SOMALILAND.	3r. Queen, inverted overprint, mint . . . . .	9 0 0
MALTA.	10s. grey-black, mult. wmk., fine, used . . . . .	17 10 0

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# RHODESIA — B.S.A. COMPANY

## Two Retouches — Double Head $\frac{1}{2}$ d. Value

By N. ROSE.

(Read before the Philatelic Society of Rhodesia).

NORMAL.



CURVED SERIFS.

Examination of the title Rhodesia reveals varying degrees of sharpness of the letters, serifs are in some cases larger than others, and are not always in alignment. These minor differences may be due to uneven wear on the plate. On the normal the dense background cut straight above and below the title brings the serifs into alignment.

The stamp I am now submitting shows the upper serifs curved upwards at the ends, most noticeably on the H, D and I, and to a slightly lesser degree on the R, E and A.



Below the D E on the normal, the lower line of the tablet is reduced in thickness to clear the disc of the ornamental support, the disc itself having clear continuous outlines, the shading lines down to the margin become lighter towards the centre but are clear and continuous. On the retouch these lines are broken and irregular.

I suggest that retouching was necessary due to wear on the plate.

THICKENED "H" IN RHODESIA.

First examination of this variety reveals a thickened right vertical stroke of the letter H with irregular shading both inside and to the right of the letter. Below the H the bottom line of the tablet is curved and of uneven thickness, the horizontal lines of shading down to the margin are irregular on both sides of the ornamental support and the extreme bottom lines of shading from the right joins the line above and passes through the finial of the support, connecting with its lower disc. On the normal the shading lines are parallel, the lowest merely touching the finial of the ornament.



The lines of the ornamental support on the retouch are broken and of uneven thickness and above the tablet the squared shading between three horizontal lines is broken up.

There appears to be little doubt that damage occurred to the plate necessitating repairs to the H and surrounding parts.

Assistance in locating the position of the two stamps submitted may lead to some more definite explanation as to the reasons for the retouches and when they were carried out, the postal cancellation on the one variety (1913) helps somewhat in regard to the latter.

I have submitted these varieties to Major W. J. Harrington for a hurried opinion. His first observations are very interesting. He states:—

"Dealing with the curved serifs. If you measure you will find that the height of the letters to the top of the serif is the normal height of the letters, therefore it would seem that the hollows just below the apparently extended serifs have been

"scooped out," but why? I do not know of any copies of the 1d. value where the lettering is so bad at the top that any re-engraving would be necessary.

"In regard to the large "T," I am inclined to agree that the plate must have been so damaged as to necessitate a retouch. Whilst we have no record of a damaged H, the plate may have been damaged and repaired before any printings were taken off."

## Correspondence

Bloemfontein.

The Editor,  
"The S.A. Philatelist."

Sir,  
PENNY UNION WITHOUT WATERMARK.

I read with interest Mr. Gilbert's opinion about the Union 1d. pair without watermark. I bought the pair in question from a well-known London stamp dealer amongst a lot of other Union items, and passed it on to Mr. Levy, who specialises in "Unions." In my opinion the pair can hardly be a fake, as the price I paid for it works out little more than face value. It is unthinkable that a forger should go to the trouble of such skilful and laborious work without profiteering out of it.

I personally have the impression that they are a "leakage" which emanated from the

printing works. I also think that plate 7 is concerned according to Mr. Gilbert's deductions. That means that the stamps were printed at a time when a number of new trials and experiments were being made at the printing works. As a result of these trials, etc., the new printing from plate 8 cylinders appeared of a different design altogether (wider spacing between the horizontal frame lines, etc.). The 1d. pair in question is, in my opinion, a sort of gumming trial at that time, made in the course of new gumming experiments. It may be that the Government Printer tried to find out whether the gumming applied on the Xmas stamps would be practical for the postage stamps, too. Apparently the experiment with this shiny, yellow gum, which we notice on the 1d. pair without watermark, did not prove satisfactory, as since then even the Xmas stamps do not show it any more.

Yours, etc.,

(Dr.) K. FREUND.

### SOUTH-WEST AFRICA.

The Department of Posts intimates that both sets of Voortrekker stamps (Government commemoration, 1d. and 1½d. values; and Voortrekker Centenary, 4 values, semi-postal) will be overprinted S.W.A. for use in the territory. Both sets will be issued on 14th December, the former to be on sale till 28th February, 1939, the latter (?) indefinitely.

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the friendship  
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over a pipe  
of**

**WAYSIDE  
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B.P.A.



P.O. Box 576.

BLOEMFONTEIN.

## Air Mail Notes

By  
I. H. C. GODFREY.

### THE "KALAHARI AIRMAIL."

#### BECHUANALAND'S FIRST AIR SERVICE.

*South African Airways . . . November, 1938.*

Following the Survey Flight which was described briefly in the October issue of the *S.A. Philatelist*, a REGULAR airmail service from Johannesburg (Rand Airport) to Windhoek S.W.A., via PALAPYE and MAUN in the BECHUANALAND PROTECTORATE, was inaugurated on the 1st of November. From Windhoek the service continues along the old route: Keetmanshoop, Upington and Kimberley, back to Johannesburg, thereby completing a circular service of 2,040 miles in thirty-one hours, which includes a night stop at Windhoek.

The first flight in the OPPOSITE DIRECTION left Johannesburg on 4th November and, stopping at the two Bechuanaland points of call, and remaining overnight at Windhoek returned to its base on November 5.

The same plane which was used on the Survey Flight—the Junkers "Sir Gordon J. Sprigg" piloted by Capt. R. J. Stewart—was employed to open the service on the 1st November.

Mails despatched from Great Britain on October 24 connected at Johannesburg with the first OUTBOUND flight to Bechuanaland and arrived at Palapye and Maun on the 1st November. In the REVERSE direction Bechuanaland mails, posted on the 5th, reached England on November the 11th . . . in SIX DAYS.

"Maun, Ngamiland to Southampton, England in 6 days" . . . Sounds quite normal, as things are nowadays, doesn't it? But when one stops to think that only six years ago, before a road was made to connect this Outpost of Empire with the nearest Railway at Palapye, letters took between *four and six weeks* to traverse the distance of 320 (air) miles by ox or donkey wagon (and about 2½ days to cover the distance before November 1 this year by car). it is nothing short of a miracle. A letter posted in Maun can now be delivered in Great Britain (for 1½d.) in less than a week, whereas in 1931 such a letter took 7 to 9 weeks in transit!

#### *Air Distances:*

Johannesburg—Palapye — 240 miles.

Palapye—Maun — 320 miles.

Maun—Windhoek — 472 miles.

#### *Airmail Quantities:*

1st OUTBOUND SERVICE—1st November:

South African and all Overseas mails to Palapye, Maun and Windhoek — 132 lbs.

Palapye to Maun — 9 lbs.

Palapye to Windhoek and beyond — 1 lb. 9 oz.

Maun to Windhoek and beyond — ?  
1st RETURN SERVICE—5th November:

Maun to Palapye, etc. — ?

Palapye to Johannesburg and beyond — 3 lbs. 15 oz.

Maun and Palapye to Great Britain — 60 items (?).

### UNION OF SOUTH AFRICA.

#### HANDLEY PAGE COVERS.

Messrs. Sefi Pemberton and Co., the well-known London philatelic firm, has advised our Editor that they recently handled one of the Handley-Page covers and sold it to "a well-known collector of air stamps in England." The name of the person to whom the cover is addressed is not given, but from the information supplied, viz.: Postmarked Muizenberg 14th Feb. 1920 and addressed to Kimberley, it is a specimen, the existence of which has not been previously recorded. It should therefore be added to Mr. Wyndham's list as No. 15. (See our June and July issues).

### EMPIRE AIRMAIL SCHEME.

#### NEW SLOGAN POSTMARK.

*Type 4 (Gt. Britain)*

First class mail matter, underfranked, arriving in London from South Africa now bears a postmark on the reverse reading:

Note the Postage Rate	ALL LETTERS FOR E. & S. AFRICA, EGYPT, PALESTINE, INDIA, BURMA, MALAYA, HONG- KONG, AUSTRALIA, N. ZEALAND, NOW GO BY AIR.	1½d. For each HALF Ounce.
--------------------------------	---	------------------------------------

The postmark is of the same format as the types previously described, in block sans-serif capitals, and was brought into use towards the end of September, 1938.

#### *Extension of Empire Airmail Scheme to HONGKONG . . .*

The South African Postal Authorities announced the extension of the "All Up" mail service to include Hongkong as from the 1st October, 1938, and, on that date, the first un-surcharged airmails from the Union, South-West Africa and the three Protectorates were despatched.

The first mails under the new arrangement (postage 15 cents) left Hongkong on the 1st September, which date coincided with the inauguration of a *thrice-weekly* airmail service between that Far Eastern British Possession and Bangkok by Imperial Airways. (The original branch line between Bangkok and Hongkong was started on 19th December, 1937, and was duplicated on the 27th March, 1938).

The first "All Up" mails from Hongkong reached the Union on 11th September and covers FROM the Union are backstamped in the Colony 12th October. Southern Rhodesia extended the Scheme to Hongkong on September 4, two days later than Great Britain.

*"Mercury/Maia" Composite Aircraft Flight.*

After innumerable delays and too much publicity, the Imperial Airways' "Pick-a-back" seaplane "Mercury" was launched from the parent plane "Maia" at about 3.20 p.m. on October 6th at Dundee for a non-stop flight to Cape Town in an endeavour to break the long distance record held at present by Soviet Russia (6,370 m.). Unfortunately ice conditions over Scotland, tropical thunder storms and persistent head winds caused the sea plane to come down short of her destination through fuel shortage; not, however, before she had wrested the International long-distance seaplane record from Germany, having flown 6,045 miles . . . 830 miles further than the German seaplane.

The "Mercury" landed at Alexander's Bay on the Orange River at 9.25 a.m. (local time) on October 8, thereby completing the *first non-stop flight from the British Isles to the Union of South Africa*. To quote from *The Aeroplane*: "To go to all the trouble to launch a machine which can only paddle along at an average of 140 or 150 m.p.h. over the ground, in the ordinary take and give of average winds, and then runs out of gas about after 42 hours is merely childish."

No Official Mails were sanctioned by the British Post Office to mark this flight, as in the case of the same machine's trans-Atlantic effort in July this year, when newspapers were carried, but a few missives were sent from Dundee to Cape Town conveying greetings.

## SOUTH AFRICAN AUGMENTED SERVICES.

*South African Airways* augmented their regular services on the 1st November, 1938, and the new schedules provide for the following frequencies of airmail despatches:

Rand—Durban, 11 services weekly.

Durban—Rand, 9 services weekly.

Cape Town—Durban, 6 services weekly.

Durban—Cape Town, 6 services weekly.

In addition, four services a week operate each way between the Rand and Cape Town, via Kimberley, and one return service via Bloemfontein and Victoria West. Also, three return services between the Rand and Port Elizabeth, via Bloemfontein, are scheduled.

*TANGANYIKA—Wilson Airways.*

*Dar-es-Salaam—Dodoma* . . . An experimental airmail service was commenced on the 3rd of October, 1938, to link the Coast with the Overland route operated by Wilson Airways, South African Airways and R.A.N.A. between Kisumu and the Union. The experimental service is to operate for three months, at the end of which it will be either relinquished or made permanent, depending upon local support.

Owing to very short notice having been given to the Public no aerophilatelic mail seems to have been carried by the first of these Experimental Services, and it is doubtful whether any souvenirs have been preserved.

## INTERESTING COLONIALS

Below are a few elusive and interesting items that are not seen in every collection:—

NAURU. 10/- Overprinted "Specimen." Mint. S.G. No. 18	£6 15 0
NOVA SCOTIA. 1c. Mint Pair. S.G. No. 18a . . . . .	£5 0 0
NYASALAND. 1903-4. £1. Superb Mint. S.G. No. 66 ..	£2 0 0
RHODESIA. ½d. Mint Pair. S.G. No. 75b . . . . .	£5 10 0
S. RHODESIA ½d. Mint Pair. S.G. No. 1a . . . . .	£2 10 0
1d. Mint Pair. S.G. No. 2a . . . . .	£2 10 0
STRAITS SETTLEMENTS. 1922. 1 Dol. Mint. S.G. No. 247	£2 0 0

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# The "Occupational" Postmarks of the Mandated Territory of South-West Africa

By L. Simenhoff, B.A., F.R.P.S.L.

(Continued from page 175 of November issue).

(N.B. I have attempted to classify the various postmarks into definite classes or types. This will facilitate matters considerably when I later on describe more fully the postmarks of the various Post Offices and Postal Agencies, which I propose to take in alphabetical order. I have further simplified matters by treating variations of the same class under separate type numbers—to facilitate reference).

## I. ARMY BASE P.O. TYPES.

*Type 1.* I have in my collection:

*Base 4. Luderitzbucht*—covers, various dates from 11 Oct., 1914, to 15 Jan., 1915.

*Base 5. Walvis Bay*—covers, various dates from 22 Jan., 1915, to 28 Feb., 1915.

*Base 6. Swakopmund*—cover 15 Jan., 1915, i.e., day after occupation.

*Base 6A Kilo 14 Camp, Namib (?)*—cover 23 Feb., 1915. I have not seen Type 1 postmarks from Bases Nos. 1, 2, 3, 7 or 8.

*Type 2. "In Transit" or "en route" postmark.* Wording in Type 1 deleted, save date and base number.

I have in my collection:

*Base 1, ex-Cape Town*, probably applied on the High Seas. Official Cloth Tag addressed to D.E.O.R. Coy. C., Army Post Office, Base 5, and dated 30 March, 1915.

*Base 4. Central army advance:* Bethany cover dated 13 April, 1915, date of arrival of McKenzie's force.

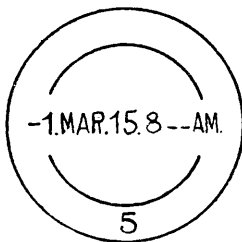
*Base 4A. Central army advance:* nearing Aus—cover dated 21 Mar., 1915.

*Base 5. Northern army advance:* *Walvis Bay*—Windhuk—Tsumeb—covers 1 Mr.—29 June, 1915.

*Base 6. Northern army advance:* *Swakopmund*—Windhuk—cover, 15 Mar., 1915.



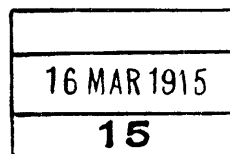
Type 1.



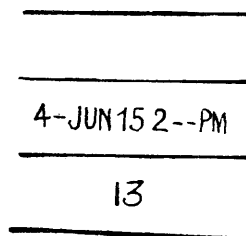
Type 2.



Type 3.



Type 4.



Type 5.

## II. FIELD P.O. TYPES.

I have in my collection:

*Type 3. F.P.O. No. 8 dated 23 Feb., 1915*, day after *Garub* was occupied. Diameter of pmk. 29 m.m. (N.B. On p. 174, November issue, col. 2, line 11, read 8 for 18).

Circular *F.P.O. No. 15* is *Wynberg Military Camp*, Cape Town, Diam. 31 m.m.

*Type 4. Emergency postmark: Box Compartment Type.* (refer to p. 174, November issue).

[N.B. A variation of this type with date (Mar. 1916) in lowest compartment and letters FHN (for Feldschuhorn) in middle compartment, whose two horizontal parallel boundary lines protrude on either side, exists. Feldschuhorn was closed years before the Great War and there is no official record of its having functioned as a P. Agency during the "Occupational" period. This postmark must therefore be classed as of private origin].

*Type 5.* Known only from *Swakopmund*. See list on p. 174 of the numbered F.P.O.'s which have been identified.

(To be continued).

— We Wish You —

## *The Compliments of the Season*

and hope to have the pleasure of serving you during the coming year.

May our hobby continue to prosper. We try to do our bit by catering for all classes of collectors and offering as much value for money as we can. We have never regarded stamp dealing as just a money-making game, but have built up a good business by following the golden rule and displaying the real philatelic spirit in our dealings with our customers.

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We always have a fine range of British Colonial books, and although we can send excellent books of almost any popular country, our books of British Africans are the most favourably commented on. Our prices are usually one-third to two-fifths of Gibbons' values for the best copies, except where this is obviously impossible, such as in the case of current and recent mint, and used stamps from small Colonies which are only obtainable in good condition by getting unused specially used. Medium and fairly advanced collectors are invited to let us know in which countries they are interested.

The fact that each year we find it necessary to spend several thousands of pounds in cash in order to keep our approval books and other stock up to standard shows that our service is appreciated and well supported.

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All leading 1939 catalogues in stock. We are clearing 1938 catalogues, in new condition, at considerably reduced prices. All Gibbons' popular printed and loose-leaf albums in stock, also all accessories and a good range of handbooks.

We do not wish to laud our stock and service too much, but we do try to keep our stock balanced according to the requirements of collectors in South Africa and endeavour to supply lines that are popular in this country. We suggest that you write for our price lists and let us know what you would like us to do for you.

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(Our Mr. Robertson founded the "S.A. Philatelist," and published it, as a labour of love and in the best interests of stamp collecting, for many years).

# Transvaal and Orange Free State Stamps Used in Natal and Cape Colony : 1899-1900

(Continued from p. 157 of October issue).

We now come to the NEWCASTLE marks, of which there are at least six different varieties, and possibly one or two more. Some of these are known in violet only, some in blue only, while some occur in both violet and blue.

18. NEWCASTLE.

**P. K. Newcastle 28 10 99**

Type. As illustrated.

Stamps. Z.A.R. ½d., 1d., 2d., 2½d., 3d. (216-220), all dated 28-10-99, a very early date (17 days after the outbreak of war). 2s. 6d. (224) and 5s. (212), on covers, 26-10-99 and 25-10-99 (still earlier). 1d. newspaper wrapper 25-10-99.

19. NEWCASTLE.

**P, K, Newcastle.**

Type. As illustrated.

Stamps. Z.A.R.

**1 Nov 1899.**

Set of eight, ½d.

to 1s. (216-223), 1d. (225), ½d. and 1d. postcards, ½d., 1d. and 2d. newspaper wrappers. Covers with no stamps. 1d. (217) on a Natal Govt. Railway envelope marked "Velddienst."

Date. 1-11-99 and 7-11-99.

20. NEWCASTLE.

**P.K. Newcastle.**

**★ Z A R ★**

**24 Nov 1899**

Type. As illustrated.

Stamps. Z.A.R. ½d. (213), ½d. (216), 1d. (214). All dated 24-11-99.

21. NEWCASTLE.

**P, K, Newcastle.**

Type. As illustrated.

Stamps. Z.A.R.

**\*Z. A. R.\***

**18 Dec 1899.**

Dates. 27-11-99 to 23-12-99. A cover with 1d. (217) shows an error in date "91 DEC 1899".

22. NEWCASTLE.

**P K**

Type. As illustrated.

Stamps. Z.A.R. ½d.

**New Castle.**

(195), ½d. (213), ½d. (216), 1d. (217), including a strip of three on a cover addressed to Amsterdam and redirected to London where it was

passed unquestioned, 2½d. (219), ½d. postcard.

O.V.S. ½d. (85), 1d. (68), 2d. (49), 2½d. (83), 3d. (51), 4d. (18), 6d. (7), and 1s. (87).

Dates. 12-1-00 to 12-3-00.

23. NEWCASTLE ("Field Post")

**Veldpost, Z A R**

Type. As illustrated.

**New Castle.**

Stamps. Z.A.R.

**10. April 1900**

½d. (216), 1d.

(217), 1d. (225),

2d. (218). Stamp-

less cover.

Dates. 7-4-00 to 14-5-00.

24. HOOFDLAGER ("Headquarters").

**➔ Hoofd Lager ➔**  
**➔ Ladysmith ➔**  
**31 Dec. 99 ☆**

Type. As illustrated.

Stamps. 1d. (217), 1d. postcard. Stampless cover.

Dates. 23-12-99 and 31-12-99.

25. HOOFDLAGER.

This mark, unlike all the preceding, is from a metal stamp and the marks are always in black.

Type. As illustrated.

Stamps. Z.A.R. ½d.

(213), ½d., 1d., 2d., 2½d.,

3d., and 4d. (216-221), 1s.

(223), 1d. (225), ½d. post-

card, 1d. postcard. O.V.S.

½d. (85), 1d. (68), 2d. (49), 2½d. (83), 3d. (51), 4d. (18), 6d. (7), 1s. (87). Stampless covers.

Dates. 13-12-99 to 31-3-00.

(?) 26.

Type. As illustrated.

It is doubtful if this mark should be included as it would seem perhaps to be in the nature of the private stamp of the "regimental postmaster" of the German and Johannesburg Commandos



rather than that of an official post office. It has been recorded on a Z.A.R. ½d. postcard, on stampless covers, and on covers with Z.A.R. ½d. (216) and 1d. (217) stamps. In no in-

stance, however, has it obliterated the stamps; these have always had some other cancellation, such as Colenso or Elandslaagte for example, or simply indelible pencil lines through the stamps. Dates are from 9-1-00 to 10-2-00.

(b) *Postmarks of Occupied Civil Post Offices.*

27. DUNDEE.



*Type.* As illustrated.  
*Stamps.* Z.A.R. Sets ½d. to 1s. (216-223), 1d. (197c), 2½d. (198d), ½d. (213), 1d. (214), 1d. (225), 6d. (210), 6d. (215), ½d. and 1d. post-cards, ½d., 1d., 2d. and 3d. newspaper wrappers.

O.V.S. 1d. (68), 4d. (18).

Dates 22-10-99 to 5-5-00. The earliest of these dates, 22 OCT 99, on a Z.A.R. 1d. (217) and on a Z.A.R. ½d. postcard are the only ones which are in violet, all the others being in black. These marks must have been made immediately after the British evacuation of the town, and are very early "war marks," eleven days after the outbreak of hostilities.

Those in 1900 read "90", not "00".

An interesting cover is one addressed on an official Natal Foreign Money Order Advice envelope to "Den Heer A. Kuit, P.M., Newcastle." Mr. Kuit later on in the war became "Speciale Inspecteur, Veldpost Dienst" (Special inspector, Field Post Service) with the Transvaal forces.



28. DUNDEE.

*Type.* As illustrated.  
*Stamps.* Z.A.R. 1d. and 2d. newspaper wrappers, both of date 3-11-99.

29. HATTINGSPRUIT.



*Type.* As illustrated.  
*Stamps.* Z.A.R. ½d. (216) and 1d. (217). In violet, both of date 17 OCT 99.

These marks have the distinction of being the earliest recorded "Used

Abroad" postmarks of the war—only 8 days after its commencement.



30. INGOGO RAIL.

*Type.* As illustrated.

*Stamps.* Z.A.R. ½d. (216) 1d. (217).

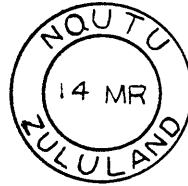
*Dates.* 22-10-99 and 13-12-99, the earlier being another very early date.

31. NEWCASTLE.

*Type.* Similar to DUNDEE (No. 28) but with stops between upper and lower letterings.

*Stamp.* Z.A.R. 1d. (217).

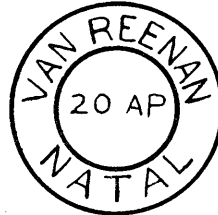
*Date.* 3-1-00.



32. NQUTU.

*Type.* As illustrated.  
*Stamps.* Z.A.R. ½d. (216), 1d. (217), 3d. (220). All dated 14-3-00. Nqutu, it may be mentioned, lies about 25 miles almost due East of Dundee.

33. VAN REENEN.



*Type.* As illustrated.  
*Stamps.* Z.A.R. ½d. (216), 1d. (217).

O.V.S. ½d. (77), ½d. (85), 1d. (1), 1d. (54), 1d. (68), 2d. (49), 2½d. (67), 2½d. (83), 4d. (18), 6d. (7).

*Dates.* 3-4-00 to 20-4-00.

Note unusual spelling of "REENAN." The usual is "REENEN." Apparently it had not been possible to obtain the figures "00" for the year portion of the date. See note in the *South African Philatelist*, Vo. 13, 1937, p. 128.

AARAU EXHIBITION.

The organizing committee of the National Exhibition held at Aarau, Switzerland, report the following numbers of items as having been issued during the period of the Exhibition, September 17—25.

*Miniature Sheets*, 204, 855.

*Covers Carried by Balloon Post*, 16, 564.

*Covers carried by Special Air Flight to Belinzona*, 19,265; return flight, 10,014.

**COLLECTORS' WANTS AND OFFERS**

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

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

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.



## KING POPPER AND HIS STAMP

Tucked away in an odd corner of the Catalogue is a stamp that has no right to be there at all, for the single 10 centavos of Tierra del Fuego is nothing more or less than a Local. Nevertheless, it was issued in romantic circumstances well worth the telling.

Placer gold was found in Tierra del Fuego, a real gold rush began and the scourgings of every South American seaport congregated there. Over the Straits of Magellan, in Punta Arenas, an Irishman, Julius Popper, did some thinking. Officialdom could not keep pace with the rush for claims, border law reigned and Popper comes into the picture as the man of personality who succeeded in making his word law—said word being backed up by a particularly nasty revolver.

"King" Popper issued his own mining regulations and administered the law as he interpreted it. He minted his own coinage, coins which were probably the most honest ever issued, for they were of pure gold without any alloy. On one side they bore the design of a hammer and shovel crossed and on the other the simple word "POPPER."

These were very popular, circulating freely, even as far north as Buenos Aires. Encouraged by their success he then ordered a supply of postage stamps. The same design was adhered to but a sun was placed over the centre of the design and on the sun the initial "P" was added. The value was 10 centavos, the colour red. Designed by R. Soucop, they were lithographed by Kidd & Co., of Buenos Aires and issued perf. 12.

They were certainly not issued to sell to collectors for Popper was making all the money he could want. Nor were they required for genuine postal requirements. The idea was that they would prepay postage to the nearest Chilean or Argentine office on the mainland, but the only way they could get there was on one of Popper's schooners. Moreover, most of the people who might have used them could

neither read nor write and few were over anxious to reveal their whereabouts! It is probable that Popper issued them to gratify his own vanity.

There is doubt even as to their year of issue. The catalogue says 1891, but this is by no means certain. Local inhabitants state that Popper's "kingdom" only existed for two years and it is known that he was on the island in 1887.

Two years after the settlement was established Popper paid a visit to Buenos Aires and there met a man whom he had driven away from the goldfields. They had a meal together and "King" Popper died almost immediately afterwards of poisoning.

W. Dennis Way, in "The West-End Philatelist."

### THE FIRST POSTCARD.

So accustomed have people become to using the postcard that it is difficult to realise that it post-dates the adhesive stamp by nearly 30 years.

The invention of the postcard has several claimants but it seems fairly clear that the first suggestion came from H. von Stephan, later the German Postmaster-General, at a postal congress held in Karlsruhe in October, 1865.

Actual official postcards were first issued, however, in Germany only in 1870. In Great Britain they were issued later on in the same year.

A claim is made from New Zealand to be still earlier in their usage. Between 1866 and 1868 S. N. Muir sent out notices printed on cards and without envelopes; these were passed by the post office without objection and on these grounds he claims to be the postcard's inventor. It sounds as if, practically speaking, these were postcards, but if they were not recognised by the post office as something different from a letter and entitled to go at a special rate, we consider that the claim can scarcely be maintained. It was not until 1876 that official postcards appeared in New Zealand.

—L. N. and M. Williams, in *The West-End Philatelist*.

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## Society News

### PHILATELIC SOCIETY OF NATAL.

*President*, H. H. Hurst; *Hon. Secretary*, Mrs. Reed, Box 588, Durban. *Meetings*, 1st Wednesdays, Durban Publicity Bureau.

The October meeting was very well attended.

In connection with the Centenary celebrations in Pietermaritzburg from October 23rd—30th, it was decided that the well-known collection of Natal stamps belonging to our President, Mr. H. H. Hurst, be shown on account of their historic interest, at the Exhibition of Objects of Art and Historic Interest to be held in the Art Gallery there. It had been our intention to hold a philatelic exhibition in Pietermaritzburg at this time, but it was felt that full justice could not be done owing to the shortness of time.

A most remarkable display was provided by one of our country members, the Rev. Wm. Loxley Chamings, B.D., B.Sc., who is a member of the Junior Philatelic Society, London, during which time Mrs. Reed read a series of notes bearing on the sheets shown. Under the title of "A Philatelic Pilgrimage through the Americas," 29 sheets of thin cardboard were shown, each bearing a map of a section of the Continent filled in with a black surface with the stamps on the exact place indicated by arrows, making a unique display.

As his collection was getting so bulky, Mr. Chamings, faced with the problem of delimitation, decided to collect only geographical items showing some particular spot that could be marked on a map, and in this way has built up a collection of the whole world.

Up to 1st September, 1938, the total number of stamps in this Place collection numbered 2,257. The number added last year was 256, and the total catalogue price had increased in the new catalogue by 10½ per cent.

It is hoped this paper will be published in full in an early issue.

There was a very large attendance of members at the annual general meeting held in the Durban Publicity Bureau on November 2.

The reports all testified to a very successful year both with regard to finance and increasing membership. The following office-bearers were elected: President, Mr. H. H. Hurst; Vice-Presidents, Messrs de Terrasson, Bishop, Williams, Kettle and Webb; Acting President, Mr. H. de Terrasson; Hon. Secretary, Mrs. G. Reed; Hon. Treasurer, Mr. J. Malan; Hon. Exchange Superintendent, Mr. E. E. Gagel. Committee: Mrs. L. Johnston, Mrs. Melville, and Messrs. Rachmann, Petiet, and Karlson.

Mr. C. B. Riches was elected a Hon. Life Member, being the last of the founders of the society to be thus honoured. Mr. Riches has

been an energetic and useful member ever since the society was formed in 1911.

After the tea interval Mr. V. B. Crockett showed his collections of Western Australia and Nyasaland stamps. In his paper he touched on the classic stamps of Western Australia in detail considering that all these are worth buying at to-day's prices.

The many friends of our President, Mr. H. H. Hurst, will be sorry to hear that he has been very ill, and although still in hospital he is making a good recovery. Mr. Hurst's well-known collection of Natal stamps was displayed in specially made stands in the Art Gallery of the Pietermaritzburg Civic buildings during the recent Centenary Celebrations. On account of their historic interest, they attracted much attention.

G.R.

### CAPE TOWN PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

*President*, Dr. L. B. Goldschmidt; *Hon. Secretary and Treasurer*, Mr. A. A. Jurgens, 26 Woodside Road, Tamboers Kloof, Cape Town. *Meetings*, 2nd and 4th Thursdays, Medical House, 35 Wale Street, Cape Town, at 8 p.m.

23rd June.—A very fine display of the stamps of the British Empire, King George VI. issues, was provided by Mr. K. Alexander. As many of the members present had not yet seen all the issues the exhibit was much appreciated.

The meeting had great pleasure in electing Mr. A. E. Basden, of Pretoria, a member of the Cape Town Philatelic Society. Two new members elected. The Secretary read a programme which he had prepared for Congress and which had been submitted to the Congress Executive.

14th July.—Mr. Conisbee showed his collection of War stamps, which were previously exhibited in 1921. Mr. A. H. Sydow read a paper on the Waterlow printings of the stamps of the Union. One new member elected.

28th July.—A very highly specialised collection of the stamps of the Union was exhibited by Mr. A. H. Sydow. The various processes of printing were fully illustrated. The Chairman read a letter received from Congress Secretary advising that the Congress Executive had definitely decided on Congress being held in Cape Town on 8th and 9th October. One new member elected.

11th August.—A very fine display of Mint Air Mail stamps was provided by Mr. Mackenzie. One new member elected.

25th August.—The Vice-President, Mr. J. A. Pearson, provided a treat to those members who were fortunate to be present at the meeting when he tabled his very fine collection of the stamps of Sweden. Mr. O. Hansen, in moving a vote of thanks to Mr. Pearson, enlarged on the rarity of some of the items shown, and generally on the very fine exhibit. The rest of the evening was spent in discussing preparations for Congress. One new member elected.

8th September.—Mr. A. A. Jurgens showed his collection of the stamps of Bechuanaland, and also read a paper in connection with the exhibit. Mr. K. Alexander, in moving a vote of thanks, remarked on some of the items shown, chief among which was a very excellent specimen of the one shilling "ritish" error in fine used condition, also the values up to 10s. of the unappropriated Dies overprinted "Protectorate" and numerous errors and mint and used blocks of some of the scarce issues. One new member elected.

22nd September.—Owing to the absence of Miss Goldschmidt, Dr. Goldschmidt tabled her collection of Cape triangulars. The collection of outstanding quality was much appreciated by all present. In moving a vote of thanks to Dr. Goldschmidt on Miss Goldschmidt's behalf, Mr. Hobday enlarged on the rarity of some of the items displayed, and also on the fine condition of the specimens. Mr. J. Douglas also spoke. An appeal from the Chair was made to all members to give the forthcoming Congress their full support. One new member elected.

The President occupied the Chair at all the above meetings. A.A.J.

#### THE PHILATELIC SOCIETY OF RHODESIA.

*President*, N. Rose; *Hon. Secretary*, S. A. Rowe, P.O. Box 601, Bulawayo. *Meetings*, 1st Tuesdays, No. 20, Southern Life Buildings, Bulawayo, 8.15 p.m.

September meeting was well attended. Unfortunately Mr. C. Klein was unable to travel to Bulawayo to exhibit his collection of B.S.A. Company Double Heads. The gap was filled by the President, who exhibited collections of B.S.A. Company, Southern Rhodesia and recent Union of South Africa. These were well received and occupied the attention of members for some time. The exhibitor drew members' attention to Gibbon's catalogue for 1939, which gave the comb perforation of the King George V. Southern Rhodesians as  $11\frac{1}{2}$  x  $11\frac{1}{2}$ , which examination of the stamps would confirm.

Progress of the committee officially appointed to deal with the issue of a set of stamps to commemorate the 50th anniversary of the occupation of Southern Rhodesia was reported.

The meeting concluded with an auction sale and informal discussion.

#### LAVRON.

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

*President*, F. Carter; *Hon. Sec.*, F. Knight, c/o. Box 702, Bloemfontein. *Meetings*, 2nd Friday of each month in the Public Library, Bloemfontein, at 8 p.m.

The Annual General Meeting of the Society was held in the Library Hall on Friday, 14th October, 1938. The President, Mr. F. Carter,

presided. The following officers were re-elected:—Mr. F. Carter, President; Mr. J. Lewis, Vice-President; Mr. F. H. H. Knight, Hon. Secretary and Treasurer; W. Dickie Clarke, Hon. Auditor; Mr. J. Levy was elected Chairman; Dr. K. Freund, Exchange Superintendent, and Messrs. G. K. E. Louw, J. Stanton and Stebbings, Committee Members.

Mr. J. Lewis, the retiring Exchange Superintendent, was congratulated by the chairman on the splendid way he carried out his duties and the success which resulted from the work put in by him, and the way he was able to satisfy every member.

Satisfaction was expressed with the increase in membership, which totalled 31 for the year.

The meeting expressed their appreciation to the Library Committee for allowing the Society the use of the hall for the purpose of holding the monthly meeting, as well as for their willingness to house a Stamp Library, which the Society is about to start. The book-case for the purpose has already been erected.

*November Meeting.* — The newly-elected Chairman, Mr. J. B. Levy, presided. The exhibit of the evening was part of the splendid and almost complete collection of Free State Stamps, including the various errors and different varieties. In thanking Mr. Lewis, Mr. H. L. Kaplan congratulated him in the very fine exhibit which was neatly written up and artistically arranged on loose leaf sheets.

It was announced that Mr. G. N. Gilbert (who is a member of this society) has been placed on the Roll of Distinguished Philatelists of South Africa for research work done in Union stamps. It will be recalled that Mr. Gilbert was awarded the J.I.P.E.X. Bronze Medal at the Empire Exhibition, Johannesburg, for research in Union Jubilees. In 1934 he was awarded the Pretoria Bronze Medal for Union freaks and fakes.

The programme for the half year is as follows:—

December, 1938.—Mr. Lewis will continue exhibit of Free State stamps.

January, 1939.—Open meeting.

February, 1939.—Dr. Freund exhibit entitled Sport Scenes on stamps.

March, 1939.—Mr. O. Carey to exhibit.

April, 1939.—Voortrekker stamps and Stationery, Dr. K. Freund.

May, 1939.—Union Stamps, Mr. Ulyate.

June, 1939.—Free State Postcards.

#### JUNIOR COLLECTORS.

Interest in postage-stamp collecting among students in local schools apparently shows no abatement, judging by the number of entries received in the stamp competition sponsored by the society. Entries, compared with those of last year, were, however, slightly fewer.

Prior to the distribution of prizes by Mr. Agnew, System Manager of the Railways in the Free State, the competitors were regaled with refreshments, and later addressed by members of the committee on various phases

of stamp-collecting, particular points stressed being the undesirability of inserting heavily post-marked items in albums, and the bad habit of including revenue stamps with postage stamps.

The prize-winners were:

Under Standard V.: 1. Shirley Hartwell; 2. Trevor Adendorff; 3. Hazel Beckwith.

Standards VI. and VII.: 1. Audrey Sussman; 2. H. F. van Tonder; 3. Oenone Gradwell and V. R. Reitz.

Above Standard VII.: 1. R. Eybers; 2. Denise Price; 3. Nell Deale. Master Eybers was also adjudged the possessor of the best collection and given a special prize.

F.H.K.

#### PRETORIA PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

*President*, Major W. J. Harrington; *Hon. Secretary*, Prof. H. A. Wager, Box 514. *Meetings*, 1st and 3rd Mondays, Technical College, 8 p.m.

October 4.—Major Harrington was in the chair. Two new members were elected. Mr. Hawke read some extracts dealing with the beginnings of philatelic literature.

Re the society's collection it was decided to keep it going as heretofore.

Major Harrington read a paper on the double-headed issue of Rhodesia. He described them in detail and dealt especially with retouches and perforations. He tabled a fine display of the stamps dealt with in his paper.

Mr. Obermeyer also showed his collection of Rhodesia.

October 17.—The programme was provided by members of the Johannesburg Society, a large contingent of which was present. Mr. Ingham occupied the chair. Dr. Harvey Pirie—in absentia—presented a paper and exhibit of some interesting stamps of Kenya. Mr. Crewell followed with an instructive paper on the King Edward VIII. stamps of Great Britain. He showed a complete collection of the issue.

Mr. Houbert tabled his fine collection of Nyasaland. Mr. Smithers showed some fine sheets of high values of Australia and Mr. Johnstone displayed a fine lot of Union stamps used in S.-W.A.

November 7.—Major Harrington was in the chair. Mr. Hawke read his usual interesting philatelic extracts.

It was proposed and seconded that an invitation be given to hold the South African Philatelic Congress in Pretoria in 1939.

It was also proposed and seconded that the Royal Philatelic Society be approached with a view to inaugurating a public fund for the purchase of the rare British Guiana stamp to present to H.M. the King.

The evening was devoted to an auction sale of stamps.

November 21.—Major Harrington was in the chair. The regulations regarding the competition for the Allan Cup were passed.

Mr. H. Rudd read a paper on Charity stamps—postage stamps with a premium added for charity purposes. He described the origin of

such stamps and then went on to deal chiefly with the annual issues of the Charity stamps of Switzerland which dated back to 1912. The features depicted on these stamps covered the history of Switzerland from very early times.

Mr. Rudd and Mr. Baxter showed collections of Charity stamps.

H.A.W.

#### PORT ELIZABETH PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

*President*, G. K. Forbes; *Hon. Secretary*, C. W. Sheffield, c/o. Joseph and Sons, Main Street, Port Elizabeth. *Regular monthly meetings*, third Tuesdays at 7.45 p.m. African Room Public Library. *Monthly auxiliary meetings*, 1st Tuesdays, 8 p.m., B.E.S.L. Hall

Although the October auxiliary meeting was poorly attended, a very pleasant free and easy evening was spent by those who were present.

The regular meeting held on 18th was excellently attended. The membership of the newly-formed Grahamstown branch had increased from seven to twelve and Mr. E. A. Carr appointed to act as its local hon. secretary.

Other business matters were speedily dealt with and the meeting, according to schedule, was given over to Mr. A. Howard-Hemming sponsoring a philatelic competition. The questions to be answered covered a fairly wide field and were of a general nature, but the results did not substantiate the fact that the society's membership includes a number of experienced collectors of long standing.

A very hearty vote of thanks was accorded Mr. Howard-Hemming for having arranged such an enjoyable and instructive entertainment.

C.A.L.

#### THE PHILATELIC SOCIETY OF JOHANNESBURG.

*President*, J. W. K. Schofield; *Hon. Secretary*, F. E. Ingham, Box 4967; *Meetings*, 2nd Tuesdays, Kelvin House, 7.45 p.m.

All available seats were filled at the regular monthly meeting for October.

Members of the East Rand Philatelic Society were our guests for the evening, and notwithstanding the inclemency of the weather, arrived in good numbers and gave us a varied exhibit which was enjoyed by all.

A number of items of especial interest were passed round among the members, including the following: Four new Reunion Airmails and three Hungarian exhibition sheets, including the Eucharistic Congress which took place May 26 to 29 at Budapest; a commemorative issue for Saint Istvan, 1038-1938, and finally a miniature sheet for the Philatelic Exhibition at Budapest, 1938. All these of these commemorative items were beautifully produced and can be classed as very fine examples of graphic arts.

Among the new issues auctioned were stamps of Montserrat, Dominica, Virgin Islands, Burma, New Zealand, Cook Islands and

Niue. There were also several items offered for sale by members, including stamps of Rhodesia, Natal, Bechuanaland, Uganda, Mafeking Besieged, and several first flight inter-urban South African covers.

The four exhibits tabled by members of the East Rand Philatelic Society included a fine range of stamps of Saxony, a fairly complete and neatly written up showing of Sudan, (mostly mint), and an out of the ordinary and somewhat humorous exhibit of revenue stamps of the U.S.A., Canada and Cuba. The finest and most extensive exhibit of the evening was Dr. Shapiro's Rhodesian perf. 14 double heads, including pairs and blocks of many of the rarer values.

H.E.B.

#### EAST LONDON PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

*President*, W. S. Hoale; *Hon. Secretary*, S. F. Fowler, c/o Vacuum Oil Co. of S.A., Ltd. *Meetings*, 1st Thursdays, Technical College, 8 p.m.

October meeting.—Despite the boisterous and wet evening there was an excellent attendance. A warm welcome was extended to Mr. Sprighton, from Johannesburg, who showed us Holland, very excellently written up. Mr. Paviour gave a fine display of Australia and New Zealand, a most interesting exhibit. Mr. Thornton and Mr. Courlander were absent at Capetown at the congress and we are looking forward to the report of their stewardship. A vote of condolence was passed to Mr. F. H. Cowie on the passing of Mrs. Cowie, all

members standing in silence. A discussion took place on the election of lady members.

November meeting.—Unfortunately, it was another wet night, but members again turned up in force. We were pleased to see Mr. Thornton back from congress. He gave us a most interesting account of the happenings and his stewardship at Capetown. We were pleased to re-elect two very old members of the society, Mr. Shingler and Mr. Brown, a very strong addition to our ranks. Mr. Sprighton, of Johannesburg, gave us an excellent paper and display of his Penny Blacks which were greatly admired, and a hearty vote of thanks was accorded Mr. Sprighton. The meeting closed after a few auctions had taken place.

W.S.H.

#### AN INTERESTING CORONATION ITEM.

Whilst at Congress we were presented by Mr. L. Simenhoff with a cover franked by Union Coronation stamps posted at Madeira on 12th May, 1937.

The mail boat "Edinburgh Castle," leaving Cape Town on 30th April, 1937, for England, was given a supply of Union Coronation stamps on the understanding that they were not to be issued before 12th May.

There are said to have been only 12 covers posted at Madeira on that date with Union Coronation stamps. This particular one has a pair of the 1d. denomination. It returned to South Africa by the "Balmoral Castle," and has the Cape Town Paquebot cancellation of 31st May.

The

# SOUTH AFRICAN PHILATELIST

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