

I N D E X

THE SOUTH AFRICAN PHILATELIST

VOLUME 23 — 1947

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UNION NOTES.

The Bantams have now all been sent out from the P.O. store but local offices will go on selling them till their stocks are exhausted. This is already the case at some places, but some values are still obtainable at some offices.

Rumour in a very well informed quarter hath it that we are soon to have a complete new issue of stamps.

Latest news from Durban re the Union Catalogue is that it will really appear pretty early this year—perhaps even this month.

We have to acknowledge with thanks the following contributions to the Catalogue Fund:

Cape Town Philatelic Society	£5 5 0
A. A. Jurgens, Cape Town	1 10 0

Special commemorative envelopes to receive Royal Visit stamps have been prepared, we understand, in a number of quarters, and will no doubt appeal to some collectors, although others frown on them.

The African Collectors Exchange, P.O. Box 403, Johannesburg, have envelopes with a suffraged picture of the Royal Family at, we understand, 6d. each, and they are prepared to do all servicing about them. Terms on application.

Mr. H. J. de Wet, of Rockville, 3rd Beach, Clifton, Cape Town, has made some envelopes in the style of those he did for the Victory Issue. The Crown and Union Coat of Arms on them are hand drawn and painted. About 150 will be available at 2s. each, but only through secretaries of Philatelic Societies. Cash with order plus 6d. for registered posting of 2 or 9d. for 6 or up to 24.

★

STAMPS IN SOUTHERN RHODESIA

The Postmaster-General of Southern Rhodesia announces that a special series of postage stamps of ½d. and 1d. denominations, will be issued to commemorate the visit to the Colony of the Royal Family.

It is anticipated that the stamps will be on sale at all Post Offices during the period 1st April to 30th April, 1947, both dates inclusive. The stamps will be in sheets of 60.

Although "First Day" covers will not be issued by the Post Office, fully addressed envelopes, accompanied by the necessary remittances, which reach the Secretary, Staff Room 4, General Post Office, Salisbury, before the 1st April, 1947, will be stamped and posted on the first day of issue of the special series.

Similarly persons who, during the period of the tour, desire to obtain impressions of the Royal Tour date stamps on letters bearing stamps of the special issue, may send such letters under cover, to the address previously mentioned for further attention.

Prospective applicants for first day postings are advised to send their covers in early.

ISSUE OF "ROYAL VISIT" POSTAGE STAMPS IN THE HIGH COMMISSION TERRITORIES

The Office of the High Commissioner for Basutoland, the Bechuanaland Protectorate and Swaziland announces that a special series of postage stamps of 1d., 2d., 3d. and 1s. denominations will be issued in respect of the three High Commission Territories to commemorate the visit to the Territories of the Royal Family.

The stamps will be printed in English only and except for the lettering "Basutoland," "Bechuanaland Protectorate" and "Swaziland" will be of uniform design.

The stamps will be on sale during the period the 17th February to the 24th April. Bulk orders may be placed with either the Crown Agents for the Colonies, 4 Millbank, Westminster, London, S.W.1., or the Postmasters at Maseru, Mafeking and Mbabane respectively.

Although specially printed "First Day" covers will not be issued by the High Commission Territories Post Offices, fully addressed envelopes, accompanied by the necessary remittance which reach the Postmaster of the Post Offices listed below before the 17th February will be stamped and posted on the first day of issue of the special series.

Basutoland: The Postmaster, Maseru.

Bechuanaland Protectorate: The Postmaster, Lobatsi; The Postmaster, Mafeking.

Swaziland: The Postmaster, Bremersdorp; The Postmaster, Mbabane.

In each of the three Territories a special date stamp will be used on the days Their Majesties will be in the respective Territory, i.e., on the 11th and 12th March in Basutoland, the 25th March in Swaziland and the 17th April in the Bechuanaland Protectorate. The special date stamp will have the words "Royal Visit Maseru Basutoland," "Royal Visit Swaziland," "Royal Visit Lobatsi Bechuanaland Protectorate." During the rest of the period the ordinary date stamps of the Post Offices concerned will be used.

As in the case of "First Day" issues no special covers will be provided, but fully addressed envelopes, accompanied by the necessary remittances which reach the Postmasters of the Post Offices listed as above before the 11th March (Basutoland), 25th March (Swaziland), and 17th April (Bechuanaland Protectorate) will be stamped, cancelled with the special date stamp and posted on the day in question.

Special commemorative envelopes measuring nine by four inches with photographs of the Royal Family and designed to take a full set of the special stamp issue will be available at a cost of 3d. at the above Post Offices. It is hoped that these will be available for sale to the public by the 1st February.

A full description of the stamps will be released to the press as soon as this is available.

(It is understood from other sources that the stamps will be: 1d red, small upright format, the King; the others all in larger horizontal format, 2d. green, King and Queen; 3d. blue, the Princesses; 1s. purple, King, Queen and Princesses.—Ed.)

THE DIES AND PRINTINGS OF K.G. VI 3d. AUSTRALIA

1. "TA" of right hand "POSTAGE" either joined at foot or a flaw instead of an actual join. Wattle leaves unshaded. (S.G. Preliminary Printing).
2. In subsequent printings of the above die the "TA" is still joined but the wattle leaves are shaded. (S.G. No. 168).
3. The "TA" join was corrected but the retouching led to a cut at the base of the "T" resulting in a tapered "T." (S.G. No. 168).
4. The outline of the chin on the left side (looking at the stamp) is formed by a continuous curved heavy line, in previous printings the chin is outlined by a series of short, broken lines, outer frame line does not touch crown. (S.G. No. 168).
5. Similar to No. 4 but on thin paper. (S.G. No. 168a).
6. The King's head shows many differences from all previous varieties, e.g., more details in the decoration on the collar, and the left temple more heavily shaded. The wattle leaves are also more heavily shaded. (S.G. No. 186).

J. P. MARTIN.
Pienaarsrivier.

Collectors' Wants & Offers

(Threepence per word per insertion with minimum of 3/- per insertion).

Beginners and medium collectors — try our approval service.

Benoni Stamp Shop, Box 485, Benoni.

Control strips of Union and Transvaal also mint blocks, cards and envelopes of many African countries.

E. Tamsen, Box 13, Nylstroom.

For Sale.—Stamp Collection of Germany from 1872—1941, in special album. 832 items used and mint, including F.D. cancellations and covers. Catalogue price £40. Selling price £20.

Peter Eichler, P.O. Box 11, Omaruru, S.W.A.

Offers wanted for mint and used large war issue Unions.

C. J. Dekema, P.O. Box 145, Germiston.

Australia 50 different, 2s. 6d. (postal note); 10 large Canadian pictorials, 1s. 6d.

C. A. Brown, Box 12, Lidiombe, N.S.W., Australia.

Switzerland. Exchange wanted with African collectors. Takes up to 3 of a kind, preferably used. Basis Gibbons, Zumsteins, etc.

Eric Pape, Breite 19 Winterthur Switzerland, Europe.

Mint sets of Kenya, Uganda and Tanganyika. 1c to 50c. Price 3s. each with orders.

E. V. Kinloch, P.O. Ngomeni, Tanganyika Territory.

Exchange desired with collectors in all countries from the North Pole to the South Pole. Send 50 or 100 different varieties of your country and receive in return 50 or 100 different United States of EQUAL VALUE. No torn or damaged stamps given or wanted—only stamps off paper exchanged. We exchange value for value.

W. L. Bedard, Post Office Box 637,

U.S.S.R.

Collectors of Soviet stamps will be glad to learn that the story which has been going round that there was to be an official reprinting of all Soviet issues, is untrue.

What is to happen is that, to celebrate the 25th anniversary of the appearance of Soviet stamps, there is to be printed a special album with places for all stamps issued during these years, with illustrations of them all and much other pertinent information. This is a very different story, but may be taken as official, and true.

CHOICE COLONIALS.

ANTIGUA: 1932 Tercentenary. 5/- (90) mint	180/0
ASCENSION: 1924/33. Sc. 3/- (20) superb used	57/6
1940. Geo. VI 1d. (39a) mint & scarce	3/0
B.E. AFRICA: 1897. CC. 5R (96) superb used	65/0
CEYLON: 1888/90. 2c on 4c (210b) fine used	45/0
1921/27. Sc. 20R (352) mint	160/0
COOKS. 1932/36. £3 green (123) mint	110/0
DOMINICA: 1874. CC. 1/- (3) superb mint	55/0
1914. MCA. 5/- (54) mint	55/0
FALKLANDS. 1933 Centenary. 5/- (88) superb used	220/0
FIJI: 1938/42. 1d. to 5/- complete ex. 249a, 252a and 256. mint	80/0
GIBRALTAR: 1912/24. MCA. £1 (85) mint	120/0
1925/32. Script. £1 (107) mint	80/0
GOLD COAST: 1913/23. MCA. £1 (84) mint	80/0
1921/25. Script. 1/2d. to 5/- (86/98) mint	40/0
1928. Script. 1/2d. to 5/- (103/112) mint	50/0
GRENADA: 1938. 10/- (163) mint at 22/6; used	30/0
HONG KONG: 1938/41. Geo. VI. \$5 (151) mint	30/0
1938/41. Geo. VI. \$10 (152) mint	50/0

All stamps are in fine condition but are supplied subject to approval
 I am always anxious to replenish my stock of better grade Colonials. Details with price required of anything you have for disposal will have my immediate attention.

E. S. JAMES,
 Rustington, Sussex, England.

HOLLAND

The usual Child Welfare set issued in December has been seen. The design shows a lad on a horse of what appears to be a roundabout and is common to all five values of the set. The denominations are: 2(+2)cts, grey mauve 4(+2)cts, green, 7½(+2½)cts, vermilion, 10(+5)cts, dark red, 20(+5)cts, blue. Printed on paper watermarked with circles and perforated 12, comb, the stamps are valid for use until the 31st December, 1947.

As is well known to collectors, the lower values of the definitive issues usually differ in design from those of the higher values. This practice was upset during the occupation when the invader withdrew the Queen Wilhelmina set of 1940, generally known as the "Konijnenburg" issue, and substituted therefor the grille and numeral overprint on the seagull type. The gull type, in values from 2½ct to 50ct, and in the appropriate colours, became the definitive issue in 1942.

In 1943, with the advent of the Symbols and Admirals, the original practice was resumed and was continued in the London printed Liberation issue. For a time four sets were in use concurrently. The 1942 seagulls, the Liberation set, the re-issued Konijnenburg set with new values added, and the Symbols and Admirals. At one time it was thought that the Liberation set would be Holland's permanent issue, but the issue of the high values 2½g, 5g, 10g in the Konijn-

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BOSTON 17, MASS. - U.S.A.

enburgh design and the appearance of new numeral designs indicate the adoption of the Konijnenburgs as definitive.

These new low value stamps are of the denominations 1ct, 2ct and 4ct, and the design consists of a large numeral in the centre with flourishes, extending from the N's of the word Nederland appearing along the top of the design, down the sides and the word "cent" in small lettering below the numeral. The 1ct is scarlet, the 2ct powder blue, and the 4ct green. These stamps are also printed on paper watermarked circles, while the perforation is 12½ by 13½ comb.

The high value stamps, which were the subject of notes in a previous issue, have made their appearance in this country and are of the same design as the 1g, familiar to us already.

The copies seen are used, of course, but one wonders, knowing stamp collectors, for how long the ban on the export and, indeed, on their sale in Holland itself, will remain effective.

Of interest to those who collect the stamps of the Dutch East Indies are the following figures taken from "Mijn Stokpaardje":

The Liberation Issue

Numbers issued:	
1, 2, 2½, 5, 10, 17½ and 20 cts ..	250,000
30cts	100,000
60cts	50,000
1g and 2½g	20,000
No figures are, as yet, available for the 15cts value.	J.N.S.

SOUTHERN RHODESIA R.A.F. CAMP POSTMARKS

By W. G. NODDER

The Camps of the Rhodesian Air Training Group of the R.A.F. were the following:

(a) In the neighbourhood of Salisbury: Belvedere Camp, Cranborne, Mt. Hampden and Norton, with the H.Q. of the group in Salisbury itself.

(b) In the neighbourhood of Bulawayo: Heany Camp, I.T.W. Bulawayo (I.T.W. standing for "Initial Training Wing"), Induna and Kumalo.

(c) In the neighbourhood of Gwelo: Guinea Fowl, Moffat and Thornhill.

Special post offices were provided by the civil postal authorities at all of these camps with the exception of Norton, which was served by the already existing civil post office with its postmark of the common Southern Rhodesian double circle type with "Norton" at the top and "S. Rhodesia" at the bottom.

Most of the others were supplied in the first instance with what I believe postal officials call a "Relief Date Stamp." (This is commonly used as a temporary measure when a fixed-place-date stamp gets out of order.) But no specimens of this type of postmark have been seen from Belvedere Camp, Heany Camp or Guinea Fowl.

This type of place and date stamp, of which Fig. 1 is an example, is usually put together, I understand, entirely with moveable type, but in the case of these camps a somewhat different plan seems to have been followed. In all the specimens I have seen "S. Rhodesia" is identical in size and spacing but the name of the particular station and the date portion of the postmark show irregularities in spacing, etc., in many cases. This seems to indicate that a master die was prepared with "S. Rhodesia" only; from this as many duplicate hand-stamps would be made as necessary, and loose type supplied for the name of the office and the date portions.



Fig. 1.



Fig. 2.

Varieties have been noted most abundantly in the I.T.W. Bulawayo mark, of which, incidentally, the earliest and latest dates seen are 13 JY 42 and 23 MY 44. Some of these are (a) Wide space between Y and O, (b) Whole of date inverted, the year being over the date and month, (c) Day inverted, month omitted,

(d) O and Y transposed and I.T.W. behind (Fig. 2), (e) Similar to (d) but in addition the whole of the date inverted. The last two varieties have been noted throughout the period JA 19 43 o MR 2 43.

In the case of "Thornhill" wider spacings have been noted between N and H and between H and I, and two marks made on the same day vary in this respect. "Kumalo" and "Induna" have been seen lop-sidedly placed, being much closer to the end of "S. Rhodesia" than to the beginning of it, as in Fig. 3.



Fig. 3.



Fig. 4.

These temporary hand-stamps were ultimately replaced by the normal type of Southern Rhodesian "town" hand-stamps as, for example, such as is shown in Fig. 4. These double circle marks vary in diameter from 25 to 30 mm., and in them no irregularities have been noted, with one exception—a "Kumalo" mark with the date 5 APR 54. This error is, of course, in the only part of the stamper with moveable type.

The I.T.W. Camp, Bulawayo, however, was issued with a special type of mark, as shown in Figs. 5 and 6. The smaller one, 30 mm. in diameter, has been seen with dates between 29 JN 43 and 20 NO 44, having been used concurrently with the earlier single circle mark for about twelve months. This in its turn was replaced by the larger mark, diameter 38 mm.,

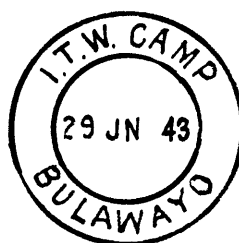


Fig. 5.

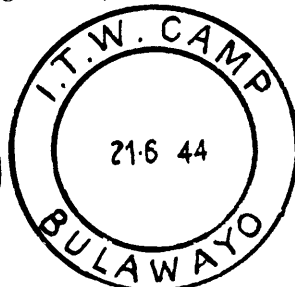


Fig. 6.

which has been seen with dates from 5-6-44 to 19-3-45, showing a period of about eight months of concurrent usage. It is possible, of course, that these periods may be extended either way; they are only given from specimens actually seen.

Earliest and latest dates seen for the other double circle marks are as follows:—

Belvedere Camp, 20 OCT 40 to 14 AUG 44
Cranborne, 23 FEB 42 to 31 JAN 45
Guinea Fowl, 3 JUN 41 to 6 FEB 45
Heany Camp, 8 SEP 41 to 3 AUG 45

Induna, 24 AUG 42 to 14 AUG 44
 Kumalo, 24 JUL 42 to — OCT 45
 Moffat, 22 SEP 42 to 17 FEB 45
 Mt. Hampden, 28 DEC 42 to 19 OCT 45
 Norton, 9 FEB 43 to 1 JULY 44
 Thornhill, 20 JUL 42 to 28 DEC 45

It is understood that all these stations, with the possible exception of Cranborne, have now been closed. Kumalo became an Airways Passenger Service station as from 20 April, 1945.

These camp marks are all in black, but a specimen of the Heany Camp mark has also been seen in violet.

The Registration Labels used at these camps were rectangles about 45 x 17 mm. printed in black on pink, rose or salmon coloured paper, perforated. There was the usual large "R" at the left, then on the space to the right "S. Rhodesia" was always printed; the name of the P.O. above this was sometimes in print, sometimes it was written in manuscript. The number of the registered article below was in figures from a serial numbering machine.

★ ★ ★

CAPE OF GOOD HOPE OFFICIAL STAMPS

In the "S.A. Philatelist" for November, 1946, page 178, there appears a note by Mr. S. Kassar, on the Cape of Good Hope Official Stamps. He draws attention to the fact that the use of these stamps is not generally known, and he is right.

Mr. Kassar gives the earliest date of usage as 25th July, 1904. I have several specimens in my collection showing dates 1904, 1905 and 1906, my earliest 1904 cancellation being June 15.

The King Edward VII issue of 1902-1904 is known with this official perforation on all nine values, ½d. to 5s. I have actually seen them. In my collection I still require the ½d., 2d., 2½d. and 6d.

Victorian stamps known with this perforation, most of which I have in my collection, are the 2d. (S.G. 50), 3d. (S.G. 62), 4d. (S.G. 63), 1d. (S.G. 69); also the ½d. (S.G. 67), but in this case I think the perforation is a fake one.

Failing official information, we cannot say when these perforations first came into use: dated postmark evidence is our only guide. We cannot go by the actual date of issue of the stamps themselves because so many of the old issues were on sale at the post offices in Cape Town up to, and even after Union in 1910. But I agree with Mr. Kassar that 1904 appears to be the earliest date so far recorded.

From my material, however, I cannot agree with him when he says that the perforation of the stamps was done one at a time.

He says that he has several values in blocks of four and that in no instance are the perforation designs in alignment either horizontally or vertically.

I have a block of six 1s. K.E. stamps showing three stamps in the top row and three in the bottom row with the perforation in

complete alignment horizontally, but not vertically.

This in my opinion would suggest that the stamps were perforated in rows of six, horizontally, in one operation (the stamps having been issued in panes of 60, 10 x 6).

Had the stamps been perforated one at a time as Mr. Kassar suggests, I do not think (unless the person doing the job was a very untidy, careless individual) that he would have perforated some of the stamps so badly, as sometimes happens, that only five holes in the stamp appear where there should have been eleven, the other six presumably being in the next stamp horizontally or in the margin. Finding of the perforating machine or of still larger blocks will be necessary, however, before this point can be decided.

Although Allis states, in his book "The Postage Stamps of the Cape of Good Hope," that these stamps were perforated for use on Government Printing and Stationery Department's Foreign Mail matter I have seen them used on local mail matter so that I think the real object of the perforation was to prevent private use of stamps by officials in the Department.

It will surprise collectors to know that despite the fact that very little attention appears to be paid to these stamp forgeries of the perforation exist. A. A. JURGENS.

★

EXPERTISING MAURITIUS

The B.P.A. Expert Committee takes collectors into its confidence over a number of stamps in No. 2 of "Philately." They want to save themselves a lot of unnecessary trouble and the owners of stamps expert fees.

Two of the items dealt with are Mauritius S.G. No. 203a and 204a. The first is the 5R on pale yellow, Die II and almost always people send copies of S.G. 222 (the same stamp but on paper with script CA watermark). The paper on which the script stamp is printed is invariably thick and it is a fairly safe bet that if you cannot see the watermark clearly, the subject is the more common variety on script paper.

The 10R on blue-green olive black is a great rarity. Time and again people send in the stamp with an olive back but printed on an emerald-green surface; this is, of course, S.G. 204b.

★

ESSAY

"Philately" proposes to deal with certain philatelic terms whose meaning is not always clearly understood; often because of inadequate, inaccurate or varying definitions which have been given.

The first to be considered is "Essay" and the writer is dissatisfied with both the definition given in the Congress Glossary and in The Stamp Collectors' Annual. He proposes for adoption "An Essay is a reproduction in printing technique used in the manufacture of stamps of a design, in whole or in part, not adopted for postal use."

Review

THE BECHUANALANDS, by A. A. Jurgens,
F.R.P.S.L.

Mr. Jurgens has followed up his magnificent and authoritative book on "The Handstruck Letter Stamps and Postmarks of the Cape of Good Hope" with a somewhat similar production entitled "The Bechuanalands—A Brief History of The Countries and Their Postal Services to 1895," which is not so authoritative but very provocative. It is not like—yet it is very like—Jurgens! If you are critical—as a true philatelist must be—you will find something to arouse your contention on nearly every page; and if you are complacent, you will find much to learn and enjoy.

His "Outline of Early History" and page 1 is a restrained and thoughtful story of the exciting events that led up to the founding of the colony of British Bechuanaland—subsequently incorporated in the Cape of Good Hope—and of the northern area that became the Bechuanaland Protectorate. He briefly outlines the history of the republics of Stellaland and Goschen, whose story, whereabouts and even names are practically unknown to the average South African, although containing the kernel of the struggle between Kruger and Rhodes, Britain and Boer.

A wider study may be read in "The Road to the North" by J. A. I. Agar-Hamilton, whose book is a highly documented thesis of the troublous times on the northern frontiers of Cape Colony and western frontiers of Transvaal, from 1852 to 1886. This book is also specifically mentioned because of the reference, on page 150, to the fortnightly post, carried by runners, from Sôsông (Shoshong) to Zeerust in 1878 (Transvaal then being in British occupation). Hamilton says "between 7,000 and 8,000 letters were carried annually," but these big figures (for the times and occasions) are palpably wrong. Can anyone tell us what stamps, if any, were used to frank these letters? The postal fee "was 2s. 6d. for the first and 6d. for each succeeding letter."

To come to "The First Postage Stamps" dealt with—the stamps of the Republic of Stellaland, 1884, Mr. Jurgens rather slightly remarks that "their postage stamps must have been for local use only." But so were the early stamps of Great Britain, Transvaal, O.F.S., and most other countries—of every country until postal conventions or transport agreements of some kind or another had been brought into existence.

I can bear out the use of these stamps on covers in combination; and I have seen both Stellaland stamps used with South African Republic and Stellaland used with Cape. Insofar as cancellation is concerned, I agree with Mr. Jurgens. Sometimes stamps were cancelled in manuscript and sometimes not at all, but in the latter case, on letters sent to Trans-

vaal, were usually cancelled at the first post office in transit, i.e., at Zeerust with the figure 8 in concentric circles.

Mr. Jurgens sets up a mystery about the stamps surcharged "Twee"—because they were unobtainable when ordered by certain firms. He points out that the usual postal rate was 3d., but overlooks the fact (noted elsewhere) that at the time the rate was reduced to 2d. And so on. Mr. Jurgens admits he "is theorising"—but his reasons are too feeble.

Again, he is also worried about the fact that of the remainders sold "the one penny stamps were the smallest in quantity of all the values." Again, what is the mystery? The simple fact is that they were used on printed matter, and I have seen such use in combination.

I am glad to see that Mr. Jurgens has included the Cape stamps overprinted "Military Telegraphs" under the heading of Stellaland, for that seems to me to be the rightful place for them.

Mr. Jurgens deals exhaustively and characteristically with Bechuanaland cancellations, and their importance cannot, in my opinion, be exaggerated, for they tell so much about the history and conditions of the country as well as, on occasion, providing evidence of proof of proper use.

But I am very troubled over the chapter entitled "The Faked Double and Inverted Overprints." First of all, to deal briefly with S.G. 29 inverted. These are palpable forgeries—in spite of the arguments advanced to the contrary—and the forged stamps themselves provide all the requisite evidence. I gave some of these forgeries to Mr. Courlander, of East London, and the material balance to Mr. Jurgens—and he and I agreed that they were forgeries. They were all sent out to me from England as forgeries, and I gave them to the recipients for their forgery pages. Mr. Jurgens has put up a very ingenious—and ingenuous—argument, backed *mirabile dictu* by two eminent philatelists, that these stamps are printer's waste. I ask you—has anyone ever heard of a printer using sheets of stamps, or part sheets, to pull off proofs of a surcharge or overprint setting? Of course not! The printer, when he takes a pull of a forme, does so on a piece of plain printing paper, and I have seen such proofs. He would be foolish to pull them on postage stamps. And there is the simple evidence of Mr. Baxter and Mr. Barry May! These fakes were set up in the same printing office as the genuine surcharges—the rascal probably found sections of the partially destroyed forme intact, which would account for certain similarities with the normal genuine print—and the "small discrepancies" that Mr. Jurgens makes light of are the incontrovertible failings of the forger.

It is probable that Mr. Jurgens is right in his main theory about the overprints of 1891 and 1893-5, but his ingenuity is probably at fault regarding the process of producing overprints, some reading up and some down. If he will refer e.g. to the stamps of Transvaal.

S.G. 188 and 190, he will find a much simpler explanation. 188 and 190 were printed in sheets of two panes, each 5 x 8. The printer set up one forme of the surcharge, 5 x 8; overprinted one pane up and turned the sheet round and printed the second half down. Simple, isn't it? In those days the printing offices were small, founts of type short, and there you are: a circumstance that accounts for numerous varieties throughout the stamp catalogues.

I cannot speak on the few doubtful stamps—such as S.G. 24 and S.G. 27—although I have seen some recently that gave me cause to question their genuineness, both on account of the colour of the overprints and variation in size of figure, because I do not know enough about them. But I have recently seen numbers of other forged overprints, such as blocks of S.G. 45 inverted and double one inverted, and many home-made minor varieties of the types mentioned by Mr. Jurgens on pp. 91 and 92; in particular No. 40, "BECHUANALAND" for "BECHUANALAND." There must have been over 30 of this variety, all issues!

I do not know anything special about Bechuanaland essays, proofs and specimens, but—contrary to Mr. Jurgens' experience—I do know that all philatelists that I have met include these, or would if they could get them, in their collections, and are always on the look out for them. But few find their way to South Africa, and we only get those that are not swallowed up in the U.K., whence they come. Incidentally, what object would have been gained or benefit secured if the Klagsbrun collection of "specimens" had been maintained as such? It was not as comprehensive as all that, and benefit has already accrued through its distribution among specialising philatelists.

There is more I would like to write about this splendid book, both of praise for its wealth of knowledge and its presentation and printing, and of friendly criticism of more of the expressions of opinion; but must content myself with offering my friend Jurgens my hearty congratulations on a splendid achievement; recommending my friends to secure a copy of this valuable work, while they are able to do so—whether they are directly interested in

the stamps of Bechuanaland or not; and looking forward to another Jurgens volume at no distant date.

Copies of the ordinary edition are obtainable direct from Mr. Jurgens at 26 Woodside Road, Tamboers Kloof, Cape Town, the price being 21s., plus 2s. 6d. for packing, postage and registration.

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SOME EUROPEAN ISSUES

Austria has issued a series of 5 semi-postals, all featuring racehorses to support the Grand Prix Race (the Austrian Derby). A notable feature about them is that the stamps have "Austria" in English spelling.

Switzerland. The 1946 Pro Juventute series of 4 are of the beautiful production we are accustomed to in Swiss stamps. The lowest value (5+5) depicts R. Toepffer, an early 19th century painter, the other three have Alpine flowers.

Italy. Eight stamps honour the establishment of the Italian Republic. Each stamp honours one of the Italian Republics of the Middle Ages, bearing its name and featuring some building therein, the only exception being the 3L stamp with a female figure.

Norway has had quite a few new issues and designs in recent months. Incidentally it may be mentioned that the latest number of the "Norsk Filatelistisk Tidsskrift" is a "British" number, nearly all the articles dealing with British stamps or British philately. Some of them are in Norwegian, some in English.

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The Universal Postal Union

By **M. F. SWANEPOEL,**
Publicity Officer, G.P.O.

(Continued from page 199 of the
December issue).

The propositions from the various countries are then embodied in one volume and submitted to all members some six months before they meet, thus providing ample opportunity to study the many questions they will be asked to decide at the Conference. When all the preliminary work has been completed, the Central Office from Berne establishes itself at the Conference headquarters in order to assist the responsible administration in the rather complicated executive duties involved.

The importance of the Union is fully demonstrated by the fact that the opening ceremony is performed by one of the highest personages of the State and has on occasions been performed by kings and presidents. The preliminary business, however, is of a purely formal nature, and after the usual address of welcome extended by the government, the appointments take place of chairman, vice-chairman, and other officials for the duration of the Conference.

Thereafter the Conference settles down to the serious work. It would be almost impossible, of course, for some two hundred delegates, representing every nation in the world, to meet as one body and attempt to tackle the several hundreds of proposals which appear on the agenda. The proposals are, therefore, divided up into groups and sub-heads which have a bearing on one another, and the Conference forms itself into various committees, each under its own chairman, to deal separately with the groups so arranged. Every few days a plenary session, that is to say a full session of all the delegates, is held at which the recommendations of the various committees are submitted for general approval or otherwise. The object of this is twofold: It keeps the Conference in touch with the work of all the committees and indicates progress to date, and, secondly, provides an opportunity for members of one committee to express their opinions in regard to subjects dealt with by other committees of which they are not members. This process goes on until eventually the many proposals are whittled down and the wheat separated from the chaff to such an extent that the Conference as a whole is in a position to consider a definite programme, which, with probably only slight modifications, will be finally embodied in the regulations framed under the Convention.

Apart from the actual value of the resolutions which are adopted at these international meetings, in establishing uniformity in postal

practices throughout the world, there is a tremendous value in the fact that the various heads of administrations come personally in touch with one another for a period long enough to promote a personal understanding which, although not entirely obvious, is of great assistance in the future, particularly when it becomes necessary for administrations to exchange correspondence in regard to matters of mutual interest or in the event of separate agreements on any special subjects being entered into.

Visualise for a moment an organisation which enables intercourse between all civilised nations of the world by land, sea and air; an organisation which brings together in Congress every five years representatives of every country, State and territory of the globe for the discussion and deliberation of all problems which communications present, and you will appreciate the Post Office as truly international and universal; or, to quote an inscription on the post office in Washington:

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Peace and Goodwill among Men and
Nations,
Messenger of Sympathy and Love,
Servant of Parted Friends,
Consoler of the Lonely,
Bond of the Scattered Family,
Enlarger of Common Life."

★ ★ ★

U.S.S.R.

There has recently been issued a set of 8 values featuring notable Moscow buildings and 2 commemorating Heroes of the Tank Divisions in the war.

★

UNION QUERIES

Mr. Rowland E. Stott, of 1 Grendon Ave., Oldham, England, recently made the following queries in a British philatelic magazine, but the response was not what he had hoped for.

The new Union Catalogue may answer his questions, but pending the appearance of this, can any of our Union specialists help him?

Watermarks.—I find in nearly all issues a frequent number with inverted watermarks, particularly the 1930/38 issue S.G. 42/49. Is this a common occurrence and of no particular importance? On such stamps as the Coronation issue with sideways watermark, these seem fairly evenly divided, head looking to left and right. Is there a normal, i.e., should it be left or right?

Perf.—In the Nos. 42, 43, 43a and 47 I find the perf. 14½ x 14 rather than 15 x 14. Could any reader confirm the normality of this?

Possible Error?—I have a mint block of four of No. 43a on one of which the top of the mast above the pennant is missing. Is this fairly common?

Small War Issue.—The original printing of the No. 98 (1½d.) was, I believe, rouletted 13, and the later issue rouletted 8. Are any printings of the other values known with the smaller roulette, i.e., 13?

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SOCIETY NEWS

THE PHILATELIC SOCIETY OF NATAL

President, Mr. W. H. Winde; *Hon. Sec.*, Mr. W. Hall Jones, P.O. Box 588, Durban; *Meetings*, 1st and 3rd Wednesdays at 31 London Assurance House, 319 Smith Street (in room of the Durban Camera Club, top floor) 7.30 p.m.

The twenty-fifth annual general meeting held on November 6, 1946.

The secretary reported that once again definite progress had been made, both from the membership point of view, which now totalled 230 members, and also from the financial aspect.

The sales packet superintendent reported that the gross revenue from the sales of £436 6s. 3d. amounted to £43 12s. 7d., believed to be a record for the Society. The superintendent intimated that generally speaking the sales packet section was well supported.

The Treasurer reported that subscriptions had been satisfactorily paid, and that the Society's finances were in a stronger position than previous years.

The president in his address drew attention to the fact that during the year we had lost two members who had passed on; as a tribute to their memory, members present stood in silence for a brief while.

Twelve months ago the immediate past president, Mr. Bevis, mentioned that he hoped the 200 mark in membership would be reached, and as you have heard from the secretary's report, the membership now stands at 234, a fine effort which it was hoped to improve on, and that the end of the present year would see the figure standing at over the 350 mark.

Mr. Winde reported that meetings had been very well attended, with many visitors and that meetings had been bright with the introduction of various competitions, displays, etc. Auctions had not been as well supported as in previous years due to type of material offered not having been of the best. Congratulations were, however, due to Mr. Lyle for the manner in which the auctions had been conducted.

With regard to the sales superintendent's report, it was agreed that his effort was most creditable, as figures shown were believed to constitute a record, and while his task was no easy one, it was hoped that he would be able to better these figures for next year.

In regard to the Union Catalogue it was hoped that it would not be long now before it was published, and special thanks were due to Mr. Basden and Mr. Bevis for the work they had put in with regard to this catalogue. In conclusion the president expressed his thanks for the harmonious manner in which all meetings had been conducted, and wished to record his thanks to the secretary for the manner in which he had carried out his duties as hon. secretary and treasurer, especially in view of the fact that he would not be standing for office this year, and while he did not usually single out individuals for praise, felt that he could not let the occasion pass without special thanks to Mr. Bevis who has at all times gone out of his way to help along the affairs of the Society.

Officials elected for the ensuing year were as follows: Patrons, The Administrator for Natal and the Mayor of Durban; President, W. Winde; Vice-Presidents, L. Bevis, L. Lyle, G. Milner Palmer, A. E. Basden, and A. S. Maskell; Secretary and Treasurer, W. Hall Jones; Sales Packet Superintendent, R. F. Swan; Committee, E. E. Gagel, W. F. Ovens, H. Hanna, Dr. B. Morris, and J. R. Simpson; Auditor, E. E. Gagel; Auctioneer, J. Lyle.

NYASALAND PHILATELIC SOCIETY

President, Mr. T. Bartlett; *Hon. Sec.*, Mr. McMicking; *Meetings*, 3rd Fridays, Tobacco Auction Rooms, Limbe, 5 p.m.

The attendance at the meeting on October 18 was a small one and the only business other than looking over approval books was the consideration of a letter from Dr. Baird, of Zomba. This intimated the Zomba members had decided to form a stamp club which would seek affiliation with the Nyasaland Philatelic Society. As the meeting was so small decision on the matter was postponed for the November meeting.

★

THE JEWISH GUILD PHILATELIC SECTION

Chairman, Mr. H. Marcuson; *Hon. Sec.*, Mr. I. Isaacs, 910 His Majesty's Buildings, Eloff Street, Johannesburg; *Meetings*, last Thursdays, at the Jewish Guild Memorial Hall, Von Brandis Street, Johannesburg.

Although there was no official exhibit at the meeting held on November 28, some fine stamps were shown and numerous stamps changed hands. There was a very good attendance, including many younger members and many visitors. The Section is in recess until January. The next meeting will be held on January 30, 1947. I.I.

★

PRETORIA PHILATELIC SOCIETY

President, F. C. Ferguson; *Hon. Sec.*, Jack J. Wilson, P.O.Box 514; *Meetings*, 1st and 3rd Mondays, 8 p.m., Technical College.

December 2: Mr. Bottomley gave a series of interesting talks on philatelic odds and ends. One of his subjects was the Pony Express which later became the Fargo Wells postal service, one of whose riders was the famous Buffalo Bill. Mr. Bottomley's exhibits included a way-bill issued by this postal service. The method of impressing and the use of the "grille" on U.S.A. stamps was also explained. Another exhibit was a cover delivered by native runner from the Rongbuk Glacier to India during the 1924 Mount Everest Expedition. The exhibition for the evening was provided by Mr. D. W. Sutcliffe, who tabled a very fine and comprehensive collection of mint George the Fifth issues.

December 17: This being the last meeting for the year, it has been customarily allocated to the president, and this evening he chose to speak on matters philatelic and otherwise, and it would appear from his remarks that he not only collects stamps but also has a fair supply of magazines going back to World War I. He also keeps a philatelic-cutting-scrapbook from which he read an interesting article dealing with the forgery of the stamps of a belligerent country for the purpose of espionage postal use.

The exhibition was provided by one of our young members who tabled a well mounted and useful collection of Union of South Africa.

At the last three or four meetings the attendance has dropped by some fifty per cent.; we have repeatedly mentioned the forthcoming visit of our Society to Johannesburg and also the very important matter of the syllabus for the first six months of the new year. I appeal to the other fifty per cent. or more of our members who have been absent from these meetings to snap out of this lamentable state of apathy.

We have a good sprinkling of the "fair" sex and they seem to be very much in the background these days, so it is just about time that they came out of retirement with a few surprise items. Then we have some eighty-odd country members who, I feel sure, must have some very fine collections they would like to "show-off" to the local members, not to mention the many philatelic items of interest with which they could regale us, and last, but not least, there are the youngsters who must, I feel sure, sometimes get pretty bored with the formally pompous "oldsters" and their weighty philatelic discussions. Anyway, whichever class you fall under, please make a New Year resolution that will lighten the job of the rather harrassed committee.

The annual general meeting takes place at the first meeting in February.

J.J.W.

THE PHILATELIC SOCIETY OF JOHANNESBURG

President, Mr. L. Buchen; Hon. Sec., Mr. J. H. Jenkins, P.O. Box 4967; Meetings, 2nd Tuesdays, Public Library, 7.45 p.m.

There were two exhibits at the meeting held on December 10.

Mr. Godfrey showed a wonderful exhibit of flown air mails and aero covers. These were arranged to show the history of flight from very early times to the present. Amongst the rare items shown were Paris Balloon flights during the siege of 1870, early Zeppelin flights, the Great Britain Windsor flights, the Bleriot Channel Crossing, Rare U.S.A. flights and S.A. Red Cross flights. There were numerous crash covers and a complete section showing the Empire air mail scheme. All the covers were beautifully mounted, with maps, illustrations and cuttings and were beautifully written up.

Mr. Schofield showed a fine exhibit of imperforate stamps. These included early France, Belgium, Holland and Greece. There were also rare Ceylon imperforates as well as other Empire imperforates. Every stamp shown was a perfect copy and most of them were fine used, although some mint were included. It is very rarely that such perfect used specimens of these classical stamps have been seen.

Mr. Isaacs spoke on the Air Mail Exhibit and Commander Enoch on the Imperforates. All the members present enjoyed the fine exhibits shown them.

I.I.

* * *

RHODESIA

The November issue of the "London Philatelist" has a long and lavishly illustrated article on the "Re-touches, Re-entries and Flaws of the 1910-1916—"Double Head" issues of Rhodesia by Mr. H. C. Dann.

Although there are only some seven commonly recognised flaws, such as the double dot on the ½d., the broken line in its five forms under OD in the 1d., and the ear gash on the double printings of all values 2d. to £1, he points out that there is actually a wealth of flaws, retouches and re-entries—at least 70 in the ½d., over 100 in the 1d. and about three dozen in the higher denominations. These are constant and distributed over several plates and printings.

The printers have stated that the reason for this was the scarcity of skilled labour during the war period 1914-16 and careless handling of the plates, especially those of the 1d., on which the greatest number of flaws is to be found. Retouches predominate on the ½d.

RECENT COLONIAL PRINTINGS

Basutoland. Various denominations have had fresh releases, all perf. 12½. The 1d. is now carmine, as against the scarlet of 1944; the 6d., orange-brown as against a pale orange-yellow in 1945; 1s., a brighter red-orange than in 1945, and the 10s. a deeper olive-green.

Bechuanaland. Four denominations released in October, 1946, have very different shades from the 1944 stamps; all are perf. 12½. 1d. rose-carmine as against pale scarlet; 2d. deep reddish-brown as against chocolate; 6d. a deeper magenta, and 5s. with the ultramarine a deeper shade.

Nigeria. The 1s. has appeared of a deep olive-green as contrasted with the sage-green of the 1945 printing.

Sierra Leone. ½d. blue green where formerly green; 1d. of a deeper lake; 6d. deep grey instead of pearl-grey, and 2s. grey-brown in place of sepia.

Swaziland. Perfs. 13¼ x 13¾ as before, but new shades. 1d. carmine-rose as against deep carmine; 2d. a lighter brown; 3d. a clear ultramarine or light blue in place of the former violet-blue (this seems worthy of catalogue rank, not merely a shade variety); 5s. a lighter grey.

Colonial "Victories." Probably before these lines appear in print all the issues will have been issued (except, perhaps, the Falkland Dependencies). In view of the form of the postal administration of the Malayan Union and Singapore not being yet settled, the Crown Agents have announced, however, that their "Victory" stamps may not be issued, at any rate for the time being.

We have to thank Mr. W. Tunstall for first day covers from Kenya and Mr. C. M. Anthony, of 35 Queen Street, Colombo, for a day of issue cover from Ceylon.

★

ROOSEVELT COLLECTION

Messrs. H. R. Harmer Inc. had their final Roosevelt sale in New York on December 17. This portion consisted mainly of special envelopes sent to the President from all parts of the world. It was expected to raise from 10 to 15 thousand dollars.

Fine British Colonials:

Selections of the above are sent on approval to serious collectors against references.

- Range 1. Early issues, which can be selected from at one-third of catalogue price.
- Range 2. Modern issues (1900 on) in mint state, mostly at 50% off catalogue.
- Range 3. Modern issues (1900 on) superb used, mostly at 50% off catalogue.

J. BIRD, 116, Highlands Heath, London, S.W.15, England

The "Screened" and the "Screenless" Categories of the Rotogravure Issues of the Union of South Africa

By A. HILTON SYDOW, A.S.A.A., C.A.(S.A.)

Rotogravure or rotary photogravure is a photo-mechanical process of en creux or intaglio etching on highly polished surfaces of copper cylinders from which impressions are printed mechanically in the web, that is to say, on long reels or webs of paper. The said process is known also as rotary autogravure.

Since the end of 1935 or thereabouts two methods of Rotogravure have been employed in connection with the production of the Postage Stamps and the Postage Due Labels of the Union of South Africa, namely, Screenless Rotogravure and Screened Rotogravure. These two methods have been employed individually in certain instances and in combination in other instances in respect of the bicoloured stamps and labels. It is exemplified as follows:

A. Silver Jubilee stamps depicting the profile portrait of H.M. King George V.

a. Portrait on Interior Cylinder—Screenless Rotogravure.

b. Frame on Exterior Cylinder—Screenless Rotogravure.

B. Coronation stamps depicting profile portrait of H.M. King George VI.

a. Portrait on Interior Cylinder—Screened Rotogravure.

b. Frame on Exterior Cylinder—Screenless Rotogravure.

C. Huguenot Anniversary stamp depicting the Drakenstein Valley rural scene.

a. Vignette on Interior Cylinder—Screened Rotogravure.

b. Frame on Exterior Cylinder—Screened Rotogravure.

Succinctly stated, the etched surface of a copper cylinder is evolved as follows:

1. A Master Negative, x-set, is prepared from the Original Design; the letter "x" represents the number of images taken up from the Original Design.

2. A Diapositive comprised of "z(x-set)" design images is obtained from the Master Negative by means of exposure to light viz. a "Step and Repeat" Camera; the letter "z" represents the number of exposures through the Master Negative.

3. By exposure to light a print of "z(x-set)" design images is made through the Diapositive (now used as a negative) to a gelatine coated Carbon Tissue sheet which previously was sensitised by immersion in a solution of Potassium Bichromate.

At this stage the polished surface of a copper cylinder may be subjected to the etching of an intersecting-line grain simultaneously with the design images via the sensitised screened Carbon Tissue as explained briefly anent Category "A" hereunder or it may be subjected to an irregular grain by the application of heat prior to the etching of the design images via the sensitised unscreened Carbon Tissue as explained concisely anent Category "B" hereunder.

4a. Category "A"—where the intersecting line grain is applied. Another exposure is made on the Carbon Tissue sheet through a photogravure Screen and the Carbon Tissue is furnished with a pattern of diagonally or rectangularly intersecting-lines in its gelatine resist so as to prevent the eventual etching of the copper immediately underlying the lines of resist after its affixation to the surface of the copper cylinder. The Carbon Tissue now comprises "z(x-set)" screened design images. (Et seq. paragraph 5a hereunder).

4b. Category "B"—where the irregular grain is applied. The Carbon Tissue sheet requires no Screen exposure. The Carbon Tissue now comprises "z(x-set)" unscreened design images. (Et seq. paragraph 5b hereunder).

5a. Category "A"—where the intersecting line grain is applied. The Screened Carbon Tissue is "squeegeed" or transferred to the polished surface of the copper cylinder and subsequently developed in hot water. A thin gelatine relief image or resist is retained on the cylinder's surface.

5b. Category "B"—where the irregular grain is applied. An irregular bitumen or resin grain is affixed to the surface of the copper cylinder by the application of heat but before the unscreened Carbon Tissue (Vide paragraph 3 heretofore) is "squeegeed" or transferred thereto. After the affixation of the irregular grain to the cylinder's surface the unscreened Carbon Tissue is "squeegeed" or transferred thereto and eventually developed in hot water. A thin gelatine relief image or resist is left on the surface of the cylinder.

6. The gelatine relief image or resist is dried. The areas of surface that are required to remain unetched are painted with acid-

resisting varnish, for example, the marginal spaces and the perforation gutters.

7. The copper surface of the cylinder is etched repeatedly in solutions of ferric chloride of varying strengths, causing the resist to be penetrated and the underlying copper to be eroded to various depths of minute ink-hollows but (a) leaving the screened intersecting-line untouched in the case of Category "A" of SCREENED ROTOGRAVURE and (b) leaving any white line or spaces of design untouched in the case of Category (B) of SCREENLESS ROTOGRAVURE. The surface of the copper cylinder (under both categories) now holds "z(x-set)" en creux or intaglio etched images; if, for instance, such cylinder had been prepared for the printing of the English and Afrikaans inscribed frames of the bicoloured 1d. denominated "Springbok Head" stamps, it would have held 60(4-set) equals 240 frame images.

SCREENED ROTOGRAVURE CATEGORY "A"

The minutely etched recesses or ink-hollows are spaced so close together on the surface of the copper cylinder etched under this category that on a printed impression taken therefrom the effect of a continuous tone is seen when it is held at the normal viewing distance. Under a magnifying glass, however, the said continuous tone effect is seen as a mesh-work composed of coloured dots enclosed by colourless lines. Such coloured dots emanate from the minute ink-hollows. The etched ink-hollows are of almost uniform size but they vary in depth according to the gradation of colour tone which they represent. The ink-hollows derive from the etching of the minute squared cells formed by the intersecting-lines of the pattern screened on the Carbon Tissue as briefly described afore in paragraph 4a. On the printed paper the different colour tones are denoted by the different thicknesses in minute relief of the ink yielded by the ink-hollows of different depths on the periphery of the cylinder.

The continuous tone effect at the normal viewing distance and the correlative mesh-work effect through a magnifying glass will be observed, for example, on the following stamps of the Union:

a. The Vignette depicting the "Church of the Vow" on the bicoloured Voortrekker Monument stamps. (Interior Cylinder).

b. The profile Portrait of H.M. King George VI and its concomitant background depicted on the bicoloured Coronation stamps. (Interior Cylinder).

c. The whole of the monocoloured 1d. Roll stamp with the Vignette of Van Riebeeck's Ship. (Single Cylinder).

d. The sheet Marginal Slogans and Numerals of the miniature National Defence or War stamps.

The contrast between the dark and light continuous colour tones will be perceived on the background of the profile portrait of H.M. King George VI. The dark tones are origi-

nated by the thin portions of gelatine in the resist while the light tones are originated by the relatively thick portions.

Through a magnifying glass it will be observed also that the demarcations of design in colour from background in white are represented by serrulated lines. The mesh-work effect and the serrulated line effect are clearly exemplified on the Metabeland Commemoration stamps of Southern Rhodesia, which were produced by the Screened Rotogravure process at the Union Government Printing Works in Pretoria. The serrulated edge effect will be observed, for example, on the following Union stamps:

a. The thin outer line of the frame design of the 1d. Voortrekker Commemoration stamp with the Wagon-wheel Vignette. (Exterior Cylinder).

b. The outer parallel frame lines and the coloured figures of value of the Large "Gold Mine" 1½d. stamp. (Exterior Cylinder).

c. The name tablets showing the names "SOUTH AFRICA" and "SUID-AFRIKA" in white on coloured field of the 1d. Roll stamp in monocolour.

Incidentally, it may be mentioned that the correlative unetched pattern of intersecting-lines on the copper surface of the cylinder affords a support for the ink-wiper known as the "doctor blade" and which prevents the "doctor" from wiping the ink out of the minutely etched ink-hollows during the rotations of the cylinder.

On the Original Designs the mesh-work effect and the serrulated-edge effects are absent entirely, for both Line Subjects and Continuous Tone Subjects as will be perceived from the photographs of Original Designs of certain of the stamps of the Union of South Africa issued by the Bureau of Information, Pretoria.

(To be continued)

★ ★ ★

TANGANYIKA T.P.O's.

These seem to be popular in Britain at present. In our October issue we chronicled an article in the "Philatelic Magazine"; now we have one by Mr. Cyril Kidd in the November issue of "The Stamp Magazine." Incidentally, it may be remarked that neither of them gives a quite complete account of these T.P.O's.—there are slight lacunae in each article although together they give a nearly complete record.

★

GUM OR NO GUM

The agitation for collecting unused (? mint) stamps without gum seems to be growing, in America at all events. "Stamps" and "Mekeel's Weekly Stamp News" have joined the ranks of the philatelic papers supporting the proposal that, if stamps are to last more or less indefinitely, the only way to ensure this is to wash off the gum from them.

The example of the Berlin Postal Museum is quoted. Stamps preserved there have the gum removed.

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PEACE ISSUES: Mint sets are now being distributed. Used sets are arriving weekly.
Write for my price list.

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EGYPT: Arab Rulers' Meeting (7 values), mint or used per set, 1/9; Civil Air Congress (30 Mills Overprinted), mint 1/-; used 1/3; Cairo Citadel, 10 Mills, Mint 1/-; used 1/3.

SPECIALS: Gt. Britain No. 478, 10/- dark blue, mint, £1 8s. 6d.

ITALY: New Republic, complete set, 8 values, mint, 2/3; Vatican City, Council of Trent, 14 values, mint, 3/0.

S.A. Philatelic Association. Write for details of this Postal Exchange Club.

CORRESPONDENCE

The Editor,
"The South African Philatelist."

FOREIGN ARTICLES

Sir,—I am delighted to find that my letter to you has provoked such a spirited reply from Mr. Patrick Riordan. Such letters add greatly to the interest and value of your paper.

Perhaps I may be allowed one or two comments. It seems to me that the title "The South African Philatelist" is capable of at least two interpretations, and not being in possession of the title-deeds, or whatever a periodical has, I do not know which is correct. (1) It may signify a paper devoted to the interests of all philatelists in South Africa, in which case there should certainly be at least a small proportion of its pages devoted to "Foreigns," especially the stamps of territories in Europe and elsewhere with which South Africans have deep-rooted associations, for it is certain that there are many South African philatelists, as seen even as Mr. Riordan, who have "Foreign" interests. In my ignorance I imagined that this was the purpose of your periodical. (2) It may signify a paper confined to the study of stamps issued within the borders of South Africa. This is evidently the interpretation which Mr. Riordan puts upon it, and if he is right then any articles dealing with stamps outside this territory are impertinent. But is this really so?

I particularly enjoyed the latter part of Mr. Riordan's letter, for collectors of one kind of stamps are never funnier than when they begin to patronise collectors of other sorts. I am so glad to know that I am entitled to collect Foreigns, and I am happy to be able to tell Mr. Riordan that I have what is undoubtedly the finest collection of Bulgarian Bullseyes in the Southern Hemisphere.

I am, dear Sir, with the Season's greetings

Yours truly,

W. LOXLEY CHAMINGS.

★

Hon. Editor,
"South African Philatelist."

STAMP DEALING

Sir,—Reading your September Editorial I was surprised to find that the hare started in your July number was not pursued.

I have been dealing in stamps for 12 years but only as a part-time business. I therefore expected more experienced men to take up the chase, but as that has not happened I make bold to give some aspects of the dealer's point of view as I see it.

First of all I enclose a newspaper cutting of, I think, five or six years ago, expressing the opinion of one English firm:

DOES ANYONE ANSWER LETTERS LIKE THIS? (We Don't!)

We frequently receive letters like this, and it is a constant puzzle to us to understand the mentality of those who waste time in writing them:

"We shall be pleased if you will let us know by return mail what are the prices at which you can buy Aden Protectorate, Abyssinian, Eritrean, and British Somaliland used postage stamps, as well as used and unused sets of the above countries."

If those who send out such communications have stamps to sell, and if they are prepared to take a fair profit, they must know what price they need to ask. The reaction, therefore, is that they will not be content with a fair profit, and are only interested in offers which exceed the price they know the stamps to be worth on a commercial cost-plus-profit basis.

Presumably, such letters do bring answers, or the custom would not be so prevalent, but our advice would be that they should always be ignored. It is for the seller to price his goods, or, if he wants to test the market, to send them to auction.

That is possibly a little bit drastic.

I do not think that many serious collectors are in doubt as to values. They know what they paid and most of them see recent stamp journals.

At Philatelic Society meetings I generally hear something like this: "I bought this set for £1. It is now catalogued at £10. In the last — Mag. I saw it offered by so and so at £8."

The dealer probably does know more about market values—so what!?

A doctor knows more about medicine than his patient. That perhaps is not a good analogy, but the dealer's knowledge is gained by expenditure of time and money. He has some years of experience. He must subscribe to one or more Traders' Associations. He probably pays a number of subscriptions to receive wholesale and retail offers. He probably subscribes to several stamp journals. He must study wholesale and retail prices, and apply these to his own business. If he has an advantage when buying—he deserves it.

With regard to quoting buying prices, I think this is only occasionally practical, and then only for limited types. To quote even a proportion of buying prices would be tantamount to publishing a small catalogue—Jubilees and Coronation issues alone would take up considerable space.

Only about 5 per cent. of stamps offered to a dealer are stamps that he particularly wants, in which case he could have ordered from wholesale suppliers. He is normally ready to buy in the hope that he may sell this year, next year, or sometime.

If a dealer has a sufficient supply of certain stamps to meet his sales for a year or two, what good is it to him if he can buy even at half selling price? The stamps so

purchased are just hoarded and that much money locked up.

I think all dealers prefer to buy from a seller who states the selling price rather than from one who says: "I don't know their value, I leave it to you." The latter are generally uninformed and disappointed, and for ever believe they sold a valuable collection for a mere song. The dealer has probably bought a collection that he did not want, but could not refuse, less "the word" should spread that he is not a buyer.

To estimate the value of a general collection may take from ten minutes to ten hours or more. That the seller then uses that free valuation as a basis for selling elsewhere, is one of the reasons that many dealers insist on the seller quoting a price.

The "S.A. Philatelist" is written primarily for knowledgeable collectors.

How many of them buy stamps and are prepared blindly to pay any price asked?

If they know values when buying, they can scarcely claim ignorance of market values and trends when selling.

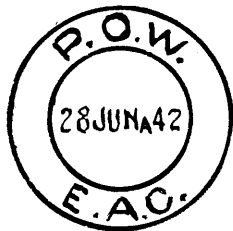
Yours faithfully,

N. C. CLAY.

★ ★ ★

AN UNRECORDED EAST AFRICAN WAR POSTMARK

Mr. I. H. C. Godfrey has brought to notice an East African War Postmark which has so far escaped notice.



This is scarcely to be wondered at, as it was in use only at the Italian Prisoner of War Camps throughout the area of the East African Command. Most specimens of the postmark, therefore, probably went either to Italy or to one or

other of the Italian African colonies. There were no markings distinguishing that used at one camp from that used at another—all camps used identical marks.

The mark has also been seen on Internees' mail.

★

CONSCIENCE MONEY

The funds of the Philatelic Federation have recently benefited to the extent of £10, and it is understood that the South African Red Cross Society has been given an equal amount.

These sums have been given by an individual who had been guilty of substituting stamps in exchange packets. He did not specifically admit guilt but voluntarily made these contributions and no further action has been taken against him beyond stopping sending him exchange packets. We consider he got off very lightly.

AS OTHERS SEE US

It is interesting, and may be instructive, sometimes to see ourselves as others see us. "Stamps" has started a column entitled "From the contemporary foreign press," and in this there is comment on our July issue. What they find most worthy of comment apparently was contained in the report of the East London Society's June meeting, viz., the topical exhibit by Mr. Jensen. What tickled the fancy of the commentator most was the sketch of a fan mounted with Japanese stamps and that of storks carrying mailbags, with babies or children in them.

KENYA 1c RETOUCHE

A writer in the November number of "Gibbons Stamp Monthly" reports a very crude obvious hand retouch on the current 1c Kenya (S.G. 13a). It occurs in the left tablet value below the dot under the "c" of 1c. Several background lines are roughly drawn below the numeral and stop, the cross hatching is omitted and the lower frame line has been re-cut with a downward curve to the left.

This retouch is found on stamp 86 (6th stamp, 9th row) of sheets bearing the plate number 2-2-4B, which plate was first noted in the printing released in London in February, 1944.

The next printing was in June, 1946. In this the sheets are numbered 2-5A; the retouch does not appear nor is there any evidence of it having been corrected.

BRAZIL

The stream of commemoratives from here flows steadily.

On 1st September there was held in Rio de Janeiro the 5th Postal Union Congress of the Americas and Spain, and the special stamp issued for the occasion was a Cr. \$5.00 one with a figure of the Lighthouse of Columbus in the Dominican Republic. On the 2nd of the month a 40c stamp was issued with a picture of the mint. There was also a special card and cancellation for the occasion.

September 18 saw a beautiful 40c stamp in black and bluish-grey with a lady's head emblematic of the promulgation of a new Constitution.

Early this year will appear a stamp commemorating the centenary of the poet Castro Alves.

FALKLAND DEPENDENCIES

"Stamp Collecting" publishes a notice from the Falkland Islands "Government Gazette" stating: "The definitive issue of Dependencies Postage Stamps, now on sale, is limited to values up to and including one shilling. Where higher values are required Colony stamps are valid."

Higher value Falkland Is. stamps used in the Dependencies will, therefore, be collectable and should be good items. Used stamps with clear postmarks will naturally be the most desirable.

The SOUTH AFRICAN PHILATELIST

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UNION AND S.W.A. NOTES

ROYAL VISIT 3d. STAMP

It has already been reported that the design of this stamp was to be altered from that illustrated in our December issue, because of a botanical error in the aloe.



The corrected design has now been released. It differs from the previous one in having a larger springbok on the left side only, while on the right is an aloe only, also larger, and this time it is the truly indigenous species, *A. Ferox*.

RECENT PRINTINGS

The publicity section of the G.P.O. has forwarded the following information, covering the period 15-8-46 to 12-11-46. This continues the information given in our issue of November, 1946.

(a) Pictorial Postage Stamps:

1d.—Job 560: 93,375 sheets x 240, delivered to date on the order for 250,000. Cylinders 60 Int. and 49 Ext., as before.

2d.—Job 10,808: A total of 173,500 sheets x 120, delivered up to 17-10-46, printed from Cylinders 6913 Int. and 64 Ext., as before. A further 48,500 sheets delivered subsequent to 5-11-46 from Cylinders 8 Int. and 21 Ext., both new.

(b) Roll Stamps:

1d.—Job 9,979: 4,700 rolls x 506 from Cylinder 16, as before.

(c) Inland Pictorial Postcards:

1d.—Job 8,674: A total of 1,248,000 cards, delivered subsequent to 14-5-46, printed from old cylinders 86 and 85. A further delivery of 307,200 delivered subsequent to 8-10-46, printed from Cylinder 86 for stamps, as before, and from Cylinder 87, new, for the pictures.

(d) Air Letter Cards:

6d.—Job 6887 continued: On order for 5,000,000 started on 12-6-45 there have now been delivered 627,000 from Cylinder 74 (up to 26-6-45), 3,466,344 from Cylinder 91 (up to 24-9-46), since then a further 331,200 from a new Cylinder, No. 71.

GENERAL NOTES

The Robertson Stamp Co., Johannesburg, informs us that the 6d. pictorial now on sale has the design somewhat reduced in size. This is presumably printed from the new cylinders reported in our November issue.

The 2d. is a stamp to be watched. Previously of a dull shade, it appeared about August last of a bright one, now it is again on sale in a dull shade. It should be noted also from the information given above that it is now being printed from completely new plates.

"Bantams" appear to be now almost entirely sold out, except for the 3d., of which large stocks were returned from Army P.O.s.

Airmail Rates.—The British P.O. announces that the airmail rate from Britain to South Africa is being reduced as at (query) from 1s. 3d. to 1s. per $\frac{1}{2}$ oz. and postcards for 6d. as against 7d. Union rates of airmail postage to various places outside the Union are also to be reduced, but details as to rates and time of coming into force have not yet been announced.

S.W.A. BANTAM VARIETIES

Mr. H. C. Nöckler, of Box 51, Omaruru, writes: "Seeing there are few errors or varieties in the S.W.A. overprinted small war

stamps, it may be of interest to note that I have the 2d. Afrikaans stamps with the opt. across the white of the sailor's cap. This is the highest shift of the opt. which I have seen. I have two specimens, both of the Afrikaans stamp. Could anyone exchange a similar English stamp for one of them?

"Another prominent shift of the overprint which I have, on the 2d. and also on the 3d., is a lateral one, so pronounced that there is only the S.W. on one stamp, the A. being on the next stamp. These are the only marked varieties I have seen, other than the 6d. and 1s. with inverted overprint. Can any of your readers add to this?"

S.W.A. OVERPRINTS ON LETTER CARDS

An article in the December "Airpost Journal" illustrates six different types of S.W.A. used in overprinting Union air letter cards, three of them on Active Service cards, three on the civilian air letter cards. Are there any more varieties?

Collectors' Wants & Offers

(Threepence per word per insertion with minimum of 3/- per insertion).

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Exchange desired with collectors in all countries from the North Pole to the South Pole. Send 50 or 100 different varieties of your country and receive in return 50 or 100 different United States of EQUAL VALUE. No torn or damaged stamps given or wanted—only stamps off paper exchanged. We exchange value for value.
W. L. Bedard, Post Office Box 637,

A TUSCANY FIND

Messrs. H. R. Harmer report that their 7th January sale contains a very fine 3 lire Tuscan unused stamp, which has recently come to light. This is one of the standard European rarities, being catalogued at £650.

Thanks to assistance from overseas with very small additions from South African sources. The normal stamps I now require to complete my world collection up to 1933 issues are reduced to

4084

For the benefit of South African Collectors and Dealers here are a few wants in British Empire mint or fine used:—

Australia: D43, D44, D60, D61, D62, D73.

B.E.A.: 20 (or 22), 26, 40, 44, 99.

B. Guiana: 2, 9, 23, 141, 144, 145, 146, 161, 185, 186, 187, 188, 503, 504, 510.

Bangkok: 8, 10, 11, 12 (or 13), 14, 22.

Ceylon: 158, 163, 181.

Fiji: 19, 64, 143.

F.M.S.: 4, 6, 7, 12a, 12b.

Great Britain: O7, O10, O11, O19, O22, O23, O24, O25, O26, O27, O40, O82, O86, 196.

Gwalior: 22, 131, 132, 133, 226, 237, 268, 269.

Iraq: 42, 76, O58, O92, O93.

Labuan: 37, 38, 77, 78, 80, 96, 140, 141, 142, 209.

New Guinea: 7, 9, 10, 12, 13, 26, 41, 54, 55, 57, 59, 60, 63, 64, 162, 176.

N. Borneo: 2, 8, 9, 54, 65, 85, 108, 143, 182, 183, D5, D7, D11, D15, D44.

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Box 2437,

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SIERRA LEONE

In 1897 large "Stamp Duty" stamps were overprinted "Postage and Revenue"; a 2½d. value being created by surcharging and overprinting 3d., 6d., 1s. and 2s. stamp duty stamps. A footnote in Gibbons's Catalogue states that the 2½d. on 3d. and 2½d. on 6d. were overprinted in sheets of 30.

A note in the December "Philatelic Adviser" records the finding of a mint sheet of 60, complete with margins of the 2½d. on 6d. and a mint half-sheet with margins at the top and sides of 30 of the 2½d. on 3d. That the latter is only half a complete sheet is confirmed by the presence in each side-margin of the upper half only of the vertical line indicating the middle of the sheet.

The note is illustrated by photographs of both items.

★

SCRIPT WATERMARK ON BRITISH COLONIALS

"Ubique" in "Stamp Collecting" asks if you know why the watermark on British Colonials was changed from Roman to Script characters. The answer was given by Mr. George, of the Guildford Philatelic Society at a "Brains Trust" meeting. The Roman lettering was punched out of brass and soldered on to the dandy roll; it tended to break away from its moorings, necessitating frequent replacement. The Script characters are fashioned in wire and actually sewn on, which gives them a much longer life.

ITALY

Italian dealers are protesting at the policy of the "smallest and oldest republic in the world" (San Marino) in making an artificial scarcity of its stamps. They are popular enough not to need such a form of boosting.

Italian stamps are being abundantly overprinted with AMGVG for use in the "A" zone of Venezia Giulia (Trieste) by the Allied Military Government. There have been at least six issues and many varieties of overprint.

Barter of Italian stamps for British Colonials is banned.

★

CHINA

October 31st saw the issue of a set of six values in honour of Chiang-Kai-Shek's 60th birthday and the 35th year of the Republic. All values have the President's portrait surrounded by Chinese seal characters for longevity.

★

U.S.S.R.

The stream of commemoratives flows steadily on, recent issues being five publicizing industry and agriculture; eight medal stamps, each of 60k value but with different medals, and others.

★

CANADA

The 17c Air Mail Special Delivery stamp is to be replaced by a slightly re-drawn design—there was an error in the accent over the second "e" in Express.

The SOUTH AFRICAN PHILATELIST

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Nyasaland

THE PROTECTORATE'S AIR POSTAL HISTORY.

By I. H. C. GODFREY

Notes have been contributed from time to time in earlier issues of the "South African Philatelist" on events in the Airmail development of Nyasaland, and especially interesting articles have appeared from the pen of Mr. L. A. Wyndham concerning the country's Pioneer mail-carrying Flights. If this review is to be a chronology some repetition of facts is inevitable, and due apologies are tendered.

Known the world over as "Darkest Africa in Fairest Mood" through its very apt slogan postmark, Nyasaland Protectorate in many ways still lives up to its reputation of being



the "Cinderella" of the British Empire. In matters aeronautical this was particularly noticeable until a few years ago, but astonishing progress has since been made considering that the country, which is only about one-third the size of the British Isles, supports a European population of less than 1,500. In such a sparsely populated territory, a large body of philatelists is not expected; nevertheless, thanks to one or two keen Air Post collectors in the Protectorate and to a few enthusiasts outside its borders, a fairly full record of events has been kept.

Towards the close of the East African Campaign in the 1914-1918 War, military planes occasionally flew over the northern extremity of Nyasaland from air bases in Tanganyika, but it was not until 1928 that the first aircraft visited the country. That year, Sir Alan Cobham, the famous British aviator, anchored his "Singapore" seaplane for a day off Fort Johnston at the southern end of Lake Nyasa, in the course of his Round-Africa survey flight. No souvenirs of that historic event exist so far as Nyasaland is concerned.

The first Nyasaland owned aeroplane landed at Limbe on July 16th, 1931. The De-Haviland Moth, which was on a delivery flight to the newly formed company, Cristowitz' Air Services (Nyasaland) Ltd., was flown to Nyasaland from Johannesburg by Mr. H. Holingdrake. It carried a small consignment of newspapers but, unfortunately, none of

these bore any special inscription or postmark to show the method of transport.

Cristowitz' Air Services successfully operated passenger planes in and out of the Protectorate until February 1st, 1934, when the Company was absorbed by the Rhodesian and Nyasaland Airways, Ltd. (RANA). During those two and a half years the Company carried no mails.

In DECEMBER, 1931, Nyasaland became an airmail Despatching country when Imperial Airways undertook their experimental flight from Croydon to Cape Town and 85 letters were posted to link at Salisbury, Southern Rhodesia, with the southbound plane. In JANUARY, 1932, a further 530 letters were sent by the Nyasaland Post Offices to Salisbury to connect with the first Regular north and southbound services of Imperial Airways. These mails were sent by Rail, via Beira, and, on arrival the Salisbury Post Office applied cachets reading "EXPERIMENTAL FLIGHT" and "FIRST OFFICIAL FLIGHT" respectively.

The ROYAL AIR FORCE was the pioneer of mail carrying in many parts of the Empire from 1918 onwards and, in the case of Nyasaland, they can once again lay claim to that honour.

In MAY, 1933, an Air Rally was arranged at the instance of the Governor, Sir Hubert Young, to celebrate the opening of the territory's principal aerodrome, at Chileka, near Blantyre. The function was well attended, about twenty-five aircraft from all parts of Southern and Eastern Africa taking part, including five Fairey-Gordon planes of the R.A.F., which had deviated from their annual routine flight from Egypt to the Cape so as to be present at the Rally. The Flight was in command of Group-Capt. C. W. Pulford, O.B.E., A.F.C.

Besides opening a temporary post office at the aerodrome, at which a special postmark inscribed "Chileka Nyasaland" was in use from May 20th to June 13th, the Postal Administration made arrangements for the R.A.F. to carry experimental mails on May 30th and June 5th, and 510 souvenir envelopes were printed to mark the occasions. After these covers, which depict a leopard on a rock silhouetted against the rising sun, had been on sale for a few days the Government discovered that their issue contravened some official regulation and they were ordered to be withdrawn from circulation; the majority had, however, already been sold and they were used on both flights.

MAY 30th, 1933. On this date the five military planes left Zomba for Lilongwe, some 150 miles north-west of Blantyre, carrying 355 letters which constituted the Protectorate's first airmail despatch. All covers received a double-circle postmark before departure reading "FIRST NYD. AIRMAIL 30 MY 1933."

JUNE 1st, 1933. The Imperial Airways' liner "City of Karachi" in command of Capt. J. Sheppard, which was also attending the Air Rally, was ordered to return to Salisbury on June 1st. That date happened to coincide with the regular weekly air service to and

from Cape Town, so the Nyasaland authorities, at very short notice, decided to avail themselves of the flight for the conveyance of a special mail. Two hundred and eighty-two items in all were sent (228 for Northbound and 54 Southbound destination) each bearing an additional 2d. postage over and above the listed air mail rates. The few covers which were addressed to the actual terminus of the flight, Salisbury, were backstamped the same day, but the remainder can only be identified by the date of the postmark and the extra franking. This was the first occasion on which letters were carried by air from the Protectorate to an EXTERNAL destination, although originally it was intended that the R.A.F. should have the distinction. The regular air link with Salisbury did not eventuate until March 8th, 1934.

JUNE 5th, 1933. As Imperial Airways had, by this time, already carried mails to Salisbury, the envelopes which had been printed to commemorate Nyasaland's first air despatch to an external destination, lost their real significance. The Post Office, however, entrusted the R.A.F. on their return flight with the SECOND external air mail—the first to be flown direct from Nyasaland to Northern Rhodesia. The mail consisted of 266 items addressed to Fort Jameson, N-E Rhodesia, which were postmarked "NYD NRHOD AIRMAIL 5 JU 1933". A regular service over this route was opened on May 23rd, 1938.

INTRODUCTION OF REGULAR AIRMAIL SERVICES

The Experimental mail carrying flights undertaken in 1933 by the Royal Air Force and Imperial Airways were the prelude to the gradual opening up of regular air services linking Nyasaland with her neighbouring British and Portuguese territories and, so, with the ever expanding network of Airlines throughout the world, the total length of which in 1939 exceeded 300,000 miles.

As recently as 1908, mails to Blantyre could only be carried by steamer up to the Zambesi and Shire Rivers from the coastal port of Chinde and, depending on the season, the time in transit for a letter to reach Nyasaland from Southern Rhodesia was between three and four weeks. Since then, due to the advent of Rail communications and, later to the Postal use of aeroplanes, an astounding acceleration has taken place:

Approximate Mail Transit Times: Salisbury to Blantyre.

1908	4 weeks
1928	4 days
1938	2½ HOURS

RHODESIA AND NYASALAND AIRWAYS, LTD.

MARCH 8th, 1934. BLANTYRE —SALISBURY (308 m.)

The most far reaching event in the Airmail History of the Protectorate occurred on March 8th, 1934, when a "Westland Wessex" plane, owned by the newly formed Rhodesian and Nyasaland Airways but still bearing its original British registration letters "G-ABEG," in-

augurated a REGULAR weekly service from Nyasaland to Southern Rhodesia, to connect with the trunk route of Imperial Airways. The plane, which was formerly the private property of H.R.H. Edward Prince of Wales, was in charge of Capt. M. H. Phillip who had flown it out to Africa.

To commemorate the start of this important service, the Blantyre Printing and Publishing Company printed a number of souvenir envelopes, depicting a leopard silhouetted against the sun. A well known brand of stationery was used so that these envelopes can be found in an assortment of colours. Although entirely unofficial, not having been sponsored by the Post Office or by the operating Company, some of these covers were actually used by the authorities when handling requests from philatelists for first flights. Other than these, no official or semi-official envelopes were used on the inaugural Blantyre to Salisbury flight, although for the return trip next day, R.A.N.A. did issue souvenir covers.

A three-lined black cachet "FIRST FLIGHT REGULAR AIR SERVICE NYASALAND—SOUTHERN RHODESIA" was applied by the Blantyre Post Office to correspondence and covers were backstamped on arrival in Salisbury at 11 a.m. the same day. A number of items bear an error in the Blantyre postmark = 6 P.M. instead of 6 A.M.

The mail comprised 3,639 items, 595 of which were for Southern Rhodesia.

MARCH 15th, 1934. The opening of Nyasaland's first direct air link with the outside world was of inestimable benefit to the country as a whole but, as only about 120 m. of Railway construction had been completed by then and none of the Northern districts were served, it had little effect in accelerating mails from such places as Livingstone and Karonga, in the Province of North Nyasa. To overcome this difficulty, special arrangements were made by the Post Office for mails to be carried from those isolated Mission Stations by Lake Steamer and Overland by Runners to the nearest aerodrome at Mbeya, Tanganyika. Once a month airmail letters were to be collected at Chiweto (the port of Livingstonia) and Karonga by the steamer and carried to Mwaya at the northern extremity of the Lake. From there they would be carried by Native Postboys about 90 miles to meet the Imperial Airways' plane at Mbeya. On other occasions the mail was to be taken about 200 miles overland by Runners.

In order to commemorate this indirect air link with civilisation, the Livingstonia Misson applied an elaborate cachet to letters despatched by the first service on March 15th, 1934, which happened to coincide with the Lake Steamer's monthly call at Chiweto. (See illustration, next page).

It might be mentioned that the whole European population of the Province of North Nyasa, 3,000 sq. m. in extent, is only 13.

AUGUST 5th, 1935. BLANTYRE — BEIRA, Mocambique. (295 m.)

The Mocambique Company, the administrators of the Portuguese Provinces of Manica and Sofala, granted a concession early in 1935



to the British firm, Manica Trading Co., for the operation of air services from Beira to Blantyre, and to Salisbury to connect with the London-Cape route of Imperial Airways: the services to be run by R.A.N.A.

The inauguration of the service from Nyasaland took place on August 5th, 1935, when a Leopard Moth "VP-YAY," piloted by Mr. M. H. Pearce, left Chileka aerodrome for Beira, carrying 907 letters.

Official envelopes were printed in Salisbury, in blue and gold, by the operating Company to commemorate the start of the new service, the inscription reading: "SOUVENIR OF FIRST OFFICIAL AIR MAIL between BLANTYRE (Nyasaland) and BEIRA (Portuguese East Africa)." The backs of the covers depict a De Havilland bi-plane with a large triangle, the apices of which are inscribed "Blantyre (Nyasaland)", "Salisbury (Southern Rhodesia)", "Beira (Portuguese East Africa)". In addition, a very similar cover was also is-

sued by R.A.N.A. for use on the first direct Salisbury-Beira flight.

Unofficial souvenir envelopes were again published by the Blantyre Printing and Publishing Company for this flight, bearing the Leopard insignia and inscribed: "Par Aviao. By Air Mail. Par Avion. BLANTYRE (Nyasaland)—BEIRA (Portuguese East Africa) FIRST AIR MAIL FLIGHT—AUGUST 5, 1935.", and it is interesting to note that these covers bear the correct airmail inscription, whereas the Official ones omit the words "Par Avion" on their label and thereby commit a breach of the postal regulations.

All correspondence sent by the first flight received a framed black cachet "FIRST FLIGHT REGULAR AIR MAIL SERVICE NYASALAND MOCAMBIQUE" applied at Blantyre.

(To be continued)

★ ★ ★

UNION AIRMAIL ETIQUETTES

In an article on Etiquettes in the December "Aero Field," Mr. S. D. Barfoot lists under the Union:

- (1) 1944. White on dull violet blue. Speed-bird design as before. Perf. 14 x 14½.
- (2) 1944 ? Private issue ? as before but slightly different lettering, white on bright purple. Imperf.?

(These are both new to us and we were under the impression that there was no printing of airmail etiquettes in 1944. Can any of our readers supply further information about these items?—Ed.)

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EGYPT: Mint and Fine Used. Write for free price lists.

MINT FOREIGN SETS: Mint Sets, mostly very Beautiful. Price lists are available. I quote a few specials:

Austria:

- 1945, Amgot Posthorn, 16 values complete 2/6
- 1945, "Uno" Overprint, 1 value complete 3/0
- 1946, "Anti-Fascist," 8 values complete 5/0
- 1946, Dr. Renner, 4 values complete 8/6
- 1946, "Russian World" Congress Overprint, 1 value complete 1/0
- 1946, Grand Prix, 5 values complete 5/6
- 1946, 950th Anniversary, 1 value complete 10d.

Italy:

- 1945, Reconstruction, 21 values complete 7/6
- 1946, New Republic, 8 values complete 2/3

Istria:

- 1946 Pictorials, short set of 5 values 9d.

Monaco:

- "St. Devote, short set of 4 values 1/6
- "Princes," short set of 9 values 2/6

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Some Interesting Facts Concerning the O.F.S. Postal History Before 1868

By DR. K. FREUND.

Having concentrated solely on the study of the siege issues of the Anglo-Boer War for some time, I was not aware that there is some want of knowledge concerning the pre-stamp period of the Orange Free State, i.e., the period before she issued her own stamps in 1868. In particular, I had no idea that there was still some doubt about Cape Triangular stamps being used in the Free State before 1868, until I read Mr. Jurgens' commendable deductions in this regard ("South African Philatelist," December, 1946, p. 192). He is absolutely right, of course, when he shows that Cape Triangulars were also used in the Free State in addition to the rectangular issues later on, and there is some extensive material in the Free State Archives confirming this. I came across it some years ago when delving into the Archives in some other connection, but not being particularly interested in O.F.S. stamps and Free State philately, I only made a note at that time of two interesting letters which took my special fancy for their interesting contents. The letters were written by the Secretary of the Colonial Office in Cape Town to the President of the Orange Free State and to the Secretary of the O.F.S. Government respectively, in 1856. I have just dug up the copies I made from these two letters and, having them right on hand, I hasten to publish their contents forthwith, in order that no further time may be lost in throwing new light on early Free State postal history.

However, seeing that none of my philatelic friends who specialise in the stamps of the Orange Free State, appear to show any inclination to do it, I am contemplating to go through the whole material available and shall report on it in due course, should I be fortunate enough to unearth anything new and of interest, especially in connection with pre-adhesive letter stamps of the Orange Free State.

In the meantime, here are the particulars and the citations of the two letters which I consider quite interesting to make a start with.

I.

Free State Postmasters in the early days were not quite conversant with the procedure of cancellation.

The first letter I am citing below throws an interesting sidelight on the apparent reluctance of O.F.S. postmasters to spoil the appearance of the nice Cape Triangular stamps with the impression of the date stamp (I must say that many a modern postmaster, in sad contrast, seems to enjoy "killing" a stamp by

heavy cancellation). The advice and the instructions given in the letter below on how to effect cancellation, strike one now as being rather naive and would certainly be an affront to the intelligence and efficiency of a modern postmaster.

The reluctance on the part of the Free State postmasters to cancel the Cape stamps well, may not be interpreted to indicate that they intended to leave the cancelling to a Cape postmaster on the border when the mail would arrive there. The wording of the letter "... found . . . not to be so defaced as to prevent . . .", as well as the detailed instructions how to effect the cancellation properly, speak against that and indicate that the O.F.S. postmasters made actually some, if not successful, effort to cancel the stamps.

Anyway, here is the letter:

(Archive reference:
G.S. 1207.
No. 29, p. 101)

Colonial Office,
Cape of Good Hope
6th May 1856.

The President of
The Orange Free State.
Sir,

The Colonial Post-Master-General having reported that the Stamps, affixed to letters and Newspapers from the Free State, are often found, on receipt here, not to be so defaced as to prevent the possibility of their being used again. I am directed by His Excellency Sir George Grey to request that you be good enough to dispose of the accompanying articles (a Stamp defacer, Padbox with pads, and a Box of Marking Ink) in the manner in which you may deem best suited to prevent this for the future.

The manner in which the defacement is effected is by throwing a portion of the Ink (which must be kept moist with sweet oil) upon the pad—wetting the defacer with it, and applying it to the Postage Stamp.

I have the honour to be,
Sir,

Your obedient Servant,
(signed) Rawson W. Rawson
Colonial Secretary.

I would like to emphasise that the importance of this letter for our research lies in the following fact: It clearly proves that it was well understood and arranged between the Colonial Office and the O.F.S. Government that the dispatching O.F.S. postmaster had to cancel, under all circumstances, all Cape stamps on outgoing mail. In this respect,

Mr. Jurgens is quite obviously not correct when he states in his article (p. 193) that Cape stamps on letters going into the Cape were cancelled only when reaching the border towns (Aliwal North or Colesberg). The letter cited above leaves no doubt at all that all cancellation should have been done before dispatch from the original O.F.S. town.

II.

Quadri-secting of the 4d. Cape Triangular by the Smithfield Postmaster

It is of great interest to learn that the postmaster at Smithfield had the practice of "bi-secting" or rather, of "Quadri-secting" 4d. Cape Triangular stamps "into four equal parts," for want of 1d. stamps which were required for the postage rate of newspapers. The letter below reveals clearly why, and about at what period. One penny Cape triangular stamps were also supplied to O.F.S. postmasters:

(Archive reference:
G.S. 1207.

No. 40, p. 157)

Colonial Office
Cape of Good Hope
15th October 1856.

The Secretary to
The Government of
The Orange Free State.

Sir,

The Colonial Post Master General having represented that a practice exists at the Smithfield Post-Office in the Orange Free State of subdividing Fourpenny Postage stamps into four equal parts, each of which is assumed to represent a Penny stamp, and is accordingly affixed to a Newspaper as being sufficient to pass it thro' the Post. I am directed by the Governor to request that you will call the attention of the Post Master at Smithfield to this misappropriation of the Fourpenny Stamps—and to express His Excellency's willingness to furnish your Government with a supply of Penny stamps to be paid for in the same as the previous issue of fourpenny stamps.

I have the honor to be,
Sir,

Your obedient Servant
(signed) Rawson W. Rawson
Colonial Secretary.

(Memo on the margin of this letter, written and initialled apparently by the O.F.S. Government Secretary: "Zend een afschrift hiervan aan Roberts naar Smithfield").

I doubt very much whether such quadri-sected 4d. Cape Triangulars used at Smithfield in 1856 are still extant, especially when one considers that they were affixed only on Newspapers. They would be of great value and interest to any specialised Free State collection, or Cape collection, for that matter.

USED PEACE ISSUES

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Bolton.

SCANDINAVIAN INTERNATIONAL EXHIBITION

We have received a prospectus of this exhibition to be held in Copenhagen August 16-27. It will be the first post-war international exhibition held in Europe.

Participation is open to all free of charge, but we note that entries of material, on special forms, have to be in by 15th February. As we only received the prospectus just before going to press, and no entry forms, we regret we cannot supply any to readers who might have wished to send exhibits.

★

EGYPT

The long foreshadowed set of seven stamps each one portraying one of the rulers of the seven states in the Arab League was put on sale on 9th November. They were sold only in complete sets for seven days from the date of issue and were to remain valid for use till 8th January.

Fine British Colonials:

Selections of the above are sent on approval to serious collectors against references.

- Range 1. Early issues, which can be selected from at one-third of catalogue price.
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- Range 3. Modern issues (1900 on) superb used, mostly at 50% off catalogue.

J. BIRD, 116, Highlands Heath, London, S.W.15, England

The "Screened" and the "Screenless" Categories of the Rotogravure Issues of the Union of South Africa

By A. HILTON SYDOW, A.S.A.A., C.A.(S.A.)

(Continued from page 13 of January issue)

SCREENLESS ROTOGRAVURE CATEGORY "B"

Under this category the surface of the copper cylinder holds minutely etched ink recesses of irregular size and shape. A printed impression taken therefrom will show a design made up of lines and small areas of uniform colour when held at normal viewing distance. It will not disclose a continuous tone effect. Through a magnifying glass it will be perceived that the demarcations of design in colour from background in white are represented by sharply defined lines, and small fields of colour appear unmeshed and unevenly inked. Parts of the designs of certain stamps disclose a series of diagonal white lines on small fields of unmeshed uniform colour. Such will be seen, for example, on the following Union stamps:

a. On the coloured tablets of denomination of the 10s. stamps with the vignettes depicting "Groot Constantia." (Exterior Cylinder).

b. On the coloured name tablets, e.g., between the "H" of "SOUTH" and the "A" of "AFRICA" on the K.G.V Silver Jubilee stamps. (Exterior Cylinder).

c. On the top and bottom horizontal bars of colour, respectively above and below the "Springbok Head Vignette" of the hyphenated and unhyphenated bicoloured 3d. stamps.

d. On the coloured tablets showing the names in white, namely, "SOUTH AFRICA" and "SUID-AFRIKA" of the 1d. denominated stamps contained in the "razor blade" 3d. and 6d. booklets.

It will be discerned also through a magnifying glass that the numerals and pence symbols (1d., 3d. and 6d., but not the 2d.) of the larger Postage Due labels printed by rotogravure have sharply defined edges, and disclose diagonal lines, generally blurred, across unmeshed fields of colour. In contrast the mesh-work and serrulated-edge effects characteristic of the screened process of Category "A" will be seen very clearly on the numerals and symbols of the larger 2d. issue as well as on the smaller monocoloured 1d., 2d. and 3d. labels. The correlative unetched diagonal lines and unetched fields of design on the surface of the cylinder afford a support for the "doctor blade" and prevents

it from wiping the ink out of the irregular ink-recesses on the cylinder during its rotations.

MISCELLANEA

On the printed impression the mesh-work effect is discernible clearly only in the middle tones of the design on stamps printed by screened rotogravure, and the same applies to the serrulated edges. On the cylinder's surface the thick film of ink spreads sufficiently to join up and to cover the unetched intersecting-line screen pattern and causes complete obscurity of the mesh-work and serrulated-edge effects on the printed dark tones. If the ink is partly drawn out of shallow ink-hollows it causes very light tones on the imprints. If the ink is totally drawn out of the shallow hollows it causes toneless spaces on the imprinted design. Vide the portrait of H.M. King George VI on the Union Coronations, and contrast the prints from the unworn and worn states of the cylinders. The foregoing apply also to the diagonal line pattern on the designs of stamps line drawn and printed by the screenless process of Category "B." Vide the diagonal line pattern on coloured field to the left and to the right of the Crown on the Union Coronations.

Both the unhyphenated and hyphenated threepenny stamps of the Union Pictorial series very often have been described as monocoloured ones printed from single cylinders in each instance. They have been printed thus:

1. Unhyphenated 3d., blue and blue, with the vignette depicting "Groote Schuur" as a line drawn subject, with frame also line drawn.

2. Vignette, Interior Cylinder, 6914, Screenless Rotogravure.

b. Frame, Exterior Cylinder, 15, Screenless Rotogravure.

2. Hyphenated 3d., blue and blue, with the vignette depicting "Groote Schuur" as a continuous tone subject, but the frame as a line drawn subject.

a. Vignette, Interior Cylinder, 55, Screened Rotogravure.

b. Frame, Exterior Cylinder, 30, Screenless Rotogravure.

Examination of the bicoloured 3d. and 1d. panes of booklet stamps with juxtaposed ad-

vertisements in miniature revealed that the frames and the vignettes were printed by screenless rotogravure, but that the bicoloured advertisements were printed by screened rotogravure. Under a magnifying glass the advertisements disclose serrulated-edge effects. It is noteworthy that the printing of each denomination and its juxtaposed advertisements involved the use of four cylinders or eight in all. The JIPEX overprint was applied typographically to this series.

In the following schedule of allocation of rotogravure stamps of the Union of South Africa to the headings "SCREENLESS" and

"SCREENED" gravure, the letters used and their significance are:

D.—denomination; E.—exterior cylinder; I.—interior cylinder; L.—line drawn subject; C.—continuous tone subject.

In the said schedule also Nos. 2 and 3 represent Die I and Die II—1d.; Nos. 5 and 6 Black and Red, and Blue and Blue 3d.; Nos. 7 and 8 represent Die I and Die II—4d.; Nos. 16 and 17 designs 1 and 2 of the 1½d.; Nos. 19 and 20 represent Die I and Die II of the hyphenated 1d.; Nos. 22 and 23 large and small 1½d.; Nos. 60 to 67 and 78—"Slogan" includes "Numeral."

No.	Issue.	D	E	I	Screenless Gravure.			Screened Gravure.		
1	UnhyphenatedW	½d.	L	L	Frame	Vignette	—	—	—	—
2	Pictorials W	1d.	L	L	Frame	Vignette	—	—	—	—
3	"	1d.	L	L	Frame	Vignette	—	—	—	—
4	"	2d.	L	L	Frame	Vignette	—	—	—	—
5	"	3d.	L	L	Frame	Vignette	—	—	—	—
6	"	3d.	L	L	Frame	Vignette	—	—	—	—
7	"	4d.	—	L	—	Entirety	—	—	—	—
8	"	4d.	—	L	—	Entirety	—	—	—	—
9	"	6d.	L	L	Frame	Vignette	—	—	—	—
10	"	1s.	L	L	Frame	Vignette	—	—	—	—
11	"	2½s.	L	L	Frame	Vignette	—	—	—	—
12	V. Monument ...	½d.	L	C	—	—	—	Frame	Vignette	—
13	"	1d.	L	L	Frame	Vignette	—	—	—	—
14	"	2d.	L	L	Frame	Vignette	—	—	—	—
15	"	3d.	L	L	Frame	Vignette	—	—	—	—
16	HyphenatedW ...	½d.	L	L	Frame	Vignette	—	—	—	—
17	Pictorials W ...	½d.	L	L	Frame	Vignette	—	—	—	—
18	"	½d.	—	C	—	—	—	—	Entirety	—
19	"	1d.	L	L	Frame	Vignette	—	—	—	—
20	"	1d.	L	L	Frame	Vignette	—	—	—	—
21	"	1d.	—	C	—	—	—	—	Entirety	—
22	"	1½d.	L	L	—	—	—	Frame	Vignette	—
23	"	1½d.	L	L	—	—	—	Frame	Vignette	—
24	"	2d.	L	L	Frame	Vignette	—	—	—	—
25	"	2d.	L	C	—	—	Frame	Vignette	—	—
26	"	3d.	L	C	—	—	Frame	Vignette	—	—
27	"	6d.	L	L	Frame	Vignette	—	—	—	—
28	"	6d.	L	L	Frame	Vignette	—	—	—	—
29	"	1s.	L	L	Frame	Vignette	—	—	—	—
30	"	5s.	L	L	Frame	Vignette	—	—	—	—
31	"	10s.	C	C	—	—	Frame	Vignette	—	—
32	Jipex ...	½d.	L	L	Frame	Vignette	—	Adverts.	—	—
33	Jipex ...	1d.	L	L	Frame	Vignette	—	Adverts.	—	—
34	Silver W ...	½d.	L	L	Frame	Vignette	—	—	—	—
35	Jubilee W ...	1d.	L	L	Frame	Vignette	—	—	—	—
36	"	3d.	L	L	Frame	Vignette	—	—	—	—
37	"	6d.	L	L	Frame	Vignette	—	—	—	—
38	Coronation ...	½d.	L	C	—	—	Frame	Vignette	—	—
39	"	1d.	L	C	—	—	Frame	Vignette	—	—
40	"	1½d.	L	C	—	—	Frame	Vignette	—	—
41	"	3d.	L	C	—	—	Frame	Vignette	—	—
42	"	1s.	L	C	—	—	Frame	Vignette	—	—
43	V. Centenary ...	½d.	C	C	—	—	—	—	Frame	Vignette
44	"	1d.	C	C	—	—	—	—	Frame	Vignette
45	"	1½d.	C	C	—	—	—	—	Frame	Vignette
46	"	3d.	—	C	—	—	—	—	—	Entirety
47	V. Commem'on ...	1d.	C	C	—	—	—	—	Frame	Vignette
48	"	1½d.	C	C	—	—	—	—	Frame	Vignette
49	Huguenot ...	½d.	C	C	—	—	—	—	Frame	Vignette
50	"	1d.	C	C	—	—	—	—	Frame	Vignette
51	"	1½d.	C	C	—	—	—	—	Frame	Vignette
52	Large War ...	½d.	—	C	—	—	—	—	—	Entirety
53	"	1d.	—	C	—	—	—	—	—	Entirety
54	"	1½d.	—	C	—	—	—	—	—	Entirety

No.	Issue.	D	E	I	Screenless Gravure.			Screened Gravure.		
55	"	2d.	—	C	—	—	—	—	—	Entirety
56	"	3d.	—	C	—	—	—	—	—	Entirety
57	"	4d.	—	C	—	—	—	—	—	Entirety
58	"	6d.	—	C	—	—	—	—	—	Entirety
59	"	1s.	—	C	—	—	—	—	—	Entirety
60	Small War ...	½d.	—	C	—	—	—	Slogan	—	Entirety
61	"	1d.	—	C	—	—	—	Slogan	—	Entirety
62	"	1½d.	—	C	—	—	—	Slogan	—	Entirety
63	"	2d.	—	C	—	—	—	Slogan	—	Entirety
64	"	3d.	—	C	—	—	—	Slogan	—	Entirety
65	"	4d.	—	C	—	—	—	Slogan	—	Entirety
66	"	6d.	—	C	—	—	—	Slogan	—	Entirety
67	"	1s.	—	C	—	—	—	Slogan	—	Entirety
68	Victory ...	1d.	L	C	—	—	—	—	Frame	Vignette
69	"	2d.	L	C	—	—	—	—	Frame	Vignette
70	"	3d.	L	C	—	—	—	—	Frame	Vignette
71	L. Postage Due	1d.	L	L	Frame	Numeral	—	—	—	—
72	"	2d.	L	L	—	—	Frame	Numeral	—	—
73	"	3d.	L	L	Frame	Numeral	—	—	—	—
74	"	6d.	L	L	Frame	Numeral	—	—	—	—
75	S. Postage Due ...	1d.	—	L	—	—	—	—	—	Entirety
76	"	2d.	—	L	—	—	—	—	—	Entirety
77	"	3d.	—	L	—	—	—	—	—	Entirety
78	Large War ...	1/3	—	C	—	—	—	Slogan	—	Entirety

EXCHANGES WANTED

UNIVERSAL PHILATELIST CLUB, Oslo.
See advt. page 22.

M. ADRIEN ANGAREAU, Directeur Commercial Etablissements Pasquet, 22 Rue de Forbin, Marseille, France, wishes to exchange good condition used Southern African stamps for equal value French and other pictorial stamps. Basis, values as in Yvert's latest catalogue or 4/2 for 100 francs.

DR. WILH. WILLEKE, Dentist, Bredelaar West, British Zone, Germany, wishes to exchange any kind of stamps.

DR. KURT GEIER, of Schliessach 62, Berlin NW7, wishes to exchange German stamps, especially post-war issues, mint, for mint of any other country.

WALLACE G. RICE, of 2224 N. Colorado Street, Philadelphia 32, Pa., U.S.A., wishes to trade stamps with any collector. He is a letter carrier with 36 years' service, also a stamp collector and "Gold Star Dad."

SASHEGVI JANOS, of V. Dorothy u6, Budapest, Hungary, wishes to exchange Hungarian stamps (anything up to 500 varieties) for stamps of corresponding values of other countries.

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S. RHODESIA

Many dates have been given for the releasing of the "Peace" stamps, but the latest, given us by the Robertson Stamp Coy., of Johannesburg, we think may be taken as really truly reliable. This is 8th May, the anniversary of V-E day, a week after the Royal Visit stamps are withdrawn from sale. The set, 1d., 2d., 3d. and 6d., will remain on issue for six months.

NAVY WEEK, 1947.

A National Navy Week is being organised to raise a total of £600,000 to meet urgent commitments to naval charities in the United Kingdom and the Union. Of this amount £100,000 is needed to complete Springbok Village in Surrey, where disabled merchant seamen will be able to live with their dependants, rent free and in comfort, for the rest of their lives. Springbok Village is the Union's special expression of its indebtedness to the Merchant Navy for their splendid record in the war. A further £150,000 is required for King George's Fund for Sailors for distribution among approved naval charities and to re-equip naval schools and hospitals which suffered greatly through bomb damage during the war. The balance will be allocated among various naval and merchant navy charities in the Union.

In order that South African philately may associate itself as a body with this appeal, it is proposed to hold a philatelic auction in aid of Navy Week to be held in Johannesburg early in April. This can only be made possible by philatelists making donations of stamps from their collections for sale at the auction and donations in stamps or cash should be sent to Commander (S) C. E. D. Enoch, R.D., R.N.R., care of National Navy Week Committee, P.O. Box 5666, Johannesburg.

ZANZIBAR

The first notice we have seen of the Zanzibar "Victory" issue appears in "Stamp Collecting". It consists of the 10c black and 30c blue with a red overprint "Victory Issue 8th June 1946" in very small type, the first two words reading vertically downwards, the remainder horizontally at the bottom. There are several broken letters and other tiny flaws of overprint, but apparently none of them constant on the sheets seen.

CLEARANCE SALE

During the war years, many of my Approval Ranges, by force of circumstances, could not be re-made as they should have been. With the impending advent of 1947 catalogue, almost all selections will have to be entirely re-made, and in order to facilitate an effective clearance of all redundant approval books, I am offering a special discount of 25 per cent. on such selections, for a limited period only. First come, first served. Don't miss this opportunity!

New clients, references please.

A. LICHTENSTEIN

P.O. Box 576,

BLOEMFONTEIN, O.F.S.



RONIS & EBONIS GAUGES

These perforation gauges are specially made for those requiring a reliable guaranteed accurate gauge. They are made in the form of a seven-inch rule and have a superb presentable finish. It is definitely a preferred gauge and thousands have been sold to satisfied clients including leading dealers and prominent philatelists. Have no doubt; it is THE gauge.

PRICE LIST

West Indian Boxwood, 3s. each; ditto, with 90 mm. rule, 4s. each. Celluloid on Boxwood, 6s. each; ditto, with 90 mm. rule, 7s. each. "EBONIS," a patent black gauge with white markings, 15s. each. Elephant Ivory, 20s. each. The last two models include rule. All models range from 8 to 16 with $\frac{1}{4}$ perf. from 10. Postage 3d. Registration 3d. extra.

AGENTS WANTED, Please send for Details

DENIS A. STIRK,

(Member of Stamp Dealers Association)

331. ROCKY LANE, Gt. BARR,

BIRMINGHAM, 22a.

ENGLAND

RHODESIA

A magnificent collection of the 1910-16 Double Heads and 1913-25 Admirals is being offered, dispersed into suitable lots, in our sale of

15th March, 1947

which also contains a very fine range of Newfoundland and other British Empire collections, sets and single rarities. Catalogue descriptions are comprehensive and accurate, whilst postal bids are handled with care and discernment.

EASTBOURNE STAMP AUCTIONS

34, South Street, Eastbourne.

Sussex

England.

CHOICE COLONIALS.

ANTIGUA: 1932 Tercentenary. 5/- (90) mint	180/0
ASCENSION: 1924/33. Sc. 3/- (20) superb used	57/6
1940. Geo. VI 1d. (39a) mint & scarce	3/0
B.E. AFRICA: 1897. CC. 5R (96) superb used	65/0
CEYLON: 1888/90. 2c on 4c (210b) fine used	45/0
1921/27. Sc. 20R (352) mint	160/0
COOKS. 1932/36. £3 green (123) mint	110/0
DOMINICA: 1874. CC. 1/- (3) superb mint	55/0
1914. MCA. 5/- (54) mint	55/0
FALKLANDS. 1933 Centenary. 5/- (88) superb used	220/0
FIJI: 1938/42. 1d. to 5/- complete ex. 249a, 252a and 256, mint	80/0
GIBRALTAR: 1912/24. MCA. £1 (85) mint	120/0
1925/32. Script. £1 (107) mint	80/0
GOLD COAST: 1913/23. MCA. £1 (84) mint	80/0
1921/25. Script. 1d. to 5/- (86/98) mint	40/0
1928. Script. 1d. to 5/- (103/112) mint	50/0
GRENADA: 1938. 10/- (163) mint at 22/6; used	30/0
HONG KONG: 1938/41. Geo. VI. \$5 (151) mint	30/0
1938/41. Geo. VI. \$10 (152) mint	50/0

All stamps are in fine condition but are supplied subject to approval

I am always anxious to replenish my stock of better grade Colonials. Details with price required of anything you have for disposal will have my immediate attention.

E. S. JAMES,

Rustington, Sussex, England.

Quick's The Word.

I have already pointed out, in previous advertisements what a momentous year this will be for collectors of K.G. VI stamps, for whilst over 95 per cent. of these issues can still be bought at current rates before 1947 is over this happy state of affairs (for those who still have to buy) will no longer obtain. This isn't just sales talk, but the plain truth, and we ourselves are straining our not inconsiderable resources to tuck away all we can whilst the going is so good.

There is definite news that Australia, Malta, Gold Coast, India, Ceylon, etc., already have new sets in preparation and more than one little bird has whispered that several other countries in the British Commonwealth of Nations are busy selecting new designs for their pending new issues. So what?

Well maybe you have been considering for sometime the notion of going in for K.G. VI stamps. You have noted the fun your friends get out of them, as well as the absolute security (not to mention the spot of profit which occasionally turns up) they enjoy with any cash outlay they make. Or you already collect these stamps, but still have a lot of blanks. Well this is just about the last chance you will have to form a K.G. VI collection whilst such a large percentage of your expenditure will be in face value . . . in other words right on the ground floor.

Of course there is just one other point, apart from the obsolete issues you want to buy even the current at rock bottom and you don't want to waste too much time looking here, there and everywhere, and this is where we hope we come in.

Our turnover in K.G. VI stamps no doubt exceeds that of any other stamp firm (retail) in the world. Why? Simply because our stock is not only the most comprehensive, but also our prices are unbeatable, and it is simplicity itself to deal with us. All you need do is send 2s. for a year's supply of our price-list (or an aircard for a specimen copy) and off you go and don't forget—WE ONLY LIST STAMPS OF WHICH WE HAVE SUFFICIENT STOCK TO COVER ALL LIKELY ORDERS. THAT IS A GREAT POINT FOR OVERSEAS BUYERS. MOREOVER WHERE WE CAN WE HOLD BACK MANY GOOD THINGS TO GIVE THEM A CHANCE TO BUY.

The Commonwealth Stamp Coy.,

7, Leather Lane, Liverpool 2: England.

WEEKLY STAMP AUCTION SALES

EVERY
THURSDAY
12.45 – 2 p.m.

CATALOGUES ON REQUEST

Postal bids accepted



Lots of stamps always on hand for sale by private treaty

JAMES MILDENHALL & COMPANY

Philatelic Auctioneers

Corner RISSIK & MARSHALL STREETS (Opp. Escom House)

JOHANNESBURG

SOCIETY NEWS

ORANGE FREE STATE AND BASUTOLAND PHILATELIC SOCIETY

President, Mr. John Lewis; *Hon. Secretary*, Mr. R. G. Lyon, Box 702, Bloemfontein; *Meetings*, 3rd Fridays each month, Oranje Koffiehuis, Bloemfontein, 7.30 p.m.

At the November meeting, Mr. J. P. Smith delighted the members with a general display of the stamps of Africa. It was an admirable show, especially if one considers that Mr. Smith is a comparative newcomer to the philatelic ranks.

The series of talks on philatelic terminology was continued by Dr. Freund, who this time spoke on "perforations." He narrated the little-known story of how perforation is said to have been "invented" by a certain roving reporter of a British newspaper in the early 1840's who, when anxious to send off his latest scoop, had no scissors or knife handy to separate some stamps from a pane of 2d. Blues and fidgeted about with a pin until he got the brain wave of punching holes between stamps which produced a most practical means of separating stamps. All sorts of perforations were dealt with by Dr. Freund and illustrated with examples. One of the interesting points expounded was the fact that there can be no genuine error "imperf. between" in an issue perforated by "comb" machine. So-called "Straight-edges" were also displayed and explained.

The feature of the December meeting was Mr. J. Lewis' display of his "Union Postage Dues." Although Postage Dues are, in general, considered an unsuitable subject for a society display, Mr. Lewis' collection contained such a fine array of interesting plate flaws and shade contrasts that everyone at the meeting was intrigued by the display.

An auction sale of stamp literature, with Mr. M. Liss as able auctioneer, and an informal chat about stamps and about recent lucky "pick-ups" concluded a successful evening.

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PORT ELIZABETH PHILATELIC SOCIETY

President, Mr. G. K. Forbes; *Hon. Sec.*, Mr. P. G. Smith, 13 Trafalgar Square, Port Elizabeth; *Meetings*, 1st and 3rd Tuesdays in Room 8, City Hall Basement, at 7.45 p.m.

The business meeting held on the 16th December was well attended. The display was in the hands of Mr. G. K. Forbes, who tabled his famous collection of Newfoundland. From 1860 to the present time, except for a few rarities, the collection is complete, in many cases there being pairs, blocks, strips, and in a few cases complete sheets well centred. General Balbo's flight of 1933 was represented, and a page of proofs and specimens was also displayed. The rare brown seal attracted much attention. The sets were neatly mounted and written up, and all the members spent a most enjoyable hour keenly scrutinizing the display.

A warm welcome was given to Mr. Campbell, who will be with us for a few weeks. I am sorry to say that Mr. Nicholson is still on the sick list, and wish him a speedy recovery.

New issues from Stanley Gibbons were sold, and as usual there was an auction of members' packets. After a vote of thanks to Mr. Forbes, a very pleasant evening closed at 9.30.

The attendance was poor at the first meeting of January which was an auction night, and many of the packets were held over.

The business meeting held on the 21st January was well attended. The display was shared by two members, Mr. W. B. Clark and Mr. G. K. Forbes. Mr. Clark tabled sixty first day covers. Most of these were descriptive and covered a wide field of events. The covers were of great interest to the members as some of them were the latest issued. All of them were lightly cancelled.

Mr. Forbes displayed twenty pages of South Australia, a very fine selected feature, and the issue of Queens were fairly strong, both mint and used. The chairman auctioned over 100 packets, and most

of them were sold. Members sent best wishes to Mr. T. H. Nicholson, who is still on the sick list, but we hope to have him with us at our next meeting. We were pleased to have Mr. Campbell with us, although he returns to Craddock at the end of the month, and it is likely in the near future he will reside in P.E.

A hearty vote of thanks was given to the members who made the evening so enjoyable, and the meeting closed at 9.30. L.E.C.

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CAPE TOWN PHILATELIC SOCIETY

President, C. G. Mummery; *Hon. Secretary*, S. Kaganson, P.O. Box 1973; *Meetings*, 2nd and 4th Thursdays at Yorkshire Buildings, Strand Street, at 7.30 p.m.

At the meeting held on the 14th November, Mr. Alexander came forward with a good showing of miniature sheets, and in view of the fact that he substituted for the scheduled display at practically a moment's notice, the thanks of the meeting were doubly due. As there are no "classics" to be found among this class of exhibit—if we except the first Mauritius issue—there was no outstanding feature among the many pages on the table that I noticed. Nevertheless it was a very fine and comprehensive display. Mr. Alexander is one of our most reliable standbys and is always good for something special, no matter how short the notice may be.

The last meeting (28.11.46) was devoted to a whole-time auction of members' duplicates when some good bargains were obtained.

At the meeting held on the 9th January, Mr. E. C. Solomon provided the fare on the tables which was scheduled under the heading of "Miscellaneous." Mr. Solomon, however, considered that the title should have been "Variety."

The stamps shown were of a number of countries and, as usual, Mr. Solomon followed a prearranged theme in showing selections from recent belligerent countries, and which ranged from Abyssinia to Zanzibar; both countries, by the way, together with Afghanistan, being special favourites of his. And members had plenty to look at for the issues of these countries, from first to last, were to be seen in practically a complete sequence. Many other countries were represented by extra special items, chief of which were many of the "periodical" and "official" issues of the U.S.A.

The display afforded members an opportunity of seeing a considerable number of specials in great variety.

At a recent meeting it was stated by one of the members, who returned thanks to the Goldschmidts for the entertainment provided, that the Goldschmidt collection had been helpful to Mr. Jurgens during the compilation of the data published under the title of "The Bechuanalands." As Mr. Jurgens was present and he did not correct this statement, it was naturally assumed to be correct and included in the notes reporting that meeting. Mr. Jurgens, however, now desires me to correct those notes to the extent of excising that paragraph, for he says he did not get any assistance from that source.

G.H.G.

★

MARITZBURG PHILATELIC SOCIETY

Chairman, C. R. Turner; *Secretary*, R. Morton, P.O. Box 328, Pietermaritzburg; *Meetings*, 2nd Friday in each month at the Women's Club, 211 Burger Street.

In spite of the school holidays the attendance at the January meeting was very satisfactory.

Our chairman showed portion of his stamps of the Commonwealth of Australia, and his exhibit was well up to his usual high standard.

His talks on Australian stamps was made more interesting with some accounts of his own visit to that country some years ago.

Mr. Malcolm brought up the question of Gum and Stamps, and referred to the recent article in the "Philatelist," it was decided to test the feeling of members by having a short debate at the February meeting.

One new member was proposed and the application will be considered by the committee at their next meeting. R.M.

PRETORIA PHILATELIC SOCIETY

President, F. C. Ferguson; *Hon. Sec.*, Jack J. Wilson, P.O.Box 514; *Meetings*, 1st and 3rd Mondays, 8 p.m., Technical College.

January 6: In a series of "Five-Minute-Papers" Mr. Endemann spoke about stamp cleaning. Mr. Giovanetti spoke about some of the South African rarities. Mr. Watson spoke about the usefulness of stamp exhibitions. Mr. Hawke spoke about keeping youth off the road through stamp collecting, and Mr. Dodd about collecting things other than stamps. The exhibition was at the instance of Mr. Giovanetti who showed his classic stamps of South Australia.

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THE PHILATELIC SOCIETY OF JOHANNESBURG

President, Mr. L. Buchen; *Hon. Sec.*, Mr. J. H. Jenkins, P.O. Box 4967; *Meetings*, 2nd Tuesdays, Public Library, 7.45 p.m.

At the meeting held on January 14, the exhibits were provided by members of the Pretoria Philatelic Society who paid an official visit to the Johannesburg Society. Mr. Ferguson, President of the Pretoria Society, introduced the exhibitors. The exhibits were preceded by a very interesting paper prepared and read by Master Cecil Podlashuk, entitled "Philately in regard to Education." Dr. J. H. Harvey Pirie who afterwards spoke on this paper commented on the very fine standard of the work.

Mr. Fredericks exhibited a collection entitled "An Album of Stamp Cartography." It showed stamps which had maps on them and almost every country was represented. Every map shown on the stamps was described fully in beautiful hand-written characters. Mr. I. Isaacs spoke on the exhibit.

Mr. Giovanetti showed some rare pieces in Union of South Africa and South Australia.

The Union included 4d., 1d., and 2d., Pictorial tete-beche varieties, blocks of 1s. Postage Due including a fine used block, some fine used 1s., and numerous varieties in the Pictorials.

The South Australia included official reprints and some fine used early issues, including several used on covers. Mr. Burrell spoke on the Union exhibit and Mr. Carleton Jones on the South Australia.

Dr. Broughton showed a fine collection of Belgium, including all the rare Orval sets. The other charities were well represented and there were several miniature sheets. Mr. L. Buchen spoke on the exhibit.

Mr. Wright showed specimen stamps of the West Indies and also a straight collection of Seychelles.

Mr. W. Redford spoke on this exhibit. The exhibits were much appreciated by all the members of the Johannesburg Society who were present.

I.I.

★ ★ ★

SOME RECENT AUCTION PRICES

H. R. Harmer, Inc., New York:

Falkland Is., S. Georgia provisional, mint, \$72.50; £1, mint, marginal inscription, block of four, \$440.

Malta, the rare 10s., mint, \$125.

St. Helena, 15s., mint, \$105.

S. Rhodesia, Falls 3d., mint, vertical pair, impf between, \$120.

H. R. Harmer, London:

Basutoland, complete set of 4 "officials," on part covers, £390.

Falkland Is., S. Georgia, provisional, used, £23.

Gibraltar, 10c., carmine, error value omitted, £280.

Gold Coast, 20s., S.G.24, £100.

Natal, K.E., ten pounds, £160; twenty pounds, £575.

N. Nigeria, K.E., twenty-five pounds, £600.

Union, mint block of 10 1d. carmine and black, centre block of six without red frame, £50.

R. C. Jacombs, London:

St. Helena, 15s. used, £29 10s.; Centenary set, £16 10s.

Robson Lowe, London:

Malta, 10s., M.C.A., £40.

★ ★ ★

GERMAN STAMPS 1945-46

"Stamps" of 30th November has a valuable article by Mr. E. C. Ehrmen, an official of the Postal Branch of the Control Commission for Germany, on the issues of stamps there under Allied control.

He remarks that collectors and dealers are having the time of their lives there. It is now known that over 200 different stamps were issued during the banned period 1939-45 for Germany proper and equally high numbers for the overrun territories; about 80 per cent. of these were "charity" issues, the charity quota going via Goebbels' propaganda ministry to finance fifth column activities abroad, especially in the Argentine.

The Amgot issues were meant to do duty till one definite issue based on German designs could be taken in hand. But somehow the situation got out of hand with the result that something like a thousand stamps, near-stamps and labels for various zones, districts and towns have appeared under Allied control. The reasons for this upset in places are given.

Finally he gives a classification of what he considers can be regarded definitely as officially issued postage stamps, what are "locals" and what merely emergency labels.

STUDY YOUR COUNTRY'S STAMPS

REVIEWS AND NOTICES

THE JAMAICA PHILATELIST.

The Jamaica Philatelic Society has kindly sent us a copy of this their annual magazine. It is dated July, 1946.

This number is a particularly interesting one, some of the outstanding articles in it being "Railway Cancellations of Jamaica," "The Lady McLeod Stamps of Trinidad," "Collecting Bermuda" and "Temporary Rubber Date Stamps of Jamaica."

HOW RARE STAMPS AND COLLECTIONS ARE SOLD, by Robson Lowe.

A very interesting pamphlet describing how rare stamps and collections are dealt with in selling them for cash, by private treaty or by auction. After perusal of this you will learn a lot as to the amount of knowledge, preparation and care that has to go into the selling of individual varieties and of collections.

One thing stands out, however: you probably know it already, but no harm is done by driving it home, as this pamphlet does—poor quality material is never worth while buying or selling.

The SOUTH AFRICAN PHILATELIST

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MARCH, 1947.

Whole No. 264

UNION, S.W.A. and PROTECTORATES

Overseas Communications

These are being speeded up considerably. A weekly mail boat service has re-started, some of it, at all events, of 13-day trips. As regards air-mail services, they are hurtling at us from America and Europe, down the West Coast, the centre and the East Coast of Africa. They are already practically daily, and basic rates are being lowered as from 10th March, e.g., Britain, 9d.; most of Europe, 1s.; Australia, New Zealand, Canada and U.S.A., 1s. 3d. (all per $\frac{1}{2}$ oz.). Also, the 6d. air letter service is extended to all countries to which there is an ordinary air mail service.

The Current 6d. Pictorial

Apropos our note last month about the size being now slightly smaller, Mr. A. H. Sydow remarks that these new stamps (from new cylinders 6 Int. and 6935 Ext., as recorded in November) were on sale in Cape Town as early as the first week of November, 1946. This change in size means also, of course, a change in the 240-set diapositive for both interior and exterior cylinders. Not only are the stamps smaller in size but the perforation gutters are wider, both vertically and horizontally.

He also notes, incidentally, that the stamps have been temporarily withdrawn at most of the Cape Town offices because the P.O. is anxious to get rid of the stock of 3d. bantams as quickly as possible.

Market Commentary

"Pinperf," in "The Philatelic Trader," says it will be some time before we really find out what's what in the Victory stamps generally, but it is quite certain the Bechuanaland set will always be good, and it is expected to reach the 10s. mark before long. In fact, he adds, all the African five are likely to appreciate. He recommends all the Royal tour stamps as a sound investment, particularly the S.W.A. set, with the Protectorates following closely.

Union "Royal Visit" Stamps

The stamps (illustrated in our December and February issues) duly appeared on 17th February, the day of the landing of the Royal party at Cape Town. According to the public press, there was a big rush for them at all post offices by the public generally, not merely by regular stamp collectors.

The stamps will remain on sale till 24th April.

We are officially informed that the quantities delivered up to 18th February were: 122,500 sheets (x 240) of the 1d., 241,500 sheets (x 120) of the 2d., printed from Cylinder No. 6912 and, later, 289,102 printed from Cylinder No. 39. 47,000 sheets (x 120) of the 3d.

These two distinct printings of the 2d. should be specially noted. Get busy, you Union specialists, for distinguishing features!

Quantities taken from stock and overprinted S W A were: 1d., 12,000 sheets; 2d., 16,000 sheets; 9d., 11,000 sheets. From dates given it would seem probable that the 2d. overprinting was on the first printing, but this should not be taken as definite or final.

The paper has, as usual, the multiple spring-bok head watermark and the perforation is $14\frac{3}{4} \times 14\frac{1}{4}$. Apparently a really good paper has not yet been obtainable by the printer and pairs have to be handled very gingerly if they are to remain unsevered pairs. That is the worst comment we have to make about them.

The general verdict on the stamps is that it is a very nice set, well produced. The 2d. is perhaps the least attractive, the mass of deep purple being just a little bit overpowering. There are, of course, a few "fly-specks" here and there, as this seems to be an unavoidable concomitant of the rotogravure printing process, but they are not numerous. No doubt enthusiasts will list them in due course.

Cancellations

As always happens, a few stamps were released at small post offices before the official date of issue, but such items should merely be regarded as freaks of no philatelic interest.

This is the first occasion on which the post office has gone out of its way to service covers for collectors and the G.P.O. in Pretoria, where the special servicing was done, is to be congratulated both for having done so and for the manner in which they carried out the job. We have always felt free to criticise both the Government Printer and the postal authorities when they did not like their work. It is only fair to offer our mead of praise when we think it good.

On this occasion they affixed stamps neatly on covers and the special cancellation mark (an example of which is here shown) was



nicely applied. Actually there were two cancellers used, one with the Afrikaans wording first, one with the English wording first.

One little grumble comes from Johannesburg. A number of collectors posted their covers at suburban post offices on the 17th, naturally expecting them to be cancelled that day as "first day covers," but in many instances they were not cancelled till next day.

The Protectorate Issues

These also appeared on 17th February. We illustrate a set from Swaziland; those from Basutoland and Bechuanaland are identical, save for the Protectorate names. The stamps are printed in recess by Messrs. Waterlow & Sons, on paper with mult. Crown and Script C.A. watermark, perf. 12½, in sheets of 60.

The general verdict on them is one of disappointment. There is nothing to capture the imagination about them. The 1d. is the best of them, as the King stands out as a bold figure in it; the 3d. comes next, but although the heads of the Royal Princesses are larger than in the corresponding Union stamp, the general effect is not so attractive; the 2d. is somehow flat and uninspiring; whilst the 1s. is simply, as a stamp, drab. Its purple goes to the opposite extreme of the Union 2d.—it is wishy-washy.

The Head Post Offices in the Protectorates also undertook the servicing of first day covers; the only grumble we have heard about this is that the cancellation marks of Mbabane in Swaziland were often very indistinct. We trust the special cancellation marks to be used on the actual day of the Royal visit to the Protectorate will be better.



KENYA

The Kenya, Uganda and Tanganyika Victory (or should it be Peace?) stamps were withdrawn from sale after 15th February. In Nairobi, according to Mr. W. Tunstall, they were sold out a fortnight earlier.

EGYPT

Mr. J. P. Shingler reports the issue on 15th February of four stamps (5m + 5m, 15m + 15m, 30m + 30m and 50m + 50m) in honour of a Contemporary Art Exhibition held in Cairo. The quantity printed was limited to 250,000 sets. We wonder if there was the usual ramp and they were all bought up within an hour or two of issue.

BELGIAN CONGO

Specialists of this country should see the interesting article by Mr. Joseph Wright in the December issue of "The Stamp Lover" on the 25c "Waterfall" stamp. It deals with the varieties resulting from the various plates, original and altered, in the period 1894 to 1915. Numerous re-touches, re-entries, etc., are described.

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S.A. Philatelic Association. Write for details of my Postal Exchange Club.

Rhodesian Censor Marks, Seals, and other War Markings 1939-46

By J. H. HARVEY PIRIE, F.R.P.S.L. and W. G. NODDER.

In a previous communication ("S.A. Philatelist," January, 1947, p. 4) the R.A.F. Camp Postmarks of S. Rhodesia were described by one of us (W.G.N.). We now deal with the other war markings of Southern and Northern Rhodesia.

War markings make an interesting sideline for philatelists. To make such a collection covering the whole area of World War II would be well nigh impossible but as we, separately, accumulated a fair quantity of material from the territories here considered we have combined to put it on record as a basis for future collectors. It is almost certainly not a complete record, and additions to it will be welcomed. It may also not be correct in every detail as, owing to the necessary secrecy with which censoring is conducted, it is difficult even now to obtain official information; some of our statements are therefore merely deductions from material available, but it will be fairly clear where we are stating definitely ascertained facts and where only reasonable suppositions.

I. SOUTHERN RHODESIA

Censor Marks and Seals

A. Service Types

These appear to be entirely connected with the Air Force Training Group which operated at the various camps described in the com-

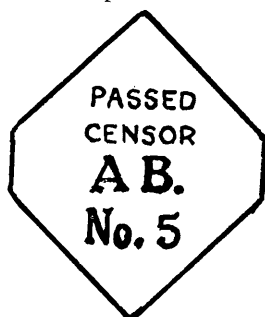


Fig. 1

munication mentioned above. The marks are all of the general type shown in Fig. 1, but four varieties can be distinguished:

1. As in Fig. 1, the numbers running from 1 to 12.
2. With A S. instead of A B., the numbers running from 1 to 4.
- 3 and 4 have "Passed / By Censor" in place of Passed/Censor. Of these there are

A.B. No. 13 and A.B. No. 14 (Var. 3); A.S. No. 5 and A.S. No. 6 (Var. 4). Note that in these two varieties there is a stop after the A. as well as after the B. and the S.

The great majority of these marks are in violet, but A B. No. 10 is mostly in black or bluish-black and A.B. No. 13 in black or blue-black.

Where were these Censor Marks applied? It is fairly obvious that there was not one censor with a number at each camp to do the censoring locally, because covers from one and the same camp occur with practically every number in either the B or the S series; also one and the same number occurs on covers from a number of different camps.

The alternative would seem to be that letters were sent to some central place or places for censoring. As most camps were located round either Bulawayo or Salisbury the letters B. and S in the marks suggest that the users of these marks were located in one or other of these two towns.

On the whole this supposition fits in with the fact that the great majority of the covers with B marks are from camps in the Bulawayo area and those with S marks from camps in the Salisbury district. There was a third group of camps in the Gwelo area (Guinea Fowl, Moffat and Thornhill); all the covers we have seen from these have B marks. We have, however, seen a few covers from Belvedere, Cranborne and Norton (all in the Salisbury area) with B marks; these are exceptions which require explanation, but they do not seem to be numerous enough to upset our supposition as to the location of the B and of the S. censors.

Most letters showing these censor marks had been opened by the censors and then resealed, but we have seen a few which had been passed without opening. The opening seems always to have been done at one or other end of the envelope and the re-sealing done with strips of gummed paper usually, but not always, about the full width of the envelope, i.e., about 80-90 cm.

The seal was then stamped with "Opened By Censor" in block letters 5 mm. high, the over-all length of the stamp being about 77 mm. This mark was always in the same colour as the numbered censor mark; generally it was entirely on the seal but not infrequently partly on the envelope, thus tying the seal to the cover. The paper of the seals was most commonly white, but a considerable

range of coloured seals also occurs—creamy and greyish white, buff, salmon, rose and green.

5. Another mark, possibly, however, only an office frank or cachet, is a triple oval 48 x 30 mm. in black, with "Deputy Chief Censor / R.A.T.G. Bulawayo" between the double-lined outer and the innermost ovals with the date in the centre.

6. A mark seen on a cover from No. 1 General Internment Camp, Salisbury, is "Passed by Camp Censor No. 1" in block letters 2.5 mm. high, the over-all length being 60 mm. in violet.

7. This and No. 8 may be mentioned although it is improbable that they are specifically Rhodesian marks, and only a single specimen of each has been seen.

A mark of the type recorded and figured by one of us (J.H.H.P.) in the "S.A. Philatelist 1945, p. 76, as No. 1, about the commonest,

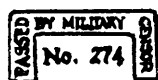


Fig. 2

Censor mark from East Africa. his specimen was on an airgraph from Salisbury and was therefore much reduced in size on arrival. It had the number 274. See Fig. 2.

8. A 27 mm. square in violet on a letter postmarked Victoria Falls 18 Sep., '42 and addressed to Bulawayo. It has "Passed by / (a crown) / No. 3313 / Censor" inside the square.

B. Civilian Types

1. "P.B.C." on letters both to and from S. Rhodesia in 1939 and early 1940. In violet; letters 7 mm. high.

2. "Passed by Censor" on unopened letters, 1940-42. Different sizes, (a) Block letters 6 mm. high, whole mark 50 mm. long, in violet. (b) Block letters 12 mm. high, whole mark 122 mm. long. In violet. Only one specimen on a letter which had been opened, the seal having an "Opened by Censor" mark.

3. "Opened by Censor" marks of various sizes, all in block letters, 1940-42. In violet or red. Letters closed by white seals with marks of Fig. 3 type.

- (a) Letters 4 mm. high, mark 60 mm. long.
- (b) Letters 5 mm. high, mark 77 mm. long.
- (c) Letters 6 mm. high, mark 93 mm. long.

4. The type illustrated in Fig. 3 has been seen with a variety of numbers and as most of the numbers seen are on covers from different places as judged by their postmarks it



Fig. 3

would seem likely that there were censors in various towns and also that the range which we record may be extended and the blanks in our series filled up. Used in 1942-45.

It should be noted that marks of this type (but with letters other than DE) were in use in Britain and in various British possessions. It may be taken, as certain that DE marks were in use in S. Rhodesia, however, as they occur on letters from there to the Union of South Africa where marks of such a type were definitely not in use. Numbers, etc., which we have to record are:

3, in violet, from Bulawayo Station, 25th Oct., 1944.

8 (20th Aug., 1942 and 1st July, 1943), 15 (19th September, 1944) and 19, all in red, from Salisbury.

13, in red from Mazoe (27th September, 1943) and from Salisbury (23rd November, 1943).

18, in violet, from Penhalonga (13th August, 1945).

22, in black, from Umvuma (6th June, 1942).

Most, although not all, of the letters with these marks had been opened and re-sealed with a white label printed in red "Opened by Examiner / DE / . . ." The label is numbered P.C.90 in top right corner with the printer's order numbers and date in top left.

5. The type of mark shown in Fig. 4 was used in 1940-41 on letters both to and from S. Rhodesia. Numbers we have to note are:

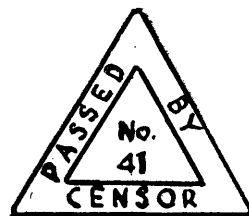


Fig. 4

2 (in red), 3 and 4 (in violet), all on foreign letters entering S. Rhodesia. 8 (in blue) on a letter from Umtali and 12 (in red) on letters from No. 1 General Internment Camp, Salisbury.

6. A mark of a kind which quite likely might have been applied either to service or civilian mail has been noted on a cover posted at Bulawayo in 1942 or 1943 (the date is indistinct) addressed to a civilian in France. It was returned to the sender as explained by the following stamped notice on the envelope in small red block letters: "Returned by Censor / for / reasons explained in / note enclosed in this / cover." The envelope was re-sealed and the seal stamped back and front with an "Opened by Censor" mark as in Type 3 Var. (c).

Official Franks or Cachets

Whether or not to make the following listing of Cachets was a difficult matter for decision; in the end we decided to do so because it seemed to us that these marks, although in

a sense only office stamps or cachets, had two other functions bringing them within the scope of a communication on "war philately."

(a) Many of them are obviously official Franks entitling the letters bearing them to free postage. Even where the words "Official Free," or some equivalent, do not appear in the cachet there was sometimes an officer's signature or initials with it, and, even failing this, the postal authorities customarily recognized these marks as Franks.

(b) To some extent these cachets also served as censor's marks, at all events as far as any "Unit Censoring" mark so served. They did not entirely exempt letters bearing them from all further attention by the general censoring department. Obviously official correspondence was usually (but even in this case not always) passed unopened by the censoring department, but not so in the case of private correspondence where the writer was using, quite legitimately, his unit's cachet as a free frank.

A. R.A.F. marks

1. The commonest, in use at all the Rhodesian Air Training Group Camps, was of the general type shown in Fig. 5, but three varieties may be recognised. (a) as illustrated, which for convenience we term the double oval and crown; (b) similar but larger in size; (c) the tripart oval and crown, has an inner oval



Fig. 5

which has the wording between it and the double-lined outer ovals. These marks occur in violet, black, red or blue. The crown in most, if not all, of them is somewhat lopsidedly placed, a little to the right of the centre.

Two specimens from Thornhill suggest that the handstamp there was originally either meant as a temporary one or was very rickety in construction for the impressions show clearly that it was being held together in one case by two wire paper clips and in the other by two pieces of string.

Other R.A.F. marks seen are:

2. Double oval and crown

(a) "Royal Air Force / No. 25 E.F.T.S. / Official Free / Belvedere / Salisbury S Rhodesia" in blue-black.

(b) An interesting one which might, perhaps, be more correctly listed as a Union of South Africa mark, but which, at any rate, seems worthy of mention here. It reads "Rhodesian Air Training Group / South Af-

rican / Official Free / Detachment / Durban." In violet.

3. Triple oval and crown.

(a) In green, "Rhodesian Air Training Group / H.Q. Salisbury" between ovals and "P.O. box 1379 / Official Free / Central Registry" in the centre.

(b) In violet, as (a) but with "Accounts Dept." in place of Central Registry.

(c) "Royal Air Force / No. 21 S.F.T.S." between ovals and "Official Free / Bulawayo" in the centre.

(d) "R.A.F. No. 21 S.F.T.S. / Kumalo" between ovals and "Official Free / Bulawayo" in centre. In violet.

4. Single oval 65 x 43 mm, no crown. "Royal Air Force / Official Free / Bulawayo / Induna." In violet.

5. Triple oval, no crown.

(a) "Initial Training Wing / Kumalo Station" between ovals and "R.A.F. / (date) / Bulawayo" in the centre. In violet.

(b) "R.A.F. Disposal Depot / Belvedere" between ovals, date in centre. In red.

(c) "Leader Training School / Gwelo, S. Rhodesia" between ovals, date in centre. In violet.

(d) "Rhodesian Air Training Group / Meteorological Section" between ovals, "P.O. Box 578 / (date) / Salisbury" in centre. In violet.

(e) "No. 23 S.F.T.S. / Heany Camp" between ovals, with "R.A.F. / (date) / Central Registry" in centre. In blue.

(f) "R.A.A.C. (ASKART) / No. 28 Regiment, Mt. Hampden" between ovals with "C" Company R.A.A.C." in centre. In violet.

6. Double oval, without Crown.

"No. 22 S.F.T.S. / Thornhill, Gwelo" between ovals, with "(date) / Orderly Room" in centre. In black and in violet.

7 (a) Rectangle 42 x 28 mm. with "Royal Air Force / No. 26 E.F.T.S. / (date) / Guinea Fowl / Gwelo." In violet.

(b) Double rectangle, outer one 43 x 32 mm. with "R.A.F. Moffat / H.Q. Orderly Room" between lines and "(date) / Gwelo" in centre. In violet.

B. Other Military Marks.

8. Double oval and crown. "Southern Rhodesian / Air Force" with "Official Free" in the centre. In violet.

9. Triple oval and crown.

(a) "S. Rhodesian Air Force Station / Cranbourne, Salisbury" with "Official Free" in the centre. In green. *Note:* This spelling of Cranbourne with a "u" is an error.

(b) "King George VI Barracks / Salisbury" between ovals, with "Official Free" in the centre. In black.

(c) "Provost Marshall / Salisbury, S. Rhodesia" between ovals and "Tel. No. 4499 / Official Free / P.O. box 480" in centre. In blue-black.

(d) "Assistant Provost Marshall / Salisbury, S. Rhodesia" between ovals and "Official Free / P.O. box 480" in centre. In blue-black.

(To be continued)

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GAMBIA. 1874. CC. 4d. (5) superb used	180/0
1902/3 mint. 1/6 @ 12/6; 2/6 @ 17/6; 3/-	20/0
GOLD COAST. 1912/23. MCA. ½d. to £1 (70/84) complete mint set	500/0
1928. ½d. to 5/- (103/112) mint	50/0
KENYA. 1903/4 CC. 20R (15) fine used	320/0
1906/7. MCA. 10R (30) mint	110/0
1938/41. 10/- Perf. 13 (142) mint	22/6
1938/41. 10/- Perf. 14 (142a) mint	32/6
1938/41. £1 Perf. 11½ x 13 (143) used	72/6
LAGOS. 1884/86 CA. 2/6 (27) used	240/0
1904. CA. 10/- (53) mint	400/0
1904/5. MCA. ½d. to 10/- (54/62) mint	65/0
NIGERIA. 1921/32. 10/- (24) mint	22/6
1936. £1 (45) fine used	110/0
1938/43. ½d. to 5/- (49/59a) complete used set	50/0
1938. 4d. (54) mint	35/0

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Austria. 1946. Never Forget (8)	4/0
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N. IRELAND.

THE BECHUANALANDS.

(A reply to certain criticisms by A. E. Basden in his Review published in the January issue of the "South African Philatelist.")

Mr. Basden has hit the nail on the head when he says my book "The Bechuanalands" is provocative—that is just what I intended it to be, but he evidently overlooked my reasons for making it provocative, reasons which I fully explained in my "Author's Note."

Had I agreed to what has previously been said about these matters we would still be where we were 25-30 years ago, but now the controversy I ask for may bring finality about some aspects of Bechuanaland philately.

1. STELLALAND STAMPS.

My allusion to the Stellaland stamps as locals should not rile my old friend: I know he has a soft spot for his combination covers—and very fine philatelic items they are, too—but he will admit that there is a great difference between the 1840 issue of Great Britain which could convey a letter from Land's End to John O'Groats for one penny and the Stellaland stamps which served one town surrounded by hundreds of farms. Stellaland was a country the great majority of whose inhabitants were not letter writers: the very great scarcity of such covers to-day in a way proves this.

How can Mr. Basden say that the scarcity of the 1d. Stellaland stamp (a fact which only became known when the remainders were offered for sale) was due to the fact that they were used on printed matter? Here we have a Boer Republic where to all intents and purposes the very issue of postage stamps appear to have been solely to sell to collectors and so raise revenue. The records show that most of the postmaster's duties consisted in supplying Stellaland stamps to all quarters of the globe to both collectors and dealers, but I have yet to learn that this tin-pot republic possessed a printing press. So whence came the printed matter on which so many 1d. stamps were used up?

I think upon further consideration Mr. Basden will admit that my theory of these one penny stamps being used extensively by men on active service (the Warren Expedition) is a more feasible one. One penny was the letter rate for men on active service, and their usage of them would account for the small number of stamps of this denomination among the remainders.

The overprinted stamp "Twee" is indeed a mystery. The mention of the postal rate as 3d. was intended to raise the query as to why, when this rate was reduced to 2d., the 4d. stamp had been chosen to receive the surcharge "Twee"? A 3d. stamp would no longer have been of any use but the 4d. stamp would have been necessary for the prepayment of postage upon a letter weighing over the $\frac{1}{2}$ oz. and under 1 oz.

How does Mr. Basden get over the fact, clearly shown in the post office records, that not in one single instance did any of the

hundreds of applicants for this overprinted stamp "Twee" ever succeed in getting even one specimen? The reason to my mind is obvious—this stamp was never overprinted or issued during the regime of the Stellaland Republic but all such surcharged stamps which came on to the market at a later date (1899-1900) were deliberately manufactured by the person who purchased the original handstamp "Twee" together with pad and ink for 12s. 6d. When the remainders were sold and the fourpennies were readily obtainable this stamping would have been an easy matter.

Mr. Eaton, the postmaster at Vryburg, had previously notified stamp dealers that the 4d. stamp was, or was going to be, converted into a 2d. stamp by having the words "Twee Pence" overprinted upon it: this would surely indicate that he had not as yet seen any of these overprinted stamps and it would also be a good reason why, when these stamps were handstamped "Twee" (at a later date) that the 4d. was used. Had this stamping been done at Vryburg at the time that they were required I think common sense would tell us that the 3d. would have been used for the purpose.

I certainly admit that I was theorising, but I do think my friend A.E.B. could have given a little more attention as to how much was actual fact and how much was theorising. That no overprinted stamps were ever used or available during the regime of the republic is fact; that the reason I give why they were not overprinted "Twee" as originally intended (the sudden arrival of Warren on the scene) is theory, but I submit that my theory is a reasonable one and fits in with the circumstances.

2. FAKED OVERPRINTS.

I am really very surprised at Mr. Basden making such a blunder as to think that I, together with the two eminent philatelists who substantiated my findings, could be guilty of such stupidity as to suggest that printers used sheets of stamps for taking pulls, etc. I think my explanation was very clear, viz.:

Mr. Baxter, the P.M.G., admitted that owing to the heat these gummed sheets could not be made to lie flat when they were being overprinted and that in consequence many complete sheets were considered by him to be too much spoilt to be offered for sale to the public. He further admitted that he never destroyed any spoilt sheets of stamps but attached them to his monthly accounts for the auditors.

This point is further made clear when I refer to these as Printer's waste, Proofs or Baxter's spoilt sheets, but perhaps I was in error in using the word "Proofs" at all, and this has led Mr. Basden astray.

My reference to S.G. No. 29 being of this spoilt sheet variety and not an out-and-out forgery is built up entirely upon the evidence supplied by Townshend, the printer, Baxter the P.M.G., and Barry May, the postmaster. As mentioned in my book, each of these people say something for and something against my contentions; there is no reference whatever to

Mr. Basden's supposed rascal who probably found sections of the partially destroyed forme intact. I must again say that I consider my suggestion about the spoilt sheets a far more feasible solution of the matter.

As for the remarks about Proofs and Essays: Mr. Basden is speaking of to-day, I am speaking of yesterday.

Many thanks to A.E.B. for starting this controversy: Mr. H. R. Holmes, Editor of the "London Philatelist," in a letter to me says that he will probably be reviewing the book for the "London Philatelist," and I have asked him to be as drastic as it is necessary for him to be in his criticism. I want to get philatelists annoyed; I consider this the best way to cure that sleepy feeling prevailing to-day in so many of our philatelic fraternity and that it is also the only way to solve riddles.

I have succeeded in getting my old friend's back up (A.E.B.). I hope I will also be successful elsewhere. A. E. JURGENS.

RHODESIA

A magnificent collection of the 1910-16 Double Heads and 1913-25 Admirals is being offered, dispersed into suitable lots, in our sale of

15th March, 1947

which also contains a very fine range of Newfoundland and other British Empire collections, sets and single rarities. Catalogue descriptions are comprehensive and accurate, whilst postal bids are handled with care and discernment.

EASTBOURNE STAMP AUCTIONS

34, South Street, Eastbourne.

Sussex — England.

EXPERTISING

The B.P.A.'s Expert Committee again takes philatelists into its confidence in the November-December issue of Philately. On two items they report:—

"Among stamps submitted which showed cleaning, with forged cancellations added, were the Zanzibar, 1913, 50 and 200 rupees. It is doubtful whether these stamps were ever postally used."

"There was only one stamp on which the committee declined to give an opinion, and that was the Lydenburg 'V.R.I. 1d.' surcharged on the commemorative 1d. S.G. 1. They sug-

gested re-submission at a later date as the standard work on the subject states 'Judgment should be suspended until further information appears.'

★

BRITISH COLONIAL "VICTORIES"

Perforation Varieties.—The regular perf. for all the Colonial "Victory" stamps is 13½ x 14, but the following are known also 13½ all round: Both values of Gold Coast and Jamaica, low values of Ceylon, British Somaliland and N. Rhodesia. With the probable exception of Jamaica, this perf. is likely to be scarcer than the 13½ x 14.

The Commonwealth Stamp Coy.

★ ★ ★

REVIEWS AND NOTICES.

A REVIEW, 1945-46. Robson Lowe, Ltd. Price 1/-.

A beautifully produced production of sixty pages reviewing the work of the season in the way of private sales and auctions. It is packed full of illustrations of the star items, British Empire and foreign, many of them in colour. There is one full page plate in full colour of the Chalon portrait of Queen Victoria which alone is worth the price of the booklet. This portrait has a remarkable philatelic history, as it was used in various parts of the Empire on postage stamps over a period of sixty-two years, to say nothing of its appearances on fiscal stamps and bank notes, and it became the badge of one colony. It would make a fine frontispiece to any British colonial collection.

There are many details of sales, amounting in all to over £170,000.

THE STAMP COLLECTOR'S ANNUAL, 1946.

Price 2/6. Harris Publications, Ltd., 445 Strand, London, W.C.2.

Fifty pages with some 17 articles and another 40 odd pages of philatelic advertisements.

Some of the articles are: The Pro-Juventute issues of Switzerland; The Health Stamps of New Zealand; Ships and Stamps; Merry-Go-Round of Empire Philately; Used Abroads, and Post Office Problems.

More prosaic, but very useful items are: A list (probably not complete, but certainly helpful) of the World's Stamp Catalogues; Face Values of Current British Empire Stamps (exchange rates); Directories of (British) Philatelic Auctioneers and of Active Philatelic Societies; a "Who's Who in Philately," a guide to the philatelic interests of private collectors in Great Britain, Northern Ireland and Eire.

INTERNATIONAL ANNUAL OF PHILATELY, 1946-47. Jacques Lafitte, 12 Rue de l'Arcade, Paris VIIIe. Price 20/-.

An encyclopaedic production of 500 pages, largely in French, but with numerous translations, where necessary, into English, Spanish and German.

You will find here lists of dealers in every country the world over; a world list of philatelic magazines; notes on philately generally in many countries; a world list of philatelic societies and, for many countries, of private collectors.

The Plates of the De La Rue Postage Due Stamps of the Union of South Africa

(with reference also to their shrunken and substituted numeral stereos)

By A. HILTON SYDOW, A.S.A.A., C.A.(S.A.)

The first issuance of the Union's Postage Due Labels consisted of seven denominations, to wit, ½d. black and green (March, 1915), 1d. black and red (March, 1915), 2d. black and purple (December, 1914), 3d. black and blue (February, 1915), 5d. black and sepia (March, 1915), 6d. black and slate (March, 1915), and 1s. red and black (March, 1915).

These labels were letterpress printed by Thomas De La Rue and Company, Limited, 110 Bunhill Row, London, on paper watermarked "Springbok Head" simple, that is, one watermark per stamp. They were printed from a common electrotyped frame or border plate in conjunction with seven stereotyped numeral plates all manufactured by the said printers; and they were perforated by a comb machine to the gauge of 14 x 14.

THE FRAME OR BORDER PLATE

The common frame or border plate comprised 120 subjects arranged in two panels of 60 each separated by a perpendicular gutter, and each panel comprised 10 horizontal rows of six. Each one of the said panels was surrounded by co-extensive jubilee or guard lines. A guide point appeared below subject 57 of the left panel and another to the left above subject 3 of the same panel. These two guide points were printed conversely on the bottom horizontal margin below stamp No. 58 and on the top horizontal margin to the right above stamp No. 4, respectively, of the right panel of the sheet. Consequently, the frames were printed 120-set in two panels of 60 units, but each printed sheet was bisected into two 60-set issue sheets, after they had received the imprints from the 120--set numeral plates.

Each stamp presented the following text matter in white lettering, viz., "UNION OF SOUTH AFRICA" and "UNIE VAN ZUID AFRIKA" horizontally at the top and bottom respectively of its casement, and "POSTAGE DUE" and "TE BETALEN" vertically at the left and right respectively.

A flat Master Die of the frame design was hand-engraved on steel en epargne and negative. Subsequently an electrotyped plate was grown from lead matrices struck from the said Master Die by means of the "ring process," which incidentally was De La Rue's common practice of making typographic, anastatic, or letterpress plates. By means of a Nasmythe hammer the frame design was

transferred progressively from the said Master Die to 120 lead matrices, also called lead blocks or lead moulds. These matrices received the impressions of the design in recess and positive. Thereafter, the said lead matrices were screwed 120-set to the base of an iron chase, arranged in two panels of 10 horizontal rows of six each, and encompassed by continuous guard or jubilee moulds. Next, the iron chase with its screwed matrices and guard line moulds was suspended and immersed in a depositing-trough which contained a solution of copper sulphate, and an electrodeposit of copper was grown on the matrices in the form of a thin and opaque copper shell. Then the copper shell carefully was detached from the lead matrices and was strengthened with a backing of a thick layer of type metal, and thus became the frame or border printing plate, but only after its surface was given a thin facing of steel electrolytically which hardened it against eventual printing wear and tear. The anastatic or raised continuous guard lines which surrounded the two panels of the plate were cut immediately opposite the termini of the vertical and horizontal perforation gutters and consequently were converted into co-extensive guard lines which originated the printed circumjacent co-extensive jubilee lines. Hence the progeny of the Master Frame Die was as follows:—

1. Flat Master Die of Steel—hand-engraved—lines of design negative in relief.
2. 120 (2 x 60) Lead Matrices derived therefrom—lines of design positive in recess.
3. 120 (2 x 60) Steel-faced electros in plate form—lines of design negative in relief.
4. Printed steets of 120 (2 x 60—issue sheets) frames or borders of stamps ad libitum in various colours mentioned afore—designs positive.

THE NUMERAL PLATES

Whilst the frame or border designs were printed from a steel-faced electrotyped en epargne plate, the numerals were printed from steel-faced stereotyped plates. In connection with the construction of stereotyped numeral plates not only for the Union of South Africa, but also for certain of the Crown Colonies, Thos. De La Rue and Co., Limited, produced and utilised certain hand-engraved en epargne and negative Master Dies for the

numerals and for the symbols which represented shillings, pence, cents and stops, for example—

1. **For the symbols**—a “d” for pence; a “c” for cents; a long bar “—” for the half—and for the three halfpence denominations; small square-like stops, often shaped like minute “x’s” when printed; a diagonal stroke “/” and a short “—” bar for the shilling denominations.
2. **For the numerals**—a small “1” and a small “2” for the half—and the three halfpence denominations; and larger ones, namely, “1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 and 8” for the other denominations.

For the sake of comparative study apropos of the said archetypal DLR numeral dies, I have included in my Union Collection postage due labels of certain of the Crown Colonies printed by Thos. De La Rue & Co., Limited, for instance—

Union of South Africa, ½d., 1d., 2d., 3d., 5d., 6d., 1/-
 Transvaal, ½d., 1d., 2d., 3d., 5d., 6d., 1/-
 Trinidad, ½d., 1d., 2d., 3d., 4d., 5d., 6d., 8d., 1/-
 British Honduras, 1c, 2c, 4c.
 Northern Rhodesia, 1d., 2d., 3d., 4d.
 Grenada, 1d., 2d., 3d.
 Fiji, ½d., 2d.
 Gold Coast, 2d., 3d.

HAND-ENGRAVED DIES COMPARED WITH PHOTO-ENGRAVED LINE-BLOCKS

(a) **DLR Hand-engraved Master Dies.**—Hand-engraved dies were used for the recessed-impressions made on the papier-mache moulds from which were cast the stereotypes for the en epargne numeral plates from which in turn were printed the numerals of the 1914-15 De La Rue typographed postage dues, namely, ½d., 1d., 2d., 3d., 5d., 6d., and 1/-denominations. Owing to the usage of separate numeral and separate symbolic Master Dies each fully denominated recessed-image in the mould originated from more than one die impression; for example, the DLR penny denomination necessitated three separate impressions for each fully denominated mould image, namely, one for the numeral “1,” a second for the symbol “d,” and a third for the subjacent stop “.”

(b) **GP Photo-engraved Line-Blocks.**—By way of contrast, it is of interest to record that the Master Dies employed for making the recessed-impressions on the moulds from which the stereotypes were cast for the en epargne numeral plates from which in turn were printed the numerals of the 1927-28 “Government Printer” typographed postage dues, were not hand-engraved dies, but photo-engraved line-blocks, one each for the ½d., 1d., 3d. and 6d. denominations. (But not the 2d.; the 2d. denominated numerals of this issuance were printed from a Zincotyped plate and not from a Stereotyped plate). The said line-blocks were produced photo-graphically on sensitised metal from combined numeral-symbol-stop drawings for the ½d. and 1d. denominations, and from combined numeral-symbol (without

stop) drawings for the 3d. and 6d. denominations. Owing to the usage of combined numeral-symbol-stop Master Dies in the form of line-blocks, each fully denominated recessed-image in the mould originated from only one impression; for example, the GP penny denomination necessitated one simultaneous numeral-symbol-stop impression as against the afore-described DLR method of three separate impressions.

Thus for example, a horizontal 6-set papier-mache mould required—

- (a) 18 impressions by the DLR method, 1d. 1d. 1d. 1d. 1d. 1d., i.e., (six times 1) plus (six times d) plus (six times .)
- (b) 6 impressions by the GP method, 1d. 1d. 1d. 1d. 1d. (six times 1d.)

and in consequence thereof any horizontal row of six printed impressions will disclose in the case of—

- (c) The DLR 1914-15 vintage—horizontal and vertical positional variations of (1) numerals to symbols, (2) numerals to stops, (3) symbols to stops.
- (b) The GP 1927-28 vintage.—positional constancy is maintained throughout, i.e. no variations of relative positions of (1) numerals to symbols, (2) numerals to stops, (3) symbols to stops.

(To be continued)

Collectors' Wants & Offers

(Threepence per word per insertion with minimum of 3/- per insertion).

Beginners and medium collectors — try our approval service.

Benoni Stamp Shop, Box 485, Benoni.

Control strips of Union and Transvaal also mint blocks, cards and envelopes of many African countries.

E. Tamsen, Box 13, Nylstroom.

Exchange desired with collectors in all countries from the North Pole to the South Pole. Send 50 or 100 different varieties of your country and receive in return 50 or 100 different United States of EQUAL VALUE. No torn or damaged stamps given or wanted—only stamps off paper exchanged. We exchange value for value.

W. L. Bedard, Post Office Box 637, Detroit 31, Michigan, U.S.A.

Wanted: Cayman Islands. Mint and fine used.

B. Simpkins, 47 Tulbagh Mansions, Hospital Hill, Johannesburg.

TIN CAN MAIL

The Tin Can Mail is no more. The island of Niu-a-foou, whence this famous mail service came, has been evacuated by its 1,300 inhabitants because of volcanic eruptions threatening the whole existence of the island.

COMMANDO BRIEF.

SOME COMMENTS

By E. F. HURT, B.P.A.

It appears to me waste of time to quibble over mere nomenclature. Whether this is to be designated a "stamp" or a "label" matters little, particularly as no one has yet been able to define what is a "stamp" to the satisfaction of everyone else. After all have not certain handstamps been called "stamps" and are not the vignettes on postal stationery also "stamps"? On the contrary we must remember that the official designation of postal adhesives has, on more than one occasion, been "labels." "Franks" is probably the correct term and less likely to cause disagreement.

Further it appears to me that, without "the book of words," it is a mistake to question whether Hochapfel was authorised to issue these labels or not. It appears pretty clear, from visual evidence and deduction, that Hochapfel did hold the post of fieldpostmaster. This Campaign was largely guerilla warfare carried out under very uncertain conditions, and it is no new thing for both a field commander and even a field postmaster to be given a certain amount of discretion as to how he carried out his duties, provided that he kept to the letter of the regulations. And the main regulation was not that the burghers should have free postage but that the postal administration should not be defrauded of any revenue. The latter is surely a *sine qua non*.

Free postage or a reduced postage rate was not the prerogative of the burghers nor were they the first to be accorded this privilege, which had already been accorded to troops on active service over many decades and in the forces of many nationalities. But the bane of the postal administration under such privileged regulations has always been the misuse of the privilege both by those to whom it was granted and by those who were not authorised to benefit thereby, i.e., the non-combatant public. It was for this reason that, finding that a few drinks of cheap wine or other consumable liquor or a few sous, given to an ill paid French poilu, would extract from him a willingness to pass letters from the public through the field service at the reduced soldiers' letter rate, that in 1895, the French Army Postmaster in New Caledonia had labels made to defeat this defrauding of the postal administration. These labels bore at first an inscribed face value of 10 centimes, that being the difference between the 25 centimes chargeable on a civilian letter and the 15 centimes rate accorded to the serving soldier.

These "10 centimes" labels were banned by the Postal Administration, as being against the postal laws, since they had a recognisable face value. Therefore later editions of the "frank labels" bore no inscribed face value. I am going to suggest here that this is why Hochapfel's labels also bear no face value, since such a circumstance is against the rules of most postal administrations, apart from the

fact that the soldiers' rate in this case was free, not merely reduced.

Now the French labels mentioned were supplied to the troops, who affixed them with the necessary 15 centime stamp to their letter, and as a safeguard against their misuse, the labels were "cancelled" with the handstamp of the officer or N.C.O. in charge of the corps or regiment.

A direct parallel to this, of later times, is the "Postal Seal" issued for the British troops in Egypt, which again was merely a sign that the letter was not from a civilian and was therefore accorded the privilege rate and recognised by the Egyptian Post Office.

Under other circumstances and on innumerable occasions, at different periods and in different campaigns, both French and German, among other nationalities, have, instead of labels, used handstamps to denote the same thing. But labels were again issued—without face value—in many cases for "free" prisoner-of-war correspondence, such as those issued by the Swiss Red Cross for French internees during the Franco-Prussian War, by Holland for Belgian Prisoners-of-War in the First World War and by the Dutch Red Cross, in displaced persons internment camps, after this last war.

It seems reasonable to suppose that Hochapfel realised that through friendliness or for a consideration his burghers were passing civilian mail under the annotation "In Veld-dienst," etc., and he took the best steps to overcome this loss to the Postal Administration.

That Hochapfel's labels were merely a "stunt" must be definitely ruled out—from the philatelic point of view—because of their rather widespread usage over a comparatively short period.

To suggest that these were a speculation rather distorts the word "speculation," which surely implies the lay-out of capital in order to reap a possible profit. We have no evidence that anything was charged for such labels, apart from the fact that no face value is indicated, and it is hard to imagine a burgher paying for such labels for postal purposes when his postage was free! Actually, to the contrary, such labels must either have been a liability on Hochapfel himself or the cost of printing charged to the Postal Administration. It would, of course, be interesting to see the original postal administration accounts and to discover whether the printing of these labels was actually paid for by that body in Bloemfontein.

Perhaps Messrs. Williams and I were in the wrong in including the Commando Brief in the "Catalogue of Local Stamps," though, in doing so, while we may have stretched a point through author's privilege, we did not definitely say that they were locals in any of the many meanings in which that term is used. Rather our intention was to include them as being an effort of a private party (Mr. Hochapfel), as were most other issues we listed, on the one hand, and to give them some recognition, with what accompanying information we could gather, for the benefit of philatelists

who could not find them in other catalogues. Also seeing that they are bound up with the postal history and postal services of South Africa we consider them of interest and therefore not to be thrown into the limbo of oblivion. Hence their inclusion in the Appendix and not in the main body of the catalogue referred to.

In a way it might be argued that these labels did represent postage, although to the burgher postage was free, as the actual cost of carrying the mails had to be paid for somehow and that out of the pockets of the Boer Republic population, in just the same way that the Free parliamentary franks are lined up. Before dismissing this argument please consider the status of normal adhesives—overprinted or not—used by many Government Departments. These are only applied for accountancy purposes since such postage only passes from one Government pocket to another and ultimately is nullified in the accounts of the Treasury! Are such stamps therefore “stamps” or not?

No, I think that we can regard these—under whatever name each individual philatelist cares to give them—as a very interesting piece of postal material and Mr. Hochapfel can be congratulated on having solved a very head-achy problem without any aspersion of speculation.

I have seen Miss Leighton's interesting covers, both that from Colenso (the mark as previously recorded for that place) and also those from Modder River. I was particularly interested in the latter as I have myself a cover from Modder River with the same date as two of hers, and since all three are addressed to Jacobsdal the coincidence made me, until I saw them, suspicious that someone had addressed a batch of letters there on one day for philatelic (collector's) purposes. But all three covers are to different addresses (mine to the Postmaster at Jacobsdal) and all addressed in different handwriting. It is therefore merely the long arm of coincidence that these three covers have been salvaged.

Finally as regards the sheets of these stamps (pardon, “labels”). The setting is, as Dr. Pirie has pointed out—the stamps being plateable or typable. But I am doubtful if it is strictly correct to state that they were in “sheets” of 20 as the two sheets I have, by

the width of margins (wide and narrow) and the fact that the narrow margins are perforated each side, as a gutter margin, seem to be only panes from what was probably a sheet of four panes, i.e., 80 stamps in all.

* * *

HOLLAND

The details, given in a previous issue, of the new numeral type stamps were obtained from the stamps themselves. Confirmation has now been obtained from the magazine, “Mijn Stokpaardje,” which goes on to say that their issue was necessitated by a revision of postal rates and forecasts further values in the “Konijnenburg” type, viz., 6ct., 35ct. and 45ct. Of these the 6ct. has been received on correspondence, the colour being vermilion and other particulars similar to that known for this issue. A further forecast is the possible change of colour of the 20ct., which is now the rate for foreign postage and to conform to the Universal Postal Union's requirements should be in blue. The present colour is violet.

New postal stationery has been issued, all in conformity with the revised rates, and three new denominations, 11ct., 16ct. and 40ct., in the postage due series provided.

The December, 1946, issue of the Child Welfare sets was designed by Miss Bieruma-Oosting, a pupil of the artists, Albert Roelofs and W. A. Konijnenburg, the latter himself a designer of stamps. Miss Bieruma-Oosting had been struck by the generally subdued air of the children depicted on these issues in the past and therefore deliberately chose the child on the merry-go-round in order to break with tradition.

The restrictions on the export of stamps remain severe. In this the Netherlands Indies have set the mother country an example, for while a measure of control is maintained, regulations have been framed to allow of exchange between collectors in the Indies and those residing elsewhere, up to the value of 100 gulden (approximately £10) per month; the outgoing stamps being handled by the Netherlands Indies Society of Stamp Collectors in a manner similar to that obtaining in Britain when the B.P.A. was the medium of export.

J.W.S.

Fine British Colonials:

Selections of the above are sent on approval to serious collectors against references.

- Range 1. Early issues, which can be selected from at one-third of catalogue price.
- Range 2. Modern issues (1900 on) in mint state, mostly at 50% off catalogue.
- Range 3. Modern issues (1900 on) superb used, mostly at 50% off catalogue.

J. BIRD, 116, Highlands Heath, London, S.W.15, England

B.C.O.F. JAPAN 1946

The 3d. brown K.G. VI stamp of Australia has been heavily overprinted with the caption shown above (B.C.O.F. standing for British Commonwealth Occupation Forces). Australians form the largest contingent of these forces. Apparently there was big buying of the unoverprinted Australian 3d. with black-market money and the stamps were sent back to Australia for sale to the P.O. at a small discount on face. The postal authorities adopted this overprinting to stop the practice. There is sure to be a big run on them!

USED PEACE ISSUES

Wanted in large or small quantities also current and recent issues of Basutoland, Bechuanaland, N. Rhodesia, Nyasaland, S. Rhodesia, Swaziland and S.W. Africa. Send or quote at your lowest prices, will forward cash by Air. If required can send Colonial sets and singles, also European War issues in exchange. Let me know your requirements.

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Wholesale Stamp Dealer,

69 Greenvale Rd., Eltham, London, S.E.9.
Member B.P.A. London, P.T.S. London, S.D.A.
Bolton.

KENYA 1c RETOUCHE

Reference to this retouch noted in our January issue, "Gibbons' Stamp Monthly" for January now reports that they have now seen this stamp (No. 86 on sheet, plate number 2-2-4 B) with the flaw (an area of weak lines making a whitish patch in the left-hand value tablet) which the retouch was made to correct. It is, of course, collectable with the retouch itself and they quote specimens at 10s. each.

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**H. E. HARRIS & CO. Boston 17, Mass.
U.S.A.**

GREECE

The latest Greek issues are two commemoratives of the statesman Pan. Tsaldaris (1867-1936), and one value (8 v) of the Victory set representing the Battle of Pindos. The other value (7 v) is due later. Thanks to K. Catalos for specimens.

BRAZIL

It does not need much to stimulate the production of a commemorative here. The latest one, reported to us by Dr. Mario de Sanctis, is for the fourth national Orchid Show. It is of 40 cts value, an upright blue rectangle and within it a red, white and yellow orchid.

The
SOUTH AFRICAN PHILATELIST

Published Monthly by the Philatelic Federation of Southern Africa

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SOCIETY NEWS

PRETORIA PHILATELIC SOCIETY

President, F. C. Ferguson; *Hon. Sec.*, H. Endeman, P.O. Box 514; *Meetings*, 1st and 3rd Mondays, 8 p.m., Technical College.

January 20:

The meeting having been scheduled as a "Swapping and Auction Sale" evening, was well attended and, judging by the volume of swapping as well as the fine material offered for sale by auction, evenings of this description appear to be welcomed by members. Mr. Watson exhibited a very fine collection of Pictorials which included some high values. Novelties are still a feature and on this occasion Dr. Hack exhibited a 1946 French UNESCO issue; Mr. Gass a block of one dollar U.S.A. with the denomination printed in the colour of the five dollar stamp; Mr. Alton a Trinidad Centenary issue, and Mr. Woiter a 1947 Zumstein Catalogue.

February 3:

This was the annual general meeting, and the reports of the various sections of the Society's activities showed it to be in a healthy condition.

When it came to the election of office-bearers, the President, Mr. F. C. Ferguson, was re-elected. Mr. J. J. Wilson did not seek re-election as Hon. Secretary, but hopes now to have time to devote to the mounting of the Society's Union collection. Mr. H. Endenan was elected in his place.

It was very pleasing to note the enthusiasm with which the proposal to confer Honorary Life Membership upon Dr. Robert Broom has been received and approved. Dr. Broom has been a keen collector of stamps since a youth, and he still pursues the hobby in a most active way despite his eighty years. He has long been a member of the Society, and his research into the stamps of the Transvaal Republic is well known. Hearty congratulations, Doctor!

H.E.

★

MASHONALAND PHILATELIC SOCIETY

Chairman, C. W. Lander; *Hon. Sec.*, I. W. Noar, P.O. Box 456, Salisbury; *Meetings*, 2nd Wednesdays, Board Room of the Electricity Supply Commission, Salisbury.

We have not heard much from this Society of late, so were pleased to receive a report of their seventh annual general meeting held on January 15.

Reports of the year's working showed a steady increase in membership, the roll being now 66, of whom 22 are country members. Enthusiasm was improving, although not yet what it might be; this was attributable to such factors as lack of up-to-date catalogues giving stamp values and to the still persisting shortage of stamps for sale and exchange. Actually the exchange circuit showed an increase in sales by some 20 per cent., although the number of books was less than the previous year.

At the election of office-bearers Mr. C. W. Lander was elected chairman for a third term, and Mr. I. W. Noar was re-elected Hon. Secretary and Treasurer.

The Society has been asked by the Government to appoint one of its members to serve on an official committee to consider new designs for stamps. This request was received with approval, and Mr. W. C. Robertson was appointed, with Mr. C. W. Lander as alternate.

★

MARITZBURG PHILATELIC SOCIETY

Chairman, C. R. Turner; *Secretary*, R. Morton, P.O. Box 328, Pietermaritzburg; *Meetings*, 2nd Friday in each month at the Women's Club, 211 Burger Street.

Only a moderate number of members turned out to the February meeting, probably on account of the oppressive heat.

After the usual business had been concluded, the secretary gave his talk on "Practical Tips on Stamp Collecting."

The talk covered the ground from the time when an incipient collector had to make up his mind what to collect and took him through the stage of getting his stamps in fit state for mounting, choosing an album, to the final writing up of his collection.

Many practical tips were given and the talk was illustrated by suitable pages from the secretary's collection.

At the conclusion of the talk a number of members asked questions and replies were given.

Several members brought items for display, among these being a miniature sheet recently issued in the British Zone in Germany; this was shown by F. S. Jackson.

On account of the short time available the debate on GUM or STAMPS had to be left over.

R.M.

★

EAST LONDON PHILATELIC SOCIETY

President, C. P. Durkin; *Hon. Sec.*, A. W. Stander, P.O. Box 694, East London; *Meetings*, 2nd Fridays, above Colosseum Theatre Tea Room, at 7.45 p.m.

I hope the Editor will grant more than usual space to report the February meeting, which was memorable. No less than twelve visitors attended, together with a very large number of members, and four new members were elected.

The philatelic fare was varied and interesting, and worthy of the occasion.

Mr. S. H. Fowler, who at the end of last year resigned the Hon. Secretaryship after nine years' noteworthy service, was presented with a de luxe album as a token of esteem. He has previously been enthusiastically voted a Hon. Life Membership.

One member stated that he had been privileged to see a copy of a circular letter addressed to the postal staff enjoining them to pay attention to the cancellation and preservation of covers franked with Royal Visit stamps. All philatelists will thankfully welcome this, after a previous too frequent lack of consideration on the part of the Union Postal authorities.

A newspaper cutting illustrating a cover bearing Royal Visit stamps sent through the post some time before the official date of issue, aroused interest and comment.

Mrs. Alabaster showed two pages illustrating her idea of a philatelic dinner, "before and after." I would like to describe the menu in detail but space does not permit. After Hors d'Oeuvres, Turtle Soup (Cayman), Fish (Newfoundland Cod), through a real banquet with appropriate beverages and finishing with coffee (Mozambique) and cigars (Cuba), one received final advice, "don't forget your umbrella" (Cochin watermark—East Londoners do not need umbrellas), and an injunction "do not land here" (Police Station—Salvador).

Mr. Paviour displayed U.S.A. Commemoratives, and read a short paper. Introducing the subject, Mr. Paviour stated: "A collector who disliked commemorative stamps once remarked that collectors have to thank the U.S.A. for commencing these issues—but he was wrong. While I have not made a search to discover the first commemorative stamp to be issued, I note that N.S.W. issued a commemorative in 1890." (Suggestion to contributors—would not an article on the origin and progression of commemorative issues be of interest?)

Mr. C. H. Thornton tabled almost one hundred covers to illustrate his short address on "Ship Postmarks on Stamps."

Quoting Mr. Thornton, "Amongst the old ones are the India letter marks of various ports in the South of England. These refer to mail from the East and also from South Africa before the opening of the Suez Canal.

A very rare cover is the one with "London Withdrawn Ship Letter" which I imagine has been posted and then withheld for some reason.

Wreck postmarks naturally fall under the "Ship" category, and of these I show the wreck of the Australian ship "Colombo" in 1862 and one from the "Jebba" wreck about 1907.

Mr. T. Harper displayed stamps of India from Victorian to present day issues. Mr. Harper, a lover and collector of the classical issues of most countries, gave a short talk, pointing out that by maintaining a wide interest he has been able to obtain many bargains (nothing spectacular—he still works

for a living) from dealers' stock books and circulated stamp packets. He gave many instances where his knowledge has enabled him to buy stamps catalogued at 10s., 15s., £1 or more for 1d., 1d., 1d. or so. It should at the same time be stressed that Mr. Harper is interested primarily in the stamp, and the financial aspect a pleasing "also ran." N.C.C.

★

THE PHILATELIC SOCIETY OF JOHANNESBURG

President, Mr. L. Buchen; *Hon. Sec.*, Mr. J. H. Jenkins, P.O. Box 4967; *Meetings*, 2nd Tuesdays, Public Library, 7.45 p.m.

At the meeting held on February 11 the exhibitor was Mr. Jourdan, who showed his fine collection of United States of America.

The exhibit was strong in commemoratives and air mails, including the rare Columbus Issue. Many of the items shown were fine used specimens. I.I.

★

PORT ELIZABETH PHILATELIC SOCIETY

President, Mr. G. K. Forbes; *Hon. Sec.*, Mr. P. G. Smith, 13 Trafalgar Square, Port Elizabeth; *Meetings*, 1st and 3rd Tuesdays in Room 8, City Hall Basement, at 7.45 p.m.

There was a large number of packets for auction, when members met on February 4.

Attendance was good, and business brisk.

The attendance was not so large when the meeting opened on February 18, and Mr. Forbes was in the chair.

We are sorry to say that Mr. T. H. Nicholson is still on the sick list, and we hope to have better news of him in the near future.

As the member responsible for the display was unable to attend, Mr. Forbes once again stepped into the breach, and tabled 50 pages from his own collection. These consisted of New South Wales, Western Australia, Victoria and New Zealand.

The Western Australian stamps dated from 1854, and were of keen interest to the members.

The Victoria Queens were strongly represented and Mr. Forbes is to be congratulated on his fine effort.

After the display there were over 150 packets for sale. The material coming forward for auction is not quite the type that members require at present, as the majority of the members prefer British Colonials, either mint or used.

After a vote of thanks was accorded to Mr. Forbes, the meeting closed at 9.30 p.m. L.E.C.

★

CAPE TOWN PHILATELIC SOCIETY

President, C. G. Mummery; *Hon. Secretary*, S. Kaganson, P.O. Box 1973; *Meetings*, 2nd and 4th Thursdays at Yorkshire Buildings, Strand Street, at 7.30 p.m.

January 23, 1947:

On the occasion of his recent display of stamps depicting the heroes of medicine, Dr. Purcell covered the tables with some of the pages from the albums in which he keeps his superb collection.

The scope of such an avenue for the serious or specialist collector was well demonstrated, and as there were but few that commanded a high price, as high prices go nowadays, it offers a wonderful opportunity for a full-time sideline or a junior wondering just where he should start. Dr. Purcell did not stop at doctors, but included all those who in any capacity had helped in the furtherance of this great science.

Professor Smith found in the matter of moving a vote of thanks to the exhibitor a subject that was very close to his heart, and I found his remarks there ament of as great interest as was the viewing of the stamps. It was a very interesting evening. February 13, 1947:

Mr. J. L. Oates found the tables offered space for only a portion of his air mail collection, but his judicious selection of the items made for a very informative and interesting display. Practically every issue had one or more representations, and every stamp issuing country was included. It would appear that air mails offer variety and numbers almost as great as the whole world did a decade ago, and the question of specialising in such issues will soon become as acute as is the case of ordinary issues now.

G.H.G.

THE JEWISH GUILD PHILATELIC SECTION

Chairman, Mr. H. Marcuson; *Hon. Sec.*, Mr. I. Isaacs, 910 His Majesty's Buildings, Eloff Street, Johannesburg; *Meetings*, last Thursdays, at the Jewish Guild Memorial Hall, Von Brandis Street, Johannesburg.

At the meeting held on January 30, Mr. H. B. Marcuson showed a portion of his modern Empire collection. The exhibit consisted of Malta, Cyprus and Gibraltar, and all the rare moderns were included.

At the meeting held on February 20, Mr. L. Buchen showed the German occupation issues of Poland and Czechoslovakia. It was interesting to see how well printed some of these issues were. The exhibit in all made a colourful show.

The next meeting of the Section will be its annual general meeting, and it will be held on March 20. I.I.

★ ★ ★

GERMAN EAST AFRICA

Under the heading of "Cancellations, rare, curious or little known," M. Andre de Cock deals in "Le Philatliste Belge for January with the postal organisation in German East Africa during 1914-18. He illustrates a number of the Franks used and the special war postmarks, in addition to listing all the post offices operating.

★

PHILATELIC LITERATURE

Messrs. Harris Publications, Ltd., are now dealing only in current philatelic publications and have disposed of their vast stocks of philatelic literature to Mr. F. Hugh Vallancey, 7 The Drive, Sidcup, Kent. Mr. Vallancey had the biggest stock in the world of this kind up to 1941, but it was all destroyed by enemy action. He is now again in the same position through this deal and is ready to meet philatelic literature "wants."

H. R. HARMER

Their New York office reports that the final "Roosevelt" sale took place on 18th December last. This sale consisted largely of what might be termed "personal items" such as covers signed by the President, consular mail correspondence, covers from admirers in the U.S.A. and throughout the world generally. Prices were high, although apparently this was for sentimental rather than for purely philatelic reasons.

The London office records a recent amusing political sensation which has created a minor philatelic rarity.

The H.Q. of the Conservative Party introduced a new slogan in their meter franking machine reading "A Happy New Year and a New Government Soon." This had been passed by the postal authorities but after a couple of days they ordered its withdrawal, stating that if this was done the second half of the slogan would be obliterated.

The obliteration was carried out in some instances, but not all. The party then withdrew the slogan from use.

Mr. Harmer purchased the die and specimens of the banned slogan and of obliterated wording was sold for charity at the recent London Philatelic Exhibition.

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Whole No. 265

UNION, S.W.A. AND PROTECTORATES

RECENT UNION PRINTINGS

The Publicity Officer of the G.P.O. forwards the following information as to quantities of stamps, etc., printed during the period 13.11.46 to 18.2.47. This continues the record given in our February issue.

(a) Pictorial Postage Stamps

1d.—Job 560 continued. 189,875 sheets x 240 delivered to date. Cylinders as before.

2d.—Job 10,808 continued. From cylinders 8 Int. and 21 Ext. the quantity delivered to date is now 466,500 sheets x 120.

3d.—Job 8,107. An order for 50,000 sheets x 120 given. No delivery to date.

6d.—Job 606. An order for 10,000 sheets x 240 given. No delivery to date.

(b) Roll Stamps

1d.—Job 9,979 continued. No further delivery.

(c) Inland Pictorial Postcards

1d.—Job 8,674 continued. Deliveries from Cylinders 86 and 87 now total 2,664,960 cards.

(d) Air Letter Cards

6d.—Job 6,887 continued. Deliveries from Cylinder 71 now total 4,562,544.

(e) Royal Visit Stamps

1d.—Job 8,353. 122,500 sheets x 240 delivered between 2.1.47 and 30.1.47. Cylinder 10 Int. and 6913 Ext., new.

2d.—Job 8,354. 241,500 sheets x 120 delivered between 2.1.47 and 30.1.47. Cylinders 6912, new. A further 289,102 sheets x 120 delivered between 6.2.47 and 18.2.47, printed from Cylinder 39, new.

3d.—Job 8,355. 47,000 sheets x 120 delivered between 21.1.47 and 13.2.47. Cylinder 17, new.

(f) "Official" Stamps

1d.—Job 9,909. 500 sheets x 240 supplied by the P.M.G. from stock and overprinted on 23.1.47 with "Offisiel--Official" on a flat-bed machine from old formes.

1½d.—Job 9,910. 249 sheets x 240 similarly supplied and overprinted, 30.1.47.

1s.—Job 8,654. 320 sheets x 120 similarly supplied and overprinted, 21.11.46.

2s. 6d.—Job 8,654. 200 sheets x 60 similarly supplied and overprinted, 21.11.46.

(g) "Douane"

1s.—Job 8,356. 200 sheets x 120 supplied by the P.M.G. from stock and overprinted "Douane" on a flat-bed machine from old formes, 21.11.46.

(h) S.W.A. Royal Visit Stamps

Job 32,246. Stamps supplied by P.M.G. from stock and overprinted S.W.A. on a flat-bed machine from new formes.

1d., 12,000 sheets x 240 delivered between 6.2.47 and 18.2.47.

2d., 16,000 sheets x 120 delivered between 4.2.47 and 6.2.47. (See note further on.)

3d., 11,000 sheets x 120 delivered on 6.2.47.

(i) S.W.A. Pictorial Postcards

1d.—Job 32,512. 19,200 cards supplied by P.M.G. from stock and overprinted S.W.A. on a flat-bed machine from old formes, 16.1.47.

Union Stamps and Cancellations

Last month we illustrated the special cancellation applied at Pretoria on first day covers. An almost identical mark has been used on the Royal Train P.O. and any date other than that of day of issue (17.11.47), may be taken as indicative of use on the train. There are slight differences between the "First day" mark and the "Royal Train" marks which will be commented on further in our next issue. Covers from the public in general, however, had to be sent through the G.P.O., Pretoria, as no one other than Train staff was allowed access to the Train P.O. Registered covers from it had a rubber stamp mark in violet; the mark had the usual large

R on the left and on the right "Royal Train/
Koninklike Trein/No. . . ."

1d. stamps: No varieties reported. 2d. stamps: We are still not in a position to report how sheets from the two different cylinders can be distinguished. Sheet numbers (some of which are in black and some in red) do not help, but a curious fact about these numbers has become apparent; in the past the numbering machine stopped at 9,999 and then began again, now it registers five figures, presumably up to 99,999.

Some individual stamps (Ro x, Stamp No. y) can be distinguished by "fly-marks" on one printing, but not on the other; this does not help, however, with stamps in general from the two printings.

There are some definitely light and some definitely dark sheets, but again these do not appear to correspond with the printings, both light and dark shades occurring in one and the same printing.

[As we go to press, Mr. W. N. Sheffield has sent in notes on the Union and S.W.A. stamps. They are too long for insertion in full, but we give here the main feature he describes as distinguishing the two cylinder varieties of the 2d. denomination.

Look at the scroll bearing the words, in white letters, "SOUTH AFRICA" or "SUID-AFRIKA." In what he terms Printing "A" (which is practically certainly that from Cylinder 6912) the lettering stands on a bar of colour (just the height of the letters) darker than the rest of the scroll above and below the letters; in Printing "B" (from cylinder 39) the colouring of the scroll is of the same shade throughout the whole of the lettered portion of it.

Other features he mentions will be given next month.—Ed.]

We are informed by the Publicity Officer that the first 10,000 sheets overprinted S.W.A. came from the first printing (Cyl. 6,912); the balance from the second printing (Cyl. 39).

3d. stamps: We hear that the quantity of stamps printed, as reported above, has proved insufficient and that there has been an extra printing. Also that the amount overprinted for S.W.A. was exhausted and more had to be made. We cannot yet give quantities.

A fair number of small flaws have been reported as constant. Most are very small "fly-specks" and unimportant; the more noticeable seem to be the following:

3rd row, stamp 6. Gash on left arm of Princess Elizabeth.

8th row, stamp 5. A circular water stain about $\frac{3}{8}$ in. in diameter above Princess Elizabeth's head.

9th row, stamp 1. A dot in the "D" of the left-hand 3d.

16th row, stamp 5. A dark mark in Princess Margaret's hair.

19th row, stamp 2. A blur across Princess Elizabeth's eyes.

½d. Shade

Stanley Gibbons report that they have been shown some copies of the ½d. "Springbok type" with the centre in a brownish grey as opposed to the usual bluish grey, and regard it as worthy of catalogue status, not as a mere shade. Has this been seen locally?

The Latest 6d.

Record has already been made of this redrawn, slightly smaller sized stamp. The actual size of the design is 22 x 18 mm. as against the previous 22½ x 18½ mm. and the white (perforated) gutter between adjacent stamps is 2 mm. wide as against the previous 1½ mm.

There are several small differences in the actual design, but the most apparent is in the scroll shaped like a question mark in the two upper corners. In the previous stamp this was open and the horizontal lines of the background penetrated into it; in the redrawn design the scroll is closed up and is not penetrated by the lines of the background.

Rare Tête-Bêches

In H. R. Harmer's sale of 25th February there were put up specimens of the following rare tête-bêche items: ½d. (S.G. 30ba), 1d (S.G. 31aa), and 2d. (S.G. 44). The first two were pairs but the last was a block of six (3 x 2), the right-hand block showing tête-bêche pairs; this fetched £100 and its sale was considered a sufficiently important piece of general news to be reported both over the B.B.C. wireless from London and through Reuters in the South African press generally.

S.W.A. "Officials"

Mr. W. E. de Groot, Jr., writing from Pennsylvania, U.S.A., reports the following variety in the current ½d., 1½d., and 6d. official stamps: The first stamp in the second row has overprint OFFISIEEL with a flat sided O on the left of the letter, causing it to resemble a letter D. This must be constant as it is the same on all three denominations.

Union Catalogue

By the time this appears in print the new Union Catalogue should be out and on general sale. Actually some copies were sent out some time ago and reviews have appeared in the public press. They were, however, on very poor quality paper, illustrations did not stand out well and there were serious errors. These copies have been withdrawn and will be replaced by good paper.

We regret to hear that Mr. A. E. Basden, senior Editor of the Catalogue, has been rather seriously ill, but is reported now to be on the mend. We trust he will make a rapid and complete recovery—he will, at any rate, not now have the worries of the Catalogue (which have been severe) to retard him.

"ROYAL VISIT" PHILATELY

Now that the bustle about first-day covers and most of the special cancellations is over, there is time to take stock.

A report appeared in the public press that imperf. or part imperf. stamps were found in Cape Town, but so far we have not heard accurate details.

Protectorates

Apparently in all three the servicing of covers was a much bigger job than had been anticipated, and the cancelling of "First Day" covers went on long after the 17th February. But they all received the proper day of issue date! Stocks of some values, especially shillings, we hear were exhausted about mid-March, but more are said to be coming from London.

The special cancellation used in Basutoland on the days of the actual Royal visit to Maseru (11-12 March) was of the normal double circle type 29 mm. diam., with "Royal Visit/Basutoland" between the circles and the date in one line across the centre.

Collectors, or some at any rate, had hoped to be able to get Basutoland stamps with the Royal Train cancellation but they were disappointed. On previous occasions, e.g., the Prince of Wales' tour this had been allowed,

but this time the Train P.O. would not cancel Basutoland stamps, even when presented by train staff.

The special cancellation used in Swaziland on 25th March was like the Basutoland one but with "Swaziland."

The Bechuanaland special cancellation does not take place till 17th April, on the Royal Party's run through that territory on their way down to Cape Town from Rhodesia.

We have to thank the African Collectors' Exchange for specimens of their special First Day covers, duly postmarked in all areas.

Southern Rhodesia

The Postal Authorities have intimated that the canceller to be used on the Royal Train P.O. whilst it is in Rhodesia will be the same as used in the Union.

Some commercial firms in Rhodesia have produced very attractive envelopes for use as "First Day Covers" and the Mashonaland Philatelic Society has a special envelope with a card inside marked *Facsimile*, which has the heading "Mashonaland Philatelic Society/April-Salisbury-1947" and then "With humble duty and loyal devotion from the President and members of the Mashonaland Philatelic Society." Presumably this is a copy of one being sent to H.M. the King.



The Commonwealth Stamp Coy.,

The age of the general collector is almost over. There was a time when such a thing was possible, but greedy governments with their new sets every week—(they don't know yet that they have already killed the goose which laid the golden eggs and that it is only its post-obitum kicks they see, not life) drove collectors to confine their activities to the issues of countries, who produce stamps for postage as well as philately, hence the wide world popularity of British Commonwealth productions.

Of course supplies of the earlier stamps were quite inadequate to cope with such a demand; so the majority of collectors took up K.G. VI issues, and no group could yield more pleasure and profit.

As with collectors, so with dealers, and as time goes on we will probably not be the only large firm devoting their entire energies to the sale of stamps of the present reign: in the meanwhile we will carry on holding a pre-eminent position in our chosen field, and we never expect to regret the step we took in 1938 when we disposed of all our stock of other stamps.

During the war we ceased all mention of our new-issue service for with a reduced staff we had already as many subscribers as we could serve to our own satisfaction (we set great store on service) but now with most of our staff back and our agents overseas reinforced, we are again able to cater for a limited number of new subscribers.

As already stated we only handled K.G. VI stamps and it is natural that as specialists in these issues we will be in a better position to obtain the elusive items (anyone can dish out the Crown Agents' offerings and apparently that's about all some do dish out, if the stories of many recently acquired subscribers are to be believed)—than those firms who have to divide their energies on stamps of all the world, or even all stamps of the British Commonwealth.

Anyhow you will know how you got on during, say, the past twelve months. If you got a good show of new stamps then by all means stay where you are: if you were let down repeatedly and feel like a change, just give us a chance to serve you. Make no mistake about it, there are many nice things in the offing, and if you did not get the good things last year, maybe you will fare no better during the one ahead.

We think our service is de luxe—though the charges are moderate and you will never regret the step if you will send for particulars.

We also issue a price list, and we have yet to see a stock as comprehensive as ours. Prices are right and the service could not be bettered. The subscription to our list is only 2/- a year. It has a world-wide circulation and it has earned it.

N.B. Would you like to join a new-issue service which really sets out to get *all* that is going: *all* the perfs. : *all* the shades if at all possible. A service run by a firm which devotes *all* its energies to K.G. VI stamps. Send air-card for full particulars.

The Commonwealth Stamp Coy.,

7, Leather Lane, Liverpool 2: England.

WEEKLY STAMP AUCTION SALES

EVERY
TUESDAY
12.45 – 2 p.m.

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REVIEWS AND NOTICES.

THE STANDARD CATALOGUE OF THE POSTAGE STAMPS OF THE WORLD, published by Whitfield King & Co., Ipswich. Price 15s. 6d.

Owing to paper restrictions still in force the publishers have not been able to carry out their intention of producing this 1947 edition in two separate volumes so Part I, British Empire, and Part II, Foreign, still appear under one cover.

The catalogue is about 100 pages larger than the 1946 one, with some 5,000 extra listings. As is well known, of course, this catalogue does not go into great detail over watermarks, perforations and minor varieties, although the firm caters for collectors in these respects.

Occupation and war issues are now fairly fully listed, although not yet in all instances completely and it has not been possible to price all of them. This applies both to Europe and the Far East. Under Straits Settlements there are no fewer than 244 Japanese occupational stamps listed; more illustrations here would be desirable.

Prices are actual selling prices, and so far as we can judge, represent closely current values. On the whole the trend of these is upward although only spectacularly so in a few instances.

A catalogue of very definite value to the general collector in need of something up-to-date.

STANLEY GIBBONS, LIMITED.

Mr. W. H. Andrews, Chairman and Joint Managing Director, has retired from the firm's service after forty-seven years with it. Mr. C. F. Phillips now becomes Chairman, and Mr. Stanley Phillips Managing Director. The latter has been joined by Mr. C. P. Rang as Joint Editor of "Gibbons' Stamp Monthly."

F. HUGH VALLANCEY.

We mentioned last month that Mr. Vallancey had bought the big philatelic library which belonged to the late Albert Harris. We have received his "Guide to Philatelic Literature," No. 3, and his "Stamp Collector's Bulletin," No. 1. The former can be recommended to anyone on the look-out for philatelic books or papers; the latter is an interesting booklet with a causerie on numerous philatelic subjects and personalities.

EUGENE KLEIN STOCK.

Messrs. H. R. Harmer, Inc., report that the extensive stock of the late E. Klein, dealer of Philadelphia, has been passed to them for sale. They have so much in hand, however, and the stock is so large, that it is doubtful if it can be handled this year.

The "name" is not being sold, as it is the intention of Mrs. Klein and her daughter, Dolores, to continue the auction business.

BRITISH PERIODICALS TEMPORARILY SUSPENDED.

The weather plus coal and power shortage has done what the Germans never succeeded in doing, viz., stopped the appearance of weekly papers, and possibly some fortnightly or monthlies. The printing ban extended over the latter half of February.

WANTED 3671 STAMPS

To complete my World Collection of Normals from the first issue of every country to 1933 issues (inclusive). Mint or good used, one copy of each only.

Last month Mr. H. R. Harmer, of London, helped to reduce my wants to above figure.

Portuguese India, Macao and Timor, amongst others, have many blanks.

Want list of any country upon application.

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ANGOLA

Charity Stamps. Three values, 0.50 green, 1.00 scarlet, and 1.50 brown are still in use; they were first issued in 1939 and are listed in Gibbons, although Yvert does not yet catalogue them.



(Presumably they have to be applied on certain days on inland correspondence compulsorily, voluntarily on other days or on foreign correspondence—as is done in Mozambique.—Ed.)

Air Mail Stamps. Mr. Romeiras, of Benguela, reports that all issues of these are exhausted, and it is not yet known if there is to be a new series or not.

★

MOZAMBIQUE

There is an acute shortage of stamps in this colony, and the following have had to be prepared locally—for urgent use, not for collectors:

The 20E Lourenco Marques centenary stamp has had the special inscription obliterated and a surcharge of 2E put on. The 5E air mail regular issue has been surcharged 3E for ordinary surface use. There have also



been issued special air tax receipt stamps which have to be put on all internal air mail and air mail to Portugal. These are in various colours, but the value for cash paid is apparently put in separately by typewriter in black. Values so far are 1 dollar 20, 1 dollar 60, 1 dollar 70, 2 dollars 90 and 3 dollars 50, but higher values are expected.

—The Robertson Stamp Co.

★

BRAZIL

Dr. Mario de Sanctis reports two more commemoratives: (a) a 40c. in clear green with the head of General Gomes Carneiro on the centenary of his birth; (b) a 40c. in ultramarine with a reproduction of the building housing the Brazilian Academy of Letters, founded 50 years ago.

BRITISH COLONIAL "VICTORIES"

The perforations of these appear to be rather more complicated than was suggested in the note published in our last issue. Mr. E. A. Herbert in the 25th January "Stamp Collecting" reports the following:—

General or normal perforation, 13½ x 14.

Perforation 14 and normal: Bermuda, B. Guiana, B. Honduras, Ceylon, Cyprus, Fiji, Falklands, Malta, St. Vincent, Seychelles, Turks and Caicos.

Perforation 14: Mauritius, N. Rhodesia.

Perforation 14 x 13½ and normal: Gold Coast, Jamaica (possibly also a third variety of Jamaica).

Perforation 14 and 14½: Kenya, Uganda and Tanganyika.

★

KENYA AND UGANDA 1922-27.

An interesting article on this issue appears in "Stamp Collecting" of 1st February, based largely on the specialised collection of Mr. Guy Proctor. Special points brought out are: (1) The 12c black had a life of only three months, but in this period there were two printings (a) jet black from a plate with double marginal lines, (b) grey black from a different plate with a single marginal line. The opinion is expressed that the latter is the scarcer of the two and that the prices quoted for the two varieties should really be reversed.

(2) The existence, not generally known, of a blue variety of the 5c stamp. It is believed that two sheets of this were issued, one at Mombasa, the other at Kisumu. Twenty-one copies of this are known to Kenya specialists, all postally used. Efforts to turn the normal violet or green 5c stamps into this blue one by chemical means have failed. It would not, therefore, seem to be a changeling and it remains a mystery.

★

M.E.F.

The 5/- and 10/- of Great Britain have now to be added to the list of stamps overprinted M.E.F. in Eritrea.

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Just Received—Egypt: A most striking set of 4 values commemorating the International Contemporary Art Exhibition opened in Cairo on 9th March. Mint set, 5s. 9d.; Used, 6s. 3d. New 10 Mills Air Stamp—the first of the new set of eight values—mint or used, 4d. each.

China, Peace Set, 4 values, used, 2s. 6d.

Austria, St. Stephens Church, a truly beautiful set of eight values mint, 8s. 6d. All postage extra.

Pricelists: My pricelists of Egypt; Peace Issues; British Colonials, Unions and S.W.A.; Foreigns, European War Issues are free on request.

S.A. Philatelic Association. This Postal Exchange Club has a strong membership and there is a steady demand for better quality stamps. Why not sell your duplicates and so make your hobby pay for itself? Details gladly posted to you.

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BECHUANALAND. 1886. 1d. error	
“ritish” (5a) used	300/0
1886. 2d. error “ritish” (6a) used	550/0
CAPE. 1853. Slightly blued. 1d. (3a)	
used	50/0
1855/58. 1d. (5a) used	45/0
1855/58. 6d. (7b) used	35/0
1863/64 Imperf. 1d. (18) mint	90/0
1879. 3d. on 4d. “Theee” for “Three”	
(34b) used	180/0
1884/1900. 5/- (54) mint	30/0
1894/98. 1d. to 1/- (59/65 ex. 64a)	
mint blocks of four	100/0
NYASALAND. 1891/95. 1d. to 10/-	
(1/13) mint	105/0
1891/95. £1 (14) mint	175/0
1892/93. 3/- on 4/- (18) used	82/6
1892/93. 4/- on 5/- (19) mint	37/6
1895. No. wmk. 1d. to 1/- (21/25)	
mint	40/0
1895. MINT. 2/6 at 40/-; 5/- (28)	52/6
1896. 1d. to 1/- (32/36) used	27/6
1896. USED. 2/6 (37) at 32/6; 3/-	
(38)	15/0
1897. 1d. to 2/6 (43/48) mint at	
24/-; used	23/0
1897. USED. 2/6 at 15/-; 4/- at	
15/-; 10/- at 27/6; £1 and £10 fis-	
cally cancelled	50/0
1901. CA. 1d. to 6d. (57c/58) mint	
at 9/-; used	8/0
1903/4. CA. 1d. to 1/- (59/62a) mint	
at 17/6; used	14/6
1903/4. CC. 4/- (64) mint	22/6
1907. MCA. 6d. (71) mint at 25/-;	
used	25/0

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Early Postal History of the Orange Free State

By A. A. JURGENS, F.R.P.S.L.

I was delighted to see in the "South African Philatelist" for February, 1947, an article by Dr. K. Freund dealing with the early postal history of the Orange Free State Republic and that he has decided to make still further research in this connection. I would like to refer him to an article of mine which appeared in the "South African Philatelist" for September, 1943, in which I give a full list of the grouping of correspondence, i.e., letters received and despatched by the O.F.S. Government and which are now housed in the Government Archives at Bloemfontein; I trust that this information will be of use to him and that his efforts will be crowned with success.

I find, however, that I have to disagree with some of his findings in the above mentioned article. For instance, I do not think that the light cancellations on the stamps as referred to in the letter from the Colonial Secretary dated 6th May, 1856, (page 24) could have been due to the reluctance (although, admittedly, Dr. Freund calls it "apparent") of the O.F.S. Postmasters to spoil the appearance of the nice Cape triangular stamps with the impression of the date stamp. Besides, I hardly think that there were any date stamps in use in either the

O.F.S. or the Transvaal prior to 1864 and those in use in the O.F.S. were of very neat design which certainly would not have spoilt the appearance of the Cape triangular stamp (see page 101 Fig. 2 and Fig. 3 "S.A. Philatelist" for September, 1943.) Earlier cancellations would have been made with the "Betaald" type (Fig. 1) or as shown in Fig. 3 "S.A. Philatelist" for December, 1946, page 193.

I would suggest that the reason for the very light cancellations complained of, would more likely have been the quick drying of the ink pads in the hot dry atmosphere of the country and neglect on the part of the postmasters to keep the pads moist.

Dr. Freund quotes a letter (6th May, 1856) dealing with a period twelve years prior to the O.F.S. issuing its own stamps, and he says: "Mr. Jurgens is quite obviously not correct when he states in his article (1946, p. 193) that Cape stamps on letters going into the Cape were cancelled only when reaching the border towns (Aliwal North or Colesberg)," but he (Dr. Freund) overlooks the fact that I was not referring to the year 1856 but (as stated on page 192) to "The 1870-1874 period."

The letter of 6th May, 1856, for the Cape Colonial Secretary quoted by Dr. Freund would definitely refer to Cape triangular stamps since the O.F.S. only issued its own stamps in January, 1868. At the same time it helps to confirm my statement ("S.A. Philatelist," December, 1946, page 194, par. 5).

Dr. Freund would, in view of this letter dated 6th May, 1856, have been correct had he stated the period when obviously Cape triangular stamps were used in the O.F.S. (as O.F.S. stamps) in prepayment of postage to the letter's destination and that *these stamps* were defaced by the O.F.S. Post Office, but

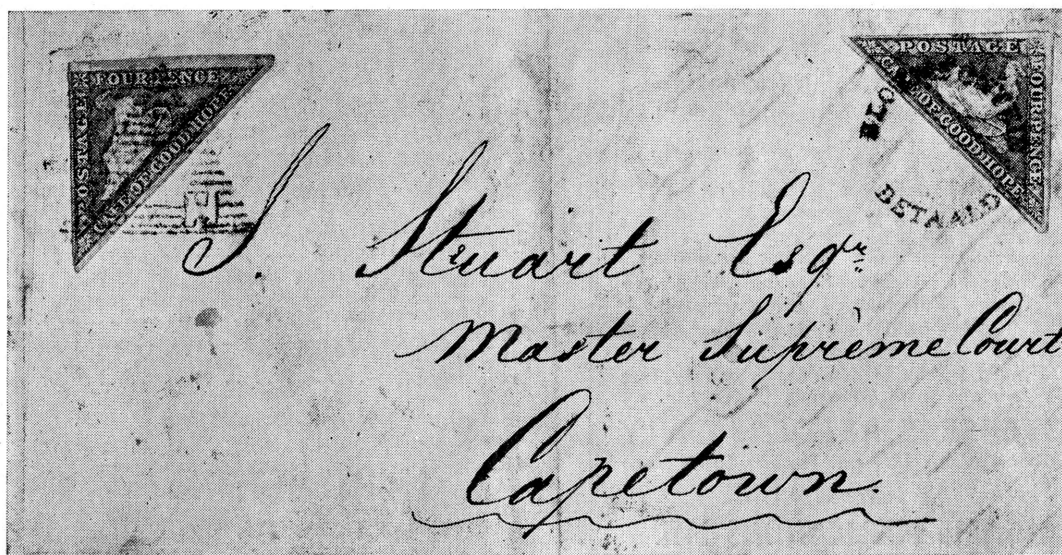


Fig. 1.

by the wording of his article he implies that my contentions about Cape stamps being cancelled at the border towns is wrong owing to his having confused the dates.

I think that the cover shown in Fig. 1 makes my point sufficiently clear. Here we have a letter sent from Bloemfontein to Cape Town in 1863. It is stamped in the upper right hand corner with a 4d. Cape triangular and defaced (at Bloemfontein) with the "Bloemfontein Betaald" mark. The cover is further stamped, in the upper left hand corner with a 4d. Cape triangular which was defaced at Colesberg with the Cape Colony triangular defacing stamp.

It should be stated that both the triangular stamps are of the same issue, viz., steel blue (identical shade) which, although it is not binding evidence, certainly suggests that both stamps (Cape triangulars) were applied to the letter at Bloemfontein.

the "Smithfield Betaald" mark and the latter with the Cape Colony triangular defacing stamp.

Although in this case there is no date stamp to show from what border town the letter was despatched to its destination (Port Elizabeth) the ink used with the Smithfield Betaald stamp is obviously different from that used for the triangular defacing stamp. This would certainly suggest that the two cancellations were not made at the same office. (Such happenings did take place in the Cape Colony post offices, i.e., the use of two to three different inks by one office at the same time, but in this case such a suggestion can be ruled out.)

Both stamps on this cover have been badly damaged by someone who evidently tried to remove them.

[I confirm Mr. Jurgens' description of this cover, but am not illustrating it as it has been

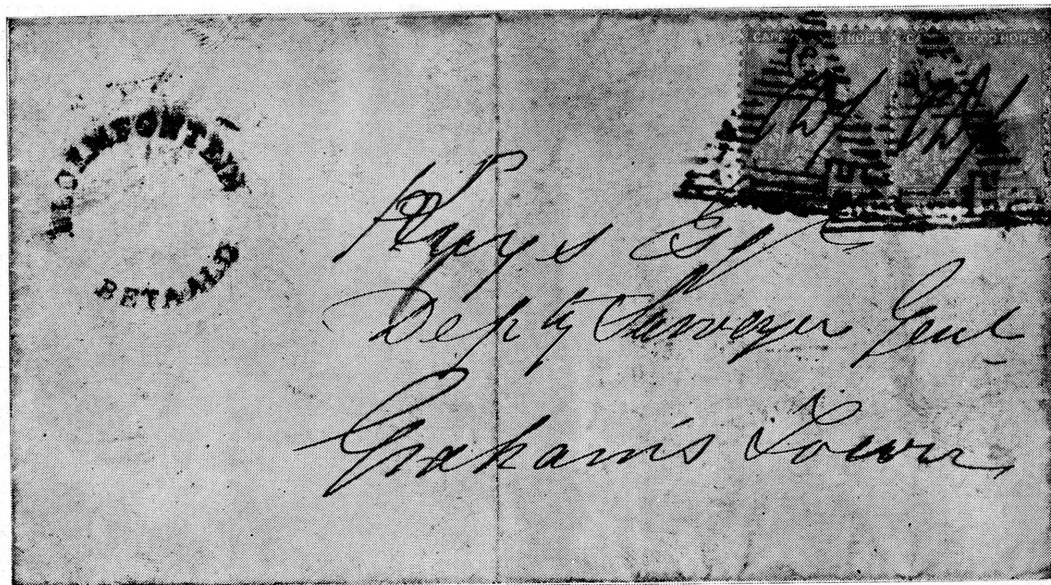


Fig. 2.

In further support of what I have said about the stamps being defaced at the border towns and of letters which had additional stamps affixed in the O.F.S. in payment of Cape Colony postage being defaced and treated the same as if the letter had actually been posted at the border town post office I have the following covers in my possession which I am sending to the Editor for inspection so that he will be in a position to give his verdict.

(a) This letter was sent from Smithfield to Port Elizabeth (no date available). It is stamped in the upper right hand corner with a 4d. (Perkins Bacon) triangular and in the upper left hand corner with a 4d. stamp which appears to be of similar shade and issue (Blue paper). The former is defaced with

so disfigured in the attempt to remove the stamps.—Ed.]

(b) Letter posted at Bloemfontein in 1866 addressed to Grahamstown. It is stamped in the upper left hand corner with the "Bloemfontein Betaald" mark. In the upper right hand corner are a pair of Cape 4d. rectangular Crown C.C. both being defaced with the Cape Colony triangular defacing stamp, and in addition to this with a manuscript cancellation (initials). It is backstamped "Burghersdorp MR.5.1865" and "Grahamstown MR.9. 1865." (See Fig. 2.)

My opinion as to this cover is as follows: As the cover only measures $5\frac{1}{2}$ x 3 inches it does not appear to me likely that the postage from Burghersdorp to Grahamstown could

have been 8d. The sender of the letter evidently applied the two 4d. stamps at Bloemfontein with the intention that the one 4d. stamp would pay the postage from Bloemfontein to Burghersdorp and the second 4d. stamp from Burghersdorp to Grahamstown.

The sender having placed the two stamps (in pair) in the upper right hand corner, the postmaster at Bloemfontein cancelled both stamps in manuscript. (It is assumed that the postmaster made this cancellation because the handwriting is different from that of the address, as also the ink). At Burghersdorp the stamps were both defaced with the triangular defacing stamp; the ink in this case matching that of the Burghersdorp date stamp on back.

I do not wish to enter into any controversy over this matter, but I would just like to sound a little bit of warning to Dr. Freund, in view of his contemplated research into these matters. He should not place too much reliance upon suggestions made in official letters either to or from the O.F.S. Republic because from what I have seen from official

in the Cape Colony, or elsewhere, was defaced by the border town post office I have a suggestion to make. Would eminent philatelists who collect the stamps of both the O.F.S. and the Transvaal, such as Mr. A. E. Basden, Mr. Wm. Redford, Prof. J. J. Smith, Mr. Stephen G. Rich, or you, Mr. Editor, whom I know to be keenly interested in these combination covers, make public what the cancellations on their covers tell us?

I think that if the above named gentlemen can produce, from their collections, together with those I have in my collection covers actually showing this border town stamping then we need hardly discuss the matter further.

I am certainly grateful to Dr. Freund for unearthing this most important letter dated 15th October, 1856, as published in the "S.A. Philatelist" for February, 1947, on page 25 which proves the use of quadrised 4d. Cape triangular stamps for prepayment of a one penny rate of postage on newspapers, and it would seem quite possible that this was done

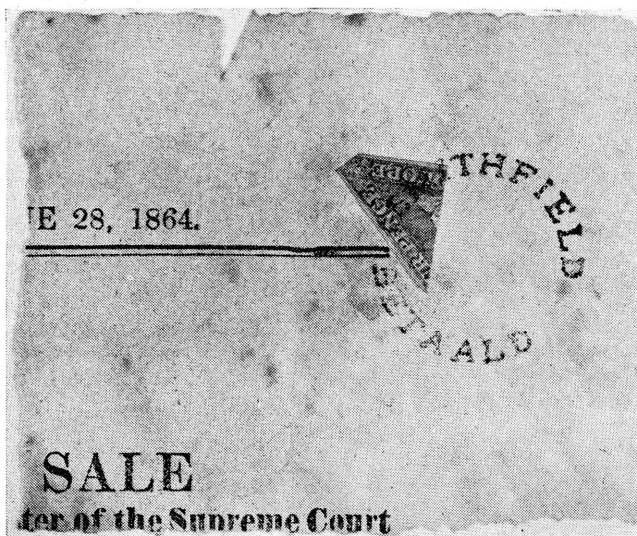


Fig. 3.

correspondence handled by me the O.F.S. (and Transvaal) officials resented any dictation from outside and more often than not they ignored requests made to them.

In a research such as is contemplated by Dr. Freund, I should think that it would be absolutely necessary to find written confirmation that rules or suggestions made to the Republican post offices were actually put into effect.

In regard to what I have said about the procedure which appears to have been adopted from about 1870 onwards, viz., that letters despatched from O.F.S. (and Transvaal) towns had the O.F.S. (or Transvaal) stamps defaced by their respective post offices and that the Cape stamp which was required to repay the postage to the letter's destination

at other O.F.S. post offices as well as, and not only by the postmaster at Smithfield.

In the past I have seen what probably were two such items but very foolishly, owing to the fact that the stamps had been torn and not cut with a scissors or knife, I did not pay any particular attention to them. I thought they were just torn stamps of which I have seen so many, on the original covers which had been ruined by those people known as stamp collectors. However, the letter unearthed by Dr. Freund sent me hunting again and I have managed to find one specimen of a nicely cut and well tied "quadrisect" upon what appears to be a portion of a Cape Town newspaper (which could probably be identified). It is shown here in Fig. 3.

That the one shilling Cape triangular was trisected and used as a 4d. stamp has already been recorded by me from information received from my old friend C. I. Bate, late manager of the Standard Bank, Sea Point. He found several of these choice pieces on old correspondence, but thinking that they were not of much value he exchanged them for some old Natal stamps, and to-day he is pulling out the few hairs he has left in his head. I hope I will not have to do likewise, because I still have more hairs than he has.

Dr. Freund is correct when he says that such quadri-sected stamps would be of immense value to a specialist in the stamps of the O.F.S., but I can hardly imagine them in a collection of Capes however highly specialised the collection might be. From the letter quoted above it is clear that it was not the O.F.S. Government which objected to this "misappropriation" of the Fourpenny stamps but the Colonial Government. But, if the O.F.S. Government, who had paid for these Cape stamps, or had received them in payment for postal services rendered to the

does not appear in the letter quoted) of four-penny stamps." (Presumably for services rendered: see last par. page 192, "S.A. Philatelist, December, 1946.)

Evidence of one penny stamps (rectangulars) having been supplied for use on newspapers is shown in Fig. 4.

In these circumstances I should think that this quadrisected 4d. Cape triangular stamp takes No. 1 place in a collection of the stamps of the Orange Free State. I can hear my old friends A.E.B. and the Professor grousing at me for making such a suggestion because both these gentlemen possess very nearly complete collections of the O.F.S., but hunting for quadrisects will keep their interest in the country alive. I can sympathise with them because they will now be in a condition similar to mine—still lacking the two woodblock errors in my collection of Capes.

I hope that when Dr. Freund gets busy with this promised search in the Archives at Bloemfontein he will have the good fortune to

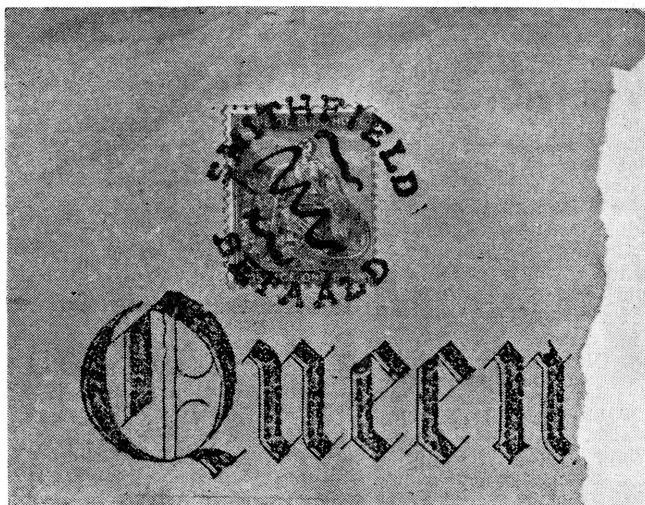


Fig. 4.

Colonial Government, then surely the O.F.S. postal authorities had, I should think, every right to make whatever use of them they may have felt inclined to. Whether the Smithfield postmaster was authorised from Bloemfontein to quadrisect, is, of course, another story.

It will be further noted from this letter that the Colonial Government do not specifically prohibit the use of what they term subdivided Fourpenny postage stamps; evidently because the stamps had been given without any conditions attached thereto; but that they offer to supply the O.F.S. Government with Cape Colony one penny stamps for use on newspapers which the letter states are "to be paid for in the same way as the previous issue" (*the word "way" has been added by me and

find some correspondence legalising the use of these quadrisected 4d. stamps. Such information would make these items even more valuable.

When this weather cools down I will again continue my research in connection with O.F.S. Letter Stamps (Betaald) which I have had to relinquish for a time partly owing to the excessive heat and partly to health reasons. Oh for a little of Britain's snow just now!

I am now keener than ever in this search for information knowing that I am not alone but that Dr. Freund is busy at the other end. Between us we may still find something worth while.

OBITUARY

ALFRED F. LICHTENSTEIN

We have lost a great collector and philately has lost a great friend and patron with the passing of Alfred F. Lichtenstein. He had what was certainly the finest collection of Cape Triangulars in North America and what was probably the finest collection of Canada in existence. Mr. Stephen G. Rich sends the following notes:

"Complaining of feeling out-of-sorts on the afternoon of 24th February, he left for his winter home in New York, but collapsed and died on the way in a 5th Avenue bus.

"Mr. Lichtenstein was 70 years old. A native son of New York, N.Y., he had for many years been head of the Ciba Chemical Co., chemical manufacturers and importers. He served for many years as president of the Association for Stamp Exhibitions. He was chairman for the 1926 and 1936 International Philatelic Exhibitions in New York, and, although he had declined to be chairman for the 1947 Centenary International Philatelic Exhibition, he was Honorary Chairman and in charge of the 'Court of Honor' exhibits.

"Up to now, we know nothing of the disposition to be made of his collections. We understand that it is likely that some will be left to the new Philatelic Foundation, of which he was an active founder; and that some may go to the Collectors' Club, in which he had been actively interested for many years. In fact, it may now be told: he alone contributed more than one-third of the total cost of the present permanent home owned by and occupied by The Collectors Club, at 22 East 35 St., New York, N.Y.

Mr. Lichtenstein was more than a mere collector of great wealth. He was a real student of stamps. Some twenty years ago, the management of the Kohl Handbook, unable to find his equal in Germany or Great Britain, persuaded him to do the Canada monograph or section in that handbook. It stands to this day as the sound and thorough source for all subsequent writers. He lent the use of his material freely to many writers who have turned out major books or monographs in the last quarter century.

"Mr. Lichtenstein was a member of the American Philatelic Society, the Essay-Proof Society, and the Royal Philatelic Society (being a Fellow thereof), as well as of the bodies previously mentioned.

"I have lost a philatelic friend: a man who never was too busy to help any other collector and whose fostering hand will be sorely missed by us all."

The last sentence will be echoed by a few collectors in South Africa who had had the privilege of meeting Mr. Lichtenstein personally and by others who could call him a philatelic pen-friend.

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P. O. V. WARREN,

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ESSAYS AND PROOFS OF THE BLUE MAFEKING SIEGE STAMPS

In the January issue of the "Essay Proof Journal," Dr. K. Freund, of Bloemfontein, describes a recently discovered Essay and Plate Proof of the 1d. Bicycle stamp. He also gives details regarding the original photograph of Baden-Powell from which the 3d. stamp was prepared. It is considered probable that plate proofs of this stamp were also made, but so far a specimen has not come to light.

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11. N. Rhodesia, KGV £1 used	£4 10 0
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Approvals of British Colonials on request.	

**A. J. BOOYSEN,
P.O. Box 11, Sannieshof, Transvaal.**

EGYPT

Mr. J. P. Shingler submits a set of four very striking stamps issued in connection with the Contemporary Art Exhibition in Cairo. The values are 5 plus 5 mills., 15 plus 15, 30 plus 30 and 50 plus 50, i.e., 4s. face value. Total issue said to be limited to 250,000 stamps. Egypt has of late years produced many fine stamps, but these reach a new high-water mark. Only, why so many?

Also the first of a new airmail service, 10 mills. purple, showing a modern aeroplane, the Nile Delta Barrage and the King's head.

On 6th or 7th April there is due to appear a 10 mills. (1 pi.) stamp in honour of the International Inter-Parliamentary Conference, featuring the Parliamentary buildings in Cairo. Issue of a million.

★

KENYA, UGANDA AND TANGANYIKA

Mr. Tunstall reports the following new plate numbers as appearing on stamps on sale: 1c., 2-5A and 2-5B; 10c., 6-5A, 6-5B and 6-6A; 20c., 5-5B and 6-6B.

He mentions further that Gibbons are wrong in stating that the retouch on the 1c. stamps (reported on in our January issue) does not appear in the latest printings. He finds it present in all the sheets he has seen.

"Stamp Collecting" reports a 1938 K.G.VI £1 stamp (p. 11½ x 13) with no trace of any watermark.

Mr. M. Habib, of Singida, Tanganyika, who contributed an article last year (Vol. 22, p. 4) on the registration labels of the Tanganyika T.P.O.s, sends specimens of new types of labels in use in the territory. The left portion has a large R in the top compartment and a printed serial number in the lower. The larger right-hand portion is left blank for the name of the office. In some instances this is written in by hand (e.g., DSM/SB, standing for Dar-es-Salaam/Savings Bank); in others the date-stamp is used, e.g. Dar-es-Salaam-Tabora T.P.O. U.P.

★

EXCHANGE WANTED

Jas Hogg, 299 Glenholm Avenue, Toronto, Ont., Canada. North American for Southern African.

Leonard Cauwe, Boezemzingel 32, Rotterdam. Netherlands for Southern African.

G. W. Best, 50 Velwell Road, Exeter, England. British for South African.

Jean Sury, Stat Major, Place Saigon Cholom, Indochina. Indochinese for modern Southern African.

D. S. Jiminez, 114 Norwood Road, Tulse Hill, London, S.E.24. Partially blinded ex-R.A.F. General exchange.

Leslie Howell, 11 Usher Road, Bow, London, E 3. Ex R.E. Badly smashed in fight for Bologna. General Exchange.

L. Aspin, 663 Garfield St., Winnipeg, Man., Canada, act. 25, ex-R.C.A.F. General correspondence and exchange.

ELECTRICAL CENTENARIES

CANADA commemorates the birth of Alexander Graham Bell, inventor of the telephone, by the issue on 3rd March of a special 4c. postage stamp. First day cover service was given at Brantford, Ont., where Bell carried out his research work.

U.S.A. celebrates the hundredth anniversary of the birth of Thomas Alva Edison by the issue on 11th February of a special 3c. stamp in the style of the 1940 inventors series. First day sales at Milan, Ohio, the birthplace of Edison. Thanks to Mr. W. L. Bedard for a first day special cover.

★

TRINIDAD

The Southern African Exchange Club, of Pretoria, has shown us a cover received from the Trinidad Philatelic Society (P.O. Box 596, Port of Spain, Trinidad) with a rubber stamp reproduction of "The Lady McLeod" stamp issued on 20th April, 1847. This celebrates its centenary.

★

OLD TRANSVAAL

The February issue of the "London Philatelist" has a posthumous paper by the late Rev. H. J. A. McKee on the status of the German prints of the 1st type Z.A.R. stamps, i.e., those stamps printed from Otto plates in which the crest is badly drawn and the bird has one wing outstretched.

In the paper three problems are considered: (1) Status of the stamps printed from plates with a narrow space between the cliches; (2) the number of stamps issued, and (3) the question as to whether these stamps were posted in the proper sense of the word.

Simple answers of the "Yes" or "No" type cannot be given to these problems, but they are closely argued out here and students of these stamps should not miss the article.

Collectors' Wants & Offers

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E. Tamsen, Box 13, Nylstroom.

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- (d) 1,000 x 5 different Hungary against 100 x 5 different South Africa.
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- (f) 1,000 x 50 different Hungary against 4,000 x 12 different South Africa.
- (g) 1,000 x 100 different world against 10,000 x 10 different South Africa.
- (h) 100 x 5 different San Marino against 100 x 5 different South-West Africa.

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1946, Provisionals, cpt., 15 val., M. or U., each 20/-; same 6 val. x 100, 37/6; x 10, 4/6.

1946 Commem., the return of the King, cpt., 4 val., M. or U., 7/6; x 10, 43/-/-.

1940, Greep Occup. of Albania, cpt., 25 val. (S.G. 1-17, C1-3, D1-5, £3/8/5), per set, £1/10/-; same 7 val. x 10, 4/6; 3 val. x 100, 9/6.

Sets Complete, M. or U., per set. Nos. 497-516, 12/6; 494-5, 1/9; 517-9, 1/10; 534-53, £4/15/-.

Airmails, cpt. M. or U., per set. 1933, Nos. 468-74, 7 val., 35/-; 1935-9, 480-88, 8 val., 26/-; 4 val., 480/3; x 10, 10/-; 1939-41, Type T95, 8 val., 5/6; x 10, 36/6; 1942-3, Winds, 12 val., 5/-; x 10, 32/-; Airmails, 25 diff., 9/6; 10 diff. x 10, 12/-.

Greek Packets: 5 diff. x 100, N.M.U., 6/6; x 100, 57/6; 10 diff. x 100, N.M.U., 15/-; x 100, 120/-; 25 dib. made up x 20, 10/-; x 100, 42/6; 50 diff. made up x 20, 20/-; x 100, 80/-; 100 diff. x 10, 25/-, x 100, 210/-; 200 diff. x 1, 15/-; x 10, 100/-; 300 diff., 30/-; 400 diff., 50/-; 500 diff., 80/-; Balkans, 200 diff., 15/-; Egypt, 100 diff., 8/-.

1940-46, Pictorial, Charity, Airmails, 40 diff. x 10, 25/-; 20 diff. x 20, 14/6; x 100, 60/-; 10 diff. x 10, 3/6; x 100 29/-; 6 diff. x 100, 14/6.

Italian Occupation, 1941, M. or U., of Ionian Islands, cpt., 13 val., cpt., 1 set 4/-; x 10 sets, 30/-; of Corfu, 3 val., 3/9; 6 diff., 8/6; 10 diff., 20/-.

Bulgaria, 1943-4, Pictorials, cpt., 12 val., U., 1 set, 3/9; x 10, 28/-.

Wholesale List free to Dealers only. Want List of Greece, Crete, Epirus, Thrace solicited.

PAYMENT: Accepted Mint current stamps (K.G. VI., Victory, Royal visit, etc.), of the African and other Br. Colonies, in sets complete and in perfect condition ONLY, with full gum, unmounted, well centered, at face plus 5%. You may remit in English or U.S.A. banknotes or by bank draft payable in Athens, Gr. Britain, Egypt, Australia, New Zealand.

Wanted: 1/- Mint sets of the Royal visit to S. Africa, M. or F. Used Victory sets and F.U. high current values of Br. Colonies, 2/- Serious offers (awaiting to receive an order before your shipping) or mint pictorials, commemoratives, airmails, new issues. I give Greece and Europe.

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SOCIETY NEWS

EAST LONDON PHILATELIC SOCIETY

President, C. P. Durkin; *Hon. Sec.*, A. W. Stander, P.O. Box 694, East London; *Meetings*, 2nd Fridays, above Colosseum Theatre Tea Room, at 7.45 p.m.

January: The question of the desirability of retaining gum on stamps was given a thorough airing. No original contribution was made. One or two members were emphatic that the present distinction between mint and unused should remain.

The majority would like all uncanceled stamps embraced in a single classification, but reluctantly agreed, that as long as prices for gummed stamps remain higher than for unused stamps without gum, nothing could be done about the matter.

Interesting examples of type collections were shown by a number of members. Mr. Paviour exhibited sheets of used U.S.A. postage dues from 1c. to 5 dollars. A sheet of the latter denomination (amounting to a face value of about £25) aroused interest. Under what circumstances could a parcel be underpaid £12 10s.? In the absence of an explanation it was concluded that the sheet must have been post-marked to order. Mr. Paviour stated that according to his supplier only three similar sheets were in existence.

February: Reported in last month's issue.

March: A pleasing feature at most of our recent meetings has been the presence of so many visitors; this time there were nine. At the same time our steadily rising membership was increased by the election of two new members.

Donations of stamps by members in response to Navy Week appeal were handed in.

For display at this meeting, members were asked to bring British Empire commemoratives. In quantity the result was not up to standard. The only exhibitor was Mr. A. Watson, who amongst other fine examples showed complete sets of Canada 1897 Jubilees, Cayman Is. 1932 Centenary, Great Britain 1929 Postal Union Congress, and St. Helena 1934 Centenary. Mr. Watson had not expected to bear the full onus of the display and had therefore limited his selection. N.C.C.

★

THE PHILATELIC SOCIETY OF JOHANNESBURG

President, Mr. L. Buchen; *Hon. Sec.*, Mr. J. H. Jenkins, P.O. Box 4967; *Meetings*, 2nd Tuesdays, Public Library, 7.45 p.m.

Mr. F. Lang tabled his collection of Rhodesia at the meeting held on March 11. The exhibit included some fine items, the most outstanding being the "Company omitted" error. The double heads included a unique specimen of error of colour in the £1 value. Several imperforate varieties were included and the exhibit was practically complete in all respects. Mr. H. Schwartz spoke on the exhibit which was very much appreciated by all members, and a hearty vote of thanks was passed to the exhibitor. I.I.

★

ORANGE FREE STATE AND BASUTOLAND PHILATELIC SOCIETY

President, Mr. John Lewis; *Hon. Secretary*, Mr. R. G. Lyon, Box 702, Bloemfontein; *Meetings*, 3rd Fridays each month. Oranje Koffiehuis, Bloemfontein, 7.30 p.m.

January: A display "Music on stamps" by Dr. Freund was the feature of this evening. More than 50 of the world's composers were shown on stamps, each one neatly framed and written up with the main data of his works. There were various other sections, as for instance "music instruments," where the development of a "Rococo spinet" to a modern "Grand Piano," or of a "Roman Tuba Ductilis" to a "French Horn," was illustrated with stamps. The Wagner Opera set of Germany, the Czechoslovakian music sheet, and many other rarities were all shown.

In all, there were roughly 150 pages of this interesting philatelic "music encyclopaedia."

February: Mr. D. R. R. Shimmins presented an admirable show of the stamps of Egypt. In spite of having joined the society only recently, he has been able already to build up a fine collection with many of the earlier scarce sets present. Mr. Shimmins is to be congratulated on his effort which, it is hoped, will be an example to the many members who are usually passive and too shy to come forward with a display of their "secret treasures."

March: The evening's exhibit was in the hands of Mr. C. A. Larsen, who showed one of his "side-line" collections, "Mozambique." This was appreciated by everybody, as such foreign collections are usually neglected and seldom seen. For those whose "meat" is not Portuguese Colonies, Mr. Larsen gave an additional display of South West African "Inverts," rarities which had the members gasping in admiration. Inverted "S.W.A." overprints were shown on Union King's Heads right through to the recent Victory issue of which a 1d. block of four was shown with inverted "S.W.A."

The society is holding a "Junior competition" in May, probably on the third Saturday in the afternoon. The competition is open to all school children, and prizes will be given for the best collections in three sections. Every child entering will receive a stamp packet as a gift. While judging takes place, the children will be entertained with brief stamp talks, small exhibits by advanced collectors and with a stamp quiz. It is hoped that the afternoon will be a real children's "stampede." K.F.

★

THE JEWISH GUILD PHILATELIC SECTION

Chairman, Dr. A. Kaplan; *Hon. Secretary*, Mr. B. Joseph, 143 London House, Loveday Street, Johannesburg; *Meetings*, Last Thursday, Jewish Guild War Memorial Hall.

The Section held its annual general meeting on March 20. The retiring chairman, Mr. H. B. Marcuson, reported a very successful year. The following committee was elected: Chairman, Dr. A. Kaplan; vice-chairman, Mr. I. Isaacs; hon. secretary, Mr. B. Joseph; other committee members, Messrs. Buchen, Froelich and Glassman, with the retiring chairman ex officio.

The exhibit was provided by Mr. Mann, who showed a fine collection of Italian Commemoratives. These included some rare items issued by the Fascist Government after Italy had surrendered to the Allies. Mr. Buchen spoke on the exhibit. I.I.

★

CAPE TOWN PHILATELIC SOCIETY

President, C. G. Mummery; *Hon. Secretary*, S. Kaganson, P.O. Box 1973; *Meetings*, 2nd and 4th Thursdays at Yorkshire Buildings, Strand Street, at 7.30 p.m.

The meeting held on the 27th February was remarkable for two things: Firstly, the small number of exhibits, and secondly, the paucity of the attendance. Despite these very unusual features, it was considered to have been one of the most interesting evenings that has been staged for a very long time.

From the title one could expect almost anything, and until Dr. Hasse really got going many had doubts.

The entertainment consisted of the reading of a paper illustrated by a limited number of examples that were staged in the usual way—which dealt hardly with some of our collectors and the substance of their collections. The paper is too lengthy to quote here, but its main theme was "food for thought." At the suggestion of the meeting Dr. Hasse has been good enough to hand it over for transmission to the editor so that he may see that a very entertaining evening can be arranged with a bare minimum of exhibits and also that the sentiments expressed could be read and enjoyed by all readers of the "S.A. Philatelist." This paper, together with a letter from one of our old members that had been written in much the same strain, was productive of so much discussion that the meeting found closing time had arrived without a thought of the auction sale—a main feature of our meetings!!

At the meeting held on the 11th March there was a showing of Russia subsequent to the end of the

Imperialist regime. In the absence of the owner, Mr. Hirshhorn, it was staged by Mr. Kaganson who had a first hand knowledge of almost every item that went to its making. But whereas it embraced a very great proportion of the Society's intense efforts at propaganda and fund-raising by means of pretty labels, it demonstrated that the continuance of the emanations must be somewhat of a test to the ardour of some of that country's admirers. A similar exhibit of real postally used copies would put it in different light. Nevertheless a really pretty and extensive show can be amassed at a relatively low cost—two features that are very agreeable to many.

A more reassuring report on the health of our old member, Mr. Ashmead, who has been very ill, was circulated to the relief of all present.

At long last the quartz lamp has been suitably accommodated and is now available for use.

Our membership still continues to increase for every agenda paper contains the names of two or three new members.

G.H.Q.

★

PORT ELIZABETH PHILATELIC SOCIETY

President, Mr. G. K. Forbes; *Hon. Sec.*, Mr. P. G. Smith, 13 Trafalgar Square, Port Elizabeth; *Meetings*, 1st and 3rd Tuesdays in Room 8, City Hall Basement, at 7.45 p.m.

March 18: Mr. A. M. Jones tabled about 190 pages of Sarawak. This was one of the finest collections ever displayed, and members had a really enjoyable evening. The collection was both mint and used, and was from 1869 to present-day issues. While the interesting items were too numerous to mention in full, there were some that could not be overlooked.

One page of 1869 issue of 3 cents, brown and blue were in blocks of 4, and the two cents purple of 1888 had no watermark. There was half a sheet of the 12 cent., green and blue of 1888 mint. Then again the 1c overprint on 3c, purple and blue of 1889 and 5c on 12c of the same issue. Cat. No. 21 had no c and 22c no stop after c.

On page of 7 stamps all wrong colours of the 1895 issues. Nos. 50 to 61 of 1918 were on first day covers and was a complete set.

Mr. Jones is to be congratulated on giving such a fine show; his collection is nearly complete.

We are sorry to say that Mr. T. H. Nicholson is still on the sick list and we wish him a speedy recovery, and hope he will soon be with us once more.

New issues were auctioned and two new members were welcomed.

L.E.C.

★

EAST RAND PHILATELIC SOCIETY

President, Mr. J. Shepherd, P.O. Box 97, Brakpan; *Hon. Secretary*, E. N. Riff, 103 Kemston Avenue, Benoni.

There was a good attendance at our March monthly meeting. Items of interest were shown. Several covers with the latest stamps from America, Siam, and Czecho-Slovakia, Victory stamps of Aden Protectorate State with "VI" missing.

The evenings exhibits were in the nature of a competition. There were three competitors who had not exhibited any stamps before. Mr. de Boer, Union of South Africa; Mr. Bode, British Colonies comprising of Basutoland, Bechuanaland, North and South Rhodesia, Swaziland and Nyasaland; Mr. Merrick, Holland.

All the exhibits were well written up and displayed, and the prize for the evening was decided by popular vote, which went to Mr. Merrick.

An auction sale was held, the proceeds donated to the Navy League week.

E.A.R.

★

MARITZBURG PHILATELIC SOCIETY

Chairman, C. R. Turner; *Secretary*, R. Morton, P.O. Box 328, Pietermaritzburg; *Meetings*, 2nd Friday in each month at the Women's Club, 211 Burger Street.

March: A fair number of members turned out to hear Mr. F. S. Jackson's talk on the stamps of Post-War Germany, and all were rewarded by hearing

a most interesting account of conditions in Germany at the close of the recent struggle.

Mr. Jackson confined the first part of his talk to the actual living conditions of the people in the various zones of Berlin and other parts of Germany, and related many stories of his recent experiences there.

His display of recent German stamps was extensive and most interesting. A visitor, Mr. C. M. Boshoff, thanked Mr. Jackson on behalf of those present.

Dr. Young, in reply to a query raised by one of the members, showed specimens of originals and reprints of the stamps of Early German States, and gave means of identifying the different types. Dr. Young also showed some recent foreign issues.

Our chairman, in illustrating a point raised by the Secretary in his talk at the February meeting, showed specimens of bisects, etc., on paper showing how these, if detached from the paper, immediately lose their value.

A threatening thunderstorm caused some members to make tracks for home, and although the talk on "Gum or Stamps" was started, it was decided not to vote on the subject till a full meeting was present.

During the evening Mr. C. M. Boshoff applied for membership to the Society.

R.M.

★ ★ ★

FORGED UNION "SPECIMENS"

The following statements are taken from "The Natal Mercury" of 12th March regarding an individual whom, we regret to say, used to be an advertiser in our "Collectors' Wants and Offers" column:

A charge of dealing with forged "rare" stamps was proved against a European, Klaus Thiele, who was fined £40, or four months' hard labour, and one month's hard labour suspended for two years, by Mr. C. E. Cuff in the Durban Magistrate's Court yesterday.

Det. Sgt. S. H. Jooste, examiner of questioned documents in the South African Criminal Bureau, said he received certain lots of stamps from the Durban C.I.D. and examination under ultra-violet ray clearly showed chemically obliterated writing. He photographed these stamps under these rays, clearly showing that the writing was not visible on the stamp.

J. L. Booysen, foreman of the Stamp Printing Department of the Government Printing Office, Pretoria, said he received certain sets of stamps from the Durban C.I.D. No stamps of the type produced had ever been overprinted "specimen" by the Government Printer.

Thiele had nothing to say and admitted a previous conviction for incitement to house-breaking in 1942. The Court was informed on his behalf that he had been brought from Germany in 1936 when 19 years old and was trying to get his Austrian fiancée to the Union. He was working for a barber. He had given the police every assistance from the beginning. He had been on active service for the Union.

★

AUSTRALIA

It is reported that a special stamp is to be issued in honour of the coming of age birthday of H.R.H. the Princess Elizabeth. This is on 21st April, the day after the Royal Party arrives back in Cape Town.

The SOUTH AFRICAN PHILATELIST

Proprietors and Publishers:

The Philatelic Federation of Southern Africa

Honorary Editor: Dr. J. H. HARVEY PIRIE, - - - P.O. Box 7012, Johannesburg

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

Vol. 23, No. 5.

MAY, 1947.

Whole No. 266

Presentation to His Majesty the King

In commemoration of his visit to the Union of South Africa, the Union Government presented to His Majesty the King a souvenir album containing specimens of the special Royal Visit postage stamps of the Union and South-West Africa.

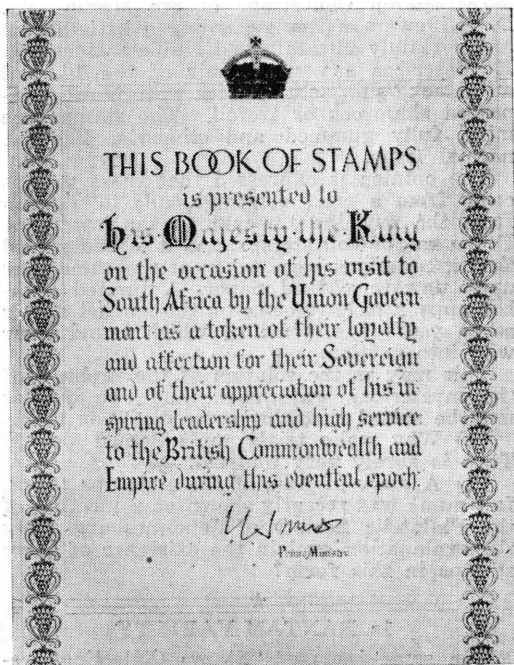
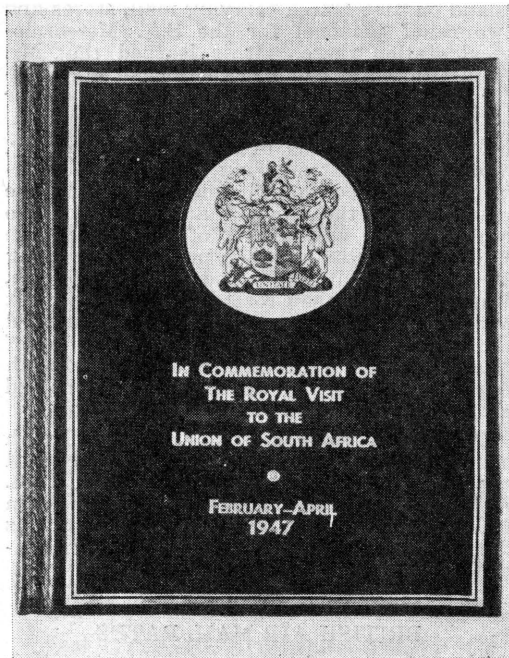
The album, which was bound in rich green Morocco leather, bore, on the front cover, a hand coloured inset of the Union Coat-of-Arms and the inscription as shown in the accompanying illustration.

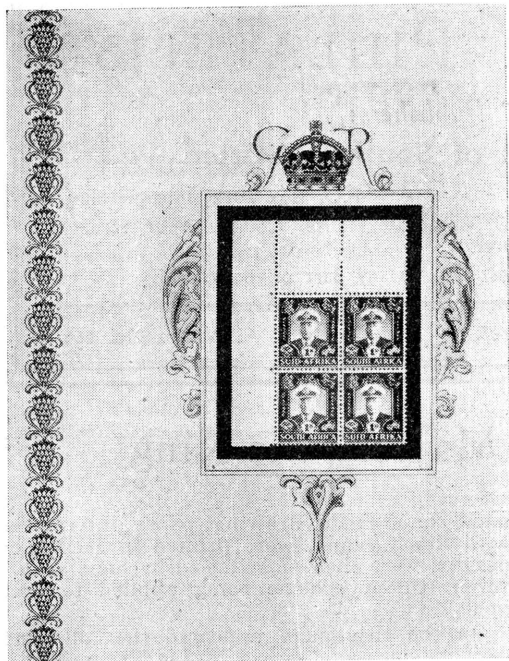
The outline of the designs on the inner pages of the album, which were of white "What-

man" hand-made drawing paper interleaved with flimsy blank, were printed in grey. The designs were then embellished by hand, a different colour scheme being applied to each page.

On the title page appeared the following personal message signed by the Prime Minister, Field Marshal the Right Honourable J. C. Smuts, and transcribed in hand-printing:

Then followed 18 pages on which were mounted, in blocks of four, stamps of the 1d., 2d. and 3d. denominations of the Union and South-West African Royal Issue.





Five pages were given to each of the three denominations of the Union stamps, made up as follows:

- (a) Accepted colour of Union stamps.
- (b) Three colour proofs, in blocks of four, of each of the three stamps as furnished by the Government Printer for the purpose of selecting the most suitable shade of the pre-determined colour of each stamp, and
- (c) Imprints of the three stamps in the accepted shades on art paper but unperforated.

These were followed by three pages on which were mounted blocks of four of the accepted colours of stamps of the South-West African issue.

The inclusion in the collection of specimens of all the printings is not only something unique but will add to the value of the collection.

A certain number of somewhat similar albums were signed by the Minister of Posts and Telegraphs and distributed with his compliments.

These are less elaborate, having only the Union Coat-of-Arms in gold on the outside and, of course, no title page as in the album presented to H.M. the King. There are six pages similar to the one illustrated, with blocks of four of the stamps as issued in the Union and in South-West Africa, but not including the colour proofs or imperforates.

"The South African Philatelist" was honoured with one of these albums; it is being handed over to the Africana Museum in Johannesburg for permanent keeping in the philatelic collection there.

UNCATALOGUED UNION WATERMARK

In "Stamp Collecting" of 8th March, Mr. D. H. Jewers writes regarding a little-known and certainly uncatalogued Union watermark. He describes a vertical pair of the 1d. red and black "ship" stamp with watermark a repeated shamrock or trefoil. The stamps are mint, fully gummed and otherwise like the normal issue.

The opinion is expressed that these stamps come from a trial printing made in London from the machine for making the low value Union roll or coil stamps, and it is understood that impressions were taken at the same time upon unwatermarked paper. A limited number appear to have come on the market six or seven years ago, some of which found their way into auction.

This may be the solution of the problem of the mysterious watermark, but two queries may be raised throwing some doubt on it:

(1) Why make trials on gummed paper? That is surely very unusual.

(2) A block of four of these stamps (mint, full gum) was recently shown at a meeting of the Philatelic Society of Johannesburg. Does the explanation explain the existence of these stamps in this form?

★

1s. BANTAM VARIETY

The same issue of "Stamp Collecting" reports a pair of 1s. Bantam overprinted S.W.A. in one of which there is no background above the tanks.

TRISTAN DA CUNHA

H.M. S.A. frigate "Natal" sailed for the island on 31st March carrying mail, stores and two relief personnel for the S.A. Meteorological station there. It is learned that Mr. A. B. Crawford, senior meteorologist in charge for the past twelve months, is staying on for another term of duty.

Professor Spilhaus, of New York University, who is at present advising the Union Government on meteorological matters, made the round trip in the "Natal," and is expected to report on the advisability of keeping on the station on Tristan and also, possibly, of setting up other stations on islands such as Gough, Marion, Bouvet, the Crozets and Kerguelen. It was later reported that he had recommended the keeping up of the Tristan station as of great value to weather forecasting in South Africa. What he said about other stations had not so far been made public.

The "Natal" arrived back on 12th April with mail, on which the Tristan postmarks seen all appear to be of Type 6 introduced in 1938. A Type 7 mark was used in 1946; the main difference between it and the Type 6 mark is that the innermost circle is 19-20 mm. in diameter as against 17 mm.

★

BRITISH AIR MAIL RATES

The reduction of the air postage rates took effect on 17th January. To South Africa the rate per $\frac{1}{2}$ oz. is now 1s., postcards 7d.

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Special offer of Hitler's portrait stamps, mostly in complete sets, including Germany, Bohemia, Poland, Occupied Ukraine, Occupied Russia, Oldenburg (V sign), etc.; values to 5 mark and 50 kr. All mint, never hinged. Owing to a favourable exchange transaction, I can supply the outstanding collection of 122 different for only £3 15s., nett, c.w.o., post free.

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**WANTED
3506 STAMPS**

To complete my World Collection of Normals from the first issue of every country to 1933 issues (inclusive). Mint or good used, one copy of each only.

Watermark and perforation varieties; errors and shades not required.

Last month some welcome assistance was received from Harmer's, New York; J. Bird, London, and F. B. Turpin, Horsmonden, England, but local help is negligible.

Many vacant plots for Russian Wrangel's Army (1921) issues.

Want list of any country upon application.

Good prices for good copies.

E. HUNT,

Box 2437, Johannesburg.

The Plates of the De La Rue Postage Due Stamps of the Union of South Africa

(with reference also to their shrunken and substituted numeral stereotypes)

By A. HILTON SYDOW, A.S.A.A., C.A.(S.A.)

(Continued from page 43 of March issue)

MOULDS AND PLATES

An en epargne master die may be reproduced any number of times by impressing therewith a mould or moulds en creux, intaglio or in recess, and subsequently infusing molten stereo metal into the moulds to form the en epargne facsimiles. Stereo metal is an alloy composed of approximately 7% tin plus 15% antimony plus 78% lead. The moulds manufactured and utilised by the printers were papier-mache ones. The substance used for the construction of a papier-mache mould is known as "flong," a derivative from the French "Flanc." A flong is made by pasting together a quantity of layers of different kinds of paper with an agglutinative paste. Generally, papier-mache moulds do not sustain damage in the operations of removing cast facsimiles from the said moulds. It happens, however, at times that portions of the papier-mache are affected by flong shrinkage prior to the infusion of stereo metal, thus causing slight diminution in the size of certain of the recesses; this in turn originates en epargne negative plate stereotypes of slightly diminished size compared with the normal ones. Shrinkage of stereotypes also takes place during the cooling down process and also originates slight diminution in size from the normal. The most prominent examples of printed impressions which emanate from SHRUNKEN STEREOS are found on the right-hand pane of the 6d. denomination, namely, Nos. 3, 4, and 5 of horizontal row 10, the numeral "6" in each instance is 8 m.m. tall against 8½ mm. of the normal size; on the left-hand pane of the 1d. denomination, No. 4 of row 8, the numeral "1" is 7¼ mm. tall against 8½ mm. of the normal size.

Each numeral plate contained 120 subjects arranged in two panels of 60 and each panel 10 horizontal rows of 6 each. From the several numeral, symbol and stop master dies a papier-mache mould horizontally 6-set was made for each denomination and each mould received 18 separate impressions in recess and positive with the exception of the one for the ½d. denomination which received 30 impressions, thus:—

No. 1 Mould— ½d. ½d. ½d. ½d. ½d. ½d.— 6 (½d.) 30.

No. 2 Mould— 1d. 1d. 1d. 1d. 1d. 1d.— 6 (1d.)—18.

No. 3 Mould— 2d. 2d. 2d. 2d. 2d. 2d.— 6 (2d.)—18.

No. 4 Mould— 3d. 3d. 3d. 3d. 3d. 3d.— 6 (3d.)—18.

No. 5 Mould— 5d. 5d. 5d. 5d. 5d. 5d.— 6 (5d.)—18.

No. 6 Mould— 6d. 6d. 6d. 6d. 6d. 6d.— 6 (6d.)—18.

No. 7 Mould— 1/- 1/- 1/- 1/- 1/- 1/-— 6 (1/-)—18.

From each multiple mould of six subjects a longitudinal cliché of six was cast in stereo metal, en epargne and negative. This process was repeated nineteen times and nineteen multiple clichés were obtained additionally. The said twenty clichés then were mounted on wood or metal base to form a 120-set stereotyped printing plate divided into two panels of 60 units each in 10 horizontal rows of 6. Certain slight deviations from normal alignments of die impressions on the moulds were picked up in turn by each of the twenty 6-set metal clichés cast therefrom with the result that each slight defect of alignment was repeated twenty times on a printed sheet 120-set or ten times on a 60-set issue sheet in respect of each denomination, for example:—

(a) ½d.—fraction bar situated more to left than normal over "2".

(b) ½d.—fraction bar situated more to right than normal over "2".

(c) ½d.—fraction bar situated slightly less to right than in (b).

(d) ½d.—fraction bar situated slightly lower than in (b) and (c).

(a) 1d.—lowered "d", top serif thereof ½ mm. lower than top of "1".

(d) 1d.—"1" in higher horizontal alignment than remainder in row.

(f) 1d.—raised "d", top serif thereof in line with top of "1".

(a) 2d.—lowered "d", top serif thereof 1 mm. lower than top of "2".

(f) 2d.—raised "d", top serif thereof ½ mm. lower than top of "2".

(a) 2d.—"2" slanted slightly to left.

(d) 3d.—"3" higher in horizontal alignment than "3" in (e) and (f).

(e) 3d.—"3" higher similarly than "3" of (f) and "d" 1 mm. from "3".

(f) 3d.—"3" lower similarly than (d) and (e) and "d" ½ mm. from "3".

(e) 5d.—"5" horizontally higher than "5" of (f) and top serif of "d" lower than point of top serif of "5".

(f) 5d. — "5" slightly slanted to left and top serif of "d" level with point of top serif of "5".

(a) 6d. — lowered "d" in relation to "6".

(f) 6d. — "6" slightly slanted to right, and "d" raised slightly higher than normal.

(f) 1/- — diagonal stroke slightly lower than normal.

In addition to the foregoing, there are variations of distance anent the horizontal spacing between the figures, symbols and stops due to the fact that the dies were impressed manually on the moulds.

The deviations from alignment detailed afore occur in all rows vertically in respect of all the denominations as shown in the following plan:—

Row	Left Pane						Right Pane						from Cliches	Left	Right
	1a	2b	3c	4d	5e	6f	1a	2b	3c	4d	5e	6f		1	11
2	1a	2b	3c	4d	5e	6f	1a	2b	3c	4d	5e	6f	2	12	
3	1a	2b	3c	4d	5e	6f	1a	2b	3c	4d	5e	6f	3	13	
4	1a	2b	3c	4d	5e	6f	1a	2b	3c	4d	5e	6f	4	14	
5	1a	2b	3c	4d	5e	6f	1a	2b	3c	4d	5e	6f	5	15	
6	1a	2b	3c	4d	5e	6f	1a	2b	3c	4d	5e	6f	6	16	
7	1a	2b	3c	4d	5e	6f	1a	2b	3c	4d	5e	6f	7	17	
8	1a	2b	3c	4d	5e	6f	1a	2b	3c	4d	5e	6f	8	18	
9	1a	2b	3c	4d	5e	6f	1a	2b	3c	4d	5e	6f	9	19	
10	1a	2b	3c	4d	5e	6f	1a	2b	3c	4d	5e	6f	10	20	

Hence the progeny of the master numeral, symbol and stop dies was as follows for each denomination:—

1. Flat master (1) numeral— (2) symbol— (3) stop dies of metal—hand engraved—negative in relief.
2. Longitudinal numeral—symbol—stop 6-set papier-mache mould—impressions of design positive in recess.
3. 20 longitudinal numeral—symbol—stop 6-set cliches of stereo metal—designs negative in relief. Assembled in plate form of 2 panels of 60 each (10 x 6)—120 stereos—steel-faced.
4. Printed sheets of 120 (2 x 60—issue sheets) numerals ad libitum—designs positive.

SUBSTITUTED STEREO

Printed impressions from substituted numeral stereos have been observed in the following positions:—

- (1) 2d. denomination: Left pane—row 1 No. 1. The numeral "2" with the "stubbed foot." This numeral differs positionally from all its confreres in vertical row 1 in that its bottom edge appears perfectly level horizontally, whereas the others all appear slanted to the left.
- (2) 1d. denomination: Left pane—row No. 3. The numeral "1" appears lower in horizontal alignment in row 1 than its confrere in row 2, etc.

- (3) 6d. denomination: Left pane—row 8, No. 3 and also row 10 No. 3. In both instances the numeral "6" appears higher in horizontal alignment than the other numerals "6" of the same vertical row. In both instances the symbols "d" and subjacent stops are also in higher horizontal alignment.

The difference between instances of deviation from normal horizontal alignment, which originated in the papier-mache mould and deviation from normal horizontal alignment, which originated by stereo substitution will be indicated clearly on the plan hereunder of an hypothetical numeral plate. It is assumed that a papier-mache mould is impressed with an epargne die representing in negative the figure "6" six times successively in horizontal alignment, that each act of impression is performed by hand, and that the ever-present factor of fallibility of the human hand produces slight variations in spacing between the recesses and slight deviations from normal alignment represented by the letters "x" and "z", thus:—

Recessed impressions—6z 6x 6 6 6 6
 It is assumed that the impressions "6z" and "6x" are each 1 mm. lower in alignment than the other four impressions. 6-set cliches in stereo metal are cast from the mould and mounted in plate form, en epargne and negative, as follows:—

Rows	1 to 6	6c	6	6	6	6x	6z	Cliches	1 to 6
Row	7	6	6	6	6	6x	6z	Cliche	7
"	8	6	6	6a	6	6x	6z	"	8
"	9	6	6	6	6	6x	6z	"	9
"	10	6	6	6b	6	6x	6z	"	10

It is assumed also that three stereos are found to be defective, removed, and three fresh stereos are substituted in the positions 6a, 6b and 6c, but cut individually from another cliche 6-set and inserted (a) 6a, 1 mm.

higher in alignment; (b) 6b, ½ mm. higher; (c) 6c with slight slant. The foregoing plan exemplifies the repetitional papier-mache deviations and the isolated substituted stereo deviations from the normals.

REVIEWS AND NOTICES.

Belgium-Congo-Ruanda

Les Editions Prix-Guide (Meyers, Rue du Métal I-IA, Brussels) have sent the 1947 (2nd) edition of their well illustrated priced catalogue of the stamps of Belgium, Congo and Ruanda-Urundi, price 20 frs.

This is a good catalogue for the fairly advanced general collector. It contains some listings not found in most general catalogues, e.g., pre-cancels and publicity stamps. Prices on the whole are higher, and in not a few instances considerably so, than in most catalogues with which we are familiar; but, of course, it is more recently published than them, and so, perhaps, has more nearly caught up with the ever-advancing tide.

THE POSTMARKS OF ADEN, 1839-1939.

By M. H. Robertshaw. H. Garratt-Adams & Co., 24 Kingscote Road, Edgbaston, Birmingham, 15. Price 5/-, postage extra.

Studies of postmarks are becoming increasingly popular, and those of Aden have always received attention. A previous work on them, of which the present writer was a co-author, has long been out of print, but the present work has considerable additions. No fewer than 86 types are described and very clearly illustrated. A companion volume on "Indian Stamps Used in Aden and Its Sub-Post Offices—An Illustrated Priced Catalogue" is promised about October by the same author. The work goes perhaps just a little bit, but very little, beyond the scope of the title by including 1939 army postmarks and censor marks.

Both volumes will be indispensable for Aden specialists.

THE REX PRICED CATALOGUE OF THE STAMPS OF K.G. VI, 5th (1947) Edition.

Compiled and published by A. O. Crane, 18 Maple Avenue, Harrow, Middlesex, England. Price 3/- net, postage to British Africa 7½d.

This is an excellent catalogue for its self-limited field, with over 380 illustrations and 5,500 prices. The latter are the maximum retail prices that can be recommended by the publisher at the time of going to press. He is not a dealer and cannot accept or pass on orders or enquiries for stamps.

The catalogue is described as a special, but not a specialised, one; nevertheless it contains a good deal of information not to be found in most general catalogues. Egypt, Iraq and the Indian Feudatory States are not included, for good reasons given in the introduction.

It is up-to-date enough to include the Royal visit stamps of the Protectorate, although not those of the Union or of S. Rhodesia. It can be thoroughly recommended as a "bible" for collectors of K. George VI issues.

* * *

From France come the two following priced catalogues:

(a) From R. Soubairan, 7 Boul. Jean-Jaurès, Clichy, Paris: A catalogue of the stamps of France and Colonies, N. Africa, Andorra and Monaco. Price 25 francs. The French stamps

listed are current issues, some going back as far as 1850; commemoratives from 1923 on; charity issues from 1914 on; air stamps from 1927 on.

(b) From Guy Depolier, 22 Rue Preschez, Saint Cloud (S. & D.): Something new in the catalogue line, viz., one listing stamps, featuring sports, covering the world.

In America Messrs. H. E. Harris & Co., of 108 Massachusetts Avenue, Boston, Mass., have been spreading themselves and have issued the following priced catalogues:

(1) "United States Stamps, U.S. Possessions and British North America": They claim this to be the largest, best and most serviceable price list of its kind and to be complete except for the great rarities. This is a big claim but is probably justified, at any rate, so far as the U.S.A. section is concerned. It should be in the hands of all U.S.A. collectors and they will find listed therein not only straightforward postage stamps, but practically every philatelic "sideline" of the country that could be thought of.

(2) "Postage Stamps of the British Empire": This is a price list which, although it contains lots of little bits of information (often in a form of presentation not to be found in a British publication) about the various parts of the British Commonwealth, is scarcely likely to supplant British catalogues of these stamps.

It only lists 20th century issues in the form of sets, although the publishers state that they can also supply a large variety of single stamps of both 19th and 20th centuries. Prices, on the whole, probably rather under those prevailing here or in Britain.

(3) "Airmail Stamps of the World": A virtually complete price list of the world's airmail stamps, except for rarities and special items. The listing is again by complete sets. Covers are not dealt with.

(4) "The Stamp Collector's Annual Catalogue": In addition to listing various stamps, albums and various other philatelic accessories, this contains interesting and useful notes on how to locate the country to which any stamp belongs, surcharges that change a stamp's nationality, and a dictionary of words, phrases, etc., in common use by collectors.

STAMP VALUES, Edited by Percy C. Bishop, 5a Lincoln Court, Lancing, Sussex, England. Postal subscription 7s. per annum.

Congratulations to our old Durban friend on his return to the philatelic publishing world. This monthly record of auction prices and review of the stamp markets of the world should be found very useful in these days of rapidly changing fashions—and, therefore, values—in stamps. Few collectors can ignore the monetary side of their hobby and here they will get, grouped under countries, the best guide to the true value of their stamps from day to day.

The realisations are taken from records of sales of six London firms of auctioneers. In addition there are news-letters from various correspondents throughout the world.

John P. Shingler,

B.P.A.

POSTAGE STAMP DEALER,

27 Terminus St., East London, C.P.

EGYPT.

- 1947 International Parliamentary Conference; mint 6d., used 6d.
- 1947 International Contemporary Art Exhibition, 4V; mint 5s. 9d., used 6s. 3d.
- 1947 New Air Stamp—10 mills; mint 4d., used 4d.
- 1947 New Air Stamp—2 mills; mint 1½d., used 1½d.
- 1946 Civil Aviation Congress; mint 1s., used 1s.
- 1946 Arab Rulers' Meeting at Inchass—7V; mint 2s., used 2s.
- 1946 Citadel; mint 10d., used 1s.
- 1946 Cairo Philatelic Exhibition—4V; mint 2s. 6d., used 2s. 6d.
- 1946 Royal Visit—Ibn Saud; mint 6d., used 6d.
- 1945 Pan Arab Conference—2V; mint 1s. 3d., used 1s. 3d.
- 1945 Khedive Ismail; mint 9d., used 9d.
- 1945 King Farouk's 25th Birthday; mint 9d., used 9d.
- 1944 King Farouk Memorial; mint 1s., used 1s.
- 1940 Child Welfare—Princess Ferial; mint 1s. 3d., used 1s.
- 1947 Due on 6 May—Evacuation of Egypt; mint 5d., used 6d.

My Price Lists are Free.

CHOICE COLONIALS

- B. EAST AFRICA. 1890. ½a on 1d. (1) mint at 47/6; used 47/6 1890/94. Variety imperf. MINT. 1a at 20/-; 2a at 12/6; 4a at 20/-; 8a at 27/6; 1R (14a) 45/0
- 1894. 5a on 8a (27) mint at 25/-; used 22/6
- 1894. 7½a on 1R (28) mint 25/0
- 1895. "½ anna" on 3a (31) used 15/0
- 1895. MINT. 3a (37) at 12/6; 4½a (39) at 35/-; 4½a (39) at 60/-; 7½a (41) at 27/6
- 1895. USED. ½a at 8/6; 1a at 22/6; 2a at 25/-; 2½a at 15/-; 3a at 12/6; 4a at 10/6; 4½a at 30/-; 1R (43) 12/6
- 1895. 2½ on 4½a (48) mint 37/6
- 1895. ½a to 5R (49/63) mint set of 17 160/0
- 1895. 2R (61) mint at 25/-; used 30/0
- 1895. 3R (62) mint 32/6
- 1895. 5R (63) mint at 40/-; used 45/0
- Cover bearing SG. 82/86 & 90 100/0
- 1897. MINT. 1R at 12/6; 2R at 22/6; 3R at 32/6; 4R (95) 80/0
- 1897. USED. 1R at 12/6; 2R at 25/-; 3R at 32/6; 10R (97) 100/0
- B. SOMALILAND. 1903. ½a to 5R (1/13) mint 65/0
- 1903. ½a to 1R (1/10) mint at 13/6; used 17/6
- 1903. Overprint inverted. 3R (17b) mint 275/0
- 1904. ½a to 5R (32/44) mint 85/0
- 1912/19. MCA. ½a to 5R (60/72) mint 70/0
- 1921. Script. ½a to 5R (73/75) mint 50/0
- 1904. OHMS. 1R (019) mint control copy 90/0

NEW ISSUE SERVICE—Send for particulars. I am always anxious to replenish my stocks of better grade COLONIALS, high values, etc. Details with price required of anything you may have for disposal will receive my immediate attention.

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U.S.S.R.

"Stamp Collecting" of 22nd March gives a check list, officially provided, of all stamps issued between April, 1946, and 27th January, 1947. There are some 20 separate issues and 87 different stamps.

Collectors' Wants & Offers

(Threepence per word per insertion with minimum of 3/- per insertion).

Beginners and medium collectors—try our approval service.

Benoni Stamp Shop, Box 485, Benoni.

Control strips of Union and Transvaal also mint blocks, cards and envelopes of many African countries.

E. Tamsen, Box 13, Nylstroom.

Seychelles Wanted. Full catalogue price offered for fine used copies of Stanley Gibbons numbers 81, 83; 85, 90, 91, 92A to 101, 103, 104, 107, 108, 110 to 120, 121, 122, 122A, 123A, 125.

William Redford, Box 7012, Johannesburg.

ROYAL VISIT PHILATELY.

Several readers have written in with lists of flaws on the Union stamps. As they do not all agree it is fairly obvious that they are not all constant, and we trust they will excuse us if we do not quote them all but only give those listed by Mr. Sheffield as below. Final decision as to what are significant flaw varieties may still have to wait a little.

Union "Royal Visit" Printings and Flaws.

The difference between the two printings of the Union "Royal Visit" 2d. value mentioned in the March issue of "The South African Philatelist" is fairly evident when the two are compared and with a few distinguishing features as a guide, those interested will find no difficulty in classifying the stamps of the cylinders.

Printing "A," from Cylinder No. 6912, is of a silvery mauve colour with a greater range of tones than in the darker and more evenly coloured issue produced from the "B" cylinder No. 39. The lines throughout the former appear cleaner, or sharper, so causing the design to stand out in greater relief and producing a much brighter and distinctive stamp than that of the "B" printing.

Examination of the scroll carrying the name "SOUTH AFRICA" or "SUID-AFRIKA" will show that in the "A" printing the letters are set out on a horizontal bar of the same height as the letters, but of a slightly darker shade than that portion of the scroll along the top and bottom of the name. This feature is clearly visible in both the English and Afrikaans stamps of the "A" cylinder, but is entirely absent in the "B" printing where the colour in the name section of the scroll is the same shade throughout.

The Afrikaans stamp of the "B" printing has one other slight point of difference in the fact that a small break occurs in the upper portion of the half circle drawn at the extreme left of the name scroll, whereas in the production from the "A" cylinder the lines in this item of the design are continuous throughout the curve.

There are more "fly-specks" present on the stamps of the "A" printing than on the "B," but the number of prominent flaws is quite small in both issues. Several of the minor spots, especially in the "A" printing, have not been included in the accompanying list, and it is probable that the "Bird" in the "A" and the "Hyphen" in the "B" issue will prove to be the most interesting.

Stamps of the "B" printing appear to have been the only variety on sale at most of the Post Offices on the Reef during the first four weeks of the Royal Tour and as far as is known at present the "A" printing was first noted in Johannesburg about the beginning of March. On the other hand, all S.W.A. stamps examined to date show the overprint to be on the "A" cylinder issue, and it will be interesting to observe if they appear in both printings. Apart from the number of shades in which the "B" cylinder stamps have been

printed it may be of interest to mention that the sheet numbers of this issue have appeared with four figure red numerals and five figure black numerals.

The 1d. value of the Royal Visit set seems to be particularly free from flaws and none worthy of recording have been noted so far. The 3d value, however, is not so perfect in this respect, and specialists will find several interesting items for attention in this fine reproduction. It is undoubtedly the most attractive of an excellent commemorative set of stamps, and the Government Printing Department can be congratulated on an issue that has appealed to both public and collectors alike.

MINOR VARIETIES

2d. Value.—Cylinder "A", No. 6912:

Row 5/1 "V" mark between King and Queen
Row 10/6 "Bird" perched on hear of figure "2"
Row 11/6 Vertical line at head of Queen

2d. Value.—Cylinder "B", No. 39:

Row 7/6 Dark bleb at head of figure "2"
Row 8/6 Small bleb at foot of figure "2"
Row 10/6 Dot under "I" of AFRICA
Row 12/2 hyphen-like mark between "A" and "F" of AFRICA.
Row 19/3 Small mark near head of King

3d. Value:

A white curl appears in the hair of Princess Margaret just above her left shoulder on a number of stamps in the sheet and are listed as follows: Row 5/6 : 13/2 : 13/3 : and then Rows 14 to 20 but on stamps 1 to 5 only. Other marks noted are given below, but the list is not intended to be complete.

Row 1/4 "D" ornament in Princess Margaret's hair.
Row 3/6 Mark on Princess Elizabeth's arm.
Row 5/3 Mark on bottom of right hand figure "3."
Row 7/4 Small bleb above "A" of AFRIKA
Row 8/2 Dark spot near Princess Margaret's left ear.
Row 8/5 Circle above Princess Elizabeth's head
Row 9/5 Numeral "9" on Princess Margaret's arm
Row 16/5 Ornament in Princess Margaret's hair.
Row 19/2 "Masked" Princess (Elizabeth)
Row 20/6 Numeral "9" on Princess Margaret's hair.

W. N. Sheffield.

S.W.A. Overprint:

Mr. H. Roth. of Outjo, submits specimens of the 1d. with the overprint so low that it is on the white margin of the stamp, also of the 2d. with it down over the "South Africa" and "Suid-Afrika." A 3d. stamp in the 19th row has the S.W.A. printed rather defectively so that the letters appear to be thinner than the normal.

Special Cancellation Marks:

The special Royal Visit mark used in *Bechuanaland* on 17th April differs from those

used in Basutoland and Swaziland in having a town name as well as that of the territory. It reads "Royal Visit/Lobatsi. Bech. Prot."

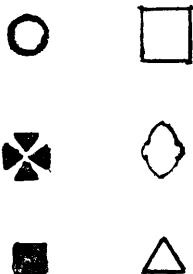
Information about the *Union* special cancellers comes from Mr. F. J. H. Kotze, of Durban, and from Capt. J. B. van Wyk. It may be summarised thus:

There were in all six cancellers, the general design of them all being as illustrated. In three the English wording came first, as



shown; in the other three the Afrikaans wording came first "Koninklike Besoek—Royal Visit/ Suid-Afrika—1947—South Africa."

There appear to be very slight differences in size as a whole and in the size of the lettering, but these can be ignored as there is one very definite way of distinguishing be-



tween the marks, viz., by the "ornaments" separating the top and the bottom lettering. These are shown, somewhat enlarged, in the accompanying drawing: The two in the top row are as used in Pretoria for "first day" cancellations, that on the left being on the English-first canceller as shown in the first illustration, the other being in the Afrikaans-first canceller.

The others are "Royal Train" cancellers, the two in the middle row being those used in the P.O. on the "Pilot Train" and are those most commonly seen as Royal Tour special cancellations. The Maltese Cross is on the English-first stamper; the other on the Afrikaans-first one. The latter, when not very clearly defined, may look more like a straight-edged diamond-shape mark.

The solid square in the bottom row is the distinguishing feature of the English-first mark used on the "White Train." The sixth canceller, the Afrikaans-first mark used in the separate telegraph and cable office on the Pilot Train has a small equilateral triangle as its distinguishing feature; normally, how-

ever, this was not used on ordinary postal matter.

S. Rhodesia. The stamps illustrated last month are on unwatermarked paper, line perf. 14. The horizontal holes seen on a 3d. sheet are larger than those in the vertical rows; on the 1d. they are the same size in both directions, but whether this difference holds good for all sheets is not known. There are centre guide crosses and the printers' impression as in the Protectorates issues, but no plate number.

The first-day cover rush in Salisbury was apparently as bad as in the Protectorates for it took exactly three weeks for some of them to reach Johannesburg; there was no special postmark for these covers.

The special "Royal Tour" canceller, in use while the Royal Party was actually in Rho-



desia, is as shown in the accompanying illustration.

In addition to the Mashonaland Philatelic Society's souvenir envelope mentioned last month, the Philatelic Society of Rhodesia (located in Bulawayo) also had one. Its special feature was the Union Jack and the Royal Standard crossed above a statue of Cecil Rhodes. Thanks to Mr. J. F. Davidson for a specimen.

Off-Sale. The Union, S.W.A. and Protectorate stamps were withdrawn from sale after 24th April, the day of leaving of the Royal Visitors; those of S. Rhodesia remained on sale till 30th April.

Protectorates Perforations:

Mr. A. O. Crane in his leaflet "Between You and Me" describes the perforation of the Protectorates' Royal Visit stamps as something unusual in modern colonials. He describes the 1d. stamps as all being line perf. 12½ x 12½; it might be expected, therefore, that the others, in horizontal format, would be 12½ x 12½, and this is the case as regards the 3d. and 1s. The 2d., however, as released in London, is 12½ x 12½; specimens of the Swaziland 2d. received from Swaziland, however, show both 12½ x 12½ and 12½ x 12½.

This set me examining sheets and loose specimens, all obtained locally from the three Protectorates, some obtained at date of issue (17th February), others obtained later, about

the end of March, so as possibly to cover early and later printings.

My findings simply do not agree with those of Mr. Crane, as I am forced to the conclusion that the perforation is best described as 12½ both ways. I measured many stamps with one of Gibbons' "Instanta" gauges, which reads to tenths, and checked on this by putting the horizontal side of stamps against the vertical side of others and vice versa.

I admit that some stamps show slight variations, both in horizontal and/or vertical perforation, from an exact 12½ and might occasionally come nearer 12¾; but on the other hand, occasional measurements come nearer 12¼.

It seems to me that this discrepancy in findings might very well be accounted for by differences in humidity of the atmosphere and slight shrinking or swelling of the paper in one or other direction.

The hour or so spent on this measuring has made me a strong supporter of Gibbons' policy in not recording perforations in quarters but merely in the nearest halves. I hope, however, that others will check up on this particular problem.

Not exactly a note on perforations, but a little matter that might interest anyone specialising in these stamps is the presence in the centre of each sheet (junction of horizontal rows 5 and 6 and vertical rows 3 and 4) of a small printer's guide cross in the colour of the stamps. On the Bechuanaland 1d. sheets, however, it is not in the centre of the sheet vertically but between horizontal rows 2 and 3. There are other guide lines and dots in the marginal rows or in the white selvedge. There is also, of course, the printers' imprimatur under the two centre stamps "Waterlow & Sons, Limited, London Wall, London, E.C." and the plate number under the last but one stamp of the bottom row. Only plate number 1 has been seen. J. H. Harvey Pirie.

* * *

The African Collectors' Exchange, of Box 5403, Johannesburg, produced an attractive cover for Princess Elizabeth's Birthday showing a 21st birthday key over a map of Africa with a photograph of the Princess forming the ring of the key. Thanks for a specimen cover; also for a Rhodesian cover with a picture of the Royal Train. The special tour postmarks on this were in blue.

CHANNEL ISLES

Jersey Pictorial Set (6) mint 9/6; F.D.C. 10/6.
Jersey Arms type (2) mint 2/6; F.D.C. 3/-.
Guernsey Arms type (3d., 1d., 24d.) mint 3/-.
Complete C.I. mint issues (11) 14/-.
Rare items: Guernsey 1940 bisect 30/-, 1938 type £3, 1934 type £6, 1912 type £5.

All Post Free (Air Mail).

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in South Africa

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- 1,000 large sized European pictorials as above or one packet 500 different Hungary for each 10,000 common stamps—2.5 kinds in unequal quantities—South Africa.
- 100 x 50 different large sized European pictorials against 200 x 25 different from South Africa and South-West Africa.

If you need packet-material, we give you

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CORRESPONDENCE

QUADRISECTED 4d. CAPE TRIANGULARS

Congratulations to Mr. Jurgens for unearthing a "quadrisect" from Smithfield, of which I am rather proud to have been the "godfather," so-to-say. I am sure, many a Free State specialist will envy him for this unique item which he seems to have produced out of his sleeve like a true magician.

May I add just the following to Mr. Jurgens' stimulating remarks about my article: I purposely quoted, together with the publication of the letter of 15th October, 1856, the marginal note written thereon by the O.F.S. Government Secretary to the effect that a copy of the letter be sent to the postmaster at Smithfield. This means obviously that the O.F.S. Government did not feel obliged to issue a memorandum or a regulation in conformity with the wishes of the Colonial Secretary, but that it just sent a copy of the letter to the Smithfield postmaster, as a matter of courtesy, without any comment, leaving it to him to do as he pleased in the matter. Mr. Jurgens is therefore perfectly right when he points out that the O.F.S. Government was absolutely independent in this regard.

In this connection, I note with great interest that Mr. Jurgens' specimen of the Smithfield "quadrisect," as reproduced in the "S.A. Philatelist," April, 1947, p. 58 (Fig. 3), is affixed to a piece of newspaper which shows clearly the date of June 28, 1864. Nearly eight years had passed, therefore, since the Colonial Secretary had expressed, in the letter of 15th October, 1856, his displeasure about the practice of using "subdivided" stamps. In spite of the passing of eight years, the postmaster at Smithfield still indulged, with the apparent sanction of the O.F.S. Government, in this practice of quadrisecting 4d. stamps in order to obtain 1d. stamps for use on newspapers. One must presume that 1d. stamps must have been actually supplied meanwhile to the O.F.S. Government from Cape Town for the newspaper rate, but that the postmaster at Smithfield (and possibly others, too) had to resort to the quadrisecting of 4d. stamps again occasionally, whenever stocks of 1d. stamps had run short.

K. FREUND.

[The piece of newspaper—probably the "Queenstown Gazette"—with the 1d. rectangular stamp cancelled "Smithfield Betaald" could probably be approximately dated if some historian would oblige. An item of news on the back reads "Latest Telegrams. Gazette Office, 5 p.m. The steamer *Australian* arrived in Simon's Bay this morning . . . The most important news to hand by this opportunity is the death of the Lord Brougham."—Ed.]

STUDY YOUR COUNTRY'S STAMPS

"POSTAGE"

In an interesting article in the December issue of the "British Philatelist," H. J. Howard deals briefly with the development of postal services in Britain from 1200 onwards. His main object is to show the original "Free" and "Frank" stamps are the equivalent of the adhesive postage stamp as we know it to-day.

A point brought out, incidentally, is that the word "postage" in its modern sense appears to have been first used in an Act of the Commonwealth in 1654 where it is laid down how letters for the Service of the Commonwealth and for His Highness the Lord Protector shall be endorsed to free them from any pay or *postage*.

★

EARLY NYASALAND POSTMARKS

Mr. C. D. Twynam has a well illustrated article on these in the February issue of "Gibbons' Stamp Monthly." A number of different types of postmark are given, with lists of offices where they were used. Some of those with letters or numerals but no place names are still awaiting identification.

Amongst these latter are marks of the Cape numeral bar type, of which some 22 numbers are given. Jurgens, in his writings on Cape postmarks, gives only one of these (854), remarking that it is not strictly of the 1864 type, the bars being thinner and wider spaced. Six of the numbers given are also recorded by Jurgens as used in the Cape; this double usage is, of course, quite a possibility as usage both in the Cape and in other territories outside the Cape is known. Fifteen of the numbers given are not identified as regards place of usage by Jurgens, so this may fill up some of his blanks (the majority are in the 800's). In Twynam's list only five offices of usage are identified and two of these are doubtful.

★

HUNGARY

Two new sets of stamps appeared in March; an air mail set on the 5th with views of various buildings, and on the 15th a so-called "Liberty Series" for ordinary postage. This latter features 10 different individuals who, at various times from 1437 till quite recently, advocated, struggled or fought for liberty and freedom.

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Rhodesian Censor Marks, Seals, and other War Markings 1939-46

By J. H. HARVEY PIRIE, F.R.P.S.L. and W. G. NODDER.

(Continued from page 38 of March issue)

10. Triple oval, no crown.

(a) Same as 8(b) between ovals, "Head-quarters / (date) / Office" in centre. In violet.

(b) "Rhodesian African Rifles Depot / Salisbury" between ovals, "Orderly / (date) / Room" in centre. In violet.

(c) "Rhodesian African Rifles Depot / Orderly Room" between ovals, "P.O. box 1482 / (date) Salisbury" in centre. In violet.

(d) "No. 2 Training Centre / S. Rhodesia" between ovals, "(date) / Bulawayo" in centre. In violet. Also occurs with Bulawayo above date.

(e) "No. 2 Training Camp / Bulawayo" between ovals, "P.O. box 1131" in centre. In blue or black.

(f) "Park River Training Camp / Umtali S. Rhodesia" between ovals, "Tel. No. 335 / (date)" in centre. In violet.

(g) "Technical Office / S.R.R.R. Umtali" between ovals, date in centre. In violet.

(h) "M.O. i/c No. 4 T.C. / Umtali" between ovals, a smudge (probably date) in centre. In violet.

(i) "B.S.A. Police / Fort Victoria" between ovals, "Radio / (date) / Communications" in centre. In violet.

(j) "B.S.A. Police / Essexvale" between ovals, date in centre. In violet. *Note:* These two Police marks we consider are correctly listed as military franks because the covers with them are marked "On Active Service" and the franks have an Officer's signature or initials in manuscript.

(k) "Military Aerodrome / Salisbury, S. Rhodesia" between ovals and "Tel. No. 3696 / (date)" in centre. In violet.

(l) "2nd/4th Btns. Rhodesia Regiment / Bulawayo" between ovals with "Quartermaster / (date) / Drill Hall" in centre. In violet.

(m) "Quartermaster / King George VI Barracks" between ovals with "(date) / Salisbury" in centre. In violet.

11. Triple circles.

"Battalion Orderly Room / Rhodesia Regiment" between circles and "1st Training Battalion / (date)" in centre. In violet.

12. Double oval with crown.

(a) "Asst. Provost-Marshall / signature in M/S / Official Free / P.O. box (248 in M/S) Umtali." In violet.

(b) Like (a) but with "(144 in M/S) Gwelo." In bluish-black.

(c) "Deputy Provost Marshal / Official Free / P.O. Box 803 / Bulawayo, S. Rhodesia"

in black and in violet.

(d) "Nervous Disorders Hospital / Official Free / P.O. box (number) / Bulawayo, S. Rhodesia." In violet.

13. Rectangle 44 x 38 mm., with "Deputy / Provost Marshal / S.R. / Military & Air Force / Police / P.O. box 803 / Phone No. 4023 / Agency Chambers / Bulawayo." In black.

C. Internment Camp Marks, all triple ovals.

(a) "No. 1 General / Internment Camp" between ovals, date in centre. In violet.

(b) "No. 1 (General) Internment Camp / Salisbury, S. Rhodesia" between ovals, date in centre. In purple. *Note:* At this camp female internees from the Union of South Africa were accommodated as well as local internees.

(c) "No. 3 Gatooma / Internment Camp" between ovals, date and/or signature in M/S in centre. In blue or grey-black.

(d) "No. 4 Umvuma / Internment Camp" between ovals, date in centre. In violet. *Note:* A cover from this Camp provides an interesting puzzle. It has on it a postmark of the type recorded by Mr. I. H. C. Godfrey and illustrated in the "S.A. Philatelist" of January, 1947, p. 16, as a mark in use at all East African Command P.O.W. camps. Actually the drawing illustrated was made from this specimen and the date is, as shown, 28 JUN 42. The cover is endorsed as from an Italian civil internee at Umvuma and was addressed to Asmara in Eritrea, the backstamp of that town being dated 30-7-42.

We interpreted this at first as signifying that the Internment camp at Umvuma was, perhaps in part, also a P.O.W. camp run by the East African Command. A note from Major L. E. Creasy of Salisbury assures us, however, that such was not the case—it was purely a Southern Rhodesian camp for internees.

A possible explanation would seem to be that the P.O.W. postmark was applied, say, in Nairobi, en route from Umvuma to Asmara.

II. NORTHERN RHODESIA

This territory has not provided us with many war markings, but, again, there are probably others that we have not come across and a record of them will be welcome.

Although not exactly coming under the title of our communication it may just be recalled to notice here that a Union of South Africa A.P.O. (No. 8) functioned at Broken Hill

from 1-7-40 to 19-7-41, the period when there was a steady stream of military vehicles and equipment up the Great North Road from the Union to Kenya. Also that later on an East African A.P.O. (No. 52) was stationed at Lusaka.

Military Censor Marks.

1. The type shown in Fig. 6 has been seen on an O.H.M.S. envelope with a Lusaka post-mark, dated 2 Dec., 1941.



Fig. 6

2. "Passed by Censor" in block letters 2.5 mm. high, 37 mm. long with a signature in M/S. In violet on a cover from Ndola (1943) which also shows the Rhodesian Air Training Group frank as in Fig. 4, Var. (c).

Civilian Censor Marks.

1. Similar to Fig. 2 of the S. Rhodesian series but with "PER 59" in place of "DE/3." In violet on a cover postmarked Chisamba. This mark is very doubtfully recorded as a N. Rhodesian one; it is more probably a British one as a similar mark with a PER number has been noted on a letter sent from Britain to the Union of South Africa. Also, this particular letter was addressed to N. Ireland and



Fig. 7

had, of course, to pass through Britain en route.

2. With "O/1" in place of "DE/3" as in Fig. 2, and a different shaped crown. See Fig. 7. Two varieties of this occur; (a) with the number inserted by hand in ink or pencil, and (b) with the number as part of the handstamp.

Of Var. (a) we have No. 2 in black from Livingstone, Nos. 7 and 12 in blue from Livingstone and of Var. (b) No. 1 in blue-black from Livingstone, No. 3 in blue from Mwinilunga and from Lusaka, and No. 3 in black from Mwinilunga.

It seems likely that other numbers, at least up to 12 exist, also that the users of the various numbers were located at different places throughout the country.

3. This type, Fig. 8, has been noted on covers posted in N. Rhodesia and on air

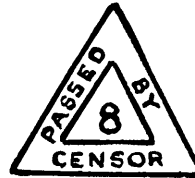


Fig. 8

covers passing through the territory from the Belgian Congo to the Union of South Africa.

No. 7 has been seen from Broken Hill (1941) in blue-black and No. 8 from Lusaka, on cover from there (1940) in bluish and on cover from the Belgian Congo (1940) in blue. Presumably other numbers and locations remain to be recorded.

Censor's Seal.

Only one specimen has come our way, on the cover just mentioned from Lusaka with Censor Mark No. 8 of Type 3. It is white with "Examined by / Censor No. . . .," the blanks in each instance being filled in by the Type 3 Censor's Mark.

Official Franks.

Only two have been noted.

(1) Triple oval with "Rhodesian Ferry Control Unit / Ndola" between ovals and "19 Jan 1946 / P.O. box 224" in centre. The cover also has the general Rhodesian Air Training Group frank of type shown in Fig. 4, Var. (c). In violet.

(2) Triple oval 56 x 38 mm. with "Director of Manpower / Broken Hill, Northern Rhodesia" between ovals and "R. Welensky / 30 Sep 1942" in centre, put in by a separate handstamp. In grey-black.



U.S.A. CENTENARY EXHIBITION

In connection with the International Exhibition being held in New York, 17-25 May, celebrating the 100th anniversary of the introduction of U.S.A. stamps, the following stamps, etc., are to be issued:

A 3c stamp in blue with portraits of Washington and Franklin, and illustrating the development of postal services, a Pony Express rider, early locomotive, modern locomotive, steamship and aeroplane. To be released at the Exhibition on 17th May.

A tricoloured souvenir sheet, costing 15c, with reproductions of the 1847 Franklin 5c stamp in blue and the 1847 Washington 10c stamp in red. To be released at the Exhibition on 19th May.

A stamped air envelope with a 5c red stamp, bearing profile likenesses of Washington and Franklin; "AIR MAIL" between them, and the design otherwise like the 3c stamp. To be released at the Exhibition on 21st May.

Special cancellations announcing the exhibition are already in use at various cities throughout the country. Thanks to Francis G. Gaudette for one from Boston, Mass.

NEW ZEALAND

Mr. Eric G. Cowell reports that, although the 1946 Health Stamps were not so well received as usual, the sales up to their last day on 28th February, set up another record—£88,000 as against £75,000 the year before.

On 1st May there will appear new values of the K.G. VI issue, 2d., 4d., 5d., 6d., 8d., 9d., 1s., 1s. 3d., 2s. and 3s., the three higher values being bicoloured. Collectors are a little disappointed at this reverting to a somewhat sombre portrait design after the magnificent world-wide reception given to their pictorial Victory set.

The set will, as usual, be overprinted for use in the various island dependencies and in Western Samoa.

The Postage Dues are likely to appear soon in changed colours; the 2d. on paper with the multiple watermark has just recently been put in use.

★

FEZZAN

Whitfield, King & Co's "Bulletin" announces a new French stamp-issuing territory, viz., Fezzan. This is a territory in the Sahara between Lake Tchad and Tripolitania, formerly in Italian occupation. There were provisionals issued when Gen. Leclerc marched through on his way to El Alamein (overprints on stamps of Italy and Libya), but there has now appeared a full pictorial set of 15, 10c up to 50f.

★

"REPRINTS"

We are interested to note that the following two articles which appeared in recent months in our columns have been reprinted overseas as follows:

(a) "David Turner—Engraver of the K.G. V Profile Portrait Dies of the Union of South Africa, of the Crown Colonies, and of India," by A. Hilton Sydow; in "Stamp Collecting" of 7th December, 1946.

(b) "Cape of Good Hope 'Official' Stamp," by S. Kassar; in "Linn's Weekly Stamp News" of 13th February, 1947.

★

B.P.A. EXPERTISING

The British Philatelic Association is expanding in its efforts to be of service to philatelists and is now prepared to have Societies affiliated so that members of these Societies shall have the use of their Expert Department on the same terms as collector members of the Association.

Subscription rates will be, annually, for societies with a membership of up to 50, one guinea; of from 51 to 100 members, two guineas; over 100 members, three guineas.

Each guinea paid will also entitle societies to one copy of the Association's journal "Philately."

Later on the Association hopes to be able to supply affiliated societies with lectures, slides, films, etc.

Applications or enquiries to be made to the B.P.A. at 3 Berners Street, London, W. 1.

NEW REPUBLIC

In "Stamps" of 22nd March, Mr Wiltsee describes and figures three combination covers with New Republic and Natal stamps, of which he is, and rightly so, very proud on account of their rarity and historical interest.

He makes a stupid mistake, however, in attributing the necessity for Natal stamps on these covers to carry them through Natal, to scorn on the part of that colony for their small Boer neighbour. He does not appear to be aware of such things as the regulations of the Universal Postal Union (to which the New Republic did not belong) nor of the fact that letters going to the neighbouring South African Republic had to be franked with its stamps in addition to those of the New Republic itself.

He is also in error in thinking he cleaned up the market of such covers when in South Africa in 1892-95; there are still a few in collections here.

★

BRITAIN'S "PEACE" STAMPS

The "British Philatelist" of February, 1947, has an article by Mr. W. A. Tester has a study of the Peace issue of 11th June, 1946, giving detailed information as to cylinder numbers, varieties, flaws, etc. These flaw marks seem to be just about as numerous as those we find on Union stamps; there is a good illustration of the best known of them—the "seven berries" on the 3d., stamp 71, cylinder 4, no stop. A similar flaw occurred on stamp 115 of this cylinder in the early stages of printing but was probably retouched out, as it is not constant.

NORFOLK ISLANDS

The Commonwealth Stamp Company reports that it is now definitely decided that this small group of islands in the Pacific are to have their own stamps. It was hoped they would appear in June, but there have been some delay and they will not be issued till later in the year. The total face value of the set will be about 6s., denominations ranging from ½d. to 2s. (Australian currency).

CURRENT UNION ½d. WITH BROWN-GREY CENTRE

Apropos our note in last month's issue (page 50), Mr. Robert E. Oakes, Manager of the African Collectors' Exchange, writes: "We received a pair of these from Westminster, O.F.S., and submitted them to Stanley Gibbons, who advised us these were the first they had seen and that they were giving them catalogue status . . . Since then, although keeping a special look-out for them we have only seen three more, which had an East London postmark."

[These East London specimens are a very definite brownish-grey. Later communications and specimens sent in by readers in various parts of the Union indicate that there is an erratic occurrence of a whole range of shades from a grey with just a tinge of brown to something which might be called a greyish brown rather than a brownish-grey.—Ed.]

HOLLAND

In reading through recent copies of the "Nederlandsche Maandblad voor Philatelie" the following items were noticed:

The 1ct, 3ct, and 4 ct denominations of the "Gull" type which had formerly been printed by the offset-litho process have now appeared printed in rotogravure.

The 5 ct of the "Konijnenburg" issue appears to have undergone a process of rejuvenation in that the latest copies are of a darker green, have the ear and the curl more clearly shown and are printed on a thinner paper.

A 50ct denomination of the Admiral's series was prepared, but due to the liberation of Southern Holland, where the artist who prepared the design was living at the time (Hubert Levigne—in Maastricht) the gravure could not be transmitted to Haarlem which was in the occupied zone.

Concerning the Admiral's series, some interesting particulars relating to the production are given. It had been announced in June, 1943, that a new series was contemplated of which the higher values would depict famous admirals from gravures prepared by the artists Kuno Brinks and Hubert Levigne and by the firm of J. Enschedé & Sons. The German authorities had desired that the designs consist of "folk" subjects, but the Post and Telegraph Directorate succeeded in persuading them to accept the designs later announced, the Germanic symbols remaining for the lower values.

The actual designers of the new stamps were the artists who had been responsible for the Social and Cultural Relief sets from 1939 onward, namely, Mrs. E. Reitsma-Valenca, Messrs. K. Brinks, S. L. Hartz, and H. Levigne. In consequence of the ever-increasing severity of the anti-Jewish measures, the Director-General of Posts and Telegraphs, a National Socialist, instructed that no Jews were to be allowed to work on the designs for stamps. The official charged with the aesthetic side of the production decided to ignore this, and allowed the persons concerned to continue their work in secret, for which the co-operation of the other artists, Brinks and Levigne, and that of the firm, Enschedé, was necessary. All agreed, and authorship of the gravures by Reitsma-Valenca and Hartz was assumed by Brinks and Levigne.

The design of the 17½ct, that of Willem Jozef van Ghent, was originally entrusted to Hartz, who was in hiding by then. Before the work could be completed he had to change his address rapidly and keep the new one secret; consequently the design was not available and Levigne had in all haste to prepare a new one.

Particulars of the Admirals series:

Value	Design and Gravure Designer-Engraver	Temporarily Assigned To	Prepared For Rotogravure By
7½ct	S. L. Hartz	K. Brinks	W. de Jonge
10ct	K. Brinks		W. van Dyk
12½ct	Mrs. E. Reitsma-Valenca	H. Levigne	J. Pander
15ct	Mrs. E. Reitsma-Valenca	H. Levigne	J. Bon
17½ct	H. Levigne		W. van Dyk
20ct	H. Levigne		W. van Dyk
22½ct	K. Brinks		J. Bon
25ct	K. Brinks		J. Pander
30ct	H. Levigne		J. Pander
40ct	S. L. Hartz		Typographed

Printing and numerals by J. van Krimpen.
J.W.S.

★

BRITISH PHILATELIC EXHIBITION, 1947

The B.P.A. in conjunction with the Philatelic Traders' Society, held a very successful exhibition in the Imperial Institute, S. Kensington over last New Year. They are now organising a still larger one to be held in the same place for the fortnight 23rd October—5th November, 1947, with a possibility of taking the show on tour through Britain after its London run.

The South African Philatelic Federation has been asked to co-operate with a South African exhibit.

★

NEWFOUNDLAND

Newfoundland, which has always been prolific in the way of Royal Family issues, is reported by cable to have issued a new 4c stamp on 21st April with a portrait of H.R.H. Princess Elizabeth. No previous notice of the issue seems to have been given.

Fine British Colonials:

Selections of the above are sent on approval to serious collectors against references.

- Range 1. Early issues, which can be selected from at one-third of catalogue price.
- Range 2. Modern issues (1900 on) in mint state, mostly at 50% off catalogue.
- Range 3. Modern issues (1900 on) superb used, mostly at 50% off catalogue.

J. BIRD, 116, Highlands Heath, London, S.W.15, England

SOCIETY NEWS

PRETORIA PHILATELIC SOCIETY

President, F. C. Ferguson; *Hon. Sec.*, H. Endeman, P.O. Box 514; *Meetings*, 1st and 3rd Mondays, 8 p.m., Technical College.

17th February: "Items of Interest." It was noted that Zummstein's Catalogue for 1947 advised the removal of gum from mint stamps for the sake of the stamps. Mr. J. Wilson read a paper on how to hinge stamps. Mr. Wright advocated the inclusion of postal stationery in collectors' orbits. Mr. Dodd exhibited an Argentine collection.

3rd March: This night was a visit from the Johannesburg Society at which Mr. Lang exhibited Ascension and St. Helena; Mr. Godfrey, a number of pages of his magnificently mounted Air Mail covers and stamps; Dr. Kaplan showed Austrian commemoratives; Mr. Buchen, German issues in occupied Poland, and Mr. Redford a number of gems from various parts of the British Empire.

There were in addition a large number of novelties shown.

17th March: Another visitors' evening, this time from the East Rand Society. Mr. Rigg showed an almost complete collection of Sarawak, prefaced by a paper thereon; Mr. Doyle exhibited his Portuguese Nyassas, also a number of high value British Colonials. Mr. Shepherd finished up with an exhibit of Cape Triangulars of a quality which was a surprise to our members.

Novelties were again a prominent feature.

I.E.

★

THE PHILATELIC SOCIETY OF JOHANNESBURG

President, Mr. L. Buchen; *Hon. Sec.*, Mr. J. H. Jenkins, P.O. Box 4967; *Meetings*, 2nd Tuesdays, Public Library, 7.45 p.m.

At the meeting held on 8th April, the West Rand Stamp Club provided the exhibits for the evening. Mr. J. Burrell, chairman of the West Rand Stamp Club, introduced the exhibitors.

Mr. W. Owens showed British Anniversary stamps. This exhibit was an almost complete one of the centenaries of the British Colonies. As Commander Enoch, who spoke on the exhibit pointed out, each stamp was in perfect condition, and the exhibit was well written up.

Mr. E. J. Sharpe showed Malay States and Straight Settlements. These included some of the rarer pre-war and post-war issues, including the rare obsolete items of the B.M.A. set. Mr. F. Ingham spoke on the exhibit.

Mr. J. Burrell showed Union Stamps from the large war issues onwards. In his introductory notes he explained that the photographs which illustrated the exhibit were kindly loaned by the Publicity Department of the Post Office. The exhibit included the unrouletted varieties of the ½d., 1d. and 1½d. values of the miniature issues. Mr. Burrell explained that the ½d. unrouletted variety had been loaned by Mr. H. Marcuson. Joined paper varieties were also included. Dr. Kaplan spoke on the exhibit.

I.I.

★

MARITZBURG PHILATELIC SOCIETY

Chairman, C. R. Turner; *Secretary*, R. Morton, P.O. Box 328, Pietermaritzburg; *Meetings*, 2nd Friday in each month at the Women's Club, 211 Burger Street.

On Friday, 11th April, both the Annual General Meeting and the ordinary meeting were held, and a good number of members attended.

The Annual Meeting was held first, and several changes in the Constitution were approved, one of these providing for the post of Assistant Honorary Secretary.

The election of office-bearers resulted in the Chairman, Vice-Chairman, and Hon. Secretary being re-

-elected, and Mr. Arbuckle was appointed Assistant Hon. Secretary.

Committee members are Dr. Dennison and Dr. Young.

The financial statement disclosed a healthy condition, revenue being in excess of expenditure for the past year.

The Chairman thanked all members for their support in the past year, and expressed the hope that 1947 would see the Society progress still further.

After the conclusion of the Annual General meeting, the ordinary monthly meeting was held, and the highlight of this was the display of Gambia embossed stamps by our Chairman. He surprised us all with the completeness of his exhibit which included a number of complete sheets of fifteen of most values.

In last month's notes Mr. C. M. Booysen in error referred to as Mr. C. M. Boshoff.

R.M.

★

CAPE TOWN PHILATELIC SOCIETY

President, C. G. Mummery; *Hon. Secretary*, S. Kaganson, P.O. Box 1973; *Meetings*, 2nd and 4th Thursdays at Yorkshire Buildings, Strand Street, at 7.30 p.m.

27th March: A very neat and well presented collection of Newfoundland issues was shown by Mr. D. Harris. The early issues were represented by picked specimens and mostly in very fine mint condition. There were, of course, a few empty spaces—six in all—which could only be filled at considerable expense as they are all three figure items.

Subsequent issues were in almost unbroken sequence, and included the rare imperfs. There was one item missing from the flown airmail covers, i.e., the scarce "Hawker," but all those exhibited were in first-class condition, and in some cases supplemented by mint copies. It is rare for the reporter to be able to summarise a display by merely mentioning the items missing from the complete issues, but it was possible in this instance. A really first-class show, and Mr. Harris is to be congratulated on being the possessor of it.

10th April.—Mr. Kaganson showed his collection of Victory issues, which was complete with the exception of Pitcairn and the Falkland Islands Dependencies. Once again there was plenty of time to give the collection a proper look over for it was only half the size of the usual displays, and the several items of interest could be inspected at greater leisure.

G.H.G.

★ ★ ★

MOZAMBIQUE—A CORRECTION

Last month we made a stupid mistake in transcribing the report given us by the Robertson Stamp Co., about the new air tax receipt stamps. The value for cash paid is not put in separately by typewriter; it is printed in black at a separate operation from the printing of the stamps themselves.

★

A GOLD COAST OFFER

A Johannesburg collector has shown us a letter received from Accra in which a £50,000 item is offered for only £2,000. The item in question is a British K.G. V light blue 10d. stamp used along with a K.G. VI light red 1d. in 1939.

The offerer considers this combined use of stamps featuring father and son is worth at least £50,000 but, subject to its being unsold, he is prepared to accept £2,000. Offers have reached £1,800, but he sticks out for £2,000, and he adds "if you know the philatelic game well, you will surely be able to get from £20,000 to £40,000 for it."

Well, you may still be in time! We can supply the seller's name and address, but only to serious prospective buyers! !

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Whole No. 267

CORRESPONDENCE

An Unrecorded Perforation Variety in the Union King's Head 1/- (S.G.19)

Sir,—I shall be interested to know, through the columns of your journal, if any Union specialist has noted a second gauge of perforation in the Union King's Head series of 1913-1926. The only gauge I have seen mentioned in any of the Union handbooks (including the excellent monograph by Dean Lobbell) is the comb perforation, 14 x 14.

Thanks to a reference in the new Union catalogue (page 20) to a variety of the 1s. value with wider spacing in vertical margins, I turned to my own specimens of this unusual setting. It is a block of four, the margin being 2 mm. wide at the top between the upper pair and tapering down evenly to 1.5 mm. at the bottom of the lower pair. My attention was caught by the intersection of the perforation rows in the centre of the block which have the characteristic of line perforating, but are more probably identical with the adjusted comb perforation common to the later settings of the larger London pictorials (14 x 13½).

On measuring the gauge of the vertical perforation rows I found it to be 13¼ (13.65 on the "Instanta" gauge) as against the usual 14.00. The horizontal perforation is unchanged. The stamps have the water-mark inverted.

After establishing beyond doubt a broader vertical gauge, I looked for the same thing on all other values of the series, without success, but I found the same gauge on another 1s. stamp, a single specimen. The corners again exhibited the same characteristic of doubled perforation holes at the intersection. And the watermark was again inverted!

The block referred to above shows extreme wear of the printing plate, especially on the right-hand vertical pair, whose side ornaments are only faintly discernible. Is it possible that wear of the plates in later years

caused a loosening with consequent irregularity of margins that could only be properly perforated by another adjustable comb gauging 14 x 13¼?

Yours, etc.,
PATRICK RIORDAN.

★

S. RHODESIA—LAST OF THE "VICTORIES"

The last of the British Empire "Victory" issues appeared on 8th May, the 2nd anniversary of V.E. Day. The set has a particu-



larly attractive lot of portraits of the Royal Family. Thanks to Mr. J. F. Davidson for a day of issue special cover prepared by the Philatelic Society of Rhodesia.

★

BRITISH COLONIALS

Barbados.—A 1d. provisional was expected to be on sale on 21st April.

Cayman Is.—The present 2½d. and 3d. stamps are reversing in colour.

Nigeria.—The 3d. is reverting to blue, the 4d. being thus replaced by it.

Sarawak.—"Cypher" overprints was due to be released in London on 8th May.

—Commonwealth Stamp Coy.

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1912/22. MCA. 50R (59) mint	375/0
1935/36. Sc. 1c to £1 mint set of 14	150/0
1935/36. Sc. 1/- Perf. 13 x 11½—used	90/0
1935/36. £1 (123) used	105/0
LAGOS. 1887/1903. CA. 2d. to 10/- (30/41) complete mint set	160/0
NIGERIA. 1914/26. MCA. £1 (14) mint	55/0
1921/32. Sc. 10/- (24) mint	25/0
1936. 3d. Perf. 12½ x 13½ (38a) mint	120/0
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S. LEONE. 1893. ½d. on 1½d. Inverted surcharge (39) mint	67/6
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Union of South Africa—The Royal Visit Stamps

By G. N. GILBERT.

Now that the historical visit of the Royal Family to this country has passed, and the special issue of stamps to commemorate the occasion has been withdrawn, a few notes on the issue, and on the special cancellations used on the Royal Train and by the G.P.O. Pretoria may be of interest, especially to overseas readers.

Full details of the issue have appeared in the philatelic press, and it is hardly worth while repeating them here.

I wish rather to note the difference in the two printings of the 2d. and to list the few varieties and more obvious flaws of the issue, and also to touch on the varieties of the cancellations used on The Royal Train and those used by the special Department in the G.P.O., Pretoria.

I would like to start by congratulating the Printing Works for the general excellence of the issue.

The stamps are well printed, and the photographic reproductions of the Royal Family are most pleasing and faithful in their detail, which is more than one can say of the designs and reproduction of some of the neighbouring territories.

There are the usual minor spots and dots which seem inseparable from the rotogravure process as used in this country, but these are not numerous, except in the first printing of the 2d., and the 1d. denomination is particularly free from any worth mentioning.

If I had to criticise, it would be that, in my opinion, a wonderful opportunity was missed in not making the 2d. and 3d. denominations even more attractive than they are, by the use of two colours. You have only to visualise the 1d. printed in carmine only, to see what I mean.

As far as I know at present, there have been no major varieties reported in the issue.

The watermarks have so far appeared normal and upright, and I have not seen or heard of any joined paper varieties.

The best major variety reported seems to be the partially printed headplate in the 1d., particulars and photo of which appeared in the "Rand Daily Mail" recently, but this was apparently only on one sheet.

I have also seen a partial offset on the gum in the 1d. denomination. Now to take the three denominations in turn.

The 1d. Denomination

The 1d., as I have mentioned, is almost free of any constant flaws or blemishes, but there are just a few which I had best mention perhaps to satisfy those who are interested in these minor blemishes. They are:

White scratch down touching edge of King's cap on No. 11 Row 3.

Hairline just above King's right shoulder on No. 12, row 7.

Small blister on edge of left bottom margin level with tree on No. 7 row 10.

Dot in left headplate level with King's chin, No. 6 row 15 and several minute dots in background and King's chin in adjoining stamp.

Red dot in o of South, No. 12, row 15.

White dot on bottom of u of South, No. 5 row 20.

Beyond this there are a few streaks, etc., probably caused by the ink scraper and which occur in every issue of the rotogravure printings in this country, but which are not worth mentioning.

The 2d. Denomination

When we come to the 2d., there is material for quite an interesting study. When the Royal Visit stamps were first put on sale on the 17th of February, the sheets issued in practically every post office in the Union were printed from the cylinder we now know was No. 39, and which was actually the second, or "B," printing as Mr. Sheffield calls it in last month's issue of the "S.A. Philatelist."

At the same time, the Union Royal stamps appeared overprinted S.W.A. in South West Africa, and it did not take long to discover that the 2d. sheets appearing in the Union, and those overprinted S.W.A. were quite definitely from two different cylinders.

The sheets overprinted S.W.A. were far brighter in appearance and there were two or three obvious flaws which appeared in the one and not in the other.

This was confirmed by the official report in the "S.A. Philatelist" from the Printing Works, that two cylinders had been used for the printing of the 2d., and that the sheets from Cylinder 6912 were taken for overprinting S.W.A. and were from the first printing.

So the 2d. stamps issued in the Union during the first month of the issue's life were, on the whole, from the second printing, and from cylinder No. 39.

Also, from my own experience, during a motor tour through the O.F.S. and the Cape during the last days of the issue, I only found two post offices which had the first printing on sale. I shall be interested to hear if this holds true for other parts of the Union.

Two Printings—General Distinguishing Appearances

They can, to a great extent, be sorted out by their general appearance. The commoner printing from cylinder 39 is, on the whole,

rather flat in appearance. The highlights are shaded, and the detail does not stand out as clearly as in the sheets printed from cylinder 6912.

In this latter printing, detail shows up clearly, highlights are white or near white, and it is definitely a more attractive stamp. One cannot, however, go completely on this, as I have seen sheets of the commoner Plate 39 which are almost as bright as the first printing plate 6912, and whether these are from a printing after cleaning the cylinder or merely lighter inking, is a moot point.

Two Printings—Specific Distinguishing Features

Luckily there are certain characteristics which settle any doubt as to which printing is which.

Firstly, in the commoner plate 39 printing, the scroll on which South Africa, Suid Afrika is printed in solid colour throughout. In the first printing from cylinder 6912, the lettering stands out on a narrow band of colour, with lighter bands top and bottom. This is 99 per cent. true, but care is wanted in taking this only as proof of the printing, as I have seen a sheet of under-inked cylinder 39 printing on which several stamps showed almost the same appearance.

Secondly. In the first printing (cylinder 6912) there are nine tiny dots in the centre of the protea flower on the left. In the second and commoner printing there are only eight.

Thirdly. In the second printing (cylinder 39) there is a tiny break in the loop at the end of the scroll on the left, near where it joins the scroll or ribbon, on *every Afrikaans*



stamp (but *not* on the English stamp). This does not occur in the first printing.

Any two of these characteristics together with the general appearance of the stamp should make identification of the cylinder from which it was printed easy.

There are one or two other slight differences also. If you have a pair showing the top marginal central arrow, if the top of the arrow slopes to the left, it is from cylinder 39, if it slopes slightly to the right it is from cylinder 6912. There are also differences in the control numbers in the right hand margins.

The second printing (cylinder 39) is the only one with control numbers in black (which run up to five figures), as well as control numbers in red, which run up to the usual four figures.

The first printing has the red control numbers up to four figures, so if you have a black control, you have a block from the second printing.

Flaws

Here I must say I find myself in difficulties. Whether one should risk wrecking on the Scylla of listing every microscopical mark, which probably 99 per cent. of readers do not want, or the Charybdis of recording too few, and landing the Editor into getting irate letters complaining that I have left out the reader's pet flymark—that is the question.

Actually there are numerous dots and marks in the first printing which by their presence do definitely prove the printing, as I have not found one common one for both printings, and so I feel I must err on the side of prodigality if anything.

I am therefore listing all those fairly plain to the naked eye and which do assist in pinning down the printing. I only ask that readers will not think they are all collectable items. There are only about half a dozen interesting enough to be collectable in the whole issue. Those I consider the important ones are printed in bolder type:

Row.	No.	Flaws in the two printings of the 2d.	Plate 1 6912.	Plate 2 39.
Row 1	No. 1	Two scratches in bottom left corner under scroll and dot left of King's right ear	X	—
		Stroke under Coat of Arms	—	X
	2	Flaw on Queen's right temple	—	X
	3	Light smudge across King's coat over medals	X	—
	6	Dot left of King's head level with top of forehead	X	—
Row 2	No. 4	Dot on edge of scroll under H A	X	—
Row 3	No. 1	Dot in centre of Queen's forehead	X	—
	4	Flaw on right top edge of 1947 scroll	X	—
Row 4	No. 2	Small white flaw over King's head near margin	X	—
	5	Flaw in right margin level with stop under 2d	X	—
Row 5	No. 1	Hairline shaped like wishbone in background just over King's right shoulder	X	—
	3	Dot left of Coat of Arms	X	—
Row 7	No. 1	Dot left of Queen's hair	—	X
	3	Large oblong flaw left of scroll near margin	X	—
	6	Dark patch just above and to left of 2d	—	X
Row 8	No. 6	Dark patch just left of the toe of 2d	—	X
Row 9	No. 2	Dot left of the end of Scroll	X	—
	5	Cut on Queen's blouse near right arm	—	X
Row 10	No. 4	Dot on Queen's left cheek, and an almost circular mark in background over and to right of Queen's head	X	—
	5	Dark mark above King's head	—	X
	6	Large flaw on top of 2	X	—

Row.	No.	Flaws in the two printings of the 2d.	Plate 1 6912	Plate 2 39
		Circular scratch which starts in the bottom of No. 6, Row 9, goes through No. 6, Rows 10 and 11, through Queen's head and blouse	X	—
Row 12	No. 1	Dark mark under I of Africa	—	X
"	" 2	Dot on edge of left margin level with scroll	—	X
"	" 4	Scratch or line down from Queen's right ear to shoulder	—	X
		White stroke thro' A F.		
"	" 4	Dot in Queen's blouse near right arm	X	—
Row 13	No. 1	One dot on blouse and one on Queen's right arm	X	—
"	" 3	Two dots on Queen's right arm	—	X
"	" 6	Several minute dots on Queen's face, blouse and background, with one larger just on edge of right shoulder	X	—
Row 14	No. 1	Line under Postage	X	—
"	" 2	Dash right of the d in 2d	X	—
"	" 5	Small dash under SS of Posseel, and dot left of King's right ear, and near left margin level with protea.	X	—
"	" 2	Small apostrophe in date scroll between 19 and 47	X	—
"	" 5	Dot just above edge of King's left shoulder	X	—
"	" 5	Dot close to Queen's necklace	—	X
"	" 5	White streak from 4 of 1947 to left protea, and spot below King's eye.	X	—
"	" 5	Hairline under S of Suid	X	—
Row 15	No. 3	Dot above King's head and line on Queen's blouse near necklace	X	—
Row 16	No. 3	Two dots top left corner and one dot right of Queen's head	X	—
"	" 4	Dot above King's head near hair	X	—
Row 17	No. 3	Line from buck in Coat of Arms to left margin	X	—
"	" 4	Scratch across AF in Afrika	—	X
"	" 6	Dash and tiny dot on Queen's left arm	X	—
Row 18	No. 2	Dot over King's left shoulder	X	—
"	" 3	Dot right of Posseel	X	—
"	" 4	Dot under Queen's left eye	X	—
Row 19	No. 3	Dark mark above King's head and to right	—	X
Row 20	No. 1	Large dot above buck in Coat of Arms	X	—
"	" 4	Hairline over left corner of 1947, line between King and Queen's heads. Dot in Queen's blouse	X	—
"	" 6	Dot above right buck's horn in Coat of Arms and dot to right of d in 2d, several minute dots all over background and Queen	X	—

3d. Denomination.

The 3d. was printed from one cylinder only, No. 17. It appears, however, that stocks ran out and another printing was made towards the end of the issue's life.

The only difference to be noted is that this later printing is lighter in shade and more of an ultramarine.

There are a few noticeable flaws in the issue, and two or three of them are in the collectable class.

There is one rather peculiar irregularity, and that is the "white curl" which occurs only on some

stamps and rows—at the bottom of Princess Margaret's hair on the right-hand side. This occurs on Row 5, No. 6, Row 13, No. 2, 3, and Rows 14 to 20, Nos. 1 to 5 only.

It is rather difficult to explain how and why this occurs.

I have not seen the "D" ornament mentioned by Mr. Sheffield last month as occurring on Row 1, No. 4, so must conclude it is not constant.

Here follows the constant flaws I have found, the more important being distinguished as in the case of the 2d. stamps.

Row	No.	Constant flaws of the 3d. denomination.
Row 1	No. 1	Dot in buck's neck.
"	" 2	"Beauty spot" on Princess Elizabeth's forehead, and smaller ditto under her right eye.
"	" 5	Dot under Princess Margaret's necklace.
Row 2	No. 1	Dark mark just right of Princess Margaret's hair.
"	" 3	Dot in Princess Elizabeth's left arm.
"	" 4	Dot in Princess Elizabeth's left shoulder.
"	" 6	Gash through Princess Elizabeth's left arm.
"	" 6	Line under crown from top of Princess Elizabeth's head to Princess Margaret's hair.

Row.	No.	Constant flaws of the 3d. denomination.
Row 3	No. 2	Dark mark right of Princess Elizabeth's neck.
"	" 3	Dot to right of Princess Margaret's hair and dot near Princess Elizabeth's cheek.
"	" 4	Dot on Princess Elizabeth's dress, near centre.
"	" 6	Gash through Princess Elizabeth's left arm.
Row 4	No. 6	Clump of three small dots under Princess Elizabeth's necklace and one higher to right.
Row 5	No. 3	Dark mark down through foot of 3 and white spot to right of Princess Elizabeth's head.
"	" 4	Dot just above Princess Elizabeth's left armpit.
"	" 5	Large dot between crown and Princess Elizabeth's hair.
Row 6	No. 3	Line up from buck's right horn to P of Posseel.
Row 7	No. 4	Dark circular mark between the Princesses' arms.
Row 8	No. 2	Large dot on Princess Margaret's left cheek.
"	" 5	Large circular "stain" above Princess Elizabeth's head near top margin.
Row 9	No. 1	Break in top of d of 3d.
"	" 2	Small dot in Princess Elizabeth's forehead, between eyes.
"	" 5	Curly hairline in Princess Margaret's right arm.
Row 10	No. 2	White flaw near top margin to right of Princess Elizabeth's head.
Row 16	No. 5	Two largish spots in edge of Princess Margaret's hair, on left.
Row 17	No. 1	Dot in Princess Elizabeth's left cheek, near ear.
"	" 6	Dot in Princess Margaret's dress and close by, in Princess Elizabeth's blouse.
Row 18	No. 4	Dot just under O of South and tiny dot in Princess Elizabeth's left arm.
Row 19	No. 1	Dot just left of Princess Margaret's nose.
"	" 2	Smudge across Princess Elizabeth's eyes.
Row 20	No. 5	Dark mark left of Princess Elizabeth's hair.
"	" 6	Cut on Princess Margaret's forehead.

Special Cancellations.

As most readers will know, the Postal Authorities arranged to have a special staff to deal with philatelists' requirements in first day covers and covers to be cancelled with the special Royal Visit date stamp, and these could be got by sending up either the money for the stamps or already stamped and addressed envelopes to Room 15, G.P.O., Pretoria.

The Pretoria cancellations and those used on the Royal Train are, to the general observer's eye, identical.

Both are two ovals with the wording in English and Afrikaans, or in Afrikaans and English, and the date in the centre. Above the oval is the Union Coat of Arms.

There are, however, slight differences in the date-stamps used, and this is all to the good, as otherwise it would be impossible to differentiate between genuine un-registered Royal Train covers and those cancelled to order in Pretoria.

Also there would be nothing to stop unscrupulous persons from obtaining a copy of the Royal Train rubber Registration cachet, and turning the ordinary Pretoria cancelled covers into Registered Royal Train covers.

There are slight differences in the width between the two ovals (4½-5 mm.) and in the size of the letters (2-3 mm.) but the specific differentiating feature is in the ornaments between the upper and the lower lettering.

These were described and figured in the May issue of the "S.A. Philatelist," so I need only briefly recapitulate them here.

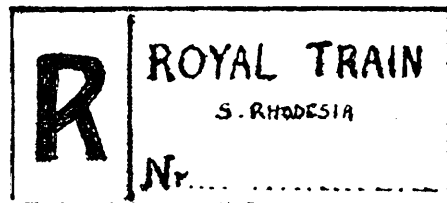
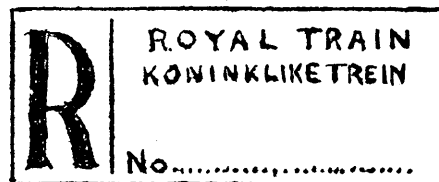
The Pretoria marks have an open oblong in the Afrikaans-first canceller and a small open circle in the English-first one. Incidentally, these cancellers were used not only on first day covers but right throughout the period of issue of the stamps.

As regards "Royal Train" postmarks, it should be explained that, postally speaking, this term included two trains and three post office. There was (1) the "White Train," on which the Royal Party and their immediate entourage travelled; its P.O. was reserved for those on that train and its marks are probably the scarcest. (2) The "Pilot Train" with other personnel accompanying the tour. It had (a) a P.O. reserved for cables and telegraphs, its mark not being seen on ordinary postal items, and (b) a general P.O.; although the public were not admitted to it, letters specially sent in to Pretoria for "Royal Train" cancellations were handled by it.

The Pilot train P.O. marks have an open lozenge in the Afrikaans-first canceller and a Maltese Cross in the English-first one.

The White Train mark (English-first wording) has a small solid square.

The special telegraph office on the Pilot



Train is reported to have had an Afrikaans-first mark with a small open triangle, but this has not been seen on ordinary postal covers.

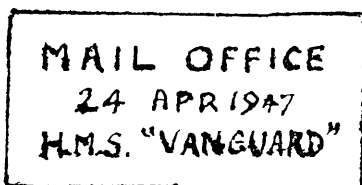
First and Last Days of the Train Cancellations are respectively 21.II.47 and 20.IV.47.

The registration marks as used on the Royal Train in the Union and S. Rhodesia are illustrated herewith, natural size. Strictly speaking, the Union mark is the one used on the Pilot Train; whether that of the White Train is identical I do not know. There is a variety of the Union mark in which the line of dots has two missing after the first one and there is a smudge and marks just above the "No." and line of dots.

Major L. E. Creasy, of Salisbury, writes that the special "Royal Tour" cancellations were used both on and off the Royal Train. He has them in purple, in black and in blue. The last is in conjunction with a Royal Train registration mark, also in blue.

Two other marks in connection with the Royal Visit may be mentioned:

(1) From H.M.S. "Vanguard" on the day of sailing from Cape Town.



(2) From the King's Flight. This has been seen in purple both on "On Service" covers without stamps and on covers with Royal Visit stamps.

A few notes sent to the Editor, and forwarded by him to me, are incorporated without specific reference to the names of the senders.

I would like to finish up by giving a word of appreciation to the Postal staff of the G.P.O. Pretoria for the courteous and efficient way they dealt with collectors' requirements, and that goes for the majority of the various town and country post office staffs as well. They had a hectic time of it for some weeks, and had every reason to heartily dislike every philatelist, but in nearly every case, they were pleasant and helpful.

Do As We Do.

We have been retailing stamps for many years now; its almost a decade as a matter of fact, since we switched over to the sale exclusively of **KG VI stamps** and we are still thanking our lucky stars that we took the step. We are often asked which stamps we consider the best investment; after 30 years of stamp retailing in the British market (just about the most competitive in the world) we are supposed to know, but unlike the apocryphal parson, who is supposed to have said, "don't do as I do; do as I say," we reply do as we do and you also won't regret. That little homily is addressed to those collectors who have been contemplating the very pleasant task of amassing KG VI issues, but there are also all those myriads who are already collecting them and to one and all we would like to emphasize that our price list (a copy will be sent by air mail, if applied for by air letter) is the most comprehensive we know. We don't indulge in flights of fancy and offer "stamps," which may be adopted one day, but offer you the finest range of KG VI issues that you will find anywhere. Advanced collectors, or beginners will find stamps they need, at prices they will be more than willing to pay, and our service is such, that we deliver your stamps as promptly as you can get them at home. **Just send that air letter, if you are interested in KG VI issues.**

The Commonwealth Stamp Coy.,
7, Leather Lane, Liverpool 2: England.

Reviews and Notices

"THE ACE—African Collectors' Exchange Year Book," 1946-7.

We have received this from Mr. Robert E. Oakes, of P.O. Box 5403, Johannesburg.

Judging from the long list of members in every part of the world, this is evidently a go-ahead and live organisation for stamp exchanging. We note they are wishful of specialising in first day covers of the British Empire, wanting 100 of every new issue from now onwards.

STANDARD CATALOGUE OF THE POSTAGE STAMPS OF THE UNION OF SOUTH AFRICA. Edited by A. E. Basden and L. Simenhoff. Published by the Philatelic Federation of Southern Africa.

This eagerly awaited catalogue, the first publishing effort of the Federation, has at last appeared, after many irritating delays. Printed by the Knox Printing and Publishing Co. of Durban, we can say right off, it is well printed, neatly bound, on good art paper on which the illustrations, on the whole, show up well.

It is not merely a Check List and Priced Catalogue of Union adhesive stamps, but has sections dealing with practically every aspect of Union philately.

Opening with sections on Essays, Proofs and Specimens, it then lists Inter-provincials before passing on to the various issues of postage stamps, as far as the Victory issue. Then come Officials, Postage Dues, Unions used abroad, Adhesive Parcel labels and Postal Stationery (Post Cards, Letter Cards, Air Letters, Stamped Envelopes, Registered Envelopes and Newspaper Wrappers). About the only other thing that could have been included would have been the various types of Meter Posts authorised for use in the Union. This widening of scope beyond mere adhesives is, we consider, all to the good.

Now for some criticisms that we have heard made or feel we should make. These are offered, not in any carping spirit, but in the belief that they may lead to something even better in the future. We hear the printing is already nearing being sold out, so a second edition may be called for. All readers and users of the catalogue should make a note of errata or omissions they may observe, or of any suggestions for improvement; if they do not know where to send their notes, the Editor of this paper would be willing to collect them and store them for future use.

In the first place, we would like to see the price mentioned in the Catalogue, also where copies can be obtained. Notices in the "S.A. Philatelist" are not enough and do not reach everywhere.

A general impression abroad is that there is too much material for a catalogue. The in-

roduction mentions the lack of a handbook giving full details of the Union's stamps, and states that explanatory and descriptive matter in the catalogue has been cut to a minimum. Nevertheless there is more of it than should appear in a catalogue, although in the circumstances it may have been necessary, or, at any rate, advisable.

The solution would, therefore, seem to be a full handbook and a shorter catalogue.

Improvement in lay-out is wanted in some places, as it is often difficult to find out just what stamp is being referred to. It is easy enough with, say, the King's Heads on p. 13, but look at the difficulty on, say, p. 46. The normal item and its number might be in bolder type or spaced to the left; the possibility of giving (when possible) the S.G. numbers in brackets might also be considered.

The system of indexing the stamps and the various varieties thereof is an ingenious one, and on the whole we like it as being thoroughly logical. It has not been quite systematically followed out, however. In the Georgians there are first the normals and shades, then the roll stamps, then the watermark varieties and so on; the Pictorials have the normals and all varieties of each denomination grouped together before going on to the next denomination. The latter plan would seem on the whole to be the better one.

A few illustrations; e.g., Jubilee and Coronation varieties, would be better replaced by line drawings or diagrams—the photographs do not, and probably cannot, bring out what is desired.

Pricing on the whole reflect the market here; the ridiculous high figures for freak items of earlier catalogues are cut out; views that prices are too high and others that they are too low seem to cancel each other out and indicate that they are on the whole fair. There are inconsistencies here and there, e.g., Why should No. 16 (£1) be £8 and a corner pair with plate number be £15? Also, if the strut variety of the 9d. airmail stamp, of which there were 464, be worth £4, then surely the strut variety, imperf. at the left, of which there were only 12, should surely be worth more than £18.

As a general criticism it might be said there are too many minor varieties included—all right in a full handbook, perhaps, but in a catalogue they reek of over-specialisation which makes a country unpopular. Any variety which is indicative of something such as printing from a different plate or cylinder, but too many dot and dash varieties which are indicative of nothing in particular only tend to discredit a country.

Finally, in spite of being critical, we can congratulate the editors on a very useful bit of very hard work well done. We fancy they would be the first to admit that there is still room for improvement.

NORWAY

On April 15 a set of eleven values was issued in commemoration of the 300th anniversary of the setting up of a postal system.

SPECIAL EXCHANGE OFFER

for our Customers
in South Africa

If you need pictorials, we give you :

- (a) equal quantity and quality of only large sized, mostly war and post-war European pictorials against pictorials or low values of the dues and officials from South Africa, or against any stamp from South-West Africa.
- (b) 1,000 large sized European pictorials as above or one packet 500 different Hungary for each 10,000 common stamps—2-5 kinds in unequal quantities—South Africa.
- (c) 100 x 50 different large sized European pictorials against 200 x 25 different from South Africa and South-West Africa.

If you need packet-material, we give you

- (d) 1,000 x 5 different Hungary against 100 x 5 different South Africa.
- (e) 1,000 x 15 different Hungary against 2,000 x 8 different South Africa.
- (f) 1,000 x 50 different Hungary against 4,000 x 12 different South Africa.
- (g) 1,000 x 100 different world against 10,000 x 10 different South Africa.
- (h) 100 x 5 different San Marino against 100 x 5 different South-West Africa.

If you need sets, send your surplus stock of common stamps, we pay the best prices, and we send you wholesale approvals as your wants; better grade sets, singles, new issues in complete or short sets, packets by countries, short sets and pictorials for boy's trade, etc., at our lowest nett prices. Let us know your needs regarding prices and countries. Money back guaranteed.

We are able to use up to 100,000 of each kind of stamp from the same customer. Both sides postfree, send please detailed invoice by airmail. We receive and give you the packets only, not made up, also in bundles or sheets. We don't want stamps of better grade or mint sets, we want only the cheapest packet material. If you have others in hand as mentioned in this advertisement, let us know your offers or send them with your wishes with confidence.

Over twenty years in the business.

Best references in all parts of the world.

KISS LAJOS,
WHOLESALE STAMP DEALER,
BUDAPEST IV,
Hungary Karilyi-pal-utca 9.

New Arrivals and Special Offers :

- 15 Hungary 1945, billions and billions of Pengos, curious set, price 1/6
- 6 Colombia 1946, beautiful Orchids set, mint 2/6
- 4 Egypt 1946, Cont. Arts Congress, epl. mint 6/6
- 24 U.S.A., collection of Commemos. and Airs issued since 1944 to date, mint 8/6
- 48 South Africa. The complete collection of Xmas Seals 1929-1946, incl. Tete-beche pairs, and the rare 1933 issue with watermark. Mounted in booklet. A very special offer of unusual interest 21/0
- 100 different Brazil Commemos. and Airs. An amazing variety of large pictorials, and exceptionally good value at only 25/0

Nett, c.v.o., Post Free.

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



WANTED 3440

To complete my World Collection of Normals from the first issue of every country to 1933 issues (inclusive). Mint or good used, one copy of each only.

Watermark and perforation varieties; errors and shades not required.

Last month no special assistance was received from any quarter.

Many vacant plots in Indian Native States and Salvador.

Want list of any country upon application.

Good prices for good copies.

E. HUNT,
Box 2437, Johannesburg.

Collectors' Wants & Offers

(Threepence per word per insertion with minimum of 3/- per insertion).

Beginners and medium collectors — try our approval service.

Benoni Stamp Shop, Box 485, Benoni.

Control Strips of Union and Transvaal, also mint blocks and rarities.

E. Tamsen, Box 13, Nylstroom.

Seychelles Wanted. Full catalogue price offered for fine used copies of Stanley Gibbons numbers 85, 90, 91, 92A to 101, 103, 104, 107, 110 to 120, 121, 122, 122A, 123A, 125, 141, 142, 145.

William Redford, Box 7012, Johannesburg.

Wanted: Royal Train covers with any of the following dates, February 22nd, 24th to 27th. March 5th, 6th, 13th, 18th and 26th. Will exchange registered Royal Train covers dated March 9th, or purchase. Also want to buy cover flown by King's Flight-R.A.F. Apply, G. N. Gilbert, Box 15, Westminster.

Austrian wants exchange on basis of philatelically franked letters (Air Mail Registered Special Issues), equal value on letters from Austria; later also exchange of new issues. Correspondence: English, French, German. Josef Wiche, Vienna 13, Gogolgasse 14.

For Sale.—(1) Probably the greatest and most representative collection of O.F.S. extant. (2) A very large and representative collection of Brazil, including 27 bullseyes (four 90 reis), sloping figures including 180, 300 and 600 reis and many other valuable items. (3) A useful collection of Greece (260 pages), including used abroad on covers and other valuable items. (4) A very fine and valuable collection of Portuguese East Africa. A. E. Basden, 109 Killarney, Brickhill Road, Durban.

John P. Shingler,

B.P.A.

POSTAGE STAMP DEALER,

27 Terminus St., East London, C.P.

NEW ZEALAND.

Mint Health Stamps: 1935, 2/3; 1936, 1/9; 1937, 2/-; 1938, 2/-; 1939, 4/6; 1940, 7/6; 1941, 3/6; 1942, 1/6; 1943, 1/-; 1944, 9d.; 1945, 8d.; 1946, 6d.

Mint Coronation, 1/6; Express Delivery, 6d., 1/-.

1940 Centennial Set, Mint, 25/-; Fine Used 22/6.

1946 Peace Issue (11 Values) Mint 5/9; Fine Used 6/-.

1946 Peace Issue (12 Values) Mint 6/-; Fine Used 7/-.

New Zealand Dependencies.

Due Shortly: New issue of 14 stamps (King's Head Portraits Face Value 10/7) 11/3.

S.A. Philatelic Association: Write for details of this Postal Exchange Club.

BELGIAN CONGO

A new series of air mail stamps is predicted, to replace those which have been current since 1934.

WE WISH TO BUY SETS PACKETS KILOWARE SINGLE STAMPS

As the largest wholesale stamp firm in the United States, we are constant buyers, in large wholesale quantities, of all kinds of postage stamps.

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The Air Letters of Southern Rhodesia

By L. E. CREASY.

Looking back at the postal arrangements of the British Empire during the war years, one is struck by the enormous growth of two forms of Air Mail communication, (1) the Airgraph, and (2) the Air Letter Services.

These two services have this in common—they both started as a means of providing cheap and rapid communication between Servicemen (and women) and their relatives and friends at home at a time when, owing to war conditions, great difficulty was being experienced by the authorities in providing the necessary postal facilities for the vast number of people who were separated from their homes by the exigencies of the conflict. However, as time went on, it was found possible to extend both these services to include purely civilian mail—a concession that was greatly appreciated and supported.

The Airgraph Scheme, which is outside the scope of this article, was of inestimable value while it lasted, but was, of course, purely a war-time measure. Its chief objections were, perhaps: (1) its lack of privacy, and (2) the impersonal nature of its communications. Therefore the system was a short-lived one which arose from the exigencies of the war and was abandoned as soon as these conditions no longer applied.

On the other hand, the Air Letter Service, which started as an "Active Service Letter Card" system, did not share the same fate and is, indeed, in these so-called days of peace, equally as popular as it was during the war. It is, I think, likely that this service will continue until such time as the "All-Up" Empire Air Scheme, which was suspended at the commencement of hostilities, can again be brought into operation.

In this article I propose to deal with the Air Letter Services of Southern Rhodesia only, but the gradual expansion of the service as outlined here has, I believe, its counterpart in most countries of the British Empire.

As will be seen, the service started in this colony for the use of service personnel only and gradually extended until it became—as it still is—an important adjunct to the postal facilities of the country.

The first official indication of the new scheme was in Postal Notice No. 40 of 5th November, 1941, which read:—

"It is notified for public information that a new service of Active Service Letter Cards will be introduced with effect from 17th November, 1941.

"These Letter Cards impressed with a three-penny postage stamp will be sold at all Post Offices in Southern Rhodesia at the face value of 3d. each in order to provide air conveyance

to members of the Forces serving in East and West Africa and Egypt and to Naval personnel serving in the Mediterranean.

"Letter Cards addressed to civilians will be forwarded by surface mail."

The cards were of an attractive design, bearing the words "Active Service Letter Card" in white lettering on a bright blue background, embodying the usual air mail "Etiquette" and an imprinted 3d. stamp of the current "Victoria Falls" type. They were printed on a good quality laid paper. (Fig. 1).

As was only to be expected, the new service proved immediately to be immensely popular and there was a great run on the main Post Offices for the new cards. For some time previously there had been continual complaints in the local press as to the delay which was being experienced by people in writing to their men in North Africa, also as to the high price of the ordinary Air Mail postage. The new service, therefore, obviously filled a long-felt want.

The new service had only been in operation for four weeks when the Postmaster-General made a further announcement (in Postal Notice No. 45 of 1941) to the effect that the scope of the Letter Cards was to be extended and that from the 15th December, 1941, they could be addressed to Members of the Forces stationed at points served by the Egypt-Australia Air Mail and would then be carried by air. Further, Letter Cards posted by Members of the Forces in Southern Rhodesia and addressed to civilians in East and West Africa, Egypt and at points served by the Egypt-Australia Air Mail would also be carried by air, provided that the cards were franked by a Military or Air Force Unit. An Air Letter Card in my possession, addressed to a civilian and posted at Bulawayo on the 15th December, 1941, is backstamped in New Zealand "2 JAN 42," so it was very evidently conveyed by air.

After about six months had elapsed the supply of Letter Cards ran short and there were many complaints on this score. In August, a fresh supply was available; the printing and design were exactly the same but the excellent laid paper that characterised the original issue was replaced by a yellowish paper of very poor quality and very similar to that used by the Union of South Africa for their Air Letters.

In August, 1943 (Postal Notice No. 11 of 1943), it was announced that civilians in the Colony would be allowed to send Letter Cards to Members of the Forces in the United Kingdom at a cost of 6d. per card. A similar service in the opposite direction had already been in



Fig. 1



Fig. 2

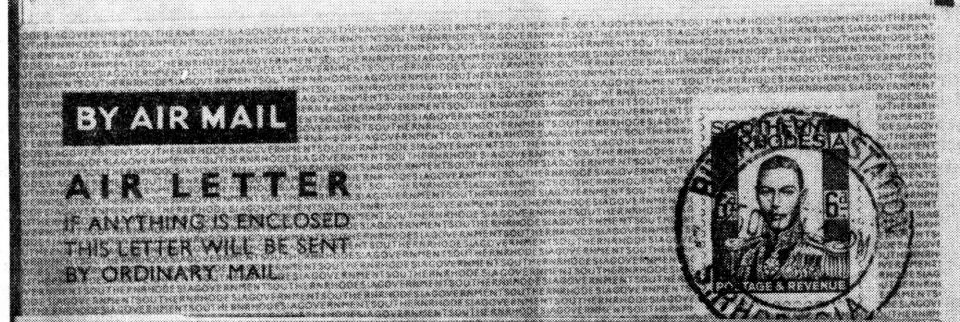


Fig. 3



Fig. 4

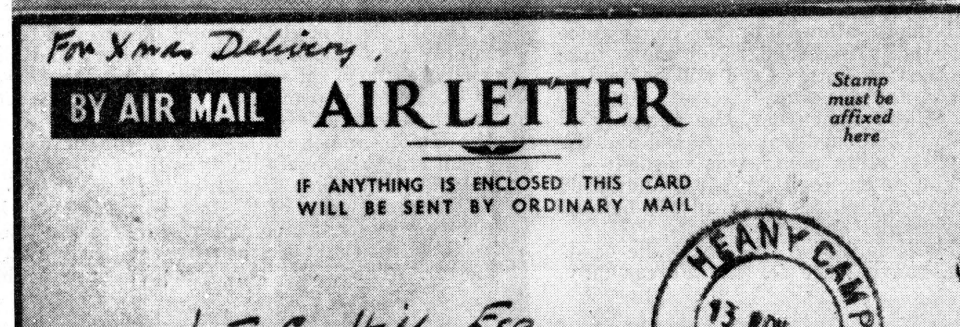


Fig. 5

operation for some time. The service was restricted to the use of the official Active Service Letter Card with an additional 3d. stamp affixed. An example in my collection, dispatched on 17th August, 1943 (the first day of the new service) was not back-stamped in England until 28th September—six weeks later?—so it does not appear that a great saving of time resulted from the service; at any rate in the initial stages of its operation. Surface letters, however, frequently took three months or more, at this time, to reach England owing to the exigencies of the war, so it is fairly certain that the cards were partly, if not wholly, carried by air.

In February of the following year (Postal Notice No. 3 of 1944) a further concession was made and the 6d. Air Letter Service was extended to include cards sent by Members of H.M. Forces stationed in the Colony to civilian addressees in the United Kingdom. It was necessary for the sender's Name, Rank, Regimental No., Unit and Address to be shown in the lower left-hand corner of the card, otherwise it would be dispatched by Surface Mail. Strangely enough, the same form was used, although it bore the words "For use only when addressed to Members on Active Service," whereas this was the inauguration of the service to civilian addressees! A warning note was given in the Postal Notice that, in order to obviate the necessity for rationing, Members of the Forces were requested to limit the number of cards sent to a minimum. That the warning was evidently necessary the following paragraph in "AFRAF," (the Heany R.A.F. Camp newspaper) dated 3rd February, 1944, will show:

"RUSH ON NEW AIRMAIL SERVICE.

"Although the new service only commenced yesterday, before midday Camp Post Offices all over the Bulawayo area had completely sold out of the air letter cards which airmen in Rhodesia can now send to civilians in the United Kingdom.

"AFRAF understands that a further supply will be made available as soon as possible."

The service had, by this time, been expedited considerably and the card that I have, posted at Bulawayo on the 1st February, 1944, reached England in 17 days.

By April, 1944, notwithstanding their warning, the service had become so widely used that the authorities in Postal Notice No. 12 of 1944 stated "it has become necessary to restrict sales of Active Service Letter Cards owing to the weight quota allowed by air conveyance being consistently exceeded. Not more than one Active Service Letter Card will be sold to one person at any one time."

In June of the same year, the anomaly in the wording of the card was corrected and the new supply, on white paper, was worded:—

"If anything is enclosed, or if it is addressed by a civilian to a civilian, this card will be sent by ordinary mail." (Fig. 2.)

Up to this time, as will be seen, the cards had been a convenience for the Forces only,

as either the sender or receiver had to be on Service, but now the scope of the service was increased to embrace civilians. It was on 23rd October, 1944 (Postal Notice No. 31 of 1944), that it was announced that as from the 25th of that month, a civilian "AIR LETTER" Service (note the change of title), would be made available to the United Kingdom, Northern Ireland, Eire and all countries participating in the Empire Air Mail Scheme. The service was not, however, made available to Canada and Newfoundland at that date and, in fact, it was not until much later—26th April, 1946—that these countries were included. (Fig. 3.)

The cards themselves were a complete departure from the types hitherto used. The Air Letter form was printed in dark green on a lithographed background (similar to what one sees on bank cheque forms) consisting of the words "SOUTHERN RHODESIA GOVERNMENT" in microscopic light green type on a good quality white paper. In the right-hand upper corner was a lithographed impression of the current K.G. VI 6d. stamp in dark grey. Incidentally, this was the first time that a stamp with His Majesty's portrait on it had ever been produced in the Colony and the Government Lithographic Department, to whom the work was entrusted, made an excellent job of it. Considerable difficulty was, I understand, experienced in reproducing the 6d. stamp accurately, but eventually the problem was solved by having a drawing made of the stamp and photographing this. It was found that direct photography of the stamp itself did not give the desired result, hence the resort to this expedient.

This type of letter card is still in use and can occasionally be obtained at Post Offices in the Colony, but at the end of December last a new type was put into circulation. This new form embodied the same wording, but the 6d. stamp was obviously lithographed from a different plate. The whole of the background was of a solid light grey colour and the paper was of poor quality. Evidently the new air letter was a "rush job" to overcome a temporary shortage as, at the same time, the old Active Service Cards of the 1942/44 type with an additional 3d. in stamps affixed thereto were still being sold over the counter at the Post Offices.

Towards the end of March of this year Air Letters became unobtainable at Post Offices, causing considerable inconvenience to the public.

On the 25th of that month, however, a fresh supply was obtained from England and immediately put on sale. This new Air Letter is a great improvement on previous issues which were made either in the Colony or in the Union, and the lithographing of the King's Head stamp is exceedingly well done—in fact, it looks very much like an engraving. (Fig. 4.)

The background of the letter is pale blue, the printing in dark blue, the wording being identical with that of the present British Air Letter. There are two gummed flaps which

give additional privacy to the contents. 200,000 have been received and that number should last for a good long time.

There is, however, one interesting and little-known service that I have not yet mentioned. This is the following:—

In November, 1944, Headquarters of the Rhodesia Air Training Group announced that, to enable United Kingdom personnel serving in the R.A.F. to send Christmas Greetings by Air Letter to their relatives at home **post free**, special Air Letter Forms would be used. These were, of course, strictly rationed. There were several types in use—I have at least three—and these seem to have been dealt with in different ways (according to the R.A.F. Station involved, at a guess) in that some were post-marked in the ordinary way at the camp whilst some reached their destinations without any sign whatever that they had been through the post. I think that a possible explanation is that these latter were sent home by Service Aircraft—how they were distributed at the other end, if this was so, remains a mystery that will some day be solved, perhaps, when the fog of war has cleared away and such interesting secrets are revealed! (Fig. 5)

* * *

PHILATELIC NECKWEAR

A short note in "Stamps" announces that a New York firm was producing two special neckties as souvenirs of the Centennial International Exhibition. One with postal cancellations in white and red, the other various postal markings. Obtainable in maroon or in dark blue, retailing at one dollar each.

The note adds that every collector and dealer would want to wear one at least during the Centenary period and they were expected to prove very popular.

We wonder if the writer was being a second George Washington or if he was indulging in a little gentle boosting.

We are familiar with cancellations tying stamps to covers, but gee, the Centenary must have been *some* Exposition if the visitors' heads had to be tied to their bodies! Perhaps the one style of necktie was recommended for necking, the other for rubber-necking!!

Booking Sarawak and North Borneo "Royal Cyphers" mint (or used on cover add 20%). Delivery shortly.
1c. — \$1 7/6; 1c. — \$5 complete 27/-.
C.W.O. Postage extra.

A. G. COX,
Flat 46, Albenor Flats
Sea Point, Cape

U.S.A.

Latest arrivals are their first Air Letter Sheets, issued on 29th April with a 10c stamp, a 5c small size air mail stamp and the 3c Pulitzer commemorative, a "Freedom of the Press" stamp, issued on 10th April.

Mint Coronations complete... ..	£5 0 0
Fiji 6d. die 1 $\frac{1}{2}$ mint	1 9 6
Seychelles 1938 colours 1r.	12 0 0
Bermuda 1938 2d.	1 2 6
N. Borneo B.M.A. used complete F.D.C.	10 0 0
Sarawak Centy. used F.D.C.	1 7 6
Sudan, Gordon, complete... ..	11 0 0

Send for particulars of our 10% New Issue Service. Many obsolete values of K. Geo. VI. available. Want Lists for all British Colonies appreciated.

J. REESE & CO.
18, York Street, Plymouth, England.

CHANNEL ISLES

Jersey Pictorial Set (6) mint 9/6; F.D.C. 10/6.
Jersey Arms type (2) mint 2/6; F.D.C. 3/-.
Guernsey Arms type (3d., 1d., 2½d.) mint 3/-.
Complete C.I. mint issues (11) 14/-. Rare items: Guernsey 1940 bisect 30/-. 1938 type £3. 1934 type £6. 1912 type £5.

All Post Free (Air Mail).
Current British Colonials mint at 12½ per cent. over face and recent French & French Colonials available on

--- APPROVALS ---

J. MARTIN,
69, Henley Avenue, North Cheam,
Surrey England.

Fine British Colonials:

Selections of the above are sent on approval to serious collectors against references.

- Range 1. Early issues, which can be selected from at one-third of catalogue price.
- Range 2. Modern issues (1900 on) in mint state, mostly at 50% off catalogue.
- Range 3. Modern issues (1900 on) superb used, mostly at 50% off catalogue.

J. BIRD, 116, Highlands Heath, London, S.W.15, England

SOCIETY NEWS

THE PHILATELIC SOCIETY OF JOHANNESBURG

President, Mr. L. Buchen; *Hon. Sec.*, Mr. J. H. Jenkins, P.O. Box 4967; *Meetings*, 2nd Tuesdays, Public Library, 7.45 p.m.

At the meeting held on May 13 the exhibit was provided by Mr. Simpkins, who showed a very fine collection of Orange Free State stamps. Both mint and fine used items were included. There were numerous errors, including missing stops and mixed stops on the V.R.I. overprints. A very rare pair of 4d. on 6d. pink of the Republican issue was included. Mr. W. Bedford spoke on the exhibit, which was much appreciated.

Amongst the items of interest shown was a three-quarter sheet of 4d. S.W.A. miniature war stamps all with inverted overprint. This was shown by Mr. H. Suklje. I.I.

★

PRETORIA PHILATELIC SOCIETY

President, F. C. Ferguson; *Hon. Sec.*, H. Endemann, P.O. Box 514; *Meetings*, 1st and 3rd Mondays, 8 p.m., Technical College.

8th April.—Mr. Obermeyer, in an address, briefly referred to the activities of the Society from the earlier days to the present stage, and especially to the facilities at present enjoyed by the Society, in comparison to those of the earlier days, when the want of accommodation and the finding of a quorum were only a few of the obstacles to be faced. He urged the younger members to faithfully attend the meetings, and thereby build up their knowledge of philately. He finally touched on the subject of the treatment of stamps, which was interesting and enjoyed by all.

The evening's exhibit was provided by Mr. Oppenheim, who, though residing in Johannesburg, is a member of this Society, and candidly admits that he never regrets coming over to the meetings here. He exhibited part of his collection of "Luxemburgs," and as usual, can be envied for being the possessor of such outstanding collections, and be assured that all had enjoyed viewing the exhibit.

Mr. Obermeyer and Mr. Basden were elected Hon. Life Members of the Society, in appreciation of their long service to it and their unstinted interest in philately.

22nd April.—Although the winter is setting in, the unabated interest of members is revealed by the continued good attendance.

We had the pleasure, this evening, of having with us Mr. Swanepoel, Publicity Officer of the Post and Telegraphs Department. As is generally the case, not only did he convey to us some more items of interest in regard to stamps of the Union of South Africa, in a short paper, but also gave us the opportunity of viewing our country's stamps, mostly in blocks of four, with ever so many different shades, etc. The exhibit was an outstanding item, and was greatly admired by all, especially those so deeply interested in the Union issues, who could none other than express their appreciation of the privilege granted them to view this exhibition. H.E.

★

THE JEWISH GUILD PHILATELIC SECTION

Chairman, Dr. A. Kaplan; *Hon. Secretary*, Mr. B. Joseph, 143 London House, Loveday Street, Johannesburg; *Meetings*, Last Thursday, Jewish Guild War Memorial Hall.

At the meeting held on 24th April the exhibit was provided by Mr. J. Sacks, who showed stamps of Soviet Russia.

These made a very fine show and included most of the commemoratives and miniature sheets. Some very finely used items were included, including some very rarely seen in used condition.

Mr. A. Gladstone spoke on the exhibit, and a hearty vote of thanks was passed to the exhibitor. I.I.

MARITZBURG PHILATELIC SOCIETY

Chairman, C. R. Turner; *Hon. Secretary*, R. Morton, P.O. Box 328, Pietermaritzburg; *Meetings*, 2nd Friday in each month at 211 Burger Street.

May Meeting.—A goodly number of members turned out, and we were pleased to see Messrs. Tatham and Robbins, who have not been able to attend meetings for some time. We were also pleased to welcome several visitors.

Owing to the sudden indisposition of Dr. Denison the expected talk on Bechuanaland had to be postponed, and again our chairman stepped into the breach and gave our members a real treat by displaying his Cape Triangulars.

This is the first time this collection has been shown at a meeting, and the members present were amazed at the completeness of the various printings. Brig. Crofton thanked the chairman on behalf of members for showing this very valuable collection.

The discussion on "Stamps or Gum" was continued, and a number of members expressed their views. On the secretary putting the following question to the meeting, "If there were no difference in value would you prefer unused stamps without gum or with gum?" the majority by show of hands showed their preference for stamps without gum. The discussion will be continued.

A number of Royal Visit and Royal Train Covers were exhibited, and Mr. F. S. Jackson again showed his Modern German covers with special cancellations.

Two new members were proposed during the evening.

R.M.

★

ORANGE FREE STATE AND BASUTOLAND PHILATELIC SOCIETY

President, Mr. John Lewis; *Hon. Secretary*, Mr. R. G. Lyon, Box 702, Bloemfontein; *Meetings*, 3rd Fridays each month. Oranje Koffiehuis, Bloemfontein, 7.30 p.m.

April Meeting.—Arrangements and plans in connection with the Junior competition were further discussed. This event is now scheduled to take place on Saturday, August 16, 1947.

The evening's display was given by Mr. R. A. Brown, whose "general" collection was an eye-opener to members for its original arrangement. Mr. Brown undertook to present, in brief outline, the story of every country, the history, main data and the main products in each case; he succeeded admirably by deftly picking the most suitable stamp items in this regard and arranging them with a brief and skillful write-up. Mr. Brown, who is a geography and history master at a local college, seems to have been especially qualified for this type of collection. The interesting and instructive display was appreciated by all members, and in particular by the visiting college boys.

May Meeting.—Mr. J. Lewis gave a highly specialised display of the recent Royal Visit issues. There was a large array of various printings, shades and minor varieties. In the "cover" section, a full record was given, beginning with early covers of the Royal Tours of the Prince of Wales and of Prince George, and ending up with an original "last day," or better "last minute," cover registered at the Cape Town Docks! Many members noticed to their great sorrow how many items of the Royal Visit issues they themselves had missed. K.F.

★ ★ ★

MAURITIUS "POST OFFICE"

The Royal Philatelic Society, London, announces the discovery of a new specimen of a used one-penny "Post Office" Mauritius, found in an old stuck-down collection formed about 1870, and it is probable the specimen was originally acquired in India between 1860 and 1870.

This brings the total of known one-pennies to 12 used and 2 unused. Of the companion two-pennies 8 used and 4 unused are known.

The SOUTH AFRICAN PHILATELIST

Proprietors and Publishers:

The Philatelic Federation of Southern Africa

Honorary Editor: Dr. J. H. HARVEY PIRIE, - - - P.O. Box 7012, Johannesburg

Honorary Business Manager: WILLIAM REDFORD, Broadcast House, Commissioner Street, Johannesburg.

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JULY, 1947.

Whole No. 268

PHILATELIC FEDERATION OF SOUTHERN AFRICA.

A meeting of the Executive Committee was held at the Carlton Hotel, Johannesburg, on the 17th May. The following societies were represented: Natal, East Rand, Jewish Guild, and Johannesburg. Mr. W. Redford presided.

A letter was received from Mr. Basden resigning the position of Chairman owing to ill health and wishing the Federation every success. It was agreed to write to Mr. Basden thanking him for his work and wishing him a speedy recovery.

Mr. Isaacs, the Hon. Secretary, said that pressure of work prevented his carrying on as Secretary. His resignation was accepted with regret.

Dr. Harvey Pirie was elected as Chairman, Commander Enoch Vice-Chairman, and Mr. Norman Welsford Hon. Secretary-Treasurer.

Mr. Milner Palmer, of the Natal Society, who had come up to Johannesburg in order to attend the meeting, was welcomed. Mr. Palmer, in thanking the Chairman for his remarks, said that he was glad to be able to say that the recently published catalogue of the stamps of the Union was already an assured financial success, and would probably go into a second edition.

It was agreed that any profits from the publication would be placed in a special account to be used only for any future publications by the Federation dealing with the stamps of Southern Africa.

The affiliation of three new Societies was approved, viz., West Rand Stamp Club, Maritzburg Philatelic Society, Copperbelt Philatelic Society, and the membership of the Philatelic Society of Southern Africa was resumed. The formation of a new Society at Springs was noted with pleasure.

It was decided to write to the Postmaster-General offering the assistance of the Federation in the matter of the designs of future issues of postage stamps, and suggesting that a competition be organised, open to the public.

The East London Society suggested that a Congress be held at East London early in 1948 in connection with the East London Centenary celebrations.

It was noted that plans were already in hand for a Congress at Port Elizabeth late in 1947.

Mr. Redford reported that the "South African Philatelist" was now being run at a small profit, and it was agreed to send a financial statement to member societies annually.

It was decided to agree to the request of the B.P.A. to arrange for a small exhibit showing the Postal History of the Union, and Dr. Pirie and the Hon. Secretary were appointed a sub-committee to make the necessary arrangements. N.W.

★ ★ ★

SOME RECENT "FINDS"

Gibraltar.

In the sale by Messrs. H. R. Harmer of Capt. J. J. Day's Gibraltar collection are a pair of the 10c with value omitted (S.G. 35). A half sheet (60 stamps) missed the second printing of the value tablet. Single specimens have recently fetched as much as £280.

Mauritius.

Mr. H. E. Wingfield reports obtaining three magnificent Mauritius examples of S.G. 2b 2d. indigo. Two are unused specimens with large margins and of the freshest colour and earliest state possible. Comparing them with all previously known specimens is like comparing a thoroughbred with an old hack. The third is a used specimen on cover with a complete letter accompanying; it is also in immaculate condition and with margins sufficient to run the proverbial tram round it.

K.E. VII 10s. I.R. Official.

In a boxful of mixed stamps brought in for sale Messrs. Harmer, Rooke & Co. found a block of nine unused of this rarest of all British stamps. Only 14 specimens were previously known, including one block (of four) in the National Museum of Ireland at Dublin, and one pair in the Royal collection. The block is not perfect, the four centre stamps being creased and having no gum, but the piece as a whole is, of course, something really unique. The block comes from the upper margin of the sheet and the four stamps on the top row all show the raised-stop variety.

UNION NOTES.

½d. With Brownish Centres:

The ½d. springbok head stamps with the centres in varying shades of brownish grey, which were noted in our May issue as being on sale at various offices throughout the Union, seem now to have pretty well disappeared and we are back again at the original greys without any tinge of brown in them.

1½d. Varieties:

The small 1½d. mine dump stamp, now in regular use since the reduced postal rate came into force on 1st May, already shows some interesting varieties.

When first re-introduced, the buildings in the background were of an ochre or dull-gold colour, now they are shiny gold (or, at any rate, something that glitters like gold!) It may be remembered that back in 1940 there was a change-over from shiny to dull gold in the original large 1½d. stamp. It was pointed out then that the difference was a quantitative rather than a qualitative one and that if a "dull" stamp were rubbed firmly with something smooth and hard it could be made "shiny."

Enquiry was made of the P.M.G. as to what was the essential difference between the two kinds of ink and we reprint here from p. 1 of our January, 1942, issue the reply then received:

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

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

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

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

This small 1½d. has a still smaller variety (as occurs now in practically all Union stamps) to be found in the 10th vertical row of the sheets. The stamps in this row are about 1.5 mm. narrower in width (in all-over measurement from perforation to perforation) than the others. This was noted also in the 1941 printing. (See "S.A. Philatelist," October, 1941, p. 110.)

Scarce Perforation Varieties:

Mr. R. Axer has been writing about these in "Stamp Collecting" and has also favoured us with some notes.

S.G. ½d. 54a and 1d. 56a (perf. 13½ x 14) are definitely scarce varieties. They are described in the new Union Catalogue, pp. 56 and 57, as "gutter-margin" sheets which were surplus from printing for rolls and were put on sale as flat sheets from October, 1935, to July, 1936.

What might be mistaken for these "gutter-margin" stamps are the penny stamps printed for booklets but sold in sheets of 180 in October, 1946. In this instance, however, the "gutter" is a full stamp width, with three of them in each sheet of (normally) 240 stamps. (See Union Catalogue, B.17, p.65.)

There have been many rumours of similar ½d sheets. Has anyone actually seen them? S.G. Nos. 34—39 (2d., 3d., 4d., 1/-, 2/6, 5/- and 10/-) are only given in Gibbons' Catalogue as perf. 14, whereas they also all occur perf. 14 x 13½. (See Union Catalogue, pp. 26—27.) They were all late printings by Bradbury, Wilkinson & Co. just before the change-over to Pretoria printing of rotogravure and seem to have been overlooked entirely by many collectors of Unions.

Special "Royal Visit" Cancellation Used at Pretoria:

A statement was made in an earlier issue that this canceller was used only on day of issue (17th February) covers and that special marks with any other date might be taken to be those of the Royal Train. This statement was made before it was realised that there were marks distinguishing the Pretoria cancellers from those of the Royal Train, and, in any case, it was wrong. The Pretoria cancellers were used for cancelling Royal Visit stamps on both ordinary and registered letters right throughout the whole period of the Royal Tour.

It might be noted here that in the "Philatelic Magazine" of 2nd May a find is reported of S.W.A. 1d. Royal Visit stamps in which the stamps of the second horizontal row from the bottom of the sheet are perforated so closely to the top and bottom of the design that their height is reduced by 1.5 mm. Presumably the same might be found in unoverprinted stamps as well.

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U.S.A.

The various stamps, etc., issued in connection with the New York Centenary Exhibition (see "S.A. Ph." may issue, p. 77) have now all arrived here. The miniature sheet, with reproductions in colour of the 1847 5c Franklin and 10c Washington stamps, is a particularly attractive souvenir of the Exhibition.

More Pictorials.

There has been a certain amount of agitation (disinterested and otherwise) to prevail on the British Postmaster-General to allow pictorial stamps, and at long last, that gentleman has not only vetoed the whole idea for good, but given the real reason why Great Britain will never have attractive stamps, but fortunately that embargo does not apply to the rest of the Empire, and here we have a selection of issues which are the admiration of the philatelic world, and they are solid, too, for who, as an American writer recently stated, ever lost money on British Colonials.

We have been dealing in stamps for over thirty years, and it's now almost a decade since we saw the futility of trying to stock everything, so instead of bits and pieces we decided to concentrate only on stamps of the present reign, but when we look back only a few years, we realise all the good things which were going a begging. One bright morning we walked into a London wholesaler's office, and unearthed several sheets of the Nigeria 4d. orange (it had been obsolete for at least a year) and we picked up the lot at a penny in the shilling over face. Alas none made more than a shilling a copy. On another occasion, but no--why go on teasing you and tormenting ourselves, with might of beens, when if we take the trouble to look round, we can probably find as good bargains for the future as there ever were in the past . . . as a matter of fact we have tucked away in the old oak chest a couple of times, during the past month or so (Oh no, we ain't telling what) which should increase a hundred-fold in a year or two, but we are rambling on. let's get down to brass tacks. We issue a list of K.G. VI issues only. You have to pay 2/- a year to get it, by sea-mail or 12/- by air (maybe if you are a good buyer we'll send it by air for two bob) and it's the most comprehensive list issued in its field. We have a new issue service, too (yes, our subscribers got the Barbados provisionals both perms., if they wanted them at a special price). We'll send particulars of that free.

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South African Philatelic Journals

The Philatelic Society of Johannesburg handed over its collection of books and periodicals on stamp collecting in 1938 to the Johannesburg Public Library for safe-keeping. Since this date the collection has been steadily augmented, but with the purchase of the philatelic library belonging to the well-known South African collector, Mr. E. Tamsen of Nylstroom, in August of last year, this collection is now probably the most representative of its kind in the Union.

The addition of various South African philatelic magazines from this and other sources (notably by the generous gift of Mr. J. Robertson, the Johannesburg stamp dealer), prompted a short note on some of these more recent acquisitions in "Africana Notes and News" for March, 1947. This note was primarily intended for collectors of Africana in general and not for philatelists, but as the philatelic press in South Africa has not been reviewed in this journal since Mr. Tamsen recorded the South African items in his collection in the number for July, 1928, a record of the South African stamp magazines at present housed in the Johannesburg Public Library may be of some use to the collectors of this generation who are interested in reading about their hobby and about the stamps of South Africa before and after Union.

1. "The South African Philatelist," Johannesburg, November, 1895 to April, 1896. These six numbers form the complete set and were presented to the Library by the local society. The magazine was according to the "Introductory" (v. 1, no. 1, p. 1) "the first paper published in South Africa devoted to Philately." It was published in mimeographed form, or as the editors, S. A. Klagsbrun and S. F. Epstein, put it, "by Typograph." Its aim was "to further Philately in South Africa; to give the earliest and fullest information on matters of interest to our readers; and to cut sharp and deep into any suspicious postal proceedings." In the first number some "suspicious proceedings" are noted, and it is stated that the postal authorities cornered vast quantities of the one penny Transvaal commemorative stamp and sold them at a premium.

From the Index (a most useful feature that modern South African journals might very well copy), it is evident that the contents of these six numbers are almost exclusively African, covering such interesting subjects as the stamps of Bechuanaland, Natal, the O.F.S. and Swaziland, and the forgeries of the stamps of the various South African states of the time. In the last number the editors regret that they cannot carry on and state that they had "literally to write every syllable contained in the six numbers." This is the cry of nearly all the

editors of South African stamp magazines that succeeded this the first of the South African philatelic papers. The editors promised a two-paged publication entitled "The South African Philatelist Monthly Bulletin." It is not mentioned by Mr. Tamsen in his article and there is no copy in the Johannesburg collection. Does anyone know whether it was ever published?

In his article in "The South African Philatelist" for July, 1928 (p. 97), Mr. Tamsen notes three numbers of a publication without a specific name issued by the Johannesburg United Philatelic Society under the editorship of Mr. T. Henderson. It ran from May to August, 1910. There is no copy in the Johannesburg collection, but it was apparently the forerunner of the next magazine of which the Library received a full set from the Philatelic Society of Johannesburg.

2. "The South African Philatelist," Johannesburg, November, 1910, to February, 1912. The Mr. Henderson mentioned above edited the sixteen numbers of this, the first South African stamp magazine to be issued in printed form. It contains notes on new issues, some articles on special topics, and much discussion on the hobby in general; reports from the various South African societies are a special feature which makes its first appearance in this magazine. On p. 19 of the issue for January, 1911, is a most interesting article on the various South African philatelic societies of the time entitled "Philately in South Africa," by "Afrikander." The editor states that he reprinted this article from "The Postage Stamp" of November 5th, 1910. Apparently "The South African Philatelist" ceased publication when the editor left for Natal.

According to Mr. Tamsen, "The South African Philatelic Advertiser" was published in Durban during the period May, 1911, to May, 1912. There are no copies of this journal in the Johannesburg Public Library nor of the other Natal journal said to have been edited by a Mr. W. E. Neave.

3. "The Rhodesian Philatelist," Bulawayo, July, 1912, to June, 1913. The twelve mimeographed numbers of this magazine published under the auspices of the Philatelic Society of Rhodesia and edited by C. C. Woolacott, contain interesting and authoritative articles on the stamps of Rhodesia as well as short articles on other South African stamps, such as Transvaal reprints, "Forged overprints on O.F.S. stamps," and also some articles on general philatelic subjects, notably on used versus unused stamps as collectors' items. This journal was discontinued after the first year not only because the editor found it difficult to obtain suitable articles, but even more because he found the task of duplicating the magazine too onerous.

4. "The South African Stamp Collector," Kimberley, July, 1916, to May-June, 1917. The nine numbers of this, presumably the only stamp magazine to be published in the Cape Province, all appeared during the first Great War. Cecil Mark Henderson was the editor and the Star Electric Printing Works of Kim-

berley was responsible for the printing. The journal is full of interesting philatelic information about a great variety of subjects ranging from Mount Currie locals to postal services during the campaign in South West Africa. There are also many tidbits of South African philatelic gossip such as the reference to the philatelic column in "Africa's Own Monthly" on p. 67 of "The South African Stamp Collector" for September, 1916. Unfortunately the last two numbers of this journal have not yet been acquired for the Johannesburg collection.

Between June, 1917, and February, 1920, there apparently was no South African magazine devoted solely to the interests of philatelists. In the latter month Mr. J. Robertson of Johannesburg started what is in effect the forerunner of the present "South African Philatelist."

5. "The Union Philatelist." Johannesburg, February, 1920, to November-December, 1920. As the first two numbers only are available in the Johannesburg Public Library, it is not possible to determine the scope of this journal with any accuracy, but contributions by such eminent South African philatelists as Chas. Hand and Emil Tamsen do give some indication of the standard of the articles on special topics.

6. "The Quarterly Review of Philately." Johannesburg, March, 1921, to October, 1922. Mr. J. Robertson edited the first three numbers and Mr. Harry Blom the last four. Apparently these seven numbers were the first philatelic papers issued in South Africa to include illustrations of postage stamps. There are some interesting articles by well-known authorities, e.g., "The C.S.A.R. stamps," by E. Tamsen; "The overprinted issues of the Second British Occupation of the Transvaal," by Chas. Hand; "The official stamps of the Cape of Good Hope," also by E. Tamsen; and "The postage dues of the Union of South Africa," by G. W. Reynolds, to mention only those noted in "The South African Philatelist" for July, 1928.

7. "The New Stamp Monthly." Johannesburg, July, 1921. The one and only number of this journal to be published is the work of S. Keene and is illustrated. A column "Leading Philatelists of the Union" is a feature which is also found in later South African journals, but otherwise there is not much information on philatelic matters.

8. "The South African Philatelist." Johannesburg, February, 1923, to date. This the third South African philatelic paper to be called "The South African Philatelist" incorporated "The Union Philatelist" and "The Quarterly Review of Philately." Mr. G. W. Reynolds was the first editor, and he was followed by Mr. J. Robertson, who in turn was succeeded by Mr. A. E. Basden, who was again followed by Dr. J. H. Harvey Pirie. Under the able editorship of these keen philatelists this journal has managed to weather many a storm and has undoubtedly been the means of making known to collectors the world over that philately in all its aspects has many ardent

students in our country. At one time or another almost every South African collector of note has contributed to this magazine, and in its pages will be found a great deal of information, particularly on South African stamps, that is not available anywhere else.

9. "The South African Stamp Exchange Club Magazine." Pretoria, August, 1946, to date. As this magazine is entirely devoted to stamp collecting, it ought to be noted here to make the list complete, but, as its name implies, it differs in scope from the other journals noted, though it does include a few articles on South African stamps.

In the Johannesburg Public Library there are some other South African magazines on hobbies devoting some space to stamp collecting, but they have been purposely omitted from this short survey of journals devoted exclusively to philately: there is no need to include them to prove how great is the interest in this hobby in South Africa when it is possible to point to so many journals in the short space of half a century and to regular columns in the daily press.

ANNA H. SMITH.

* * *

T.P.O's

Current philatelic magazines have three articles dealing with British Colonial T.P.O's.

In the "Stamp Collectors' Fortnightly" of 15th March, Mr. Cyril Kidd describes those operating on Sierra Leone's 338 miles of railway. They appear to have been introduced about 1911 or 1912, and four types of mark are figured as having been, or being in use.

In "Gibbons' Stamp Monthly" for March, Mr. Harold G. D. Gisborn deals with those of British Guiana. Here there are two railway offices operating respectively on the East Coast and West Coast lines, and four T.P.O's on steamers plying up and down the principal rivers. Each of these six offices has a distinctive date stamp appropriately designated and those at present in use are illustrated. There are also nine Travelling Postal Agencies operating in launches or, in one instance, by light railway; some of these have cancellers bearing the name of the agency, others are merely indicated by number.

In the "Philatelic Magazine" of 21st March, Mr. Norman Hill describes the Mobile Post Offices of the cities in the Union. He illus-



trates, amongst others, a temporary postmark—a skeleton steel hand-stamp—used at Port Elizabeth when No. 3 Mobile P.O. was first introduced there, which has not, to our knowledge, been recorded before.

SOVIET PHILATELISTS

Collecting stamps, Russian and foreign, is a widespread hobby in the Soviet Union. Among the Soviet philatelists are students, workers, actors, writers, engineers, professors, scientists, etc. Some of them belong to philatelic circles, one of which is functioning at the Moscow House of Scientists. A circle for juvenile stamp collectors has been established at the Moscow House of Young Pioneers. One group of stamp collectors has been entrusted with the task of making preparations for the opening of the All-Union Philatelic Society.

Soviet philatelists collect Russian stamps issued in Tsarist times and after the establishment of Soviet rule in the country. Some of them have specialised in the collection of stamps of Great Britain and her colonies as well as of the U.S.A. Many philatelists in the U.S.S.R. have full sets of stamps issued in various European countries.

The Ministry of Communications of the U.S.S.R. annually issues series of postage stamps reflecting jubilee dates and outstanding events in the life of the country. More than 150 different kinds of stamps were issued between June, 1941, and August, 1945. The first pair of 30-kopek stamps to appear in the beginning of the war were "Be a Hero" and "People's Guard." Very few of these stamps were issued and they are now regarded as rare. A set of eight stamps was issued to mark the 25th anniversary of the October Revolution. Four stamps were dedicated to the heroic cities of Stalingrad, Leningrad, Sevastopol and Odessa, which witnessed the onslaught and siege of Nazi hordes. Nearly 20 different kinds of stamps were issued in honour of Heroes of the Soviet Union. Orders and Medals of the U.S.S.R. are drawn on more than 20 stamps. Two war-time series, with two stamps in each, reflect the unity of the Soviet-Anglo-American alliance. A set of seven stamps is dedicated to the 20th anniversary of the death of V. I. Lenin, while another series of five stamps mark the 75th anniversary of the birth of Lenin.

Stamps have been issued in the Soviet Union to mark the dates of the birth and death of great Russian writers, composers, painters and scientists, e.g., Mayakovsky, Turgenyev, Gorky, Rimsky-Korsakov, Chaplygin, Krylov, Repin, Griboyedov, Popov, Herten, Mechni, kov and others. The birthday anniversaries of Marx and Engels, founders of scientific socialism, likewise found their reflection in Soviet stamps.

A three-rouble stamp with a drawing of the Order of Victory and a 60-kopek stamp were issued to mark VE-Day. The State Philatelic Bureau is now finishing preparations for the publication of a catalogue of Soviet stamps which will appear this year.

—Soviet News Press Service per South African Friends of the Soviet Union.

HUNGARY

The official Philatelic Agency has sent us illustrations of a set of four stamps, printed by latticed photogravure, issued for the Fund "Come! Give! Help," each with a surtax.

The 8+50 f. in blue shows a doctor holding a syringe and is in aid of hospitals.

The 12+50 f., in brown, features a physician examining an X-ray plate, symbolising the fight against tuberculosis.

The 20+50f. has a nurse holding a child in her arms as a symbol of child protection. In green.

The 60+50 f. represents a P.O.W. starting homeward from a prisoner camp.

Only 50,000 each of the first three are being issued, the last in unlimited quantity.

Later comes intimation of a set of 8 Roosevelt semi-postals, due for issue early in June. Four of them, for ordinary postage (plus surtax) feature respectively the four Freedoms. The other four, for air post only (plus surtax) feature respectively Casablanca, Teheran, Yalta and the President's resting place at Hyde Park.

★

GERMANY

Two adhesives, 24 and 75 Pf and a 12 Pf postcard were issued on 15th May commemorating the death of Heinrich v. Stephan, largely responsible for the foundation of the U.P.U. and, if we mistake not, the introducer of the postcard. Thanks to Dr. Kurt Geier, of Berlin, for first day copies.

★

AUSTRIA

Josef Wicke sent a set of 10 featuring various aspects of St. Stephen's Cathedral in Vienna.

★

GREECE

Issued on 6th April, to be in circulation for six months, the King George 50 Dr on 1 Dr, 250 Dr on 3 Dr and 600 Dr. on 6 Dr, appeared with deep black borders.

A "Victory" set of 8 values, 50 to 5,000 Dr, was issued on 1st May. The stamps feature episodes where Greek forces were engaged in Albania, El Alamein, Italy, etc.

On 20th April a charity stamp, 50Dr on 50 Lep, was issued for the benefit of tuberculosis postal employees.

—Kimon Catacalos.

★

PRINCESS ELIZABETH
21st BIRTHDAY STAMPS

The Newfoundland 4c stamp duly appeared. It is of a pale, almost washed-out blue colour.

Australia's special stamp has been delayed. We understand one was prepared for issue on 21st April, but the design was turned down by the Board of judges for new stamps and a new design is not likely to be ready for some months.

John P. Shingler,

B.P.A.
POSTAGE STAMP DEALER,
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PEACE VICTORY ISSUES

Free pricelists are now available of the above, complete sets and single sets both mint and fine used.

Send also for pricelists of Egypt, Union, S.W.A., Royal Visit, British Colonial and Foreign Issues, albums and accessories.

S.A. PHILATELIC ASSOCIATION:

Write for details of this Postal Exchange Club — members wanted with better class material for sale.

UNION COLLECTORS SHOULD HAVE:

The Standard Catalogue of the Postage Stamps of the Union of South Africa: Issued by the Philatelic Federation of Southern Africa, post free 7/8.

The Airposts of South Africa, L. A. Wyndham, post free 12/9.

JANUARY, 1948: Come to East London for your holidays and enjoy the Centenary Celebrations, and in particular the East London Philatelic Society's Stamp Exhibition.

YOUR WANT LIST

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NEW ISSUE SERVICE—Send for particulars.	

E. S. JAMES,
RUSTINGTON, SUSSEX, ENGLAND.

NETHERLANDS

"Mijn Stokpaardje" in its issue for March, 1947, gives details of the regulations which will enable some collectors in Holland to exchange stamps with friends and collectors overseas. The Foreign Exchange Section of the Netherlands Bank has agreed namely to the following:—

Only members of societies affiliated to the Netherlands Federation of Philatelic Societies may exchange stamps with collectors outside Holland, subject to the following regulations:

1.—Import of only one mint copy of any stamp per member of a society is permitted. This may be increased to pairs or blocks of four only when the society to which the member belongs has knowledge that that particular member collects stamps in this state.

2.—Import and export value must balance. Foreign partner to the exchange must fulfil his part of the transaction within three months of the despatch of the stamps, otherwise future dealings with that person will be stopped.

3.—Two or more members of a society may not combine in an exchange. Exchange is limited to one transaction per month, the value not to exceed f.20.00 (approx. £2). A greater amount may be allowed should despatches be delayed for a few months, but the eventual total may not exceed f.60.00.

4.—Stamps for exchange must be sent to the committee of the Netherlands Federation at the Hague accompanied by a list of the stamps to be despatched and received in return, in duplicate.

The list must contain a full description of the stamps.

5.—Should the Committee approve the proposed exchange, the lists are endorsed to this effect and dated. The endorsement must also contain a declaration stating that the exchange is in terms of General Concession No. . . of the Netherlands Bank at Amsterdam and be signed by the Secretary of the Federation. One copy of the list is enclosed with the stamps to be despatched and the other retained by the Federation for comparison with the list returned by the foreign partner to the exchange.

6.—The stamps being imported must be addressed to the Federation and be accompanied by the list enclosed with the stamps exported. This list is eventually handed to the Customs Department.

7.—The value of foreign exchange shall be calculated in gulden at the prevailing rate of exchange provided by the Netherlands Bank.

From the above it will be clear that used stamps may not as yet be exchanged and that only members of societies affiliated to the Federation of Philatelic Societies are permitted exchange.

Should the belief that one's ears tingle when one is being discussed by others be true, certain ears in Holland must be a positive nuisance to their owners!

Rumours circulating in Holland that the number of "Cour Internationale de Justice" stamps available was insufficient have elicited the reply that owing to the great demand,

orders from sources outside the Hague have had to suffer delay.

A label issued by "De Nederlandsche Ruimtevaart Studio" and its organ, "The Flying Rocket," bearing the inscription "Nederland—Franklin D. Roosevelt" and value f.2.50+50 ct., resembles an official issue so much that the Netherlands postal authorities have found it necessary to issue a warning that these labels have no official status whatever.

★

Date of Cape Rectangular Used in O.F.S.

Sir,—I have read with interest the article in the April "S.A. Philatelist" by Mr. Jurgens, "Early Postal History of the O.F.S."

Re your footnote to Mr. Freund's letter regarding same article in the May issue, it may be of interest to know that Baron Brougham and Vaux died at Cannes on May 7th, 1868. Thus, allowing one month for the voyage of the steamer Australian, it would appear that an approximate date could be given to the piece of newspaper.

Yours, etc.,

E. H. KEW.

★

EXCHANGES WANTED.

Czechoslovakia.—Jaromir Fiser, of Sobeslav II, Bohemia, wants a philatelist to write him. His letter came by air with 13 different stamps on it.

Australia.—Mrs. H. F. Higgs, of "Elmwood," Yan Year, Victoria, wishes to exchange mainly Australian and New Zealand for Southern Africans.

Sarre.—Heinrich Walz, of 79 Feldmannstrasse, Sarrebruck 6e, French Occupation Zone, wishes to exchange stamps of Sarre for stamps of Southern Africa. At present loose stamps cannot be sent or received. They must be on cover, but it is hoped restrictions will soon be lifted. Correspondence in English, French or German.

Roumania.—C. Fotescu and M. Berall, stamp dealers, of Callea Victoriei, Bucharest 25, not only sell stamps but are prepared to exchange Roumania, Austrian, Hungarian or Russian mint stamps for equal value of South African mint, registered post.

Austria.—Josef Wicke, of Breitenfurterstrasse 5, Vienna 25, Atzgersdorf, wishes to exchange South African stamps on cover for equal values Austrian on cover by registered post. Correspondence in English, French or German.

Belgium.—Madame Jules Jauquet, 90 Rue de la Station, Monstier-sur-Sambre, a debutante collector, wishes to exchange Belgian for Southern African.

France.—M. Antonin Pouzerate, 30 Avenue Carnot, Roanne (Loire), wishes to exchange picture postcards franked with varied stamps for similar items from France.

Jean Bossé, La Meignanne, Maine, Loire, wishes exchange European for British Colonials.

India.—G. Shantaram Prahbu, Payyanur (N. Malabar), S. India. Indian and Malayan for Southern African.

BRITISH COLONIALS

We hold a large stock of all issues of the Dominions and Colonies, from superb copies of the Classic issues to the latest pictorials and commemoratives.

We are continually purchasing large and small collections, specialised lots, etc., and there is always something fresh to attract collectors.

Want lists are welcomed and receive prompt attention.

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Our prices are reasonable, and the stamps offered are of one quality only—**THE BEST**—as our motto is

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392 STRAND, LONDON, W.C.2., ENGLAND.

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A FEW USEFUL SPACE FILLERS

Australia Victory used 1/3 Blocks ..	5/0
Barbados '38, ½d. P.14 used	1/6
do. 2d. P.14 used	2/0
do. 3d. P.14 used	2/0
do. 4d. P.14 used	2/0
Br. Guiana 3c S.G.290 M or U	5/0
Burma 1938 1a D11 Mint 2/6; Blocks	10/0
Burma 1938 1a Service 2/-; Blocks ..	8/0
1945 Mil. Admin. Comp. Mint	40/0
A few Jap issues in stock if required	
Canada 1942 6c Air Mint 3/-; Bls. ..	12/0
Ceylon 3c P.14 used (1942)	5/0
Cyprus 1938 1½p red used	0/6
do. 1938 2½p blue used	2/0
Egypt 1939 20m grey mint 1/6; Bls.	6/0
1939 30m dark grey Mint	1/6
do. do. Used	1/0
1945 Arab Union Mint or used pairs	2/0
1946 80th Anniv. Mint 3/-; Block ..	12/0
1943-44 26c Express Mint	6/6
1938 Gibraltar 3d. p. 14 used	25/0
1943 Gibraltar 1d. P13½ Wmk Side M	1/6
1942 Grenada ½d.-1/- 7v P. 13½ x 12½	
U.	30/0
1938 Jamaica 2d. P.13 x 13½ used	1/0
1938 Malta 1d. brown Mint 1/6; Bls. ..	6/0
1946 Newfoundland 2c/30c U 1/6; Bls.	6/0
1942 Nyasaland ½d.-£1 Cp. M. £5; Bls.	400/0

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G.B. Collection Cat. About £35, price	£10 0 0
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Ceylon 1857-1912, 173 stamps Cat. £100, price	30 0 0
H. Kong 100 stamps Cat. £28 good postmarks	10 10 0
India & C.E.F. 130 stamps Cat. £11, price	3 10 0
Russia 25 sets used from 1941 to '44 almost Comp. C.?	4 0 0

All the above collections can be sent on approval against cash, if not required we shall refund.

In a few weeks, when we are a bit organised, we hope to run the following: Wholesale and Retail K.G. VI Mint and Used, Packets and approvals, customers interested should apply now stating requirements.

We shall be pleased to hear from both old and new customers.

L. A. GURNEY,

13', ABERCORN STREET, BULAWAYO, SOUTHERN RHODESIA

COMMANDO BRIEF

The articles lately appearing in your valuable journal, on the above subject, have been of very great interest to me. Admittedly no official document has, as yet, been traced to give these Franks or Labels, an authoritative status, but it appears to me that there is abundant evidence that they were accepted, endorsed by official post marks, and extensively used from nine days after the declaration of war, to within five days of the occupation of Bloemfontein by the British on 13th March, 1900.

May I venture to recall one or two facts which seem to me to have a possible bearing on the issue of the "Commando Briefs"?

The Orange Free State raised a Civilian Army, but it was a Fighting Army, granted free postage. In order to facilitate quick identification and transmission, a label (without denomination) would be useful.

The possibility of a clash of arms had been pending for some months, and the Free Staters were not taken by surprise when their President declared war on 11th October. They were mobilised at once and the Commandoes were already on the war path.

On 17th October the bridges of Modder River and Fourteen Streams were destroyed. On the 18th the Free State annexed territory, including the Kimberley District.

The following dates are clearly legible on Commando Briefs in my possession:

Modder River. OC 20 99 (2), OC 21 99, NO 22, 99, NO 23 99 and NO 25 99 (4).

Spytfontein. OC 21 99 (3), OC (date otherwise illegible.) NO 23.99.

Barkly West. NO 12 99 (2), NO 13, 99 (3), NO 18 99 (3), NO 21 99 (5) and NO 23 99 (3).

Petrusberg. FE 7 00 Charlestown. 9 Feb. OO Sto(rn)berg. Junction. C.G.H. FE (date smudged).

Bloemfontein. 27 FE OO Heilbron. Mr. 8. Also three "Killers" 252 (2) Cape type, and one 9. (O.V.S. type) which I understand was used at Jagersfontein.

Covers.

Modder River. NO 25 99.

Address. Mr. F. Hochapfel
c/o. Major Albrecht Division.
Near Jacobsdal.

Modder River NO 25 99.

Address Johannes Jacobs
Jacobsdal.

Colenso. 20. Jan. OO. (one line rubber stamp, purple ink.)

Address Messers Wright and Andrett
Photographers.

Bloemfontein. Date backstamp 25. Jan. OO
2nd P.M. Jan. 22. OO (Town name illegible).
3rd P.M. Jan. 24 OO Z.A.R. (otherwise illegible).

Can your readers supply earlier or later dates? I have specimens with postal dates of five of the six months of the Free State campaign; the missing month is December. I wonder why.

RACHEL LEIGHTON.

ROBSON LOWE ENTERS
AMERICAN BUSINESS

Robson Lowe is the latest British philatelic dealer to enter the American field. He is setting up a branch of his business at 721 Widener Building, Philadelphia, Pa., and clients will in future have a chance of bidding in both England and America.

★

A NEW BRITISH WEEKLY

We have received word of a new 4-page weekly philatelic newspaper, the "Stamp Mirror," about to be started at 2 Queen's Walk, South Ruislip, Middlesex, England.

★

BARBADOS

Stocks of 1d. stamps recently ran out, and on 21/4/47 the postmaster reluctantly had to issue the current 2d. surcharged "one penny" in two lines in a shiny black ink. It is understood that 1,000 sheets x 120 were so overprinted, all at one operation. Every possible step was taken to prevent speculation in the issue; no more than 30 were sold to one person on the day of issue and no more than 12 on subsequent days, and no orders from abroad were handled by the G.P.O. Both perforations, the 14 and the 13½ x 13, seem to have been used. No major varieties have yet been described. This is the first time for 55 years that Barbados has resorted to a surcharge.—Information from "Stamp Collecting."

★

CZECHOSLOVAKIA

The postal authorities have opened a Philatelic Agency in Prague and have sent us a tasteful envelope with three stamps (1.60, 2.40 and 5 Kes) and a special cancellation, issued on 23rd April in commemoration of the 950th anniversary of the death of St. Ethelbert, Bishop of Prague, who was murdered in heathen Prussia in 997.

Later came three stamps (1.20, 1.60 and 2.40) commemorating the Lidice tragedy. The two lower values feature a weeping woman who is, without exception, the most harrowing picture we know; the British "Keep Death off the Roads" poster simply isn't in it.

★

BRAZIL

The latest commemorative, a 40c. light green-blue, appeared on 14th March, the centenary of the birth of the poet Castro Alves.

On 17th May were due a souvenir sheet, envelopes and post cards, with special cancellations in honour of the U.S.A. postal centenary.

—Mario de Sanctis.

★

EGYPT

Mr. J. P. Shingler reports that the new air-mail set consists of 12 values, viz., 2, 3, 5, 7, 8, 10, 20, 30, 40, 50, 100 and 200 mills.

He also forwards a specimen of the Evacuation 10 mills stamp, in light purple with a soldier raising the Egyptian flag (in green). The stamp has the word "Evacuation" at the bottom.

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to find a more informative
Stamp Journal than the

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into suitable lots, scarce Canada, good
collections and various.

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An extensive British Empire collection
offered by Colonies, also scarce New-
foundland and others.

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A fine collection of Jap-Burma issues,
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2nd AUGUST—
A fine General Sale, good British Empire
collections, sets and single rarities.

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accurate, while Overseas bids are handled with
care and discretion.

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blanks, Turkey 63 blanks, Spanish Mo-
rocco 53 blanks, Timor 52 blanks, Nica-
ragua 50 blanks, Belgium 47 blanks,
Syria 46 blanks, Spain 42 blanks, etc.,

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application.

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responsible collectors.

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P. O. V. WARREN,
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REVIEWS.

STANLEY GIBBONS' POSTAGE STAMP CATALOGUE, 1947. Part I, British Empire (with Egypt, Iraq, Nepal and Transjordan), price 12/6, plus postage, U.K. 8d., abroad 9d. Part II, Europe, price 15/- plus postage, U.K. 8d., abroad 11d.

These long awaited catalogues have at last appeared, but we are requested to state that owing to the tremendous pre-publication demand coupled with the relatively limited printings due to paper rationing, Part I is already sold out and only very few copies of Part II are left.

In Part I price alterations are numerous, mainly upwards. The demand for popular countries such as Great Britain, British North America, Cape of Good Hope, West Indies, Egypt, etc., has led to some very sharp rises in their earlier issues. The cheapest 1d. black, for example, is now at 30s., and the 4d. dark blue Perkins Bacon Cape Triangular at 30s. is the only one less than 55s. There are also startling rises in the obsolete colour and perforation varieties of K.G. VI issues. But, as pricing was done somewhere about October last, in some cases the prices are already out of date and less than the stamps are actually fetching in the open market.

The Japanese war-time occupation stamps of Burma, Hong Kong, Malaya, Brunei, Sarawak and Borneo are included in this issue and the pre-war issues of the various Malay States have been regrouped for easier reference.

Part II, consisting of Europe only, is an innovation. By not including all foreign countries the publishers have been able to produce this much sooner than would otherwise have been the case, also it means a volume of much handier size. In this the colonies of the various European countries are *not* included, although their offices in the former Turkish Empire are. Part III, "Rest of the World," will be appearing in due course.

Holland in this issue becomes Netherlands, a change long overdue, and Iceland now appears as an independent country, not as a Danish colony.

The problem of listing the stamps issued during the war in enemy and enemy-occupied territories and the spate of liberation issues has been tackled, if not, perhaps, quite satisfactorily and permanently solved.

They have listed those which they are reasonably sure were legitimately and officially authorised; some will probably have to be added, but so far proof that they are worthy of catalogue rank is still lacking.

Doubtful items are omitted; they can always be added later, if necessary, but to list them and later to delete them they regard as bad policy.

We might remark that consistency in listing stamps issued in occupied territories has not been reached. Sometimes they are given under the heading of the occupied territory, sometimes under that of the occupying power. As one example, we find on p. 274 "Luxemburg. For issues under German occupation see Lux-

emburg, 1940-41," and there we find a list of German stamps overprinted. But immediately under "Luxemburg" comes "Poland (1915-1916)" and there we find a list of German stamps overprinted, without having to turn to Poland for it. It would be an advantage to have one system for these issues consistently adhered to.

Collectors' Wants & Offers

(Threepence per word per insertion with minimum of 3/- per insertion).

Beginners and medium collectors — try our approval service.
Benoni Stamp Shop, Box 485, Benoni.

Control Strips of Union and Transvaal, also mint blocks and rarities.
E. Tamsen, Box 13, Nylstroom.

Seychelles Wanted. Full catalogue price offered for fine used copies of Stanley Gibbons numbers 85, 90, 91, 92A to 101, 103, 104, 107, 110, 111, 113 to 118, 121, 122, 122A, 123A, 125, 141, 142, 145.

William Redford, P.O. Box 7012, Johannesburg.

For Sale: (1) Probably the greatest and most representative collection of O.F.S. extant. (2) Brazil sold. (3) A useful collection of Greece (260 pages), including used abroad on covers and other valuable items. (4) A very fine and valuable collection of Portuguese East Africa.

A. E. Basden, 109 Killarney, Brickhill Road, Durban.

FRANCE

The U.P.U. Congress held in Paris in May is responsible for the issue of four commemoratives, values 3.50, 4.50, 6.00 and 500 fr. They feature buildings in Paris with the wording "XIIe Congres de l'Union Postale Universelle Paris, 1947." The three low demonstrations were issued on 7th May, the 500 fr. value later.

Mint Coronations complete...	£5	0	0
Fiji 6d. die 1 mint ...	1	9	6
Seychelles 1938 colours 1r. ...	12	0	0
Bermuda 1938 2d. ...	1	2	6
N. Borneo B.M.A. used complete			
F.D.C. ...	10	0	0
Sarawak Centy. used F.D.C. ...	1	7	6
Sudan, Gordon, complete...	11	0	0

Send for particulars of our 10% New Issue Service. Many obsolete values of K. Geo. VI. available. Want Lists for all British Colonies appreciated.

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18, York Street, Plymouth, England.

AUSTRALIA

The results of the competition for new designs for stamps have been announced. Some 663 designs were submitted by 226 competitors. Eight draft designs have been accepted as a basis for final designs, the competitors sending these getting £50 each. The board of judges consisted of the Director of the Victoria National Gallery, two philatelists (Mr. J. R. W. Purvis and Mr. W. L. Russell) and two Departmental representatives.

The first new design will be issued in the near future to replace the existing 2s. stamp.

The designs as published in the press, look attractive, but we gather that art critics have fallen on them with their accustomed ruthlessness.

There is to be a commemorative for the 150th anniversary of the founding of Newcastle, N.S.W.

The 12 values (½d.—2s.) for the Territory of Norfolk Island were issued on 10th June.

Thanks to the Pacific Stamp Supply of Box 7, Sandringham, Victoria, for a first-day cover. The Norfolk Island pines make a very effective stamp design.



G.B. PICTORIALS

There is quite an agitation going on in Britain at the present time for pictorial stamps. There have been speeches in Parliament, and "The Gen" has produced a series of suggested designs in colour, some of which are really fine, but a few struck us as not being particularly attractive, if not artistically impossible.

An editorial in "Gibbon's Stamp Monthly" says they would welcome an issue provided it were of practical size, i.e., not larger than the ordinary low values of to-day—also if the designs were attractive and the present method of production were abandoned. It pointedly asks if the U.S.A. can print from recess plates why cannot we? Government Printer in South Africa please note!

OBITUARY

We regret to see the death reported, on 16th June, at the early age of 48, of Mr. Leonard A. Wyndham. Born at Barkly East, he joined the parliamentary staff in 1920 and became the chief committee clerk of the House of Assembly in 1936.

Mr. Wyndham's philatelic interests were practically confined to aero-philately, but in this sphere he was undoubtedly the leading figure in South Africa, and for his standard work, "The Air Posts of South Africa," published in 1936, he was elected to the roll of honour of distinguished South African philatelists.

Our sincere sympathy is extended to his widow and children.

Unusual Offers:

Australia Sydney Bridge, cpl. mint ..	75/0
Austria C 28/34 Musicians cpl. mint ..	32/6
Algeria Centenary 74/86 cpl. mint ..	35/0
Aden Dhows cpl. mint 1/12	370/0
Australia MacArthur cpl. used	10/6
Belgium Astrid 173/180 cpl. mint	8/6
do. Royal Children, etc. c 166/71 m.	10/6
do. Piccard Balloon 414/16 cpl. m.	15/0
do. Orval cpl. mint C 72/80	42/0
do. Koebelberg cpl. used C 215/21	15/0
Belgian Congo, Rulers, 207/13 mint or used at	10/6
Belgian Congo, Rulers, 215/16 mint ..	5/6
Congo & Ruanda Astrid cpl. 2 sets ..	7/6
Ruanda 77a/92, 18 cpl. fine used .. .	17/6
Ceylon 372/382 cpl. 12 fine used .. .	12/6
do. Silver Jubilee cpl. mint	10/6
Egypt Geographical cpl. 168/70	25/0
do. Railway cpl. 221/224 mint	75/0
do. Zeppelins, etc., 245/49 cpl. mint	80/0
do. Agricultural 271/75 cpl. mint ..	17/6
do. Fuad suregd. mint (219)	12/6
do. Royal Wedding F.D. cover	15/0
do. Cotton cpl. 296/98 mint	10/6
do. Telecomm. cpl. 299/301 mint ..	10/6
Eire high values 102/104 used	12/6
Gibraltar Rock, 110/113 fine used .. .	7/6
India New Delhi 226/231 cpl. fine used	10/6
do. K.G. VI mint 247/259	10/6
Portug. India, Franc. Xavier 509/14, fine used	5/0
Jamaica, Child Welfare 104/5 (2) fine used	15/0
Kenya high value 50 Rupees (77) fine f.c. (€75)	75/0
Kenya Silver Jubilee cpl. mint	12/6
Lebanon Tourist 191/98 cpl. mint	7/6
Monaco Roosevelt cpl. mint	12/6
Newfoundland Silver Jubilee cpl. mint	12/6
do. Coronation lond set cpl. mint ..	17/6
Netherlands 1940/46 Queen cpl. mint (14) to 1 G.	10/6
Somaliland 1938 cpl. mint 93/104 ..	110/0
Sudan Air 50/57d (10 vals.) used ..	25/0
Vatican State 19/30 (11 vals.) used	10/0
do. Juridical 41/46 fine used	17/6
do. on registered cover	21/0
Zanzibar, 310/322 cpl. mint	35/0
Eire high values 102/104 used	12/6

Cash with order, postfree.

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



THE CAPE OF GOOD HOPE "THREE PENCE" ON 4d. BLUE. S.G. No. 34c.
DOES THE DOUBLE OVERPRINT EXIST?

For many years I have had serious doubts as to whether this overprint is a genuine double overprint or whether it is just like one of those "double strikes" so often found among the overprinted stamps of Bechuanaland.

Recently I again had an opportunity of examining one of these so-called double overprints and it confirms my opinion that those which have come to light to date are merely stamps which had curled up in the sheet whilst being overprinted, and thus received an impression of the words "THREE PENCE" before the forme had been driven home on to the sheet of stamps which were being overprinted.

For a detailed description as to how these so-called double overprints occurred on the stamps of Bechuanaland, see page 75 "The Bechuanalands" recently published by the writer. Also article by Sir Edward D. Bacon, "London Philatelist" Vol. XLII No. 502, for October, 1933, page 225.

I have, during the past 40 years, seen a few specimens not one of which showed both overprints in the same density of ink. The overprints have in each case been almost overlapping one another and they are in every way similar to those stamps of Bechuanaland which have been claimed as double overprints and which have been proved not to be such.

Allis in his book "The Postage Stamps of the Cape of Good Hope," on page 94, says that 5,000 sheets (1,200,000 stamps) were overprinted; on page 95 he mentions 7 varieties of the overprint, but of these only the "THE.EE PENCE" has been recorded with the overprint doubled.

He further says that "At least one sheet of this provisional was issued with the surcharge doubly printed, and this item is one of the great Cape rarities."

Having known the late Gilbert J. Allis personally and intimately, I submit that when he made this statement he was theorising, and my reasons for saying so are as follows:

- (1) If a complete sheet consisting of 240 stamps had received the double overprint then surely more of the varieties which are known to exist on the normal overprint would have been discovered by now.
- (2) Only one variety has been recorded, viz., S.G. 34b. (THE.EE PENCE).
- (3) Why have no pairs or strips been recorded?
- (4) Why in each and every specimen so far seen do the two overprints vary in depth of colour, i.e., the one is clearly printed like the normal overprint whilst the other is light? This is very suggestive of the light one not having received the correct pressure in the printing press.

It will be admitted that if this stamp had received two overprints of the words "Three Pence" in the type of printing press in use at that time then both such overprints should be identical in the density of the ink.

Take S.G. No. 57c (C.G.H.) as an example. There can be no question whatsoever that this stamp *did* pass through the printing press twice

To my mind, therefore, the stamps of the Cape of Good Hope can claim only one genuine double overprint as mentioned above (S.G. No. 57c).

It is notoriously hard to prove a negative; the fact that one has never seen something does not prove that that something is non-existent. I am therefore still open to conviction as to the existence of this double overprint, but only if someone can produce a specimen in which the two overprints are of equal density, and it is, therefore, as indubitably a "double" as S.G. 57c is. Can anyone do so?

A. A. JURGENS.

CHANNEL ISLES

1941/4 Complete set of 11 stamps mint, 14/9.
Guernsey Bisepts, 1912 type, £5; 1934 type £6;
1937 type, £3; 1940 type, 30/-.
All Post Free.

France Air (40, 50, 100, and 200 frs.) mint, 18/-
U.P.U. Air 500 frs. mint, 22/6
Aden (with States) complete mint current, 65/3. Many others in stock. Price list on demand.

Any item sent on approval for the inspection of prospective buyers. Postage then extra.

J. MARTIN,

69, Henley Avenue, North Cheam, Surrey England.

PROTECTORATES "ROYAL VISIT" PERFORATIONS

In their recent catalogue additions in the "Stamp Monthly," Gibbons give the perforation of these stamps as 12½, not 12¾ x 12½ or 12½ x 12¾ as has been recorded by one writer (see our May issue, p. 73).

★

"B.C.O.F. JAPAN"

These overprinted Australian stamps, after having been withdrawn, have been re-issued at Australian Army P.O.s for postage in the B.C.O.F. only. The stamps overprinted are the ½d., 1d., 3d., 6d., 1s., 2s. and 5s.; on the 1d. and 3d. the overprint is in heavy type, in light type on the other values.

★

TRISTAN DA CUNHA

A statement has appeared in the London "Times" from the Rev. A. E. Handley, missionary on the island, that Tristan has not, and is not going to have, postage stamps of its own. He has been moved to make this announcement apparently because of the shoals of letters received on the occasion of the recent visit of the "Natal" from persons wanting Tristan stamps. He is right, of course, in saying that the island has not its own stamps at present, but whether it is or is not going to have them in the future is another story.

SOCIETY NEWS

PORT ELIZABETH PHILATELIC SOCIETY

President, Mr. G. K. Forbes; *Hon. Sec.*, Mr. P. G. Smith, 13 Trafalgar Square, Port Elizabeth; *Meetings*, 1st and 3rd Tuesdays in Room 8, City Hall Basement, at 7.45 p.m.

There was a large attendance at the Annual General meeting held on Tuesday, the 20th May.

Mr. Nicholson is still on the sick list, but it is hoped that in the near future he will be able to attend the meetings.

The Secretary read the minutes and correspondence. There was a letter from the Exchange Superintendent, Mr. Campbell, handing in his resignation as he and Mrs. Campbell are going on a trip to Australia. He will be greatly missed as he was a keen worker both for the Society and the members. We wish them *bon voyage*.

Officers were then elected for the ensuing year: *President*, Mr. G. K. Forbes; *Vice-Presidents*, Mr. Nicholson and Mr. Harmer; *Auditor*, Mr. McMillan; *Exchange Superintendents*, Mr. Roberts, Mr. A. J. S. Smith, Mr. Millard; *Auctioneers*, Mr. Levy, Mr. Forbes; *Auction Committee*, Mr. B. Jones, Mr. G. P. Smith, Mr. Ford; *Reporter*, L. E. Campton.

The Syllabus for the coming year was then drafted out, and when printed, each member will receive one by post.

It is regretted that Mr. A. M. Jones will be leaving us as he goes on pension, but it is hoped that we will see him whenever he comes to Port Elizabeth.

The President stated that some members had been careless over the packets of stamps and for the future a new set of rules would come into force.

L.E.C.

★

CAPE TOWN PHILATELIC SOCIETY

President, C. G. Mummery; *Hon. Secretary*, S. Kaganson, P.O. Box 1973; *Meetings*, 2nd and 4th Thursdays at Yorkshire Buildings, Strand Street, at 7.30 p.m.

On the 24th April Mr. S. F. Rotheron gave a very pleasing display of selected leaves from his albums. As by this means he concentrated more for quality than for quantity, there was time for one to make a much closer acquaintance with his treasures. There is a lot to be said for an exhibition of this kind for when 300 pages are on view it is not practicable to give more than a hurried glance at each page when perhaps the half-hour available for this purpose could very well be spent on the stamps of a single sheet.

On the 8th May a very comprehensive display of the later issues of Canada was put on view by Mr. A. Sagorsky. Commencing with the 1897 Jubilee issue, he showed in practically unbroken sequence all the issues in mint condition. Especially noticeable were his blocks of mint imperforates. From the number of these blocks on view it would seem that imperf. issues are by no means real rarities, although I fancy that his imperf. blocks of 12 of the 1, 2 and 3 cents of the 1928-29 issue with the two middle stamps *tête-à-tête* must be quite scarce. He remarked that during the period when the printing was done by the British-American Bank Note Coy. there were practically no imperf. issues.

The thirty-sixth Annual General Meeting was held on the 22nd May, 1947, when the Committee's report on the working of the Society for the previous twelve months was presented to members. On the whole, it was on a par with that presented a year ago. The balance sheet showed that the post-war improvement had been maintained and even bettered. The membership now stands at 182. Auction commission and advertising brought in £43, whilst the nett income from the Exchange Section reached the record total of £134. Charity contributions amounted to fifty guineas.

A few additions were made to the library, but these are not commensurate with the funds as reflected in the total assets of the Society.

The average attendance recorded was 45, and the funds in hand indicate that the Society is in a sound financial position.

The announcement made by Mr. Cock that he would not be in a position to carry on the duty of Exchange Superintendent owing to circumstances beyond his control, was received with great regret for it has been a model service during the past three years. Mr. C. R. V. Solomon has very kindly stepped into the breach, and we look forward to another successful year for this section—but he has something to live up to.

Mr. A. A. Jurgens, F.R.P.S.L., was unanimously elected to Honorary Life Membership. His qualifications for this honour are well known in all philatelic circles.

The new executive elected for the ensuing year is as follows: *President*, C. J. Mummery; *Vice-President*, K. M. Cameron; *Hon. Secretary*, S. Kaganson; *Hon. Treasurer*, I. E. Hall; *Hon. Exchange Superintendent*, C. R. V. Solomon; *Hon. Librarian*, W. G. Combrink; *Committee*, Messrs. R. Chapman, J. L. Oates, L. H. Rivers, W. D. Vallance, and L. Simenhoff, F.R.P.S.L.

The first meeting of the new session, on 12th June, was remarkable for the size of the attendance—not that this is exceptional when Mr. Alexander gives a show—perhaps it is bred of a curiosity just to see what he has put up this time. The title, "Something very unusual," gave little indication, but members were not disappointed when they found that philately played only a minor part, though the most interesting philatelic section was a display of cigarette cards showing replicas of philatelic rarities. Mr. Alexander collects almost everything—"a needle to an anchor"—though he rather specialises in medals (from dog to war) and coins. The main part of the display consisted of a collection of potential Africana in the form of programmes, menus, identification cards, etc., that were issued in connection with the many functions arranged during the course of the recent Royal Visit to South Africa. This array, though by no means complete, goes quite a long way towards being a full record—the completion of which will take up much of our worthy member's attention for some time to come.

Four names are listed for membership.

We very much regret to record the death of Mr. L. Wyndham, who was one of our foremost collectors of African Airposts. Most readers will remember his publication which dealt with his hobby and was issued a few years ago. It is still a standard work on South African Air Mails.

G.H.G.

★

THE PHILATELIC SOCIETY OF JOHANNESBURG

President, Dr. A. Kaplan; *Hon. Sec.*, Mr. J. H. Jenkins, P.O. Box 4967; *Meetings*, 2nd Tuesdays, Public Library, 7.45 p.m.

The Annual General Meeting of the Society was held on 10th June. After reports had been presented by the officials which showed that the Society had had a successful year, the election of the committee took place. The following were elected: *President*, Dr. A. Kaplan; *Vice-President*, Mr. W. Redford; *Hon. Secretary*, Mr. J. H. Jenkins; *Hon. Treasurer*, Mr. M. Jecks; *Hon. Exchange Superintendent*, Mr. J. W. Schubart; *Hon. Publicity Officer*, Mr. I. Isaacs; *members of committee*, Dr. J. H. Harvey Pirie, Mr. J. Burrell, and Mr. H. B. Marcuson. In addition, Mr. L. Buchen, Mr. E. C. Sprighton, and Mr. F. J. H. Lang are ex-officio members of the committee.

The exhibit for the evening was provided by Mr. F. J. H. Lang who showed a fine collection of Nova Scotia stamps. The exhibit included proofs, essays and fine used items, as well as numerous mint blocks.

Commander Enoch spoke on the exhibit, which was much appreciated. I.I.

★

PRETORIA PHILATELIC SOCIETY

President, F. C. Ferguson; *Hon. Sec.*, H. Endemann, P.O. Box 514; *Meetings*, 1st and 3rd Mondays, 8 p.m., Technical College.

5th May was Ladies' Evening, and a very good show they put up, too.

Miss Versfeld communicated a paper on the Centenary International Exhibition being held this month in New York, detailing the various special features of it.

Mrs. Dyer read an article from "Gibbons' Stamp Monthly" on Native Races on Stamps, indicating what an interesting subject collection this would make.

*Mrs. Miller-Smith followed up with a paper on the stamps of Great Britain, with special reference to the 1880 2s. brown.

Mrs. Butler showed the main exhibit of the evening, a collection of musicians on stamps.

In addition to the ladies, Dr. Broom gave a short talk on his favourite old Transvaals, and Mr. Obermeyer read a paper on the stamps of the Orange Free State, dealing particularly with the significance of the various parts of the Coat-of-Arms.

19th May: The Allan Cup and the Society's Certificate of Merit Competition took place this evening.

The entrants for the former were Mr. D. Alton, Union Commemoratives; Mr. A. Blick, British Africans; Mr. A. Fredericks, the Postage Stamp 300; and Mr. Herring, The Rhodesias.

By vote, the winner was Mr. Fredericks (last year's winner, also) although only by a short head from Mr. Herring.

Entrants for the Certificate of Merit were Mr. Giovanetti, Unions; Dr. Broughton, Papua; and Mr. Obermeyer, Cape. The judges had difficulty in deciding the winner, and finally awarded certificates to both Mr. Giovanetti and Dr. Broughton.

H.E.

★

THE JEWISH GUILD PHILATELIC SECTION

Chairman, Dr. A. Kaplan; *Hon. Secretary*, Mr. B. Joseph, 143 London House, Loveday Street, Johannesburg; *Meetings*, Last Thursday, Jewish Guild War Memorial Hall.

At the meeting held on 29th May, the exhibits were provided by members of the East Rand Philatelic Society, who paid an official visit to the Guild. Mr. H. Suklje showed blocks of King George VI stamps. His exhibit included blocks of obsolete items and high values, and was almost complete.

Mr. Gilmore showed a collection of Canada. This included the scarce Jubilee issue of Queen Victoria. All in fine condition and most of the commemoratives were shown.

Mr. J. Shepherd, President of the East Rand Society, showed selected items of his South-West Africa collection. Nearly all the known errors (inverted overprints and missing stops) were included. His exhibit included a used Postage Due (S.G. D 13) in fine used condition. This is probably the only specimen of the stamp known in this condition.

Various members of the Guild spoke on the exhibits, which were very much appreciated.

I.I.

★

MARITZBURG PHILATELIC SOCIETY

Chairman, C. R. Turner; *Hon. Secretary*, R. Morton, P.O. Box 328, Pietermaritzburg; *Meetings*, 2nd Friday in each month at 211 Burger Street, 7.45 p.m.

There was a good attendance at the monthly meeting held on the 13th June. Mr. Turner and Brigadier Crofton reported on a successful visit to the Durban Society on the 4th instant. Two talks and exhibitions were given during the evening, the first by Mr. Blaygrove Ellis, and the second by Dr. Dennison. Mr. Ellis's talk was on the stamps bearing the Chalon portrait of Queen Victoria; he traced the history of the stamps produced, and ended by giving a display of early Natal stamps, including some proofs showing this head. Mr. Dennison prefaced his display by a short history of Bechuanaland, and explained how it became a British territory. He traced the history of the stamps issued from the time that Cape of Good Hope stamps were overprinted up to the modern issues. A very interesting and complete collection was displayed, this being the combined collections of Dr. Dennison and Mr. T. Jackson.

C.E.S.

EAST LONDON PHILATELIC SOCIETY

President, C. P. Durkin; *Hon. Sec.*, A. W. Stander, P.O. Box 694, East London; *Meetings*, 2nd Fridays, above Colosseum Theatre Tea Room, at 7.45 p.m.

PHILATELIC EXHIBITION

We are informed that a Stamp Exhibition will be held in East London during the East London Centenary Celebrations in January, 1948.

The date fixed for the exhibition is Thursday, 15th, to Saturday, 17th, January, 1948, both inclusive.

It has been decided to make it a competitive exhibition, and the Society is looking forward to receiving exhibits from philatelists all over the Union, the Rhodesias and adjoining territories.

Further details will be supplied shortly, meanwhile Society secretaries are asked to make this information public among their members.

Mr. H. E. Williams is acting as secretary for the Exhibition, address, 20 Vincent Place, Vincent, East London.

★

EAST RAND PHILATELIC SOCIETY

President, Mr. J. Shepherd, P.O. Box 97, Brakpan; *Hon. Secretary*, E. N. Riff, 103 Kemston Avenue, Benoni.

May. Covers were shown from the Royal Train, also a sheet of all the postal cancellations that were used on the Royal Train. The most interesting item was a half-sheet of 4d. stamps of the bantam issue of South-West Africa with the overprint S.W.A. inverted. Covers from North Borneo with a set of 15 stamps in blocks of 4 overprinted B.M.A. The evening's exhibit was provided by Mr. Fine: Union of South Africa which was very well displayed and contained all the Commemoratives right up to the Royal Visit; the exhibit included several very noted varieties.

June. Covers were shown of Southern Rhodesia Victory stamps and first day cover from Newfoundland on the occasion of Princess Elizabeth's birthday. It was reported that another Post Office Mauritius stamp has been found. It was 30 years since the last was discovered. Barbados has a new surcharged stamp 1d. on 2d. Australia most likely will issue a new set of stamps. The evening's exhibit was provided by the secretary, and included the following countries: Rhodesian, comprising British South African Co., Northern and Southern Rhodesia. The second exhibit was Sarawak, Nyasaland and St. Helena.

E.N.R.

★ ★ ★

KENYA MARKET COMMENTARY

The following notes are taken from "The Philatelic Trader":

Current Kenya set full of interesting, and in some cases scarce, perforation varieties, and is a popular series.

The original £1 now very hard to get, especially mint, and is somewhere near the £5 mark. The 5s. and 10s. p. 14 also good but not to quite the same extent; the 5s. is the harder to find.

Of the low values the 10c p. 14 is scarce and much harder to find than its catalogue rating would indicate.

The star item is, of course, the 50c rope not touching sail variety, especially in a position block. Only about 5,000 can ever have existed, but how many are extant is not known. Well worth buying wherever seen.

The Provisionals on Union stamps a good lock-up at to-day's prices, especially in fine used pairs. The 5c on 1d. seems to be the hardest to get mint.

The

SOUTH AFRICAN PHILATELIST

Proprietors and Publishers:

The Philatelic Federation of Southern Africa

Honorary Editor: Dr. J. H. HARVEY PIRIE, - - - P.O. Box 7012, Johannesburg
Honorary Business Manager: WILLIAM REDFORD, Broadcast House, Commissioner Street,
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Vol. 23, No. 8.

AUGUST, 1947.

Whole No. 269

UNION & S.-WEST AFRICA NOTES

RECENT PRINTINGS

The Postal Authorities have forwarded the following information as to quantities of stamps, etc., printed during the period 19.2.47 to 3.6.47. For previous records see our April issue, p. 49.

(a) Pictorial Postage Stamps

1d.—Job 560 contd. 246,775 sheets x 240, final delivery on 1/4/47. Cylinders 60 Int. and 49 Ext. as before.

Job 11662. A further delivery of 83,500 from the old cylinders 60 and 49. A delivery commencing on 17/4/47 of 11,600 sheets x 240 from new cylinders 6912 Int. and 7019 Ext.

1½d.—Job 13,161. On an order for 750,000 sheets x 240, 259,500 were delivered subsequent to 1/4/47. Cylinders 31 Int. and 6924 Ext.

2d.—Job 10,808 contd. From cylinders 8 and 21 the quantity now delivered is 465,500 sheets x 120.

3d.—Job 8,107 contd. As before, no delivery to date.

6d.—Job 606 contd. As before, no delivery to date.

(b) Roll Stamps

1d.—Job 9,979 contd. Total delivery to date is 6,700 rolls x 506. Cylinder as before.

(c) Inland Pictorial Postcards

1d.—Job 8,674 contd. Printed in sheets of 32. Final delivery on 22/5/47 bring total of 3,507,840 cards from cylinders 86 for stamps only and 87 for pictures only. Job 2743. An order for 2,720,000 cards. New cylinders 87 for stamps only and 86 for pictures only, no delivery to date.

(d) Air Letter Cards

6d.—Job 6,887 contd. Printed in sheets of 6. Final delivery from cylinder 71 on 16/4/47 brings total to 5,125,344.

6d.—Job 766. Printed in sheets of 6. On an order for 1,500,000 with first delivery on 29/5/47, 194,400 have been delivered to date. New cylinder 73.

(e) Royal Visit Stamps

1d.—Job 12,851. 32,270 sheets x 240 delivered between 27/2/47 and 4/3/47. Cylinders 10 and 6913 as before.

2d.—Job 12,852. 84,100 sheets x 120 delivered between 4/3/47 and 25/3/47. Cylinder 39 as before.

3d.—Job 12,853. 24,965 sheets x 120 delivered between 13/3/47 and 20/3/47. Cylinder 17 as before.

(f) S.W.A. Royal Visit Stamps

2d.—Job 33,362. 14,500 sheets x 120 overprinted from old formes on 20/3/47.

3d.—Job 33,363. 9,500 sheets x 120 overprinted from old formes on 20/3/47.

It should be noted particularly in the above records that the 1d. Springbok head stamp is being printed from new cylinders, so some differences may be noticeable.

Royal Visit Stamps, Totals Printed

From the figures given above and from those given in April it is now possible to get the totals issued. Deducting those taken for overprinting S.W.A. they are:

1d.—142,770 sheets x 240 equal 33,264,800 stamps.

2d.—From plate 6912—231,500 sheets x 120 equal 27,780,000 stamps.

2d.—From plate 39—352,602 sheets x 120 equal 42,312,240 stamps.

Total, 584,102 sheets x 120 equal 70,092,240 stamps.

3d.—41,465 sheets x 120 equal 4,975,800 stamps.

The South-West Africa figures are:

1d.—12,000 sheets x 240 equal 2,880,000 stamps.

2d.—From plate 6912—10,000 sheets x 120 equal 1,200,000 stamps.

2d.—From plate 39—20,500 sheets x 120 equal 2,460,000 stamps.

Total, 30,500 sheets x 120 equal 3,660,000 stamps.

3d.—20,500 sheets x 120 equal 2,460,000 stamps.

1d. Plate 6 1930-32

The Union Catalogue gives this as with normal watermark only. Mr. Axer reports having it with control and inverted watermark.

Mr. E. S. Smith, of Graaff Reinet, states he has a strip of twelve, high hand pane of sheet 0898 right margin, with a white line running almost vertically through the strip, but sloping slightly so that it is on the right of the top stamp of the strip and at the left of the bottom stamp.

5/- King's Head with Inverted Watermark

The find is reported of a single specimen of this stamp, mint, with watermark inverted. This leaves only the 2s. 6d. and the £1 not known with watermarked inverted, but if the 5s. can turn up after being unknown for 34 years, the others may yet be found.

1/- New Shade

Mr. Axer records the 1s. on sale at 10th June in a new shade; blue darker and brown instead of chocolate.

Current 1d. with (?)Retouched Frame-line

Several readers have commented on the worn state of the top frame-line on current 1d. stamps. This can be noted on a number of stamps throughout the sheet, but is perhaps most noticeable on stamp No. 1. Dr. Kaplan reports that he has also seen a sheet with some of the stamps showing what looks like a retouch of this frame-line.

U.M.V. Meter No. 217

Mr. Axer reports that this meter stamp is being used in S. Rhodesia by the "Herald," Salisbury. Up to date its place of usage has been blank in the recorded list.

Rare Royal Train Cancellation

A reader has forwarded a first-day cover (17.II.47) which has the stamps cancelled by the mark allotted to the Cable and Telegraph Office on the Pilot Train, i.e., the one with a small hollow triangle between the upper and lower lettering. It was previously doubted if this mark ever occurred on ordinary covers, now it is certain that it does occur but it is probably the rarest of the lot, the solid square of the White Train being the next most scarce variety.

S.W.A. 1d. Royal Visit Variety

Mr. A. Sprake in "Stamp Collecting" reports a 1d. Royal Visit stamp with a small black dot, like a full stop, between the "W" and "A" of the overprint. It is the fifth stamp from the right margin on one row.

H.M.S. "Vanguard" Marks

In our June issue we illustrated a mark of 24 April, 1947, with "Mail Office/H.M.S. Vanguard." Two other similar types of mark have since been noted: (a) Mr. C. Calitz submits one of the same sailing date, in red,

with "Commanding Officer" in place of Mail Office; (b) Mr. N. Hill, England, sends a cover with Royal Visit stamps cancelled by the red "Post Office—Maritime Mail" mark, the "Vanguard" mark on the cover having "Captain" in place of Mail Office. The cover was posted on the day of arrival at Cape Town, but the ship's mark is erroneously dated 1st January, 1947.

Comparative Pricings in the Latest "Gibbons Part I" and the Union Catalogue

Mr. Percy C. Bishop in his magazine "Stamp Values," No. 4, gives an interesting comparison for certain notable Union varieties (mint) as given in the two catalogues. We make no apology for quoting it in full; only thanks. (Gibbons price first, Union price second):

- 1913 6d. with "Z" of Zuid missing, £1; 8/6.
- 1913 £1 green and red, £5 15/-; £8.
- 1913 £1 olive green and red, £6; £7 10/-.
- 1925 Set of 4 air stamps, £3 11/-; £2 9/-.
- 1926 1d. with "I" of fraction missing, £8; £5.
- 1930 2d. Rotogravure, frame omitted £20; £30.
- 1938 1½d. with shading of mine dump omitted, £2; £1 5/-.
- 1936 "Jipex" 1d. miniature sheet, 10/-; 6/6.
- 1936 "Jipex" 1d. miniature sheet, 8/6; 3/6.
- 1922 Postage Due 2d. imperf., £10; £10.

"It is only in the last-quoted instance that the two authorities agree. Rather odd, isn't it, that amateur cataloguers in the Union should hold so many of their own country's stamps in less esteem than professional cataloguers at home?" (It may be presumed that Mr. Bishop only means financial esteem!—Ed.)

CHANNEL ISLES

1941/4 Complete set of 11 stamps mint, 14/9.
Guernsey Biscets, 1912 type, £5; 1934 type £6;
1937 type, £3; 1940 type, 30/-.

All Post Free.

France Air (40, 50, 100, and 200 frs.) mint, 18/- U.P.U. Air 500 frs. mint, 22/6
Aden (with States) complete mint current, 65/3. Many others in stock. Price list on demand.

Any item sent on approval for the inspection of prospective buyers. Postage then extra.

J. MARTIN,

**69, Henley Avenue, North Cheam,
Surrey England.**

(Concluded from page 128)

Mrs. Butler's exhibit of musicians of the world was wonderfully written up and displayed, starting with Austria and ending with South Africa.

Dr. Reisener's German war stamps exhibit was almost complete. They were in mint condition and included some very valuable sheets of Hitler stamps which are very scarce, as not very many sheets were printed.

Mr. Giovanetti sent over his collection of South-West Africa, which contained some very fine examples of the King's Head overprints that were misplaced, and various stamps with overprints inverted.

The East Rand had a very pleasant evening viewing these collections which were all outstanding.

E.M.R.

AT ONE TIME

we thought that our constantly reasonable prices would become so well known that advertising would be unnecessary, especially as we post out well over a thousand price lists at least once a month, and sometimes twice. However, we are meeting collectors new to us constantly, and as many of them say "We only heard of you a few days ago," we think it necessary to advertise our wares, so that others of you may judge whether "One of the new get-rich-quick firms" can get rich on a very nominal profit margin.

WE SUPPLY CURRENT

G.VI and all new issues at 15 per cent. over sterling face, whenever possible. Occasionally, as in the case of Barbados provisional, 15 per cent. over cost. For example, all our new issue subscribers obtained the C.C. Peace sets at 22/6, the new New Zealand set at 9/9, and Sarawak Royal Cypher overprint, at 25/9. For the foreign collectors we sold the complete set of German war sets for £8 10s., catalogued about £35, and the Belgium 1929 Orval, for £18. Check up on what you paid and then send for our price lists—they are free—and compare the prices of our comprehensive offers. You will find them on a similar low plane.

IF REFERENCES ARE NECESSARY

we are members of the B.P.A. and S.D.A., for the latter we are the South African agents. We are also the S.A. agents of the Acorn Exchange Club, one of the largest in the world, particulars of which we will gladly supply.

WHY NOT TRY US ONCE ?

It can only cost you a 1½d. stamp, and the effort necessary to write a letter. A reply will be sent within 24 hours of its arrival.

BRIAN NICHOLS & CO.

14a, ADDERLEY STREET,

P. O. Box 3662.

CAPE TOWN

PHILATELIC CONGRESS.

The 1947 Congress will not, after all, be held at Port Elizabeth in November, but at East London in January (15-17), 1948.

Preliminary arrangements were practically all fixed up with the P.E. Philatelic Society when the East London Society suggested that it was going to be very difficult for philatelists in other parts of the country to travel twice within a couple of months—first to Port Elizabeth for Congress and then to East London for their Exhibition—and suggested that Congress might be transferred to East London.

A hurriedly convened meeting of some members of the Philatelic Federation's Executive Committee appreciated this point, but felt they could not summarily decide. They therefore asked the two societies to settle between themselves; Port Elizabeth gracefully stepped down in favour of East London feeling that although they had the first right to Congress, East London's claim was greater on account of their special exhibition in connection with the town's centenary celebrations.

This, the first post-war Congress, has been unfortunate in changes of venue and date, but this third fixture should be lucky. Further information in later issues. N.W.

★

BRITISH COLONIALS

Brunei:

The Commonwealth Stamp Coy. reports that Brunei is to have 5 dollar and 10 dollar stamps in the same design as the present 1 dollar.

S. Rhodesian Victories:

The "Philatelic Trader" states that varieties to be looked for are (a) 1d. Flaw on Queen's neck on stamp 59; (b) 2d. Flaw in frame at right of stamp 10.

A Cape Forgery:

The Expert Committee of the B.P.A. report in "Philately" having had a Cape 1d on 6d lilac of 1874 (S.G. 32) with overprint apparently double, submitted to them. The stamp proved to have a faked postmark over a removed penmark and the overprint in many respects did not agree with the genuine. Verdict—completely bogus.

GREAT BRITAIN

No Pictorials—Ever

Great Britain is NOT to have any pictorial stamps—ever! This final decision of the P.M.G. is recorded in a recent letter to a reader of "Illustrated," in which he says: "This present policy carries a definite international prestige value. It maintains the valued tradition of depicting the head of the reigning sovereign" and "enables this country, as the first users of postage stamps, to continue our practice of dispensing with the name of the country as part of the design." So now we know, and all the world knows, too.

—"Stamp Collecting."

British Philatelic Exhibition 1947

This Exhibition, to be held at the Imperial Institute, S. Kensington, from October 23 to November 5, will remain open till 8 p.m. so that more collectors who are busy all day will be able to see it. It is being limited this year to British Dominions and Colonies.

After being on show in London it will be taken to Glasgow, and it is hoped that it may be arranged to take it also to Manchester and Birmingham.

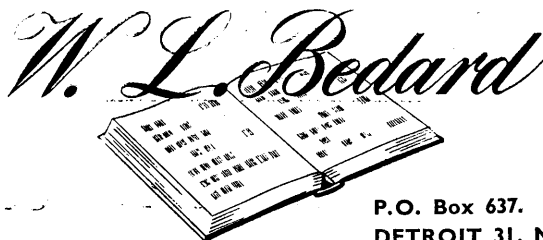
Our Philatelic Association has been asked, and has accepted the invitation, to send a display featuring the full Postal History of the Union and its constituent former stamp-issuing territories.

British Parcel Post "Stamps"

There was introduced on 28th April parcel post labels showing amount of postage, post town and date of posting. They are similar to the labels introduced in a number of the towns in the Union in 1935.

These labels are adhesive, they are issued by the post office for definite postage rates and have "Postage Paid" on them. It will be interesting to see whether they will be regarded by philatelists and/or catalogue makers as "Postage Stamps."

The compilers of our new Standard Catalogue of the Postage Stamps of the Union have rather dodged this issue. They include them in the catalogue but call them "Adhesive Parcel Labels."



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EDITORIAL S.O.S.

Bacon (not Shakespeare, but the other fellow) says somewhere that speaking makes a ready man, reading a full man, and writing an exact man. Had he been a philatelist he would no doubt have added observation to reading as making for fullness; in these days we are not content always to accept what has been written as gospel truth.

About stamps there are lots of ready men in South Africa; this is demonstrable sometimes at philatelic society meetings, but get them alone with their stamps and they fairly bubble over! There are a fair number of men who are full of information about stamps from their reading and observation. But why, oh why, are there so few exact men who will codify their knowledge by putting it in writing and so make it available for others to qualify as full men by reading it?

To come down to plainer language, this is an appeal to our readers to send in more articles to the "South African Philatelist." The situation is more serious than it has ever been; for years I have been haunted by the fear that there wouldn't be enough copy for the next number, but to-day that is just about how things stand. The editorial bin of articles awaiting publication is absolutely empty.

For a major article in this month's issue I have been compelled to go to my own bottom drawer and take out the only bit of writing there. It has been in reserve for several years in case of some such emergency as the present one, and now that reserve is mortgaged!

This article, on Railway Parcels Stamps, may not intrigue everyone—in fact, I'm sure it will not—but what is a poor devil of an editor to do when he has nothing else available?

I gather it is a common complaint among philatelic editors that they have too much of the writing of their papers to do themselves, even when they are in a position to pay for articles. The "South African Philatelist" is not even in that happy position; it is a magazine run by collectors for collectors as a labour of love. It has gradually built up a good reputation and I hope our South African philatelists are not going to let it down. There

must still be plenty to write about, but to S(ave) O(ur) S(ituation), gentle reader, *you* must help.

THE EDITOR.

★

REVIEWS AND NOTICES**HARMER'S STAMP HINTS.**

This was originally meant to be a quarterly journal, but circumstances have prevented this and it is a year since the last number appeared.

There are some interesting articles on various general aspects of philately, one in particular by "A Veteran Collector" on the five phases of philately. Trying to paraphrase Shakespeare's seven ages of man, he had to cut out the first and the last—there are no infant prodigies in the philatelic cult, and the "lean and slippered pantaloon" had also to go as our seniors are not senile, philately keeping them young and spry.

CATALOGUE OF IMPERIAL JAPANESE OVERPRINTS AND ISSUES IN OCCUPIED BRITISH TERRITORIES, by W. H. Adgey-Edgar. Obtainable from the author at Eastwater House, Bramley, Surrey. Price in South Africa 10/9, post free.

Capt. Adgey-Edgar must be congratulated on this production; it was not started with a view to publication, but as a check list for his own guidance. He very modestly says many faults will be found and many additions and alterations may be necessary.

We are not in a position to offer any real criticism as very few of the stamps dealt with have come the way of South Africa. We should imagine, however, that the spadework put into this catalogue would be invaluable for most collectors of this range of material and that it will form the basis of any future catalogue that may appear.

It covers Malaya, Burma, N. Borneo, Sarawak, Brunei, Hong Kong, Singapore, Siam, Andamans and Labuan. There are over 1,000 values listed, many of them priced; and fully 200 illustrations.

The author states he has no stock of these stamps for disposal, but would welcome any fresh information which might improve a future edition or supplement.

Fine British Colonials:

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J. BIRD, 116, Highlands Heath, London, S.W.15, England

Perfect Bliss.

In our every-day world one can hardly expect perfect bliss, but that was not what we had in mind: we were thinking of philatelic bliss, and this must surely be attained by a collector of K.G. VI stamps, with a pocket full of money and, for the first time, a copy of our price-list . . . for what felicity that price-list of ours must give an enthusiast for stamps of the present reign.

Just let us be a trifle more explicit. You are keen on K.G. VI issues, and by having either subscribed to our list, or sent an air-letter for a specimen copy (you *must* apply by air and we'll send our list by the same means) you for the first time get one in your hands, what do you find? Well, the first page (altogether you get eight foolscap pages chock-a-block with offers, no padding in our list, of collections, which interest nobody as a rule) contains a number of really attractive offers, culled from the heart of the list itself. We have a number of customers who, month after month, order all we offer on the front page. Page two contains all the current sets we have to offer (and that is all there are): sets of 3d. to a 1s. and to the top value. On this page you will also find our offers of "Victory" and "Royal Stamps." Used sets, mint sets, sets on covers . . . all are there, and the prices are in some cases below wholesale, oh, and by the way, our current sets are deliberately priced as low as can be found anywhere. You couldn't shop in London a copper cheaper, even if you bought the lot, so if you are thinking of taking up these fascinating issues, our list is indispensable, if you want a first class start at rock bottom prices.

From page 3 to the end of our list, we offer complete sets (current and obsolete) perfs., shades, odd obsolete values, and unless you are complete, you are bound to find something. You don't need to write to one place, to try and get a copy of the Gibraltar 3d. perf. 14, or the scarce "war perfs." of the Barbados "Provisional," or that scarce 1½d. chestnut shade of Montserrat, or Hong perfs. of Mauritius, or all those Barbados "perfs." not to mention both "perfs." of the Barbados "Provisional," or that scarce 1½d. chestnut shade of Montserrat, or Hong Iraq complete with *all* the perfs., or, but why go on, it's much easier to say, what we haven't got, and we'll just leave it, with the remark that our list will prove that we have the finest stock of K.G. VI issues this side of kingdom come.

We do hate to have to talk like this, but we have the consolation of knowing that our list confirms every word we say, so just send for a specimen copy and call our bluff. If you want to subscribe it's 2s. a year (12s. by air) and if you are a regular buyer, maybe we'll send by air anyhow.

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do. 1938 2½p blue used	2/0
Egypt 1939 20m grey mint 1/6; Bls.	6/0
1939 30m dark grey Mint	1/6
do. do. Used	1/0
1945 Arab Union Mint or used pairs	2/0
1946 80th Anniv. Mint 3/-; Block	12/0
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1938 Gibraltar 3d. p. 14 used	25/0
1943 Gibraltar 1d. P13½ Wmk Side M	1/6
1942 Grenada ½d.-1/- 7v P. 13½ x 12½ U.	30/0
1938 Jamaica 2d. P.13 x 13½ used	1/0
1938 Malta 1d. brown Mint 1/6; Bls.	6/0
1946 Newfoundland 2c/30c U 1/6; Bls.	6/0
1942 Nyasaland ½d.-£1 Cp. M. £5; Bls.	400/0

COLLECTIONS AND FOREIGN

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Bermuda 55 stamps Cat. £10, price	4 5 0
Canada Col. to 1912 87 stamps Cat. over £14	5 15 0
Ceylon 1857-1912, 173 stamps Cat. £100, price	30 0 0
H. Kong 100 stamps Cat. £28 good postmarks	10 10 0
India & C.E.F. 130 stamps Cat. £11, price	3 10 0
Russia 25 sets used from 1941 to '44 almost Comp. C.?	4 0 0

All the above collections can be sent on approval against cash, if not required we shall refund.

In a few weeks, when we are a bit organised, we hope to run the following: Wholesale and Retail K.G. VI Mint and Used, Packets and approvals, customers interested should apply now stating requirements.

We shall be pleased to hear from both old and new customers.

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The Railway Parcel and Newspaper Stamps of Southern Africa

By J. H. HARVEY PIRIE, F.R.P.S.L.

Stamps of this kind, no matter what country they belong to, are not everybody's meat. At least two good reasons might be put forward to account for this palatal aberration.

(1) They are not "postage" stamps and fashion has dictated that the collection of adhesive postage stamps and such stamps only shall be the main preoccupation of stamp collectors. Collectors of anything else which might possibly come under the heading of philately may be just tolerated but they are liable to be regarded by their orthodox brethren as rather eccentric.

(2) These stamps, even if admitted as collectable, are not (except in the case of the newspaper stamps) attached to the articles whose transport they frank; they are therefore not so readily obtainable by the collector as ordinary postage stamps.

In the circumstances it is perhaps not amiss that I should give some reason, excuse or apology for collecting, and trying to compile, a catalogue of these stamps. Here goes!

In the earlier days of philately collectors and the catalogue makers who catered for them were not so exclusive in their tastes. Postal stationery was practically always listed in ordinary catalogues along with the adhesive postage stamps of a country and the stamps of private or local posts were (and in some instances still are) sometimes included.

The increasing numbers of stamps led to almost everything except adhesive postage stamps being excluded from general catalogues and, *pari passu*, interest in "sidelines" dropped enormously. Of late years, however, there has been a revival of interest, and although the main body of collectors may still be attracted mainly by adhesive postage stamps there are growing numbers taking an interest in some one or other of the many varied aspects of postal services.

I maintain that there is really very little, and no essential, difference between these stamps and postage stamps. What real difference is there between the stamps used to pay for carriage of a parcel inside a post office bag carried on a train and stamps used to pay for the carriage of a parcel loose in the van of the same train?

What difference is there between these stamps and the "Railway" stamps of Belgium which are included by Stanley Gibbons because, as they state, they "are practically Parcel Post stamps issued by the Government." Well, with the exception of the very early Cape stamps, those dealt with in this communication are definitely Parcel stamps is-

sued by the Government, for the railways are all State services.

The stamps are, of course, "Locals" for they only frank carriage over a particular length of line, but I think they should be considered as an integral part of the postal service although coming under railway and not post office administration. Listing of them along with "Revenue" stamps, as has been done in the past in such catalogues as Bridger & Kay's and Morley's, gives, I think, an entirely wrong impression as to the function they serve.

Be that as it may, however, stamps of this nature have been listed or catalogued in various countries. We are behindhand in this respect in South Africa, and my object here is to make a start in trying to catch up with such countries.

This brings me to the second reason given in explanation of why these stamps have not been more popular with collectors, viz., that they are not readily obtainable. When a parcel is handled by the post office the stamps franking its carriage are affixed to the parcel; they reach the recipient with the parcel (or should do so, at all events!) and so may easily be collected.

In the case of a parcel handled directly by the railway authorities the stamps are not put on the parcel itself but on the waybill which accompanies the parcel to the station of destination, and they do not pass into the hands of the recipient of the parcel. I am informed that the same procedure is followed by the Belgian State Railways. What happens to the stamps then? I have not enquired too closely. I presume that the waybills are filed for some time and that every now and again, when accumulations of them become uncomfortably large, there is a tidy-up and some of the stamps then seem to find their way into the hands of collectors. The process is probably somewhat analogous to that whereby proofs, colour trials, "specimens" and the like drift out on to the market. In Belgium, the stamps are saved by the Railway authorities and sold to dealers or collectors.

Odds and ends of these stamps have come my way for some years past, but recently a lucky chance put me in touch with Mr. Leslie Farrow, of Johannesburg. He has a large collection, particularly of the stamps in use since 1910; he had them partially arranged and listed, and he very kindly put his stamps and notes at my disposal. Without these this compilation would have been

impossible, and I wish to express my great indebtedness to him.

The study is still far from complete. More material is needed for mere listing of several of the pre-Union issues. As regards the Union (South African Railways) issues a more scientific way of setting about studying them might have been to have approached the Railway Administration for access to their records. I deliberately did not do this, preferring the more interesting method of trying to worry cut all I could from the stamps themselves. But if the story is to be made complete and accurate, official records will have to be studied by someone some day.

CAPE OF GOOD HOPE

It may surprise readers, as it surprised me, to learn that the use of railway parcels stamps dates back to 1867. This was ascertained from the following two catalogues: (a) Bridger and Kay's "Catalogue of Revenue, Telegraph and Railway Stamps" 1908, and Walter Morley's "Catalogue of the Revenue Stamps of the British Colonies" 1910.

The two catalogues agree fairly closely in their lists, but neither of them is complete in so far as the period 1900-1910 is concerned. I say this because of the stamps of that period used on the various colonial systems which I have seen. For the period prior to the Anglo-Boer war I just quote from the catalogue lists, not having the material to check up on them.

Cape Town Railway

1867. Imperf.
1d, 2d, 3d, 4d, 5d, 6d, 7d, 8d, and 9d. All, Black and blue.
1868. Imperf. With "C.T.R." open letters in background.
1d, 2d, 3d, 4d, 5d. All, Black and blue.
1873. Perf. 12½. Pattern as in preceding issue.
1d, 2d, 3d. (W.M.) Also 4d and 5d (B. & K.). All, Black and blue.
1876. Provisionals, imperf.



FIG. 1

The only specimen of these old Cape Railway Stamps found so far

1d on 8d, and 1d on 9d, black and blue imperf. of 1867 issue.

Cape Railway Services.

1876. Perf. 10.
1d and 2d, both, black and blue.
Var. 2d, tête-bêche.

Cape Railway Service

1882. Perf. 10.
½d, 1d, 2d, 3d, 4d. All, Black and green.
Var. Imperf. ½d (B. & K.). 1d (W.M.).
Cape Railway Service, Western System
1877. Perf. 10. Wove paper.
1d, Black and green.
Var. No stop after "Penny".
Perf. 11½. Laid paper.
2d and 3d. Both, Black and green.
That finishes the Cape of Good Hope according to both catalogues.

Cape Government Railways.

Stamps with the designation "C.G.R." at the top and "Parcels Stamp" at the foot are not mentioned in either of the two catalogues referred to above. When they came into use I have not so far ascertained; the specimens I have show only 1909 and 1910 cancellations, but that may be merely due to their having been collected at that period.

These stamps are lithographed and perf. 11. They have the same general design throughout except that in the case of the pence values the background is plain white, whereas in the case of the shilling values the background



FIG. 2

has a series of lines of small print running the width of the design, but interrupted across the figures of value. These are in the same colour as the rest of the stamp and the lettering reads "CAPE GOVERNMENT RAILWAYS." This background lettering is not always exactly in the same position relative to the design, but may show slight lateral shifts.

The denominations I have are as follows:

- 1d, 3d, 6d and 9d, black.
3d, 6d and 9d, green.
1s, blue (shades, well marked).
2s, red (shades).
2s 6d, yellow (shades).
5s, green, and 5s lilac.
20s, red.

The 20s stamp is a larger one than the others (about 33 m.m. wide x 32 m.m. high,

as against 23 m.m. wide x 27 m.m. high for the others) but is of the same design as the other shilling values.

NATAL

The two catalogues differ slightly in their listing of the first stamps of the Natal Railways, so I quote both:

(Bridger & Kay)

1880. Monogram N.G.R., Perf. 12½.

3d, grey-lilac; 6d, dark blue; 1s, pale lilac rose.

1900. Similar but colours changed.

3d, lilac; 6d, pale blue; 1s, dark lilac-rose.

(W. Morley)

1880. Great Northern Railway of Natal. Perf. 12½.

3d, lilac; 6d, blue; 1s, lilac-rose.

1908. Same design, colour changed.

1d, violet; 3d, green.



FIG. 3

Mr. Morley slipped up in interpreting the letters of the monogram as "G.N.R.," doubtlessly being led astray by analogy with the Great Northern Railway in England. There was never any such railway in Natal, the monogram reading properly "N.G.R." for Natal Government Railways.

These are all large sized stamps and have been seen used as late as Sept., 1910, with "S.A.R." cancellations.

Natal Government Railways

Also not mentioned in Morley's or Bridger & Kay's catalogues is a series of lithographed stamps somewhat similar to the Cape Gov-



FIG. 4

ernment Railway stamps but rather simpler in design. The background lettering in these

is "SNATALGOVERNMENTRAILWAYS.N." They are lithographed and are rather unusual in having a zig-zag or saw-tooth roulette of approx. 13½. Again I do not know when they were introduced and I have only seen cancellations of 1909, 1910 and 1911.

Denominations seen are:

1d, 3d and 6d and 9d, green.

9d, dark grey.

1s light blue.

2s, brick red.

2s 6d, yellow.

5s, lilac.

• 10s, bistre brown

20s, red. A larger sized stamp and occurs perf. 12 as well as with saw-tooth roulette.

SOUTH AFRICAN REPUBLIC

Both catalogues agree in their short list of the railway parcel stamps of the Transvaal Republic:

Monogram Z.A.M.S. Perf. 11½. (The monogram should really read Z.A.S.M. for Zuid-Afrikaansche Spoorweg-Maatschappij).

1d, green; 3d, violet; 6d, blue; 1s, red.



FIG. 5

(To be continued)

★ ★ ★

WHITHER PHILATELY ?

Under this title Mr. J. Ireland discusses in the "Stamp Collectors' Fortnightly" the trend of modern philately, after a short perusal of recent catalogues, particularly the issues of countries other than those of the British Commonwealth.

His conclusion is that nearly every country is making the mistake of paying more attention to the design of charity and commemorative stamps than to their ordinary postal issues. It is the latter, he considers, which really represent the country of their origin and if more attention was given to the design and printing of these, it would add to that country's prestige, both philatelically and nationally. He believes that countries continuing to issue charity and unnecessary stamps will gradually become unpopular with the serious philatelist.

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KENYA MACHINE CANCELLATIONS

In the "S.A. Philatelist," Vol. 13, 1937, p. 29, I listed 11 machine cancellation marks, ten of them with slogans, in use at Nairobi between 1923 and 1937.

Some time later the machine was transferred to Mombasa and I recorded ("S.A. Philatelist," Vol. 18, 1942, p. 94) nine of these eleven slogans as having been used there, together with one "COME ON THE TELEPHONE" which had not, to my knowledge, been employed in Nairobi.

In 1939 a new machine canceller was introduced at Nairobi, probably a Newport one, and the following 10 wordings were used with it; the first four were certainly about the earliest used, but I am not sure of the chronological order of the others:

- (1) KENYA in a box frame.
- (2) REGISTER OR INSURE / ARTICLES / OF VALUE.
- (3) EAST AFRICA PRODUCES / COTTON MAIZE COFFEE / SISAL FLAX WOOL.
- (4) MAKE YOUR HOME IN KENYA, in a box frame.
- (5) TRY A HOLIDAY / IN / KENYA, box frame.
- (6) POST EARLY / IN / THE DAY, box frame.
- (7) DEPOSIT YOUR SAVINGS / IN THE POST / OFFICE SAVINGS BANK.
- (8) THEY ALSO SERVE / WHO SAVE IN / THE / POST OFFICE / SAVINGS BANK, box frame.
- (9) USE THE POST OFFICE / SAVINGS BANK / FOR THE PURPOSE / OF SERVING BRITAIN, box frame.
- (10) POSTAGE Paid, box frame.

In my first list it was noted that most of the marks could be found in red as "Paid" marks and in such cases the time of posting was omitted, in its place there being put the word "PAID" and the amount.

In the above list, No. 10 is always in black and I have not seen the others used as Paid marks.

After about 1941 the cancelling machines largely went out of use, but they have recently been coming in again, although so far I have only seen the No. 1 type from either Nairobi or Mombasa.

W. TUNSTALL.

★

JUGOSLAVIA

Dr. V. Simic-Varanovic, of Zagreb-Gajeva 9A, sends word of: (a) A set of six new air-mails issued on 21st April. The 1, 5 and 20 dinars show a bird's-eye view of Dubrovnik (Rajusa, Dalmatia) with a plane overhead; the 0.5, 2 and 10 dinars picture the terrace of Kalimegelan in Belgrade with the statue of the Conqueror, Mestrovic.

(b) Three pictorials issued on 18th May commemorate the centenary of the greatest national Epos (? Epic) of Crna Gora (Montenegro). They are of 1.50, 2.50 and 9 dinars value.

(c) A sports set is projected for issue on 20th June.

M.E.F. USED IN DODECANESE

Several philatelic papers have recently been reporting the use of British stamps with the M.E.F. overprint in Rhodes and some half-dozen other islands of the Dodecanese group. All values from 1d. up to the 2s. 6d. are known to be used.

This usage began after the Italian surrender and the clearing out of German occupation forces, but will presumably be ceasing, if it has not already ceased, with the handing over of these islands to Greece.

Old Italian cancellers were used at first, e.g., such as marks with "Rodi" or "Coo" (Cos or Kos) at the top and "Egeo" (Aegean) at the bottom. These were then replaced by British post office marks with the name of the particular island at the top and "Dodecanese" at the bottom. Greek postmarks are now in preparation, possibly in actual use.

Such stamps will be of interest to collectors of British used abroad, also to those interested in the postal history of Italy or of Greece.

★

ANGLO-BOER WAR P.O.W. CENSOR MARK

Mr. A. A. Jurgens submitted a cover which interested him mainly because it was franked with a 1d. Cape (Hope standing) stamp, but was postmarked Ladysmith/Natal on AP 13/1901. It had a prisoner-of-war censor mark, not previously recorded. This is a square of 30 mm., in violet, with the wording "Passed/Censor/P.O.W./S.O.P. Natal." The wording is just inside the square and so placed that whatever way up the square is placed the wording at the top is upright. Expressed otherwise, "Passed" is opposite "Censor" upside down and "P. of W." opposite "S.O.P. Natal" upside down. S.O.P. probably stands for "Staff Officer Prisoners" as this wording has been observed on another censor mark from the Ladysmith P.O.W. camp.

★

CANADA

On 1st July a 4c stamp in blue was issued to mark the advent of Canadian, as distinct from British, citizenship. The design is simple, a young man standing, apparently, on top of the world, with the inscription below "Citizen-Citoyen." Thanks to Mr. H. Babb for first day cover.

★

AN INTERNATIONAL POSTMARK

In the March "London Philatelist," Mr. H. C. Dann illustrates three varieties of the postmark used in the T.P.O. or "Ambulancia" operating on the railway line between Beira and Umtali. They are to be found cancelling both Rhodesian and Mozambique stamps, although more commonly the latter as outgoing letters from Rhodesia usually had the stamps obliterated in that country.

At the time of the inception of this service this postmark was probably the only international one in the world, but this statement seems to imply that it is not unique in that respect now.

APPROVAL SELECTIONS:

Among the many countries which have been entirely re-made, and are now available for inspection by collectors, on request, are the following:—

BRITISH COLONIALS:

N. and S. Rhodesia, West and East African Colonies, Aden, Burma, Malaya, Egypt, S.W.A.

UNION AND S.W.A.

Errors and Varieties, Officials.

FOREIGN

Italian Colonies, Spanish Africa, Czechoslovakia, War Issues of France and Germany.

References, please.

A. LICHTENSTEIN

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BLOEMFONTEIN, O.F.S.



THE EAST LONDON PHILATELIC SOCIETY

have pleasure in announcing
that a

National Competitive Exhibition

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in conjunction with

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in the

John Bissiker Hall

of the

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The Standard Catalogue of the Postage Stamps of the Union of South Africa: Issued by the Philatelic Federation of Southern Africa, post free 7/8.

The Airposts of South Africa, L. A. Wyndham, post free 12/9.

JANUARY, 1948: Come to East London for your holidays and enjoy the Centenary Celebrations, and in particular the East London Philatelic Society's Stamp Exhibition.

NETHERLANDS

Recent letters from Holland have borne stamps of a new design, and a correspondent informs me that they are the forerunners of a new definitive issue. The design is in a slightly more decorative style, printed in roto-gravure on paper watermarked circles and perforated $13\frac{1}{2} \times 12\frac{1}{2}$. So far two values, 6ct in black and 12ct in bright magenta, have been seen.

The new series appears to be a continuation of the recently issued numeral stamps as the word NEDERLAND has similar capitals and scrollwork. The centre of the design is occupied by a recent portrait of Queen Wilhelmina, probably the reason for the change in design as the 1940 set showed her as a comparatively young woman.

"Mijn Stokpaardje" records that there are now 37 centres in Holland where collectors are specially catered for. This is done generally by means of a specially allocated window at the Post Office open for an hour on a specified day—at the larger centres for longer periods on two or three days per week.

The annual Cultural and Social Welfare set, or "Summer Series" as they are popularly known in the Netherlands, are due to appear shortly.

J.W.S.

★

SWITZERLAND

This year's Federal Festival stamps (set of 4) issued on 14 June, honour the centenary of the Swiss railways, and all have a railway motif. They are semi-postals, the surcharge amounts going to the fight against cancer and the professional education of invalids. Three of the four come up to the usual high standard of Swiss stamps, but the lowest denomination (5+5c), featuring a group of railroad gangers, looks rather a crude production alongside of the others. Thanks to M. Eric Pape for a first day cover.

★

NEW ZEALAND

F. Jackson continues in the "Stamp Collectors' Fortnightly" his article in the same paper of 7.12.46, on the New Zealand Railway Travelling Post Offices. There was a considerable number of these in the past, but now only one is operating, viz., between Auckland and Wellington.

★

TANGANYIKA: 1914-18 WAR ISSUES

Mr. W. A. Beauchamp Vialou has a paper, very fully illustrated, in the June number of the "London Philatelist." Amongst the Mafia overprints there are several items recorded which are not mentioned in Greenwood's booklet on these stamps or in other catalogues. The unissued "Missionary" stamps and the Portuguese Nyassa stamps postmarked "Nyasaland F.F.2" at Mtengula are also referred to, although there is no new information about these.

EXCHANGES WANTED

U.S.A.—Francis Gaudette, 14 Park Street, Uxbridge, Mass., Western Hemisphere for any others.

Jamaica.—Granville A. da Costa, Jr., 9 Chisholm Avenue, Whitfield Pen P.O., would like a pen friend (preferably a girl) with whom to exchange stamps.

★

U.S.A.

Commemoratives which have appeared are (a) on 9th June a 3c honouring the Doctors of America, the immediate cause for this being the centenary of the founding of the American Medical Association. The stamp reproduces the well-known picture, now in the Tate Gallery, London, "The Doctor," by Sir Luke Fildes. (b) On 24th July a 3c commemorating the centenary of the State of Utah; it will feature a covered wagon crossing the prairie. (c) Under consideration is a 3c honouring Dr. George Washington Carver, an agricultural scientist.

Awards at CIPEX. The Centenary International Philatelic Exhibition hit upon a new line for awards. Instead of giving the usual medals, gold, silver and bronze, they are giving 10½in. china plates which feature U.S. Nos. 1 and 2 stamps of 1847 and a view of modern New York. The border colours vary, blue for firsts, red for seconds and yellow for thirds. There are also other colours for special awards, hors concours exhibits, members of the Jury, etc., and best in each section awards run to a tea service and mahogany tray.

Our congratulations to Mr. Arthur V. Jacob, of Cape Town, the only South African winner of an award—for his specialised Rhodesian collection.

He got a second award in Group 10 of the British Empire section. There was very keen competition in this Group, and a second was really an excellent result, being, in any case, the highest given in that Group. There were only six Firsts given for the whole of the British Empire section, and they were concentrated in Groups 2, 6, 7 and 8—Canada, West Indies and Australasia.

We are sometimes thought to be hypercritical about our own Union stamps, but what do you think of this criticism in an American paper of the Doctor's stamp mentioned above? "IMPORTANT NOTICE. On June 9, the United States Post Office Department, to honour the Doctors of America, issued a commemorative maroon blob, which pictured a maroon blob. It was printed on the rotary presses; the colour of the maroon blob was maroon." It must be admitted there was some reason for this caustic criticism; artistically the stamp is a failure and another example of the impossibility of crowding too much detail into the size of a postage stamp.

CORRESPONDENCE

The Editor,
S.A. Philatelist.

Sir,—As a subscriber to most of the British stamp journals I must express my great disappointment at the lack of interest shown by the Editors of these publications and their utter disregard for information.

The "South African Philatelist" had the very good fortune in recent months to publish absolutely new and unknown information about early postal history in the South African Republics, all backed by official letters and documentary evidence, absolutely beyond dispute, but the matter appears to have been completely ignored by every single publication overseas.

One would think that when new and outstanding philatelic news is brought to light that some notice of it would be taken by kindred publications overseas; but it seems to me that the post-war journals are only concerned with finding "Spots on Hitler's Head, or looking for extra berries on other stamps."

I am rather disappointed that so much absolute piffle is given editorial space, whilst important and instructive news is completely ignored.

Yours, etc.,

S. KAGANSON.

(This letter is given practically as received, although we feel that the writer's *general* strictures on our overseas contemporaries are overdrawn and may be resented.

It could not be expected that our recently published "finds," especially those relating to the Orange Free State, would be so interesting to the rest of the world as to us in South Africa. We ourselves must admit, however, to a little disappointment that no mention of them whatsoever has been made. We would have thought that the attention of the fairly large body of postal history enthusiasts might just at least have been drawn to them.—Ed.)

COLLECTING NEW EUROPEANS

The following note is taken verbatim from "Augur" in the May issue of the "Australian Stamp Monthly." Although it is admittedly only a personal view and not necessarily agreed with by everyone in Australasia, we quote it here with the object of eliciting opinions as to whether or not it applies also to South Africa:

"I do not generally favour Europeans from the investment viewpoint. We are just not in the right hemisphere. In Australia and New Zealand the mass of collectors like the stamps of British countries. Foreign, collectively, have of course a large following, but it is spread over the 'Rest of the World' as Gibbons might put it, and it is only possible to generalise.

"In Europe, I feel that Switzerland, France, Netherlands, Belgium and Russia, in that order, are the most favoured fields for Australasian collectors. Very low on the list are

the Balkans, Spain, Portugal and Italy, while the rest of Europe lies somewhere between the two groupings. Individual collectors may have different ideas for one must never overlook the cardinal principle that a person collects the stamps of particular countries because he or she likes doing so."

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E. Tamsen, Box 13, Nylstroom.

Seychelles Wanted. Full catalogue price offered for fine used copies of Stanley Gibbons numbers 85, 90, 91, 92A to 101, 103, 104, 107, 110, 111, 113 to 118, 121, 122, 122A, 123A, 125, 141, 142, 145.

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Full particulars from: E. J. Brierley, Morkel Street, Somerset West.

What Offers? (S.G. numbers and cat. prices) Cape, 37a, 30; Gibraltar 72, 40/- and 74 £20; Griqualand West. 111, 70/-; St. Helena, 57, 12/6 and 58 17/6; French Zanzibar, Z 69, £25.

G. Van Waart, P.O. Box 155, Vereeniging.

ETHIOPIA

Whitfield King & Co.'s Bulletin reports the appearance of five stamps (10c, 20c, 30c, 50c and 70c) in London of the 50th anniversary of the postal service; also two new express stamps of 30c and 50c denominations.

SOCIETY NEWS

PORT ELIZABETH PHILATELIC SOCIETY

President, Mr. G. K. Forbes; *Hon. Sec.*, Mr. P. G. Smith, 13 Trafalgar Square, Port Elizabeth; *Meetings*, 1st and 3rd Tuesdays in Room 3, City Hall Basement, at 7.45 p.m.

The auction held on the 3rd June was a very large one and well attended. Two hundred lots were put up, and the majority were sold, and over £22 crossed the table.

The business meeting held on 17th June was presided over by Mr. G. K. Forbes, who told the members the Philatelic Congress would be held in Port Elizabeth this year, some time in November, and the actual date would be given later.

The display was in the hands of Mr. Fowler, who showed 60 pages of Belgium. This was a very fine effort, but not many of the earlier issues were shown. Red Cross, Health and War Issues were well represented. One set of "Orval" used, was given much attention by everyone, as each stamp had a letter in the centre, the set spelling "Orval." These stamps are surcharged to help rebuild the Cathedral. The War Issue of 1942 is two stamps joined, one brown, the other grey, also surcharged.

After the correspondence was read, Mr. Levy auctioned 150 lots, which were quickly disposed of, and the meeting closed at 9.30 p.m.

Will all members please note that the meetings will be held in Room 3 of the City Hall Basement in future, and not Room 8.

Mr. Forbes was in the chair when the meeting opened on Tuesday, the 15th July, 1947, and there was a large gathering despite the cold weather.

Mr. Deschamp was responsible, and showed the greater part of his British Possessions. There were some very nice specimens in the display, and one, a "Penny Black" on a cover, was a beautiful copy.

There were two Wood Blocks 1d and 4d and a good selection of "Cape Triangles;" a full mint set of Gilbert and Ellice islands and of Trinidad. A block of 12 mint to commemorate the Royal Visit to Newfoundland was also well worth mentioning.

An interesting cover shown was one from Holland to South Africa to commemorate Dingaans Day with a printed waggon and airmail stamps round the edge.

Mr. Levy made an excellent auctioneer and put up 250 packets, most of them being sold.

L.E.C.

★

THE PHILATELIC SOCIETY OF JOHANNESBURG

President, Dr. A. Kaplan; *Hon. Sec.*, Mr. J. H. Jenkins, P.O. Box 4967; *Meetings*, 2nd Tuesdays, Public Library, 7.45 p.m.

At the meeting held on 8th July the exhibits were provided by members of the Philatelic Section of the Johannesburg Jewish Guild. Mr. I. Isaacs, the chairman of the Section, introduced the exhibitors. Mr. J. Sachs showed Italian commemorative stamps and also modern Italy. The exhibit was practically complete and the stamps made a fine show.

Mr. L. Buchen showed stamps of Switzerland. They included numerous miniature sheets, and some scarce flown covers.

Mr. I. Isaacs showed flown covers of Great Britain, including both internal and external flights.

Mr. W. Redford, Commander Enoch and Dr. J. H. Harvey Pirie spoke on the exhibits.

During the evening an interesting discussion took place on the future programme of the Society.

J.I.

★

PRETORIA PHILATELIC SOCIETY

President, F. C. Ferguson; *Hon. Sec.*, H. Endemann, P.O. Box 514; *Meetings*, 1st and 3rd Mondays, 8 p.m., Technical College.

2nd June. A Philatelic Forum, consisting of Dr. Broughton, Dr. Reisener, and Messrs. Hawke and Dodd were bombarded with questions. A brief sum-

mary of a few of the questions and of opinions expressed is as follows:

(a) Should we in the Union have more commemorative or charity issues? The meeting was on the whole in favour rather of a new general scenic issue.

(b) Is philately worth considering as an investment? Financially, yes; if you don't buy stamps you spend your money on horse or dog racing or at other games of chance. It is also a fine health investment and saves doctors' bills.

(c) Does the general collector or the specialist get the more fun out of the hobby? The majority favoured the general collector.

(d) Does Number issued, Face Value, Supply and Demand or Popularity of Country most affect the catalogue value of a stamp? The forum opined that Popularity of Country, Number Issued and Face Value were the major factors.

Mr. Swanepoel, the G.P.O. Publicity Officer, showed recent issues of various countries, and explained how they were obtained through the U.P.U.

16th June. A series of educative papers for juniors was given by Messrs. Alton, Reisener and Wright.

General Mr. Dodd, Librarian of the Society, is compiling a history thereof, and would appreciate data for it, especially from members of long standing.

★

THE JEWISH GUILD PHILATELIC SECTION

Chairman, Dr. A. Kaplan; *Hon. Secretary*, Mr. B. Joseph, 143 London House, Loveday Street, Johannesburg; *Meetings*, Last Thursday, Jewish Guild War Memorial Hall.

At the meeting held on 26th June the exhibit was provided by Mr. H. B. Marcuson. He showed issues of King George V and King George VI of the stamps of Australia, New Zealand, and the Pacific countries of the Empire. The exhibit included numerous blocks and all the scarce items were included. The New Zealand Health Stamps were all shown, as well as the other commemoratives. The Papuan commemoratives were also included. The exhibit was a very fine one, and every stamp was a perfect copy. Mr. B. Joseph spoke on the exhibit.

I.I.

★

MARITZBURG PHILATELIC SOCIETY

Chairman, C. R. Turner; *Hon. Secretary*, R. Morton, P.O. Box 328, Pietermaritzburg; *Meetings*, 2nd Friday in each month at 211 Burger Street, 7.45 p.m.

We had a good turn out of members for our July meeting, and were glad to welcome four visitors, two of the fair sex.

The election of four new members was confirmed, and the chairman formally welcomed them to the Society.

The exhibitor for the evening was our vice-chairman, Brig. R. Crofton, who gave us a talk and display on the stamps of Malaya. As Brig. Crofton has spent many years in that part of the world, he was able to give us a lot of first-hand information which was most interesting. Brig. Crofton was helped in his display by our chairman, who lent several sheets from his collection.

After the talk, which was most appreciated, several members showed some of their recent acquisitions.

The hon. sec. reported to the meeting that the committee favoured joining the British Philatelic Association, and he was authorised to proceed with the necessary application.

The question of holding a competition and also an auction sale at meetings was also discussed, and the majority of those present expressed themselves in favour of these innovations.

R.M.

★

EAST RAND PHILATELIC SOCIETY

President, Mr. J. Shepherd, P.O. Box 97, Brakpan; *Hon. Secretary*, E. N. Riff, 103 Kemston Avenue, Benoni.

The July meeting was very well attended, and the Pretoria Society paid us a visit and brought over some very outstanding exhibits. Mr. Wright exhibited Union of South Africa, mint and used, and it included several noted varieties.

(Concluded on page 114)

The SOUTH AFRICAN PHILATELIST

Proprietors and Publishers:

The Philatelic Federation of Southern Africa

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

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

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SEPTEMBER, 1947.

Whole No. 270

UNION NOTES.

Mr. A. E. Basden has received the following letter from Buckingham Palace, dated June 24, 1947:

Dear Sir,

I am commanded by The King to thank you and the Philatelic Federation of Southern Africa for the copy of the Standard Catalogue of the Postage Stamps of the Union of South Africa, which you were kind enough to send to His Majesty, and which The King is very pleased to accept.

Yours very truly,
(Signed).

1½d. Flaw.

Mr. J. W. Schubart reports that stamp No. 4 in the 3rd row of the sheets of the current 1½d. stamp shows a blob of the gold of the background buildings over the lower part of the mine headgear. It has been noted on a number of sheets.

Sizes of Current 1d. Stamp (S.G. 56).

Two sizes of this stamp are fairly generally known about and recognised, but Mr. C. P. Rang, co-editor of "Gibbons' Stamp Monthly", has been studying a quantity of them and finds there are actually three. He classifies them thus:

Design size: Old, 18 3/4 x 22½; intermediate, 18½ x 22½; new, 18½ x 22.

Gutter width: Old, 1½; intermediate 1 3/4; new, 2.

When put in alignment with each other, these three widths are seen to be quite distinctive. The gradual widening of the gutter and consequent narrowing of the design are intentional and not due to accidental paper variations or misplacement of the image on the cylinder. There are no alterations in the design, so, beyond noting the variations, Gibbons will not list them separately.

New ½d. Stamps.

Mr. G. N. Gilbert reports seeing a new printing of the ½d. springbok head, which has not so far been recorded in our notes. Presumably it is from the new cylinders, 6912 Int. and 7019 Ext. notified by the P.O. in our August issue.

He states it follows the 1d. and 6d. in being a slightly smaller stamp, with wider margins for the perforations; further, it is full of flaws, some of them very prominent.

First Flight *Swissair* to Union.

A first flight by "Swissair" to the Union left Geneva on August 3 and covers by it were delivered in Johannesburg on August 9. It is understood this was in the nature of an experimental flight, but that a regular service will be instituted.

Thanks to W. Frey, of Geneva, for a cover.

ROYAL VISIT PHILATELY

Bechuanaland Date Error

"Stamp Collecting" chronicles a date error in the Lobatsi canceller of 30th March, 1947. A Royal Visit set of stamps was postmarked "30 VI 47." Someone forty years hence may quote this cover as evidence that the currency of the issue was extended. It was not. The stamps might still have been used on 30th June, of course, but in this instance they were not, as the cover reached Scotland on 10th June.

Union and S.W.A.—Quantity of Stamps Sold

Last month we gave the official figures for the quantities of the three denominations issued.

We have now received from the G.P.O. Publicity Officer the quantities of stamps returned when the issue was withdrawn from sale after 24th April. These are:

Union.—1d., 48,392 sheets; 2d., 97,629 sheets; 3d., 18,911 sheets.

S.W.A.—1d., 855 sheets; 2d., 7,427 sheets; 3d., 1,432 sheets.

Deducting these figures from those of the stamps issued, we get the quantities of those actually sold. These are:

Union.—1d., 94,378 sheets equal 22,650,720 stamps; 2d., 486,473 sheets equal 58,376,760 stamps; 3d., 22,554 sheets equal 2,706,480 stamps.

S.W.A.—1d., 11,145 sheets equal 2,674,800 stamps; 2d., 23,073 sheets equal 2,768,760 stamps; 3d., 19,068 sheets equal 2,288,160 stamps.

Rhodesian "Royal Tour" Postmark

—Three Varieties

Several readers have reported that there were two varieties of this mark, although of the same general design. The curious thing is that the two varieties each described were not the same two.

A number of specimens of this postmark were therefore examined and it can now be stated that there are at least three varieties, but we are not prepared to say that there are no more. The three definitely seen are:

1. The mark illustrated in our May issue and now repeated here. The base on which the Rhodesian coat-of-arms stands (at the top of the mark) is straight and short; also it has three black bars across it, one at either



end and one in the middle. The dots between the upper and lower lettering are large and the one on the right is usually definitely elliptical instead of round, more so than in the specimen figured.

2. The base of the coat-of-arms is longer, is slightly curved to follow the ellipse underneath and it is clear, with no black bars. The dots between the upper and lower lettering are small. There are other minor differences, but these are quite sufficient for distinguishing purposes.

3. Identical with No. 2, so far as the description given above is concerned. The difference between Nos. 2 and 3 lies in the letters "R" of SOUTHERN and RHODESIA. In one the letters are wide, in the other narrow.

Where were those three varieties used? That cannot yet be answered. It is known that "Royal Tour" postmarks were applied to covers both in Salisbury and on the Royal Train; perhaps some of our Rhodesian friends can find out further details.

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BRITISH EMPIRE NEW ISSUES

Australia.

The Australian press, philatelic and general, is devoting a lot of space to criticism of the designs accepted for the new issue of pictorial stamps. The one coming in perhaps for most attention, is that illustrating tree felling; it seems to be pretty generally agreed that, although the design is a very striking one, it is a method of tree-felling not usual in Australia, and therefore is not suitable.

Antigua.

It is officially announced that there is to be a 10s. stamp, rose, of the same design as the present 2½d., also a £1 stamp, grey-blue, of the design of the current 3d.

Ceylon.

A 100 rupee stamp is on order.

Nyasaland.

The 1d. stamp with the giraffe-necked askari, whose like has never been seen alive and who was the object of much derision by the K.A.R. in Nyasaland, is to disappear and in place of it will come a stamp in green and brown with the leopard emblem of the Colony.

W. L. Bedard



P.O. Box 637

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REVIEWS AND NOTICES

We have received a copy of "The Club News", the monthly official organ of the Australian Correspondence and Exchange Club, of 564, Military Road, Largs Bay North, South Australia.

This appears to be a pretty large club of stamp collectors and hobbyists.

The "Philatelic Literature Review" issue of April-June, 1947, gives a list of all known current stamp magazines of the world, excluding only some believed to exist, but of which they have not recent information.

The B.P.A. Philatelic Exhibition, 1947, after being on show in London from October 23 to November 5, is now definitely fixed for Glasgow, 20-27 November, Birmingham, 3-10 January, 1948, and Manchester, 4-10 February, 1948.

The exhibit which the Philatelic Federation of Southern Africa was asked to make, illustrating the postal history of the Union and all territories now or at any time postally included in it, is now all assembled. Some choice items for photographic illustration in the catalogue have already been sent off, the bulk will be there in good time for the opening.

Collectors who have contributed sheets to the exhibit are: L. B. Goldschmidt, E. Hunt, A. A. Jurgens, K. Lydall, J. H. Harvey Pirie, W. Redford and J. Shepherd.

Maps: "Plik", of 18, Keerom Street, Cape Town, have sent us a catalogue of special maps made by them. They seem to be just the sort of thing collectors often want to include with their stamp collections—not just like those in an atlas. Try them if you want anything of this sort.

NETHERLANDS

The summer charities mentioned in last month's notes have now come to hand. Issued on the 1st August, 1947, the series consists of the following values and designs: 2½ct. (+ 2ct.) vermilion, H. van Deventer, Doctor of Medicine; 4ct. (+ 2ct.) green, P. C. Hooft, poet and historian; 7½ct. (+ 2½ct.) purple, Johan de Witt, statesman; 10ct. (+ 5ct.) light brown, J. F. van Roijen, Secretary for Posts and Telegraphs; 20ct. (+ 5ct.) blue, Hugo de Groot, Jurist.

The stamps are printed on paper watermarked with circles and are perforated.

The set was affixed to an attractive first day cover issued by the "Hollandia Club" of Leijden showing a posthorn with streamers on the ends of which symbols typifying the occupation of those portrayed on the stamps.

A later cover received from a correspondent was posted at the National Philatelic Exhibition held at Maastricht to commemorate the 25th anniversary of the Philatelic Society "Zuid-Limburg" and bears a postmark consisting of the appropriate wording arranged in circular form, the centre being occupied by a shield with a five-pointed star.

The "Nederlandsche Maandblad voor Philatelie," in its February number, issues a warning to possessors of the new 10 gulden stamp

to be careful in its handling. Specimens have been seen of which the normal violet colour has changed in patches to lilac, the discoloration, it is thought, being due to acids in the gum of the hinges used.

The following figures concerning the numbers sold of the "Princesses" set of 1946 have been taken from the June number of the same magazine: 1½ct., 1,919,205; 2½ct., 622,705; 4ct., 1,449,411; 5ct., 1,923,596; 7½ct., 2,471,823; 12½ct., 1,435,428.

In a footnote it is stated that it is likely that the figure given for the 2½ct. stamps should be 1,622,705.

J.W.S.

GREAT BRITAIN

Slogans.

If they don't have many new stamps they have plenty of new slogans. Some recent ones are "Don't Waste Bread, Others Need It", "Take no chances, keep death off the roads", "Blood donors are still urgently needed" and "Volunteer for a forces career". All these have a topical interest for South Africa. Now they are going bilingual; the second language isn't Welsh, Gaelic or even guid braid Scots, but French—"Britain for Holidays, Visitez la Grande Bretagne".

P. L. Pemberton retires.

We regret to learn that Mr. P. L. Pemberton is retiring, for health reasons, from the editorship of the "Philatelic Journal of Great Britain". He has been associated with it since the beginning of the century as owner or part owner, publisher and from time to time as editor.

Under his direction it has attained a place in philatelic journalism which is unique and second to none in importance. It is good to know, however, that he still hopes to be a contributor to it, as anything he writes is always a masterpiece of philatelic research and presentation.

Mr. H. Garrett-Adams, who has been a not infrequent contributor of recent years, is taking over the editorship and under him the traditions of the P.J.G.B. are likely to be maintained.

MOZAMBIQUE AIR STAMPS

In our April issue we illustrated the new air tax receipt stamps which had just appeared. The Robertson Stamp Coy., of Johannesburg, report that seven additional values have now appeared, viz., 50c, 1, 3.50, 5, 10, 20 and 50E. In May the statement that the value for cash paid was put on the stamps by typewriter was corrected; the value is printed, in black, at a separate operation. In the additional denominations now reported, there is also "Taxe Percue" printed in black, evidently at the same time as the value.

Comment has been made on our past reference to these stamps as having values in "dollars". Actually, of course, it is in "Escudos", but the dollar sign (\$) is used for indicating the value.

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SOUTHERN AFRICAN CENSOR MARKS

Mr. W. G. Nodder and Mr. John A. Ipp (of Trenton, N.J., U.S.A.) have recorded the following additions and corrections to the lists published in our issues of September, 1946, p. 141, and of March and May, 1947, pp. 36 and 76.

Union:

A cover from Durban to Halifax N.S., unopened but with a censor mark like that described as No. 8 of the Union Civil censor marks, but with "Released C" under the coat-of-arms.

It would seem possible that all the censors' offices using a letter under the coat-of-arms had such "Released" marks. The only one previously recorded had an "A" which was one of the letters in use at Cape Town and it occurred on a letter sent from Lourenco Marques to a town in the Cape Province. This new record of "Released C" is on a letter from Durban and "C" was the letter in use there.

The commonest Union military censor mark (Type 4a as previously figured) was presumably in use at Broken Hill, N. Rhodesia, at the time when a Union A.P.O. was there for it has been noted on a cover from Broken Hill to Dodoma, 3/9/41, the number on the mark being 58.

S. Rhodesia:

The following additional numbers are recorded for No. 4 of the civilian type of censor marks (Fig. 1).



Fig. 1

No. 2, in violet on cover from Bulawayo to Moshi, 18/9/42. Also on one from Umtali to Dodoma; this has in addition a seal of the type described as 3a.

No. 6 from Chatsworth, 7/2/44.

No. 9 from Salisbury, 21/4/44.

No. 10 from Salisbury, in red, 26/1/44.

No. 12 from Sin . . . , in red, 3/11/42. This cover, addressed to Eire, had a Union seal tied with "R" (Cape Town.)

No. 18 from Umtali to Dodoma, in violet, 5/4/42, with a seal of type 3c. (No. 18 previously recorded from Penhalonga.)

A cover with an "Other Military Mark" of Type 8 ("Southern Rhodesia/Air Force") from Bulawayo to Dodoma, via Durban, 15/1/42, has been noted with an "Opened by Censor" seal of Type 3a.

An Internment Camp mark not previously

recorded is a triple oval with "No. 2 (Tanganyika) Internment Camp / Salisbury, S. Rhodesia" and date 21/9/41 in centre. In black. Censor mark of type of Fig. 2, No. 14.

The mark previously recorded under N. Rhodesia and figured as Fig. 6 (now shown



Fig. 2

as Fig. 2) should, of course, obviously have been classed under S. Rhodesia as Fig. 4. It is to be found on ordinary civilian letters both into and out of S. Rhodesia, also on letters from Internment Camps. The following additional numbers have been seen: Nos. 1 and 2, in red; Nos. 3 and 4, in violet; No. 8, in violet, on cover from Umtali to Dodoma; No. 1, in red; and No. 14, as noted above from an Internment Camp. The mark shown as Fig. 4 of S. Rhodesia should be Fig. 6 of N. Rhodesia.

N. Rhodesia

In the last lines of "Military Censor Marks—2" and of "Official Franks—(1)," p. 77, "Fig. 4, Var. (c)" should read "Fig. 5, Var. (c)."

Nyasaland

Only two types of military censor marks from this territory have been noted.

(a) On cover from a sergeant in the K.A.R. to Scotland, with "Passed by Censor (Initials) Lt." in m/s.

(b) Like No. 1 of the East African Censor Marks illustrated in our issue of July, 1945, p. 76, but in place of just a number in the enclave, it has "E.A. No. VI/4" with an officer's name and rank in m/s. In black.

S. Rhodesia Air Letters

Mr. Nodder points out also a small date error in Major Creasy's article, p. 92 of June issue. The date of the New Zealand back-stamp on the card posted in Bulawayo on 15/1/41 should be 22 JAN 42, not 2 JAN 42.

He has two specimens with this date perfectly clear; they were sent by Major Creasy himself.

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do. 1938 24p blue used	2/0
Egypt 1939 20m grey mint 1/6; Bls.	6/0
1939 30m dark grey Mint	1/6
do. do. Used	1/0
1945 Arab Union Mint or used pairs	2/0
1946 80th Anniv. Mint 3/-; Block ..	12/0
1943-44 26c Express Mint	6/6
1938 Gibraltar 3d. p. 14 used	25/0
1943 Gibraltar 1d. P13½ Wmk Side M	1/6
1942 Grenada 1d.-1/- 7v P. 13½ x 12½	
U.	30/0
1938 Jamaica 2d. P.13 x 13½ used ..	1/0
1938 Malta 1d. brown Mint 1/6; Bls. ..	6/0
1946 Newfoundland 2c/30c U 1/6; Bls.	6/0
1942 Nyasaland 1/4d.-£1 Cp. M. £5; Bls.	400/0

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CORRESPONDENCE

The Editor,
S.A. Philatelist.

SOUTH AFRICAN PHILATELIC JOURNALS

Sir,—The record of South African philatelic periodicals given by Anna H. Smith in an article in "The South African Philatelist", July, 1947, p. 100, is not quite complete, as the following magazine might very well be added:

"The Philatelic Chronicle", Johannesburg, January, 1939, to June, 1939, published by Allen Publications. It contained various good, well-illustrated articles, also of South African interest, notably by the late Major W. J. Harrington, and also monthly reports of South African Philatelic societies. Its paper, printing and artistic make-up have so far not been equalled by any other South African stamp magazine (with all due respect for our beloved "S.A. Philatelist"). Judged overseas as a "credit to South Africa" and a likely "stayer", it unfortunately ceased publication after 6 issues.

Yours, etc.,
K. FREUND.

Sir,—The article in the July issue on South African Philatelic Journals omits mention of "The Southern Stamp Magazine", published in Pretoria between May, 1918, and January 1920, edited by the writer of this letter. The Southern was the organ of the Southern Stamp Club, which was taken over by Mr. J. Robertson and apparently the "Southern Stamp Magazine", was changed to the South African Philatelist by Mr. Robertson.

Among the articles published in the old "Southern" we find contributions by Mr. A. A. Jurgens, F.R.P.S.L., Mr. Louis Gillen, Mr. W. E. Neave. Among the members of the old S.C.C. was Mr. Emil Tamsen.

My file copies of the "Southern" were lost while I was on active service, together with copies of another general hobby publication issued in Durban in the early 1920's in connection with the African Collectors' Exchange when it was a purely philatelic club.

An interesting side-light on the publication of the "Southern" was a request from the late C. F. Skinner to refrain from using his business name, "Southern", as people were connecting this paper with the old "Southern Stamp Company", conducted by Mr. Skinner in the Old Arcade.

Yours, etc.,
ROBERT E. OAKES.

Cape of Good Hope.

It is noted in "Gibbons' Stamp Monthly" for July that the 6d. mauve (S.G. No. 46) has been seen with a clear postmark of JU 1682, which is earlier by two months than the date given in their catalogue or in Allis' Handbook.

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STAMPS IN THE PACIFIC

The postage stamp plays an important part in international politics and has in fact become an effective weapon in the assertion of a nation's rights and jurisdiction. Yes, the postage stamp seems more efficacious than mere declarations, proclamations and ordinances and it is surely for the purposes of national politics that in the Pacific we have had the stamp issues for the island outposts of Pitcairn and Norfolk for in both these instances the needs of a small community are no real justification.

Now comes the separate issue of stamps for the Tokelau Group of Islands, which, since 1926, have been under the control of the Dominion of New Zealand and for practical convenience, have been administered from Apia-Western Samoa. This link with Western Samoa is no longer feasible, as Western Samoa is a mandated territory and is now subject to the over-riding authority of the United Nations. Hence the issues of just three separate stamps—the 3d., 1d. and 2d.—whose designs will include the inscriptions "Tokelau Islands": Postage and Revenue" as an assertion to whom it may concern, of the exercise of lawful authority and sovereign jurisdiction. The stamps will not result in any increase in the number of letters posted and received by the small population in these islands, but stamp collectors the world over will eagerly assist in increasing the island revenue. So we may well expect more and still more Pacific islands to become stamp-issuing units for national purposes in the great game of world politics and the joy of stamp collectors.

E. G. Cowell.

U.S.A.

John Paul Jones Bicentenary.

P.J., according to some, was a pirate; he is officially regarded as the founder of the U.S. Navy, and he has been, perhaps, socially commemorated by having a dance named after him.

His birthday was on July 6, 1747. This is not being remembered by the issue of a special stamp, but the U.S. Naval Academy at Dunapolis arranged to have covers with a commemorative cachet and a special cancellation.

He was born in the parish of Kirkbean, Kirkcudbrightshire, Scotland, and according to "Linn's Weekly", an Edinburgh lady undertook to have covers with a special cachet posted there on July 6.

We regret we had no word of these arrangements until far too late for any of our readers to participate in getting these mementoes of Kirkcudbright's greatest sea-dog.

(Continued from page 144)

The August meeting was mainly taken up with the last preparations for the Junior competition. The exhibits of the evening were given by Dr. Freund, who presented a brief "history of music" on 12 pages, from pre-biblical times to modern music, and by Mr. G. Smith, who tabled an air mail collection which was very representative of every country and well written up. Again two new members were enrolled.

The long-heralded Junior stamp competition took place on a Saturday afternoon in August, and was a complete success from every view point. An excited and chatty crowd of well over a hundred school children, representing the majority of Bloemfontein schools, gathered at the Koffiehuis and appeared to have the time of their lives. In all, 82 stamp collections were entered by the youngsters. While a jury of six society members was engaged, behind closed doors, in examining and judging the entries, it was great fun to watch the waiting crowd of "stamp-minded" children. Display tables with a number of attractive stamp items, belonging to advanced collectors of the society, were besieged throughout the afternoon, and many an excited little finger moved over the "stunning" items which were fortunately protected by heavy glass plates. Other youngsters preferred to gorge themselves with a variety of refreshments which the society provided free for every visiting child. In a quiet corner, a small group of little girls with plaits could be seen busily "swapping" stamps which every participant had received as a free gift from the society.

Before the prize-giving, Mr. J. Lewis, the president, welcomed the children in a speech and gave them some useful advice on the methods of stamp collecting. The children were also addressed by Mr. C. A. Larsen and by Mr. J. B. Levy, who was one of the judges. Mr. Levy gave a summary of the various faults and mistakes the judges had noticed in many collections.

The standard of the collections, on the whole, was rather disappointing, and it is hoped that this competition has helped a lot to improve this standard and has stimulated, in a large degree, the interest of Bloemfontein school-children in the fascinating and highly educational hobby of stamp collecting. A pleasing feature in the competition was the fair number of girl collectors.

The prizes were distributed by the postmaster of Bloemfontein, Mr. L. J. Conradie.

K.F.

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(Continued from page 122 of August issue)

TRANSVAAL AND ORANGE RIVER COLONY

The Orange Free State, as such, does not appear ever to have had any special railway parcel stamps (actually its railways were, I think, up till 1897 at all events administered and run by the Cape Govt. Railways, with the Natal Govt. Railways running the line to Harrismith from Natal). During the Colonial period (1902-1910), however, the railways of these two territories were amalgamated administratively as the "Central South African Railways" and Bridger & Kay's Catalogue gives the following list of stamps as issued by them:

1905. Perf 11½ and Imperf.

3d., dull chocolate; 6d., dull chocolate; 1s., dull chocolate; 1d., brown; 3d., red; 6d., green; 1s., blue; 5s., brown.



CENTRAL SOUTH AFRICAN RAILWAY(S)

The stamps seen falling into this series are all rather crudely produced square stamps, the size of the design being 28 m.m., the overall size of the stamps varying from about 32-35 m.m.

They appear to fall into three groups, with slight differences in the design and probably appeared in the order given, (a), (b) and (c), although a sufficiency of dated specimens has not been seen to be certain on this point.

(a) 3d., red (shades). A broken "N" in "Central" seems to be a not uncommon variety. 3d., dull chocolate; 6d., green (shades), blue, dull chocolate and nigger brown (shades); 1s., blue (shades), dull chocolate and nigger brown; 1d., black.

(b) 1d., dull chocolate; 5s., dull chocolate. These two have "Railways" instead of "Railway" and the corner ornaments are different. The only dated specimen seen is a 5s. of May, 07.

(c) 3d., red (shades); 6d., green (shades); 1s., blue (shades); 1s., brown. This group has much clearer designs. "Railways" and the corner ornaments are again different. The figures of value are larger and clearer.

In the collection of the late S. Klagsbrun, the 1s. brown was marked as being "an error of colour, Jan., 08". In that collection also were what appeared to be proofs in correct colours of these three stamps, printed on thin card. These were bottom half sheets, a whole sheet being 8 rows horizontally x 5 rows vertically. A mark is present on the right-hand margin of the sheets in the form of a small roughly hand-drawn circle with a dot in the centre. There is one of these marks opposite the bottom row of stamps and one cut through at the top of the half-sheet (it would have been level with the space between the 4th and 5th rows of the complete sheet), and presumably there would have been a third mark level with the top row.

These proofs were, of course, imperforate. All the actual stamps seen have been perf. 11½ although B. & K.'s catalogue records them as also occurring imperforate.

Precancelling of these stamps was recorded and figured in the "South African Philatelist", Vol. XXI, 1945, p. 26. Details of the occurrence are given. It seemed to suggest the sending of parcels to a postmaster and possible use as real "postage stamps", but further light on this possibility is needed.

Not listed by B. & K. is a set of lithographed stamps of standard size, identical in design with the N.G.R. series, only having instead the letters "C.S.A.R." at the top. The background lettering reads "CENTRAL-SOUTHAFRICANRAILWAYSCENTR". Some of the stamps are perf. 11½, others show the same zig-zag roulette as the N.G.R. stamps, but sufficient numbers have not been seen to say which is the commoner.



Denominations seen: 1d., 3d., 6d. and 9d., green; 1s., blue; 2s., red; 2s. 6d., yellow; 5s., lilac; 10s., brown.

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Under present conditions we cannot, of course, guarantee to supply *every* newly issued stamp, and the rate over face value at which we supply is bound to vary, but it is our aim to make distributions as comprehensive as possible and to charge not more than is necessary in order to maintain an efficient Service.

Applications should be accompanied by two references and full particulars given as to requirements.

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AIR STAMPS

All mint unless otherwise stated

S.G. Nos.

585/590—Greece, 6 values	1/0
A11a/A17—Italy, 8 values	3/6
A41a—Italy, Air Express, 1 value	0/6
A53/56—Italy, 1934 Rome-Buenos Aires, 4 values	7/6
854/856—Germany, 1944, 25th Anniversary of Aviation, 3 values	2/3
417—Netherlands, 1933, Special Flight, 1 value	1/3
486—Netherlands, 1938, Special Flight, 1 value	0/9
225/244—Egypt, Obsolete Air Set, fine used, 21 values	27/6
317/324—Egypt, Obsolete Air Set, 5 values, mint 3/0, used	2/6
New Issue Egypt, Air Set, 12 values	13/6
117—Kenya, 65 cent Air Stamp	4/0
26/29—1925 Union Air Set, mint 60/-, used	65/0
40/41—1929 Union Air Set, mint or used	12/0
72/73—S.W.A., 2 values, mint 5/-, used	6/0
86/87—S.W.A., 2 values, joined pairs, mint 45/-, used	55/0
Flown Covers of the Union and S.W.A.—	
Prices on Application	

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SOUTH AFRICAN RAILWAYS

With the coming of Union all the railway systems became merged in the "South African Railways" and the change is reflected in the new series of parcel stamps introduced for use over the whole of the Union.

Probably existing stocks of the various colonial stamps were used up, at any rate to some extent, and a few have actually been seen with dates in the last three months of 1910, and, in the case of an N.G.R. 1d. newspaper stamp, as late as Dec., 1911. They must have been prepared very soon after Union occurred, however, as one specimen has been seen with a cancellation as early as 22 Oct., 1910.

1st ISSUE (1910-1916)

NO OVERPRINTS—VARIOUS COLOURS

This issue was in use till about the end of 1916. Neither this nor any subsequent issue is on watermarked paper. This issue differs from all subsequent issues in that there are no overprinted letters; in the later issues the stamps were all overprinted with two or three letters, these being for the individual stations to which the stamps were supplied.

Design: This follows closely on the design of the preceding C.G.R. stamps. The design of the 1d. is identical with that of the black C.G.R. stamps, only having the letters "S.A.R." at the top in place of "C.G.R.". There is also a scarce 9d. of this design. The other values are of the same type as the shilling values of the C.G.R. series, the background of small lettering being now, however, "SOUTHAFRICANRAILWAYS-SOUTH".



It is noteworthy that in most values there appear to be two types or varieties, these being distinguishable by the relative position of the background lettering to the frame or to the figure of value, some also by differences in the shape of the figure of value itself. These are noted under the individual denominations.

Perforation: Most stamps are perforated

approximately 12. The 1d. and 6d. have been seen perf. 10 vertically x roul. 7 horizontally used in 1914 and 1915 and the 3d. (green), 6d., 9d., 1s. and 2s. occur with serrated margins. These varieties may, of course, occur in other denominations also; only those which have been seen are here noted.

Denominations:

1d. Black and grey-black. Design different from all the others, as noted. Perf. x Roul. variety as noted.

3d. Green, numerous shades. Two types, (a) First "S" of background lettering distinct, End of upper limb of "3" wide, End of lower limb of "3" narrow, Sides of upper part of "d" not parallel. (b) First "S" of background lettering cut by frame, End of upper limb of "3" narrow, End of lower limb of "3" wide, Sides of upper part of "d" parallel. Serrated variety known.

3d. Dark blue, shades. Two types as in the green threepenny. Does not appear to be so common as the green and cancellation dates suggest that it was issued about 1915.

6d. Green, numerous shades. Two types have not been made out. Perf. x Roul. and Serrated varieties known.

9d. Grey, pale grey or drab. Two types, (a) First letter "S" in background incomplete, Last letter "H" in background complete, Dot under "d" partially obliterates the "A" of "WAYS". (b) First letter "S" of background complete, Last letter "H" of background incomplete, Dot under "d" completely obliterates the "A" of "WAYS".

9d. Green and Red. (Frame green, 9d. red.) Of same pattern as the 1d. denomination. Apparently a very rare stamp, only one copy has been seen.

1s. Blue, shades. Two types, (a) Figure of value 3½ m.m. wide, Stroke of 1s. extends down to 6th line of background lettering, Last "H" of background lettering clear of frame and distinct. (b) Figure of value 4 m.m. wide, Stroke of 1s. extends down to 7th line of the background lettering, Last "H" of background lettering cut by frame and indistinct.

2s. Brick red, shades. Two types, (a) Last "H" of background lettering clear and distinct, One limb of "U" of background lettering shows in front of the lower part of figure "2", Only letter "H" to right of the stop of 2s. (b) Last "H" of background only shows the left limb, Only "SO" in front of the lower part of figure "2", Part of "T" shows to right of the stop of 2s.

2s. 6d. Yellow, orange, shades. Printing often very indistinct. There is undoubtedly some variation in the position of the background lettering to the frame, but not sufficient to make out two definite types.

5s. Dull lilac, mauve, bright mauve. Two types, (a) Top stroke of "5" obliterates the "A" of "RAIL", Stroke of 5/- is clear of the "W" of "WAYS", (b) Top stroke of "5" does not obliterate the "A" of "RAIL", Stroke of 5/- partially obliterates the "W" of "WAYS".

We have remarked about it often enough and if our advertisements are read at all, there must be precious few readers of this magazine who do not know that we are proud of our stock of *K.G. VI Stamps*. Blanks there are, of course, but less of these, we think, than in any other stock and we could get together a collection which would make the average collector's teeth water, so whether you are a beginner or quite an advanced collector, our price-list, which gives full details of what we have, will be well worth sending for (an air letter will bring a copy by air, or a year's subscription is 12s. by air, and 2s. by sea-mail) but that is not the aspect of our business which we want to talk about this month . . . it's the new-issue service we run which is worth any collector's attention, unless you are satisfied with the old come-day-go-day God-send-Sunday service, which might have been alright once upon a time, but which leaves you guessing half the time what you are going to get and the other half grieving at what you didn't get.

Recently we received a letter from Melbourne and herewith an excerpt: "Many thanks for new issues for June. It was a pleasant surprise to see both perfs of the "Barbados Provisional" in the envelope, but I am a bit annoyed that I didn't take P advice and join previously, then I would not have needed to pay you 28s. 6d. for the Sarawak Centenary set, which my friend got from you at the time at face plus your commission. Anyhow I feel that I can relax now, for I know that there is not much which gets past you."

Precisely; although we say it ourselves, that subscriber, and others as well, have no need to worry about new issues. They can pick up their favourite magazine, and read about all the new perfs and shades, and know that it's almost a cert that their next envelope of new issues will contain these desirable varieties. May we ask those already in some new-issue service, if they are already in that happy position? If our post-bag is any criterion, many cannot answer in the affirmative. Of course, subscribers do not need to take shades or perforation varieties, postage dues, officials, etc., or even all countries in the British Commonwealth of Nations, unless they wish, but they are there for them, served on a platter, if they want them and all you need to do to obtain full details, is to send an air-letter and by air we'll send those details. Now don't put off sending for you may miss many nice things. Just a line by air-letter will do the trick and if you also want a specimen copy of the most complete price-list of K.G. VI issues, say so, and we'll send you that as well, also by air-mail.

The Commonwealth Stamp Coy., 7, Leather Lane, Liverpool 2: England.

TWO S.W.A. VARIETIES



A few blocks of each as illustrated available: Prices on application to serious collectors

Benoni Stamp Shop
BENONI

Box 485

10s. Brown, grey-brown, shades. Two types, (a) Letters of background to left of the figure "1" read "SSO", Background letter "A" distinct in the centre of the figure "O", The dot after the stroke is large. (b) Letters of background to left of figure "1" read "SOU", No distinct letter in centre of figure "O", The dot after the stroke is small.

20s. Rose, pale rose. This stamp is of the same general design as the others, but is larger in size (about 30 x 36 m.m. as against 21 x 25 m.m.). Two types not definitely distinguishable.

2nd ISSUE (1916-1922)
(STATION OVERPRINTS—ROULETTED
—ALL ONE COLOUR)

Whether this issue or the next is termed the second, would appear to be a matter of indifference as they were in use contemporaneously and, in any case, the only difference between them is that one is rouletted and the other perforated.

The earliest date of use seen is 1—7—16 and the latest 20—6—22.

In this issue, as in all subsequent issues, the stamps have various letters overprinted in black on them; these letters indicate the particular station at which the stamp was used. In this and the next (perforated) issue there is lots of scope for a detailed study of the overprints; there is no uniformity in the type of lettering used for the overprinting and even for one and the same station several varieties may be found, to say nothing of minor variations in spacing, defective letters, etc., etc. After 1922 there is little variety in the overprints to be found. This subject is not considered, however, in this communication.

Roulette: This is size 7 (to the 2 m.m.). It is sometimes very indistinct and the stamp just has a rough edge. As the perforation in the next issue is also not infrequently poor in quality, it often needs more than just a casual glance to decide whether one is dealing with a rouletted or a perforated stamp; sometimes one is tempted to think one is dealing with a mixed perf. x roulette, but I cannot say that I have come across an undoubted case of this.



Paper: This is sometimes a pure white woven paper, but in all values it can often be described as "slightly blued".

Colour: All values are of the same colour basically, but there are numerous shades, salmon pink, brick red or brown red.

Design: The 1d. is identical in design with the 1d. black of the first issue. The 2d., a new value, is of a new design, here figured. The other denominations, 3d., 6d., 9d., 1s., 2s., 2s. 6d., 5s., 10s. and 20s. are identical with those of the first issue and are obviously printed from the same plates, as the same two types can be made out where they are discernible in the first issue.

3rd ISSUE (1916-1923)
(STATION OVERPRINTS—
PERFORATED—ONE COLOUR)

As stated above this issue appears to have been in use contemporaneously with the second. The earliest date of use seen is the same, 1—7—16, and only one specimen (a 9d. value) has been seen later than 1922, although it was as late as July, 1923.



What has been stated under the second issue as regards overprints, paper, colour and design applies to this issue also. The only difference really is that the stamps are perforated instead of rouletted. The perf. is 11½ all round and it is often rough or of poor quality giving the stamp a very indistinct edge.

The only denomination of which anything else might be noted is the 2d.; this appears to be scarce compared with the rouletted one.
(To be continued.)

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ZULU WAR CAMPAIGN COVER

The May-June "West-End Philatelist" illustrates a cover from the collection of Mrs. E. L. Morgan. This is one from Lieut. Bromhead, of Rorke's Drift fame, and is endorsed by him "No stamps procurable". It shows a series of traunt postmarks.

SOCIETY NEWS

THE PHILATELIC SOCIETY OF JOHANNESBURG

President, Dr. A. Kaplan; *Hon. Sec.*, Mr. J. H. Jenkins, P.O. Box 4967; *Meetings*, 2nd Tuesdays, Public Library, 7.45 p.m.

At the meeting held on August 12 the exhibit was provided by Mr. W. Oppenheim. He showed stamps of Luxemburg. Mr. Oppenheim introduced his exhibit with a short history of the country. Many of its historical events were commemorated in its stamps.

The exhibit included charity issues, German occupation issues, early classics and miniature sheets. Some of the stamps were very beautiful, and the exhibit was beautifully mounted and described. All the specimens were perfect copies.

Mr. L. Buchen spoke on the exhibit. During the evening it was announced that as from 1st September, 1947, the Society would hold two meetings a month. The second meeting would be on the fourth Tuesday. (It has since then been found that the meeting place would not be available on the fourth Tuesdays, so the second meeting of each month will probably be on the fourth Mondays.—Ed.)

I.I.

★

MARITZBURG PHILATELIC SOCIETY

Chairman, C. R. Turner; *Hon. Secretary*, R. Morton, P.O. Box 328, Pietermaritzburg; *Meetings*, 2nd Friday in each month at 211 Burger Street, 7.45 p.m.

The attendance at the August meeting was not as good as usual.

Before starting the meeting our chairman referred to the recent death of a member, Mr. Dean Taylor, who had been suffering from indifferent health for some time. Members stood in silent tribute to our late comrade.

The evening was an open one and we were disappointed that only five members brought displays and these all regular exhibitors; we want more exhibits from the newcomers.

The five exhibits shown were in good variety, ranging from the first issues of Holland to the latest pictorials of the French Empire and Liberia. Great interest was shown in the exhibits which were accompanied by introductory talks.

During the evening rules for our new innovations, the monthly auction and the competition, were discussed, and it was decided to have our first auction and competition at the September meeting.

We were pleased to welcome to the meeting our old friend Prof. Hattersley back from his extended trip overseas.

R.M.

★

PRETORIA PHILATELIC SOCIETY

President, F. C. Ferguson; *Hon. Sec.*, H. Endemann, P.O. Box 514; *Meetings*, 1st and 3rd Mondays, 8 p.m., Technical College.

7th July: An evening of short papers and talks. Mr. Kevan gave some notes on British Colonials of K.G. VI reign.

Mr. Giovanetti showed something out-of-the-way in the shape of the local "Cycle Express" stamp issued in Western Australia during the Coolgardie Gold Rush of 1894.

Mr. Hawke gave a general talk on stamp collecting. Mr. Endemann read an article from an American paper "Strange things happen on Postage Stamps." It dealt mainly with artists' errors in designs of U.S.A. stamps. Mr. Greenbaum provided the main exhibit of the evening from his outstanding collection of South African Air Mails.

21st July: Dr. Reisener gave a paper on European Philately. Although a comparative newcomer to the Society, he has already revealed a wide knowledge of philately, and this paper dealt with many aspects of the subject. He followed it up with an exhibit of European war issues.

H.E.

THE JEWISH GUILD PHILATELIC SECTION

Chairman, Dr. A. Kaplan; *Hon. Secretary*, Mr. B. Joseph, 143 London House, Loveday Street, Johannesburg; *Meetings*, Last Thursday, Jewish Guild War Memorial Hall.

At the meeting held on July 31 there was a friendly competition amongst members and friends who collected the stamps of Austria, each competitor showing 20 sheets. There were five competitors in all.

Mr. Froelich showed stamps which illustrated the history of Austria. He read a paper introducing the exhibit.

Mr. Buchen showed some rarities, including the 10s. Dolfus, the Wipa sheet and many others. Dr. Kaplan also showed rarities including early issues. Mr. I. Isaacs showed flown covers. Mr. W. Oppenheim showed charity issues. All the competitors introduced their exhibits with short notes. A vote was taken of all present and Mr. W. Oppenheim was voted the winner. Dr. A. Kaplan presented a prize to the winner.

During the evening numerous stamps changed hands.

I.I.

★

PORT ELIZABETH PHILATELIC SOCIETY

President, Mr. G. K. Forbes; *Hon. Sec.*, Mr. P. G. Smith, 13 Trafalgar Square, Port Elizabeth; *Meetings*, 1st and 3rd Tuesdays in Room 3, City Hall Basement, at 7.45 p.m.

The attendance was good at the auction meeting held on the first Tuesday when Mr. Levey put up a large amount of packets.

Those not sold were put forward to the business meeting, held on August 19. Mr. Forbes was absent on business, and Mr. Levey took the chair.

The evening display was by Mr. MacMillian, who tabled part of his famous and wonderful first day air mail covers.

There is only space to mention a few and it is hard to know which to write about as they are all beautiful covers.

There was one of the first flight in Italy in 1917, between Turin and Rome, Naples and Palermo. One of the double flight from London to Cherbourg, then by Seaplane to Ottawa on July 18, 1932, then catapulted from the S.S. "Empress of Britain." The first flight by airship from Los Angeles on October 12, 1924.

The cover of the Pigeon Post was very interesting as only 199 messages were carried at the Coronation of King George VI. The S.W.A. Airways on February 1, 1935, and S. Rhodesia official airmail on January 28, 1932, were also represented.

Another came from the ill-fated Europe-American Hindenburg flight which burst into flames when about to land, at the cost of 33 lives.

A set of Canadian airmails with a tank printed on the cover, and one from the "City of Delhi" which was bogged at Broken Hill and the mail arrived at Croydon eight days late.

Before putting the packets up for auction, Mr. Levey congratulated Mr. MacMillian for his splendid display, and accorded him a vote of thanks.

Five new members were admitted into the Society, and the meeting closed at 9.30 p.m.

L.E.C.

★

ORANGE FREE STATE AND BASUTOLAND PHILATELIC SOCIETY

President, Mr. John Lewis; *Hon. Secretary*, Mr. R. G. Lyon, Box 702, Bloemfontein; *Meetings*, 3rd Fridays each month. Oranje Koffiehuis, Bloemfontein, 7.30 p.m.

At the July meeting, three interesting exhibits were given: Some outstanding "U.S.A. Errors" by Mr. M. Liss, a number of interesting "combination" and other covers by Mr. H. Gunning, and more sections of the "geographic" collection by Mr. R. A. Brown. A motion to join the B.P.A. was carried, after every member had voiced his opinion in this regard. Two new members were enrolled.

(Continued on page 137)

The SOUTH AFRICAN PHILATELIST

Proprietors and Publishers:

The Philatelic Federation of Southern Africa

Honorary Editor: Dr. J. H. HARVEY PIRIE, - - - P.O. Box 7012, Johannesburg
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Vol. 23, No. 10.

OCTOBER, 1947.

Whole No. 271

PHILATELIC CONGRESS.

A Congress of the Philatelic Federation of Southern Africa will be held at East London on the evening of Thursday, 15th January, and on Friday, 16th January, 1948, under the auspices of the East London Philatelic Society.

DELEGATES

Every affiliated Society may be represented by delegates at Congress as follows:—

- (a) Each Society under 25 members by one delegate.
- (b) Each Society of 25 and under 50 members by two delegates.
- (c) Each Society of 50 and under 75 members by three delegates.
- (d) Each Society of 75 or more members by four delegates.

Any philatelist may attend Congress, but only official delegates may vote. The names of official delegates should be sent to the Honorary Secretary-Treasurer of the Federation, Mr. N. Welsford, P.O. Box 4077, Johannesburg, before the 1st January, 1948.

Every Society sending delegates must also send to Mr. W. J. Gillespie, Secretary of the East London Philatelic Society, P.O. Box 673, East London, a sum equal to 5s. per delegate.

NOTICES OF MOTION

Any Notices of Motion for insertion in the Agenda of Congress must be sent to the Honorary Secretary-Treasurer of the Federation by 1st December, 1947.

CONGRESS AWARD

Societies should notify their members of the Congress Award for the best paper on a Southern African subject. A copy of any paper to be read at Congress must be sent to the Honorary Secretary-Treasurer of the Federation by 15th December, 1947, but it is

desirable that the author should be present in person to read the paper at Congress.

ROLL OF HONOUR

Nominations for the Roll of Honour of South African Distinguished Philatelists should be sent to the Honorary Secretary-Treasurer of the Federation by 1st December, 1947. All nominations should be accompanied by fully detailed information. The person nominated must be or must have been a philatelist distinguished by philatelic research work, philatelic journalistic work, or by good service in connection with the Federation or Constituent Societies.

SKINNER CUP

Nominations for the award of the Skinner Cup must be sent to the Honorary Secretary-Treasurer of the Federation by 1st December, 1947. This cup is awarded by Congress to the person who is considered to have done the best work in connection with philately since the previous Congress, such person to hold the cup until the next Congress.

AFFILIATION DUES

Constituent Societies are reminded that their delegates will only be in good standing if the Society's affiliation dues are fully paid up. The dues are 10s. for every 25 members or part thereof.

ACCOMMODATION

Anyone proposing to attend Congress and wishing to have accommodation reserved is advised to communicate with the Exhibition Secretary, East London Philatelic Society, P.O. Box 198, East London, as soon as possible, stating his wishes.

Further information will be given later.

(Signed) N. WELSFORD,

Honorary Secretary.

STUDY YOUR COUNTRY'S STAMPS

UNION NOTES.

No Royal Wedding Stamp

There has been some talk of a commemorative for the wedding of H.R.H. Princess Elizabeth, but now it has been announced that no such issue will take place. It is stated in the public press that a factor influencing the Post Office in making this decision was that there have been too many special stamps of recent years, since 1938.

Machine Cancellation Error

Mr. C. Calitz reports an error in a Mossel Bay machine cancellation: one date stamp reads "Mossel Bay 15.VIII.47", the other "Mossel Baai 15.XII.47". He also forwards a piece with one whole and two portions of roll 1d. stamps, which passed through as paying a 1½d. rate. The two portions of stamps look as if they had been badly separated in a slot machine.

Adhesive Parcel Labels

Mr. R. Axer notes that these labels are now being printed on white paper instead of yellow; to date this is the case in Durban, Cape Town and Johannesburg. Mr. J. F. Fick also notes a change in the Johannesburg N.C.R. 3 label, the earliest observed being 23.7.47.

1½d. Bantam Double Roulette

A London dealer is advertising this variety (wrongfully, as usual, calling it "Roulette 13½" when it is really double rouletted 6¾) at 1s. 6d. a pair, whereas he is charging 15s. for a pair single rouletted. He must have laid in a big stock of the initial printing.

Union Catalogue

A limited number of copies are still available, but not very many. They may be obtained from stamp dealers and booksellers in the Union or direct from Mr. G. Milner Palmer, c/o The Philatelic Society of Natal, P.O. Box 588, Durban.

1d. With Brownish Centre

Mr. Robert E. Oakes, of the African Collectors' Exchange, reports the 1d. stamp as

being on sale with the strip in brownish-black (as the Springbok's head recently was in the 1d. stamp) instead of the usual grey-black or definite black.

Smaller Sized 2d. Royal Visit Stamps

In our July issue the finding of S.W.A. 1d. Royal Visit Stamps with perforations so close that the overall height of the stamps was reduced by 1.5 mm. was reported, and it was presumed that these could be found in unoverprinted Union stamps.

Mrs. M. N. de Vos, of 4 Transvaal House, New Redruth, Alberton, Transvaal, has submitted 2d. Unions, showing the same feature perforations so close to the design that the overall height is reduced by from 1.5 to 2 m.m. This occurs in printings of the 2d. from both cylinders.

Incidentally it may be mentioned that Mrs. de Vos also sent price lists of British Colonial and foreign stamps in which she deals.

1d. Stamp Varieties

Referring to notes in our last two issues, Mr. J. B. Levy, of Bloemfontein, submits specimens of the broken frame, and of the same retouched (stamp No. 2 of sheet). This



Top pair shows the broken framed line, bottom pair shows it retouched.

occurs in recent printings from Plate 14, size of stamp 18 x 22 m.m., perf. gutter 2 m.m.,

Fine British Colonials:

Selections of the above are sent on approval to serious collectors against references.

- Range 1. Early issues, which can be selected from at one-third of catalogue price.
- Range 2. Modern issues (1900 on) in mint state, mostly at 50% off catalogue.
- Range 3. Modern issues (1900 on) superb used, mostly at 50% off catalogue.

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The albums listed below are the finest now being produced. They are all loose-leaf with quadrille printed leaves without names of countries and are, therefore, suitable for either one-country collections or, with the use of gummed names of countries, for group or general collections. They are all of pre-war quality and *extra leaves for all of them can be supplied.*

"BURLEIGH." Peg-fitting, with 75 stiff double linen-hinged interleaved pages. Attractive imitation leather marone cover. Price 41/6, postage 2/3 extra.

"ROOSEVELT." Peg-fitting, with 50 hinged Bristol pages, interleaved. Imitation leather cover in blue, red or green. Supplied in attractive slip-in case. Price 60/-, postage 3/3 extra.

"GOVERNOR." A superior peg-fitting album with extra large leaves, 50 gilt-edged Bristol board linen-hinged pages. Cover has dark green sides and black back and corners. Supplied in fine slip-in case. Uninterleaved £5 10/-, interleaved £5 12/-, postage 4/6 extra.

"PORTLAND." Springback, with dark marone or dark green cover. This fine British album is available in the following styles:

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With 75 linen-hinged leaves, with or without ornamental border around pages, uninterleaved 51/6, interleaved 54/6, postage 2/3 extra.

De Luxe edition with Morocco cover, with 75 linen-hinged leaves, with or without ornamental border around pages, uninterleaved £5, interleaved £5 3s., postage 2/3 extra.
(When ordering "Portland" albums please state type of page required).

"JET BLACK SPECIALIST." Peg-fitting. As the name implies this is an album with black pages, ideal for showing up early imperforates to the best advantage. Fifty black card interleaved double linen-hinged pages. Supplied in fine slip-in case. Obtainable with red, blue or green cover. Price 61/-, postage 3/3 extra.

If you would like to see sample pages before deciding which album to purchase we will be glad to send them, but, to partly cover cost, must make a small charge for same, which will be refunded if the samples are returned to us. Prices of samples, including postage: "Burleigh," "Portland," "Roosevelt" and "Jet Specialist," 6d. each; "Governor" 10d.

All the albums listed above are of the usual large size, except the "Governor," which is extra large.

Postage rates shown are for transmission by insured parcel post to addresses in the Union and Protectorates; to S. Rhodesia please add 50 per cent. and to N. Rhodesia 100 per cent. to postage rates mentioned.

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marginal arrows of Type 7 as shown in the Union Catalogue p. 48. Incidentally Plate 14 stamps were used to a limited extent for the Kenya provisional, commoner, however, were stamps from Plate 13, which were of the intermediate size, 18½ x 22½ m.m., and perf. gutter 13/4.

He also sends specimens from a later plate (? 15). In this the sheet starts with an English stamp, not an Afrikaans one; the marginal arrows are of Type 9 in the Union Catalogue; the paper is a purer white, not the slightly creamy white of the previous stamps and the Pl. 14 flaws have gone, but there is a small "cloud" at the top of sun's rays in Stamp No. 5 of the 2nd. row.

New 1½d. "Official"

The Robertson Stamp Co., Johannesburg, submits specimens of the small mine dump 1½d. now on issue, overprinted with "Offisielel" at the left and "Official" at the right, both reading vertically downwards.

Swissair Flight Flop

Under this heading, the "Gibbons' Stamp Monthly" reports that the Swissair flight, which we chronicled last month, was a flop for Swiss aero-philatelic collectors. Bags of philatelic covers were sent, with a request that they be backstamped in Johannesburg and sent back to Switzerland by the return flight. The postal authorities here refused to stamp the mail as they regarded it as a fantastic waste of time to stamp mail (or rather, empty envelopes!) addressed to anywhere but South Africa. It is understood that the Swiss postal authorities put their own backstamps on when the plane took the consignment back.

Best British Designs

Gibbons' competition, by voting, for the best stamp designs issued since the beginning of the war, resulted in the New Zealand 9d. Peace, 1946, coming first, the Hong Kong 1946 Victory second and the South African 3d. Royal Visit, 1947, third.

★

TRANSJORDAN

A commemorative set of 9 values is due for issue on November 1 in honour of the first Parliament.

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Surrey, England.**

A NEW ZEALAND NOTE

The new George VI stamps have just been issued and it is generally conceded that they constitute a colourful and attractive set. The designs of the lower values (up to and including the 9d. value) are a little drab and uninteresting, but the shades are particularly pleasing, although some of the values are inclined to be just a little confusing to the post office counter staffs. The high values in a larger format and with two attractively combined colours are something of an innovation for the Dominion. Altogether the set mounts well on an album page. The higher values, 1s., 1s. 3d., 2s. and 3s., are peculiar in that the 1s. has an upright watermark while the other three have a sideways watermark. In the "Official" set both the 1s. and 2s. values have the upright watermark and it must be reasonably presumed that the four values have both forms of watermarks. Thus there are extras already for the observant and careful collector. It is understood that this set is planned for a ten year period and therefore colours and papers are for certain going to be the subject of variations with future reprintings. It is the intention of the Department to issue certain Commemorative Sets during the currency of this set and it has already been announced that during 1948 three stamps will be issued to commemorate the centenary of the establishment of the Province of Otago. Otago with its chief town, Dunedin, and including Lakes Wanaka and Wakatipu, is one of the most beautiful provinces of New Zealand. Its early history is associated with the fine band of settlers who came from Scotland and made Otago the Little Scotland of the South and Dunedin a beautiful miniature of lovely Edinburgh. A commemorative set is fully justified as a tribute to the achievements of those fine pioneers.

E. G. Cowell.

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BRAZIL

Dr. M. de Sanctis reports a 40c issue in June in honour of the visit of the President of Chile to Brazil. It features the President and a part map of South America with a line joining the capitals of the two countries.

What A Fool I Have Been.

Dear Sirs,

LONDON S.E.23,
Aug. 8th, 1947.

Please find enclosed cheque for £14 4s. 6d. and list of stamps required from your August price-list. I have noticed your adverts for some time but took them with a grain of salt, as I do all such things. You claimed that your stock was the most comprehensive, etc., but that sounded too tall to be true.

However, early last month I was discussing stamps with a friend I had not seen for some time. My moan was that my collection had got to the stage where I could only add new issues, for though I had combed the city I could find none of the stamps I was short of.

My friend asked if I had tried you, and my reply was that I did not like dealing through the post, as I had had too many experiences of where I had to take stamps I didn't want, but his answer to that was that if you offered anything I was almost certain to get it, or my cash would be back by return of post.

I sent for your list and you got an order which you completed. I sent you a second order off a list which was then old and got all except a small item and your postal order cleared that and now I have complete confidence, particularly as I have spoken to a friend who has had satisfactory dealings with you for years.

My trouble now is that I am finding too much stuff and having noted what you apparently send out to your new issue subscribers, I would be glad if you will also send me a copy of your rules. Also please send a list to Mr. L.... What a fool I have been not to have written before.

Yours faithfully, L.T.

That's one letter we received recently and coming from a man who is in close touch with the philatelic centre of the world, we felt some of our oversea collectors might like to see it, moreover they can be sure of the same service as we give to home customers.

Our list costs two shillings a year by sea and twelve by air (though we'll gladly send a copy on receipt of an air letter and send it by air, too) and the number of air subscribers we have proves it worth if you are a KG VI collector (we cater for no others). We'd like to send also a copy of our new issue rules. Dealing as we do in KG VI stamps only, there would be no excuse (and there isn't) if our new issue service wasn't absolutely first class. It is, and so thinks the editor of a well-known philatelic magazine, who is a paying member. Let's have that air letter. You'll never regret it.

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The Channel Islands Posts and Stamps

1940-1945

By A. G. LANGLOIS, Guernsey.

Lying in the Bay of St. Malo, close to the Cotentin Peninsula on which stands Cherbourg, the Channel Islands are the last of the lands of the Duchy of Normandy and from the days of the Conquest they have retained their constitution, customs and independence. The King of England, in addition to being Sovereign, is also known as "Our Duke".

The Channel Islands consist of Jersey (45 square miles), Guernsey (25 square miles), Alderney (9 square miles), Sark (5 square miles) and other smaller islets, Herm, Brechou, Jethou, Lihou and Berhou. The population in pre-war days approximated 100,000, of which 60,000 were domiciled in Jersey and the remaining 40,000 in the group of islands around Guernsey, although the islets are for the most part uninhabited. In Jersey the industries are potato and tomato growing out-of-doors, farming, and catering for visitors from the mainlands. In Guernsey tomatoes are grown in glass-houses heated to provide the right temperature for high-grade fruit; thousands of these glass-houses provide a living for a large number of the population, who also produce choice grapes and melons under glass. Flowers are also grown and these are on the English market weeks before the mainland crops are available. Guernsey is also a holiday resort and a yachting centre. The islands have a very famous breed of cattle, known throughout the world for their excellent breeding record and high yield of butter fat.

From May to October the Channel Islands are the Mecca for holiday-makers from all over Great Britain and ships run daily to and from the ports of Southampton carrying the visitors. Whilst planes from Croydon, Eastleigh and Reading have regular services to the aerodromes at Alderney, Guernsey and Jersey.

The islands are administered by local governments named "States", Guernsey controlling the group of islands within its "Bailiwick". Both Jersey and Guernsey have a "Bailiff" who sits at the head of the States and is also the head of the Royal Court. These local parliaments are administered under their old Norman laws—modified and modernised to meet present day needs. Crown officers representing Great Britain have various duties in the Islands such as receiving monies due to the Crown for Government property, legal matters and representation of the Crown on matters concerning the British

Government. The various state departments are controlled by a States Supervisor under whom all the public services and maintenance works are carried out. The islands have their own independent Income Tax Authority, Customs and Excise and other taxes and tariffs. The only public service which is not under the jurisdiction of the Island Parliaments is the post office, which is run under the control of the South Western Region of the British Postal System and is staffed with personnel serving under mainland conditions and appointed to their positions in the same way as their mainland colleagues. The stamps used for postage purposes are those of Great Britain and the postal charges are at the inland rate. The Channel Islands are the only part of the Empire which have no stamps of their own, although they are entirely independent in other matters.

On the 28th June, 1940, the German air forces launched attacks on the undefended towns and harbours of St. Helier, Jersey and St. Peter Port, Guernsey, killing and wounding people strolling around the harbour walks and growers shipping their tomatoes on to cargo boats. Two days later fighters, bombers and troop-carriers landed on the airports of Guernsey and Jersey and the five years occupation had begun.

Commandeering everything which they set their hearts on, the Germans were soon over-lording the only part of the British Empire ever to fall into their hands. By billeting their troops in civilian houses and with the families of Channel Islanders, they safeguarded their forces from attack and were able to build up their formidable defences, coastal defences against sea attack and terrific anti-aircraft protection against attack from the air. The airports were used for the launching of raids on the English coast and it was a very sad experience for those in the islands whose families had evacuated to the mainland prior to the occupation to think that their own people were being bombed and machine-gunned by aircraft based back in their home islands. However, there was some satisfaction in seeing the huge gaps in the German formations, which had been torn by those battle of Britain pilots before and after each attempt made to blitz Britain out of existence. Several times the Nazis were sure that a final onslaught was to be made to conquer England and their anger knew no limits when they were chaffed by the islanders about the delay in carrying out the plan of which they were so cocksure.

The majority of the post office staffs had stayed on in the Channel Islands to render what postal and telegraph services they could and in the absence of an order for a general evacuation stayed on in the occupation; in charge of the post offices were Mr. O. A. Mourant (Jersey) and Mr. H. C. Chapell (Guernsey) and they succeeded in maintaining their postal services without German intervention throughout the occupation. For their services each of these officers were awarded the M.B.E. and were appointed Head Postmasters of their relative districts.

It soon became apparent in Guernsey that stocks of English postage stamps would become exhausted, particularly the 1d. and ½d. and the Postmaster of Guernsey sought the assistance of the Guernsey Press Company with a view to producing stamps locally. Designs of the Guernsey coat-of-arms were drawn by Mr. E. W. Vaudin of the Press and when accepted, were submitted, through the Bailiff of Guernsey, to the German Kommandant for permission to print the stamps. The Kommandant appeared to be in no hurry to grant permission and submitted the whole scheme to Paris for consideration by a higher authority; it is thought that the Germans were toying with the idea of a Nazi stamp issue for the Channel Islands, but that as the High Command had more important things in hand at the moment, gave the necessary permission for Guernsey to produce its own stamps after a considerable delay. Meanwhile it was found that stocks of 1d. had become exhausted and it was decided to bisect the remaining stocks of 2d. English stamps for use as penny postage. On the 24th December, 1940, notices in the local newspapers indicated that "... prepayment ... can be effected by using one half of a 2d. stamp, provided that the division is made by cutting the stamp diagonally ...". As no postal business was transacted on Xmas Day or Boxing Day, the first day on which these bisected stamps were used was the 27th December, 1940, and the period of validity continued for two months, when on the 17th February, 1941, the following notice appeared in the local press:

NOTICE—POSTAGE STAMPS

As from 9.0 a.m. on Tuesday, the 18th instant, penny postage stamps will be available for purchase at the Head Post Office, Smith St., and at all sub-offices in the Bailiwick where money order or savings bank business is normally transacted.

The present arrangement whereby 2d. stamps, cut diagonally, provide for penny postage will cease on Saturday, the 22nd instant.

H. C. CHAPPELL, Acting Head Postmaster.
Guernsey.

17.2.41

Genehmigt (approved).

Nebenstelle, Guernsey.

der Feld Kommandantur 515.

I. V. DR BROSCH

Kriegsverwaltungs—Assessor

den 17 Febr. 1941.

As country letter boxes were not due for clearance until the early morning of the 24th letters bearing bisected stamps, posted in these letter boxes, were accepted without surcharge and were dated the 24th February and are therefore the actual last day covers—there are very few of these.

The new penny stamps, the first postage stamp to be produced in the Channel Islands, was duly placed on sale on the 18th of February and created widespread interest. 240,000 had been printed on white gummed paper made by Messrs. Samuel Jones and Co., Ltd., London. The plates were produced by Mr. C. H. Tooms and the printing carried out under the control of Mr. P. LeMoal both of the Guernsey Press Company and under the supervision of a senior post office official. As there were 23,000 civil population and approximately 20,000 enemy garrison, it is remarkable that the first issue of stamps lasted four months (less than 6 stamps per head) and this during a period when there was no transport and the population had only the post to keep them in touch with each other; also statements and official returns of property and goods were constantly being called for and amounted to thousands of postal items. It is estimated that over 10,000 letters passed weekly through the Guernsey post office, some thousand of these going to Jersey. Many of the stamps (and this applied to all other Channel Islands issues) were destroyed after use as a result of the envelope shortage—covers were used many times and when torn and dirty had to be discarded and were by then of no philatelic value.

Returning to the bi-sect for a moment, it must be pointed out that 2d. stamps of Geo. V, Geo. VI and the Centenary issues were all valid for bi-section, but that the last two named types only were available at post offices. Geo V stamps bisected are very rare and were only used by those who had mint 2d. stamps in their possession, in stamp collections or in offices where there had been little use for them in recent years. Most of these rarer bisects are to be found with first day postmarks as the two holidays provided time for looking them out and preparing covers for their use.

At the end of 1940 the post office had to make arrangements for "41" type for the coming year and whilst it was possible to obtain lead numbers for hand stamps, no steel die for machine cancelling stamps could be found. A novel method was adopted and the "0" of "40" was filed until only a curved motif remained and so for some time the year was shown as "4)". Later it was found possible to obtain steel type from Jersey.

On the 7th April, 1941, a ½d. stamp was issued to replace the now exhausted stock of British half-penny stamps. These stamps bore the same design with altered price tablet and were green; in this case also 240,000 stamps were produced under the same conditions as that of the penny stamp but with one additional difficulty. There was no more gummed paper and each sheet had to be hand-gummed before printing—a long and arduous

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*take this opportunity of expressing
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helped to compile the exhibit of
stamps of the Union of South
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Federation of Southern Africa for
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procedure. Perforating also took up a considerable time as sheets had to be passed seven times through the perforating machine and although every effort was made to ensure good centre perforations, there were a few cases of misplaced perfs. and even missing ones. Misplaced and missing perfs. are worth collecting as they tell the story of the great difficulties under which the printers produced these stamps without any of the facilities available to stamp printing firms.

From time to time it was suggested that a 2½d. stamp was badly needed and that at least three stamps were needed for the prepayment of a letter where one only need be used, but it was not until 1944, when paper and gum supplies were practically exhausted, that the postal authorities agreed to issue a 2½d. stamp. The German authorities, however, insisted that the stamps be rationed and notices were displayed at all post offices, indicating that ten stamps only could be bought in any one transaction; these became known as the "rationed 2½d. stamp". The first 2½d. stamp was issued on the 12th April, 1944, but with the printing of 115,000 in October came the end of all the necessary material and gradually stocks of stamps dwindled to nothing in early 1945; from then until the Liberation letters could be handed in at all post offices for franking with the "Official Paid" stamp, the money being collected over the counter.

After Liberation the use of Channel Islands stamps was permitted by the British Government for postage throughout the world until the 13th April, 1946, when it was decided that the normal British issue should suffice the postal needs of the islands. Efforts are now being made for a pictorial issue for the Channel Islands on similar lines to those issued in the Colonies; should this ever come about it is impossible to forecast what catalogue values will be placed on the first Channel Islands stamps or the bisects. They are now listed in S.G. Part I of 1947, and as their history becomes known, are rapidly becoming popular with collectors of G.B. and British Colonials.

There are several shades of the ½d. and 1d. stamps which are described as accurately as possible in the following table:

½d.	1d.
Emerald Green	Carmine
Blue Green	Dark Red
Grass Green	(watermarks)
(watermarks)	Orange Red
Yellow Green	Magenta Red
Sage Green	Deep Magenta Red
Olive Green	
Dark Yellow Green	

The different shades were due to the fact that the printers were obliged to use whatever inks were available at the time of printing and it was extremely difficult to match the dyes received from the Continent.

(To be continued)

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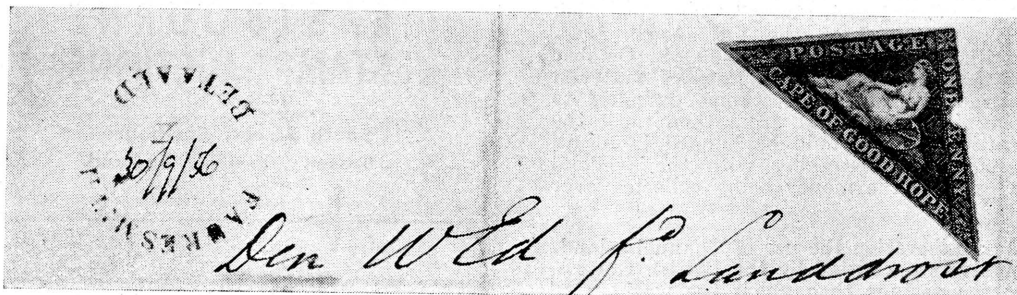
SOME OLD O.V.S. ITEMS

Seeing our S.O.S. in August for more copy, Mr. E. White, Johannesburg, who has some old Orange Free State material of considerable historical interest amongst his other collections, kindly invited me to see his treasures and gave me permission to put them on record. Here are some of them:

(1) A fourth "Betaald" handstamp

Mr. Jurgens has already described three letter stamps of the pre-adhesive period of the O.V.S. (*S.A. Philatelist*, 1943, p. 100 and 1946, pp. 32 and 192) from Bloemfontein, Winburg and Smithfield respectively. A fourth can now be added from Fauresmith.

This mark is 25 mm. in diameter as



against the .26 mm. of the Bloemfontein and Winburg marks, and the 28 mm. of the Smithfield one; the letters being 2½ mm. high. It is on a cover addressed to Bloemfontein, and in the centre of the mark it is dated in M/S 30/9/56.

The cover also has a 1d. Cape triangular stamp, which is not cancelled in any way. Just why the stamp is there at all is not obvious, but Mr. White said the reasons for its not being cancelled might be one, or both, of two. His explanation may sound rather like a fairy tale, but he assured me it was to be taken seriously, as it came from his talks with a number of old-time postmasters.

The reasons were, or might have been (a) Because the postmasters didn't like spoiling the picture of the pretty lady on the Cape triangular stamps, and (b) perhaps more important, because if they defaced the stamp much it made it rather difficult to use the stamp again for postal purposes! Apparently it was quite a common practice in these days to soak off the stamps and use them a second time and the sympathies of the postmasters were more with the public than with their employers, the postal department.

(2) Embossed Revenue Stamps apparently used as "Postage Dues."

Mr. White has several covers which carry embossed revenue stamps as well as adhesive postage stamps. It cannot be said with absolute certainty that the former are there as receipts for "postage due", but it looks like it. The illustration shows part of the cover with a Cape 4d. stamp, sent from Cape Town on Oc 20/74, addressed to Harrismith

(via Bloemfontein). On the left top corner is a deep olive revenue stamp with embossed wording "Oranje Vrij Staat/Zegel/Van/Een/Shilling". This can be made out with a hand lens, but will probably not be apparent in the photograph.

(3) Fiscal Stamps partially used

In the *S.A. Philatelist* 1944, pp. 4, 41 and 73 the question of whether O.V.S. fiscal stamps were ever used postally was well ventilated, as was the question of the use of

the boxed **GEREGISTREERD** as a postal mark.



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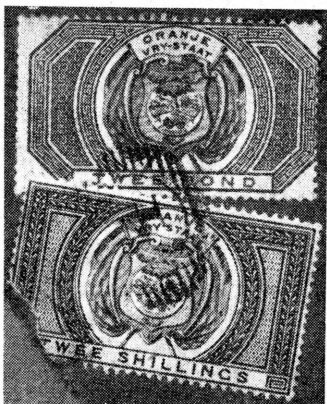
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Mr. Oberholzer was very emphatic on the subject and doubted if any living soul had ever seen, let alone possessed a cover with O.V.S. fiscal stamps on it authoritatively used postally. He admitted, however, that they were not uncommonly seen postally cancelled—although not postally used. His explanation was that the postmaster was very often also the assistant magistrate and that when busy as postmaster it was very likely that he might cancel a fiscal stamp on a document pushed at him, with a postal cancellation.

Well, Mr. White has satisfied me that fiscal stamps were used postally, whether authoritatively or not, I cannot say, but certainly systematically and on a fairly large scale in at least one O.V.S. post office, Fauresmith. It came about in this way: In the early 1880's there was a diamond mine being operated in that area by the North East Diamond Mining Co., Ltd., and parcels of diamonds were sent off regularly to Bloemfontein. Postage and insurance on these often ran into pounds. The stamps on the parcels and letters were sent back from Bloemfontein to a friend of Mr. White's in Fauresmith and that is how he came into possession of a quantity of them. The majority are just loose stamps, but for-



tunately a few are "on cover" or "on piece" from parcels.

One and all are cancelled with the 16-

barred oval canceller with the number "4", which is well identified as having been in use at Fauresmith.

He has every one of the "Fiscal Stamps used for Postage" listed in Stanley Gibbons' Catalogue plus three denominations not listed there, viz. 8s., 9s. and £3.

The illustration shows two fiscal stamps (£2 and 2s.) cancelled with a barred "4" mark; these are on a piece of brown paper from a parcel, elsewhere on the paper is a Geregistreerd box mark, also a large lettered mark of the diamond company "N.E.D. Co. Ltd." Amongst his covers are two, one with a 1s. fiscal, the other a 3s. fiscal, cancelled in both cases with a barred "4".

Other covers, not from Fauresmith, are:

(a) One endorsed "Geregistreerd 62" in M/S. This is franked with five 2d. postage stamps and one 1s. fiscal stamp. The former are cancelled with a barred oval "29" (Senekal), the latter with a Winburg date stamp (? is this another "postage due" usage?).

(b) One with "Registered" in M/S and also "Geregistreerd" in a double box. This is franked with nine 1d. postage stamps and one 1s. fiscal stamp. These are cancelled with a 16-barred oval with the letter "C" and there is also on the cover a Smithfield date stamp OC 10 1882. This seems to locate the "C" mark as in use at Smithfield, a location not previously recorded.

There are also two other indistinct markings covering the fiscal stamp and two of the 1d. stamps; one is circular and is possibly the Smithfield date stamp, the other is oval, like a magistrate's office mark.

At this point it is appropriate to refer to a list of fiscal stamps with postal cancellations sent by Mr. S. G. Rich, of New Jersey, after the appearance of the notes mentioned in our 1944 volume. This list includes values from 6d. to £5 and the cancellation marks he quotes are circular date-stamps of Bloemfontein, Kroonstad, Jagersfontein and Weeper, with various dates from 1882 to 1900; there were also oval grids with numbers 2 (Winburg) and 24 (Heilbron), and oval grids with letters O and Z.

From all this material it may be taken therefore that the use of fiscal stamps for

W. L. Bedard



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EGYPT 1938 Telecommunications set mint	10/0
EGYPT 200 mils, S.G. 309, fine used	1/9
EGYPT 5 mils Pr. Ferial, mint or used	1/6
EIRE Thom overprint on 2/6, 5/- and 10/-, S.G. 44-46. The three, mint . .	210/0
FALKLAND IS. Q.V. 2/6 and 5/-, mint	140/0
GIBRALTAR K.G.V Rock set of four, mint	6/0
GILBERT & ELLICE Pandanus Pine set of four in mint blocks of four . .	50/0
GILBERT & ELLICE same set in singles	11/6
GOLD COAST 1928 set complete mint	45/0
GOLD COAST the elusive 3d. Due, mint	3/0
GRENADA 1935 Silver Jubilee set, mint	12/6
KENYA the rare 75c emerald surface, S.G. 51c, very fine used, Cat. £8 . .	90/0
KENYA 1919 4c/6c, variety "Bars omitted," S.G. 62a, mint	20/0
KENYA 1935 1c to 2/-, S.G. 110-119, mint	17/6

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AIR STAMPS
All mint unless otherwise stated

S.G. Nos.

585/590—Greece, 6 values	1/0
A11a/A17—Italy, 8 values	3/6
A41a—Italy, Air Express, 1 value	0/6
A53/56—Italy, 1934 Rome-Buenos Aires, 4 values	7/6
854/856—Germany, 1944, 25th Anniversary of Aviation, 3 values	2/3
417—Netherlands, 1933, Special Flight, 1 value	1/3
486—Netherlands, 1938, Special Flight, 1 value	0/9
225/244—Egypt, Obsolete Air Set, fine used, 21 values	27/6
317/324—Egypt, Obsolete Air Set, 5 values, mint 3/0, used	2/6
New Issue Egypt, Air Set, 12 values . .	13/6
117—Kenya, 65 cent Air Stamp	4/0
23/29—1925 Union Air Set, mint 60/-, used	65/0
40/41—1929 Union Air Set, mint or used	12/0
72/73—S.W.A., 2 values, mint 5/-, used	6/0
86/87—S.W.A., 2 values, joined pairs, mint 45/-, used	55/0

Flown Covers of the Union and S.W.A.—
Prices on Application

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We carry large stocks of Foreigns and British Colonials. Want lists receive our careful attention. Let us know your requirements and we will do our best to help you. Approval books sent to interested parties. Write or call for our free price-list.

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FIJI DIE 6d. (used)	22/6
FIJI DIE I 6d. mint	26/6
FIJI DIE I 1 1/2d. (used)	4/0
FIJI (PERF 14) 1/2d. (used)	3/6
FIJI DIE I 2d. (used)	1/6
FIJI DIE II 2d. (used)	4/0
FIJI DIE II 2d. mint	4/6
FIJI 2 1/2d. (PROVL.) mint	8d.
FIJI 2 1/2d. (PROVL.) (used)	9d.
FIJI 5/- (used)	6/6
GRENADA (Complete) (Used)	30/0
FALKLAND 20/- (used)	27/6
ST. LUCIA 20/- (used)	27/6
ST. VINCENT 20/- (used)	27/6
GRENADA 10/- (used)	20/0
MONTSEIRAT 2/6, 5/- (used)	10/6
MALTA (Complete) (used)	24/6
N. RHODESIA 20/- (used)	27/6
ASCENSION (Complete) (used)	30/0
N.Z. HEALTH (Mint). 1929, 11/-; 1930, 20/-; 1931, 115/-; 1932, 32/-; 27/6 (U); 1933, 11/6; 1934, 11/6; 1935, 2/9; 1936, 2/-; 1937, 2/6; 1938, 4/6; 1939, 7/-; 1940, 8/6; 1941, 4/-; 1942, 1/6; 1943, 10d.; 1944, 8d.; 1945, 7d.; 1946, 6d.	

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ENGLAND

postage was not very rare, even though it may not have been officially authorized.

He states he has never seen the boxed *Geregistreerd* mark on a cover, but Mr. White has produced such items.

(4) *Boxed "Geregistreerd" marks.*

It is interesting to note that more of Mr. White's material show this mark as *cancelling* the postally used fiscal stamps, although he has covers and pieces from Fauresmith with this mark on them.

Two further covers showing this mark are
(a) One sent from Bethlehem to Zandrivier, franked with 7d. in postage stamps cancelled with Bethlehem date stamp of 30 May 85.

(b) One from Kroonstad to Bethlehem with only a 1s. fiscal stamp franking it. This is cancelled with a barred (? number) mark.

It is hard to prove a negative and it perhaps is too much to say that fiscal stamps cancelled with a boxed *Geregistreerd* mark were never so cancelled postally but, lacking proof to the contrary, collectors would be wise to assume that fiscal stamps so cancelled were used as revenue stamps and came off deeds or documents, not off letters or postal packets.

(5) *Telegram cancellations*

The date stamps used on telegram forms had the day and month on them but no year indicated. Such "chops" were occasionally used on postal matter, but generally speaking, stamps with such cancellations should be regarded as having been telegraphically used.

J.H.H.P.

CORRESPONDENCE

The Editor,
South African Philatelist.

Sir,—We only deal in KG VI issues nowadays, though we have been dealing for over 30 years. This was by choice and we never regret the step we took a decade ago, for apart from every other consideration, we find modern colonials just as interesting philatelically, as we did the older issues, and we know the older issues quite well, and can plate a "penny black" with the best of them. We mention that point just to prove that it is by choice we stick to KG VI issues.

We were recently asked which country in the whole of the British Empire had the most interesting stamps at present. In our opinion there is only one in it—South Africa—and we think that the true collector, who wants something more than just a label, will agree with us. Long live the present set, with its shades, dies, etc.

There seems to be a great deal of agitation for South Africa to bring out a new set. We have seen it suggested that a committee be appointed to select designs. In theory that sounds okedo. In practice its a wash-out (vide Barbados Tercentenary, Jamaica constitution, etc., etc.).

There is only one sure way of getting decent designs. Leave the job to the designers of a good firm of stamp printers (you may have just the people in your own post-office if you don't muck them about) and they won't let you down.

Yours faithfully,

For and on behalf of
The Commonwealth Stamp Coy.
E. E. METCALFE.

★

THANKS

Some time ago we published an appeal from Mr. H. Davidson, of "Holmview", Clifton Gardens, Low Fell, Gateshead, England, for stamps for his boys' school stamp club. He particularly wishes to thank an anonymous benefactor in Vereeniging for his beautiful duplicates.

We regret to announce the death in London on 6th October of the well-known philatelist Mr. F. J. H. Lang. Mr. Lang was a past-president of the Philatelic Society of Johannesburg. In that Society Freddy Lang was one of the most popular members, and his name will be perpetuated there by reason of the "Lang" cup which he donated to the Society. We express our deepest sympathy to his wife and son.

BARBADOS

1947 PROVISIONAL

1/9

(One copy per applicant only) Per mint copy
CURRENT MINT GEORGE VI COLONIALS

(All sets are complete to value indicated)

	Short set to	Complete set to
Aden	R.1 at 5/3	R.10 at 34/9
Antigua	1/- at 3/0	5/- at 11/4
Ascension	1/- at 3/0	10/- at 23/0
Bahamas	1/- at 5/0	£1 at 39/4
Barbados	1/- at 3/10	5/- at 12/5
Br. Honduras	25c. at 4/0	5s at 52/6
Br. Solomon Is.	1/- at 2/3	10/- at 20/2
Cayman Is.	1/- at 2/11	10/- at 22/4
Dominica	1/- at 2/11	5/- at 11/5
Falkland Is.	1/- at 3/0	£1 at 47/3
Fiji	1/- at 3/0	5/- at 14/2
Gambia	1/- at 3/0	10/- at 31/8
Gibraltar	1/- at 2/8	£1 at 45/1
Gilbert & Ellice	1/- at 2/11	5/- at 12/3
Gold Coast	1/- at 3/9	10/- at 24/8
Grenada	1/- at 2/10	10/- at 22/4
Kenya	1/- at 2/9	£1 at 48/6
Malta	1/- at 3/6	10/- at 27/3
Nigeria	1/- at 3/3	5/- at 13/3
N. Rhodesia	1/- at 2/11	£1 at 49/6
Nyasaland	1/- at 3/9	£1 at 48/9
Pitcairn Is.	1/- at 2/7	2/6 at 5/5
St. Helena	1/- at 3/8	10/- at 23/9
St. Vincent	1/- at 3/3	£1 at 48/9
Seychelles	R.1. at 6/7	R.5 at 21/7
Virgin Is.	1/- at 3/-	5/- at 11/4

Collectors of obsolete Colonials will find many interesting items in my Monthly Selling List.

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NEW ARRIVALS & SPECIAL OFFERS

8 Great Britain Postage Dues 1914/38, ½d. to 1/- used	1/6
21 Australia G.V. 1913/36, ½d. to 1/4, cat. 12/7, used	5/6
2 Egypt, Farouk top values, 50 piastres and £1, used	15/0
7 Turks and Caicos, K.G.VI. ½d. to 3d. mint	1/6
1 Burma, 1946, 1 Rupee, used	1/6
13 Hong Kong K.G.V. 1c to 1 dollar, used	4/6
11 Hong Kong K.G.VI. 1c to 1 dollar, used	5/6
14 U.S.A., large airmails, 5c to 50c, used	4/6
1 U.S.A. Centenary 1947 sheet mint	1/6
2 Germany 1947, v. Stephan, cpl. mint	8d.
13 Germany 1946, French Zone, cpl. mint	17/6
20 Germany 1947 Saargebiet, mint	12/6
3 Germany 1947 "Peace" 1, 2, 3 Mk. mint	3/0
3 Denmark 1947 Railway Centenary, cpl. mint	1/6
4 France 1947 Postal Union Congress, cpl. mint	1/9
5 Holland 1946 "Stokpaardjie," Char- ity, cpl. mint	2/0
6 San Marino Roosevelt, 3 airmails, mint	1/6
3 Nicaragua Roosevelt, mint	1/6

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Collectors' Wants & Offers

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Benoni Stamp Shop, Box 485, Benoni.

Seychelles wanted. Full catalogue price
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to 118, 121, 122, 122A, 142, 145.
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Zeller, Bry 366 (Seine), France.

M.E.F. new 5/- and 10/-, fine used 18/-
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T. E. Karachiwalla, Box 275, Mombasa,
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European exchanged for British Colo-
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J. Bossé, Meignanne M.L., France.

300 different airmails, £2 10s. Write
for list, price 1d.
F. G. Fifoot, P.T.S., 125 College Road,
Moseley, Birmingham, England.

Australia, 50 different 4 (British Postal
Note) 10 Canadian large pictorials
1/6.
C. A. Brown, P.O. Box 12, Lidcombe,
N.S.W., Australia.

For sale: Specialised collection of Aus-
tria, mostly mint. Catalogue £540.
Specialised collection of Union of
South Africa. Catalogue over £1,000.
Alec Kaplan, Box 132, Germiston.

Southern Rhodesia.

One of the most spectacular rises in the
1947 Gibbons' is S.G. 16c, the 1½d. chocolate,
perf. 12 of 1938. In the '45 Gibbons' it was
priced 7s. 6d. mint and 6d. used, now it is
£5 mint and unpriced used. Incidentally Mr.
W. G. Nodder in a note in "Stamp Collecting",
states that his used copies on cover are dated
November 20, 1935.

The 3d., 4d. perf. 14 and 1s. perf. 14 have
also risen considerably, although not quite so
spectacularly as the 1½d.

Mr. R. Axer, Cape Town, records having
a pair of S.G. 16c used in August, 1934. When
was this stamp really issued?

SOCIETY NEWS

PRETORIA PHILATELIC SOCIETY

President, F. C. Ferguson; *Hon. Sec.*, H. Endemann, P.O. Box 514; *Meetings*, 1st and 3rd Mondays, 8 p.m., Technical College.

August 5: Mr. Fine, a junior member, showed a nice, well written-up collection, mainly of German issues.

August 18: Mr. H. E. Rudd gave a paper on, and showed a collection of, "Emissions in connection with Philatelic Exhibitions and Congresses." This included not only stamps, but also postmarks, propaganda labels and other miscellaneous material. Gibbons mention one propaganda label (the reprints of Mauritius Nos. 39 and 40 overprinted "L.P.E. 1890" for a London Philatelic Exhibition), stating that of course they have no philatelic interest. This is perhaps the view of many collectors, but he strongly dissented from it and considered that such labels were well worthy of collecting and study.

H.E.

*

THE PHILATELIC SOCIETY OF JOHANNESBURG

President, Dr. A. Kaplan; *Hon. Sec.*, Mr. J. H. Jenkins, P.O. Box 4967; *Meetings*, 2nd Tuesdays and 4th Mondays, Public Library, 7.45 p.m.

At the meeting held on September 9, Mr. H. Schwartz showed his fine collection of the stamps of Rhodesia.

The exhibit included most of the rare varieties, including "Company Omitted," Imperfs., errors in colour and unusual shades. The "Double Heads" included the "Split Ear" variety in all values. All the copies were perfect, both mint and used.

Mr. Lilley spoke on the exhibit. The Society will in future have two meetings every month, the second meeting being on the 4th Monday (except in September, 1947 when the meeting was held on the 5th Monday).

I.I.

*

PORT ELIZABETH PHILATELIC SOCIETY

President, Mr. G. K. Forbes; *Hon. Sec.*, Mr. G. P. Smith, 13 Trafalgar Square, Port Elizabeth; *Meetings*, 1st and 3rd Tuesdays in Room 3, City Hall Basement, at 7.45 p.m.

The attendance was fair on auction night, Tuesday, 2nd September. Bidding was brisk, and the packets not sold were put forward to the next meeting.

Mr. Forbes was in the chair when the business meeting was opened on the 16th inst.

There was no display, as it was to have been a Quiz Night, with Mr. Roberts as Quiz Master—but as he was unable to be present, Mr. Levey filled the breach and put up for auction over 200 packets.

One beautiful item was a set of Canadian Jubilees of 1897.

It is with deep regret we announce the passing away of Mr. T. H. Nicholson. He was a foundation member and for many years vice-president. He was always courteous and willing to help in every way possible. He will be greatly missed, and it is a great loss to the Society, and his place will be hard to fill. All members stood in silence as a token of respect.

Six new members were admitted.

L.E.C.

*

MARITZBURG PHILATELIC SOCIETY

Chairman, C. R. Turner; *Hon. Secretary*, R. Morton, P.O. Box 323, Pietermaritzburg; *Meetings*, 2nd Friday in each month at 211 Burger Street, 7.45 p.m.

The monthly meeting of the Maritzburg Philatelic Society was held on the 12th of September.

Professor Hattersley, who has just returned from overseas, gave an interesting talk on his visit to

England, he spoke on the subject of "prices" at the different auction sales in London, and of his visit to the Scarborough Philatelic Society.

Part I of the stamp competition was held. There were 18 entries, the stamps on show were very varied and interesting.

The Society has now started an auction; this was quite a success; a number of items changed hands; 23 lots were offered.

C.R.T.

*

CAPE TOWN PHILATELIC SOCIETY

President, C. G. Mummery; *Hon. Secretary*, S. Kaganson, P.O. Box 1973; *Meetings*, 2nd and 4th Thursdays at Yorkshire Buildings, Strand Street, at 7.30 p.m.

June 26. Display by all members. The response by members on this occasion far exceeded previous displays of this nature, and the table had to be cleared twice to accommodate all the sheets. Messrs. Simenhoff, Kossuth, Hansen, Axer, Sinnott and Dr. Vautier all gave us a few sheets from their various collections, and these were followed by a specialised collection of Sarawak by Mr. A. M. Jones.

Mr. Kossuth tabled a rather unique collection of covers, each of which was addressed to the various Governors in South Africa from the earliest time. There were only 12 names missing from this collection of Africana and Mr. Kossuth is to be congratulated on his fine showing.

Space unfortunately does not permit a description of all the displays or the excellent specialised collection of Sarawak which Mr. Jones placed on the table. Here we saw a collection which contained practically all the varieties catalogued.

The stamps were all in immaculate condition, and the used copies displayed gave evidence of the care with which Mr. Jones selected his stamps.

Mr. K. Cameron expressed a hearty vote of thanks to the various exhibitors, and congratulated them on their various displays.

During the business portion of the meeting the president stated that Mr. A. V. Jacob, who incidentally had won second award in his class at the New York Centenary Philatelic Exhibition for his collection of Rhodesia, had awarded the Society a silver cup, for use as the committee thought best in the interests of the Society.

Mr. Mummery thanked Mr. Jacob for his generous gift, and congratulated him on the honours gained at New York.

July 10: Something different was provided at this meeting when Miss Jefferies, secretary to the Archives in Cape Town, came along and gave a talk on what might aptly be described as the Postal History of South Africa from the earliest times.

Miss Jefferies was in excellent form and her many anecdotes delighted the large attendance of members.

Covers and photographs dealing with the points discussed in the talk were tabled.

Mr. K. Alexander and Mr. Simenhoff both voiced their appreciation of the interesting talk and display on behalf of the Society.

July 24: Mr. C. R. V. Solomon, Exchange Superintendent, had the floor at this meeting and we were treated to a very fine display of the more modern issues.

The artistic taste in set-up and beautiful write-up made this one of the most colourful displays seen for a long time, and as expressed by Mr. Combrink in passing a vote of thanks, was thoroughly enjoyed by all.

B.L.C.

* * *

NEW ZEALND

On August 1 there appeared a "Lighthouse" set of seven denominations, ½d. to 1s., each in two colours, for use only on correspondence posted by the Government Life Assurance Department within New Zealand. Such stamps may be bought from the Department but they are not stocked by post offices generally. This set features a number of local lighthouses, also the famous Eddystone lighthouse.

The SOUTH AFRICAN PHILATELIST

Proprietors and Publishers:

The Philatelic Federation of Southern Africa

Honorary Editor: Dr. J. H. HARVEY PIRIE, - - - P.O. Box 7012, Johannesburg

Honorary Business Manager: WILLIAM REDFORD, Broadcast House, Commissioner Street, Johannesburg.

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

Vol. 23, No. 11.

NOVEMBER, 1947.

Whole No. 272

Union Notes

RECENT PRINTINGS

Herewith in formation received from the Postal Authorities anent the quantities of stamps, etc., received from the Government Printer during the period 3-6-47 to 15-9-47. For previous records see our August issue, p. 113.

(a) Pictorial Postage Stamps

3d.—Job 11662 contd. A total of 119,500 sheets x 240 printed from cylinders 6912 Int. and 7019 Ext. A further 35,000 sheets delivered subsequent to 28-8-47 from new cylinders, 48 Int. and 6933 Ext.; a still further delivery of 19,500 sheets delivered from 4-9-47 onwards from cylinders 48 Int. and 45 Ext. (a new one).

[There is scope for differentiation of these 3 printings.—Ed.]

1d.—Job 603. 162,552 sheets x 240, delivered between 24-7-47 and 19-8-47 from new cylinders, 5 Int. and 2 Ext.

1½d.—Job 13,161 contd. A total of 354,620 sheets x 240 now delivered on this order. Cylinders as before.

2d.—Job 10,808 contd. A total of 679,484 sheets x 120 delivered up to 1-7-47. Cylinders as before. Balance of this order (originally for 1,500,000 sheets) cancelled.

3d.—Job 8,107 contd. 48,140 sheets x 120, delivered between 3-7-47 and 15-7-47. Cylinders as before.

4d.—Job 605. 11,000 sheets x 120, delivered on 15-9-47 and 16-9-47. Old cylinder 19.

6d.—Job 606 contd. 14,522 sheets x 240, delivered between 26-6-47 and 1-7-47. Old cylinders 9 Int. and 6935 Ext.

2s. 6d.—Job 649. 50,300 sheets x 60, delivered between 8-7-47 and 22-7-47. Old cylinders 27 Int. and 7017 Ext.

5s.—Job 650. 28,814 sheets x 60, delivered between 3-7-47 and 29-7-47. Old cylinders 6929 Int. and 41 Ext.

10s.—Job 651. 12,264 sheets x 60, delivered on 1-7-47. Old cylinders 6918 Int. and 69394 Ext.

(b) Roll Stamps

3d.—Job 791. 2,000 rolls x 506 and 1,620 rolls x 1012, delivered between 24-7-47 and 26-8-47 from old cylinder 6911; a further 1,300 rolls x 506 delivered subsequent to 28-8-47, printed in two colours from new cylinders 39 Int. and 54 Ext.

1d.—Job 9979. Total delivery to date is 7,900 rolls x 506. Cylinder 16 as before.

(c) Inlaid Pictorial Postcards

1d.—Job 2743 contd. Printings to date from cylinders 87 for stamps and 86 for pictures total 975,360 cards.

(d) Airmail Cards

6d.—Job 766 contd. 824,400 cards delivered to date from cylinder 73.

(e) Official Stamps

All supplied by the P.M.G. from stocks and overprinted "Official/Offisiesël" on a flat-bed machine from old formes.

3d., 199 sheets x 240; 1d., 199 sheets x 240; 1½d., 499 sheets x 240; 2d., 499 sheets x 120; 6d., 199 sheets x 240; 1s., 199 sheets x 120; and 2s. 6d., 199 sheets x 60.

(f) Assize Stamps

1d.—Job 1761. 99 sheets x 120 supplied by P.M.G. from stocks and overprinted "Assize/YK" on a flat-bed machine from old formes.

(g) Customs Stamps

Stamps supplied by the P.M.G. from stocks and overprinted "Douane" on a flat-bed machine.

1d., 999 sheets x 240, from new formes; 2d., 999 sheets x 120, old formes; 4d., 499 sheets x 120, old formes.

(h) South-West Africa

i Postcards, 900 sets x 32 supplied by P.M.G. and overprinted S.W.A.

ii S.W.A. postage stamps supplied by P.M.G. and overprinted "Revenue/Inkomste".

3d., 500 sheets x 60; 6d., 400 sheets x 60;

1s., 200 sheets x 120; 2s. 6d., 99 sheets x 60; 5s., 199 sheets x 60; 10s., 49 sheets x 60; and 20s., 29 sheets x 60.

½d. Bantam Postage Dues

These have been on sale since September 29; but, we understand, only at the G.P.O., Pretoria. They were actually printed in 1944. (See our issue of April, 1945.)

New 1d. Printing

Mr. W. N. Sheffield notes that the 1d. stamps which went on sale in Johannesburg about the beginning of October have No. 1 on the sheet in English, instead of, as previously, in Afrikaans. Presumably this will be from the printing of Job 603, noted in the official list of recent printings; and the printing with brownish-black centres.

6d. Printing Flaw

Three sheets have been noted with a large green splotch on the last stamps of rows 4 and 5, covering the lower part of the former and the upper part of the latter. It is very prominent on one sheet, less pronounced on the next two consecutive sheets.

New Societies

The Hon. Secretary of the Philatelic Federation of Southern Africa reports the formation of two new Stamp Clubs, viz., the Springs Philatelic Society, Box 524, Springs, and the Pretoria Railway Philatelic Society, Railway Recreation Club, Pretoria.

East London Exhibition

Preparations are well in hand. Entries of exhibits are already good, particularly of specialised material, but the committee is anxious to have more from medium or junior collectors as a stimulus to future collectors.

The awards will be plaques with a Buffalo's Head. Attractive special envelopes are already on sale. The committee will address and stamp them and have them posted for the special cancellation at the exhibition. Terms 6d. each or 5s. per dozen. Profits on these go to the exhibition funds. Communicate with the Hon. Secretary, Exhibition Committee, P.O. Box 198, East London.

Union Catalogue

A supplement to the Federation's Union Catalogue is in preparation and will be issued soon. It will contain corrections and additions.

Anyone with information considered suitable for inclusion is requested to send it as soon as possible to Mr. A. E. Basden, 109 Killarney, Brickhill Road, Durban.

★ ★ ★

U.S.A.

An "Official" Catalogue of U.S.A. Stamps.

The post office department has issued "A Description of United States Postage Stamps, 1847-1947". This is a delightful book of 163 pages, splendidly illustrated, giving the basic data of all stamps issued. In the foreword it is stated "The Post Office Department is aware of its responsibilities to the millions of Americans, young and old, whose hobby is collecting stamps. We in the Department will endeavour at all times to meet those responsibilities."

The book is on sale by the Superintendent of Documents, U.S. Government Printing Office, Washington 25, D.C., paper cover, price 45 cents. It should certainly be in the hands of all collectors of U.S.A. stamps.

New Airmail Stamps

On June 3 there appeared a new 25c airmail stamp in blue, of special delivery size. It is intended for use on mail to Pacific and Asiatic areas, also to some parts of Africa. It features a modern four-engine plane over the San Francisco-Oakland Bay Bridge.

On August 20 the 15c denomination was issued, in green. It shows the statue of Liberty with New York skyscrapers in the background. Then came the 10c, in black, on August 30, featuring the Pan-American Union Building in Washington, a suitable design as the stamp is meant essentially for the 10 cent rate applicable to Central and parts of South America.

On October 21 there appeared a 3c stamp commemorating the 150th anniversary of the launching of the frigate "Constitution", better known as "Old Ironsides". It shows a line drawing of the ship flanked by naval guns of the period.

W. L. Bedard



P.O. Box 637

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The Channel Islands Posts and Stamps

1940-1945

By A. G. LANGLOIS, Guernsey.

(Continued from page 153, October issue)

During 1943 an experiment in the production of stamps was made with French bank-note watermarked paper and 120,000 of both the $\frac{1}{2}$ d. and 1d. values were printed. The experiment was a failure, chiefly because, when gum was applied, it was quickly absorbed and the paper changed from white to blue-green; several applications of gum were needed to make the stamps adhesive enough for their purpose and after this had been achieved the paper was too stiff and difficult to handle. No further printings were made on this paper and consequently the watermarked issue is a rare and expensive one.

In Jersey shortage of stamps did not necessitate such hurried decisions or the bi-section of stamps as obtained in Guernsey, as stocks were larger at the time of occupation. Nevertheless, by the 1st of April Jersey had its own penny stamp, designed by Major Rybot and printed by the *Jersey Evening Post*; this stamp bore the Jersey coat-of-arms and the perforating was of the pin-perf. type, making tearing easier than the Guernsey roulette type. There were, however, more flaws in the plates of the Jersey stamps and as many as 15 faults and flaws were observed in one particular printing.

There is no indication of the numbers of stamps of the coat-of-arms series issued nor of the number of separate printings as the sheets bore the same imprint throughout the issue, namely "Jersey Evening Post, 17/3/41" for the 1d. and "Jersey Evening Post, January, 1942" for the $\frac{1}{2}$ d.

The 1d. stamp was issued on the 1st April, 1941, and was printed on thin white paper; later printings were on thick white paper, chalky paper (very rare) and grey newspaper. The shade remained practically the same throughout the issues—carmine.

The $\frac{1}{2}$ d. stamp made its appearance on January 29, 1942; it was yellow green in colour and was printed on thick white paper whilst later printings were of thin white and grey newspaper.

Some of the better known varieties include two blind lions, one blind lion, large white circles on background, broken frames and extended claw; these are found on the 1d. The $\frac{1}{2}$ d. varieties include left hand price tablet incomplete, fullstop under the price tablet, white spot over the "GE" of Postage and one blind lion. Both $\frac{1}{2}$ d. and 1d. sheets are known with a number of blind perforations due to the uneven pressure of the perf. machine.

Jersey stamps are better gummed than those produced in Guernsey and it can be safely assumed that the Jersey printers had better facilities for gumming than those obtaining in the sister isle. In paper, however, Jersey was not so fortunate and in the later issues the quality of the paper becomes noticeably poor; newsprint was finally used as a last resort and this gave the stamps a rather dull appearance. Although sorely tried in their efforts to find a suitable paper the Guernsey Press Co. was not obliged to fall back on newsprint and the watermarked bank-note paper was their only experiment.

The Jersey public, who with the remainder of the Channel Islanders had always considered that there should have been a pictorial issue for the Channel Islands, used the Occupation circumstances to bring pressure to bear on the Post Office and as public opinion became stronger, the Post Office at last agreed to an issue of 6 values, up to 3d. Edmund Blampied, the well-known Jersey artist, was commissioned to design the set and the subjects he chose and which were finally approved were: $\frac{1}{2}$ d., entrance to an old Jersey Manor; 1d., Portelet Bay; 1 $\frac{1}{2}$ d., Corbiere Lighthouse; 2d., Elizabeth Castle; 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ d., Mont Orgueil Castle; and 3d., Islanders gathering vrac (seaweed) in an ancient cart. The engraving of this pictorial issue was placed in the hands of Mons. Henri Corrot, of Paris, and the printing carried out by the French "Postes, Telegraphes et Telephones" printing works.

As the full set of stamps did not arrive in a complete batch, the $\frac{1}{2}$ d. and 1d. were put on sale on the 1st June, 1943, the 1 $\frac{1}{2}$ d. and 2d. on the 8th June, 1943, and the 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ d. and 3d. on the 29th June, 1943. 360,000 sets were printed and only reprints of the $\frac{1}{2}$ d., 1d. and 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ d. were required, the latter values being printed on newspaper the second time.

As a pictorial set, the stamps are not particularly good, the single tone not being sufficient to give full expression to the designs. The gumming was of the heavy gloss so often found in continental production and stamps often became firmly stuck. Two interesting features of the issue were that the artist had contrived to work in a series of "V" signs by the side of the value tablet of the 1 $\frac{1}{2}$ d. stamp and a scroll resembling "G.R" around the 3d. price tablet. There was a rumour that the Germans had detected the effort and that the stamps were to be with-

drawn, but no action was taken and the stamps remained on sale.

In connection with the designing, printing and issue of the stamps of the Channel Islands it should be clearly understood that they were issued solely to meet a very urgent need from a postal point of view and that the German authorities took no part in their production other than to give permission for the designs to be used and for the printing materials to be diverted to supply the Post Office needs. The methods adopted by the Post Office were designed to maintain complete control over the printing and when printing was due to be commenced, the plates were taken from the Post Office strong rooms and taken by a senior postal official to the printers; this official was present throughout the printing, perforating and numbering of the sheets, afterwards taking back to the Post Office all the good as well as the spoiled sheets. Thus at no time were the Germans or any unauthorised persons able to run off stamps for their own use. As soon as the Islands were liberated the plates were handed over to the keeping of the Postmaster-General and thus one issue of stamps is known to have been safe from any misuse by the enemy. The bulk of the C.I. stamps were used for the postal purposes for which they were intended and whilst it is known that there were keen philatelists among the many thousands of German troops who came to the islands, the numbers printed were insufficient for any racket to be organised, especially as the Postmasters had it in their power to restrict or completely suspend the production if such a move was made. By the time that it became apparent that these stamps were to be of great value historically and would become part of the philatelic history of Great Britain, the Germans had lost interest in stamps and were more concerned with food and with their very precarious future; they could not retreat or evacuate the islands as the coast of France was by now strongly held by the allies and their air force was now powerless to take them off.

Earlier in the Occupation, German collectors adopted every means they could devise to obtain valuable colonial stamps by barter and played on the hunger and shortages of the population by offering food, drink and tobacco in exchange for stamp collections. Some very fine collections were broken up and bartered for food and the Germans had some very fine bargains. However, the situation changed after the Red Cross parcels had commenced and when the Germans had no cigarettes or tobacco, it is known that many stamps were re-changed by them for the commodities they had originally offered.

The Occupation of the Channel Islands presents a picture which is unique in many respects; firstly, although the Germans were virtually rulers of the islands, there was always a certain degree of respect shown for the island leaders and the population and the normal customs of the people were not seriously interfered with or curtailed.

Punishments were severe and several very serious cases were strongly handled; people caught with wireless sets were, in the first few years, sent to prison on the Continent and later put into local prisons. The organisers of "G.U.N.S.", the Guernsey Underground News Service, were taken away to German concentration camps where the leader died. In Jersey, the now famous schoolmaster, Mr. Le Druillenec, was arrested for working against the Nazi occupiers and was taken to the worst of the concentration camps in Germany and was only rescued in the very nick of time, being many months before recovering from his privations and ill-treatment. The end of the occupation was as dramatic as the commencement; having held out as long as they could, chiefly by the strong Nazi feelings of the German Admiral in charge, the Germans finally agreed to surrender after practically the whole of Germany had been overrun by the Allies and the war had actually ended; at 3 o'clock on the afternoon of the 8th of May, 1945, the German authorities informed the States that they agreed for the war to be terminated in the Channel Islands as well as elsewhere.

At 3 o'clock, celebrations began and although very orderly the civil populations accepted their restored freedom with much joy and thanksgiving. The Germans undertook to maintain discipline amongst their troops and the local authorities took care of the behaviour of the civilians until British Forces arrived, the time and date being as yet unknown. The next morning, however, H.M.'s destroyers, Bulldog and Beagle, were seen awaiting landing instructions outside the harbour of St. Peter Port, whilst similar proceedings were being enacted in Jersey. Later in the day, huge American Landing Craft rushed into harbours and beaches landing vehicles, guns, troops and food for everyone; thousands of people lined the harbours from morning to well into the night crying, laughing, singing and eagerly questioning the soldiers and sailors for news of their relatives and friends from whom they had been so long parted. The very first troops to land were in a small group of about 35 men, lead by a Guernseyman, who conducted his small party to the Royal Hotel and there accepted the chieftainship of Guernsey from the Germans; visiting the various important offices they met the island leaders and made preparations for the arrival of the main force. Similar ceremonies occurred in Jersey.

One of the many important announcements made in the local newspapers was to the effect mails would be once more accepted for transmission to Great Britain, Guernsey and Jersey stamps being valid for postage throughout the world. The mails were carried by the R.A.F. and were very quickly conveyed in each direction. For those who had no stamps, special Post Paid cards prepared for the Liberation were available at all Post Offices; they were issued in conjunction with the Channel Islands Society and

were headed "Re-occupation of the Channel Islands". The British Authorities, after hearing the details of the production and use of the Channel Island stamps, gave full sanction to their use and allowed both these and the normal British stamps to be used until April, 1946. After that date the Post Office offered to exchange any remaining C.I. stamps for British ones, but by then there were very few takers as philatelically the stamps were by now valuable.

In June, 1945, the King and Queen paid a visit to the Channel Islands and were driven through all the most interesting of the thoroughfares as well as the various German strong points. They were conveyed to and from the Islands by Dakota aircraft and from the airport to all parts of their tour the streets and lanes were crowded with cheering people; many of the German prisoners-of-war were as eager as the Channel Islanders to see their Majesties, although only a very few were able to do so.

As a souvenir of the Royal Visit and in commemoration of the Channel Islands issues, the Bailiff of Guernsey sent by registered post an album containing complete sets for inclusion in the Royal Collection; the following letter accompanied the album which had been made up by Mr. F. Martin, a well-known philatelist:

To the Private Secretary of His Majesty the King.
Sir,

During the German Occupation, the Post Offices in the Channel Islands had to issue their own stamps, which were used for letters between and in the Islands of Guernsey, Jersey and Sark. I have mounted in book form a complete set of Guernsey stamps, together with certain bifurcated English 2d. stamps, which for a short period were used in lieu of 1d. stamps.

I have the honour to forward, on behalf of the people of the Bailiwick of Guernsey, an album containing these stamps, and shall be obliged if you will be so good as to ask His Majesty's gracious acceptance of the same to add to His collection.

I enclose herewith a pamphlet entitled "The Story of Guernsey Postage Stamps", which I trust will interest His Majesty.

I have the honour to be, Sir,

Your obedient servant.

VICTOR G. CAREY,

Bailiff of Guernsey.

The Bailiff received the following letter from the King's Private Secretary:

Buckingham Palace,
25th June, 1945.

Dear Sir,

I write to acknowledge your letter of 19th June, 1945, and to express to you the King's sincere thanks for the set of Guernsey stamps which have been sent on behalf of the people of Guernsey.

His Majesty has much pleasure in accepting the stamps for the Royal Collection to which they will make an historic addition.

I am also to thank you for the pamphlet

entitled "The Story of Guernsey Postage Stamps", in which His Majesty was much interested.

Yours very truly.

A. LASCELLES.

The following record is probably the most accurate obtainable of the numbers of stamps of each denomination produced in Guernsey:

1d.: March, 1941, 240,000; June, 1941, 120,000; and 120,000; November, 1941, 120,000; February, 1942, 360,000; September, 1942, 120,000; February, 1943, 120,000; July, 1943, 120,000; October, 1943, 120,000; January, 1944, 117,600; May, 1944, 90,760; November, 1944, 120,000.

1d.: February, 1941, 240,000; June, 1941, 240,000; September, 1941, 120,000; November, 1941, 240,000; February, 1942, 120,000; April, 1942, 240,000; September, 1942, 240,000; January, 1943, 240,000; July, 1943, 240,000; December, 1943, 144,000; January, 1944, 122,400; May, 1944, 72,000; October, 1944, 120,000; November, 1944, 120,000.

2½d.: April, 1944, 122,960; May, 1944, 59,000; July, 1944, 116,000; October, 1944, 115,000.

As previously recorded the numbers issued in Jersey are not definitely known to the writer, but it can be safely assumed that the numbers printed in each Island would be approximately equal, having regard to the postal needs of each Island.

So ended a chapter in British postal history which had never previously occurred and which it is hoped will never occur again. As far as the Channel Islands are concerned, there are many keen supporters of the contention that it is time the States of Guernsey and Jersey demanded the issue of separate stamps for the advertisement of the islands and to conform with their other forms of independence; if such an issue materialises then the C.I. issues of Occupation will be Chapter I of a Channel Islands series and the pages of postal history will bear yet another British issue to add to the many Dominion and Colonial items of beauty and interest.

★ ★ ★

AUSTRALIA

There is quite a stir over the set of three stamps issued on 8 September in honour of the 150th anniversary of the finding of the Hunter River and the establishment of what is now the city of Newcastle, centre of the Commonwealth's iron and steel industries. The 3½d. and 5½d. stamps feature these industries very satisfactorily; the 2½d. has a picture of Lt. Shortland, R.N., the finder of the Hunter River estuary while on a convict-hunting trip. But the trouble is that the picture has been said to be that of Lt. Shortland's father, who was also a naval lieutenant. Authorities at Canberra say there is no mistake, but historical research experts are believed to be still working overtime on the matter. Thanks to W. Yeoman, Pacific Stamp Supply, Blackrock, S.9 Victoria, for first day cover.

The Princess Elizabeth 1d. stamp is expected in December.

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THE "PROVISIONAL" POSTAGE STAMPS USED ON O.F.S POSTCARDS

By Emil Tamsen

Many readers, even those living in South Africa, will say "Never heard of such things, let alone seen them". Shame on them! As some justification for their remark, it may be said that forty-six years ago these stamps were already scarce, and now one seldom meets any at all.

The O.F.S. Republic had three of what might be called "ordinary" postcards, i.e. postcards with the stamp printed on it as an integral part of the card; these were (a) 1d. card, in orange or brownish orange, issued in 1884; (b) this card with the stamp surcharged "½d." in black, issued in 1891 when the domestic rate was reduced from 1d. to ½d.; (c) ½d. card, in rose, issued in 1898.

There were also two "Reply Paid Cards" issued in 1898, ½d.+½d. green and 1d.+1d. brown.

On all of these ordinary cards the stamps were of the same design as the adhesive stamps; they were all printed by Messrs. De La Rue, London, including the 1891 surcharge.

There was, however, another series of postcards issued in the Republic from 1889 to 1898. The London Philatelic Society's work on the stamps, etc., of British Possessions in Africa, Vol. III, lists 14 of these cards, which they term "provisional issues". I have retained this nomenclature in this article, although doubtful as to its suitability for a series of stamps and cards in use for ten years.

After years of searching I have managed to acquire 8 of the 14 but have little hope of ever finding the others.

These cards were made by the printing firm of Borkenhagen in Bloemfontein, who held the Government contract for all postal printing work (not including actual stamps). This firm supplied plain cardboard, white or near-white, but varying somewhat in stoutness, and printed the words "BRIEF KAART" near the top, with a considerable space between the two words; in this space there was affixed an adhesive postage stamp, which was overprinted with a shield bearing the country's coat-of-arms. There were also four lines provided for the address.

The cards were printed one at a time because their machine was too small to do more; the work was slow but good and I know of no errors.

The overprinting of the stamps by the shield, like the printing of the words, was always in black; the shield was somewhat larger than the stamp so that part of it always fell outside the stamp, directly on the card. The stamps for affixing to the cards were drawn by Messrs. Borkenhagen from the

Post Office as required and the various stamps used from time to time were:

- (1) ½d. chestnut (S.G. No. 48).
- (2) ½d. orange (S.G. No. 85).
- (3) ½d. chestnut, surcharged "½d."
- (4) 1d. on 3d. ultramarine (S.G. No. 54/5).
- (5) 2d. mauve surcharged "1½d."
- (6) As (5) but surcharge in different type
- (7) 3d. ultramarine surcharged "1½d."

In Nos. 3, 5, 6 and 7 the surcharge is in black, at the top of the stamp.

(8) 2d. mauve surcharged "1½d.". In red, at the foot of the stamp.

Why these surchargings with new values? They were to indicate the particular usage of the cards, the ½d. being for internal use, the 1d. for postage to neighbouring South African territories, and the 1½d. for any oversea country. But why No. 3, a ½d. stamp, had a further "½d." surcharge, I do not know.

Now the question arises why are these "provisional" overprinted stamps (Nos. 3, 5, 6, 7 and 8 above) not everywhere listed as adhesive postage stamps, I can see no essential difference between a stamp franking a postcard and one franking a letter. Presumably the Shield overprint raises a difficulty in the minds of some cataloguers.

THE SHIELD OVERPRINT MAY BE REGARDED as a "PRE-CANCEL"

I maintain that these stamps should find a place in every catalogue of O.F.S. adhesive stamps, with a note that they were specially used on postcards. The difficulty of the shield overprint may be overcome by regarding it—if we must think in present-day conventional terms—as a pre-cancel, although neither the term nor the practice was in vogue when these stamps were used.

The postal officials of the time, at any rate, consciously or unconsciously often treated these stamps as being pre-cancelled. If one examines used cards it will be found that the place-date stamp of the office of posting is sometimes on the stamp (and shield) but just about equally often elsewhere on the card, quite away from the stamp (see illustration).

The stamps could not be used a second time to pre-pay postage, because, in the first place, cards without stamps were, I presume, not on sale anywhere and, secondly, even if they had been obtainable, it would have been apparent at a glance that a stamp removed from a previously used card was wrongfully applied as the parts of the shield normally appearing on the card itself would not have been there. So there was every justification for regarding the shield as a form of pre-cancellation.

How do catalogues treat these postcard stamps?

Stanley Gibbons mention that stamps of several denominations, surcharged or unsurcharged, were used for postcards, overprinted with the coat-of-arms, which they illustrate. It might be mentioned that in the case of Hong-Kong they do particularly list three stamps specially surcharged for use on post-

cards so it would appear that it is the overprinting with the coat-of-arms which disqualifies the O.F.S. stamps from specific listing.

American catalogues only mention U.S.A. cards.

The pre-war French catalogue of Yvert & Tellier lists seven stamps (not giving the two varieties of the 1½d. in black on the 2d.

shield and coat-of-arms. The shield may or may not have flags draped behind it (the illustration in S.G.'s catalogue has the flags) and the bottom of the shield may be either blunt (as in the illustration below) or pointed (as in S.G.'s illustration). These varieties are fully described in "Africa, Part III"—in this communication I am only concerned



mauve) and the prices of some run as high as Fr. 250.

German pre-war catalogues listed nine varieties with prices going up to M.30.

That grand book, "Africa, Part III," as I have mentioned earlier, describes and illustrates 14 varieties of "provisional" cards. Only 8 varieties of stamps were employed; the differences in the other 6 lie either in the general lay-out of the cards or in the

particularly with the actual stamps.

I would very much like to meet anyone in South Africa who has all 14 varieties of card and I would further like to suggest to the O.F.S. and Basutoland Philatelic Society that a nice little field of research for them would be to find out the exact dates of issue of these various cards, the quantities printed and any other pieces of information they can find which have not previously been recorded.

NETHERLANDS

The news that the 2½g, 5g and 10g values of the current set have been made available to collectors, was received just too late for mention in last month's notes. Mint copies are, however, not freely available, yet, as the would-be purchaser of these stamps must present a certificate signed by the secretary of his Philatelic Society that he is a member.

The "Nederlandsche Maandblad voor Philatelie" published in its June number a number of questions asked in the Dutch Parliament concerning the leakages of these stamps to foreign sources as it was well-known that sets were available in Belgium, and in the United States before it was known in Holland that such stamps were to be issued, at less than face value. The July number contained answers to these questions and it is clear that as a result of the publicity the decision to place the stamps on sale, with the restriction referred to above, was made.

Due to the fact that the Summer Charity stamps mentioned in previous notes were received on cover, they were described as being on watermarked paper. This is not the case, however, and the stamps should have been described as being on unwatermarked paper. The designs are the products of the artists H. Levigne (2ct and 20ct), S. L. Hartz (4ct), Kuno Brinks (7½ct) and Mrs. Retsma-Valenca (10ct). The lettering and figures of value are by J. van Krimpen.

Further values in the new definitive issue have come to hand, the known values being 6ct, 10ct, 15ct, 20ct, 30ct and 35ct. I am also informed that a 2½ct in the numeral type is expected shortly. The artists responsible for these stamps are J. van Krimpen for the numeral stamps and S. L. Hartz for the Queen's Head issue (with van Krimpen again responsible for lettering and numerals).

J.W.S.

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The Railway Parcel and Newspaper Stamps of Southern Africa

By J. H. HARVEY PIRIE, F.R.P.S.L.

(Continued from page 143 of September issue)

4th ISSUE 1921-1923 (mainly 1922) (PERFORATED AND ROULETTED— VARIOUS COLOURS)

The variety of stamps occurring in this short period (specimens seen occur with dates from August, 1921, to July, 1923, but the great majority with dates in 1922) seems to suggest that it was an experimental one, the only fixed feature appearing to be the over-prints, which are now practically all of a bold, heavy faced type. The stamps are grouped for convenience as one issue but they can really best be described in five groups:

(a) Yellow—Roulette 7

In this group are eight denominations, 1d., 2d., 3d., 4d., 5s., 10s. and 20s. The design is uniform throughout, of the standard design introduced with the first issue; in other words, the 1d. and 2d. values are now of the same design as the other values, as is the 4d., which is a new denomination in the series. The whole series is uniform also in colour, a bright yellow with very little in the way of shades. The printing in this colour is, however, rather indistinct, so that it is not easy to make out if there are two types in some of the values, as in the first issue. In the case of the 3d., however, it can be clearly made out that the two types exist (from the shape of the 3's), so it is probably a fair assumption that the same old dies were still in use. In the case of the denominations (1d., 2d. and 4d.) new to this design, two types could not be made out.

One 2d. stamp has been seen which is definitely rouletted on three sides only, the fourth side (vertical) being perforated.

The three high values seem to be scarce. Of the 20s., indeed, only one specimen has been seen; as in previous issues it is a larger stamp than the other denominations.

(b) Yellow—Perf. 12

Only two denominations, 1d. and 2d. Of the same shade of yellow and of the same standard design as the rouletted stamps in the group (a) The 2d. perf. seems to be scarce as compared with the rouletted one.

(c) Green—Roulette 7

Three denominations, 9d., 1s. and 2s. All of a bright yellow-green with little in the way of shades. In all three the two types, as described in the first issue, are present.

(d) Red—Roulette 7 and Perf. 12

Only one denomination, 4d., of a design peculiar to itself, which is figured here. The specimens seen appear all to have been used in either Johannesburg or Cape Town, but,



of course, that may merely be an accident of the collection and does not necessarily connote that they were not in use at other stations.

(e) Various Colours—Roulette 7

Nine denominations. All of uniform "standard" pattern: 1d., dark blue, scarce; 2d., pale lilac, scarce; 4d., grey; 5d., bright red, shades; 6d., light brown, scarce; 9d., blue-green, two types as in first issue; 1s., dark salmon or pale brick red, shades, two types; 2s., rose, two types; 2s. 6d., light blue.

The following little table of this rather heterogeneous "issue" shows at a glance in which group or groups the various denominations occur:

Denomination	Group				
	a	b	c	d	e
1d.	x	x			x
2d.	x	x			x
3d.	x				
4d.	x			x	x
5d.					x
6d.	x				x
9d.			x		x
1s.			x		x
2s.			x		x
2s. 6d.					x
5s.	x				
10s.	x				
20s.	x				

5th ISSUE (1923-1930) (DESIGN REDRAWN—PERF. 14— VARIOUS COLOURS) TYPOGRAPHED

In the material available for examination there seems to have been a hiatus in collecting from 1923 to 1926. The great majority

of the stamps of this issue show dates between near the end of 1926 to October, 1930. I have seen one or two specimens with dates in 1923 and 1924, however, so it is probably fair to assume that the issue appeared in 1923, especially seeing that very few of the 4th issue have been seen with dates later than 1922.

In this issue the design is uniform throughout all denominations, including the 20s. which is now of the same size as the others. The design is in general the same as before; but with differences in detail.

The letters of "S.A.R." at the top and of "PARCELS STAMP" at the bottom are different in type, the figures of value are in general smaller and neater, but perhaps the greatest change is in the lettering of the



background. This now consists of "SOUTH-AFRICANRAILWAYS" only, the letters being rather larger than before and it is spaced so that this one phrase just fits within the frame. Actually the final "S" very often merges into the inner frame line, but there is not sufficient variation in position to justify any separation of two types as in previous issues.

The perforating of this issue has been cleanly done.

In all values there are slight differences in shades to be found, but they are not on the whole very great.

Denominations

1d., blue; 2d., pale mauve; 3d., (a) yellow, printing very indistinct, (b) light yellowish green; 4d., grey; 5d., bright red, shades well marked; 6d., greyish brown; 9d., green, shades well marked; 1s., pale brick red (shades); 2s., rose; 2s. 6d., light blue; 5s., orange yellow (shades); 10s., olive or greenish grey; 20s., yellowish brown.

(To be continued)

* * *

MAFIA

The B.P.A. reports in "Philately" that for the first time they have had a series of "G.R. Mafia" overprints on German East stamps submitted for expertising. These are not listed by S.G., but are given in Greenwood's specialised catalogue. The series revealed something new, however, viz. that the Opt. was made from two different hardstamps, not from one only. They occur *se-tenant*, the difference between them lying in the character of the "G" and the "R", overall measurements being identical.

CORRESPONDENCE

The Editor, "S.A. Philatelist"

Commercial Pinpricks

Sir,—During the last three or four years it has been my very interesting experience to handle, clean and sort, in a good cause, some hundreds of thousands of used stamps. Most of them have been local issues, but there have been a considerable percentage of overseas emissions, very frequently—in these days of air mail—most of quite respectable face value.

During my long enthusiasm for our hobby it has been a constant watchword never to pass on to a dealer or collector any stamp that I would not be pleased to include in my own collection. Consequently, as you will realise, when it came to actual disposal of the stamps, the numbers dwindled. It is really surprising how many of our stamps, passing safely through the post, are found after cleaning to be torn, corners chipped, heavily cancelled, or otherwise unsuitable from a philatelic standard.

The feature that has most dismayed me, however, is the prevalence, for the greater part overseas, of the obnoxious habit of commercial perforation. It is not only mentally, but at times almost physically, sickening—and always arouses a feeling of anger—to discover that the \$5 United States, the 10s. Great Britain or the hundred franc France, which one has been handling with particular care, is found after removal from its envelope to be punctured with the initials of some unknown "ABC" or "XYZ" commercial firm.

Presumably the practice is a relic of the days when our early politicians (with tickets safely tucked away in their ample waistcoat pockets) endeavoured to discourage the sweepstake habit, with the utterly naive and wholly unsubstantiated argument that their junior clerks were tempted to appropriate the contents of the office postage box in order that they, too, might participate. Many of these junior clerks are probably themselves business directors and general managers to-day, but they will not have forgotten these aspersions on their integrity. One point, however, may not have occurred to the leaders of industry who indulge in these stamp-pricking tactics. The recipient of the letter may be interested in stamps and may be annoyed to find a useful specimen wantonly defaced. His thoughts may presently run: "Ha, Ha! Mister XYZ, You would like me in this business deal to repose confidence in your integrity. But why should I do that, when it is self evident from the outset that you repose no confidence in the members of your own organisation?" I commend this little notion to some of our South African commercial men who may be interested in philately and at the same time opposed to the wanton destruction of works of art.

Can anything be said in favour of the practice?

Yours faithfully,

W.J.E.B.

REVIEWS AND NOTICES

The United States Commemorative Stamps of the Twentieth Century, by Max G. Johl. H. L. Lindquist, 2 West 46th Street, New York. Two volumes \$10.00.

So far we have only seen Vol. 1 of this work, which is philately de luxe, a book of 356 pages covering the U.S. Commemoratives from 1901-1935; the second volume will bring the study up to 1947.

There are literally thousands of illustrations and every conceivable matter connected with each stamp is gone into in full detail. We get the historical background, essays, proofs, methods of printing, numbers issued, flaws, varieties, shades, special cancellations associated with the stamps, etc., etc.

Fine co-operation is acknowledged from the Post Office Department and the Bureau of Engraving and Printing.

Some hard knocks are given over the "Farley Follies" in a chapter entitled "Philately under Franklin D. Roosevelt," but they are probably not undeserved and it is not likely that such a blot on the escutcheon of American philately will occur again.

It is futile to recommend that this work should be in the hands of every advanced collector of U.S.A. stamps—they will all rush to have it.

Caribbean Stamp and Exchange Club.

We have received a notice about this club, which although going in for general correspondence and exchange, seems to specialise in West Indies. The manager is G. J. Raymond, 905 Curtis Avenue, Columbia, Missouri, U.S.A. The annual subscription is the equivalent of \$1.00 U.S. payable in clean mint stamps, preferably commemoratives.

Les Bleus de France.

A new edition of this work, bringing it up-to-date. All relevant details about these stamps. A. Suarnet, 20 Place du Val, Provins (S. & M.), France. 700 Francs.

The Jamaica Philatelist, 1947.

Thanks to the Jamaica Philatelic Society and to Mr. E. F. Aguilar, Box 406, Kingston, for this, the Society's Annual Magazine. Articles in it include a list of Jamaican P.O.'s; a short history of the locally printed St. Lucia postage dues; The Stamps of the St. Lucia Steam Conveyance Co., Ltd.; and Jamaica Postal Markings.

Bolletino Raybaudi.

A price-list of air stamps. Dr. L. Raybaudi Massilia, Via Rasella, Rome.

L'Argus Philatélic.

A new French philatelic monthly. 3 Rue Stella, Lyon.

Seaposter.

Monthly bulletin of the Maritime Postmark Society. Gustav J. Lund, 136 Highland Blvd., Berkeley 8, California. Membership for foreign countries 50c. yearly.

T.P.O.

Monthly bulletin of the T.P.O. and Seapost Society. Norman Hill, Netherleigh, Old Wortley Road, Rotherham, England. Oversea members 2s. 6d. yearly.

Boletín de la Sociedad Filatélica Mexicana.

Partly in Spanish, partly in English. Membership of the Society \$1.00 (U.S.A.) or equivalent yearly. Jose Azuela No. 31, Desp. 13, Mexico, D.F.

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STELLALAND

The "Philatelic Magazine" of 21 March had a paper by Mr. F. Lutz, entitled "The Postage Stamps of a Miniature Republic—Stellaland". At the time we thought this would be a challenge to one A. A. Jurgens, and sure enough, in their issue of 19 September he points out Mr. Lutz's many inaccuracies in "The Truth Behind the Stamps of Stellaland". If you swallowed Mr. Lutz, try Mr. Jurgens as an antidote.

★

GERMANY

"Equator," the Hamburg Philatelic paper, reports the issue of a 7pf. value of the Rhine-land-Pfalz issue, on 84 pf., in dark green. It shows the ruins of Gutenfel and the Pfalz Castle on an island in the Rhine.

They also report two more values of Leipzig Fair stamps, 12 and 75 pf., and 84 pf. and 1m stamps of both the Baden and Wurtemberg series.

It is hoped we are nearing an end of these local issues in the French zone and that only the numeral stamps will be used throughout all Germany.

★

CZECHOSLOVAKIA

The P.O. Philatelic Agency sends a special envelope and two stamps (1.20 and 4K), commemorating the tenth anniversary of the death of their President-Liberator, T. G. Masaryk.

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BRITISH COLONIALS

Mauritius

September 2 was the centenary of the famous "Post Office" stamps. The August-September issue of "The Stamp Lover" illustrates 25 of the 26 known specimens.

A commemorative set of 5c, 12c, 20c and 1R will be issued, it is hoped, by the end of the year. The design these will have is a horizontal oblong format with a reproduction of the "Post Office" stamp on the left and the King's head and value on the right.

Kenya

Releases of printings of the 10, 20, 30, 50 cents and 1, 2, 3 and 5 shilling values in July show some slight shade variations but for once in a way there are no perforation changes.

The 20c is from plates 6 (frame) and 6a (centre); the 50c from 2 (frame) and 2b (centre) and the 1s. from 1 (frame) and 6b (centre).

N. Borneo

The 2c and 4c of the "Cypher" overprint were put on sale on September 1.

N. Rhodesia

Mr. W. Nodder reports a new type of postmark, in use at Lusaka. "Northern Rhodesia" at the bottom of the mark, is in two lines; in the date across the centre, the month is in Roman figures and the hour is given on the 24-hour system, e.g. 14-15, not 2-3 p.m.

S. Rhodesia

The philatelic press reports varieties in the imprint of the Victory issue; evidently there was more than one frame or plate used in the printing

W. Indies

The Bahamas are to have an issue of fifteen denominations to commemorate the tercentenary of the Eleutherian Adventurers, printed in Canada under designs chosen by an advisory committee. (It is presumed everyone knows who the said adventurers were!)

The transposed colours (2½d. and 3d.) of the Cayman Islands went on sale on August 25. The Virgin Islands, Montserrat and St. Kitts are all to have 10s. and £1 stamps.

Zanzibar

The latest printing released in June, shows some small changes in shade and perforation. The 5c is now a definite green instead of a yellow green and is perf. 14 x 13 3/4 in place of 14. The 20c and 50c are somewhat different in shade and show the same slight variation in perforation.

FRANCE

The latest commemorative (5 September), a 6+4Fr. is of the Road to Liberty (Caen to Paris) along which the Allied forces raced in 1944.

BRAZIL

Two stamps were issued on August 15 in honour of the Inter-American Defence Conference held there. "Peace and Security" is their motive.

THE B.P.A.

It is announced that Birmingham has had to be cut out of the programme of their Exhibition as the city is too busy, but it will still be shown in Glasgow and Manchester after London.

Their latest activity is the launching of NOSPI—a register of the Numbers of Stamps Printed and Issued. This is intended to cover the whole world and already some 500 stamps from some 42 different countries have been listed; for the time being the larger printings are being by-passed and the countries in S.G. Part I are receiving first consideration. This register should be of considerable use to both collectors and dealers.

The Expert Committee states in "Philately" re Forgeries: "Transvaal has had most of its terrors removed by the magnificent volume written by Curle and Basden, but the committee would welcome some ocular evidence and tests with which one can determine with any degree of certainty between the original, reprinted and forged printings of S.G. 175-187, 200-212a and the kindred issues."

Here is a chance for co-operation by our Transvaal specialists.

★

PHILATELIC WAR IN ANTARCTICA

There are rival claimants to the ownership of the Falkland Islands and of its Dependencies.

Argentina has for over a century disputed the British claim to ownership of the Falklands, and in 1936 issued a map stamp in which these islands were coloured as Argentinian.

Britain staked her claim to the Dependencies in 1908 and the general issue map stamps issued in 1946 show its extent. Argentina made a formal protest.

Now there are further developments, Chile coming into the picture as well as the Argentine. In the early 1940's she sent down an expedition into the South Shetland area and a decree was published on 6th November, 1940, laying claim to a sector of Antarctica including the whole of Graham Land and the South Shetlands and narrowing right down to the South Pole. She has just issued a map stamp showing this sector.

On the heels of this come two stamps from Argentina in commemoration of the first Antarctic post, in February, 1904. This, of course, refers to the post in the S. Orkneys when they set up a meteorological station there, which station has been kept going ever since. The stamps are similar in theme to the Chilean one; the sector of Antarctica claimed on them, although not quite identical, also includes Graham Land and the South Shetlands, but extends further east so as to include all the Falkland Islands Dependencies.

It would appear now as if Argentina and Chile are not only up against Great Britain, but also against each other in their claims as to Antarctic sovereignty.

Will UNO be called in and have to hold an Antarctic session after settling (?) some of the other little troubles on its agenda?

THANKS

mainly to assistance received during the past month from G. Carleton Jones, Esq., my want list to complete the World Collection of normal stamps, to 1933 issues, is now down to

2824

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I shall continue my postal Exchange Club, known as the South African Philatelic Association. The name of this Association will be slightly changed to the

**SOUTH AFRICAN PHILATELIC
EXCHANGE CLUB**

Supplies of philatelic accessories, such as Catalogues, Albums, etc., New Issue Service and Approvals will be available to members. Will new members provide the usual business references.

Visitors are welcome and appointments may be arranged by telephone.

HUNGARY

The philatelic agency reports the issue on September 22 of a 60f stamp in honour of the coming into force of the Peace Treaty. It features a kneeling woman with a dove of peace and a wheat sheaf.

GREAT BRITAIN

It was announced by the P.M.G. in a circular of 17.7.47 that the sheets of British postage stamps could no longer bear control numbers in the margins, although the cylinder numbers would still appear. The current control number, U47, will therefore be "the last of the Mohicans" so far as this branch of collecting is concerned. The guide arrows at the top and sides will still remain.

We have seen the Year Book of the Philatelic Congress of Great Britain, held at Birmingham on September 9 to 12. There are several interesting articles in it, including one by Mr. W. H. S. Cheavin on the application of X-ray photography to Philately. It looks as if X-rays could be more valuable than ultra-violet light for many purposes.

The Congress has suffered a great loss by the death of the Rev. C. S. Morton, for many years the honorary secretary. Mr. E. F. Hugen has been acting temporarily, and at the Congress he was elected permanently.

Later reports show the Congress to have been a great success, some 200 delegates attending. There was a good supply of philatelic mementos—special envelopes showing an outline map of England with Birmingham at its centre; a special cog-wheel postal cancellation; a series of 6 cards with 51 reproductions of Birmingham postmarks from 1715-1944; a set of 4 sheets of Congress labels in different colours, four labels per sheet showing scenes from some of the city's 1,000 trades. Thanks to Messrs. Percy C. Bishop, Francis J. Field, Ltd., Wm. C. Hinde, and C. Drewe for specimens.

AUSTRIA

A set of six semi-postals has been issued to raise funds for P.O.W.'s still in Allied camps. They are almost as depressing in appearance as the Czech's Lidice stamp.

CORRECTIONS

Kenya Machine Cancellations

The statement in the 3rd paragraph of Mr. Turnstall's article (August issue, p. 124) that a new canceller was introduced at Nairobi, "probably a Newport one" should read "probably a Neopost one".

Some Old O.V.S. Items

In our October issue, p. 154, the heading "(3) Fiscal Stamps Partially Used" should be "Postally Used", and in the first line of the paragraph on p. 158, headed "(4) Boxed 'Ge-registreerd' marks", the word "more" should be "none".

EXCHANGE WANTED

Australia

Mr. R. Eardley, of 3, Hillview Street, Sans Souci, N.S.W., wishes to exchange stamps and general correspondence.

Hungary

Dr. Vigh Miklos, of "Tapolca", Sumegi ut 5, wishes to exchange any African or any British colonials for any European.

NEW STAMP-ISSUING COUNTRIES

Recent developments in India will necessarily mean many new stamps. We understand Pakistan's were not ready for foundation day, so they had stamps of India overprinted as provisionals. India, by the way, according to "India's Stamp Journal", had still-born "Bantams" during the war. They ran short of paper, contemplated following South Africa's lead and actually had essays made, but manufacturing difficulties delayed their issue and with the cessation of hostilities in Europe the idea was dropped.

Overprints for Kuwait and Bahrein will no doubt also be changed and these small states may have their own issues.

It is rumoured that UNO will also have its own stamps.

The Tokelau (Union) Islands, near Samoa, are to have their own stamps in the near future. The first issue will be of 3 denominations only, ½d., 1d. and 2d.

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SOCIETY NEWS

EAST LONDON PHILATELIC SOCIETY

President, J. V. Jensen; *Hon. Secretary*, W. J. Gillespie, P.O. Box 673. *Meetings*, 2nd Fridays, above Colosseum Theatre Tea Room, at 7.45 p.m.

September: The Exhibition Committee reported good progress in the arrangements for the Exhibition and for Congress.

First day covers were shown from Denmark, U.S.A., and Norfolk Island. Mr. Hillman donated a framed picture of American Commemoratives, which it was decided should be raffled at the Exhibition.

The displays for the evening were (a) a mint collection of Egypt by Mr. C. P. Durkin, and (b) Belgium from mid-period to present day.

October: At this meeting we were doubly honoured with the presence of Dr. J. Harvey-Pirie, President of the Philatelic Federation, and Mr. G. Forbes, President of the Port Elizabeth Society; many old acquaintances were renewed and new ones made. Mr. Forbes hit the ceiling by saying that the P.E. members were now looking for K.G. VII stamps to add to their hoarded collections.

Much business was dealt with and reports from Exhibition and Congress Committees show that these items were well cared for and success assured.

Exhibition entries are coming in steadily, but as our President remarked, we would like to see more entries from medium and junior collectors as it is this vast sleeping membership that will supply the philatelists of the future. Further interest in the hobby among the younger collectors will be fostered by that type of collection on exhibit as being nearer to their own small effort. It must not be construed that any collection is too big and none is too small as contrast these two entries: (1) A single block of 4 stamps, and (2) a whole country comprising many volumes.

An exhibit which should bring real pleasure to South African collectors will be that from the G.P.O. comprising current issues in various printings, shades and showing the dates of issue.

Readers are reminded of the special exhibition covers available from the Secretary. These will be franked and posted at the exhibition on date and will bear a special oval cancellation, by kind permission of the G.P.O.

The evening was rounded off by two fine displays, one of Germany by Mr. F. Hearn, and the other of West Indies by Mr. Courlander.

Readers intending to visit East London and the Exhibition are advised to contact the Secretary as soon as possible as accommodation is fast being booked up, due to the Centenary celebrations.

W.J.G.

★

PRETORIA PHILATELIC SOCIETY

President, F. C. Ferguson; *Hon. Sec.*, H. Endemann, P.O. Box 514; *Meetings*, 1st and 3rd Mondays, 8 p.m., Technical College.

1st September: Mr. Ferguson read a paper on the "Sea Floor, Bahamas" Post Office, telling us interesting history and describing what visitors to this under sea Post Office could do and could not do.

Mr. Dodd talked on Revenue Stamps, Mr. Hawke on K.E. VII Fiscals with head and value inverted, and Mr. Wright on Mulready envelopes. Major van Blommestein exhibited and described various items with interesting postmarks, and Mr. Endemann referred to a Canadian 7½c. used on a letter posted in the U.S.A.

The Vice-president finished the evening with a paper on the Chalon Head of Queen Victoria.

15th September: Mr. Bottomley gave a paper on the pictorial issues of S.W.A. and Mr. Giovanetti showed part of his collection of that country's stamps

ORANGE FREE STATE AND BASUTOLAND PHILATELIC SOCIETY

President, Mr. C. A. Larsen; *Hon. Secretary*, Mr. R. G. Lyon, Box 702, Bloemfontein; *Meetings*, 3rd Fridays each month, Oranje Koffiehuis, Bloemfontein, 7.30 p.m.

At the annual general meeting, held in September, the following committee was elected for the ensuing year: President, Mr. C. A. Larsen; Vice-President, Mr. J. Lewis; Hon. Secretary-Treasurer, Mr. R. G. Lyon; Exchange Superintendent, Mr. A. G. Dennie; Publicity Officer, Dr. K. Freund; Hon. Auditor, Mr. F. B. Catell; Hon. Auctioneer, Mr. M. Liss; committee members, Messrs. R. A. Brown, K. Freund, M. Liss.

The October meeting was a very pleasant affair, the evening being taken up mainly with a variety of stamp displays. The feature "Stamp News of the Month" has been re-introduced and is now ably conducted by Mr. A. G. Denne. Mr. Denne gave a brief survey of the most interesting philatelic news of the month, illustrating them as far as possible with actual stamps. When referring, for instance, to Stanley Gibbons' ballot in connection with the best British stamp designs of the last few years, Mr. Denne presented the result of this competition by tabling all the actual stamps in the order they won.

Another innovation at meetings is that the usual "one country" display, often too highbrow for a society meeting, has been dispensed with, and instead a regular "three men" display has been introduced, where three members show jointly a few interesting pages from their collections. At this meeting, Mr. F. B. Catell showed some Canadian stamps and U.S.A. Commemoratives. Mr. R. A. Brown displayed some more pages from his Geographical collection, and Mr. R. G. Lyon tabled a few pages with early Bechuanaland stamps in brilliant condition. This experiment of presenting a colourful variety of different stamp types and contrasting "write-ups" was a complete success and appreciated by all present.

K.F.

★

MARITZBURG PHILATELIC SOCIETY

Chairman, C. R. Turner; *Hon. Secretary*, R. Morton, P.O. Box 328, Pietermaritzburg; *Meetings*, 2nd Friday in each month at 211 Burger Street, 7.45 p.m.

The monthly meeting of the Maritzburg Philatelic Society was held on Friday, the 10th of October; there was a good attendance. Dr. Young gave an interesting talk on "Condition" of stamps, illustrating the points he wished members to guard against.

The second part of the competition was held, the entries were fair, but the quality of stamps exhibited was very good. A successful auction terminated the meeting, which pleased the members.

C.R.T.

★

THE PHILATELIC SOCIETY OF JOHANNESBURG

President, Dr. A. Kaplan; *Hon. Sec.*, Mr. J. H. Jenkins, P.O. Box 4967; *Meetings*, 2nd Tuesdays and 4th Mondays, Public Library, 7.45 p.m.

At the meeting held on 29th September a competition was arranged by Commander Enoch and Mr. Lydall. All the members present took part in it. They were required to answer a number of questions which were a searching test of philatelic knowledge. The winner was Mr. B. Glassman, who was awarded a prize given by the Society.

At the meeting held on 14th October, the exhibit was provided by Mr. Carleton Jones, who showed a portion of his European Imperforates. Mr. Carleton Jones was unable to be present, but Mr. Jecks deputised for him and read a few notes about the exhibit.

The exhibit included such rarities as a sheet of Roumania, Moldo-Wallachia, Strips of Luxemburg No. 1, a cover with a Saxony 3 Pfennig red of 1850, covers with the first issues of Spain, Switzerland, and numerous others. Great Britain 1d. Black and 2d. Blue were represented by strips on covers. There were sheets of Tuscany, Portugal and German states. Every specimen, mint and used, was in perfect condition, and the exhibit was beautifully written up.

Mr. Buchen and Mr. E. Hunt spoke on the exhibit.

I.I.

The SOUTH AFRICAN PHILATELIST

Proprietors and Publishers:

The Philatelic Federation of Southern Africa

Honorary Editor: Dr. J. H. HARVEY PIRIE, - - - P.O. Box 7012, Johannesburg
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DECEMBER, 1947.

Whole No. 273

Union Notes

Union Stamps:

In October we published a letter from a British firm of dealers saying "Long live the present set". As a counterblast the "Philatelic Trader" now comes out with "Thank goodness South Africa is at last going to do something about her stamps. Too long have we had to endure poor production and those absurd bantams. Now the whole lot is going to be thrown overboard and we will look forward with keen interest to the new designs. . . . Let us hope that the Union will this time make all their stamps bilingual—it will save us buying two of each."

Unrecorded Minor Varieties:

Mr. E. White has shown us the following:

½d. Springbok, London print (a) broken U in Revenue, like a J; (b) broken O in Inkomste, like a C; (c) broken s in Posseel, only lower part of it present; (d) broken P of Postage, stem gone.
3d. blue, King's Head, Plate 1. Head displaced downwards, jubilee line broken, dark smudge over top of head and additional frame line above the head.

Three 1d. Coronations used in Kimberley as Postage Dues on May 11, 1937, apparently because of a temporary shortage of proper Postage Due Stamps.

½d. Silver Jubilee with large black smudge over the King's face extending over to the left springbok.

King's Head 3d., Perf. 14 x 13½:

Following up his recording of the 1s. in this perforation in our June issue, p. 81, Mr. Patrick Riordan has now found the 3d. black and orange-red, S.G. 14, similarly perforated. This seems to suggest the possibility of the whole of this set of stamps having received this second gauge of perforation, and it would

be interesting to establish the period of its usage from control blocks. There is no mistaking even single specimens as they can be recognised by the corner perforation edges looking like line perforation, although, as explained in the previous communication, the perforation is probably an adjusted comb one.

Minor Flaws and Shade Varieties on Current ½d., 1d. and 1½d.:

Mr. C. Sieberhagen notes the following: ½d. (which cylinders?), a tag on the springbok's left ear, stamp No. 4, row 3; 1d. (printing with No. 1 stamp in English, but centre not brownish-black) the third stamp from the end of the second row has a red blob over

the "1" of 1d. and the dash between "Postage" and "Revenue"; 1½d., the flaw noted in the September issue appears to be the same as 60 Va in the Federation's catalogue (p. 52), the flaws Vb and Vd are also now constantly present. This, of course, is not to be wondered at as the present printing is from the same cylinders as were used originally in 1941. The 1½d. shows shade varieties in the

Christmas—

New Year.

Wishing our writers, readers and advertisers a Merry Xmas. Leave stamps aside that day, and perhaps the day after, in case of the almost unbelievable possibility of them going stale on you! Then up and at 'em and may 1948 be a year of good stamp hunting.

gold background; sometimes it is reddish gold, sometimes yellow-gold.

S.W.A. Royal Visit 1d.:

Mr. Sieberhagen also notes that the small black dot referred to in our August issue as occurring between the W and the A of S.W.A. is of fairly common occurrence on the 2nd and 8th stamps of nearly every row.

Revenue Used as Postage Due:

Mr. J. F. Keogh, Heilbron, records a 3d. revenue stamp used for postage due, date 13th February, 1943.

"Caslon" Numeral Dies:

Mr. Sydow's article on another page may recall to some of our readers that the word "Caslon" itself has been recorded on some of our stamps, viz., 1d. Roto Official and 1d. S.W.A. (S.G.46). Evidently the printer was using Caslon type for the overprints and how the Caslon slug can have slipped in is described in the "South African Philatelist," Vol X, 1934, p. 186 and Vol. XI, 1935, pp. 18 and 40.

Mr. Sydow tells an interesting little story of how he came to identify Caslons with the figures of value on some of our Postage Due stamps and on some Colonials. Looking at his calendar one day, he subconsciously noted how closely a figure "6" resembled the 6 on the 1927-28 Postage Due; this led to his visit-

ing the printer of the calendar, where he found Caslon type was used. This led to his acquiring a 1911 catalogue of the Caslon firm, and this led—but you must read his article for the rest of the story. It shows, however, how a trifle may lead to quite an important discovery, for this is important, far beyond the boundary of South African philately.

De La Rue have used such type as far back as 1885 in the case of Trinidad stamps, but no one seems to have noted it before.

Incidentally, this present article by Mr. Sydow is his 40th communication to the "South African Philatelist." Congratulations! We will soon be having to issue a special semi-centennial number!

Christmas Seals:

This year's Christmas stamps for the Anti-Tuberculosis Campaign are in brown and purple. They feature a boy and girl looking up at a dove with an olive branch, there being a floodlit double cross in the background.

* * *

ROYAL VISIT—OFFICIAL FRANK

Mr. W. Yelland has shown an envelope with a Pilot Train postmark, but instead of a stamp it has an official frank in red. This is a crowned large oval with "Royal Visit—South Africa" at the top and "Koninklike Besoek—Suid Africa" below; in the centre is "Official Free/1947/Offisielel Vry."

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R. L. Stevenson set of 3, 1d.-2½d. ..	6/0
Sierra Leone 1932 set to 6d.	10/6
South Africa 1933 Voortrekker set in fine used pairs, SG50-53 .. .	15/0
1938 Voortrekker set of four fine used pairs, SG76-79 .. .	17/6
1938 Gov. Voor. pair, SGS0-1 .. .	5/0
1939 Huguenot set in hor. pairs .. .	10/3
Ditto, fine used pairs .. .	11/6
Southern Africa—all five Victory sets in mint horizontal pairs (15) .. .	15/0
Southern Nigeria K.G. V set to 1/-, SG43-50 .. .	17/6
Southern Rhodesia 1940 Jubilee set ..	4/0
S.W. Africa 1939 Huguenot set, SG111-3	19/6
1928 Dues, SGD40-1, singles .. .	5/0
Sudan 1931 Air Mail set of 3, SG47-9 ..	7/6
Swaziland 1935 Silver Jubilee set .. .	6/0
Tanganyika 1922 Giraffe set to 75c (9 stamps) SG74-82 .. .	22/6
Tonga 1944 Accession set of 5 .. .	3/0

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The Status of the Mafeking Siege Stamps

FACTS ABOUT A FASCINATING AND CLASSIC ISSUE

By DR. K. FREUND

CONTENTS

Introductory Remarks:

Chapter 1: The initial "irregular" siege mail service—Events and reasons leading to the inauguration of a special, well-organized one.

Chapter 2: The two services, "abroad" and "local" service. *The necessity of the "local" service.*

Chapter 3: Reasons for the issue of *special stamps*—Reasons for the *surchARGE*—Not a "speculative" issue—The men behind the stamp issue—*Not a "local" issue.*

Chapter 4: Enumeration of the reasons why the *overprint MAFEKING BESIEGED* was applied.

Chapter 5: Mr. Jurgens' arguments.

Chapter 6: Reason for the *variety of stamp types*—Why there was an assortment of original stamps—Reason for the two types of overprint—Why the "Blue" stamps were issued.

Chapter 7: The *Errors* in particular—Not done "to order."

Chapter 8: The *various* reasons why the *Errors could not be discarded* as "printer's waste."

Chapter 9: The proportion of the *Errors*.

Chapter 10: The *Errors were not speculative*—Full story of how they were disposed of.

Chapter 11: Summary.

INTRODUCTORY REMARKS

The stamps issued in Mafeking during the famous siege in 1900 have always had a great fascination for the philatelic world owing to their historical background and to the originality of their manufacture and appearance. But there is also the paradox that in spite of their popularity, periodical attacks have been made against them, destined to raise doubts and suspicion about their true status. They have been frequently criticised and slighted, especially in the early days when information was still scanty and when speculators and forgers got busy to take advantage of the general great demand for these interesting, but scarce stamps.

There can be no doubt that the Mafeking stamps have withstood all adverse storms and are now generally recognised as well-established classics.

Some of the foremost British writers were never diverted by any ill-disposed conjectures. The great doyen of British philatelic writers, the late *Fred Melville*, also *B. W. H. Poole* and *L. N. and M. Williams*, to name but a few, have written appreciative monographs on

Mafeking stamps. *S. G. Rich*, the prolific American writer with a remarkable knowledge of old South African issues, has given us the most detailed account, so far, on Mafeking stamps in his book "Philately of the Anglo-Boer War," terming them there, (p. 25) as "classics" without reserve.

Many eminent philatelists have always favoured and collected them. It is generally known, for instance, that H.M. the late King George V. gave pride of place in his great collection to the Mafeking section, parts of which he exhibited proudly on various occasions. Numerous other great collectors, like the famous *v. Ferrari* and the *Earl of Crawford* who were known throughout the world as most fastidious connoisseurs, treasured their Mafeking specialities very highly.

Nevertheless, every now and then a lone voice is raised again in criticism, with sweeping statements and presumptions which are contrary to the true facts.

One of the latest attacks against Mafeking stamps comes from none other than our esteemed scholar of Cape postal history, *A. A. Jurgens*. First in his well-known Cape book ("The Handstruck Letter Stamps of the Cape of Good Hope," p. 54), then in his later book "The Bechuanalands" (p.p. 100, 101), Mr. Jurgens has made some rather astonishing remarks about Mafeking stamps, which I must say reveal a certain grade of supineness of study so far as these stamps are concerned, and which are unworthy of the excellent standard presented in the main subjects of his books. The points raised by him shall be dealt with in detail in the course of this series of articles. His statements, if not refuted, are liable to do untold, and *unjustified*, harm to a perfectly "clean" and fascinating issue, seeing that they come from a well-known scholar who is an authority in other philatelic spheres. I am sure, my rectifying remarks will be taken in the true philatelic spirit, for, we all strive to get at the truth of things in the interest of our beloved hobby.

The quintessence of all attacks against the Mafeking stamps is that they were seemingly "unnecessary." This must sound rather hypocritical nowadays when unnecessary issues are poured out even from our British printing presses at the slightest provocation and in a ceaseless stream, to say nothing about the "foreign" deluge. Why should we bluff ourselves? Practically every British collector delights in collecting "Silver Jubilee". "Coronation" or "Centenary" stamps, "War pictorials," "Peace" and Victory issues, "Royal Visit" and "Birthday" stamps, "special" can-

cellations or "first day" covers, if possible affixed with full sets of stamps in blocks of four. With all this modern philatelic revelry going on, sanctioned by everybody, why should there be such stringent criticism of an old, historical issue?

So far as Mr. Jurgens' criticism is concerned, I am convinced that it has been made in an earnest desire to apply the strictest demands where an issue is concerned which claims to be "classical."

One cannot fail, however, to notice a certain trend of intolerance in some South African philatelic circles, the like of which I have not found in any other country. There is especially that strange tendency here in the Union to make disdainful remarks about many of our own historical war issues and to cloud their nimbus needlessly whenever detailed information about them becomes not easily procurable. Thus, we have the strange spectacle of writers in England and in the United States taking up arms in defence of one or other of our historical issues, while some of us here in South Africa know no better than to repudiate our own "Africana" items.

It speaks for the soundness of the Mafeking stamps that no repudiation ever succeeded in disturbing their firm catalogue status. *Stanley Gibbons*, known for their customary strict attitude, were rather cautious at the beginning owing to various cynical and contradictory letters they received from South Africans at that time, many of whom had never been in Mafeking. But after a few months, in March, 1901, already they presented what they called their "final" decision regarding Mafeking stamps in their "*Monthly Journal*" (March, 1901, p. 202). I like to quote it here, as their opinion has always been regarded as a general guide in British philately:

"... Now our contention is, and always has been, this: The stamps may or may not have been unnecessary and speculative, but the fact remains they were used from Mafeking during the siege by civilians and soldiers alike, and a very considerable number franked letters to this country and other parts. We have a number of entire covers received in many different parts of England franked entirely by

these stamps, and without any extra fees claimed upon them; and we have seen several letters sent from Mafeking without stamps upon them, upon which the usual double rates had to be paid ("Postage Due"!—The writer).

"Therefore, whether necessary or not, the stamps were legitimately used, and as such we shall continue to sell them, and shall be glad to purchase such varieties as we are short of at any time.

"... we have been, and are, large buyers of Mafeking stamps, and *we do now and have always believed in them as good investments for the FUTURE.* (The italics and capitals are in the original.)

"... This is the position we take up, and we see no reason to depart from it."

On the same page, *Stanley Gibbons* quote an interesting letter they received from an unbiased "esteemed correspondent." This letter, though written nearly half a century ago and very outspoken, is well worth citing here:

"I have received a letter from a well-known Philatelist who acted as one of the judges in the exhibition of '97. He does not collect Mafekings, and is, I know, a very fair-minded man. Here is a quotation from his letter.

"I see you are at Mafekings. What a needlessly *spiteful* way Philatelists seem to inherit of late! They can't be too nasty in speaking of things they have not and know not about. I am surprised at Evans taking that line; he is usually so fair!"

"This will voice the opinion of many of the *M.J.'s* subscribers."

This letter was written in 1901. *Stanley Gibbons*, we see, left the argument open, whether the Mafeking stamps were necessary or not, but regarded them as in any case a legitimate issue.

In the following series of articles, I endeavour to show that the Mafeking stamps were not only a "legitimate," but also a "necessary" and "not speculative" issue. Everything that has been said against them, shall be carefully examined with the design to prove that they fulfil the most stringent requirements of a truly "classic" issue.

(To be continued)

Fine British Colonials:

Selections of the above are sent on approval to serious collectors against references.

- Range 1. Early issues, which can be selected from at one-third of catalogue price.
- Range 2. Modern issues (1900 on) in mint state, mostly at 50% off catalogue.
- Range 3. Modern issues (1900 on) superb used, mostly at 50% off catalogue.

J. BIRD, 116, Highlands Heath, London, S.W.15, England

REVIEWS AND NOTICES

The Stamp Specialist. The latest in this series, published by H. L. Lindquist, 2 W. 46th Street, New York, at \$1.50 is the "Mahogany Book." This contains ten studies (the whole book runs to 128 pages); few will be interested in the details of all of them, but many will find one or more appealing to them. We therefore give a list of the titles and authors (1) *Burdell's Express* by J. R. W. Purves. (2) *Express Co. labels of the United States*, by Harry M. Konweiser. (3) *Stamp Booklets and Booklet Panes*, by Sydney S. Jalkut. (4) *U.S. Postal Agency, Shanghai*, by Harvey Bounds. (5) *The life of Christ on postage stamps*, by George A. Rowse. (6) *Stamped Revenue paper issued by the Province of Mass., Colony of New York, and Gt. Britain for use in America*, by Leland Powers. (7) *The Postage Due issues of Norway*, by Gustave Larson. (8) *Camp Shenandoah, Va.*, by Van Dyk MacBride. (9) *Some comments on the U.S. Playing Card Stamps*, by John C. Rogers. (10) *The British Postal Service from Peru*, by Arthur Linz.

The Philatelic Adviser Index. R. C. Alcock, Ltd., 11 Regent Street, Cheltenham, Eng. Price 5s.

This covers all issues of "The Philatelic Adviser" from 1928 to 1946, and deals with a multitude of subjects, stamps, portraits, postal history, etc., British, Colonial and Foreign, the proportions being in that order.

The indexing is good, the subjects being well grouped and practically everyone interested in philately beyond mere collecting according to catalogue will find subjects here of value to him.

Mr. Chas H. Munro, P.O. Box 247, Port-of-Spain, Trinidad, submits a list of stamps for sale, including some six varieties of the Barbados Provisional 1d. on 2d. in blocks of four.

The Czechoslovak Philatelic Bureau, Prague, has issued a list of stamps they have on sale, over a hundred of them issued 1945-47.

The New Jersey Stamp and Coin Co., of P.O. Box 555, Newark, N. J., have sent us a sample of a very elegant commemorative envelope for the wedding of H.R.H. Princess Elizabeth and Lieut. Mountbatten. Unfortunately it arrived too late to give it any publicity before the date of the wedding.

NEW PHILATELIC MAGAZINES

There seems to be no cessation in the appearance of new periodical publications. New to us, at any rate, are the following recent arrivals:

"The Stamp Mirror." 2d. weekly, from 2 Queen's Walk, S. Ruislip, Middlesex, Eng. Specimen copy sent has some quite interesting little articles and news of general appeal.

"Il Francobollo" describes itself as an international philatelic review. Published apparently monthly, at P.O. Box 661, Milan. In Italian.

"The Postage Stamp." We take this to be the equivalent of the title of a large maga-

zine, probably a monthly, from 9 Rue Preslave, Sofia, Bulgaria. It is all in Bulgarian.

"Tribune Philatélique et Artistique," from Rue Byron 5 (Plaka), Athens, Greece. This appears to be the monthly organ of an exchange club, with most of the offers of exchange in English or French, although global in distribution.

Mr. Alan S. McGregor, P.O. Box 117, Ashburton, New Zealand, forwards a "N.Z. Simplified Catalogue," priced. He wishes to sell or exchange in large or small quantities.

Eladio de Santos, Rua Bernardo Lima 27, Lisbon, sends the 9th edition of his catalogue of the stamps of Portugal, priced mint and used. Price 2s., post free.

The "Malta and Gozo Courier," 36 Mgr. Farrugia Street, Victoria, Gozo, Malta, is the quarterly organ of an exchange club. There is a little stamp news, but it is mainly a list of club members with their wants and offers; they seem to be pretty well all over the world.

* * *

(Concluded from page 200)

GRAHAMSTOWN PHILATELIC SOCIETY

President, Mr. E. A. Carr; *Hon. Sec.*, Mr. R. Q. Tarr, Wood House, Kingswood College, Grahamstown.

This small Society had a "star" night for its November meeting, having been honoured by a visit from Mr. J. V. Jensen, the President of the East London Society, who gave an informal but inspiring talk on Philately in general coupled with his unique display known as "The Evolution of an Idea." His manner of collecting, and artistic arrangement, was something entirely new to us, and raised considerable interest in this new angle of philately. The chief point of his talk was that Philately must not become a science or business for the ordinary collector but remain a hobby. Mr. Jensen's infectious enthusiasm was felt by all those present, and although many would not necessarily follow his method of collecting they, at least, received new ideas and were encouraged to persevere with their own collections. Mr. Jensen also tabled a very fine display of Modern Egypt, the property of Mr. Peter Durkin, also of East London, who, unfortunately, was unable to be present. This collection, which was on more orthodox lines than Mr. Jensen's, was much admired. Members also brought their four favourite sheets, the showing of which resulted in much interchange of ideas. This meeting was the most successful we have had for a long time and we look forward to many more such visits from members of "Big Brother" Societies in the future. Incidentally, our membership is steadily increasing—a healthy sign in this somewhat philatelic backwater.

S.C.C.

★

MARITZBURG PHILATELIC SOCIETY

Chairman, C. R. Turner; *Hon. Secretary*, R. Morton, P.O. Box 328, Pietermaritzburg; *Meetings*, 2nd Friday in each month at the Women's Club, 211 Burger Street, 7.45 p.m.

We were pleased to see a record attendance at the November meeting as this was the final night of our competition. The exhibits for the competition on this occasion had to portray some definite philatelic interest apart from the stamps themselves. Several members put up very creditable exhibits and members had difficulty in placing them in order of merit.

After the competition a number of new issues were shown and recent philatelic developments were discussed.

The members' auction was well supported and a number of items changed hands.

R.M.

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The Caslon Numeral Dies of Certain Postage Due Stamps of the Union of South Africa and of Certain Crown Colonies

By A. HILTON SYDOW, A.S.A.A., C.A.(S.A.)

In the initial portion of my article entitled "The Plates of the De La Rue Stamps of the Union of South Africa" which was published on pages 42 and 43 of the March, 1947, issue of the "South African Philatelist," I wrote, *inter alia*, that:

"In connection with the construction of stereotyped numeral plates not only for the Union of South Africa but also for certain of the Crown Colonies, Thos. De La Rue and Co., Limited, produced and utilised certain hand-engraved en epargne and negative Master Dies for the numerals and for the symbols which represented shillings, pence, cents and stops."

In accordance with the results of subsequent research relative to Union and Colonial numeral Master Dies it was discovered that Thos. De La Rue and Co., Limited, did *not* produce in their atelier any hand-engraved en epargne and negative numeral and symbolic Master Dies for use specifically in connection with the production of numeral plates for the Union and for certain Crown Colonies but that they employed certain letters, numerals and symbols from founts of type which they acquired from the engravers and manufacturers thereof, namely, H. W. CASLON AND CO., LIMITED, the world-renowned typefounders, of Chiswell Street, London, E.C.

Of the many patterned series of types of founts which were cast at their historic Chiswell Street Foundry founded by WILLIAM CASLON in 1720 in the reign of George I two thereof fall within the scope of this monograph, namely:

- (1) The ORNAMENTED series in six sizes from twelve-point to thirty-six-point for both letters and numerals.
- (2) The CHELTENHAM series in thirteen sizes from six-point to seventy-two-point for both letters and numerals.

The older Ornamental series comprised the Ornamental No. 31, No. 32 and No. 33 pat-

terns, whilst the comparatively modern Cheltenham series consisted of the Cheltenham Bold, -Bold Compressed, -Bold Expanded, -Bold Outline, and -Bold Shaded as well as the Cheltenham Italic counterpart patterns.

Full complements of the ORNAMENTED and of the CHELTENHAM characters of founts together with numerous other patterned complements were advertised and illustrated by means of typographic prints from actual en epargne and negative metal type on specimen pages embodied in a volume entitled "Specimens of Printing Types and Catalogue of Material" issued in 1911 by H. W. Caslon and Co., Limited, from 82-83 Chiswell Street, London, E.C. Incidentally, it may be mentioned that the said catalogue included a frontispiece exhibiting a full-length portrait in colour of William Caslon (1692-1766) with the subscript "The First English Type-founder—Founder of the Caslon Letter Foundry." William Caslon was the engraver of the famous "Caslon Old Face" type of two centuries ago. He was born in Worcestershire in 1692.

The ORNAMENTED No. 31 metal type were cast in six different sizes all in similar pattern as particularised hereunder with their approximate measurements as regards height given in brackets:

(A). 36-point (10mm); (B). 30-point (8mm); (C). 24-point (7mm); (D). 24-point, small face (6mm.); (E). 18-point (5mm); and (F). 12-point (3½mm).

Each one of these sets (A) to (F) included an abecedarium and ten figures, namely, 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, and 0.

Of the sizes cited only the 30-point (B) and the 18-point (E) were employed by the printers Thos. De La Rue and Co., Ltd., in connection with the production of the numeral plates of the various denominations of Postage Due Stamps issued by the Union of South Africa and by certain of the Crown Colonies as detailed thus:

Ornamented No. 31. Type. <i>Trinidad and Trinidad & Tobago</i>	(E)	(B)	(B) (E)	(B)	(B)	(B)	(B)	(B)	(B)	(B) (G)
1885—SG. D 1-D 9	½d.	1d.	—	2d.	3d.	4d.	5d.	6d.	8d.	1/-
1905—SG. D10-D17 ...	—	1d.	—	2d.	3d.	4d.	5d.	6d.	8d.	1/-
1923—SG. D18-D21 ...	—	1d.	—	2d.	3d.	4d.	—	—	—	—

<i>Grenada</i>										
1892—SG. 201-203	.....	—	1d.	—	2d.	3d.	—	—	—	—
1906—SG. 208-210	.....	—	1d.	—	2d.	3d.	—	—	—	—
1921—SG. 211-214	.....	—	1d.	1½d.	2d.	3d.	—	—	—	—
<i>Transvaal</i>										
1907—SG. D 1-D 7	...	½d.	1d.	—	2d.	3d.	—	5d.	6d.	1/-
<i>Union of South Africa</i>										
1914—SG. 101-107	.....	½d.	1d.	—	2d.	3d.	—	5d.	6d.	1/-
<i>Fiji</i>										
1918—SG. 301-310	.....	½d.	1d.	—	2d.	3d.	4d.	—	—	—
<i>British Honduras</i>										
1923—SG. D 1-D 3	.....	—	1c	—	2c	—	4c	—	—	—
<i>Gold Coast</i>										
1923—SG. D 1-D 4	...	½d.	1d.	—	2d.	3d.	—	—	—	—
<i>Northern Rhodesia</i>										
1929—SG. D 1-D 4	...	—	1d.	—	2d.	3d.	4d.	—	—	—
<i>Bechuanaland Prot.</i>										
1932—SG. D 4-D 6	...	½d.	1d.	—	2d.	—	—	—	—	—
<i>Basutoland</i>										
1933—SG. D 1-D 2	...	—	1d.	—	2d.	—	—	—	—	—
<i>Swaziland</i>										
1933—SG. D 1-D 2	...	—	1d.	—	2d.	—	—	—	—	—
<i>St. Lucia</i>										
1933—SG. D 3-D 4	...	—	1d.	—	2d.	—	—	—	—	—
<i>British Guiana</i>										
1940—Rex D1-D3	...	—	1c	—	2c	—	—	—	—	12c

From this summary it will be remarked that the type of the five-millimetre high figures 1 and 2 of the 18-point (E) category were used for casting the stereo moulds of the ½d. and the "1/2" of the 1½d. denominations, whilst the type of the eight-millimetre high figures 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 and 8 of the 30-point (B) category were used for making the stereo moulds of the other denominations including the "1" of the 1½d. denomination. The type used anent the diagonal stroke of the Union 1s. denomination was known as a 24-point shilling mark—(G) category.

The CHELTENHAM BOLD, as well as the CHELTENHAM BOLD EXPANDED, metal type were cast in thirteen different sizes but in similar pattern ranging from 6-point to 72-point. Each different sized set consisted of an abecedarium, ligatures, symbols and ten figures—1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9 and 0.

Anent the stereotyped plates of the 1927/28 Postage Due Stamps printed by the Union Government Printer, I stated on page 43 of the "South African Philatelist" for March, 1947, that:

"the line-blocks were produced photographically on sensitised metal from combined numeral-symbol-stop drawings for the ½d. and 1d. denominations and from combined numeral-symbol (without stop) drawings for the 3d. and 6d. denominations."

From this paragraph the word "drawings" should be deleted as far as the ½d., 3d. and 6d. denominations are concerned and the word "prints" should be substituted.

The line-blocks which were used as Master Dies for impressing the moulds from which the stereos were cast for the numeral plates of the ½d., 3d. and 6d. denominations were produced photographically on sensitised metal from prints printed from an epargne and negative type with Cheltenham Faces. For the 3d. and 6d. denominated numeral prints

the Government Printer utilised 36-point (8½mm.) CHELTENHAM BOLD metal type figures 3 and 6, whilst 18-point (4½mm.) CHELTENHAM BOLD EXPANDED metal type figures 1 and 2 were utilised for the ½d. denominated prints. The "d" pence symbols used in connection with the 3d. and 6d. denominations were 10-point CHELTENHAM BOLD letter type.

For the 2c Straits Settlements Postage Due Stamps, SG. D2, Thos. De La Rue and Co., Ltd., used a 30-point (7mm.) CHELTENHAM BOLD figure "2".

Thus the Master Dies of certain of the Postage Due Stamps of the Union of South Africa were engraved and cast by H. W. CASLON AND CO., LIMITED, at the Caslon Letter Foundry, Chiswell Street, London, and used in connection with the stereotyped numeral plates constructed by:

- (A) THOS. DE LA RUE AND CO., LIMITED, of Bunhill Row, London, for the ½d., 1d., 2d., 3d., 5d., 6d. and 1s. denominations of the 1914-1915 vintage.
 (B) THE UNION GOVERNMENT PRINTER, at Pretoria, for the ½d., 3d. and 6d. denominations of the 1927-1928 vintage.

In 1937 the Sheffield concern of STEPHENSON, BLAKE AND CO., LIMITED, became the successors of H. W. Caslon and Co., Limited, as will be discerned from the following notice excerpted from the journal known as the "British Printer":

TO THE PRINTING TRADE

"There appears to be some doubt in the Printing Trade as to the legitimacy of our claim to be the successors to the Type-founding business formerly carried on at 82-83, Chiswell Street, London, E.C.1 by H. W. Caslon and Co., Limited.

"We think therefore it ought to be stated

that we purchased from the Receiver the whole of that Company's stocks of type, together with the 'Goodwill' of the Typefoundry business, including the sole right to use the name of 'Caslon' in connection therewith. To preserve the name of so honoured a family of Type Founders as the Caslons, we formed a limited company, subsidiary to our own under the style of H. W. CASLON, LIMITED. Mr. R. S. Caslon, late chairman of H. W. CASLON AND CO., LIMITED, is a Director.

"We hope that this statement will put an end to all doubts as to the legality of our claim to be the sole and legitimate successors to the Caslon Type Foundry."

(Signed)

STEPHENSON, BLAKE & CO., LIMITED

Collectors' Wants & Offers

(Threepence per word per insertion with minimum of 3/- per insertion).

Beginners and medium collectors — try our approval service.
Benoni Stamp Shop, Box 485, Benoni.

Seychelles wanted. Full catalogue price offered for fine used copies of Stanley Gibbons numbers 85, 91, 93 to 95B, 97 to 101, 103, 104, 107, 110, 114 to 118, 121, 122, 122A, 142, 145.
William Redford, P.O. Box 7012, Johannesburg.

Voortrekker wagon covers wanted; several to complete collection.
Brown, Box 1826, Johannesburg.

Wholesaler requires regular supplies of Basutoland, Bechuanaland, N. Rhodesia, Nyasaland, S. Rhodesia, Swaziland, S.W. Africa, in large or small quantities. Send or write by Air Mail to:
B. Savitz, 69 Greenvale Road, London, S.E.9, England.

S.W.A. mint blocks of dues and officials, also controls in strips of Union and Transvaal and other rarities.
E. Tamsen, Box 13, Nylstroom.

PHILATELIC RAMPS

Mr. Donald F. Lybarger, president of the American Philatelic Society, has been voicing in the American philatelic press a feeling pretty prominent in the U.S.A. at present over the flood of new stamps which are coming out at prices substantially above their face value.

This mulcting of collectors is perhaps hitting Americans most heavily at the moment through the exploitation of them by the issue of "President Roosevelt stamps" by various countries. In this connection Nicaragua, Libe-

ria, San Marino, Monaco, Ethiopia and Hungary are specifically mentioned. If these issues were in the main sold straight to collectors at face value, no objections could be raised, but they are not.

The subject, of course, goes wider than these specific cases mentioned and we would warmly support his appeal to collectors in general not to continue falling a prey to profiteers, but to boycott all illegitimate issues and condemn those who make possible their marketing at exorbitant prices.

He is proposing that the American Philatelic Society adopts the following declaration of principles:

1. It is unconscionable for any country deliberately to issue commemorative stamps in such small quantities as to make it impossible for all interested stamp collectors to obtain copies of the same, and to include in the set stamps of high denominations not demanded for actual reasonable postal use.

2. It is an unethical practice for any government to sell practically all of an issue of its stamps to one person, firm or group, when at the same time it does not offer such stamps for general sale to the public in its own country.

3. It is a questionable business practice and inimical to the best interests of philately for any person, firm or group to buy up all of an issue of stamps from any government for the purpose of obtaining a monopoly on the sale of such stamps in the United States or elsewhere at a price far above their face value, the sole object being to reap an unwarranted profit because no competition is possible.

4. Stamps issued in limited numbers by any government or of such high denominations as not to be needed for actual postal use in the country of issue, or not offered for sale in good faith to the public of the issuing country, where practically the entire issue is sold to a person, firm or group to the exclusion of others, are not bona fide postal issues and do not deserve a place in any catalogue of postage stamps.

The American Stamp Dealers Association are also moving in this matter, but it is clear that the obvious and most effective remedy lies in the hands of collectors themselves. If they would cease to purchase questionable issues, such issues would soon cease to appear.

This matter has also been taken up in the British philatelic press and Gibbons announce, with regard to the San Marino and Hungary "Roosevelt issues" that "on the information already received by us, we have no intention of stocking or cataloguing them."

Gibbons are also ignoring recent surcharged Belgian issues on the ground that the premiums are out of all proportion to the postage value of the stamps.

Bravo, S.G.! We hope your example will be widely followed.

Later information from American philatelic papers tells that Scott's catalogue will also not list the San Marino and Hungarian F.D.R. issues nor the Belgian semi-postals.

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Let me know your interests
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An extensive stock of the better grade stamps always available. Want lists receive prompt attention, and approval selections are willingly sent to responsible collectors.

P. O. V. WARREN,

38, Lancaster Gardens,
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Aden 1937 SG 1-12 complete mint 330/-, used	350/0
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1924 SG 10-20 complete mint cat. 256/-	155/0
1934 SG 21-30 complete mint	50/0
Basutoland 1933 SG 1-10 cat. 136/6 ..	95/0
Bechuanaland SG 99-110 complete mint	115/0
Kenya 1922 SG 78-96 mint	145/0
1922 SG 83 12c jet black (scarce) ..	5/0
1921-2 SG 77 50r. carmine and green superb mint	£65
SG 141a 5/- perf. 14 (very scarce) mint	30/0
SG 142a 10/- perf. 14	20/0
New Guinea 1939 SG 212-225 mint ..	£16
SG 204 £2 superb used	80/0
SG 205 £5 superb used	£15
Sudan Palms complete fine used	140/0
Centenaries complete superb used. Falk- land Is.	£60
Sierra Leone	£41
Subject unsold. C.W.O. Postage extra.	

*A lot of other items in stock. Want lists
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Price lists sent on request.

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THE EXPORT DRIVE

grows in intensity—at least so far as we are concerned. More and more material tends to go overseas, an increasing amount to the Union. Our January Sales are particularly strong in Great Britain and also include a fine British Empire Collection, offered intact, estimated value £1,000. We should be pleased to air-mail catalogues to you, and your bids would be handled with the same scrupulous care as is devoted to the description of Lots.

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Aden 1937 ½a to 10r., complete ..	18	10	0
Burma 1938 K.G. VI 1p. to 10r., obsolete and scarce, complete	15	10	0
Br. Somaliland 1938 ½a to 5r., obsolete set	6	0	0
Malta 1922 ¼d. to 5/- wmk. MCA and ¼d. to 10/- Script CA. Set of 16 values overprinted "Self- Government"	13	10	0
1926 ¼d. to 10/- "POSTAGE" overprint, 14 values complete	5	0	0
1928 ¼d. to 10/- "Postage & Revenue," overprint 19 values, complete	6	10	0
Montserrat 1922-29 ¼d. to 5/- 22 values, complete	6	0	0
1932 Tercentenary set complete ..	17	0	0
Nauru 1916-23 ¼d. to 10/- set of 15 (2/6, 5/- and 10/- are De La Rue printing)	5	5	0
1924-37 ¼d. to 10/- complete with both shades of ¼d.	1	5	0
Newfoundland 1931 15c., 50c. and \$1 Air stamps, no wmk.	3	12	6
Ditto, with wmk.	7	0	0
1933 5c. to 75c. Air set complete	9	10	0
Ditto, 1c. to 32c. Sir Humphrey Gilbert Commems. Complete set	9	10	0

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NETHERLANDS

It is learnt from "Mijn Stokpaardje" that the liberation stamps printed by Bradbury, Wilkinson & Co. in England which have not been on sale to the public since the 1st September of this year, are still obtainable at the Philatelic Counter of the Post Office at The Hague. Their currency lasts till 31st December.

Postcards bearing stamps of the value of 7½ct. and 12½ct. have been printed and show the new design.

The National Philatelic Exhibition recently held at Maastricht seems to have had a large measure of success judging by the reports that have appeared in the Netherlands philatelic press. The exhibition was organised by the Philatelic Society "Zuid-Limburg," and prizes took the form of ornamental plates designed by Tonny van de Ven, instead of the usual medals, thus following the lead set at the recent International Philatelic Exhibition in New York.

The thickness of paper used in the production of stamps has been the subject of comment in Holland. Enquiries made by the "Nederlandsche Maandblad voor Philatelie" have elicited the fact that different thicknesses have been used which, the postal authorities explain, was necessitated by the poorer quality of paper available. Rigid standards are usually set for the quality required, but the paper situation is such that a certain amount of latitude had to be allowed and one of the attempts at offsetting the inferior quality of post-war paper is the use of paper having a higher weight-for-area ratio. As stamps are printed as required and the common denominations are in greater demand, it is in these values that the existence of thin and thick paper has manifested itself.

GERMAN
PROVISIONALS-BY-CANCELLATION

The inflation period (1919-23) stamps of million and billion mark denominations can be had mint in quantities sufficient to paper a room, but much scarcer and much more interesting are used specimens of certain dates.

David A. Stuart tells an interesting story of these in a recent number of "Stamps". Postage rates on a letter from, say, Berlin to Hamburg rose from 10 pf. in 1919 to 80,000 million marks in November, 1923. Up till that time the Post Office had kept pace with the inflation by new issues or by provisional surcharges, but the last five days of November, 1923, defeated them. Postal rates for these five days were declared to be four times those of the preceding period so that a 50 billion (50 thousand million) mark stamp cost 200 billion marks. But you can only tell this by cancellations on these dates.

Such values could easily be used up on letters; a Berlin to Hamburg letter, if sent between November 26 and November 30, 1923, registered, special delivery and return receipt would have cost 400 billion marks, but two

50 billion marks stamps would have paid for this, as each upon cancellation on those dates became automatically a 200 billion marks provisional.

In December, 1923, the reverse process appeared. With the advent of the rentenmark and rentenpfennig the rate for such a letter dropped to 10 pf. (gold mark standard), but holders of the high value inflation stamps were given a month in which to use them up or exchange them for the gold mark issues, the rate of exchange for that month (December, 1923) being fixed at one rentenpfennig for 10 billion marks. 100 billion marks would, therefore, frank a 10 pf. letter; if, say, two 50 million mark stamps were used, each on cancellation during December, 1923, then becoming automatically a 5 pf. provisional.

Covers with such "provisionals—by—cancellation" are rarities and still rarer are those with a combination of these stamps with rentenpfennig stamps.

G.B. 10s. I.R. OFFICIAL

The find of a block of 9 of this, the greatest British rarity was recently reported. When put up for sale by Messrs. Harmer, Rooke & Co. the scene resembled a film studio, with cameras, flashlights and microphones. Later there was a B.B.C. broadcast.

Offered split into a block of four, two pairs and a single, the total of bids amounted to £2,475. It was then offered entire and after a sharp tussle was secured by Messrs. Stanley Gibbons for 3,000 guineas.

NEW ZEALAND

Early next year there will be issued a set of stamps to commemorate the centennial of the Otago Province. There will be a 1d. stamp featuring the two ships which brought the first immigrants, a 2d. showing early gold-mining activities, a 6d. showing the University buildings in Dunedin and, possibly a 4d. showing the first church in Dunedin.

BRITISH COLONIALS

10 PER CENT NEW ISSUE SERVICE

The advantages of being a member of a reputable New Issue Service are many and obvious. We have been conducting our New Issue Department for the last 5-6 years, and should be only too pleased to forward particulars of our scheme to any Collectors who may wish to avail themselves of such an offer. Want Lists for all British Colonials (mint or used) appreciated. Obsolete values of K. Geo. VI are our speciality.

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GERMANY

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THE UNIVERSAL PHILATELIC CLUB, with members scattered all over the world, invites applications for membership from collectors in South Africa.

Members are free to correspond and exchange their duplicates for the stamps they require to fill the gaps in their albums.

A vast scope for exchange is facilitated by a complete Roll of Members in every issue of the Club Bulletin. Items of philatelic interest, many of unique facilities for members, offers of stamps for sale at privileged prices and philatelic competitions with handsome prizes in stamps, are also contained in the Bulletin.

This is indeed a golden opportunity which no ardent collector can afford to miss.

Write at once for a copy of the Club Prospectus. Send 2d. stamps.

Section 'M'

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My Want List to complete the whole World Collection of normal stamps to 1933 issues is

**NOW DOWN TO
2718**

Want list of any country upon application. Please do not ask for complete want list as this is not available.

Here, for example, is my want list of Salvador, where there are the most vacant plots:

S.G. 181:	260:	305:	308:	309:	311:	322:
324:	325:	326:	327:	328:	329:	330:
331:	364:	390:	391:	393:	453:	454:
455:	467:	543:	635:	696:	697:	698:
694:	695:	704:	705:	706:	721:	749:
760:	761:	762:	765:	780:	781:	782:
790:	1080a:	1103:	1104:	1105:	1109:	
1110:	1140:	1142:	1143:	1144:	1145:	
1147:	1148:	1150:	1153:	1155:	1159:	
1160:	1161:	1166:	1168:	1169:	1171:	
1172:	1173:	1174:	1175:	1207:	1208:	
1209:	1217:	1232:	1234:	1235:	1253:	
1306:	1307:	1309:	1310:	1312:	1313:	
1339:	1341:	D34:	D35:	D38:	D.39:	

Reprints not required.

E. HUNT,
Box 2437, Johannesburg.

MOST UNUSUAL!

What is? Me offering K.G. VI material. But a recent purchase included a lot of modern stamps and I must do something with them. In most cases I have only one of each of the following, so please order promptly, with cash.

Ascension all the perf. 13½ except the 1d. yellow (12 stamps)	65/0
Bahamas 1d. carmine, SG150	5/6
3d. violet, SG154	3/6
Landfall set complete to £1	80/0
Bermuda £1	23/9
1940 ½d. on 1d.	1/2
Br. Solomon Is. 10/- value	9/6
Br. Somaliland 1938 set complete	130/0
Burma Military Administration set	30/0
Cayman Is. 2/- value	2/4
E.A.F. set complete to 2/6	6/11
Fiji 1/5	1/7
Hong Kong 1941 Centenary set	12/6
Leeward Is. 5/-	5/10
Nyasaland 1938 SG130-143 (18 stamps)	80/0
Nyasaland current set complete to £1	50/0
Sarawak 1934-41, 26 values complete	125/0
Sarawak 1945 BMA set complete and rare	260/0

All K.G. VI.—All mint stamps.—All perfect.
C.W.O. Post extra under 5/-. Subject to stock.

R. T. LILLEY,
7, HANNIBAL ST., KENSINGTON,
JOHANNESBURG.

The Railway Parcel and Newspaper Stamps of Southern Africa

By J. H. HARVEY PIRIE, F.R.P.S.L.

(Continued from page 173 of November issue)

6th ISSUE (?1939-1942)

(Partially Bilingual. Perf. 14. Various Colours)

This issue has only been brought to my notice by Mr. T. A. Harper just before going to press. The general design is the same as that of the 5th issue, i.e., "S.A.R." at the top and "Parcels Stamp" at the foot. The stops on either side of the "A" at the top are larger, however, and oblong in shape. The wording of the background, in small lettering, is now bilingual, alternate lines reading "South African Railways and Harbours/Suid-Afrikaanse Spoorweë en Hawens." In some lines the wording is exactly as given, in others it begins at almost any point of the sentences, e.g., "kaanse Spoorweë en Hawens Suid-Afri."

Another feature of this issue is that some of it is on paper with the multiple spring-bok's head watermark, sometimes upright, sometimes sideways. The general statement made on p. 141, Sept. issue, that all S.A.R. parcels stamps are on unwatermarked paper, must therefore be modified.

Mr. Harper reports the earliest date of this issue in his collection on unwatermarked paper as Sept., 1939; on paper with upright watermark as Feb., 1942; and on paper with sideways watermark also as Feb., 1942.

He has the following denominations on the three varieties of paper as follows:—

No watermark: 1d., 2d., 3d., 4d., 5d., 6d., 9d., 1s., 2s., 2s. 6d., 5s., 10s. and 20s.

Upright watermark: 2d., 3d., 4d., 5d., 6d., 9d., 1s., 2s., 2s. 6d., 5s. and 10s.

Sideways watermark: 1d., 2d., 3d., 5d., 6d., 9d., 1s., 2s., 2s. 6d., 5s. and 10s.

7th ISSUE, 1930, STILL IN USE

(Bilingual issue. Perf. 14. Various Colours)

This issue seems to have been in common use along with the fifth one in October, 1930; it is probable therefore that it was



actually issued some little time prior to that date. It is still in use at the present day, but I am informed that parcels stamps are no longer employed for putting on waybills at

the larger stations; they are now only used at the smaller ones. It is possible, therefore, if the new system spreads that parcels stamps may become entirely a thing of the past.

In this issue the bilingual system has been adopted, as in the postage stamps, English and Afrikaans stamps alternating on the sheets. The general design remains as before. In the English stamps the most obvious difference, apart from the central background, is the absence of a stop after the "R" of S.A.R. In the Afrikaans stamps the wording is "S.A.S" above and "PAKKET-SEEL" at the bottom. The wording of the background is now bilingual, alternate lines reading "SUID-AFRIKAANSE SPOORWEE" and "SOUTHAFRICAN RAILWAYSAN". If this were finished it would presumably be by "DHARBOURS". On the Afrikaans stamps the top line is in the Afrikaans version, on the English stamps the top line is in the English version.

The denominations and colours are the same as in the fifth issue, except perhaps for some variations in shades. There is, however, no yellow 3d., only the light green.

NEWSPAPER STAMPS

The railway newspaper parcel stamps of Southern Africa are used in a somewhat different fashion from the other parcel stamps. They are supplied to newspaper offices or newspaper distributors for the prepayment of single copies of a newspaper carried as a railway parcel to the recipient, but the stamp is put on the wrapper and there is no waybill made out. Carriage is at a uniform rate irrespective of the distance carried. The following have been seen:—

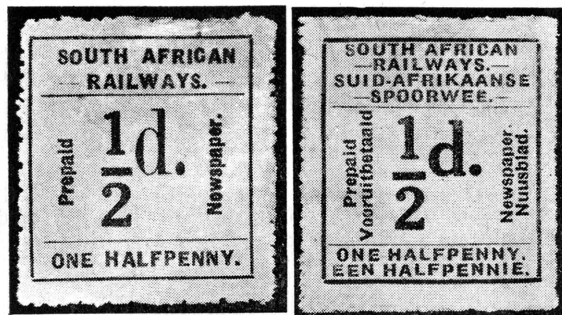
Natal Government Railways

½d. red on white paper. Rouletted. Specimens have been cancelled with dates in 1909 and 1911.



South African Railways

The older (unilingual) type occurs in black on white, in black on a greyish white or tinted paper, in black on green, in green on white and in red on white. According to a note written on a railway form headed "Return of Newspaper and Parcels Stamps,"



made apparently by some railway employee who had been collecting these stamps, the S.A.R. newspaper stamps were introduced about November, 1913.

The bilingual stamp, which is in use at the present time, is in black on white.

All these appear to be pin-perf. about 12.

Rhodesia

The Rhodesian Railway Newspaper Stamps are used in the same manner as those of the South African Railways, but they are all of 1d. denomination. They were described and figured by C. C. Lance in "Stamps," Vol. 23, 1938, p. 233, but he only refers to two varieties, being apparently unaware of the existence of No. 2 mentioned here.

No. 1 is the oldest type and was in use at least as far back as 1904, according to a specimen in the collection of the late Major Harrington. This had a boxed cancellation in purple "B. & M. Rys / 28 SEP 1904." Then came the No. 2 type, also with "Beira and Mashonaland Railways."



No. 1

The stamp in use at the present time (or, at any rate, fairly recently) is similar in

design to No. 2 type, but has "Rhodesia Rail-Ltd." in the top panel.



No. 2

All three varieties are perforated and all are red on white.

ADDENDA

During the course of publication of these notes on the Railway Parcels and Newspaper Stamps of Southern Africa, the following additions have been reported:

Cape Railway Service, 1882, p.121:

½d. Provisionals on 4d. and on 7d., not previously catalogued. The original value is obliterated by a thick red bar or bars with "1" above the bar and "2" below it. This ½ is also in red. Incidentally, the 7d. denomination is not listed as occurring in this issue.

C.G.R., p.121:

A 10s. denomination, in brown, has been recorded.

C.S.A.R. Small Stamps, pp.139-140:

5s. perforated; 1s. and 2s. 6d. rouletted.

1st S.A.R. Issue (1910-1916), p.141:

3d. green of same design as 1s. and the green and red 9d., i.e., without small lettering in background; 2s. var. (b) rouletted; 10s. var. (a) rouletted.

S.A.R. 5th Issue:

In addition to finding the 6th issue on watermarked paper, Mr. Harper reports finding a pair of the 2s. 6d. of the 5th issue on paper with watermark upright. This has cancellation dated 17th Sept., 1939, although all his other specimens have dates in 1930, and the range the issue was given was 1923-1930. The colour of this pair is a pale blue, quite different from that of the 1930 copies, but practically identical with the 2s. 6d. of the 6th issue.

Thanks for the additions to Messrs. T. A. Harper, East London, and Brian Nichols & Co., Cape Town.

PRINCESS ELIZABETH'S WEDDING

Although Britain produced no special stamps for the occasion, they have had a fine special cancellation taking the form of a true lovers' knot, with the letters E and P in the loops.

We are indebted to Mr. A. H. de Villiers, Pretoria, for a very beautiful large envelope commemorative of the occasion. It has printed in gold lettering "Royal Wedding Souvenir Cover/To Mark the occasion of the marriage of / H.R.H. Princess Elizabeth / H.R.H. the Duke of Edinburgh/on the 20th November, 1947." It is franked with three pairs of the Royal Visit stamps, which are in special frames provided for them. We regret it is not possible to illustrate it this month.

U.S.A.

Thanks are due to Messrs. W. L. Bedard and George H. Camp for first-day covers with the "Old Ironsides" stamp recorded last month.

BRAZIL

Dr. Mario de Sanctis reports the ordinary issues as now appearing with the values in "Cruzeiros" and there are three vertical green lines on the back of the stamps.

On September 1 there was issued in honour of President Truman's visit a 40c stamp showing the head of President Truman and the Statue of Liberty with the rays from its Torch spreading over South America.

On September 7th there were due to appear five stamps to be known as the President Dutra Series.

SOUTHERN RHODESIA "ADMIRALS"

Mr. W. G. Nodder in the "Philatelic Magazine" of 3 October has a well-illustrated article on flaws of the stamps of the first issue of Southern Rhodesia. Many of those described are constant, some only doubtfully so.

★

BURMA

"Interim" stamps have been issued by overprinting the Burma Postage Stamps with two lines in Burmese characters.

★

TRIESTE

Current Italians were overprinted "A.M.G.—F.T.T." (Free Territory of Trieste) and put in circulation on October 1.

★

JAIPUR COMMEMORATIVES

Mr. A. C. Mullen, of the Senior Stamp Exchange Club, 40 Redlands Road, Reading, England, forwards particulars of this issue, which is of special interest as probably being one of the last of the Indian States individual issues.

There are to be nine stamps in honour of the Silver Jubilee of H.H. Man Singh, the ruler of Jaipur. Five values, $\frac{1}{2}$, 1, 2, 4 and 8 annas are to be released at the end of December; each has a portrait of H.H. at the right and scenes in the state on the left. The four remaining stamps, $\frac{1}{4}$, $\frac{3}{4}$ and 3a and 1R are not due to appear till the end of March, 1948.

The

SOUTH AFRICAN PHILATELIST

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

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EAST AFRICAN METER POSTS

My last communication about these to the "S.A. Philatelist" was in 1937 (Vol. 13, p. 143) with one addition, Nairobi Municipality, recorded in 1938 (Vol. 14, p. 158). Since then quite a few new machines have been introduced and changes made.

The East African Power and Light Co. was previously recorded as the first users of a postage meter machine in their Nairobi office. Towards the end of 1937 they got a new date case, so that there was one long and one short line on either side of the bottom, instead of two short lines, and a line was added under Nairobi. 20c. can be added as an additional value to their first type.

Kenya Farmers' Association. I can add 10 cents, 15 cents and 20 cents, with frame all round figures to the first type.

In 1944 a new type stamp was introduced. The word "Cents" is omitted, the figures are smaller and followed by a "C," the inscription at left is slightly rearranged and in much smaller letters. I have seen 10c. and 20c. in this type. They have now (1947) gone back to the first type. I have seen Gailey & Roberts' frank with a solid little black quadrilateral (about 1 mm. x 2 mm.) in front of the first figure of the date.

The second slogan for the E.A. Standard machine is STANDARD GROUP/provides A COMPLETE/EAST AFRICAN/ADVERTISING CAMPAIGN, enclosed in a frame.

The Military P.O. used a Meter, but the only copy I have seen is a poor one of the 30c; there is a "N" in front of the word Cents and my copy is too poor to say what comes after; there is no date case.

Dalgety & Co. have two machines, one at Nairobi and one at Mombasa. These are both of the new type with C after the figure of value, brought into use in 1940.

In Nairobi I have only seen 5c. and 20c. and there is usually an advertisement to the left of the date case.

This has recently appeared with a letter N in the left bottom corner of the stamp.

Of the Mombasa machine I have only seen a single copy of the 5c.

Motor Mart & Exchange, Ltd. I have only recently seen a copy of this. The stamp is a combination of the old and new types. The figure of value is followed by a "C" and underneath "N" at left "CENTS" in centre and a solid block at right. I have only seen the 10c.
—W. TUNSTALL.

STAMPS OR GUM

Some time back the subject was ventilated in our columns of whether or not unused stamps would not be better collected without gum, i.e. with the gum washed off.

This matter has been considered by some of our societies. Little would be gained by giving their views in detail, but they may be summarised by stating that there appears to be a good proportion of collectors who would be glad if it became a general custom to collect unused stamps minus gum.

There are three main aspects of this matter:

(1) It is generally agreed that gum, from the collectors' point of view, is a nuisance because it makes stamps tend to cockle and so get creased and damaged.

(2) It is agreed that some stamps are already showing signs of ruin and disintegration through chemical interaction between the gum and the paper, but it is not yet commonly accepted that this is liable, perhaps likely, to happen to many, if not to all, stamps in the future, and that this future may be not very distant. Till such ruining of stamps becomes more common than it yet is, collectors are individually unwilling to remove gum from their stamps because of the next consideration.

(3) Stamps with "O.G." are still catalogued or fetch higher prices than stamps without or with only partial gum. It is understandable, therefore, that collectors individually are still unwilling to remove gum from their unused stamps.

Only collective action, particularly by the big dealers and catalogue makers, will break down this barrier. Zumstein, we understand, has made the first move in this direction in their latest catalogue.

OVERSEA COMMENTS

With reference to Mr. Kaganson's complaint in our August issue that oversea journals ignored our articles it might be noted that in a recent number of "Stamps" the column headed "From the Contemporary Press" states that "the May and June numbers of the South African Philatelist" required reading from cover to cover" and then proceeds to list the articles, with short summaries.

Mr. J. C. Shafer writes from Amsterdam that he passes on our journal to his philatelic society, with over 1,000 members, that he has numerous requests for a loan of it, and that summaries of articles are given regularly in their philatelic press.

WE WISH TO BUY SETS PACKETS KILOWARE SINGLE STAMPS

As the largest wholesale stamp firm in the United States, we are constant buyers, in large wholesale quantities, of all kinds of postage stamps.

Send us a detailed list of your offers, which will receive our prompt, careful attention. References will be sent on request (if you do not already know us) so that you may deal with us with complete confidence.

**H. E. HARRIS & CO. Boston 17, Mass.
U.S.A.**

AUSTRALIA

The 1/- 4 stamp is to be replaced by a 1/- 3 one, the design being the head of a Hereford bull, which was one of the designs recently awarded a prize.

The Princess Elizabeth stamp has been announced officially as taking the place of the present 1d. stamp in December. It was actually issued on 20th November.

RHODESIAN "ROYAL TOUR" POSTMARKS

How many varieties of "Royal Tour" postmarks are there and where was each variety used?

These questions were raised in our September issue, p. 130, where three varieties were described. Since then we have received communications on this subject from Mr. H. W. Bond (B); Mr. G. W. Gilbert (G); The Rhodesian Stamp Co., Salisbury (S) and a letter has appeared in "Stamp Collecting" of 13th September, from Mr. K. N. R. Vine, which must be referred to (V). It is not easy to make all the information in these descriptions tally and it is doubtful if the last word on this subject has yet been said.

To get this matter cleared up it must be remembered (a) that "Royal Tour" postmarks were applied to covers both at the G.P.O., Salisbury (Room 4), and on the Royal Train, also (b) that "Royal Train" postally included offices on both the "White Train" and the "Pilot Train." Actually on the Pilot Train (if conditions in Rhodesia were the same as in the Union) there were two P.O.'s, one for postal matter proper, the other for telegraphic and cable purposes; the latter, however, can probably be left out of consideration.

Marks may in the first instance be divided into two groups—those with bars across the base on which the Rhodesian coat-of-arms stands (at the top of the mark), and those without such bars; marks of the latter group appear to be the more abundant.

According to (B) both barred and unbarred cancellers were used on the Royal Train, but he does not distinguish between the different train offices. The broad statement, however, is probably correct as (G) also records covers with "Royal Train" registration marks, the cancellation marks being of both barred and non-barred types. In his case, however, the question is complicated by his describing the barred variety as different from that described and figured in our September issue.

According to (S), from information secured in Salisbury, there were definitely only three cancellers used throughout S. Rhodesia, but in their description of the marks they do not distinguish between the two varieties of the non-barred marks (narrow R's and wide R's) and they have not been able to ascertain details of the mark used on what they call the "Royal Train," but obviously meaning the "White Train." Whatever mark this was they believe it was used only by the Royal Party and their immediate entourage and will be a rare one.

The information given by (V) is stated to have been given by a friend who actually served in the postal department of the "Royal Train" (apparently the "White Train," from a further statement given below). Unfortunately he deals mainly with the colour of the marks, not with their other features. He states the covers sent in for "Royal Train" (presumably meaning "Royal Tour") cancellations

were so numerous that they could not all be handled on the train and that a replica of the stamper used on the train was made for use at the G.P.O. The cancellations done at the G.P.O. were in black, those on the train in purple. He quotes from his friend "I was on the train and cancelled some personally. To my knowledge there were only about 100 Royal Tour covers actually cancelled on the train with the purple ink."

Here follows a description of the four varieties of marks now described, and, as far as is yet possible, a note as to the place or places where each was used. The order is changed from that given in our September issue, the non-barred varieties being taken first as being the more abundant and the less controversial:—

(1) Base on which the coat-of-arms stands at the top of the mark has no bars across it; the base is 10 mm. long, is slightly curved to follow the curve of the ellipse underneath it and both ends of the base are sloping. The letters "R" in the wording of the main part of the mark are narrow ($1\frac{1}{4}$ — $1\frac{1}{2}$ mm. in Southern Rhodesia and $1\frac{3}{4}$ —2 mm. in Royal Tour).

(2) Similar to (1), but the letters "R" are wide ($1\frac{3}{4}$ —2 mm. in Southern Rhodesia and $2\frac{1}{2}$ mm. in Royal Tour).

Both of these were practically certainly used in Room 4 at the G.P.O., Salisbury. According to (S), although they only refer specifically to (1), with the narrow letters "R," all dealers' orders and most of those sent by the general public were so cancelled. Cancellations in black.

It seems possible, however, that one of them at any rate was also in use for a period on the train (probably the pilot train) for (G) records a cover with Royal Train registration cachet in violet and a Var. (1) cancellation in black.

(3) Base on which the coat-of-arms stands has three bars across it, one in the middle and one at either end; the base is straight, about 8 mm. long and the ends are sloping. The dots between the upper and lower lettering of the mark are larger than in the non-barred varieties and the one on the right is oval rather than circular. (See illustration in our May and September issues).

This mark was used on the Pilot Train; sometimes it is in black, sometimes in blue. On most, perhaps all, registered covers it is in blue, the Royal Train registration cachet being also in blue. Some of the covers sent in by the general public were certainly cancelled with this mark.

It is possible that this mark was also used at one period at the G.P.O.; the marks in black being probably those applied there.

(4) A mark recorded so far only by (G). It differs from (3) in that the base is only 7 mm. long, the bars across it are heavier and, the most important feature perhaps, the ends are rounded instead of sloping.

There is no question but that it looks different from (3), but identification rests on this single specimen and, until more speci-

mens turn up judgment on it had better be suspended. It seems possible that wear, amount of ink on the pad, or amount of pressure used in stamping, might account for the differences.

This specimen is in blue, with registration cachet also in blue and was definitely posted on the Pilot Train by one of the staff.

CONCLUSIONS.

(a) Two cancellers were used at the G.P.O., Salisbury, the marks applied being in black ink. Both had the base of the coat-of-arms non-barred, one had wide letters "R," the other narrow. One or other, possibly both, used to some extent also on the Pilot Train.

(b) A canceller with bars across the base of the coat-of-arms was used on the Pilot Train, the marks being usually, if not always, in blue. Possibly used also at the G.P.O., with marks in black.

(c) Possibly another similar canceller, differing slightly in some details, used on the Pilot Train, marks in blue.

(d) Distinguishing features of the canceller used on the White Train not yet ascertained.

J.H.H.P.

WORLD'S RAREST METER STAMP

After resting in a boot box for 30 years there has recently come to light a specimen of a 2c Paid, shield design, meter stamp, which was used for five days in May, 1912, at Chicago. This is the only known copy, although one example of a similar 1c stamp is also known. It has been insured for \$5,000. The story of the find is being featured in the American philatelic and general press. Thanks also to Mr. Edwin Brooks of 1553 S. Ridgeway Ave., Chicago, for a special write-up on it.

THE B.P.A. EXHIBITION

Reports in the philatelic press indicate that this exhibition went off very successfully. The B.P.A. chairman (Mr. Robson Lowe) has sent the Federation thanks from his council members for its combined exhibit. A private collector writes that the exhibits from South Africa, Australia and New Zealand were easily the star items of the show; that the token exhibits of the postal histories of these countries were far more interesting than the official exhibits of modern printing; and that there was much to be learnt from the South African exhibit in particular. Our thanks for these kind expressions of opinion.

A "ROYAL VISIT" CURIOSITY

Mr. H. W. Bond, Pretoria, writes: "I have the complete issue of the Basutoland Royal Visit stamps on a cover, cancelled with the Bechuanaland cancellation on the day of arrival of the Royal Family in Bechuanaland. I posted this cover to the Postmaster in Basutoland so that I would have a used issue of the Basutoland Royal Visit stamps, but gave up hope of ever seeing it again, as it took such a long time to come back to me; when it eventually turned up, it had the Bechuanaland cancellations."

POSTS TO AND STAMPS IN GERMANY

An envelope was recently returned by the Union Postal Authorities to the sender because it had an air-mail label on it and had been addressed to the British Zone in Germany. The envelope had been endorsed by the Postal authorities with a rubber stamp notification: "Air mail tablet not permitted." It is evidently against the regulations to use an air-mail label, the reason probably being that a message might be written underneath. On the other hand there seems no reason why messages could not be written under the ordinary postage stamps. Perhaps some member can give me a better reason.

According to a law promulgated in Berlin in April this year, it is an offence in Germany in any Zone to be in possession of "pre-occupation postage stamps". This expression is defined in the law as meaning any stamps, including embossed stationery used or unused, issued or manufactured during the Nazi regime for use in Germany or any country or territory under German occupation. It is fortunately provided that stamps of the Weimar Republic are not considered "pre-occupation postage stamps" within the meaning of the law unless they had been printed on paper with Swastika watermarks or other Nazi symbols or designs. The penalty is imprisonment not exceeding 5 years or a fine not exceeding 500,000 R. Marks or both such fine and imprisonment.

CZECHOSLOVAKIA

The official philatelic agency sends two first-day covers with new stamps and special cancellations. (1) Two stamps, 1.40 and 4.00 Kcs., showing a young woman facing a stormy wind, emblematic of revolutionary times; they have the dates 1917, 1947. Issued 26th October. (2) Two stamps, 1.20 and 4 Kcs., issued on 24th October, bearing a portrait of Stefan Moyses, first Slovak chairman of the Slavic movement.

LUXEMBURG

Four stamps issued on 24th October in honour of the American General, George S. Patton, 1.50, 3.50, 5 and 10 f. Two depict the General and his tanks; two his grave in Hamm cemetery.

JUGOSLAVIA

Dr. V. Simic-Vakanovic sends a first-day cover with 4 values of the semi-postal set issued on September 25, the surtax being for the benefit of the Youth Railroad Brigades. Also one with 3 commemoratives in honour of Vuk Karadzic (1787-1864) philologist and largely responsible for the establishment of the Servian language. The 1.50 and 5d. show an open book with a national violin; the 2.50d. is a portrait stamp.

During Red Cross week (September 26 to October 5) all inland letters had to bear a 50p. Red Cross stamp in addition to normal postage.

SOCIETY NEWS

THE PHILATELIC SOCIETY OF JOHANNESBURG

President, Dr. A. Kaplan; *Hon. Sec.*, Mr. J. H. Jenkins, P.O. Box 4967; *Meetings*, 2nd Tuesdays and 4th Mondays, Public Library, 7.45 p.m.

27th October:

The fare for this evening was provided by visitors from the East Rand Philatelic Society. Mr. Doyle showed a nice collection of Portuguese Nyasaland, almost complete, and the *President* of the E.R.P.S., Mr. H. Suklje, showed K.G. VI issues. Mr. J. Shepherd was to have exhibited, but was unable to be present; in his absence Dr. A. Kaplan showed Austrian commemoratives. Messrs. Economides, Pirie and Buchen spoke on the exhibits and thanked the exhibitors and the E.R.P.S. for them.

11th November: Mr. Allan Morris, who was down for a talk and demonstration on "Paper" was unfortunately prevented from appearing by illness. Mr. L. Buchen filled the breach by showing his Belgian Charity issues, for which, especially for the mounting thereof, he was heartily congratulated by the Society.

24th November: Mr. J. Mendelson, a "young" member, made his debut by showing a very nice mint collection of the issues of Newfoundland since 1897. He preceded his exhibit by a short talk. Almost all issues were complete, save several of the great air rarities; in addition to the main issues he had most of the re-entries. An excellent show.



PRETORIA PHILATELIC SOCIETY

President, F. C. Ferguson; *Hon. Sec.*, H. Endemann, P.O. Box 514; *Meetings*, 1st and 3rd Mondays, 8 p.m., Technical College.

7th October: A paper was read and exhibit shown for Lt.-Col. L. Simenhoff, of Cape Town. This was what the writer termed a side-line collection of an educational nature in which the design of the stamp plays the main role. The particular exhibit shown was part of his "Encyclopaedia"—a job which can never be finished—viz., the section dealing with natural history, stamps showing plants, and animals with attractive additional drawings, etc. The sheets were shown in an epidiascope and were very much appreciated.

20th October: The exhibits of the evening were shown by members of the Johannesburg Jewish Guild Philatelic Section. Dr. Kaplan showed a sheet of the 2d. S. Rhodesian Victory issue with the double print described in the "West End Philatelist" July-August issue, also classics of Holland and Rhodesia. Mr. Buchen showed a fine selection of Switzerland, specially strong in air mails, and Mr. Glassman displayed his collection of British Colonials.



CAPE TOWN PHILATELIC SOCIETY

President, C. G. Mummy; *Hon. Secretary*, S. Kaganson, P.O. Box 1973; *Meetings*, 2nd and 4th Thursdays at Yorkshire Buildings, Strand Street, at 7.30 p.m.

14th August: "Early British Colonials" was the subject of the display at this well-attended meeting, and the exhibitor was Mr. C. O. Plumbridge.

The stamps displayed were all early Victorians, and naturally the first item shown was the mother of all stamps—the Penny Black. Then followed many choice items including the Newfoundland 4d. scarlet vermilion used, a bisect St. Nevis penny, and £1. Queensland all in very fine condition. Mr. A. M. Jones moved a vote of thanks and Mr. Mummy also congratulated Mr. Plumbridge on the fine selected items displayed.

28th August: When Mr. L. Simenhoff, who incidentally was made a Life Member of the Society, is down for a display, one looks forward for something out of the ordinary, and this one, described as "Selected Items," was no exception.

Included was a selection of Tristan Da Cunha covers including one bearing the first post mark. A

section devoted to the various types of postmarks used in the Cape was most interesting. Of special note here was a 6d. lilac on cover with the Grahams-town postmark.

The postmarks of S.W.A. and the Inter-provincials in blocks of four also caught the attention of the good attendance of members and visitors. Many other interesting covers were put on the table, all gems in their own field, as expressed by E. C. Solomon in moving a vote of thanks.

25th September: There was a larger attendance than usual at this meeting when our *President* was down for a display of the stamps of Egypt. This proved a most interesting collection, starting off as it did with covers dealing with the pre-postal period, and passing through the various phases of Government up to the present period.

As far as could be seen the only missing item was the Port Fouad set. Covers were very much in evidence, particularly those dealing with the earlier period. What caught the eye of many was the Birthday stamp in both mint and used condition.

A section dealt with the Army seals in use up to 1936 and the Jubilee seal and the display tailed off with a collection of postal stationery. Mr. Mummy supplemented the display with an interesting talk dealing with the postal history of the country. Mr. E. Blum, in moving a vote of thanks, stated that this was one of the finest collections of Egypt we had had the pleasure of viewing, and in his opinion must be one of the finest in the Union.

B.L.C.



PORT ELIZABETH PHILATELIC SOCIETY

President, Mr. G. K. Forbes; *Hon. Sec.*, Mr. G. P. Smith, 13 Trafalgar Square, Port Elizabeth; *Meetings*, 1st and 3rd Tuesdays in Room 3, City Hall Basement, at 7.45 p.m.

Mr. G. K. Forbes was in the chair when the meeting opened on Tuesday, the 21st of October.

The attendance was not as large as usual.

Mr. Addis-Smith was responsible and tabled one of the finest displays seen for some time.

This comprised of part of his collection, consisting of Sudan, St. Helena, Ascension and Antigua.

Amongst so many rare specimens, it is hard to mention any particular one. However, the "GENERAL GORDON" set of 1935 and the Palm set of Sudan, could not be overlooked.

Among the St. Helena stamps, No. 1 and No. 2 of the first issue of 1858 used, a block of four 2d. yellow, mint of 1861 and a page of 12 stamps, overprints including the 3d., 4d., and 1s. are worth mentioning. Three other gems on display were of the 1873 and 1889 issue of 6d., dull blue, milky blue and ultramarine shades.

Full sets of Ascension, many now obsolete, both mint and used, were shown, also some of the earlier and present day issue of Antigua.

It is with deep regret we learn that Mr. Braybrook is in hospital seriously ill, but we hope to hear better news of him shortly. Any members who care to visit him would give him much pleasure, and he would greatly appreciate it.

Mr. Forbes auctioned some packets, but bidding was slow, and many packets were held over.

After a vote of thanks to Mr. Addis-Smith the meeting closed.

There was a large attendance on 18th November. It was Members' Night, and each member had to display three pages well written up, and three prizes were offered. The judges were Mr. Brink, Mr. Deschamp and Mr. Hannebel.

These gentlemen did not display. It was not an easy task to choose but finally they were in complete agreement that a page of Switzerland displayed by Dr. Harris should win the 1st prize.

A page of British East Africa displayed by Mr. A. B. Clark was second. Three pages displayed by Mr. Miles, of Rhodesia, New Zealand and Nyasaland, were awarded third prize.

Mr. Forbes then auctioned about 60 packets of the Union and S.W.A. There was some really good stamps put up for auction, and the bidding was keen, and all packets swiftly sold. There will be an auction on 2nd December, but no meeting on the third Tuesday in December.

Members of the Port Elizabeth Branch take this opportunity of wishing members everywhere compliments of the season and a Happy New Year.

L.E.C.

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