

THE SOUTH AFRICAN PHILATELIST

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UNION, S.W.A. AND PROTECTORATES

Recent Printings

Following on the information given in our September issue, here are notes supplied by the Post Office authorities in respect of printings of postage stamps, etc., carried out during the period 19th July, 1944, to 18th November, 1944:

(a) War Postage Stamps:

½d.—Job No. 964. 55,000 sheets of 360 delivered on 5.10.44 on an order for 300,000 sheets. Cylinder 40 as before.

1d.—Job No. 52. 53,000 sheets now delivered on this order for 200,000 sheets. Cylinder 6936.

2d.—Job No. 6192/8646, an order for 1,200,000 sheets of 240. 377,500 sheets printed from old cylinder 6,931 between 18.4.44 and 20.7.44. On the latter date 74,500 sheets were delivered, printed from a new cylinder, No. 39.

4d.—Job No. 1408. 30,610 sheets of 360 delivered on 8.8.44. Cylinder 54 as before.

(b) Roll Stamps:

½d.—Job No. 16. 120 rolls x 1,012 stamps and 100 rolls x 506 stamps delivered on 16.11.44. Cylinder 6911 as before.

1d.—Job No. 10,014. 1,200 rolls x 1,012 and 3,880 rolls x 560 delivered between 17.8.44 and 14.11.44. Cylinder 16 as before.

(c) Pictorial Inland Postcards:

1d.—Job No. 3036. Completed by total delivery up to 29.8.44 of 2,344,592 cards. Cylinders 86 (stamps) and 87 (pictures) as before.

1d.—Job No. 10568. An order for 2 million. 558,720 delivered on 9.9.44. Cylinders 86 (stamps) as before and 85 (pictures), new.

(d) Active Service Letter Cards:

3d.—Job No. 14. Between 11.5.44 and 1.8.44 a total of 2,454,000, printed from cylinder

No. 80, were delivered. Between 15.8.44 and 26.10.44 a further 2,706,600 were delivered, printed from a new cylinder, No. 89.

(e) Air Letter Cards:

6d.—Job No. 5205. 1,660,200 delivered subsequent to 12.9.44. Cylinder No. 74, new.

(f) South West Africa:

(1) Union War Postage stamps supplied by P.M.G. and overprinted with the letters S.W.A. on a flat bed machine from an old forme:

½d.—500 sheets x 360.

1d.—2,000 sheets x 360.

2d.—5,000 sheets x 240.

(2) Union Postage Stamps supplied by P.M.G. and overprinted on a flat bed machine from a new forme with the letters Assize: A-YK / Assize: B-YK and rouletted down centre of each stamp.

1d.—200 sheets x 60.

(3) Supplied by the P.M.G. and overprinted on a cropper machine with the letters S.W.A. : S.W.A.

6d. Air Letter Cards.—10,800.

(g) Protectorates:

10,800 Air Letter Cards similarly supplied and overprinted for each of the three Protectorates; the wording of the overprintings being respectively:

Basutoland: Basoetoland,

Bechuanaland: Betsjoeanaland,

Swaziland: Swasieland.

TWO VIGNETTE DIES OF THE TYPOGRAPHED 1d. STRIP TYPE.

"Gibbons' Stamp Monthly" in a notice of Mr. Sydow's paper which appeared in our May issue, state that from examination of a small number of stamps they find it difficult to separate "A's" and "B's", but admit this may be due to inability in the first place to distinguish between London and Pretoria printings.

They find intermediate types which might be allotted either way and there must be some explanation. Who can find it?

BANTAM MARGINAL IMPRINTS ON THE STAMPS THEMSELVES

Mr. C. J. Dekema notes that, through faulty registration, the marginal imprint "Certificates—Sertificate" sometimes appear in part on the stamps of the adjoining row. This has so far been recorded for the ½d., 1½d., 2d. and 4d. denominations.

He is now able to record it as also occurring on the 1d. and 1s. values. The 1d. is the most interesting as it occurs on a sheet with the marginal imprint in purple and is therefore very obvious on the red stamp.

Mr. Dekema states that he has also specimens of the 1d. "unrouletted between"; this has only been noted previously on the 1½d.

"CORONATIONS" BOOMING

"Sagesse" in "The Stamp Magazine" says there is now a marked shortage of Union Coronation sets in pairs, and puts them as the month's star item.

Special Christmas Airgraphs.

Our attention has been drawn to the fact that these special forms, noted in our November issue, are the same as used for the past two seasons, the only difference being that the "9d." on the back of the form has been cancelled and "3d." put in its place.

Christmas (T.B.) Labels.

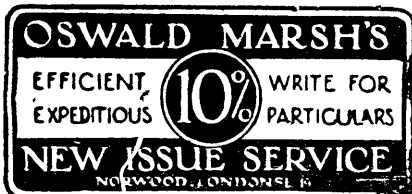
This year these take the form of the usual double cross against a background of a large sun and rays, with a dove perched on a branch looking up hopefully (at least, so we interpret its expression).



NAZI PHILATELIC TRICKS

Recent Nazi propaganda, done apparently with the idea of sowing dissension among the Allies, has taken a philatelic form. A marked example is a stamp based on the British Coronation stamp, but with portraits of King George and Marshal Stalin, the latter represented as shouldering the King out of the picture. The Star of David and the Hammer and Sickle take the place of the Royal Orb. Others are overprinted "Liquidation of Empire."

Oversea journals are stressing also the masses of stamps for all occupied territories which are in existence and the fact that Germans are officially encouraged to put their money into stamps rather than into war loans. The reason for this would appear to be that interest has to be paid on war loans and the capital itself repaid at some time, but stamps sold are all profit. Moreover if the supply does not meet the demand, obsolete stamps can always be reprinted. The moral should be obvious!



SOLD OUT.

We regret that we cannot accept any more subscriptions for "The South African Philatelist." The quota which we are allowed by the paper controller is now completely booked up and there is no immediate prospect of being allowed any more.

EGYPT

Lieut. J. P. Shingler has forwarded two stamps of a new series which is expected to replace the current stamps showing King Farouk as a boy.

The new issue shows him as a stoutish young man, and it is understood that the stamps were produced by the Government Printer in Cairo. They are good efforts, of standard size on paper with a crown over crescent and star watermark. The first to be issued, without warning, was the 17 mills denomination on 5th November; this covers surface postage to the British Empire. A 10 mills appeared on November 18th, and on the same date a 40 mills express post stamp, the size of two of the others side by side. This figures a despatch rider on a motor cycle; he is obviously on the desert sand, but the dust effect makes it look more as if he were up nearly to the wheel hubs in water.

Lieut. Shingler also sends a cutting from the "Egyptian Gazette" of 19th November, which states that an air mail letter service to Britain, for civilians, was due to be started that month, also a thrice daily both ways air service between Cairo and Alexandria. The present system of delivery in villages by donkey-back mail is to be gradually replaced by mobile motor post-offices; it is expected that these will lead to the closing down of many of the present village offices.

MONTHLY PHILATELIC BULLETIN

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JOHANNESBURG

SOME OLD TRANSVAAL STAMPS

I. THE 3d BUFF, "V.R. TRANSVAAL"

By R. BROOM, F.R.S.

Though I have been a stamp collector for over 70 years I have never till recently taken much interest in old Transvaals. There were so many different papers used, and many of the varieties were so rare that there was little prospect of my making a good collection with my limited means. But worst of all there were so many forgeries which I did not know how to detect.

Some time after coming to Pretoria, however, I became intimate with Mr. A. E. Basden, who for years had specialised in Transvaals, and who had a large collection of duplicates which he was disposing of at what I considered a very reasonable price. From amongst these duplicates I began making a collection of old Transvaals, and in a very short time, apart from *tête-bêches*, pin-perforations and other classical varieties, I made a really good collection. But not only did I collect one of each variety I came across I began collecting duplicates. It seemed to me that if I picked up for a few shillings good specimens of a stamp catalogued at, say, 15s. or £1, it could not be a bad investment. I thus collected dozens and dozens of duplicates of fairly common stamps.

Then in the Transvaal Museum, where I am employed, we have Otto's original plates from which the old Transvaals were printed. As has been pointed out by Curle and Basden, the 1d., 3d., 6d. (type I) and 1s. were printed from two plates of 40 each, while the 6d. (type II) "improved eagle" (1874) was printed from one plate of 40.

Mr. R. B. Yardley, the great Transvaal authority, gave us in 1906 a good account of the chief flaws in the 6d. plates made from various sheets and blocks, and also a good account of the varieties of the 3d. made from a study of the 1883 printings. Of the 6d. he gives distinguishing characters of 13 out of 40 of the Right plate and 17 (one doubtful) out of 40 of the Left plate. Of the 3d. he gives the distinguishing characters of 13 out of 40 of the Right plate and of 28 out of 40 of the Left plate. The characters he gives of the 6d. stamps are quite reliable, though he is in error in stating that the "Defective ZES" (36 Left) "is first found in the printings of Davis" [1874]. The defect must have been present from the beginning as it is due to a shrinking of the metal and not to an injury. We also have a stamp in the Transvaal Museum collection showing that the defect was there in 1871.

Some of the characters and defects found in the 3d. of 1883 are not seen in early 3d., and Yardley calls attention to the broken frame in 35 Right, which first appeared in 1879.

A study of the original plates reveals characters, some very minute and subtle, by which each of the 80 1d., 3d., 6d. and 1s. can be identified. The 6d. stamps are compara-

tively easy to plate, the 1s. very difficult because there are very few marked flaws, and the 3d. are also extremely difficult. The 1d. blacks are easy; but the 1d. red on orange V.R. Transvaals are almost impossible to identify, and quite impossible when badly printed, as they so often are.

The 3d. Buff V.R. Transvaal is one of the commonest of the old Transvaals. Yardley writes:—"There can be no doubt that there were two separate deliveries of this value on the buff paper prior to the issue of the permanent stamps of the Queen's Head type, viz.: the 21,960 of October 24th, 1877, and the 74,480 of April 15th, 1878, and that the stamps of the first delivery were exclusively overprinted with Type B1 [Roman], while the delivery of April, 1878, consisted of panes overprinted with the surcharges Types B1 and B2 [Italic] mixed." Yardley adds:—"It will be observed that 74,480 is a multiple of 80, while 21,960 is not, so that while the second delivery may have been in single plates of forty or double panes of eighty stamps, the probability is that the first delivery consisted of single panes surcharged with a setting of forty." He is quite confident that only B1 type was used in the first delivery, and that the Right plate was used, but in doubt as to whether both plates were used. With regard to the second delivery, while it was known that the Left plate was used, and that the top three rows were B1 and the lower two B2, it was not known "whether the setting was one of forty or of eighty, or, if the setting was one of forty whether it was applied to panes printed from both plates." So far as I am aware, no one has ever solved the mystery.

Having over 200 specimens of the 3d. Buff I commenced to plate them, and immediately found that all the B2 [Italic] specimens in the collection certainly belong to the Left plate, and the very large majority of the B1 [Roman] also belong to this plate. We can thus, I think, be fairly confident that only the Left plate was used for the April, 1878, delivery. And there is no doubt that 1 to 24 are B1 type and 25 to 40 B2 type. Yardley refers to a Surcharge with a broken I "from a bottom corner stamp, and it did not appear to be No. 40 of a Left pane." Yardley is here in error. This stamp is certainly No. 40 of the Left pane. I have six specimens of it. He refers to his having come across several specimens which he regards as probably No. 27 of the Right pane with B2. But No. 27 Left is not very different from No. 27 Right, and I think it probable that Yardley was also here in error. And he says quite definitely, "I have not come across any satisfactory specimens of the stamps on the buff paper, surcharged with Type B2, which I can positively ascribe to the right-hand pane of the Three

Pence." And he adds, "I should not be surprised if it were the fact that only 'left-hand' sheets were used for the 74,480 of April, 1878." My research fully confirms this view. I have reconstructed the complete pane.

The Three Pence issued in October, 1877, is a much rarer stamp. Only 21,960 were issued, and if we assume as probable that 95 per cent. are likely to have perished, only about 1,100 have probably survived. Yardley says, "Very little is known of this setting." But here again plating gives as some interesting new light.

I found I had a few specimens with the Roman V.R. belonging to the lower two rows of both Left and Right panes. So we can be quite certain that both plates were used. As the upper three rows of the Left pane in the April issue have the Roman V.R. it might be thought that the upper three rows of the Left pane of the October issue, which also have the Roman V.R., would be indistinguishable; but this is generally not so. Pairs can easily be made of many of the numbers, and it may be noted that one of each pair has the overprint in nearly perfect letters, and the other member of each pair has generally slightly damaged letters. We know from the figure given by Yardley that in the first five vertical rows of the April issue the overprints are in good and apparently new type.

There is no trouble with the Right pane stamps, as the Right plate was only used for the October issue.

When we examine the panes of this October issue we are rather startled to find that about half of the stamps of the Right pane are rouletted, and I have found no roulettes of the left pane.

Yardley called attention to the fact that 21,960 is indivisible by 80, but divisible by 40. We can thus be quite certain that more stamps were printed from one plate than from the other. And we may assume not as improbable that after, let us say, about 16,000 had been printed from both plates and few or none of which were rouletted, 5,960 more were printed from the Right plate and most—probably all—of these were rouletted.

It will thus be seen that apart from the rather common stamps of the April, 1878, issue we have apparently three different sets of the October, 1877 issue—the imperforates of the Left and Right panes and the roulettes of the

Right pane—and all of these must be rare. There were not improbably only about 200 sheets of the Left and Right panes imperforate, and about 150 sheets of the Right rouletted, so that each identifiable stamp must be rare.

It is interesting to note that in the S.G. Catalogue the B1 fine roulette is priced at 25s., and the B2 fine roulette £7. If this latter stamp is correctly priced, any B1 fine roulette which belongs to the April issue ought to be priced in the neighbourhood of £5.

If only about 10 of each variety of the October issue survive it is improbable that anyone will ever be able to make complete reconstructions. But there are a number of varieties that are worth being looked out for. Yardley mentions a variety with a large raised stop after R. He believes it to be No. 35 Right pane. I have not seen this stamp. Yardley also refers to a variety of the B2 overprint with the 1 of Transvaal dropped. It is slightly dropped in Nos. 25, 30 and 31. In 31 the last a is also a little dropped.

In No. 4, 1st setting, the top of the R is rather badly broken. In the 2nd setting it is perfect. In No. 6, 1st setting, there is a little piece punched out of the upright of the R. In the 2nd setting the R is normal. In No. 7 of the October issue the top serif of the R is gone and there is a black dot in the top space of the R. I have two specimens of it. The R is perfect in the April issue. In No. 9 the top of the first a in vaal is damaged in one of the issues; I think in the 2nd. In No. 12 of the early issue the right serif of the V is bent down a little. N is straight in the latter issue. These are just a few of the more striking flaws.

It may seem strange that after both plates had been used for the October, 1877, issue, the issue of April, 1878, should have been printed only from the Left plate. But the Right plate is of lead and the surface not very smooth, while the Left plate is copper faced and with a fairly smooth surface, and it was probably recognised that much better stamps could be printed from the Left than from the Right.

On Plate 6 of Curle and Basden's book there is a figure of a strip of three V.R. Transvaal Buff B1. These are Nos. 18, 19 and 20 of the Left pane and belong to the 1st setting.

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CORRESPONDENCE

THE WATERMARK OF THE MAFEKING PHOTOGRAPHIC STAMPS.

Dr. K. Freund's discovery of the watermark, "OCEANA FINE" occurring on part of the paper on which the Mafeking Baden-Powell and Bicycle stamps were made, is probably the most extensive and most interesting contribution to our knowledge of these in many years. In hailing this contribution (*S.A. Phil.*, June, 1944) may I add some further comments that may help our understanding?

1. All modern laid paper, with very rare exceptions, is "batonné," that is, crossed with widely spaced lines at right angles to the close ones of the "laid" texture. This is to be expected on machine-made paper, since the spaced lines represent tie-wires which hold together the web of parallel wires on which the layer of pulp is received. Thus it is generally understood that when we speak of "laid paper" on other than the earliest stamps, it is "laid batonné." In fact, the term "batonné" has in recent years almost entirely gone out of use in philately as well as in the paper-trade, in Africa and America alike.

2. In the period of the Mafeking stamps, most commercial photographers prepared a great part of their own sensitised paper, using pure white paper, usually unsized, which was and still is an article of regular commerce in the photographic trade. Not only could this be sensitised for blue prints, as here used; in the forms of "plain salted paper" and by coating with emulsions, it could be and was made ready for use in various printing-out processes. This was before the photographic supply makers had discovered how to make sensitised papers that would keep long, or how to seal them effectively to stand a long sea voyage or such climates as that of the high veld around Mafeking.

Unless my memory is at fault, OCEANA brand is one of the well known photographic plain papers of the period, sold the world over. Whether the same firm made foolscap for legal or other writing purposes also, is not known to me. I suggest, as more likely than the hypothesis put forward by Dr. Freund, that the paper used for the Mafeking photographic stamps was taken from the stock of the local commercial or portrait photographer.

3. Bertram Pooles' statement ("*S.A. Provisional War Stamps*," p. 36) as to the paper having been "locally made" or "specially manufactured," which was quoted uncritically by Major Harrington, quite obviously signifies that it was locally sensitised—not actually manufactured from pulp locally. This point I have dealt with in my 1943 book ("*Philately of the Anglo-Boer War*," p. 52). It is my belief that the paper was probably cut to sizes $4\frac{1}{4} \times 6\frac{1}{2}$ inches or $6\frac{1}{2} \times 8\frac{1}{2}$ inches, to conform to the sizes of photographic plates then in general use, and was supplied from England in that form. The sheet of 12 of the photographic Mafeking stamps fits comfortably within a $4\frac{1}{4} \times 6\frac{1}{2}$ piece

of paper, allowing margins for trimming at the time the stamps were perforated.

This set of suggestions, based on my own experience as a "ham"-mateur photographer during my high-school days, 1904 to 1906 or 1907, may be of help—and at least it propounds alternative hypotheses for leads towards further investigation. Meanwhile, let me again hail Dr. Freund's discovery with all possible appreciation.

STEPHEN G. RICH.

BLUE MAFEKING WATERMARKED

Stanley Gibbons have given a review of my article under Stamp News in the last September number of their "Stamp Monthly."

I notice that they seem to find no fault with the description "laid batonné" I applied to the printing paper of the Mafeking Blues.

Although the term "batonné" may have developed to be applied generally only for the examples as outlined by Dr. Mosely, it is in my opinion the most practical and suitable one for the Mafeking Blues, as it is actually the only definition in our vocabulary stressing the fact that besides the familiar horizontally laid lines there is also a vertical line prominent on many Mafeking Blues.

K. FREUND.

S. RHODESIAN VARIETIES: 2d. MATABELELAND COM.

I note with interest Mr. H. S. Conway's remarks in your October issue in regard to the above and would also like to add some varieties I have found, for the benefit of readers.

- (1) PDSTAGE for Postage.
- (2) PDSTAGE for Postage.
- (3) PDSTAGE for Postage.
- (4) REVENUE for Revenue.
- (5) Foot of "2" in 2d., right value tablet cut by white mark.
- (6) Dropped head plate.
- (7) Brown spot (on mint stamp) in front of chest.

The variety mentioned by Mr. Conway No. 45, broken "D" in right-hand value tablet, I have named the inverted G for D.

The "D" in place of "O" in postage is very constant.

I have also one used stamp showing a tinge of green colouring throughout the face of the stamp but the back is white. Has any other collector found this colour variety?

W. J. EWART.

UNUSUAL PERFORATION.

Mr. C. P. Rang, in *Gibbons' Stamp Monthly*, from a study of the S. Rhodesian 2d. Matabeleland stamp and the Union miniature war issue comes to the conclusion that the perforating machine used is a narrow or multiple comb of 11 rows; not the old type used for sheets in which the end of each line ran into the margins, but a type adapted for the continuous perforation of a strip or roll. The juncture of the strokes of the machine falls at present between the seventh and eighth columns, sometimes fitting exactly, but frequently needing adjustment; this accounts for the narrow stamps often, but not always, noted in the eighth column.

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S.G. 31 " " " ...	£100	0	0
S.G. 2 double o/p ...	£12	0	0
S.G. 14 vertical ...	£40	0	0
S.G. 15 horizontal ...	£17	10	0
S.G. 15 vertical ...	£15	0	0
S.G. 86-87 ...	18	9	
S.G. 0.1-4 ...	£15	0	0

SOUTH AFRICA

26 Oct. '18 post card "Make Your			
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S. Rhodesia used only 1940 S. Jub. sets or singles; Matabeleland Commem.; Current 8d., 9d., 10d. and 1/6d. Nyasaland K.G.VI Mint and used; 1942 new cols. 3d., 1d., 1½d., and 2d.

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PLATE COMBINATIONS OF THE $\frac{1}{2}$ d. ELECTROTYPED STAMPS OF THE UNION OF SOUTH AFRICA

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

The bicoloured $\frac{1}{2}$ d. denominated stamps of the first pictorial issue of the Union of South Africa were issued on 1st January, 1926, and were printed by Waterlow & Sons, Limited, from emparagne electrotyped plates made by the Royal Mint in London. During the latter part of 1926 the plates were forwarded to South Africa and the Government Printer undertook the subsequent printing of the stamps. The Pretoria printed stamps were issued initially on 1st January, 1927.

Separate Head Plates and Frame Plates were utilised for their printing as the stamps were bicoloured.

Initially the Government Printer utilised Head Plate 1 and Frame Plate 1, which were used previously by Waterlow & Sons, Limited; secondly, Head Plate 2 and Frame Plate 2 were brought into use; finally, for a while prior to the advent of the Rotogravure issue of this denomination, Head Plate 2 and Frame Plate 1 were utilised.

The indications which serve to differentiate the plates one from another are as follows:—

(A) *London Printings*—Head Plate 1.

1. 18 $\frac{1}{2}$ mm. horizontal jubilee line above stamp No. 6 of Row 1, separated by 1 $\frac{1}{2}$ mm. interstice from 18 $\frac{1}{2}$ mm. horizontal jubilee line above stamp No. 7 of the same row.
2. 18 $\frac{1}{2}$ mm. horizontal jubilee line below stamp No. 6 of Row 20, separated by 1 $\frac{1}{2}$ mm. interstice from 18 $\frac{1}{2}$ mm. horizontal jubilee line below stamp No. 7 of the same row.

London Printings—Frame Plate 1.

1. 39 $\frac{1}{2}$ mm. horizontal jubilee line above stamps Nos. 6 and 7 of Row 1.
2. 39 $\frac{1}{2}$ mm. horizontal jubilee line below stamps Nos. 6 and 7 of Row 20.
3. Small rounded indentation in vertical jubilee line adjacent to stamp No. 12 of Row 19.
4. Diagonal extension of left limb of last "A" of "SUIDAFRIKA," stamp No. 9 of Row 20.

(B) *Pretoria Printings*—Head Plate 1.

1. and 2. As described above under the London Printings, (A).

Pretoria Printings—Frame Plate 1.

1. to 4. As described above under the London Printings, (A).

(C) *Pretoria Printings*—Head Plate 2.

1. 18 $\frac{1}{2}$ mm. horizontal jubilee line above stamp No. 6 of Row 1, separated by 3 $\frac{1}{2}$ mm. interstice from 16 $\frac{1}{2}$ mm. horizontal jubilee line above stamp No. 7 of the same row.
2. 17mm. horizontal jubilee line below stamp No. 6 of Row 20, separated by 3mm. interstice from 18 $\frac{1}{2}$ mm. horizontal jubilee line below stamp No. 7 of the same row.

3. Broken horizontal jubilee lines above stamps Nos. 1, 2, 8 and 9 of Row 1.

Pretoria Printings—Frame Plate 2.

1. 19mm. horizontal jubilee line above stamp No. 6 of Row 1, separated by 1 $\frac{1}{2}$ mm. interstice from 19mm. horizontal jubilee line above stamp No. 7 of the same row.
2. 18 $\frac{1}{2}$ mm. horizontal jubilee line below stamp No. 6 of Row 20, separated by 1 $\frac{1}{2}$ mm. interstice from 19mm. horizontal jubilee line below stamp No. 7 of the same row.
3. Large rounded indentation in vertical jubilee line adjacent to stamp No. 12 of Row 2.

(D) *Pretoria Printings*—Head Plate 2.

1. to 3. As described above under Category (C).

Pretoria Printings—Frame Plate 1

1. to 4. As described above under Category (A).

In addition to the foregoing described indications the horizontal jubilee line below stamp No. 12 of Row 20 showed two diagonal cuts to represent Head Plate 2 in order to differentiate it from its predecessor Head Plate 1.

Thus four combinations of the Head and Frame Plates are known and are allocated as hereunder as regards the overprinting of these electrotyped stamps for South-West Africa and the Official-Offisiel issues of that country and the Union of South Africa.

(1) *London Printings*—Combination of Head Plate and Frame Plate 1.

- (a) Official—Offisiel reading upwards with stops.
- (b) South-West Africa and Suidwes Afrika reading upwards.
- (c) Official, and South-West Africa reading upwards. Offisiel, and Suidwes Afrika reading upwards.

(2) *Pretoria Printings*—Combination of Head Plate 1 and Frame Plate 1.

- (a) Official—Offisiel reading upwards with stops.
- (b) S.W.A.—below figure of value tablets.

(3) *Pretoria Printings*—Combination of Head Plate 2 and Frame Plate 2.

- (a) Official—Offisiel reading downwards without stops.
- (b) Official S.W.A. and Offisiel S.W.A. reading horizontally.
- (c) Official S.W.A. and Offisiel S.W.A. reading upwards.
- (d) S.W.A.—below figure of value tablets.

(4) *Pretoria Printings*—Combination of Head Plate 2 and Frame Plate 1.

- (a) S.W.A.—above figure of value tablets.

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

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J. P. Bentes, Box 276, Lourenco Marques, Mocambique.

Transvaal, Griqualand West, O.F.S. covers and rarities wanted by A. E. Basden, Killarney, Brickhill Road, Durban.

Collections Wanted to Buy.—Old and Modern Collections, Single Rarities and Errors, Duplicates and Office Mixtures.

Prompt cash on acceptance of offer: E. M. Lacy (Globe Postage Stamp Co.), 117 Longmarket Street, Cape Town.

Wanted: Transvaal, Natal, Cape, O.F.S., Bechuanaland, Gambia, St. Helena, Egypt, France. Picked copies, rarities and varieties, also 9,000 items for world collection up to 1933 issues. E. Hunt, Box 2437, Johannesburg.

WANTED: Stamps of whole world from residents British Empire only. By catalogue or stamp for stamp. Does not send first.

Mr. W. J. Mills, Flat One, 160 Sailors Bay Road, Northbridge, N.S.W., Australia.

Mr. E. Tamsen, Box 13, Nylstroom, offers Blocks of South African Colonies and Union, also full range of Entires.

Basutoland: Wanted covers, or stamps postmarked in Basutoland before 1910.

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Noel Roberts, Booyens, Johannesburg.

Seychelles and Sierra Leone fine used copies wanted. Particularly Edward and George. High prices willingly paid.

William Redford, Box 7012, Johannesburg.

SOME NEW ISSUE INFORMATION.

Australia. New 2d., early December, red-purple, featuring K.G. VI, with red gum in background.

Gambia. 1½d. in new colour (grey and blue), due on 2nd January.

Nigeria. 1d., 2d., 3d. and 4d. in new colours, due on 11th December.

Tonga. Queen's Jubilee commemorative set to be withdrawn 31st December.

Iceland. New stamps due in 1945: 10 a, herring, new colour; 25 a, cod, new colour; 1 k., Geysir and 10 k., Karlsejmi.

French Colonies. Series of charity stamps to be issued under the name "Emission de la Solidarité Française." Complete set comprises one stamp of the same value (5 frs. and 20 frs. or 3 fa. and 1 R 4 fa. in case of Indian settle-

ments) for each of the following: Equatorial Africa, Cameroons, Oceania, New Caledonia, St. Pierre and Miquelon, Madagascar, Jibouti, Reunion, Wallis and Futuna Is., Guadeloupe, Occidental Africa, Martinique, Guyana, Indian Settlements. —Windsor Stamp Co.

UNION METER POST FREAK.

Meter collectors will be interested in a specimen reported in the *Philatelic Magazine*. It is a Neopost type 3, No. 130 used at Benoni on 4-XII-39. The figure of value (1d.) has two short lines beneath, the lower of which has a "perforation" edge like a segment from a British Neopost LV model. The question is asked "Was it always like this, or was the machine temporarily repaired with a British segment?"

REVIEW

Gibbons Catalogue, Part II, Foreign Countries, 46th Ed., 1945.

The publishers, printers and binders must all be congratulated upon having been able to reset this work after the destruction of the type and blocks at Plymouth in 1941. The volume runs to almost 1,600 pages; in fact it is practically as big as, and has actually more pages than, their *Whole World catalogue* of 1940.

Catalogue makers are going to have very difficult problems facing them in the future; meanwhile we should be very grateful to have this one available. For enemy and enemy-occupied countries history, of course, stops in 1939 or 1940, but for others it goes up into 1944 (purely by an addendum).

Prices are not claimed to be absolutely up to date, as the volume began to go to press in February, 1944, but there have been many changes since 1941. Modern European charity and commemorative sets show the most remarkable rises, but there has been a general increase in almost every line; classic rarities in good condition and outstanding covers, blocks, etc., are in keen demand, with supplies very inadequate.

U.S.A.

The "Corregidor" 3c stamp, issued on September 27th, has been hailed with a storm of abuse in the States—the only good criticism noted is that "it is usually well centred. It figures an air view of the famous island fort, but one correspondent in sending us a first-day cover says, "I use the world's ugliest stamp—it might be a picture of a Horseshoe Crab or a T-bone steak and onions."

A PHILATELIST IN ITALY.

Cpl. Spangenthal, at present serving with the U.D.F. in Italy, sends the following notes on stamp collecting there. They should interest our readers:

Regarding Amgot stamps I don't know of their use in Italy. They were only on sale in Sicily and must have been sold out quickly. Their nominal value is not even 1s. but dealers ask from 5s. to 12s. 6d.; the smaller the town, the higher the price. These stamps are not offered used. The other 3 AMG stamps were issued in Naples: 360,000 20c., 70,000 35c., 800,000 50c. Dealers offer them from £2 to £2 10s. the set. But both these sets were issued before my time and at places which I never saw. So my knowledge is limited.

In liberated Italy the old issue of stamps is being used, but the most common values only can be obtained at the Post Office. People, however, do not write much, so it does not matter. The only new stamp, value 50c., has been described in your paper. The postal authorities in Bari got permission to overprint the following stamps with a "T" to use

them as Postage Due: Normal issue 5c., 10c., 15c., 20c., 25c., 30c., New Issue 50c., Posta Militare (for soldiers' use) 25c., 30c. These 9 stamps were in use for some weeks, and though their nominal value is not even 1d., dealers sell them for 10s.

So much about the stamps of Free Italy. Fascist Italy has been very busy issuing stamps. The stamps of the normal issue with the King's head have been overprinted. There are three types, namely, "Repubblica Sociale Italiana" or a "fascio" or both, but each of the following stamps is overprinted in one type only: Normal issue 25c., 30c., 50c., 1.25 and 50 Lire; (of the latter one 1,200 overprints are supposed to exist and dealers sell them at £25). Express stamps 1.25 and 2.50; "Recapito" stamp 10c.; Postage Due stamps 5c., 10c., 20c., 25s., 30c., 40c., 50c., 1 Lire. It is possible that some more stamps of the latter issue have been overprinted. In 1942, Italy issued their 25c., 30c., 50c. stamps with an annex of equal size, each with four different propaganda pictures and slogan concerning the Armed Forces. These stamps, 12 altogether, were used as common stamps for quite a time, and all 12 of them have been overprinted with one of the above three types on the King's head.

Now a new set of stamps is being issued in Northern Italy. I have seen the 25c., 30c., 20c., and 75c. as well as the 1.25 Express. With exception of the latter one, they are of small size, have different pictures like a famous building in Palermo or a drummer and are inscribed "Poste Repubblica Sociale Italiana."

The National Republican Guard, a Fascist military formation, has seen fit to overprint 55 different normal, "propaganda," airmail, express, parcel and postage due stamps with the letters GNR. These overprints were done first at Brescia, some were done again at Rome and Verona. Connoisseurs can recognise the difference of the three overprints. Some of the Brescia overprints were issued in hundreds only with the result that the price for a complete set is £100. There were also three issues for the Fascist Italian U boat bases on the Atlantic. Some of these stamps have also been issued in hundreds only, and their prices are accordingly. The Germans, while occupying the Italian possession of Zara, now occupied by Marshal Tito's forces, issued two sheets. They are in the form of overprints on the current Italian issue one with — ZARA —, the second one with "Deutsche Besetzung Zara." The second set of 45 stamps is very scarce.

It happened quite often in rural districts of Fascist Italy that postage stamps were not available and any other stamp was used. I managed to collect two envelopes which went through normal postal channels; one is franked with a 50c. revenue stamp, the other one with a 50c. parcel stamp. But these envelopes are by no means rare, they are just a sign of the times.

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**NATAL SOCIETY'S HANDBOOK
 NEW EDITION IN PREPARATION**

In view of the widespread desire for a new and improved edition of the Natal Society's "Handbook of the Postage Stamps of the Union," the editorial committee responsible for the first edition (published in 1936) has now been re-convened under the chairmanship of Mr. Percy C. Bishop, and is holding weekly meetings at Mr. Bishop's office at 63 Club Arcade, Durban. Additional members of the committee now enrolled are Mr. L. Bevis, the Natal Society's President, Mr. A. E. Basden, formerly of Pretoria, Mr. A. Adler, Mr. F. J. H. Kotze and Mr. J. Lyle.

The committee is desirous of enlisting the co-operation of all Societies and individual philatelists who can assist in the work of compilation. Correspondence on the subject will be welcomed at Mr. Bishop's office as above. Steps are being taken to contact philatelists whose names are associated with research work in "Unions," including Mr. Simenhoff and other workers in this field.

1945

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**INDIAN COMMEMORATIVE
 OVERPRINTS**

"Stamp Collecting" reports that India is to participate in the postal celebration of an event of great importance in the Mohammedan world, viz., the bicentenary of the Al Busaid dynasty, which for two centuries has ruled over the Sultanates of Oman and Zanzibar. 25 Ordinary and Service stamps are to be overprinted "AL BU'SAID 1363" (the date being that of the current year of the Hegira. The stamps will only be on sale from 20th November to 31st December, 1944. The issue of a special set for Zanzibar has, of course, already been noted; it also was due to appear on 20th November, but is to remain in use for a year.

RECENT ARRIVALS

- 9. AMGOT (Allied Occ. Italy) epl. mint 8/6
- 3. EGYPT, new issue, 10, 17, 40 m. . . 2/-
- 1. NEW ZEALAND 10d. on 1½d. Centennial 1/6
- 3. U.S.A. KOREA, PHILIPPINES, BIOSCOPE m. 1/6
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SOCIETY NEWS

EAST LONDON PHILATELIC SOCIETY

President, Mr. A. Watson; *Hon. Secretary*, Mr. S. F. Fowler, P.O. Box 168, East London. *Meetings*, Colosseum Building, 2nd Fridays, 7.45 p.m.

At the December meeting 23 members and five visitors were present.

The opening displays of the evening were provided by two of the newer members, Messrs. Stander and Edmonds, and were an eyeopener as regards what can be achieved in the space of a few months by enthusiastic collectors. The artistic arrangement, mounting and writing up of the collections, which comprised principally the more recent issues of the British Empire countries, both mint and used, were exceedingly good. Many fine complete sets were included, and both collections reflected great credit on their fortunate owners.

Following the refreshment interval, Mr. C. H. Thornton displayed his collections of the Victorian issues of Canada, Nova Scotia, Newfoundland and several West Indian colonies, each of which was preceded by a selection of pre-stamp covers of great interest.

The stamps shown were well up to Mr. Thornton's usual standard of condition and rarity. To mention a few: there were all values of the pence Canadians (except the 12d.), all values of Nova Scotia including very fine copies of the 6d. and 1/-. A Nova Scotian cover bearing two and a half 3d. stamps. Many early pence issues of Newfoundland, among which was a fine 6d. orange vermilion. The West Indians included many scarce items, such as a mint block of: 12 1/- Barbados first type, St. Lucia one and a half 1/- Fiscal—postal used on piece, etc.

+

T.A.H.

CAPE TOWN PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

President, W. D. Vallance; *Hon. Secretary*, S. Kaganson, P.O. Box 1973, Cape Town; *Meetings*, 2nd and 4th Thursdays at Yorkshire Buildings, Strand Street, at 7.30 p.m.

Thursday, 23rd November.—"Variety" was the title of the display tabled by Mr. E. C. Solomon, M.P.C., for this evening, and the main theme was the postage stamps of the "Victorian Era."

The first stamp shown was naturally the "Penny Black," and this was followed by the subsequent issues of Great Britain. Most of the colonies were also well represented, some of these old stamps showing engraving, beauty and balance not surpassed to-day.

In the light of present day events two covers depicting the war period of that reign were interesting, the one being a P.O.W. cover from Bermuda in 1901, and the other a Mafeking Siege cover. Other interesting items were a few Cape fiscals postally used and still on piece.

The attendance was again well up to standard, 54 members and visitors being present, and among the latter were Mr. Watson, president of the East London Society, and Mr. J. Lewis, from Bloemfontein.

The meeting concluded with the usual auction, over 30 lots being sold for Red Cross Funds.

+

B.L.C.

THE PHILATELIC SOCIETY OF NATAL

President, A. L. Bevis; *Hon. Sec.*, G. Milner, Palmer, P.O. Box 588, Durban; *Meetings*, 1st and 3rd Wednesdays at London Assurance House, 319 Smith Street (in the rooms of the Durban Camera Club, top floor), 7.30 p.m.

Mr. Percy C. Bishop, as promised, arranged the quiz competition for this meeting. (See next issue).

Mr. W. H. Winde read extracts from current philatelic publications, and as these notes were found of interest he was asked to make the notes a monthly item at our general meetings.

The auction then followed and was fairly well supported.

Mr. W. Hall Jones showed us his collections of S.W. Africa, Southern Rhodesia, British Honduras and St. Helena. These collections were a credit to a new collector.

G.M.P.

NYASALAND PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

President, Mr. C. Stevens; *Hon. Secretary*, Mr. Anson; *Meetings*, 2nd Mondays, Tobacco Auction Rooms, Limbe, 5 p.m.

9th October.—Thirteen members present. Mr. Booth read an extract from an article appearing in a stamp journal on the New Zealand and Australian Centenary Stamps.

Mr. Farquhar intimated that a new issue of Polish stamps was in circulation.

Mr. Milne exhibited the latest issue of American stamps commemorating Railways Telegraphs and Shipping.

Mr. Farquhar then successfully conducted the Society's first auction. This raised funds for the sellers, the Society, and for war funds.

13th November.—Eleven members present. Mr. Milne read from the "Philatelic Magazine" a lengthy article dealing with shade varieties in stamps of various countries.

Mr. Booth also read from the "Philatelic Journal of Great Britain" an article dealing with Nyassa stamps used during the war 1914-1918.

The writer drew attention to these stamps bearing a cancellation or overprint. "Nyasaland F F 2" and the substance of the article was more in the nature of an enquiry.

Mr. Booth exhibited a sheet of the Nyassa issue bearing a cancellation such as described above as well as an envelope bearing a stamp with a similar cancellation, definite proof, therefore, that the stamps were not overprinted.

This envelope was received by Mr. Booth through the ordinary postal channels.

Mr. Hulneck gave an extremely interesting talk on the stamps of Nyasaland and the early postal history of this country, and also exhibited his collection of Nyasaland stamps. Both were much appreciated by the members present, and a vote of thanks was accorded to Mr. Hulneck.

C.S.

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PRETORIA PHILATELIC SOCIETY

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

4th December.—Lt.-Col. Horne read a very interesting paper, sprinkled with humour, on the arrangement of stamps on album pages. He deprecated the rather uninteresting methods of display he had seen in many collections tabled by members of the society. He advocated the use of larger sheets and certain methods of design in the arrangement of the stamps depending on the number to be placed on each sheet as well as on the shape, size and colour of the stamps. He illustrated his paper by a large number of sheets from his own collection, showing different designs, etc., some of which he thought to be good and others which he had scrapped. Col. Horne was thanked for his paper, the speakers being Messrs. Broughton, Wilson, Konya and the chairman.

18th December.—This was President's Night, but, as Mr. Ferguson was unavoidably absent, Mr. Hawke entertained the members. He used some extracts from the Jubilee number of the "Stamp Collectors Fortnightly" showing that the launching of this paper, although not apparently too promising, had achieved great success. The first editor, Mr. Percy Bishop, has lived in Durban for many years. Mr. Hawke spoke of the approaching jubilee of the Pretoria Philatelic Society, and he thought that, although there were three more years, steps should be taken to consider the best means of celebrating this event. Dr. Broughton suggested that a meeting of the Philatelic Congress of Southern Africa should be held in Pretoria that year together with a Philatelic Exhibition. Members supported this suggestion.

H.A.W.

S. RHODESIA

On October 31st sale of 1940 Jubilees and 1943 Matabelelands was stopped and the remainders destroyed.

Whitfield King and Co's "Bulletin" notes that in their last delivery of the Matabeleland 2d. the saddle roll flaw had been corrected but that a new flaw had developed on stamp No. 8, taking the form of a blur on the side of the head of the mounted figure.

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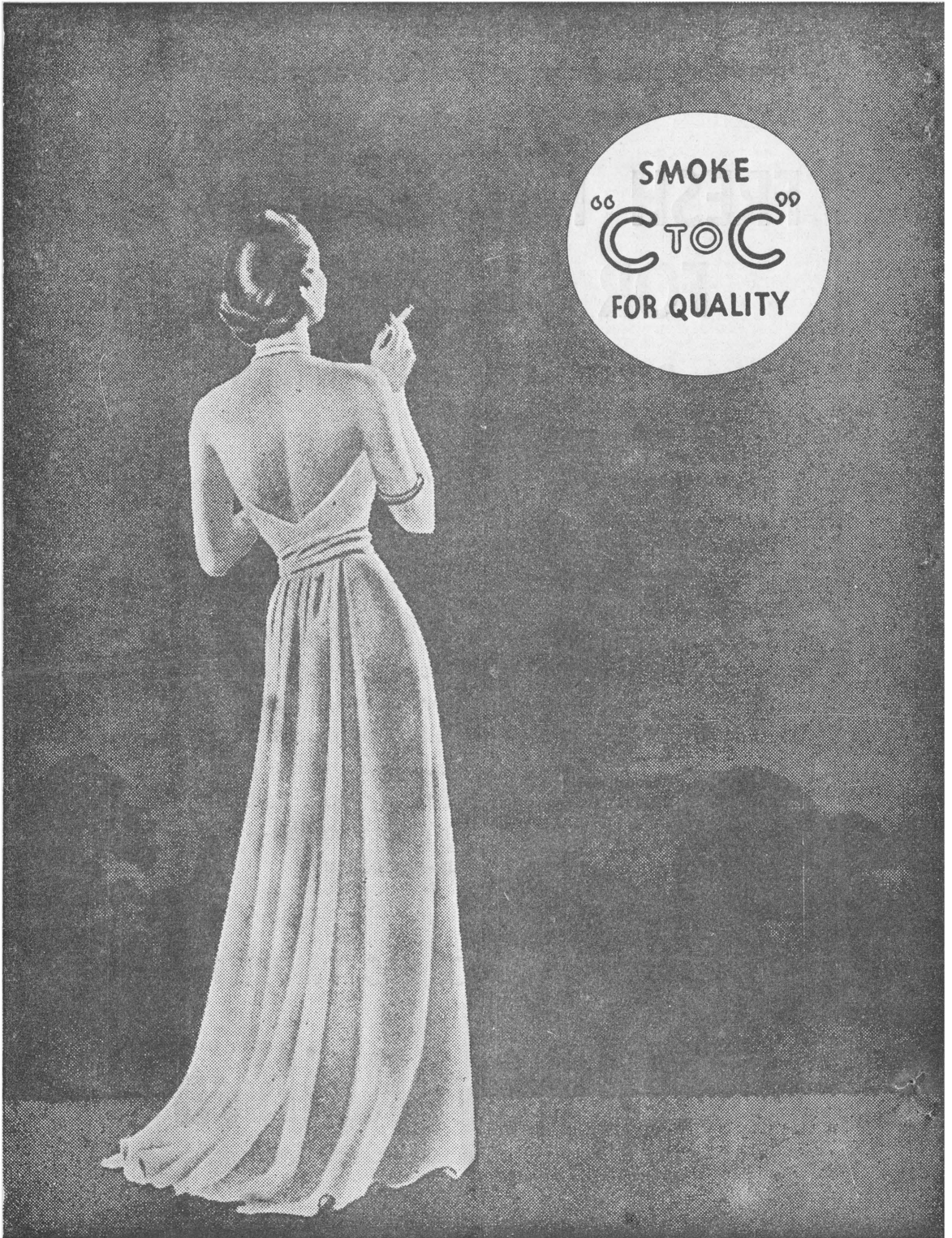
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PROTECTORATES AIR LETTERS.

Our information from the Government Printer last month indicated that the Union 6d. Air Letters (with the two 3d. stamps) had been overprinted bilingually for the Protectorates. We have since seen the 3d. air mail letter cards ("Active Service" Letter Cards, as they used to be) overprinted for the Protectorates; formerly they were available for use unoverprinted.

In this case, however, the overprinting has been done only in English. For Basutoland, it has been done on cards with Afrikaans stamps as well as on those with English stamps; in the case of Bechuanaland apparently only on the English variety. We have not seen the Swaziland cards yet.

The gum on these cards, instead of being at the top on the back of the unfolded card, is at the bottom on the front. Presumably this new variety will be on sale in the Union soon, if they have not already appeared.

The English stamp cards have a serial number but not the Afrikaans ones.

MUSCAT

Last month we mentioned the overprinting of Indian stamps with "Al Bu'Said 1363" (in Arabic) in connection with the bicentenary celebrations of the ruling house of that name in the Sultanates of Oman and Zanzibar. It has now been made clear that these overprinted Indian stamps are not to be on sale in India generally but only at the Indian P.O. in Muscat. Muscat is the capital of Oman, an independent Sultanate in eastern Arabia. This State is not included in the Postal Union, but its not inconsiderable mail has been handled by an Indian postal agency since 1856. The stamps used are the ordinary stamps of India and are recognisable only by the post mark. This is the first occasion Muscat, or Oman, can be said to have had its own stamps and, as was stated, they are only to have been on sale from 20th November—31st December, 1944; 15 ordinary postage stamps, 3 pi-2r and 10 "Service" stamps, 3 pi-1r.

ZANZIBAR



The "Al Busaid" bicentenary set duly appeared on 20th November, and will be on sale for a year unless stocks are previously exhausted. The values and colours are: 10c, bright ultramarine; 20c, orange vermilion; 50c, blue green, and 1s., purple. Printed by de la Rue in sheets of 100 (10 x 10) on multiple script CA watermarked paper, perf. 14. Thanks to the Windsor Stamp Co. for specimens..

U.S.A.

October 30th saw, almost unheralded, the issue of a purple 3c stamp in honour of the 50th anniversary of motion pictures. It pictures the showing of a film to military personnel in a jungle encampment. On the same date 13c and 17c special delivery stamps were issued, of the same design and size as the present 10c and 15c special deliveries.

On November 2nd there appeared the 5c honouring the oppressed nation Korea. It shows the old flag of independent Korea, in the same style as the flag stamps of the European overrun countries.

The next commemorative contemplated appears to be one dedicated to blood donors for the Red Cross.

SOUTH AMERICAN REPUBLICS

According to *Mekeel's Weekly* all the South American republics are going to issue a single stamp of standardised design in honour of Simon Bolivar, the "Liberator" of South America. The face value will be 90 centimos or the equivalent and the printing will be done by the American Bank Note Company.

POLAND

The Polish Postal Service, established in 1941 in London, has issued a stamp commemorative of the Warsaw rising (Aug.-Sept., 1944); it shows two men and a girl fighting on a Warsaw barricade. It is a 3 zl. stamp, 1 zl. for postage, 2 zl. for a relief fund for the Warsaw survivors; the issue is limited to 100,000.

AIR SERVICE NOT AVAILABLE

A number of letters are arriving from Britain these days marked "By Air" and franked 1s. 3d., but they come by sea with an endorsement "Please inform sender air mail service not available."

FRANCE

We have not been able to keep track of the stamps in use in France recently, as news in the overseas philatelic press is very scrappy. There appear to have been several sets in use at one and the same time in different parts or even in the same area. The Vichy issue with the head of Petain is said now to be suppressed, its place having been taken in Southern France particularly by stamps printed in Algiers and showing either the head of "Marianne" or the Gallic cock. Others, from de la Rue, London, have a Liberty Head whilst others, in use or in preparation show views of famous French cathedrals. American papers now mention AMGOT stamps also. "The Philatelic Magazine" of 15th December has the longest list we have yet seen. In addition to the general issues it also gives a number of local overprints.

UNION BANTAMS MARGINAL IMPRINTS

The ½d., 1d. and 4d. are now all known with the marginal imprints in purple (the colour of the 2d.) instead of their own colours.

The latest to join the piebald ranks is the 1s., which has appeared with the margins in sepia, the colour of the 1s. 3d. The position of the Afrikaans and English imprints has also been changed over.

MOZAMBIQUE

Mr. J. P. Bentes, of Lourenco Marques, informs us that there were put on sale on 26th December four stamps commemorating the fourth centenary of the founding of Lourenco Marques. Values, colours, designs and numbers issued were: 50c green and 50c sepia, 850,000 of each, the new Cathedral; 1E.75, ultramarine, 300,000, the railway station; 20E, black, 50,000, the Town Hall.

* * * *

HOMAGE TO A. A. JURGENS

We are delighted to hear that the Royal Philatelic Society has awarded their Crawford Medal to A.A.J. for his monumental work on the Cape Handstruck Letter Stamps and Postmarks, and we are sure all South African philatelists will join us in offering him our heartiest congratulations. This award, which can be regarded as the philatelic V.C., is only given for something big, the outcome probably of twenty years' work or more. It is only some three years since a similar award came to South Africa, viz., to Messrs. Curle and Basden for their book on the stamps of the Transvaal; we can bask, therefore, in quite a lot of reflected glory, but basking doesn't get anyone anywhere. Are there young workers coming along who will keep the torch of philatelic research alight and be gaining such awards in 1965?

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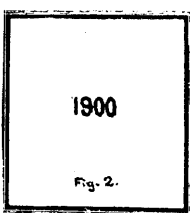
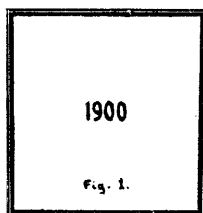
THE "1900" SLUG OF THE MAFEKING SIEGE CANCELLATION

By Dr. K. FREUND

In their recent article "In and Out of Vryburg," Dr. Harvey Pirie and Mr. A. A. Jurgens touch the problem, how it was possible that the besieged Mafeking authorities succeeded in having a cancellation date stamp with a "1900" slug ("South African Philatelist," Dec., 1944, p. 140). Slugs for the year 1900 were normally supplied by the Cape Town head office only, and, as the mentioned writers put it, "one can hardly imagine the Cape postal authorities sending special runners to smuggle them through."

I am in the position to give the following information:

The last batch of letters ("Kaffirgrams") before inauguration of the special siege service, was smuggled out of the besieged town during December, 1899, as a notice which appeared in "The Mafeking Mail" of 30th April, 1900, indicates. No further letters were sent out until late in March, 1900, when the special stamp issues and a new postal service were introduced. Then, the problem became acute what to do about the type of year in the canceller which recorded only "99". Several suggestions were made, until a type (slug) "1900" was discovered at the *Magistrates Office*, which fitted in the cancellation date stamp perfectly (see Fig. 1).



An important characteristic of this "1900" type is the foot of the figure "9" which is *not curved upward*. Nearly *all forged types* of cancellation in existence show a "9" with a curved foot, as in Fig. 2.

Incidentally, the postmark reproduced in Fig. 4 in the mentioned article on "Vryburg" (p. 104) is of the type as Fig. 2 above. (I am not in the position to give an opinion on this queried Vryburg postmark; there is a possibility that the "1900" slug was obtained from another local office, as in the Mafeking case).

There are Mafeking stamps in existence showing "00" in the cancellation instead of the "1900." They are genuine stamps cancelled "to order" *after* the siege, which fact makes the cancellation a forged one.

The original cancellation date stamp was destroyed by the military authorities immediately after the siege. But the "1900" slug was removed before and kept as souvenir by Mr. A. Thomas who was telegraphist during the siege. It is now in my collection.

* * * *

AFRICANA FOR THE BRITISH MUSEUM

Dr. E. Mosely writes that his daughter, Mrs. Cunningham, has presented to the British Museum the collections of various British African colonies which he had formed and had given to her. Dr. Mosely himself has given the Museum up to £500 to pay for cabinets to house the collections.

Dr. Mosely says that the collection of the various British African colonies is on the whole probably the most complete, fullest of varieties and in the most perfect condition of any in existence. Lichtenstein of New York is stronger in Capes, though not much; the Buckingham Palace and Caspary collections are fuller in Mauritius, and he says he has never been able to make up his mind as to whether his or Prof. Smith's O.F.S. is the better. Apart from these, and especially as regards Rhodesia, St. Helena, Sierra Leone, Union, S.W.A. and the various "small fry" of East and West Africa he has not seen or heard of any equals.

Everyone may not agree with this opinion, but that is quite immaterial; there can be no two opinions about the munificence of this gift from Mrs. Cunningham and Dr. Mosley.



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PHILATELIC QUIZZ CONTESTS

The Philatelic Society of Natal has hit upon a new means of keeping its members amused by promoting a series of philatelic "quizz" competitions as an occasional relief from heavier and more serious philatelic fare.

Following upon competitions staged by Mr. J. Lyle and Mr. G. Milner Palmer, the contest at the December meeting was organised by Mr. Percy C. Bishop, who propounded eleven questions, the majority of which were to be answered by a single word, either "True" or "Untrue."

The following were the questions:—

1. Is it true or untrue that the 8c. U.S.A. stamp of 1902, bearing the head of Martha Washington, represents the first use of the head of a woman not of royal rank as a postage stamp design? (female heads of a mythical or allegorical character, such as "Ceres," "Liberty," etc., being excluded).

2. Is it true or untrue that a certain European nation has decided to appoint a Philatelist or a Philatelic Publicist to its Philatelic Bureau, the duty of which Bureau is to advise the Government on all matter relating to the issue, design, quantity and use of postage stamps?

3. If you have given the answer "True" to Question 2, state now which European nation has decided to take this step. If you have answered "Untrue" simply repeat the word "Untrue."

4. For this question competitors were referred to the 1903 issue of the stamps of St. Kitts-Nevis showing a picture of Christopher Columbus peering out to sea with a telescope to his eye. And the question was: "Is it true or untrue to say that Columbus is pictured on these stamps using a telescope at a time prior to the telescope's invention?"

(Note: It has been objected that Columbus could not have used a telescope since that gadget was said to be the invention of Galileo, who was not born until after Columbus was dead. But, in fact, Galileo did not invent the telescope—he perfected it from the rather crude types that had been invented long before his time. One of these crude old telescopes Columbus probably used.)

5. Is it true or untrue that there is one great nation whose postage stamps have never given any indication in words of the country of issue

(Note: The name of Great Britain at once leaps to the mind; but Mr. Bishop pointed out that on at least two occasions British stamps have indicated in words their origin—firstly, the Wembley issues of 1924-1925, which were inscribed "British Empire Exhibition," and, secondly, the Postal Union stamps of 1929, which were lettered "Postal Union Congress, London.")

6. If you have answered Question 5 with the word "True" state here the name of the

great nation to which you refer. If you answered "Untrue" merely repeat that answer.

7. Is it true or untrue that a certain pictorial stamp of a British colony bears the full-length portrait of an American citizen?

8. If your answer to Question 7 was "True," state here the name of the Colony and the value of the stamp referred to. If you wrote as your answer "Untrue" just repeat that answer.

9. Is it true or untrue that there is a certain country which has consistently forbidden the export of its postage stamps from the first year of their issue, at first confining this embargo to the stamps for inland use but later extending it to those for external postage? If you answer "True" to this, please also give the name of the country you have in mind.

10. Is it true or untrue that a stamp exists showing George Washington in the uniform of a Colonel of the British Army?

11. If you have answered "True" to Question 10, state here the name of the country and date of issue of the stamp.

(Answers given on page
Answers to the Quizz on page

1. True.
2. True.
3. Spain.
4. Untrue.
5. Untrue.
6. Untrue.
7. True.
8. Newfoundland 4 cents (1897).
9. True (Yemen).
10. True
11. U.S.A. issue of 1930.

(A question arose as to the validity of the answer to No. 9, one member alleging that at Aden one could buy as many unused Yemen stamps as one wanted. Mr. Bishop's reply was that his question merely referred to the law of the country concerned and had nothing to do with illegal back-door supplies. Wherever stamps were issued, and collectors wanted them they would leak out somehow.)

The contest excited considerable interest and a good deal of amusement. One paper—that of Mr. V. B. Crockett—revealed six correct answers, and to him was awarded the prize, consisting of a set of the South African "bantams," ½d. to 1s., with "S.W.A." overprint, in their appropriate pairs and strips, together with a pair of the 1s. 3d. airmail stamp similarly overprinted.

Members are looking forward to the next "Quizz" Contest, which is to be staged at the February meeting by Mr. A. E. Basden.

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CORRESPONDENCE

CANADA

I recently discovered S.G. 321 A (Die 2) with "PUSTAGE" for "POSTAGE"; this variety shows a clean cut "U," and it would be interesting to hear whether any other Canadian specialists have found this interesting item.

Talking of Canadian stamps, I subjoin an extract from a Canadian paper regarding the Royal Visit Commemorative issue of May, 1939, which may help to add a few more varieties to collections.

"Keen-eyed philatelists have detected flaws in certain series of the stamps issued in commemoration of the Royal Visit to Canada. The imperfection was noted in some stamps on all three denominations, while others were flawless.

"Laymen looking for the error will find it most pronounced in some of the two-cent stamps bearing the picture of the New Canadian War Memorial. Some of this issue show that the top of the memorial has dropped down from the top of the frame and as a result a number of brown lines run through the date 1939 immediately below the picture. In the other denominations the pictures of Their Majesties and of the Princesses are not in the exact centre of their frames, leaving a slight trace of white at the left of the photos. The deviations are only evident in some stamps, and philatelists believe that the first-run stamps may have been the perfect ones and that in subsequent runs the medallions in the centre slipped slightly."

W. J. EWART,
Ladysmith.

"HANDSTRUCK LETTER STAMPS"

May I protest as vigorously (and I hope as suavely) as possible against the comments on my views, expressed by my friend Adrian Jurgens in the *S.A. Philatelist* of July, 1944, on pages 78—79?

The term "hailed over the coals" applied to my differing with his judgment as to what terms should be used for the town, rate and service markings on stampless covers of the 18th and 19th century, is, I think, unjustified. I pointed out, in an obviously broadly humorous way, the defects in the terminology used by Mr. Lowe and Mr. Jurgens. Mr. Lowe being a fellow-Rotarian with me, though in a club some 3,000 miles from my own, I see no fault in using his first name in the form in which I learn it is used in Rotary. We all use first names or nicknames, in shortened form usually in Rotary—even the International President of Rotary is "Tom" to all Rotarians.

The able and solid scholarship of Mr. Jurgens' comment, showing what the past usage

for these postal markings was, must unfortunately be dismissed as not bearing upon the subject. We are not living in 1790 or 1840; modern usage simply does not agree with that of the past. Whatever a "stamp" may originally have meant, to-day it means the affixed or printed-on label denoting payment of postage and the amount thereof. To revive former usage is thus to confuse the issue. The modern usage which I mention is understood wherever the English language is used and in all its variants from Basic and Pidgin to the most advanced poetic style.

The terms "Letter Stamps" and the like are to-day simply invitations to confusion with postage stamps. In fact, the renewed introduction of them for town, rate and service markings on stampless covers was done in order to make such material merchantable among stamp collectors. It was a shrewd, able piece of commercial work.

The term "Stampless Covers" naturally might logically include modern official free covers (whether in South Africa under the O.H.M.S. imprint or in the U.S. under the "Official Business" penalty corner mark). But I can assure Mr. Jurgens and others, that in the seventeen years since Frederick S. Eaton first popularised their collecting, and through three editions of the Stampless Cover Catalogue by Konwiser from 1935 on, no confusion with modern unstamped official or permit-mailed covers has occurred. Bob Lowe came into this field much later than the pioneers I have named, and his terminology is an innovation to be approved or rejected on its own merits only.

The terms "town mark," "rate mark" and "service mark" suffice for all stampless cover purpose, and we do not need to revive any past usage. In so speaking, may I mention that as state editor for New Jersey in the Stampless Cover Catalogue, I am in a good position to know if any confusion might exist; for I collect New Jersey covers old and new, stamped and stampless, 1780 to 1944. (I'd collect them before 1780 if I could get any.) I collect stampless covers of the Kingdom of Poland, of Cape of Good Hope, and of Natal. This is not said to boast, but to present my credentials as a collector entitled to pass an informed judgment by width and length of experience.

Let us stick to actual current usage and not attempt to revive that of bygone periods.

STEPHEN G. RICH,
New Jersey

IRISH PHILATELIC EXHIBITION

The Irish Philatelic Society held their exhibition in the National Museum, Dublin, October 23 to November 4, 1944. It is reported as having been very successful with a plentitude of exhibits, several of them known internationally, and an attendance the public above expectations, averaging about 1,000 a day for the fortnight. They did not run to any stamp issue but had a special postmark "Irish Philatelic Exhibition." Thanks to Mr. A. Lichtenstein for seeing a specimen.

CODE OF DESCRIPTIVE TERMS

The September *Windsor Monthly Philatelic Bulletin*, in addition to its usual lists of offers, includes the following "Stamp Description Chart" drawn up for the American Philatelic Society. If it attains wide popularity and usage it should be very useful, but if only used by a few it might be confusing. What do our readers think of it as a practical proposition?

A.—Unused Stamps

1. Mint. With gum as issued or without gum if so issued.
2. The same stamp but lightly hinged.
3. The same stamp but heavily hinged.
4. An OG stamp where gum is missing in spots.
5. A stamp issued with gum but now without gum.
6. Stamp with cracked gum.

B.—Used Stamps

1. Very Light Cancellation.
2. Light Cancellation.
3. Medium Cancellation.
4. Medium Heavy Cancellation.
5. Heavy Cancellation.
6. Fiscal Cancellation.
7. Pen Cancellation.

C.—Centering

1. Perfectly centered.
2. Slightly off centre.
3. Considerably off centre, but no margins touching.
4. Perforations touch one side.
5. Perforations touch two sides.

D.—Stamp Defects

1. Creased.
2. Small thin spot.
3. Pin hole.
4. Small tear.
5. Cut cancellation.
6. Perforations cut.
7. Perforated initials.

E.—Stamp Defects, Cont.

1. Perforations snubbed.
2. Straight edge.
3. Discoloured.
4. Large thin spot.
5. Face peeled.
6. Large tear.
7. Faded.

Abbreviations: top—t, bottom—b, right—r, left—l.

HOW TO USE THE CHART.

A perfect mint stamp would be described in this manner: A1 C1. This means that it is a mint stamp as issued, perfectly centred, without any defects whatsoever.

A superb used stamp would be B1 C1.

A used stamp, with medium heavy cancellation, with perforations touching one side, perforated initials and one straight edge would be: B4 C4 D7 E2. Note that it took eighteen words to describe the stamp while by using the chart it required but four letters and four numerals.

Stamps with distinctive cancellations should be graded as above with an additional statement as to type of cancellation—an anchor, a star, a crown, etc. In such cases the collector is really buying the cancellation.

When one wants to indicate more specifically where perforations cut in, where a straight edge is located, etc. (such as top, bottom, right or left), use a small letter following the numerals so to indicate in this manner: B2 C4t E2r. This means that the perforations touch at the top and the straight edge is at the right.

Where a stamp has been repaired or changed in any manner, grade it as if not repaired or changed and then mention its condition.

BECHUANALAND FAKES.

Cheap stamps are sometimes faked, as well as rarities. *Emco Monthly Journal*, the house organ of the Marks Stamp Co., Toronto, states that some years ago packet makers in Europe were hard put to it to make up collections of 20,000 or more different stamps and some unscrupulous ones faked stamps to make up deficiencies. One collection of 20,000 is reported to have had almost 1,000 faked surcharge on common stamps. Amongst others the K.G. V stamps of Great Britain received faked surcharges of "Bechuanaland Protectorate" in two vertical lines (Issue of 1914-24). These fake surcharges can be distinguished from genuines by the letters being blurred instead of sharply defined; the lines are 18 m.m. long instead of 17½ m.m., and the openings in such letters as "a," "o," "d," etc., are small or even closed instead of being clearly open and distinct.

A VERY FRIENDLY GESTURE

The latest issue of the *Essay-Proof Journal* arrived with an accompanying note stating: "We continue to send regardless of whether paper shortage prevents your reciprocating."

This is much appreciated because at present we cannot reciprocate for reasons given last month.

The *Essay-Proof Journal* has a wide field and continues to have articles, lists and commencing catalogues of essays and proofs dealing with any or every stamp issuing country in the world.

SWAZILAND

According to "Stamp Collecting" the Crown Agents released early in December new printings of the ½d. and 1s. values, perf. 13¼ x 13¾ as in the printing of January, 1943. The ½d. is on thinner, more transparent paper and is yellowish green instead of deep green; the 1s. is of a deeper olive tint.

CARIMBOLOGIA

No answers have been received to the note in our December issue about this term in a Brazilian philatelic journal. It comes from "Carimbo," which is the Portuguese word for a seal and "Carimboлогия" might therefore be taken to mean the science of, or the study of seals.

COLLECTORS' WANTS AND OFFERS

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

Seychelles and Sierra Leone fine used copies wanted. Particularly Edward and George. High prices willingly paid.

William Redford, Box 7012, Johannesburg.

Transvaal, Griqualand West, O.F.S. covers and rarities wanted by A. E. Basden, Killarney, Brickhill Road, Durban.

Collections Wanted to Buy.—Old and Modern Collections, Single Rarities and Errors, Duplicates and Office Mixtures.

Prompt cash on acceptance of offer: E. M. Lacy (Globe Postage Stamp Co.), 117 Longmarket Street, Cape Town.

Wanted: Transvaal, Natal, Cape, O.F.S., Bechuanaland, Gambia, St. Helena, Egypt, France. Picked copies, rarities and varieties, also 9,000 items for world collection up to 1933 issues. E. Hunt, Box 2437, Johannesburg.

For Service, promptness and satisfaction.

Benoni Stamp Shop, Box 485, Benoni. Phone 54-1692.

Mr. E. Tamsen, Box 13, Nylstroom, offers Blocks of South African Colonies and Union, also full range of Entires.

Basutoland: Wanted covers, or stamps postmarked in Basutoland before 1910.

Harding, Box 108, Ladybrand.

All South African Stamps wanted, Wholesale quantities.

S. Curtis & Co., Ashhurst, New Zealand.

Wanted: S.A. Military Postmarks in S.W.A. Stanley Gibbons 18a. and 46a. Postage Due D.2.a.—D.8.B and C.

F. Mattei, 24 Hoofd Street, Braamfontein, Johannesburg.

Current issues of British Colonials supplied at 12½ per cent. above face value or cost. Also other stamps at very reasonable prices. Postage and insurance extra. Full particulars from Arthur F. Wolton, "Roddfield," Hayle, Cornwall, England.

Wanted: Rhodesia, Bechuanaland, or other stamps cancelled "Tati" or "Francistown." Full S.G. prices for approved specimens.

Noel Roberts, Booyens, Johannesburg.

Rhodesian stamps, rare items high values, etc., wanted for cash.

Thiele, 455 West Street, Durban.

WANTED, Map Stamps.

E. G. Powell, P.O. Box 44, East London.

WANTED, "South African Philatelist," all issues, in exchange for other magazines, philatelic and non-philatelic. Philatelic courtesies reciprocated with "Flags" stamps.

The Philatelic Library, Box 1712 WLB, Los Angeles 36, California.

BASUTOLAND

The Crown Agents released a new printing of the 2d, last October of a lighter shade than the printing on sale during 1944. It also differs in being perf. 12½ x 12¾ instead of 12½ all round. We have not heard whether it is on sale yet in Basutoland itself.

WINGS OVER THE KALAHARI.

Under this title *The Aero-Field* of Aug.-Sept., 1944, has an interesting article, with sketch map and photographs, of a scarce South African Air Mail, viz., that inaugurating the service between Johannesburg and Windhoek via Palapye and Maun.

A survey flight was made in September, 1938, and the first actual mail carrying flight left on 1st November, 1938, with return from Windhoek on 5th November.

Incidentally, the same issue has reprinted the article by Mr. A. Hilton Sydow on the Air Stamps of South Africa which appeared in *The South African Philatelist*.

AIR NOTES—E. AFRICA AND KENYA

The *Aero-Field* quotes our old friend Lieut. Godfrey as reporting a new type of air letter card used by the E.A. Forces (it apparently actually dates back to 1.1.43). It is on thin pink paper with a 25c meter postage stamp in red.

Lieut. Godfrey states that the 70c ^{2/3} charged on 1s. Union should be very scarce in used pairs as only registered air mail and parcel post could normally have required them. He has ascertained that all such stamps used on airgraphs are not only cancelled but mutilated by perforation and a very strict check is being put on the possibility of any of them coming on the market.

"Covers the World"



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● **RUSSIA**

1944 Stratosphere Heroes (3)...	6	9
†1944 Militant Friendship (2)...	3	6
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	10	6

● **BRITISH EMPIRE**

BECHUANALAND

S.G. 53 broken P ...	£7	0	0
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BR. SOMALILAND 1938 ... £8 0 0

†**GREAT BRITAIN P.U.C. £1** ... £2 0 0

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†**NATAL S.G. 171 vertical pair**
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S.G. 15 vertical ...	£15	0	0
S.G. 86-87 ...	18	9	0
S.G. 0.1-4 ...	£15	0	0

SOUTH AFRICA

26 Oct. '18 post card "Make Your Sixpence Fly" ...	£4	10	0
†Blue Wing on Red Cross ...	£4	10	0
†Black Wing ...	£6	0	0
1925 Air mint set ...	£2	0	0
used set ...	£2	5	0
cover set ...	£2	10	0
original souvenir card	£40	0	0

Postage Extra.

†Indicates used, otherwise mint.

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Each month The Windsor Stamp Co. publish **THE WINDSOR MONTHLY PHILATELIC BULLETIN**, an attractive 12 page illustrated list.

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REVIEWS AND NOTICES

The De La Rue Georgians of South Africa, by H. E. Lobdell.

This monograph of 100 pages is a revision of articles published during 1941-42 in the *Collectors' Club Philatelist* and the *South African Philatelist*, but incorporates a good deal of new material, especially on the dies of the King's Head issue and on these stamps as used in S.W.A. (both overprinted and unoverprinted) and the Protectorates.

It is splendidly illustrated, and is a mine of information, not only in itself but in the way of bibliographical references. The writer must be highly commended for his painstaking work; although scholarly it is not musty or dull, far from it. The writer is on the staff of the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, and this work on his hobby comes up to what we expect from the scientific side of that Institute; need we say any more?

It is a work which should be in the hands of every collector of Unions having any pretence at specialising; it is published by the Collectors' Club, but they give no indication whether copies are obtainable from them, or at what price.

"*Food for Thought*," 4th edition of the Philatelic Literature Catalogue, by Albert H. Harris, Editor of the *Philatelic Magazine*, 112 Strand, London W.C. 2; price 1s.

No serious collector can for long go on without literature on his subject. Here is a list of the Harris stock available of almanacks, annuals, famous auction catalogues, handbooks, journals, separata, general catalogues—in fact, anything and everything connected with philately. There are over fifty closely set pages of alphabetical listing, and everyone should be able to find something to read up on his favourite subject.

"*The Stamp Collectors' Fortnightly*," Jubilee.

Congratulations to our contemporary on having reached its jubilee issue on 14th October last. Long may it continue!

WANTED TO BUY

Fine Used stamps, particularly medium and high values, of all African Colonies. Large quantities taken if price is right.

I. OFFER FACE PLUS 10%

for fine used stamps of Basutoland, Bechuanaland, Gambia, Nyasaland, Swaziland, etc. Offers wanted from all parts of the Empire, particularly the smaller colonies.

Please write by Airmail. References appreciated.

HARRY ALLEN

(Member Philatelic Traders Society, London)

WHOLESALE STAMP IMPORTER

23 Shaftesbury Way, Hayes, Middx., England.

Although not the oldest philatelic journal in Britain, it claims to be the oldest independent one in its own right. It could artificially add to its age, because, on 12th January, 1895, it took over the "Stamp Collectors' Monthly", which had been started in 1889 by Percy C. Bishop, first editor of the "S.C.F."

This gives us an almost paternal interest in the "S.C.F." as P.C.B. is still a stalwart in philately here and has recently taken on another philatelic editorship. *Floreat episcopus et res philatelicæ!*

Philately in Belgian Congo.

The Cercle Philatélique de Leopoldville last year started a monthly "Bulletin" (in French), of which they have been good enough to send us copies. This has lists of various emissions of the Congo and of French colonies in Africa, stamps offered for sale or exchange (especially African items) in addition to general notes on new issues, etc. We shall look to it in future for specialised information on Belgian Congo issues.

The Jamaica Philatelist.

Thanks to the Jamaica Philatelic Society for their 1944 Annual Magazine. This, as usual, has several articles of general interest and several dealing in more detail with West Indian stamps and "Jamaicana." Perhaps the most interesting in this number is a paper by Mr. G. C. Gunter on the set of seven stamps to be issued in connection with the granting of a new constitution to the island. Six designs, which are to be used for the seven stamps, are illustrated.

The stamps are to be: 1½d. brown, Falmouth Court House; 2d. green, Heads of King Charles II and King George VI, flanked by their respective maces; 3d. blue and 10s. green, Institute of Jamaica (Museum); 4½d. purple, old House of Assembly, in Spanish Town; 2s. chocolate, symbolical of Labour and Learning; 5s. red, flag of Jamaica over a tropical sea, etc.

Whitfield King's "Standard Catalogue of the Postage Stamps of the World," 44th edition, 1945, price 12s. 6d.

This appears probably for the last time in one volume. It is already divided into two parts, British Empire and Foreign, but for this year it has been found necessary to bind them together.

Part 1 shows only 209 additions, bringing the total number of standard varieties listed under British Empire issues to 16,415. Part 2 numbers 1,194 additions with a total listing of 60,835. We shudder to think what the additions will be when those of the past five years come to be available for record.

The catalogue, as is well known, ignores perforation differences and most watermark differences and, therefore, does not appeal to the specialist collector, but it is eminently suitable for most general collectors. It is a good guide for prices; in both sections there are many rises since last year.

SOCIETY NEWS

PRETORIA PHILATELIC SOCIETY

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

2nd January: Mr. Ferguson in the chair. Mr. Hawke read an article on the experiences of a soldier philatelist in the North.

Short Papers. Dr. Broughton gave a talk on the arrangement of stamps, pointing out that one space for one stamp precluded the addition to the collection of established varieties. He advocated the accumulation of a lot of stamps including shades, etc., and then plan their arrangement. Mr. Dodd read a paper on the only known forged stamp of Great Britain—the 1s. green in 1870. This stamp was forged and fraudulently used by one man in stock exchange transactions and was only discovered about 25 years later. Mr. Konya gave a talk embracing different subjects, such as arrangement of stamps according to the collector's own inclination. He criticised the designs of S.A. stamps and suggested competitive designs. He also described the treatment of tourists in Japan. Mr. Hawke read a paper on Ascension. From being a bare volcanic island before the war, inhabited only by the staff of the Cable Co., it had become a hive of important military activities. Mr. Ravenscroft read a paper on Idle Thoughts of a philatelist. Many people had a collecting tendency which ranged from bottles to all sorts of weird objects. He discussed the reasons for stamp collecting and showed what a lot of sidelines in different countries were depicted on stamps.

Mr. Watson tabled a fine lot of mint stamps from different countries, and Dr. Broughton showed varieties of Rhodesia.

15th January: Mr. Ferguson in the chair. Mr. Hawke read some philatelic extracts.

Mr. Wilson read a paper on photographic processes in the production of stamps. He described the difficulties of colour photography and showed by means of diagrams the effect of light when passing through different media and through prisms. A good photographic lens was made by combining glass of different refractive indices. He described the light-sensitive emulsion used on films and plates and he showed specimens of different films, concluding with a fine photograph taken by means of light screens of a set of coloured stamps.

Mr. Wright showed a very fine and extensive collection of the Rhodesias.

H.A.W.

EAST LONDON PHILATELIC SOCIETY

President, Mr. A. Watson; *Hon. Secretary*, Mr. S. F. Fowler, P.O. Box 168, East London. *Meetings*, Colosseum Building, 2nd Fridays, 7.45 p.m.

At the January meeting 18 members and two visitors were present.

The usual business was transacted in the course of which a letter from Lieut. Cowan, R.A.F., was read notifying his departure and transfer and expressing the appreciation of himself and wife for the welcome received and for the many pleasant evenings spent at the Society and with members.

Covers were passed round showing the latest United States Commemoratives in blocks of four.

Mr. Paviour then read a most interesting and instructive paper on the history and stamps of the United States of America, touching also on the Civil War and the Confederate States issues. Like all this member's papers, it was full of information, both philatelic and otherwise, and was presented in a manner which held the entire attention of his audience.

The collection which was subsequently laid out for inspection was a very exhaustive one, commencing with a goodly number of the earliest and Confederates and continuing with practically complete sets of the latter issues, many pages of the Commemoratives and pre-

cancels, errors and varieties, etc. At the end there were several pages of the attractive early Revenue Stamps.

The meeting concluded after the usual auction, a fair number of lots being disposed of.

T.A.H.

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NYASALAND PHILATELIC SOCIETY

President, Mr. C. Stevens; *Hon. Secretary*, Mr. Anson; *Meetings*, 2nd Mondays, Tobacco Auction Rooms, Limbe, 5 p.m.

Present: Nine members.

Correspondence: During the previous month the president received an envelope from the Philatelic Society of Johannesburg, bearing a block of 4 Exhibition Stamps "Speed the Victory Fair." Mr. Booth purchased this envelope for 2s., this amount being handed to the president for the Society's stamp collection.

The secretary also received a letter from the above Society containing a hundred blocks of these stamps requesting they be sold at 1s. per block and half the proceeds of the sale to be put to any Nyasaland war fund this Society care to choose.

Items of Interest: Mr. Milne informed the meeting that as far as is known at the moment the new issue of Nyasaland Postage Stamps will not be on sale for some considerable time.

C.S.

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PORT ELIZABETH PHILATELIC SOCIETY

President, G. K. Forbes; *Hon. Sec.*, M. C. Sheffield, P.O. Box 88; *Meetings*, Room 8, City Hall Basement, 1st and 3rd Tuesday.

The last meeting of the year was held on December 19, and presided over by Mr. G. K. Forbes, who stated that he hoped to be back permanently in February. Mr. Deschamps displayed a large portion of his general collection. Great interest was shown in a couple of Cape woodblocks in the display.

Mr. T. H. Nicholson was in the chair at the first meeting of the year, on January 16. A motion was carried that members could not display more than 50 pages of stamps at once so that there would be time to study the collection. Mr. P. Smith tabled 31 pages of British Possessions, present issues all mint, mostly in complete sets. The four pages of Falkland Islands Dependencies in blocks of four were keenly scrutinised. Mr. Malcolm showed about the same number of pages, mint, of British Possessions.

Mr. Malcolm is leaving us to return to Cradock and takes the good wishes of the Society with him.

L.E.C.

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EAST RAND PHILATELIC SOCIETY

President, Lt. J. A. B. van Wyk; *Hon. Secretary-Treasurer*, E. N. Rigg, 103 Kemston Avenue, Benoni; *Meetings*, 3rd Tuesdays, 8 p.m., Hotel Regent, Benoni.

At our January meeting there was a fair attendance. News of the month was given by Mr. Shepherd. Several items of interest were shown. The evening's exhibits were (1) Mrs. Woods' collection of China, a fairly large collection, starting from the early issues of 1878, then Chinese Imperial Post, Commemorating the Revolution, Air Mail stamps, General Chiang Kai-shek, stamps issued up to the present war. In the various issues there were very few vacant spaces and this collection was a change from the usual displays. (2) Mr. Rigg, two collections: (a) Great Britain from the Penny Black up to the present George VI issue; (b) Rhodesia, starting with the British South Africa Co. following up with Double Heads, then Northern and Southern Rhodesia.

E.G.R.

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CAPE TOWN PHILATELIC SOCIETY

President, W. D. Vallance; *Hon. Secretary*, S. Kaganson, P.O. Box 1973, Cape Town; *Meetings*, 2nd and 4th Thursdays at Yorkshire Buildings, Strand Street, at 7.30 p.m.

Thursday, 14th December: There was a change from the usual routine at this meeting as immediately after the conclusion of the ordinary business of the evening the rest of the time was devoted to "auction."

Mr. K. Alexander, the hon. auctioneer, was in good fettle and over 100 lots were offered for sale, realising over £40.

Thursday, 28th December: The Festive Season and holidays no doubt accounted for the rather small attendance, 32 members and visitors, but nevertheless a very enjoyable evening was spent by all. The exhibitors for the evening were Mr. A. M. Jones, who showed his "Cape Triangulars," and Mr. E. C. Solomon, M.P.C., who gave us the balance of his "Queen's Head" collection, the Colonies on show being St. Helena, Seychelles and the Falkland Islands. Both exhibits attracted keen interest and the commentaries were closely followed.

The usual auction brought the meeting to a close after seasonable greetings had been extended to all by the president.

Thursday, 11th January, 1945. The New Year opened well with a good attendance of members and visitors at this meeting, when Mr. C. G. Mummery tabled a really outstanding display of the stamps of Ascension, and followed this up with a very interesting paper on the history and stamps of the Island.

The collection, which gained a Bronze Plaque at the 1936 Exhibition at Johannesburg, was complete in "Normals," in used, and mint condition, and also as regards "Specimens" overprinted and perforated. Of the varieties only two were missing, the 4d. and 6d. "Split Mainmast," but pride of place must be given to the covers and stamps of Great Britain used in Ascension—a really fine collection.

A hearty vote of thanks was moved by Cdr. Enoch and seconded by Mr. W. D. Vallance, both speakers referring to the outstanding collection of stamps of Great Britain used on the Island prior to the definite issue, and wished Mr. Mummery "good hunting" for the two missing varieties.

After the usual business had been completed, the evening's proceedings were rounded off with the auction.

Thursday, 25th January, 1945: The clerk of the weather was not too kind to us at this meeting and this no doubt accounted for the somewhat smaller attendance of members than usual, but those who braved the elements were well rewarded by a very fine display entitled "Bits and Pieces" by Mr. K. Alexander. The title certainly correctly described the collection in a nutshell as items of interest were shown from all over the globe, many of them being in blocks of eight and more. There was something of interest for everybody, and as Mr. Croxford stated in moving a vote of thanks, it was one of the finest collections of "Bits and Pieces" he had seen, and fully bore out the statement so often heard that Mr. Alexander collected "anything and everything." The usual auction was held after the conclusion of the business of the evening, most items offered being for Red Cross Funds.

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B.L.C.

THE JEWISH GUILD PHILATELIC SECTION.

Chairman, Mr. E. C. Sprighton; *Hon. Sec.*, Mr. I. Isaacs, 910 His Majesty's Buildings, Eloff Street, Johannesburg

At the meeting held on January 25 the exhibit was Canada Air Flights by Mr. I. Isaacs. The exhibit included a selection of special flights and first flights of Government services between 1924 and 1939. The main interest of Canadian First Flights is the variety of cachets that appear on the covers. These cachets include animals, buildings, maps and birds-eye views of towns. The exhibit included some transatlantic flights beginning from Canada. There was a large selection of Trans Prairie and North-West Territory flights. The latter included some Arctic flights.

During the evening an interesting discussion took place as to the merits of collecting mint or used stamps, and as to whether used stamps should be collected only on cover. A variety of views were expressed. Of course the beauty of our hobby is that everybody can please himself as to the way he collects, and it is quite impossible to say that any particular person collects the wrong way.

The Jewish Guild Philatelic Section cordially welcomes visitors. Anybody who is at all interested in stamp collecting will be welcome. The meetings are held at the Jewish Guild Memorial Hall, Von Brandis Street, on the first floor, and all that a visitor has to do is to walk in and sign the visitor's book.

The next meeting will be held on Thursday, February 22.

I.I.

THE PHILATELIC SOCIETY OF JOHANNESBURG.

President, F. J. H. Lang; *Hon. Secretary*, L. Buchen, P.O. Box 4967, Johannesburg; *Meetings*, 2nd and 4th Tuesdays, Public Library, Johannesburg, 7.45 p.m.

Following are notices of the last five meetings which are briefly written up in view of the shortage of space.

24th October: Our guest from Cape Town, Mr. Alexander, tabled an interesting exhibit of miniature sheets. Dr. Kaplan read an instructive paper entitled "The Story of the Cape Triangulars" which in turn was illustrated by an exhibit of these stamps, shown by Mr. F. J. H. Lang. Dr. Kaplan pointed out, among many interesting facts, that the plates of the Woodblocks, which were printed in 1858, were defaced in 1865, but that copies are known used as late as 1878 at Graaff Reinet. The auction for war funds realised £2.

14th November. As usual the event of the evening was the auction on behalf of the Hospital, and a total of £34 was realised. Mr. W. J. Schubart showed a very beautiful collection of the stamps of Holland.

There was no second meeting in November due to the fact that members were very busy at the stamp exhibition at the Speed the Victory Fair, and were gratified at the substantial amount collected on behalf of our war funds as a result of that effort.

12th December. Four new members were elected at this meeting. Members from the East Rand Philatelic Society paid us an official visit under the leadership of their president, Mr. J. Shepherd, who showed a really outstanding collection of S.W.A., including varieties galore. Also, Mrs. G. Wood showed a very pretty collection of Switzerland and Mr. P. R. Gutsche brought a splendid collection of Cape Triangulars.

9th January. Mr. F. J. H. Lang tabled a superb and valuable collection of mint stamps of S.W.A. which included many rarities and blocks of high valued items all in immaculate mint condition. It was appropriate for Mr. J. Shepherd to express the thanks of those present for this exhibit because of his wide knowledge of the stamps of S.W.A. A further substantial amount was realised from the auction for war funds, but members are again reminded to help in this objective by contributing stamps to be auctioned for this worthy cause.

23rd January. This was our usual informal meeting which was made particularly enjoyable by Mr. J. Robertson's exhibit of many of the Islands and Ports in the Aegean, the stamps of which document the chequered history of those places which have been conquered repeatedly during this belligerent 20th century. Among many of the odd names appearing in this exhibit were: Mt. Athos, Castelrosso, Samos, Dedeagatz, Cavalle, Chios, Icaria, Lemnos and Mytilene. The classifications of some of the issues shown for these places were rather amusing, including: bogus, unofficial and unauthorised, forgeries, provisional Greek Government overprint, prepared but not issued, and newspaper stamps cut out of wrapper and used as postage stamps, etc.

Also, Mr. Robertson brought his Violet Ray lamp in which many seemingly very beautiful mint copies as well as high value stamps were found to be fakes, and in one case of the Cape Triangulars, all three sides were beautifully replaced with margins to a width of about $\frac{1}{2}$ inch, but so cleverly done that it could not be seen in normal light.

At our March 13th meeting Mr. G. Carleton Jones will exhibit his stamps of Nova Scotia.

War funds benefited from the usual auction to the extent of £4.

+

H.E.B.

THE PHILATELIC SOCIETY OF NATAL

President, A. L. Bevis; *Hon. Sec.*, G. Milner, Palmer, P.O. Box 588, Durban; *Meetings*, 1st and 3rd Wednesdays at London Assurance House, 319 Smith Street (in the rooms of the Durban Camera Club, top floor), 7.30 p.m.

Four new members were proposed for final election at our last committee meeting.

We were pleased to receive a donation of an example of early Bechuanaland Protectorate with forged overprint. This was donated by Captain G. G. Smith to add to the Society's collection.

Mr. W. H. Winde read, as usual, notes of philatelic interest.

Mr. J. R. Simpson showed his fine collection of Barbadoes, and also read a short paper on the country and its philatelic history.

G.M.P.

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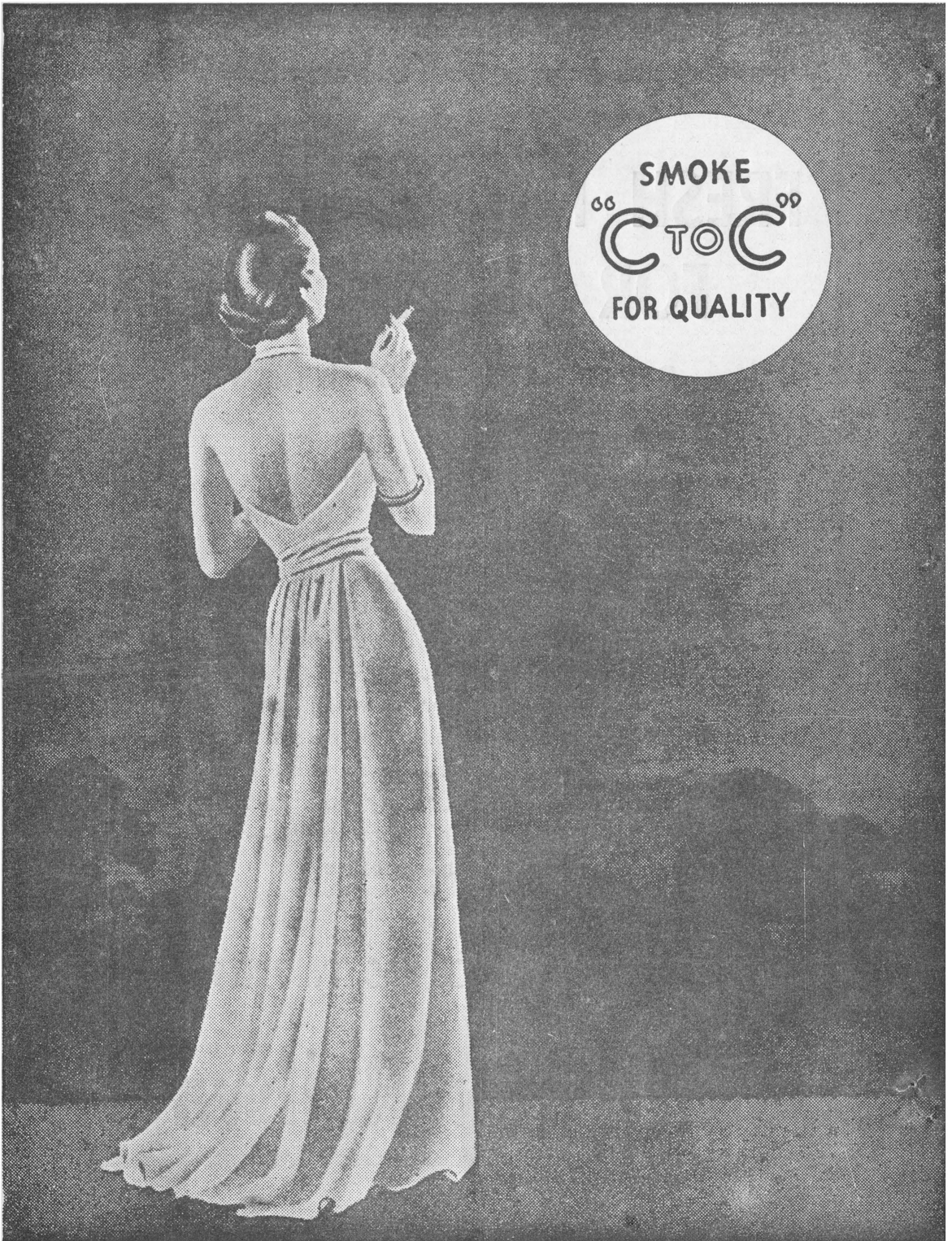
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MARCH, 1945.

Whole No. 240.

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MARCH, 1945.

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UNION NOTES

The 2d. value in the pale shade has recently been overprinted "official—offisicel" with the overprint vertically upwards. The 3d. value of the Postage Due stamps has now been issued in miniature form. We are indebted to the Robertson Stamp Company (Pty.), Ltd., for this information.

SWAZILAND

We have now received a specimen of the Swaziland Air Mail letter card from Mr. J. F. Fick, of Bremersdorp. Apparently the overprint is on the English stamps only.

AUSTRALIA

A new 2d. stamp has been issued for Australia. The colour is reddish-purple. It contains a portrait of the King, and at the side is a blue-gum or eucalyptus tree. The marginal imprint reads "Printed by authority of the Commonwealth of Australia."

EGYPTIAN INTERPOSTAL SEALS

In the latest number of the *Philatelic Journal of Great Britain*, Dr. William Byam, Chairman of the Egypt Study Circle, has a critical article on the various views that have been put forward as to the status of these "curiously plain and plainly curious labels." His conclusions are:

(a) That they had no power to defray postal charges and are not postage stamps.

(b) That they were primarily intended to denote the office of despatch of all mail transmitted in bulk between one post office and another, being postmarked to record the date of departure.

(c) That they were also employed as seals, wafers and in other ways, included among which are as transit markings and to fasten postal documents to notice boards.

These conclusions deal with status; his final one may be said to be one of opinion or individual fancy. It is:

(d) They are eminently collectable and worthy of study.

MICROFILM OR AIRGRAPH MAIL.

Mr. Norman Hill, who has written in our columns on African Air Mail Etiquettes, has a valuable article in the September issue of the *American Philatelist* giving an account of the start and development of this type of mail with a chronological table of main events from April, 1941, to November, 1943.

This service was started for the benefit of British forces in the Middle East, the first message being sent by Gen. Wavell to the late Sir John Dill on 17.4.41. It arrived in England with 40-50 thousand others on 13.5.41. Since then the service has spread to almost all parts of the British Empire, for both troops and civilians. The U.S.A. took it up in June, 1942, as "V-mail" for the benefit of their forces in Britain.

LIBYAN OCCUPATION OVERPRINTS

Mekeel's Weekly reports that there have recently come to light two groups of overprints, British and French, on Libyan stamps of the 1924 issue, made after the 1943 occupation. The French one we have heard of before, not the British, but we think caution should be exercised before either are accepted as officially authorised.

There are said to be 4 of the British group, 1d., 2d., 4d. and 6d. on 1c, 2c, 5c and 10c respectively, the wording being "British Occupation—One Penny," etc.

The French group are said to be 4 of values 5 fr. on 50c, 50 fr. on 75c, 20 fr. on 1.75 fr. and 35c on 1 fr., the wording being "Fezzan Occupation Francaise." There are also three others, one reading "R.F. 1 fr. Fezzan" on 25c, and two of similar wording on stamps of Italy, a 0.50 on 50c postage and a 0.50 on 50c air mail.

ADEN

A new value of 14 annas has recently been issued for this territory. The Robertson Stamp Co. (Pty.), Ltd., has given us this information.

BRAZIL

Three new commemoratives have recently been issued by Brazil. The first is to commemorate the centenary of the Rio Grande City Chamber of Commerce. The second commemorates the death of the Brazilian statesman, Martins Francisco Ribeiro de Ardrada. The third commemorates the invention by Batholomeu de Gusmao of the aerostat. This is an air-post stamp. We are indebted to Dr. Mario de Sanctis of Sao Paulo, Brazil, for this information.

PHILATELIC ACCESSORIES

We are informed by Mr. J. Robertson of The Robertson Stamp Company (Pty.), Ltd., that applications for permits for the importation of certain philatelic accessories from Great Britain, the British Commonwealth and United States of America, will now be favourably considered. The accessories allowed include Stamp Albums, Stock Books, Duplicate Books, Titles of Countries, Perforation Gauges, Blank Sheets, Hinges, Watermark Detectors and Used Stamps. Whilst there was no difficulty previously in importing used stamps from Great Britain, there was difficulty in respect of Canada and U.S.A. Mr. Robertson warns intending importers that although they may be granted permits they may find great difficulty in obtaining albums, stock books, duplicate books or titles of countries, particularly from Great Britain. Applications for a permit must be made in triplicate to the Controller of Paper, c/o Government Printer, Pretoria, and each application must have a 2s. 6d. Revenue Stamp. Permits are available until the end of March, 1946

THE BEST WAY TO COLLECT

As it appears from the Society News in last month, a discussion took place at the January meeting of the Jewish Guild Philatelic Section as to the best way to collect stamps. The hobby of philately is such that it is almost impossible to come to a definite conclusion as to which is the best way. It is so much a matter for individual taste, and there are so many ways of collecting. The general collector who collects anything and everything may say that his is the best way, and there is little doubt that the first collectors of stamps adopted this method. It is a very good method, too, if one has a long purse. Then there is the collector who collects nothing else but covers. If he is a general collector of covers he not only needs a long purse but also several rooms to store his collection. At the other end of the scale is the collector who collects one country only and will look with scorn on anything else. One cannot say that he is wrong to collect in this way, although perhaps collectors with more liberal views will look upon him with pity on the ground that he is missing a great deal of interest. The truth is that everybody should collect as he likes, and if he collects in the manner that best appeals to him that is the best way of collecting as far as he is concerned. That is why philately is the hobby for kings, lords and commons, poets and peasants and everybody else besides.

SOUTH AFRICAN PRECANCELS

Mr. J. Robertson has drawn our attention to the occurrence of precancelling on certain South African stamps, although they are not strictly speaking postage stamps, but Railway Parcel Stamps of the Central South African Railways, as the railway system of the Orange River Colony and Transvaal was called in the period 1902-10.

An illustration of one of these stamps on part of a label is here shown.



It is clear that the stamps were not cancelled after being stuck on the labels as the marks (in deep purple ink) stop short everywhere at the stamp margins. They look, however, as if they had been cancelled by the sheet, not individually. These stamps show another feature which appears to be unusual in their usage. The general custom was (and still is with regard to railway parcel stamps) to put the stamps, which constituted a receipt for payment of the parcel's freight, on the parcel's waybill. The stamps were not handled by either the sender or the recipient of the parcel.

In this instance, however, some different usage seems to have been in operation. The three specimens seen are on parts of linen labels marked "On His Majesty's Service," and one has part of a printed word "tmaster," then in manuscript, a station's name and "Per Passenger Train." It suggests a sending to a Postmaster, and further light on this possible use of railway parcel stamps as postage stamps is desirable.

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THE PHILATELIC FEDERATION OF
SOUTHERN AFRICA

At its last meeting, which was held in January, the Permanent Executive Committee had a long discussion on the future of the South African Philatelist. The Honorary Business Manager reported that because of increased costs of printing and of production generally a considerable increase in revenue would be necessary if this magazine were to continue to exist.

Various methods of raising this increase of revenue were discussed. It was eventually decided that the bulk of the increase would have to be obtained either by increasing the price of the magazine or by appealing to the Constituent Societies of the Federation and to individual philatelists for subsidies or donations. It was agreed that the views of the Constituent Societies be obtained on these alternate methods.

The Executive also discussed the question of holding the next Congress, and it was agreed that it would consider invitations from Constituent Societies to hold Congress at the earliest opportunity.

The question of publication of Philatelic handbooks by the Federation was discussed. The Executive are agreed that it is very desirable that the Federation do publish such books, but that because of the difficulties of paper and printing during war time such publication would have to be postponed until after the end of the war.

In the meantime the Executive hopes that Constituent Societies and their members will send in full details of any information at their disposal regarding new Southern African stamp issues to the Philatelist, and also any new information about past issues. Such information will not only be of interest to all philatelists but it will also be supporting this magazine.

Constituent Societies are invited to send in proposals for the Roll of Honour to be placed by the Executive before the next Congress, and they are also invited to send in details of any matters they would like discussed by the Congress.

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UNION OF SOUTH AFRICA
THE TWO DIES OF THE 1d. PICTORIAL

By S. C. W. WAREHAM

For the sake of brevity, I will, with Mr. Sydow's permission, describe Die "A" as follows: First—poor definition in the lines making up the sky. Second—distinct while radial lines illustrating the sun's rays. Each of these conditions I will call A. Die "B", First—firm, well defined lines forming the sky. Second—horizontal lines, regularly thinned and thickened, to denote the sun's rays; with a complete absence of the white radial lines. Each of these conditions I shall call B.

There are intermediate types; namely, a sky typical of B, and with the relatively heavy horizontal lines just above the sun (also typical of B) but with distinct traces of the white radial lines; the degree of distinctness varies somewhat, but they are always clearly visible. This condition of the sun's rays, being neither A nor B, I will call C.

The following check list will illustrate the combinations in items of my collection of the foregoing, as for example: If a stamp has the two conditions typical of Die "A", it will be described as A.A. If it has the two characteristics of Die "B", it will be described as B.B. If a sky typical of B but sun's rays as in A, it will be called B.A. If a firm sky but a condition above the sun of neither A. nor B., it will be called B.C.

I have endeavoured to incorporate in other columns an indication of how the items named show that there were at least three different head plates and three different frame plates in these printings; this evidence is not conclusive, but serves to illustrate the logical conclusion born of an examination of points of difference in the Jubilee Lines of the different items.

In conclusion, I may say that it is rather difficult in some cases to decide whether a sky is "A" or a lightly printed "B"; if the latter, then some of the later printings instead of being A.A. might easily be B.A.

However, if the matter is important enough to interest anyone, a more detailed description of these various items may be had upon request.

+

U.S.A. REVENUE STAMPS

In the December issue of the *American Philatelist* is an account of an auction sale at which all the lots sold were U.S.A. Revenue stamps. There were 453 lots, and the total price realised was over 45,700 dollars. There are numerous kinds of revenue stamps in the United States and the U.S.A. philatelic periodicals contain numerous advertisements offering different kinds to collectors as well as numerous articles on them. It seems, therefore, as if there are numerous collectors of these stamps in the U.S.A. There is, in fact, in the same issue of the *American Philatelist* an article by Elbert S. Amsler advising the collecting of revenues as a new field.

+

SOUTH WEST AFRICA

Gibbons' Stamp Monthly of January, 1945, contains an interesting article by Harold G. D. Gisburn on South West Africa and its stamps.

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*CHECK LIST (Upright watermark unless otherwise stated)

DIE CHARACTERISTICS CORNERS.

Printing.	Item.	N.W. N.E. S.W. S.E.	Margins Perforated Through.	Combined Plate No.	Individual Plate Nos.	
					Int.	Ext.
London Pl. I	Four-sheet corner blocks	BA* AA AA AA	Top and right	No nicks	1	1
London Pl. I	Ditto (inv. wmk.)	AA AA AA AA	Top and right	No nicks	1	1
Pretoria Pl. I	Ditto	BC BC BC BB	Top, left and bottom	No nicks	1	1
Pretoria Pl. I	Ditto	BC BC BC BB	Top (partly) left and bottom	No nicks	1	1
Pretoria Pl. I	Ditto	BC BC BC BB	Top and left	No nicks	1	1
Pretoria Pl. II	Ditto	AA AA AA AA	Top and left	Two nicks	2	2
Pretoria Pl. II	Ditto (inv. wmk.)	AA AA AA AA	Top and left	Two nicks	2	2
Pretoria Pl. III	Ditto	AA AA AA AA	Top and left	Three nicks	3	3
Pretoria Pl. III	Ditto (inv. wmk.)	AA AA AA AA	Top and left	Three nicks	3	3
Pretoria Cl. III	Corner piece (18 stamps)	BC	Top and left	—	3	3
Pretoria Pl. III	Arrow block (8 stamps)	BC	—	—	3	3
London ?	Booklet pane	AA	—	—	—	—
? ?	Proof, red centre—black frame	AA	—	—	—	—
? ?	Proof, green centre—red frame	AA	—	—	—	—
? ?	Proof, green centre—orange frame	BB	—	—	—	—

* A peculiar combination, occurring as it does in this London print.

THE FIRST ½d. ROTOGRAVURE BOOKLET STAMPS OF THE UNION OF SOUTH AFRICA, ESPECIALLY THEIR RE-ENTRIES AND TÊTES-BÊCHES

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

The first ½d. denominated booklet stamps printed by the rotogravure or rotary photo-gravure process at the Government Printing Works at Pretoria, were issued originally during August, 1930, in panes of six units (2 x 3) each and bound in booklet form together with similar 6-set panes of the 1d. denomination. Each booklet contained four 6-set panes of the 1d. and two 6-set panes of the ½d. denominations and was sold for 2s. 6d.

These stamps were bicoloured and were printed from two copper cylinders, one for the frame designs and the other for the vignette designs. Each cylinder comprised 180 images in intaglio on its periphery in 20 horizontal rows of nine units each.

From panes of six units each which I obtained from booklets, and vertical strips of 60 units (20 x 3) which I bought over the post-office counter, I reconstructed a 180-set sheet of these stamps. This reconstructed sheet represents a combined printing from:—

1. One complete revolution of the booklet frame cylinder.
2. One complete revolution of the booklet vignette cylinder.

The following plan represents the positions of the Afrikaans inscribed stamps designated A1 and A2, and of the English inscribed stamps designated E1 and E2 on the said reconstructed sheet lodged in my Union collection:—

Nos.	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
Nos.		2	3	4	8	7	9		9	10	11	
Row 1		E1	A1	E1	∇V	∇E	∇A		A1	E1	A1	07
" 2		A2	E2	A2	E1	A1	E1		E2	A2	E2	61
" 3		E1	A1	E1	∇V	∇E	∇A		A1	E1	A1	81
" 4		A2	E2	A2	E1	A1	E1		E2	A2	E2	71
" 5		E1	A1	E1	∇V	∇E	∇A		A1	E1	A1	91
" 6		A2	E2	A2	E1	A1	E1		E2	A2	E2	15
" 7		E1	A1	E1	∇V	∇E	∇A		A1	E1	A1	18
" 8		A2	E2	A2	E1	A1	E1		E2	A2	E2	13
" 9		E1	A1	E1	∇V	∇E	∇A		A1	E1	A1	12
" 10		A2	E2	A2	E1	A1	E1		E2	A2	E2	11
" 11		E1	A1	E1	∇V	∇E	∇A		A1	E1	A1	10
" 12		A2	E2	A2	E1	A1	E1		E2	A2	E2	6
" 13		E1	A1	E1	∇V	∇E	∇A		A1	E1	A1	8
" 14		A2	E2	A2	E1	A1	E1		E2	A2	E2	7
" 15		E1	A1	E1	∇V	∇E	∇A		A1	E1	A1	9
" 16		A2	E2	A2	E1	A1	E1		E2	A2	E2	5
" 17		E1	A1	E1	∇V	∇E	∇A		A1	E1	A1	4
" 18		A2	E2	A2	E1	A1	E1		E2	A2	E2	3
" 19		E1	A1	E1	∇V	∇E	∇A		A1	E1	A1	2
" 20		A2	E2	A2	E1	A1	E1		E2	A2	E2	1

In the foregoing plan the vertical and horizontal lines enclosing the letters and numbers represent the guillotining of the 180-set sheet into thirty 6-set (2 x 3) booklet panes. The vertical rows of dots represent the stitch holes anent their binding.

From the foregoing plan it will be discerned that the periphery of the cylinder from which the frames were printed contained twenty tete-beche pairs of images. Likewise the cylinder from which the vignettes were printed contained twenty tete-beche pairs of images, i.e., of the "Springbok Heads."

The frame diapositive plate which was prepared and utilised originally for printing the carbon tissue sheets for the first ½d. denominated rotogravure coil stamps again was brought into use in connection with the manufacture of the first ½d. denominated rotogravure booklet stamps. This frame diapositive

plate contained 240 images in 20 horizontal rows of 12 units each, made up of 60 sub-types A1, 60 sub-types E1, 60 sub-types E2, and 60 sub-types A2, in alternate positions throughout. For description and illustrations of the Afrikaans and English inscribed sub-type stamps, see page 75 of the "South African Philatelist" for July, 1944. The said 240-set diapositive plate was printed in contact with a sensitised sheet of carbon tissue on which a screen had been printed previously, and imparted to it 240 images. From this printed carbon tissue sheet which thus held 240 frame images there were cut in vertical format three strips each of which held 60 (20 x 3) frame images.

For purposes of description these strips are designated as sub-carbon tissue sheets "A," "B" and "C," respectively. Firstly, the printed sub-carbon tissue sheet "A" was

squeegeed on to the frame copper cylinder with its 60 "A" images in upright positions. Secondly, the printed sub-carbon tissue sheet "B" was squeegeed on the frame copper cylinder on an area adjacent to the area occupied by the said "A" images, but with its 60 "B" images in upside-down positions and horizontally tetes-beches to the "A" images. Finally, the sub-carbon tissue sheet "C" was squeegeed on to the frame cylinder with its 60 "C" images in upright positions. The frame cylinder was then etched and thus contained 180 images in 20 horizontal rows of nine units each, made up of 40 sub-types A1, 50 sub-types E1, 40 sub-types E2, and 50 sub-types A2, including 20 tete-beche pairs of images made up of A2 and E1 sub-types only.

From the reconstructed 180-set sheet in my collection it was observed that the frames of all stamps Nos. 2, 3 and 4 of horizontal rows Nos. 1 to 20 derived from sub-carbon tissue sheet "A" images, and that all such stamps had their watermarks in upright positions. Also, it was observed that the frames of all stamps Nos. 6, 7 and 8 (tetes-beches to Nos. 2, 3 and 4) of horizontal rows Nos. 1 to 20

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
Row 5	M	E1	A1	E1	zv	zv	zv	K	M	A1	E1	A1
Row 6	M	A2	E2	A2	IE	IE	IE	W	M	E2	A2	E2.

Some years after I had completed the reconstruction of the 180-set sheet of booklet stamps referred to in this monograph, I acquired a horizontal strip of five stamps of the ½d. denomination. This strip emanated from a 180-set sheet of stamps prepared for booklets but not used for such. I plated these as follows:—

Nos. ...	1	2	3	4	5
Nos. ...	2	3	4	8	z
Row 5 ...	E1	A1	E1	zv	zv

Nos. 2, 3 and 4 of the afore-mentioned strip are in normal positions and have their watermarks in normal positions. Nos. 7 and 8 are upside-down and tete-beche to Nos. 2, 3 and 4, and when viewed normally, have their watermarks in inverted positions.

The vignette diapositive plate which was prepared and used originally for printing the carbon tissue sheets for the first ¼d. denominated rotogravure coil stamps was brought into use again anent the first ¼d. denominated booklet stamps. This vignette diapositive plate contained 240 images in 20 horizontal rows of 12 units each, and was printed in contact with a sensitised sheet of carbon tissue on which a screen previously had been printed. From this printed carbon tissue sheet which thus held 240 vignette images there were cut in vertical format three strips each of which held 60 (20 x 3) vignette images. Again, for purposes of description these are designated as sub-carbon tissue sheets "D," "E" and "F," respectively. Initially, the printed sub-carbon tissue sheet "D" was squeegeed on to the vignette copper cylinder with its 60 "D" images in upright positions. Secondly, the printed sub-carbon tissue sheet "E" was squeegeed on to the vignette copper cylinder

derived from sub-carbon tissue sheet "B" images, and that when viewed normally all such stamps had their watermarks in inverted positions. Lastly, it was observed that the frames of all stamps Nos. 9, 10 and 11 of horizontal rows Nos. 1 to 20 derived from sub-carbon tissue sheet "C" images, and that all such stamps had their watermarks in upright positions. Strips of the original 240-set carbon tissue sheet which held the frame images of vertical rows Nos. 1, 5 and 12 were destroyed. From the reconstructed sheet plan afore it will be remarked that vertical rows Nos. 6, 7 and 8 of the 60-set sub-carbon tissue sheet "B" were entered upside-down, and the "B" images tetes-beches to the "A" images, in the area on the copper cylinder which normally should have retained the images of vertical rows Nos. 5, 6 and 7 if the 240-set carbon tissue sheet had been entered "in toto." This procedure of cutting-up printed carbon tissue sheets before squeegeeing and etching was adopted for the purpose of leaving blank spaces on the frame cylinder so that corresponding blank vertical binding margins were obtained on the printed 180-set sheets; for example, in the following plan, the letter "M" signifies "binding margin":—

on an area adjacent to the area occupied by the "D" images but with its 60 "E" images in upside-down positions and horizontally tetes-beches to the "D" images. Thirdly, the sub-carbon tissue sheet "F" was squeegeed on to the vignette copper cylinder with its 60 "F" images in upright positions. The vignette cylinder was then etched and thus contained 180 images in 20 horizontal rows of nine units each, as follows:—

	Sub-carb. tissue sheet "D"			Sub-carb. tissue sheet "E"			Sub-carb. tissue sheet "F"		
	↓	↓	↓	↓	↓	↓	↓	↓	↓
Nos. 1 ...	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
Nos. ...	2	3	4	8	z	9	9	10	11
Row 1 ...	V	V	V	A	A	A	V	V	V
Row 2 ...	V	V	V	A	A	A	V	V	V
	etc.			etc.			etc.		

When all the vignette images had been entered on the vignette cylinder it was discovered by the printers that the 60 inverted "E" images which derived from sub-carbon tissue sheet "E" had been entered approximately 2½mm. out of horizontal alignment, and therefore out of register with their correlative frame images on the frame copper cylinder. Subsequently all the inverted "E" images were removed from the periphery of the vignette cylinder by a grinding machine, with the exception of a certain number of instances where the machine failed to grind off portions of the horns and ears of the "Springbok Head" images. Thus, on a certain number of the vignettes on my 180-set reconstructed sheet portions of these FIRST ENTRIES are visible. The original vignette diapositive plate, 240-set, again was printed

in contact with a second sheet of carbon tissue. From this second 240-set printed carbon tissue sheet was cut a strip in vertical format which contained 60 (20 x 3) vignette images, which is designated as sub-carbon tissue sheet "G," and which then was squeegeed and etched on to the vignette copper cylinder with its 60 "G" images upside-down and horizontally tetes-beches to the "D" images, and in the area occupied previously by the removed "E" images, but 2½mm. higher in horizontal alignment and in register with their correlative frame images.

Thus on the printed vignettes, the FIRST ENTRIES are represented by portions of prints from the ungrounded portions intaglio of the incipient "E" images, and the RE-ENTRIES by prints of the complete intaglio "G" images, on the vignette copper cylinder. It was observed that all stamps which exhibit portions of the said FIRST ENTRIES and the complete RE-ENTRIES on their vignettes have their watermarks in inverted positions, and emanate from the upside-down vertical rows 6, 7 and 8 and tetes-beches to vertical rows 2, 3 and 4. The following is a list of the positions of stamps whose vignettes show portions of FIRST ENTRIES from vertical rows Nos. 6, 7 and 8, when viewed normally:—

Row 2, No.	6	Portion of left horn and outline of left ear.
" 5 "	6	Portion of left horn and strong outline of part left ear.
" 6 "	6	Outline of left ear.
" 6 "	8	Outline of right ear.
" 7 "	6	Portion of left horn and tip of left ear.
" 8 "	6	Portion of left horn and tip of left ear.
" 8 "	8	Outline of part right ear.
" 11 "	8	Portion of left horn.
" 14 "	6	Portion of left horn and tip of left ear.
" 15 "	6	Portion of left horn and outline of left ear.
" 15 "	8	Portion of left horn.
" 16 "	8	Outline of right ear.
" 17 "	6	Outline of left ear.

		2	3	4
Row 1 ...	...	E1	A1	E1
Row 2 ...	...	A2	E2	A2
Row 19 ...	...	E1	A1	E1
Row 20 ...	...	A2	E2	A2

Compare the foregoing arrangement with the following miniature 6-set corner sheets derived from the ordinary 240-set sheets of ½d. denomination:—

		1	2	3
Row 1 ...	...	A1	E1	A1
Row 2 ...	...	E2	A2	E2
Row 19 ...	...	A1	E1	A1
Row 20 ...	...	E2	A2	E2

The reconstructed sheet shows, inter alia, the following characteristics:—

- (A) Frame Diapositive
5/8 Flaw left top corner.
- (B) Vignette Diapositive
6/6 Spot right of left horn.
11/8 Spot top of right horn.
- (C) Frame Cylinder
7/8 Diagonal stroke left end of top bar.
14/6 Spot top right scroll.
20/6 Spot adjoining left vertical bar.
- (D) Vignette Cylinder
2/2 White spot on buck's body.
2/7 Spot left of right horn.
3/8 Black smudge top right corner.
4/8 Spot left of left ear near top.
7/8 Spot left of head.
12/8 Tiny spot between horns.
13/8 Spot right of right ear.
16/6 Tiny spot right of right ear.
19/8 Spot right of right ear, near bottom.

At the commencement of this monograph I mentioned that I bought vertical strips of the ½d. denominated booklet stamps over the post-office counter. When the postal rates were raised, 2d. denominated stamps were included in the 2/6 face booklets and ½d. denominated stamps deleted. The unbound ½d. stamps on hand were issued to Post Offices and sold over the counters in strips of 60 (20 x 3).

In addition to panes of 6-set ½d. stamps mounted in my collection as derived from booklets, I have also mounted miniature 6-set corner sheets derived from strips of booklet stamps sold over the counter, as follows:—

			9	10	11
Row 1	A1	E1	A1
Row 2	E2	A2	E2
Row 19	A1	E1	A1
Row 20	E2	A2	E2

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REVIEWS AND NOTICES

The Commonwealth Specialists Catalogue, Eighth Edition, published by Orlo-Smith and Co., Howey House, 244 Collins Street, Melbourne, Australia. Price 3s. 8d. (Posted) (in paper covers), Price 6s. 10d. (posted) (stiff covers and interleaved).

This is a catalogue for the benefit of those collectors who are specialising in or are making a study of the Commonwealth of Australia stamps. Prices are given for the punctured official stamps both mint and used, as well as for the ordinary stamps. All the varieties of shades as well as the major varieties of flaws and retouches, etc., are given. Large size illustrations are given to show the different dies. A special section of the catalogue is devoted to plate numbers and another one to controls and imprints. There are in all 72 pages crammed full of information. This catalogue should prove indispensable to all collectors who specialise in Australians.

The Windsor Monthly Philatelic Bulletin, published by The Windsor Stamp Co., The Lantern House, Uckfield, Sussex, England. Subscription 2s. 6d. per annum.

We have received the January number of this interesting publication. It contains numerous offers of stamps and sets, including recent issues. There is an article by L. N. & M. Williams, entitled "The Story of the U.P.U.," which gives an account of the origin of the Union Postale Universelle which regulates international postage. There are also some interesting stamp notes contributed by R. W. Clements. Amongst these notes is the information that the regulation, which operated in Great Britain prohibiting export of stamps valued at over £5 per stamp, has been withdrawn.

Whitfield King and Co.'s *Philatelic Bulletin*, published by Whitfield King and Co., Ipswich,



England. Price 2d. per copy or 2s. for 12 numbers.

This publication is published bi-monthly, and we have recently received the December, 1944-January, 1945 issue. It contains interesting notes as well as news of recent issues of stamps, Empire and Foreign. There are numerous offers of single stamps and sets, as well as stamps on cover. The Bulletin also contains recent alterations to the current (1945), Whitfield King's *Standard Catalogue of the Postage Stamps of the World*, which was reviewed in our February issue.

CORRESPONDENCE

3d. MINIATURE STAMP

A member of this Society reported at our last meeting that in the new issue of the 1/2d. Miniature with purple border, the tops and right hand corners of each stamp in the top row have been retouched.

This is particularly conspicuous on the top of the second last stamp of the row.

Yours, etc.,

R. G. LYON,
Hon. Secretary,

O.F.S. & Basutoland Philatelic Society.

+

ROTOGRAVURE UNWATERMARKED

Sir,—If Mr. Levy will refer to his "S.A. Philatelist" of March, 1939, he will find a letter from Mr. Gilbert drawing attention to a letter I wrote to him on this subject. It was shortly after the introduction of the photogravure process into South Africa that I made enquiries of a certain firm in London concerning the method of production. I was then shown the portfolio referred to in my letter. It was full of ink and colour trials, paper trials, etc., etc., and although I cannot precisely remember, I have little doubt that some of the paper was unwatermarked.

In absence of proof to the contrary it would be wise to assume that the stamps now in question were derived from this or a similar source.

Yours, etc.,

LANCELOT A. B. SHARPE.

Surrey, England.

(Continued overleaf)

COLLECTORS' WANTS AND OFFERS

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

Seychelles and Sierra Leone fine used copies wanted. Particularly Edward and George. High prices willingly paid.

William Redford, Box 7012, Johannesburg.

Transvaal, Griqualand West, O.F.S. covers and rarities wanted by

A. E. Basden, Killarney, Brickhill Road, Durban.

Collections Wanted to Buy.—Old and Modern Collections, Single Rarities and Errors, Duplicates and Office Mixtures.

Prompt cash on acceptance of offer: E. M. Lacy (Globe Postage Stamp Co.), 117 Longmarket Street, Cape Town.

Wanted: Transvaal, Natal, Cape, O.F.S., Bechuanaland, Gambia, St. Helena, Egypt, France. Picked copies, rarities and varieties, also 9,000 items for world collection up to 1933 issues. E. Hunt, Box 2437, Johannesburg.

For Service, promptness and satisfaction.

Benoni Stamp Shop, Box 485, Benoni. Phone 54-1692.

Mr. E. Tamsen, Box 13, Nylstroom, offers Blocks of South African Colonies and Union, also full range of Entires.

All South African Stamps wanted, Wholesale quantities.

S. Curtis & Co., Ashhurst, New Zealand.

Union Pictorials: ½d. to 10/- complete used vertical pairs 22/6d.; horizontal 27/6d.

Benoni Stamp Shop, Box 485, Benoni.

Wanted: S.A. Military Postmarks in S.W.A. Stanley Gibbons 18a. and 46a. Postage Due D.2.a.—D.8.B and C.

F. Mattei, 24 Hoofd Street, Braamfontein, Johannesburg.

Current issues of British Colonials supplied at 12½ per cent. above face value or cost. Also other stamps at very reasonable prices. Postage and insurance extra. Full particulars from Arthur F. Wolton, "Roddfield," Hayle, Cornwall, England.

Wanted: Rhodesia, Bechuanaland, or other stamps cancelled "Tati" or "Francistown." Full S.G. prices for approved specimens.

Noel Roberts, Booyens, Johannesburg.

Rhodesian Admirals wanted for specialised collection, all 2/-, 2/6, 5/-, 7/6, 10/- and £1 values wanted, mint or used, pairs, blocks, varieties. High prices paid.

Thiele, 455 West Street, Durban.

WANTED, Map Stamps.

E. G. Powell, P.O. Box 44, East London.

WANTED, "South African Philatelist," all issues, in exchange for other magazines, philatelic and non-philatelic. Philatelic courtesies reciprocated with "Flags" stamps.

The Philatelic Library, Box 1712 WLB, Los Angeles 36, California.

the Italian Government was never able to issue their new series. They are not ordinary postage stamps, but each individual was to be allowed a "ration" of one stamp a week, which, when stuck on the letter with ordinary postage stamps, gave the authority to have the letter sent to Italy by air.

The stamps or labels were issued in sheets of 50 consecutively numbered, the inscription at the foot of the Red stamps is "Lettere in Partenza Dall A.O.I. Aprile 1941 XIX."

The stamps or labels in my possession, both Red and Green, are rouletted between, the green is ungummed while the Red is gummed.

Any further information desired I shall be pleased to give, but it is evident the labels, interesting though they may be, have no value.

Yours faithfully,

A. J. BOLTON.

Johannesburg.

(Continued from Correspondence, previous page).

ITALIAN EAST AFRICA

I have just seen a copy of the November issue of the "S.A. Philatelist" in which appears mention of "Unissued Airmail Stamps of Italian East Africa."

The No. 7 issue of "The Ethiopia Star" (stated to be the first English newspaper published in Ethiopia) under date of November 30, 1941, has nine specimens of each of the Green and Red labels attached, and the following information is given: Part of a block of stamps made by the Italians ready for issue in April, 1941. The British, however, were in Addis Ababa by April 6 and

SOCIETY NEWS

PRETORIA PHILATELIC SOCIETY

President, Lt.-Col. G. Lance Horne; *Hon. Secretary*, H. A. Wager, P.O. Box 514; *Meetings*, 1st and 3rd Mondays, 8 p.m., Technical College.

February 5: Mr. F. C. Ferguson in the chair. This was the annual general meeting. All the officers reported very satisfactory progress. The secretary stated that the number of members had increased to 150. The Exchange Superintendent reported a good year's activities with a much larger turnover and a substantial surplus. The treasurer's balance sheet showed continued progress. The officers elected for 1945 were: *President*, Lt.-Col. G. Lance Horne; *Vice-President*, Mr. F. C. Ferguson; *Secretary*, Prof. H. A. Wager; *Treasurer*, Mr. N. L. Watson; *Exchange Superintendent*, Mr. E. C. Wright; *Librarian*, Mr. H. N. B. Hawke; *Curator of Society Collection*, Dr. A. J. Broughton; *Curator of Forgery Collection*, Mr. E. H. Gomm; *Auctioneer*, Dr. A. J. Broughton and his assistant, Mr. A. P. Ravenscroft.

The Society and Forgery Collections were tabled. February 19: Lt.-Col. Horne in the chair. Mr. Hawke read an extract on the future of philately.

Mr. Oppenheim gave a talk on Austria and its stamps. Starting with 1918 he gave a review of the events leading up to the dismemberment of the Empire with the reduction of Austria to a comparatively small country. There were also a great many political changes. He pointed out that Austria had been a pioneer country in philately and the first to inaugurate a Philatelic Exhibition. Perhaps there was no other country that depicted its history in such detail on its stamps as Austria. Most of the stamps also showed superb workmanship, all of them being printed in Vienna.

Mr. Oppenheim showed his very fine collection of Austria including some rare items.

H.A.W.

THE PHILATELIC SOCIETY OF NATAL.

President, A. L. Bevis; *Hon. Sec.*, G. Milner, Palmer, P.O. Box 588, Durban; *Meetings*, 1st and 3rd Wednesdays at London Assurance House, 319 Smith Street (in the rooms of the Durban Camera Club, top floor). 7.30 p.m.

Report of meeting held on February 7:

Mr. W. H. Winde read his Notes of Philatelic Interest. These notes are now proving of such interest to members who attend our meetings that it is suggested for the benefit of country members and others who cannot attend meetings that Mr. Winde's notes should be circulated with the Monthly Letter. It was duly resolved that this matter be considered by the committee at their next meeting.

Mr. A. E. Basden, who staged the monthly competition, gave a short talk explaining how easy it would be to answer the questions he had drafted, but most members felt after they had heard the questions that they could not agree with Mr. Basden's views. Anyway everyone made a very good attempt and the competition was thoroughly enjoyed, the winner, Mr. Hall Jones, was duly congratulated.

Mr. A. S. Maskell displayed his collection of Hungary, and also read a few notes on the country. Mr. Percy C. Bishop, in proposing a vote of thanks, pointed out what a very nice lot of stamps Mr. Maskell had got together, and how well they had been arranged.

G.M.P.

PORT ELIZABETH PHILATELIC SOCIETY

President, G. K. Forbes; *Hon. Sec.*, M. C. Sheffield, P.O. Box 88; *Meetings*, Room 8, City Hall Basement, at 7.45 p.m. 1st and 3rd Tuesday.

There was a large attendance when the Society met on February 20. Keen interest was shown when the books of stamps from Stanley Gibbons were put up for sale. As there were more buyers than stamps, the usual plan of drawing for them was put into operation and all were satisfied.

The evening's display was in the capable hands of Capt. Routledge, who tabled 40 pages of British possessions rising to £1, and four pages of Egyptians. One page of Cape Triangulars were well worth mention, and was keenly scrutinized and commented upon. There were also several pages of Somaliland, now obsolete, which included half a sheet of the five anna value, and several blocks of 3 rupees, and the rest were in pairs, all mint. The pages of Egypt were in blocks of four and a few single air mails. The display was very interesting and fully merited the vote of thanks which was given.

L.E.C.

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.

The usual monthly meeting of the society was held on the 17th December, 1944, at the Koffie Huis.

Mr. Larsen presided and 12 members were present. After the period allowed for exchange and buying of members' duplicates, the business of the evening was transacted. Thereafter an auction was held; amongst those sold were a selection presented by Lieut. Horton on behalf of war funds.

The display of the evening was tabled by Lieut. Freedman. Although a recent recruit to philately, his collection of King George VI was greatly admired. From the quality of the collection and interest displayed one may expect much from this collector in future.

After a vote of thanks was proposed to Lieut. Freedman, the meeting closed.

Two new members were enrolled.

The usual monthly meeting was held on the 19th January at the Koffie Huis.

Mr. Lewis presided, eleven members being present.

After the usual exchange and sale of stamps amongst members the usual business was transacted.

One new member was enrolled.

On this occasion Mr. Lichtenstein exhibited his collection of Liechtenstein. The colouring, beauty of design and production of the later omissions was a feast to the eye and senses.

The balance of the evening was taken in admiring and discussing the fine collection. The meeting closed after a vote of thanks was proposed to Mr. Lichtenstein for sponsoring a pleasant evening, petrol restrictions notwithstanding.

THE JEWISH GUILD PHILATELIC SECTION

Chairman, Mr. E. C. Sprighton; *Hon. Sec.*, Mr. I. Isaacs, 910 His Majesty's Buildings, Eloff Street, Johannesburg

At the meeting on 22nd February the exhibit was provided by Mr. W. Oppenheim. He exhibited a collection of the stamps of the Dominican Republic. They included several commemoratives and airmails, and also some flown covers. The exhibit was one which was out of the ordinary, and Mr. Sprighton congratulated Mr. Oppenheim on a most unusual exhibit.

During the evening Mr. Oppenheim read some extracts from recent philatelic periodicals. Big prices were being paid in liberated Europe for Belgian and French commemorative issues.

Some items of interest were shown. Mr. Sprighton showed a card he had recently received from Switzerland with some of the new air mail stamps. It was obvious that one of the stamps originally on the card had been removed before the card reached him.

Mr. Oppenheim showed a block of 8 of the new 2d. Australia stamps. It consisted of two blocks of 4 separated by guttering and the right hand block had the marginal inscription. The inscription read: "Printed by authority of the Commonwealth of Australia." Mr. Oppenheim also had a first day cover, dated 20th December, 1944.

The next meeting of the section will be held on 22nd March, when Dr. Kaplan will show an exhibit entitled "Stamps I like." All collectors are welcome. The meeting will be held at the Jewish Guild Memorial Hall on the first floor, and visitors may walk in and sign the visitors book.

I.I.

EAST RAND PHILATELIC SOCIETY

President, Lt. J. A. B. van Wyk; *Hon. Secretary-Treasurer*, E. N. Rigg, 103 Kemston Avenue, Benoni; *Meetings*, 3rd Tuesdays, 8 p.m., Hotel Regent, Benoni.

In the absence of Lt. van Wyk the chair was taken by Mrs. Wood, our Vice-president.

The attendance was very good, and after the Notes of the Month had been given by Mr. Shepherd, several items of interest were passed round; they included a pair of miniature 1s. South West Africa with the overprint S.W.A. inverted, and a block of 2d. Geo. VI Malta with one stamp having a curl in the hair, and the 1944 New Zealand health stamps

The surprise of the evening was provided by Mr. Gillmore who brought along his Union of South Africa. Now this member is a dark horse as he says he has nothing worth showing, and from his collection exhibited there is very little to complain of. Starting with the issue of 1910, 2½d. blue in several shades and in blocks of 4, the 1913-21 issue was up to the £1 value in pairs and shades in mint and used condition, with the 1s. with inverted watermark, 1922 Air Mail, 1936 issue in pairs, mint and used, 1937-28 issue 2d. to 10s., 1929 Air Mail, 1930-38 issue ½d. to 2s. 6d. in mint and used, 1933-36 Voortrekker mint and used, Jubilee in blocks of 4, Coronation issue with various shades, etc., 1938 Voortrekker Centenary, and Commemoration, 1939 Huguenot Commemoration. Large War Issue ½d. to 1s. in pairs and blocks, 1933 issue ½d. to 10s. in pairs and blocks, Postage dues ½d. to 1s. in pairs, strips and blocks. This collection can be shown anywhere as everything is here which can be shown.

The competition arranged by Mr. Gutsche was very interesting and was won by Mr. Shepherd.

The following is a copy of the competition:

1. Where and by whom was the so-called "wood-block" Cape issue printed?
 - a.
 - b.
 2. Which set of Union stamps was printed in the same town as the "wood-blocks",
 - a.
 - b.
 and which firm did the printing?
 - a.
 - b.
 3. Which values of the Union large war issue, excluding 1/3, were inscribed bilingually?
 - a.
 - b.
 4. Name the country, the stamps of which depict the following scenes or subjects, giving first the country (1 mark each) and then the actual stamp (2 marks each):

1. Bamboo Walk	a.	b.
1. Bamboo Walk	a.	b.
3. Confederation		
Charlottetown 1864	a.	b.
4. Sigiriya (Lion Rock)	a.	b.
5. Vouni Palace	a.	b.
6. Electric Welding	a.	b.
7. Sea Island Cotton	a.	b.
 5. NYASALAND. What difference is there in the inscription of the George V and George VI sets of this Protectorate,
 - a.
 - b.
- 30 marks possible!

+

EAST LONDON PHILATELIC SOCIETY

President, Mr. A. Watson; *Hon. Secretary*, Mr. S. F. Fowler, P.O. Box 168, East London. *Meetings*, Colosseum Building, 2nd Fridays, 7.45 p.m.

There was a good attendance at the February meeting on the evening of the 9th, 20 members and four visitors being present.

Three new members were elected and various new issues and interesting items received during the past month were passed round for inspection.

The displays for the evening were in the hands of Mr. Watson and Mr. Courlander, and the former laid down a very fine collection of Transvaal, ranging from the earliest to the last issues. Many large blocks were included and practically all the varieties of the later surcharges, both mint and used. Also to be noted was a very complete lot of the rare C.S.A.R. overprints.

Mr. Courlander followed with an exceptionally fine selection of the King George VI issues of Africa, principally mint and in blocks of four, including the

highest values. A wonderful lot, particularly considering the short space of time in which they have been gathered.

Both members were thanked for their exhibits, and the meeting concluded with the usual auction.

T.A.H.

+

NYASALAND PHILATELIC SOCIETY

President, Mr. C. Stevens; *Hon. Secretary*, Mr. Anson; *Meetings*, 2nd Mondays, Tobacco Auction Rooms, Limbe, 5 p.m.

Minutes of the Nyasaland Philatelic Society held at the Tobacco Auction Floors on Monday, 8th January, 1945.

Present: Mesdames Wright, Milne and Lane, Messrs. Stevens (chairman), Anson, Bell, Farquhar, Milne, Booth, Juniors, Miss Bell, Masters Bell, Milward, Visitor, Master Wilkinson.

Minutes: Minutes of last meeting read and confirmed.

Items of Interest: Mr. Farquhar read out of "Stamp Collecting" of the 11th November, 1944, the designs decided upon for the new series of Pictorial Stamps for Nyasaland.

Society's Collection: Mr. Booth, on behalf of Mr. Hulneck, presented a £10 stamp of Nyasaland S.G. No. 52 in very fine condition for the Society's collection. This was passed on to Mr. Stevens as Curator of the collection and was asked to convey to Mr. Hulneck the thanks of the Society for his donation.

Correspondence: A letter from Mr. Hall, of Australia, inviting members to exchange stamps was tabled. Mrs. Wright agreed to enter into correspondence with Mr. Hall, and the letter was passed to Mrs. Wright.

Approval Books: Again regret was expressed at no approval book having been received from outside sources.

Mr. Farquhar tabled some books and these were circulated.

SOUTH AFRICA 1927/8 issue, horizontal and vertical pairs or singles E and A, good used copies. Can you offer one, a dozen, or more, also K.G. V £1 fine used. S.G. 44b. 2d. blue and violet mint and used pairs any number. British Africans high values fine used, Air letter advice of particulars and prices. Cash or mint current sets of K.G. VI in payment.

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UNKNOWN HISTORY

In the *Philatelic Magazine* of 29th December there is an amusing story by Harold G. D. Gisburn, entitled "Conjugal Commemoratives." The story is supposed to be told by the President of a philatelic society to explain the reason for the much married life of King Henry VIII. It seems that it was all due to the passion of Bluff King Hal for commemoratives. The coronation of each new queen was an excuse for the issue of a new set of commemoratives, hence the King wished to change his queens as often as possible. Hampton Court was confiscated from Cardinal Wolsey in order to house the King's new collection. James Anthony Froude, the great historian who wrote on this period of English History, does not seem to have given this reason for King Henry's many wives, or for the fall of Wolsey.

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APRIL, 1945.

Whole No. 241.

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Vol. 21, No. 4.

APRIL, 1945.

Whole No. 241.

UNION, S.W.A. AND PROTECTORATES

Recent Printings—

Following on the information given in our January issue, here are notes supplied by the Post Office authorities in respect of printings of postage stamps, stationery, etc., carried out during the period 20th July, 1944, to 14th February, 1945.

(a) War Postage Stamps:

½d.—Job No. 964. 263,500 sheets now delivered on this order for 300,000 sheets. Cylinder 40 as before.

1d.—Job No. 52. 228,870 sheets now delivered on this order for 200,000 sheets. The final delivery took place on 1/2/45. Cylinder 6936.

2d.—Job No. 6192/8646. 377,500 sheets of 240 printed from old Cylinder 6931, and 165,000 sheets of 240 printed from new Cylinder 39 have now been delivered on an order for 1,200,000 sheets.

6d.—Job No. 7602. 33,400 sheets of 240 stamps were delivered on 30/1/45 on an order for 30,000 sheets. Cylinder 6916 as before.

(b) Roll Stamps:

½d.—Job No. 16. 1,495 rolls of 1,012 stamps and 1,153 rolls of 506 stamps were delivered on this order for 1,000 rolls of 1,012 stamps. The final delivery took place on 13/2/45. Cylinder 6911.

(c) Pictorial Postage Stamps:

2s. 6d.—Job No. 7601. 19,180 sheets of 60 stamps have been delivered on an order for 15,000 sheets. The final delivery took place on 19/12/44. Cylinders 27 (Interior) and 7017 (Exterior) as before.

5s.—Job No. 7601. 7,986 sheets of 60 stamps were delivered on 21/12/44 on an order for 6,000 sheets. Cylinders 6929 (Interior) and 41 (Exterior) as before.

10s.—Job No. 7601. 3,308 sheets of 60 stamps were delivered on 21/12/44 on an order for 2,500 sheets. Cylinders 6918 (Interior) and 6934 (Exterior) as before.

(d) Postage Due Stamps:

½d.—Job No. 25. 2,100 sheets of 60 stamps were delivered on 30/11/44 on an order for 1,000 sheets. New Cylinder No. 7015.

(e) Inland Pictorial Post Cards:

1d.—Job No. 10568. 1,646,720 cards have now been delivered on this order for 2,000,000 cards. Cylinders 86 (Stamps) and 85 (Pictures).

(f) Air Letter Cards:

6d.—Job No. 5205. 1,882,728 cards have now been delivered on this order for 2,500,000 cards. Cylinder No. 74.

3d.—Job No. 3653. 2,032,680 cards have now been delivered on an order for 5,000,000 cards. New Cylinder No. 79.

(g) South West Africa:

Overprinted "S.W.A." on rotary machine, new slugs being used.

3d.—Air Letter Cards. 34,788, delivered 28/11/44.

(h) Basutoland:

Overprinted "Basutoland" on rotary machine, new slugs being used.

3d.—Air Letter Cards. 180,600 delivered 28/11/44.

(i) Bechuanaland:

Overprinted "Bechuanaland" on rotary machine, new slugs being used.

3d.—Air Letter Cards. 165,000 delivered 23/11/44.

(j) Swaziland:

Overprinted "Swaziland" on rotary machine, new slugs being used.

3d.—Air Letter Cards. 35,784 delivered 28/11/44.

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FEZZAN

The latest "Bulletin" of the Leopoldville Philatelic Circle quotes a list from an Algiers paper of the stamp overprinted "Fezzan" when the Free French was on the move north from Lake Chad to Tunisia. There are 22 Libyan and 4 Italian stamps given in the list: the numbers overprinted vary from 35 to 4,300, and the prices being asked for them run from 500 fr. to 7,000 fr.

+

SWAZILAND

Mr. J. F. Fick informs us that he has now seen the Swaziland Air Mail Letter Card overprinted on the Afrikaans stamp.

“THE WINDSOR MONTHLY PHILATELIC BULLETIN.”

The February number of this publication contains a very interesting article by L. N. and M. Williams entitled “Stamp Finds.” Some historical finds of the past are described. There are also numerous offers of collections, sets and single stamps.

+

THE GOOD OLD DAYS

The “Philatelic Journal” for October-December, 1944, contains an article by Mr. P. L. Pemberton entitled “A Pemberton Centenary.” It is a short history of the philatelic career of the author’s father, Mr. E. L. Pemberton. The article contains a copy of a Price List of Stamps issued by Mr. E. L. Pemberton in 1862. Here are some of the prices quoted:—

Cape: 1d. Triangular unused—6d.

Cape: 1d. and 6d. used Triangular—4d. for the two.

Great Britain: 1d. Black, 2d. Blue—2d. for the two.

Great Britain: Mulready 1d. used—1s. 6d.

Ceylon: ½d., 1d., 2d., 5d. and 6d.—5d. set.

Tuscany: 3 lire used—2s. 6d.

There are numerous other bargains but, alas the reader is now too late.

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Thanks to Mr. H. R. Harmer for a beautiful Christmas Card emblematic of Anglo-American co-operation in peace as well as in war.

+

WHAT DID THIS STAMP DO?

In the “Stamp Lover,” Mr. Charles Jewell, writing under the title “Organised Philately and the Beginner,” suggests that every collector should take at least one beginner under his wing. He considers that there is a better way of interesting a beginner than by giving him a catalogue and then telling him to get on with the job, or, perhaps, showing him how to use it. That is all to apt to make philately rather tedious and lifeless.

He recommends setting him to hunt up the story behind the stamp, and so breathe life into the dead bones. Answering the question “What did this stamp do?” will open up a vast field of enquiry.

As an example, he takes the current British 2½d. stamp and asks what could it do in 1938, and what does it do to-day in the way of taking letters to places, and what weights will it frank? Why was the colour blue chosen for the 2½d. value, and when? Would it take a letter to, say, Tibet or Abyssinia in 1938? If it did so to the latter, how did it go? Who benefited from the 2½d. paid by the sender and how was the payment arranged?

And so on. Sounds a good plan, doesn’t it?

+

A PAT ON THE BACK

Mr. P. L. Pemberton, of the firm of Sefi Pemberton & Co., Ltd., Leominster, England, writes: “I must congratulate you on the continued excellence of the ‘South African Philatelist,’ which is one of the very few stamp papers which contains any real information.”

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Full particulars from:

S. G. Walton, 252 St. John’s Road, Canley Vale, N.S.W., Australia.

RED CROSS AUCTION—CAPE TOWN

A most successful public auction of postage stamps was held in the Metropolitan Hall, Cape Town, on the 8th March.

The sale was sponsored by the Cape Town Philatelic Society in aid of Red Cross Funds. The result of its appeal for stamps was most gratifying, both by members and the general public; 176 lots being offered for sale.

Before the auction began Mr. W. D. Valance, President of the Society, appealed to buyers not to look for bargains, but to keep in mind the cause for which the sale was being held. The appeal was certainly heeded and bidding was brisk throughout, many items fetching well over catalogue prices, showing the fine spirit prevailing by those in attendance.

The star item was the rare V.O.C. Cover with a superb impression of the V.O.C. which, after much keen competition, was eventually knocked down for £26. A set of Zanzibar overprinted in India in mint condition realised £18 12s. 6d.

A block of four of the Penny deep rose red Cape Triangulares—a most desirable item to collectors of Capes—kept the hon. auctioneer busy until it was eventually sold for £16 10s.

A fine unused copy of the fourpenny pale-blue S.G.4(a) realised £10 10s. The complete Canadian War Issue in mint condition was keenly sought after and bids came from all parts of the hall until the price of £4 2s. 6d. was reached.

A mint short set of the St. Helena Centenary to 1s., catalogued at £2 13s. 7d., was disposed of at £2 17s. When eventually all lots were sold it was announced that the grand total of £205 had been realised—a fine effort for a most deserving fund and cause.

FOR SALE.

Tenders are invited for the purchase of approximately 200,000 stamps, all are first class quality, cleaned and packed in 100’s. They are mostly Unions but there is considerable variety.

Detailed lists may be obtained from the Secretary, Cape Town Philatelic Society, P.O. Box 1973, Cape Town. Tenders will close on the 30th April, 1945, the highest or any tender not necessarily accepted.

THE WHOLE OF THE PROCEEDS WILL BE HANDED TO THE S.A. RED CROSS SOCIETY.

NEW ARRIVALS AND SPECIALS

- 2. Egypt, Farouk Birthday, and Ismail Jubilee 3/6
- 11. Egypt, Fuad Investiture cpl. mint. . . 5/6
- 6. Italy, Hitler and Mussolini cpl. used 3/6
- 3. Aden 14 as. and Turks 6d. & 1/- new colours 5/0
- 2. New Zealand 1944 Health cpl. 1/0
- 4. -Lourenco Marques, 4th Centenary, cpl. 7/6
- 4. Lourenco Marques, 50c green and 50c brown, normals and double prints, mint (Interesting selections of these available, on request.) 5/6
- 4. Germany 10 and 15 pf. Brit. Govt. Forgeries, and originals (See S.G. note after No. 92a.) 15/6

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Contents include many offers of interesting stamps, including sections for Empire and Foreign; New Issues; Stamps for Investment; High values; Specimens; Accessories; Special offers and a Monthly Outstanding Bargain.

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ASCENSION

(Paper read at a meeting of the
Cape Town Philatelic Society.)

By C. G. MUMMERY

Ascension Island, which lies some 700 miles north-west of St. Helena in the South Atlantic, was discovered by Juan Castella in 1501.

Except for very brief periods Ascension remained unoccupied for just over 300 years following its discovery.

In 1815, when Napoleon was banished to St. Helena, it was represented to the authorities at St. Helena that the uninhabited Island of Ascension might be used as a base to effect Napoleon's escape. In view of this it was decided by the British to annex the Island, and this was carried out on 22nd October, 1815, from which date Ascension became a British Possession.

The Island was suitably fortified, a small garrison established, and was for over a hundred years administered under the Board of Admiralty, being treated as a warship and commissioned as "H.M.S. Ascension."

The death of Napoleon in 1821 resulted in an immediate reduction of the Africa Squadron and a small garrison of marines replaced the former Naval garrison. The Island was used by the Admiralty mainly as a coaling station, but in 1898 the Eastern Telegraph Company established a cable station on the Island. In 1922 it was decided to withdraw the naval garrison, and the small staff of the cable station alone remained.

It was deemed advisable, however, to retain the Island as a British Possession, and it was accordingly made a Dependency of St. Helena on 20th October, 1922.

The Island's postal history dates back to 1867 when £20 worth of current British stamps in 1d., 6d., and 1s. values was received and put into use.

The earliest known "Ascension" postmark on a 1d. British stamp is 23.11.1873 and 29.9.1873 on a shilling stamp. So far no 6d. has been recorded with the "Ascension" postmark.

Further supplies of British stamps of various values were supplied to the Island from time to time until 1922, when the Island became a Dependency of St. Helena, and a quantity of the then current stamps of St. Helena were overprinted for use in Ascension. The overprinting was done by De La Rue and Co., of London, and so well was this carried out that no errors are recorded—not even any "Inverteds." This provisional issue, which comprised nine values, was used until 1924 when the first definitive series appeared. The design was the same as that current for St.

Helena, and in this issue the well-known but uncatalogued "Cleft in Rock," "Broken Flag" and "Split Main Mast" varieties occur.

In July, 1934, a new issue appeared in entirely new pictorial designs, and the 2s. and 3s. values were replaced by the 2s. 6d. and 5s. values.

Then came the 1935 King George V "Silver Jubilee" set which was followed in May, 1937 by the Geo. VI "Coronation" set.

Lastly, we have the permanent issue of Geo. VI which appeared in May, 1938. This is also a pictorial series, similar in design to those of 1934, but the words "Postage and Revenue" have been omitted and the head of King Geo. VI replaces that of his Royal Father. Also a 10s. value has been added.

With the exception of the "Silver Jubilee" set which was printed by Waterlow and Sons, all Ascension stamps to date have been printed by De La Rue and Co.

Ascension is a very nice little country to collect; the stamps are attractive, there are not many issues, no very high values or very expensive items, so that it is not particularly difficult to complete the normals. The varieties are not complicated, but are not easy to get, and of course the search for Great Britain stamps and covers used in Ascension is fascinating.

Turning to my own collection, I can only say that in "Normals" each issue is complete—mint, used and overprinted or perforated "specimen."

In the varieties of the 1924 issue I am missing only the 4d. and 6d. with "Split Mainmast."

I am rather proud of my British stamps and covers used in Ascension prior to 1922, although of course I have none of the very rare 1873 postmarks, my earliest being 12th August, 1899.

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THE 2½d. STAMPS OF ORANGE FREE STATE.

By STEPHEN G. RICH.

The Orange Free State first issued a stamp of 2½d. face in October, 1892. This and the January, 1897, stamp of the value were the only ones issued under the Republic. In both cases the stamps were made by surcharging the 3d. ultramarine stamp, of which a large supply had remained on hand from the brief period of the 3d. letter rate, from probably September 1st, 1882, to July 1st, 1883.

The first 2½d. stamp was made for a definite pair of situations. The Orange Free State had a postal treaty with the Cape of Good Hope by which the Cape's tariffs applied to mail originating in the Orange Free State in international service. The Cape had adopted a rate of 2½d. to England on January 1st, 1890. At some time in 1892 a registration rate of 2½d. had been adopted as between the various countries of South Africa, and possibly for overseas mail also. The Cape did not join the Universal Postal Union until January 1st, 1895; but as early as March, 1891,, had produced its surcharged 2½d. stamp and in June, 1892, its definitive 2½d. sage green. The O.F.S. joined the U.P.U. in January, 1898.

The first O.F.S. of 2½d. face was overprinted with ordinary 10-point Scotch roman type. Information as to whether one or two panes were overprinted at a time, quantity made, etc., is entirely lacking. A few varieties are found, all due to typesetting: no doubles or inverts have been found. The list of 10 varieties in Geldhof's book may be increased by the following, from my own collection:—

11. Broken top of "1" in "½," and broken "d" at bottom.
12. "1" of "½" broken in middle.
13. "½" leans to left.

The earliest date of use thus far recorded is June 5th, 1893, at Post Wissel Kantoor (Money Order Office) Bloemfontein, on a copy in my collection. A fine block that I have shows June 6th, 1894 use, Registration Bloemfontein. Covers are exceedingly scarce: the only one I know of is a registered cover to Germany with strip of 3, a single, and four

1d. stamps, from Ladybrand February 18th, 1897.

The stamp does not show any appreciable shades. Heavily and lightly inked overprint, and overprint at times impressed into the paper, occur.

Usage in each year, 1893 to 1897, is known, by dated town cancellations.

By the start of 1897 the supply of 2½d. stamps had been used up. In January a new supply was needed. This time it was made with 14-point type for the overprint. A heavy-serif Ionic 2 and a Scotch Roman were used—no period or d after the figures. According to Geldhof, one pane at a time was surcharged. The 3d. stamps used varied somewhat in shade in this printing.

At least two "major" varieties occurred in the surcharge, due to pied type in the Government printer's shop; and several other varieties exist. Of the major varieties, the one longest known was due to using a "½" from a font of Caslon or Antique type, which is listed as "Roman 1 and Antique 2 in ½" but better described as "1 over 2." This was on stamp No. 4 of row 8; location in the pane not hitherto reported but placed by a block 1 recently acquired. No. 4 of row 7 and No. 2 of row 10 show a variety due to type from another Scotch Roman font: the 2 of "½" has a curved bottom instead of a straight one. This was reported and pictured by Geldhof, but its location was not known.

The "minor" varieties are several and not hitherto recorded:

Damaged or dirty "½," giving the effect of an upturned tail to the small 2, on No. 1 of row 10.

"1 over 2" with 2 of the regular Scotch Roman type—probably a damaged piece of type, since the 2 is broken.

Semicircular nick in bottom of numeral 2.

Nick on right end of tail of numeral 2—No. 3 of row 7.

Break where downstroke joins tail of numeral 2—No. 2 of row 9.

Two dots close to front of numeral 2—No. 1 of row 7.

The existence of doubles of the 1897 stamp is a matter of controversy. There are numerous apparent doubles due to heavy inking. But a pair used at Bloemfontein, September 5th, 1897, with one stamp entirely normal and

The Letter Stamps and Postmarks of the Cape of Good Hope 1792-1910

By A. A. JURGENS

Copies of this book can now be had at the reduced price of £1 17s. 6d. (Postage and packing 2/6 extra). Send your order to either Mr. S. Kaganson, Sec. C.T. Philatelic Society, P.O. Box 1973, Cape Town, or to Mr. J. Silvie, P.O. Box 5, Cape Town. Only 500 copies of this book were printed, a large quantity of which were destroyed in Darter's fire. The book offered here is not a Second Edition having been printed at the same time as the 200 Subscription Copies which were sold at three guineas each. The contents and the paper on which the book is printed being the same, the only difference being a slightly cheaper binding in red cloth. Cash with order.

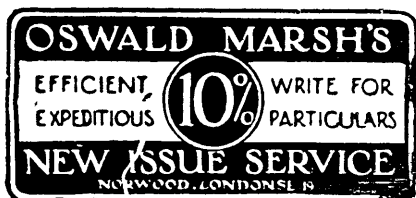
the other apparently genuinely doubled, has shown up. Hand-lens examination fails to give any conclusive evidence, but between my own microscope and Mr. Carl Pelander's quartz lamp, the existence of the doubling has been established at least to my own satisfaction. This clearly is a doubling due to flapping during release of the printing press, and not to the sheet being run through twice.

The earliest use I have seen or recorded is March 8th, 1897, at Bloemfontein. Next is May 14th, 1897, at Winburg. I am still anxiously waiting to see even one cover with this stamp.

The O.F.S. joined the U.P.U. in January, 1898, and the use for international mail was thus added to that for registration. However, covers of the period to points abroad seem to bear a pair of 1d. stamps and one of ½d. instead of this stamp—the reason is not apparent. It is curious that all dates seen on cancellations of this stamp are in 1897. Evidently it vanished from active use after that year. Some 80 sheets, 19,200 copies, were found when the British took Bloemfontein in 1900, and were overprinted V.R.I. and used up between March and August of that year; for by August 24th the 2½d. on Cape had been issued and is found with that date of cancellation.

In support of the explanation of the O.F.S. 2½d. stamps as being issued not for U.P.U. rates but for that to England and for registration, be it noted that Natal, adjacent to the O.F.S. came out with its first 2½d. stamp, surcharged on the 4d., on April 21st, 1891, and the regular issue appeared in June, 1891—but Natal did not join the U.P.U. till July, 1892. Zululand likewise had its first 2½d. stamp in September, 1891, joining the U.P.U. July, 1892. This fits with the Cape's 2½d.'s of March, 1891, and June, 1892, while that colony joined the U.P.U. as late as January, 1895. The Transvaal is the lone exception to the usual process: although a rate of 2½d. to England was established in 1892, no 2½d. stamp appeared till January 2nd, 1893, the effective date of joining the U.P.U.

The O.F.S. stamps were blue by accident only. Except Natal, no South African country purposely had a blue 2½d. stamp until 1896. In that year the Cape and the Transvaal brought out ultramarine 2½d.'s. This all antedates the U.P.U. colour scheme, adopted by the 1897 Washington U.P.U. Congress. The blue colour is quite likely to be traced to British example, since that country changed its 2½d. stamps to blue in March, 1881.



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SOME OLD TRANSVAAL STAMPS

II. THE 3d. GREEN, "V.R. TRANSVAAL"
(APRIL AND MAY, 1879).

By R. BROOM, F.R.S.

(Continued from page 4 of the January issue)

Although 40,000 3d. stamps with the Queen's Head had arrived in the Transvaal on 24th July, 1878, the internal postage rate had, on 13th July, 1878, been reduced from sixpence to threepence per half ounce; and as a result the 3d. Queen's Head stamps lasted for a shorter period than had been anticipated, and it became necessary to print locally a fresh supply of 3d. stamps from the old plates. There were thus issued on 18th April, 1879 29,680, and on 30th May 30,000 3d. stamps—mauve on green, and overprinted V.R. Transvaal as in the 1d. April, 1878, and 6d. May, 1878, issues with the V.R. in Roman letters or in Italics. As the issue was mainly used for internal postage, it is not surprising that less is known about it than any other of the First British Occupation.

R. B. Yardley quite frankly says: "I do not know whether the same setting was used for both deliveries (April and May), and in fact I do not know the arrangement of the types B1 and B2 on the panes, or whether they were in eighty or forty or otherwise . . . Mr. Nankivell tells us that one entire pane was exhibited at the Philatelic Exhibition at the Portland rooms in 1890, but no note was made of the arrangement. Speaking generally, the overprint was badly executed . . . the stops after "V" and "R" of "V.R." (are) often above the normal level." He elsewhere says: "Very little is known of the arrangement of the types of the overprint, but those of Type B2 were more numerous than those of Type B1, and the two types are found *se tenant*."

Curle and Basden, the most recent authorities on Transvaals, say: "The respective numbers of each overprint are not known."

When the stamps of this issue are plated we have revealed not only the arrangement and numbers of the two overprints, but many startling new facts are discovered in the issue.

Quite certainly both plates were used—the lapper or left plate and the lead or right plate, and the stamps of each plate appear to be equally common. So we may conclude as highly probable that the stamps were printed in sheets of 80. We also discover that the same setting was used for both deliveries.

On the left sheet the first 13 stamps are of Type B1 or with V.R. in Roman letters, and the stamps of the rest of the sheet No. 14 to No. 40 of B2 type or with Italic V.R. On the right sheet the arrangement is different. Here stamps No. 1 to No. 12 are in B1, and No. 13 to No. 40 in B2.

We know that in the 1d. issue of 15th April, 1878, the right pane had 13 stamps of B1 type and 27 of B2; and we know that in the 4th issue of the 6d. of 13th May, 1878, there was the same arrangement of the overprints of the right pane, 13 of B1 and 27 of B2. We might thus suspect that this curious arrangement now seen in the left pane of the 3d. was due to the setting of 13th May having been kept for 10 months and now used for the left pane. But it is not so. The setting is different.

Whoever was responsible for the setting of the overprints of this 3d. must have been full of whims.

The first point to be noted is that stamp No. 12 in both the left and the right panes has a thick V. This thick V is not due to bad printing. It is almost as marked as the thick V of the Orange Free State V.R.I issue. I have 5 specimens of the No. 12 left pane and 2 specimens of No. 12 right pane.

Both Yardley and Curle and Basden have called attention to the stop varieties. The latter give them as "Roman: Raised stop after 'R.' Both stops raised. Italic: Raised stop after 'R.' Both stops raised." This is correct. But it has not been previously noted that all the stop varieties with one minor exception belong to the right pane. In the left pane the only varieties are the thick V (No. 12), a slightly raised stop after R in No. 6, and some variation in the size of the stops. I think there are a few very minor varieties in the V's and R's, some of which may have come from different founts, but one would require to have a considerable series before

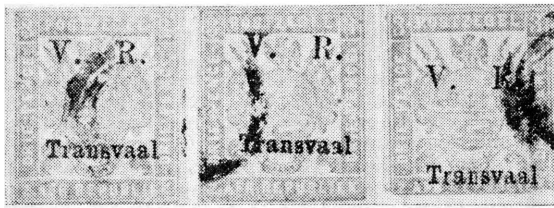
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one could be quite sure that the differences were not due to defective printing.



Upper:—

Nos. 11, 12 and 13 of the Left Pane of 3d. Transvaal (*Mauve on Green*). No. 11 shows a constant flaw on the upright of the R, and a slightly narrowed n of Transvaal. No. 12 shows the thick V and slightly damaged last a of Transvaal. No. 13 shows the Roman V.R. with damaged serif of V, also damaged lower part of r and a much narrowed n in Transvaal.



Lower:—

Nos. 11, 12 and 13 of the Right Pane. In all three the overprint is wider spaced than in the corresponding stamps of the left pane. No. 12 shows the thick V and raised stop after R. In the left pane No. 12 the A of AFR. is blind; in the right it has an eye. No. 13 shows the V.R. in Italics. The last a of Transvaal is damaged.

The right pane bristles with varieties. Curle and Basden refer to the 6d. Blue on Green as "the Proteus of the stamp world." The right pane of this 3d. will easily beat it for varieties. There are, as has been stated, 12 of B1, and of these all except No. 9, No. 10 and No. 11 have the stop after R raised. In No. 2 and No. 8 the stop is much raised; in the others less raised. In No. 6 the stop after the V is slightly below the level of the letters.

Among the Italic V.R.'s there are fewer stop varieties. In No. 14 both stops are raised. No. 25 has the stop after R raised. In No. 27 both stops are raised. In No. 35 the stop after R is slightly raised, and in No. 39 both stops are slightly raised. Curle and Basden, on plate 10, give an illustration of two stamps of this issue. These are No. 6 and No. 14 of the right pane.

I have examples of all the 40 stamps of the left pane, but only of 37 out of the 40 of the right pane. So I am thus at present unable to say anything about the condition

of the overprints in Nos. 15, 33 and 38 of the right pane.

Another very remarkable fact that has come to light concerns the varieties of spacing of the overprint. In all the stamps of the left pane the measurement across the overprint is 15 m.m. In the right pane only two stamps so far known agree with those of the left in having the measurement across the overprint 15 m.m., viz., Nos. 34 and 35. In Nos 2 to 7 all the stamps measure across the overprint 16 m.m. Nos: 8, 16 and 17 measure 15.8 m.m. across the overprint, while Nos. 24, 25, 27 and 36 have the slightly less measurement of 15.7 m.m. All the others, except 34 and 35, have a measurement of 15.5 m.m. Or to state the position more simply, all the stamps of the left pane and Nos. 34 and 35 of the right have a measurement across the overprint of 15 m.m. All the others of the right pane have a wider spacing of the overprint; Nos. 2 to 7 having a measurement of 16 m.m., and the others measurements between 15.5 and 15.8 m.m.

We thus see that out of 37 stamps of the right pane whose condition we know 15 have stop varieties, and 35 have a wider spacing of the overprint than in the left pane.

At present, stamps with the Roman overprint are catalogued at 20s. used, and those with the Italic overprint at 16s. As there were only 25 of B1 for 55 of B2, either the B2 is at present too dear, or the B1 is much undervalued.

As 756 sheets of the 3d green were printed only 756 specimens of each variety can have been issued, and it seems unlikely that more than 30 or 40 can have survived, and each of the thick V types is thus probably as rare as the VRAL error of the 1d. red on blue. Though the two thick V's resemble each other they can easily be distinguished by the left one having the A of AFR blind while the right one has the A with an eye and has the wider overprint.

E. BLUM

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CORRESPONDENCE

MATABELELAND 2d. FLAW

I see that Whitfield, King & Co., according to their "Bulletin," have noticed the correction of the saddle roll flaw in the 2d. Commemoratives of S. Rhodesia and that a *new* flaw had developed on stamp No. 8, taking the form of a blur on the side of the head of the equestrian. I am in possession of a registered envelope from Bulawayo dated 20/11/43, on which there are three of these stamps from the top right-hand corner of a sheet and on the first of these three stamps the same blur appears on the side of the head of the trooper or man on horse.

20/11/43 was only a few days after the *first* appearance of the said stamps, so this blur cannot be a new one.

C. A. ARMSTRONG,
Pretoria.

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In re: ZULULAND POSTMARKS

Like a good many other collectors, I have always looked with a certain amount of suspicion on the cancelled stamps of Zululand, largely because the only postmark I ever seemed to see was that of "Eshowe," the capital, which led me to believe that here again we had cancelled-to-order remainders, similar to those found in Oil Rivers and Niger Coast Protectorate. My knowledge of the country was quite vague, and I had little or no information indicating a legitimate need for postage stamps of anything but nominal face value and in small numbers, so stamps of the £1 and £5 denominations appeared to be entirely uncalled for, unless issued for fiscal purposes—AND the pocket-books of gullible, and wealthy, stamp collectors! So, all in all, Zululand did not occupy a very high place in the scale of my affections for the stamps of the British Empire.

However, I have recently had good cause to revise my views on these points, for the simple reason that it has been my pleasure and privilege to go over a rather large lot of postally used Zululands of the last (key-plate) issue, comprising almost 400 stamps of the 3d., 6d. and 1s. values. They were so obviously "run-of-the-mill" and non-philatelic that there was not any doubt that they had been legitimately used on commercial mail, probably to London. Although I was not the first collector to go over the lot, my first sight of it promised good hunting, and I made arrangements to go over it for cancellations and postmarks, forthwith!

Besides "Eshowe" I found other town cancellations in varying numbers, as shown by the following table:—

	Eshowe.	Melmoth.	Nondweni	Nongoma.*	Nqutu.	Illegible.	Total.
3d.	18	21	43	2	—	37	121
6d.	35	28	23	7	3	28	124
1s.	43	27	29	9	1	17	126
	96	76	95	18	4	82	371

* All these postmarks were in purple ink (cf. "S.A.P.", July, 1935, p. 98).

Of course, this analysis does not prove anything quantitatively, inasmuch as it is not based on the composition of the lot as originally received through the mail—BUT it *does* prove that there were other Post Offices besides "Eshowe" existing in Zululand during the currency of its stamps!. With the aid of this information we can compile the following partial list: ESHOWE, HLABISA, INGWAVUMA, MELMOTH, NONDWENI, NONGOMA, NQUTU. There surely must have been others, and I am hoping some reader will come forward with a complete list for the record.

As for the £1 and £5 stamps (and even the £20 Natal fiscal listed by S.G. as having been postally used), the fact that both Scott and Gibbons consistently price these high values substantially less used than unused would seem to indicate that they are relatively more plentiful in the former state than in the latter, which naturally raises the question as to whether there may not have been considerable postal use of these high values after all? What industries existed in Zululand in the 1890s that could conceivably have used these high values postally? Gold? Diamonds? Ivory? I am now of the opinion that if all the facts were known a most fascinating story could be written about the postal uses of these high value stamps, and I am hoping this letter will come to the attention of some of your readers who can supply further detailed information, preferably based upon an intimate acquaintance with the country in its earliest days.

PAUL A. DORN,
Los Angeles.

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THE 3d. BUFF "V.R. TRANSVAAL."

In my paper which appeared in the January number of the "South African Philatelist" I stated that I had not come across any roulettes Left Pane of the 1st setting (October, 1877). I have now come across one fine roulette and one wide roulette. These must be very rare stamps indeed. I think it probable that about 150 sheets of the 40 Left Pane were printed. Perhaps there may have been five sheets with fine roulette and two with wide roulette. If so only 80 wide roulettes were ever issued in the October, 1877 setting, and it is unlikely that more than four now survive. The one I have is No. 12, and as only two of No. 12 were probably issued, the stamp is likely to be unique.

I have seen a few other wide roulettes, but they all belong to the 2nd setting (April, 1878).

R. BROOM.

COLLECTORS' WANTS AND OFFERS

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

Seychelles and Sierra Leone fine used copies wanted. Particularly Edward and George. High prices willingly paid.

William Redford, Box 7012, Johannesburg.

Rhodesian Admirals wanted for specialised collection, all 2/-, 2/6, 5/-, 7/6, 10/- and £1 values wanted, mint or used, pairs, blocks, varieties. High prices paid.

Thiele, 455 West Street, Durban.

Wanted: Transvaal, Natal, Cape, O.F.S., Bechuanaland, Gambia, St. Helena, Egypt, France. Picked copies, rarities and varieties, also 9,000 items for world collection up to 1933 issues. E. Hunt, Box 2437, Johannesburg.

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Geo. F. Rowe, 11 Barmouth Road, London, S.W. 18.

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WANTED, "South African Philatelist," all issues, in exchange for other magazines, philatelic and non-philatelic. Philatelic courtesies reciprocated with "Flags" stamps.

The Philatelic Library, Box 1712 WLB, Los Angeles 36, California.

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S. PEIMER

P.O. BOX 1217,

DURBAN.

NYASALAND PHIL. SOC. (Continued from page 48)

Mr. Farquhar proposed and Mr. Milne seconded a motion that all approval books received should first be submitted to monthly meetings and then sent to Zomba. This was carried.

The secretary read a letter received from Mr. Popper, of Kota Kota, asking for approval books to be sent to him. As there was an element of risk in damage to stamps in transit, it was decided the responsibility was too great and that no books be sent to far distant places, and the secretary was asked to notify Mr. Popper accordingly.

Before passing the books round, Mr. Stevens read an extract from the covering letter accompanying the books in which the Robertson Stamp Co. again emphasised the importance of dealing with the stamps with the utmost care and not to remove stamps for the various books unless purchased.

The remainder of the evening was devoted to sales, and the meeting terminated at 7.15 p.m.

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SOCIETY NEWS

PRETORIA PHILATELIC SOCIETY

President, Lt.-Col. G. Lance Horne; *Hon. Secretary*, H. A. Wager, P.O. Box 514; *Meetings*, 1st and 3rd Mondays, 8 p.m., Technical College.

March 5.: Lt. Col. Horne in the chair. Mr. Hawke passed round a list of the books at present in the library.

Mrs. Dyer read a short paper on the work of the Bureau of Information. She pointed out that this consisted mostly of propaganda, and enlarged reproductions of the Union stamps had been made for circulation to different countries, not with the view of advertising the stamps but more for the stamps to advertise South Africa. Mrs. Dyer placed a fine set of these enlargements on view.

This was a Competitions Evening. Mr. Wright had prepared a set of questions on philatelic knowledge, in general. Two members tied for first place, Mr. Rudd and Mr. Dodd. Mr. Oppenheim by an ingenious method arranged the portions of twelve different stamps for identification. The first prize was won by Mr. Weil and the second by Mr. Warren.

March 19.: Lt. Col. Horne in the chair.

The chairman welcomed the members of the Johannesburg Society. He then vacated the chair in favour of Mr. Lang, President of the Johannesburg Society, who thanked the members for their hearty welcome. He then introduced the members providing exhibits.

Mr. Schwartz showed a very nice collection of Assension and St. Helena well arranged and written up. Mr. Schubart had a number of different items of wide philatelic interest. Dr. Treves Barber tabled a very extensive collection of Free French colonials, including many almost unobtainable items. Mr. Gladstone also tabled a very extensive collection of Soviet Russia. These were mostly mint and the stamps showed remarkable design and workmanship. Mr. Lang showed a very outstanding exhibit of Rhodesia, including complete issues and many very highly priced items.

Thanks for the different exhibits were voiced by Messrs. Broughton, Oppenheim, Ferguson, Beyers and Rudd.

H.A.W.

THE PHILATELIC SOCIETY OF NATAL.

President, A. L. Bevis; *Hon. Sec.*, G. Milner, Palmer, P.O. Box 588, Durban; *Meetings*, 1st and 3rd Wednesdays at London Assurance House, 319 Smith Street (in the rooms of the Durban Camera Club, top floor), 7.30 p.m.

While attendance was not as large as usual there were 36 members and visitors present, who enjoyed an very good evening.

Mr. R. D. Browne conducted the monthly competition which created a good deal of humour.

Mr. W. H. Winde read his usual monthly notes, which were well received; these notes are to be circulated to all members, particularly Country Members, for a period, and if of sufficient interest may in future be part of our monthly circular.

Mr. Percy Bishop in his easy style gave a most interesting and delightful talk on various peculiarities of stamps with their post marks, together with a nice exhibit. He also gave a resume of the history of the Society of Natal, which is the oldest philatelic society in South Africa, having been founded in 1910 in a Railway Waiting Room. Interesting cuttings of this period were submitted which made interesting reading. The society held its first exhibition in 1913. The talk was received with great interest, particularly by the new members. In conclusion, Mr. P. Bishop asked the society to accept all the cuttings, etc., for the Archives, which were gratefully accepted by the President on behalf of the Society of Natal.

New members seem to be coming along steadily, but there is room for many more; what about interesting your friends. Bring them along, we are always happy to welcome visitors.

W.H.W.

THE JEWISH GUILD PHILATELIC SECTION

Chairman, Mr. A. Gladstone; *Hon. Sec.*, Mr. I. Isaacs, 910 His Majesty's Buildings, Eloff Street, Johannesburg

The annual general meeting of this section took place on March 22. The retiring chairman, Mr. E. C. Sprighton, in his report on the year's activities, stressed the fact that although this section was only a small philatelic society it had had a very happy and interesting year and exhibits had been of a high quality. A vote of thanks was passed by the meeting to the Executive of the Jewish Guild for providing the venue for the meetings and refreshments. Votes of thanks were also passed to the hon. secretary, Mr. I. Isaacs, and the hon. auctioneer, Mr. L. Buchen, for their work during the past year.

The result of the election of the committee was as follows: Chairman, Mr. A. Gladstone; vice-chairman, Mr. H. B. Marcuson; hon. secretary, Mr. I. Isaacs; committee members, Dr. A. Kaplan, Mr. B. Froelich, Mr. L. Buchen, with Mr. E. C. Sprighton as the ex officio member.

An interesting programme was arranged for the next six months.

Dr. A. Kaplan provided the exhibit of the evening. He entitled it "Stamps I Like," and when the exhibit was shown all the members present were inclined to agree with him. The exhibit consisted of some beautiful commemoratives from many countries, including the Queen Astrid set of Belgium, the Dolphus stamp of Austria, and the French Colonies Radium Fund issue. It included also the old classical issues of Holland and the New Zealand Health stamps.

Mr. Buchen spoke on the exhibit which was much appreciated by everybody.

The next meeting of the section will be held at the Jewish Guild Memorial Hall, on the first floor, on April 19. Any stamp collector is entitled to come to these meetings. A visitor merely has to sign the visitors' book and he will immediately be made welcome. The committee is always particularly pleased to see a member of the armed forces present.

I.I.

EAST LONDON PHILATELIC SOCIETY

President, Mr. A. Watson; *Hon. Secretary*, Mr. S. F. Fowler, P.O. Box 168, East London. *Meetings*, Colosseum Building, 2nd Fridays, 7.45 p.m.

Nineteen members and four visitors attended the monthly meeting on March 9.

Various new and interesting varieties were passed round for inspection; and much interest was aroused by the new "Instanta" perforation gauge, which was shown by Mr. Powell.

Mr. Durkin reported that the broken yokeskey on the current 5s. Union stamp appeared to have been repaired in the latest printing, as he had inspected a sheet in which it did not appear.

There was a general discussion on philatelic matters, following which the president called on Mr. Durkin for his promised display.

This took the shape of a very fine collection of Rhodesia, including also both Northern and Southern Rhodesia, mint and used.

All three countries were shown fairly complete, only a few of the rarer varieties being missing. The symmetrical arrangement of the stamps was noticeable, each specimen being mounted on a dark background, in addition. This added considerably to the attractiveness of these ever popular issues.

We shall look forward to seeing more of Mr. Durkin's stamps in the near future.

The usual auction brought the meeting to a close at about 10.15 p.m.

T.A.H.

PORT ELIZABETH PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

President, G. K. Forbes; *Hon. Sec.*, M. C. Sheffield, P.O. Box 88; *Meetings*, Room 8, City Hall Basement, at 7.45 p.m. 1st and 3rd Tuesday.

The first meeting of the month was given over to an auction when business was brisk and most of the packets were sold.

There was a large attendance when members met on March 20.

Mr. G. K. Forbes took the chair. After the general business was concluded, Mr. Adis-Smith was responsible for the exhibit and tabled about 50 pages of Egyptians. Some old sets of 1863 to 1879 of Khedive were well worth noting. Another stamp of February 1, 1884, with an overprint of 20 in large figures was inverted.

A large envelope to commemorate the Royal Wedding of 1938 was interesting, as it had the Royal Couple's photograph printed on the papers beside the Royal stamp.

Another item of interest was a stamp of November, 1915, 5 milliems with the overprint OHHS also inverted. This was the first time a member had displayed so many Egyptian stamps, and Mr. Adis-Smith received a hearty vote of thanks.

The meeting closed at 9.30 p.m.

L.E.C.

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CAPE TOWN PHILATELIC SOCIETY

President, W. D. Vallance; *Hon. Secretary*, S. Kaganson, P.O. Box 1973, Cape Town; *Meetings*, 2nd and 4th Thursdays at Yorkshire Buildings, Strand Street, at 7.30 p.m.

Thursday, February 8: The exhibition of postage stamps of Rhodesia by Mr. A. V. Jacob drew a very large attendance of members and visitors, and the opinion expressed was that it was one of the finest collections of that country seen in Cape Town.

Mrs. Johnson and Mr. L. Simenhoff both drew attention to the extreme rarity of several of the items shown, and expressed their opinion on this really outstanding philatelic treat.

Among some of the interesting items was a complete set with the Gubulawayo postmark—blocks of four mint and used of the Double Heads of 1910, of the 5d. error of colour—very fine items.

There were also complete sets of the Specimens, but one item here was outstanding—a strip of 7 of the 4s. value with the overprint missing on one stamp. Another scarce item was the overprint inverted of the 1917 surcharge. There were also many perforation varieties, specially interesting being the compound perforation of the 3d. value of the Double Heads.

The whole display was beautifully set out and well written up, and Mr. Jacob need have no fear of showing it alongside any other collection of the stamps of Rhodesia.

Thursday, February 22: The display for the evening was in the hands of Mr. F. Sinnott, and he once again displayed his fine exhibit of the stamps of Great Britain.

This collection has been shown before, but Mr. Sinnott had remounted it and given it a new setting and write up, and even to those of us who had seen it before the display looked fresh and new. To obtain clean, lightly cancelled copies of the early stamps of Britain is very difficult, but Mr. Sinnott by perseverance has got together a fine collection. Space does not permit mention being made of the many interesting items, but the pale straw 9d. of 1865 in used condition was a beautiful copy. A used pair of the £1 U.P.U. caught the eyes of many of the younger collectors.

Covers both of the prepostal period and later were also shown and gave added interest to the display, as did also a complete reconstructed sheet of the Penny Red plate 182.

A vote of thanks was moved by Mr. K. Alexander, and the meeting concluded with the usual auction.

Thursday, March 8: "Modern Issues" was the title of the display for this meeting at which there was again a good attendance of members and visitors.

Mr. C. R. V. Solomon, who was responsible for the exhibit, is well known for the quality of his exhibits, and this occasion was no exception. The display covered a wide field and was up to the minute as the last sheet displayed showed the latest war issue of Poland—the Warsaw stamp which had only arrived the day before.

I am not going to try and single out any special items, but rather am going to refer to the manner in which the exhibit was set out and written up. Mr. Solomon is a past master in this art, and it must have been a lesson to most of us to see how this little bit of extra time and trouble is well repayed in the finished exhibit, and as Cdr. Enoch stated in moving a vote of thanks, the display would easily take a prize for the best set up display of the year.

Mr. Vallance announced the result of the sale held that afternoon for Red Cross funds, £205, and thanked members for their support. Further items were offered for sale, and there is every hope of reaching our target of £500 for Red Cross funds and exceeding the £1,250 mark collected for war funds by this society.

B.L.C.

NYASALAND PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

President, Mr. C. Stevens; *Hon. Secretary*, Mr. Anson; *Meetings*, 2nd Mondays, Tobacco Auction Rooms, Limbe, 5 p.m.

Minutes of meeting of the Nyasaland Philatelic Society held on the 12th February, 1945.

Present: Mr. C. Stevens (chairman), Mesdames Lane, Wright and Milne; Messrs. Milne, Booth, Farquhar, Hullneck, Bell, Jewell, Niel, H. G. Hess and Hess Junior, and the secretary, Mr. Anson.

Minutes: Minutes of the last meeting were read and confirmed. There were no matters arising from these minutes for attention.

Membership: The secretary intimated that Mr. A. E. Wilson, of Zomba, had applied for membership, and proposed the election, which received the approval of the meeting.

Items of Interest: The chairman notified the members present that he had received numerous inquiries from various sources for information as to the date of issue of the new designs. He had, therefore, written the chief secretary, Zomba, on the subject and had been notified the date was not yet known.

Mr. Milne said he had read in a philatelic magazine a statement from a dealer that it would be a considerable time before the new issue would be on sale, and advised collectors not to rush and buy the present issue.

Mr. Stevens informed the meeting that during the month Mr. Booth had received advice from Mr. Twynam of a reprint of the current 10s. Nyasaland stamp which in appearance was of a lighter shade of printing as well as of paper than the first printing of this stamp.

Mr. Stevens tabled specimens of the first printing and what appeared to be the reprint, and remarked that the variation in shades may at a later date be included in the S.G. Catalogue on the same manner as numbers 96/97 and of the 1913 issue.

Rhodesian Stamps: Mr. Jewell stated he had read from an American journal that one stamp of the 2d. Matabeleland Commemorative stamp bore a white stroke across the end of the haversack and may prove of value as it was considered an error. Members present did not attach much significance to this flaw.

Mr. Farquhar read an article on the Rhodesia Letter Card stamp lately placed on sale. This letter card stamp was designed and printed in Salisbury. Specimens were being obtained for members interested.

Exchange Books: The chairman notified the meeting that after a long interval a supply of approval books had been received from the Robertson Stamp Co. Bearing in mind a suggestion made some time ago that books should not be distributed amongst members before they were tabled at a meeting, those now received had been retained until the first meeting held after their receipt. Whether this was recorded in the minutes was not known at this stage. The suggestion and procedure was approved by the members present.

The chairman before distributing the books asked the views of the meeting on a suggestion he put forward that half of the books received be sent intact to members at Zomba and on their return an exchange of the Limbe books be made, thereby enabling Country Members to have equal facilities with those of Limbe-Blantyre members.

It was felt that, whilst we are anxious to do everything possible to help Zomba members, it would be difficult to fall in with the suggestion. In these days, town members have difficulty in finding the time necessary to devote to the agenda each month. The main attraction at meetings is the prospect of seeing approval books. To send some books out for private inspection at Zomba means doing the same thing here in Limbe, with the rest. The approval books are thus taken right out of our programme. It was felt that in one way, Zomba members are already at some advantage. Here at our meetings we have to make hurried decisions about what we will choose from the books, and it is usual for buyers to find out afterwards that they have bought stamps they did not need. Or have refused stamps they needed, being unable to decide without their albums at hand.

At one time, as stated above, we used to see the books individually and then also at the meetings. But this was dropped. It was unfair to raid the books individually and then collectively before sending them to Zomba, so now we simply get a hurried look at them at meetings and then send them to Zomba to be perused at leisure. Not until they come back do our town members get the books for individual use.

(Continued on page 46)

FRESH FISH FOR DINNER

—a thousand miles inland

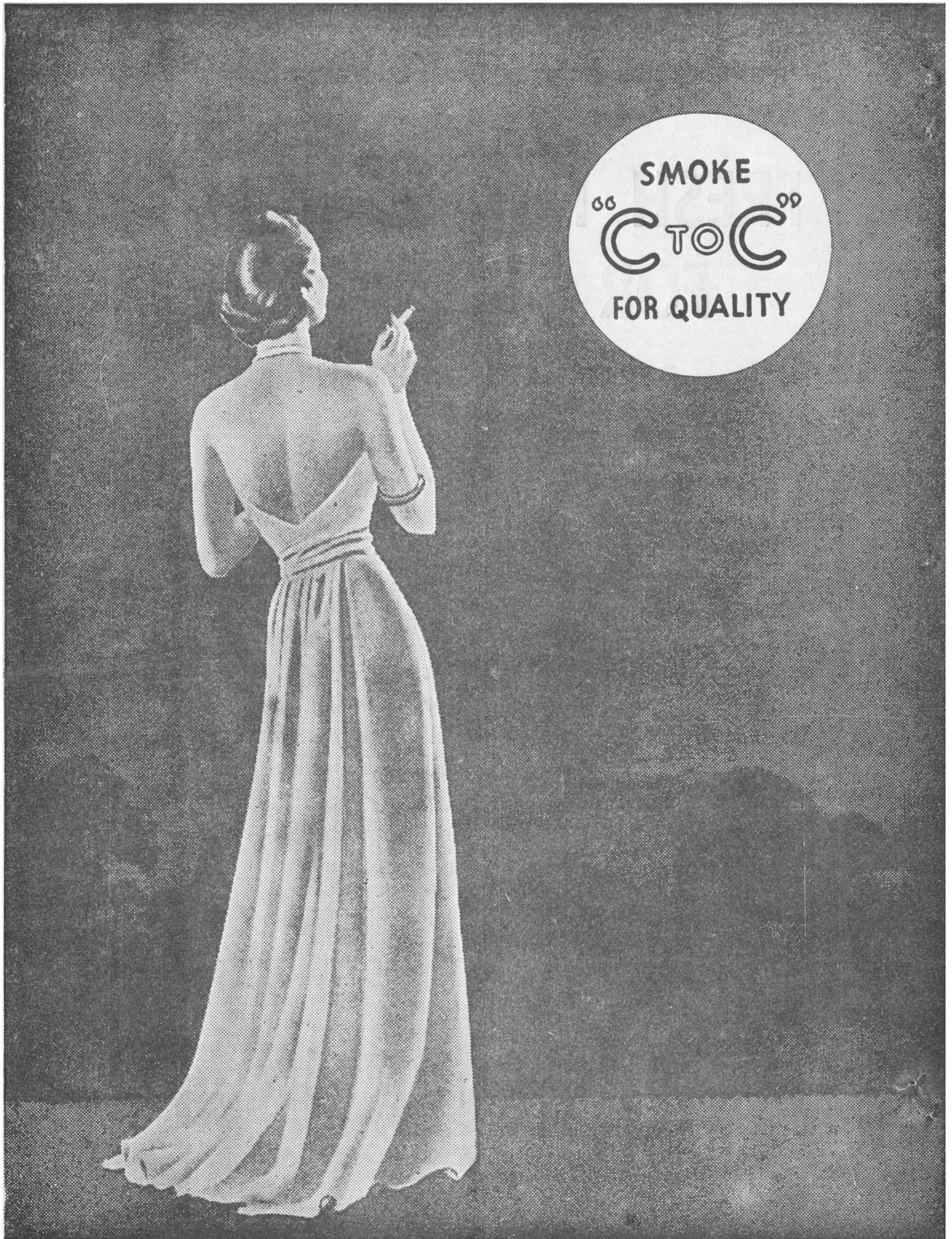
As the trawlers come in with their catches the fish is loaded into refrigerator cars and rushed inland, even up to our furthest borders. Also fruit, vegetables, meat and other perishable produce is brought in from farming districts by S.A.R. road or rail transport and distributed regularly, rapidly, reliably. War or no war, despite every conceivable difficulty, this essential service must **never** break down, because you depend on it for your daily food. Fast freight needs fast, powerful locomotives—
and many of them—because

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South African Railways



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MAY, 1945.

Whole No. 242.

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Vol. 21, No. 5.

MAY, 1945.

Whole No. 242.

UNION AND S.W.A. NOTES

UNION 2s. 6d. STAMP.

This has appeared with the green changed to blue (shades, mostly light). Sheet numbers are sometimes in red, sometimes in black.

UNION 5s. STAMP

Mr. R. Axer of Cape Town informs us that a change in the shade of the Union 5s. stamp has recently been observed, from Dark Green to almost a Blue Green.

UNION 2d. STAMP

Mr. A. H. Sydow informs us that a new Union 2d. stamp with Union Buildings vignette was put on sale at the Lynbrook Post Office, Cape Town, on the 7th March, 1945. The vignette was taken from a photograph and not from a drawing in line or an engraving. Watermarks are normal, and there are, as usual, 120 stamps to the sheet.

UNION MINIATURES

Mr. J. Robertson of the Robertson Stamp Co. (Pty.), Ltd., informs us that the 1d. Union Miniature stamp has now been issued with different side margins. In these margins the number "360" appears regularly at intervals of about 1 inch with double lines between each number, thus:—

360 = 360 = 360, etc.

There is, however, a blank space on each side of the centre arrow on each margin of about one inch on each side. The number 360 refers to the number of stamps in the sheet.

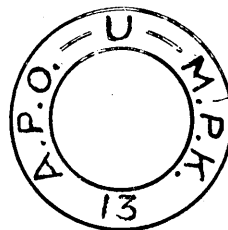
The 6d. miniature has been issued in a similar manner with the number "240" instead of "360," there being 240 stamps in the sheet. This 6d. stamp now has purple-colored margins.

S.W.A. OFFICIALS

Mr. J. Robertson of the Robertson Stamp Co. (Pty.), Ltd., has shown us new issues of the ½d. and 6d. S.W.A. official stamps. The current pictorial issue is used as before but the overprints are larger than before and the letters are now serif instead of sans-serif.

SOUTH AFRICAN ARMY POSTMARKS

No record has been made for about two years of fresh numbers added to the post offices of the Union Defence Force, so it may not be amiss to give a list. The numbers given are of specimens actually seen by me; specimens or notes of missing numbers (which may very likely exist) will be gladly received.



1 1A 1C 2 3 4 5 6 7 8
10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 18A 19
20 21 22 24 28 29 29A
30 31 32 33 36 39
41
50 50A 51
60

Mr. H. C. Davies has already vouched for the existence of No. 9. No. 51 was apparently made in a hurry for use in the Madagascar campaign, and appeared firstly in an "error" form with only A.P.O. at the top and U 51 at the bottom; this was very soon replaced by one of standard form.

The date in these postmarks is always in a single line across the centre, but may rather be like 23 X 42, or 18 APR 44. Sometimes there is a small A between the month and the year, in either type.

The marks may be divided into two groups as regards size: Small (25-26 mm. diam.) including Nos. 1 1A 1C 2 3 4 18A 29 29A 31 32 33 36 39 50 51 and 60; the others may all be termed large, their diameter being 28-30 mm.

With one exception the marks have always been in black ink; No. 28 has been seen in violet or pale purple.

J. H. HARVEY PIRIE.

BANTAM MARGINAL IMPRINTS

In the September, 1944, number of the "South African Philatelist" you drew attention to the fact that a new cylinder had been used for the latest issue of the 1d. Bantams, and suggested that since the marginal imprints were in purple it was possible that these had also been printed from a new cylinder. A study of the Bantam stamps shows that this was actually the case, and further, that certain characteristics in the lettering indicate that this same marginal cylinder, which was used for the 1d. issue, was also employed for the ½d. sheets when they were printed with purple margins.

I have not yet seen a sheet of the 4d. bi-coloured issue, so am unable to say if the margin cylinder has also been changed in this case, but the point is easily checked up from the following notes, which should assist in identifying the different marginal imprints and prove of interest to those specialising in the South Africa Bantams.

The different cylinders used are denoted by the letters A to E, and I have separated them into two groups according to the width of the sheet required for the various denominations.

WIDE SHEET GROUP—18 STAMPS PER ROW

Denominations ½d., 1d., 3d., 4d., 1s. 3d.
(12 stamps).

Cylinder A.

½d. *First Issue.* Green stamp and imprints with sheet numbers in black. Also a printing of stamps and imprints in bluish-green with sheet numbers in red.

Identity Marks—

1. "Blot" in margin above 16th stamp in first row.
2. Dot under "u" in "Buy," top left margin.
3. Spot over small "c" in "Certificates" near centre arrow in left-hand margin.
4. Spacing between the base lines of the letters in the side margins measures 248 millimetres.

Cylinder B.

½d. *Second Issue.* Stamp and imprints deep green and no "Blot" defect in the top margin. Red Sheet numbers.

1d. *First Issue.* Red stamp and imprints and also an issue in carmine. Black sheet numbers.

3d. *First Issue.* Blue stamp and imprints.

4d. *First Issue.* Grey-green stamps and imprints.

1s. 3d. *First Issue.* Sepia brown stamps and imprints.

Identity Marks—

1. Horizontal dash, 1/32 in. long, above the capital "C" of "Certificates" in the bottom left-hand corner margin.
2. Short vertical mark, 1/16 in. high, between the words "leningsertifikate" and "Buy" in the top left-hand margin, and also a slightly similar mark between the same words in the bottom right-hand margin.
3. Spacing between the base lines of the lettering in the side margins measures 250 millimetres.

Cylinder C.

½d. *Third Issue.* Deep green stamps with purple margins.

1d. *Second Issue.* Carmine stamps with purple margins.

Identity Marks—

1. Horizontal line, ¼ in. long, above "t L" of the words "Union Loan" in the top left-hand margin.
2. Colon mark between the words "leningsertifikate" and "Buy" in the bottom half right-hand margin.
3. Spacing between the base lines of the lettering in the side margins measures 250 millimetres.

(Note.—The purple imprints on the 4d. issue may prove to have been printed from this cylinder.)

NARROW SHEET GROUP—12 STAMPS PER ROW

Denominations 1½d., 2d., 6d., 1s.

Cylinder D.

1½d. *First Issue.* Eng. imprints adjoining Eng. stamps.

2d. *First Issue.* Eng. imprints adjoining Afk. stamps.

6d. *First Issue.* Eng. imprints adjoining Afk. stamps.

1s. *First Issue.* Eng. imprint adjoining No. 1 stamp.

Identity Marks—

1. No "Stop" after "Certificates" at the centre arrow positions of this word.
2. Inverted comma at "L" of the second "Loan" in the top right-hand margin.
3. Smudge at top of small "c" of the second "Certificates" in top right-hand margin.
4. Spacing between the base lines of the lettering in the side margin measures 186 millimetres.

Cylinder E.

2d. *Second Issue.* Afk. imprints adjoining Afk. stamps.

6d. *Second Issue.* Afk. imprints adjoining Afk. stamps.

1s. *Second Issue.* Afk. imprint adjoining No. 1 stamp.

Identity Marks—

1. "Stop" after "Certificates" at centre arrow positions.
2. Small mark above "o" in "Loan" in top left margin.
3. Side margin printing weaker at centre than at the top or bottom of the sheet.
4. Spacing between side margin letters measures 190 millimetres.

A point of note when comparing the imprints of the two groups is the lack of a "Stop" after "Certificates" in the centre arrow position of this word on any of the W. N. Group sheets.

When the Bantam sheets are placed vertically so that the top and bottom inscriptions are the correct way up, the longitudinal stamps of the 3d. and 1s. issues have to be viewed from the right-hand side of the sheet, but in the 4d. issue the design is placed to be looked at from the left-hand side.

W. N. SHEFFIELD, Redan.

STAMPS OF THE UNION OF SOUTH AFRICA ROTARY RECESSED-PRINTED FROM STEEL INTAGLIO PLATES BENT AROUND SOLID CYLINDERS. COMPARISON WITH CERTAIN SILVER JUBILEE STAMPS.

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

The Union rectangular bicoloured pictorial stamps in large transverse format were issued primarily in 1927. Their vignettes depicted the Union Buildings on 2d., Groote Schuur on 3d., Gnus rampant on 1s., Wagon crossing drift on 2s. 6d., Wagon in outspan on 5s., and Table Mountain and central Cape Town on 10s. The monocoloured 4d. stamps which depicted a Native Kraal were issued initially in 1928. These pictorial stamps were inscribed in English and Afrikaans alternately throughout the sheet, and were recessed-printed from intaglio steel plates by Bradbury, Wilkinson and Company, Limited, in sheets of 120 units divided into two vertical collateral panels of 60 units each in 10 horizontal rows of 6, with the exception of Frame Plate 1 and Vignette Plate 1 of the 2d. denomination the stamps of which were printed in sheets of 240 units divided into four panels of 60 units each in 10 horizontal rows of 6. Frame Plate 2 and Vignette Plate 2 of the 2d. denomination were 120-set each. The Master Frame and Vignette dies of steel were engraved intaglio by Bradbury, Wilkinson and Company, Limited, and from these dies the intaglio subsidiary dies and plates of steel were made as described in my paper contained in the "South African Philatelist" for December, 1943.

Each sheet of stamps printed from the 120-set Frame Plate 2 and Vignette Plate 2 of the 2d. denomination contained a constant Frame Plate variety known as the "Split d in the value tablet" and catalogued as such by Simenhoff. This variety was located on the 44th stamp of the right-hand panel, i.e., on an English inscribed stamp in horizontal Row 8, No. 2, and consisted of a vertical line of colour approximately 1½ mm. high on the uncoloured pence symbol of its 2d. as enlarged in Fig. A hereunder.

I own copies of the said 2d. denomination with the "Split d" variety and without it showing very thin lines of colour vertically across their frames and vignettes. Also I own copies of the 1s. denomination showing such vertical lines of colour. Some copies with the "Split d" variety show one thin line of colour, some two and some three, all in the colour of their frames. Some show such thin lines in the colour of their vignettes. In this monograph they are designated "hair lines."

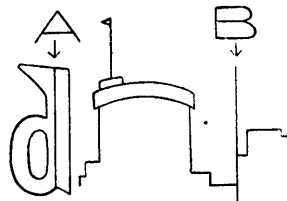
The Master Frame and Vignette steel die of the well-known Windsor Castle Type of Silver Jubilee stamps was engraved intaglio in the atelier of Waterlow and Sons, Limited. By means of a transfer-roller two subsidiary dies were obtained from the Master die, one

of which was handed to Thos. De La Rue and Company, Limited, and the other to Bradbury, Wilkinson and Company, Limited.

From the subsidiary steel die received from Waterlow and Sons, Limited, Bradbury, Wilkinson and Company, Limited, made the steel intaglio Frame and Vignette plates, from which they printed the Silver Jubilee bicoloured stamps for the following Crown Colonies:—

*Bechuanaland, *British Honduras, *Falkland Islands, *Gambia, *Gibraltar, Gilbert and Ellice Islands, *Gold Coast, Hong Kong, *Jamaica, *Malta, *Seychelles, *Sierra Leone, *Swaziland and *Trinidad and Tobago.

The vignettes were recessed-printed in sheets of 120 units divided into two panels of 60 units each in 10 horizontal rows of 6. Subsequently each 120-set sheet was bisected into two 60-set sheets. These 60-set sheets then were recessed-printed with the frames and inscriptions of names from the variously denominated 60-set Frame Plates of the Crown Colonies mentioned afore. One of the 60-set panels of one of the 120-set Vignette Plates originated a constant variety. Sheets of stamps whose vignettes were printed from this plate contained the constant variety known as the "Extra Flagstaff." This variety was located on the 49th stamp of the sheet, i.e., Row 9 No. 1, and consisted of a vertical line of colour approximately 3¼ mm. in height extending from the tree tops below the smaller tower and projecting about 1¼ mm. above the skyline to the left of the smaller and to the right of the central or larger tower enlarged in Fig. B heretofore. The "Extra Flagstaff" variety was found on the vignettes of certain of the stamps of the Crown Colonies, the names of which are enumerated afore and prefixed with an "*."



I own copies of certain of the Silver Jubilee stamps of the Crown Colonies showing very thin vertical lines of colour across their frames and vignettes, in other words "hairlines" and analogous to the ones appearing on the Union 2d. and 1s. recessed-printed pictorials already referred to. For example:—

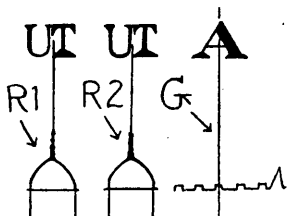
1½d. Gambia.—Thin red vertical line from

the terminal "A" of "Gambia" to the skyline of the Castle, and thence to the "v" of "revenue."

- 1d. Bechuanaland.—Thin red vertical line from the second "o" of "Protectorate" to the skyline of the smallest tower.
- 3d. Swaziland.—Thin blue vertical line from the top frame to the "n" of "Swaziland," and this on a copy with the "Extra Flagstaff."

Thus, vertical lines of colour, not parts of the designs, have been observed on stamps recessed-printed from intaglio plates by Bradbury, Wilkinson and Company, Limited. How did these vertical lines of colour originate? For example:—

1. Fig. A.—On the Frame of a Pictorial Stamp of the Union of South Africa—a major and constant variety—the "Split d."
2. Fig. B.—On the Common Vignette of the Silver Jubilee Stamps of certain of the Crown Colonies—a major and constant variety—the "Extra Flagstaff."
3. Fig. R1.—Vertical "Hairline" on a 2d. Pictorial Stamp of the Union of South Africa. Also 1s. denomination.
4. Fig. G.—Vertical "Hairline" on a 1½d. Silver Jubilee Stamp of Gambia. Also 1d. Bechuanaland, 3d. Swaziland, etc.



These vertical lines of colour were printed from lineal incisions on their respective plates fortuitously made after the intaglio lines of negative designs had been impressed on the plates by steel transfer rollers. How did they come to be incised on their respective plates? By extraneous matter under pressure between wiper and plate.

It was reported in the "Philatelic Journal" of Great Britain for December, 1936—page 209—that at a monthly meeting of the City of London Philatelic Society, Mr. C. A. Tyrer, of Bradbury, Wilkinson and Company, Limited, was requested to explain the cause of the well-known "Flagstaff" variety anent the Silver Jubilee Stamps of the Crown Colonies. Mr. Tyrer said he had no doubt this was caused by a particle of grit getting between the wiper and the plate; in going through the machine under pressure, it marked the plate. This should have been noted by the machine staff, but it was not, and the damaged plate gaily went on printing history.

Thus there is no doubt that the Union "Split d" major variety and the "hairline" minor varieties of the Silver Jubilee stamps of the Crown Colonies and the pictorials of the Union, printed by Bradbury, Wilkinson and Company, Limited, all originated from similar causation of interposed extraneous matter.

Incidentally, I have noted thin vertical lines of colour on the pictorial stamps of South West Africa printed by the afore-mentioned firm. I have copies of the 1½d. (Mail transport) and the 1s. (Bush scene).

In numerous instances copies of stamps of nearly all the denominations of the Union of South Africa, both bicoloured and monocoloured, printed by the rotogravure or rotary photogravure process are to be found with lines of colour in various degrees of attenuation which vertically (or horizontally in certain instances) traverse their designs and/or their margins. Such lines of colour did not form parts of their designs but were printed from lineal incisions, of various degrees of depth in various positions, vertically or horizontally across their correlative images on the peripheries of the copper cylinders after such images had been etched thereon. Such lineal incisions were caused by minute particles of extraneous matter, e.g., grit, caught and lodged between the rotating copper cylinders and their ink wipers or "doctor blades," and when thus interposed were dragged along and marked the cylinders under pressure in similar manner as explained by Mr. C. A. Tyrer in connection with the wiper and plate of the machine of Bradbury, Wilkinson and Company, Limited, from which were printed the Silver Jubilee Stamps of the Crown Colonies with the varieties dealt with in this monograph.

I own two copies of stamps of the 2d. denomination with the Union Buildings Vignette with almost identical flaws as represented in Figs. R1 and R2 but printed by different processes and by different printers:

1. Fig. R1.—Frame Plate 2 and Vignette Plate 2, 49th stamp, Row 9, No. 1, recessed-printed from steel plates by Bradbury, Wilkinson and Company, Limited—"Hairline" from the letters "UT" of "SOUTH" extending to the top of the left tower of the Union Buildings.
2. Fig. R2.—Frame Cylinder 1 and Vignette Cylinder 1, 120th stamp, Row 20, No. 6, printed by rotogravure from copper cylinders by the Government Printer—"Hairline" from the letters "UT" of "SOUTH" extending to the top of the left tower of the Union Buildings.

The vertical "hairlines" on the stamps referred to afore, No. 1 (Fig. R1) and No. 2 (Fig. R2) are flaws indicative of printing from cylindrical plates. It is well-known that our photogravure-produced stamps are printed from copper cylinders. Mr. Tyrer did not mention that the Silver Jubilee stamps with the "Extra Flagstaff" variety were recessed-printed from cylindrical steel plates and that the wipers were mechanical ones attached to the machines in similar manner as "doctor blades" are attached to photogravure machines.

After I had concluded my study of these vertical lines of colour on the Union and other British Colonial stamps printed by Bradbury, Wilkinson and Company, Limited,

I formed the opinion that the majority of the beautiful recessed-printed stamps printed by this firm emanated from steel plates in cylindrical form. My opinion proved correct for I was informed by this firm that, inter alia:

"Our plates are curved to fit our rotary plate printing machines. It is many years since we have produced stamps from flat plates."

I am indebted to Bradbury, Wilkinson and Company, Limited, for their kind reply to my letter in which I sought confirmation of my findings. I am indebted also to the very minor varieties of "hairlines," for it was the existence of "hairlines" on these stamps that prompted commencement of study and eventual co-operation of my findings anent the Union and Crown Colony stamps. Thus to the "hairlines" I repeat the words of Samuel Johnson:

"Quantulacunque estis, vos ego magna voco!"

"How small to others, but how great to me!"

+

"THE ESSAY-PROOF JOURNAL"

We have received a copy of "The Essay-Proof Journal," which is issued quarterly in New York. It is the official journal of the Essay-Proof Society, Inc. The specimen sent us was the January, 1945, issue. It is beautifully printed on very good paper and has numerous illustrations. There are many articles of great interest to collectors of Proofs and Essays, and there is the beginning of a catalogue of the Essays and Proofs of Canada.

E. BLUM

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JOHANNESBURG

**THE MAFEKING ERROR "DOUBLE
SURCHARGE, ONE INVERTED" S.G. 11c.**

By DR. K. FREUND.

Although listed for nearly 45 years now in all standard catalogues, very few particulars are known about this error, for the simple reason that it belongs to the great rarities and is seldom seen.

S. G. Rich mentions it in his recent book "Philately of the Anglo-Boer War" (p. 50), but pointing to certain discrepancies invites "some specialist . . . to give us a full report in some stamp journal."

I was fortunate enough to have the facilities necessary for a detailed study, so here are the particulars:

Actually one copy only, showing this error, has so far been recorded in literature, namely, by B. W. H. Poole in his Handbook on S.A. War Provisionals (1901, p. 38). He describes it as having the overprints of so-called types 2 resp. 4.

It must here be explained that the fancy overprint was normally set up in a row of 6 types of setting, so that each time a row of 6 stamps received the overprint. The 6 types of setting can each be distinguished by certain minute characteristics (slight damages to letters, etc.), so we can talk of types 1 to 6 (it is not necessary here to describe the different characteristics of the 6 types).

Now, if a row of stamps received in error a normal as well as an inverted overprint, the inverted overprint must naturally show the types in reverse, type 1 (inverted) falling on the copy with the normal type 6, and so on, thus:

1	2	3	4	5	6
9	5	4	3	2	1

What has caused some perplexion, is the fact that the copy described by Poole, shows the types 2 and 4, while according to the diagram above one would have expected the types 2 and 5 to correspond.

Poole gives as explanation that 5 of the (6) surcharges must apparently have overlapped. How this could technically be possible, is incomprehensible, as the set-up of types was firmly bunched in the chase of the press. S. G. Rich suggests that one of the two types may be a counterfeit (p. 50, footnote).

I am in the position to clear the matter as follows:—While in all other cases (S.G. 1 to 10) the rows to be overprinted contained 6 (resp. 12) stamps and, therefore, a setting-up of 6 types was required, S.G. 11 (resp. the original British 4d. stamp) appeared in panes of rows of 5 stamps only, a fact which has been overlooked until now in every essay on Mafeking stamps. In the case of this stamp, the type 6 was removed from the usual form (set-up), so that only 5 types overprinted the rows of 5 stamps of the 4d. British Bechuana-

land (there is no type 6 existent of S.G. 11). Therefore, when the error of the double overprint occurred, the corresponding types were as follows:—

1	2	3	4	5
5	4	3	2	1

which proves the copy described by Poole to be in order.

The error itself is a genuine one and has a "clean record." One must consider that the printings were done during heavy bombardments in a corrugated iron building which was actually twice riddled by 94 pdr. shells. It will be appreciated that under such extraordinary circumstances, there could hardly have been any thought for stamp speculation, and that there was every excuse for possible errors. Indeed it must surprise that so few errors are on record at all, one should have expected much more, in comparison with the many printing errors having emanated from modern, well-equipped and peaceful printing establishments.

This is how the error occurred: By mistake, a stamp sheet (pane) was put inverted into the machine. The error was noticed at once, after one row was thus printed inverted, but when the pane was fed the right way through, the last row of stamps, having already the inverted overprint, received hereby also the normal overprint.

That means that only five stamps altogether are in existence with this error (confirmed by Mr. J. V. Howat, the siege postmaster, in "The Stamp Collector," June, 1914).

L. N. and M. Williams acknowledge the error also as a "genuine mistake," but would like to regard it as "printers' waste" ("The Stamp Lover," Jan.-Feb., 1944). In general, this could apply equally to any other catalogued error. But in this instance, there was good reason for not discarding the misprinted five copies: They were no printers' waste, but stamps bought from local stocks and paid for by the military authorities (in order to surcharge them with three-times the face value to obtain extra revenue which was needed for paying the native runners). One cannot expect authorities to throw away good money, especially if one considers that the stocks of stamps were limited, that every stamp was necessary, and that "appearance" did not matter in the besieged town, as long as the overprint was readable.

The fact that the Mafeking errors were not just spoiled pieces of paper, but stamps bought up as such by the military authorities, cannot be emphasised enough, as it gives them a stronger status than any other error has.

In conclusion, here is a record of the five copies in existence:

Copy I (type 1 with inverted type 5) was originally in the famous Ferrari collection, and was later sold by Harmer, Rooke (the famous London auctioneers) in 1940.

Copy II (type 2 with inverted type 4) is the one described by Poole (p. 38 of his handbook) and believed to be in the King's collection.



Copy I.

Copies III, IV and V are in the writer's collection in a strip of 3.



Copies III, IV, V.

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MONTHLY PHILATELIC BULLETIN

Each month The Windsor Stamp Co. publish **THE WINDSOR MONTHLY PHILATELIC BULLETIN**, an attractive 12 page illustrated list.

Contents include many offers of interesting stamps, including sections for Empire and Foreign; New Issues; Stamps for Investment; High values; Specimens; Accessories; Special offers and a Monthly Outstanding Bargain.

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VATICAN CITY

Ten new stamps were issued about 5th March. The three low values, 5, 30 and 50c, have the dove of peace in an ornamental border; L1, 1.50, 2.50, 5 and 20 show the Pope's head, and 2 values, L3.50 and 5 are large stamps for express postage showing a view of the whole State.

Thanks are due for a set to J. P. Shingler, Lieut. U.D.F.I.

COLLECTORS' WANTS AND OFFERS

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

Seychelles and Sierra Leone fine used copies wanted. Particularly Edward and George. High prices willingly paid.

William Redford, Box 7012, Johannesburg.

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Chas. Whelpdale, 51 Old Bakery Street, Valetta, Malta.

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Dr. Pirie, Box 7012, Johannesburg.

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- 1934 Victoria Cent. set complete U 3/6
- 1937 N.S.W. Cent. set complete U 4/0
- 1940 A.I.F. set complete U 6/0
- 1941 Provisional set complete U 2/9
- 1944 Duke of Gloucester set complete U . . 1/6
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"HANDSTRUCK LETTER STAMPS"

Sir,

Mr. Rich in his letter under the above heading appearing in the S.A. Philatelist for February, 1945, has the whole matter entirely wrong; this is perhaps because he must have written before he received my letter explaining the position to him.

Firstly my book is a South African production written entirely on South African conditions. No one in this country refer to covers used before adhesive stamps came into use as "Stampless Covers," this phrase is entirely American—why, therefore, should we here in South Africa change the name of something which we all know and understand simply because it happens to be old usage and not modern?

In all the correspondence between the Postmaster-General, the Colonial Secretary and the Treasurer-General I did not find one single instance where the handstamps used by the post office upon letters were referred to by any other name than "Letter Stamps."

The term Letter Stamp was used by the Dutch when the first postal service was established between Holland and the Cape on the 2nd March, 1792, the records of this date mentioning the word "Brief Zegel," which translated into English means "Letter Stamp."

I had nothing whatsoever to do with the introduction of town, rate and service markings in what Mr. Rich refers to as "a shrewd, able piece of commercial work," and I cannot agree with Mr. Rich when he says that the terms "town mark," "rate mark" and "service mark" suffice for all stampless covers. How could I possibly apply these names when they were never even used or thought of in the post office of the Cape Colony. Were I to do that just because these terms were in use in the United States I would certainly be causing a heap of confusion in so far as South African usage is concerned.

In my book I endeavoured to give as accurately as possible the postal history of this country, and when quoting from Government advertisements in the "Gazette" the spelling of certain words and towns were given exactly as they appeared, despite the fact that to-day the spelling of some of these is quite different.

I trust that Mr. Rich will understand, especially when he receives my letter on this

subject, that it would be wrong for me to use the word "catalog" for "catalogue" simply because the former is the way in which it is spelt in the United States.

Yours, etc.,

A. A. JURGENS.

[This correspondence is now closed.—Ed.]



AN APOLOGY

In our February issue mention was made of the presentation to the British Museum of a collection of the stamps of British African Colonies made originally by Dr E. Mosely.

In shortening for publication the note sent to us, it was made to read as if the opinion that the collection was the most complete and in the most perfect condition of any in existence, was Dr. Mosely's own estimate. This was a mistake; Dr. Mosely's note made it quite clear that these views had been expressed by other competent critics. His own estimates only concerned the Cape, Mauritius and O.F.S. sections. We tender our sincere apologies for our mistake.

+

(Answers to competition on page 58)

1. Natal and Uganda.
2. Cape Colony.
3. Newfoundland.
4. Abyssinia.
5. Egypt.
6. Belgian Congo.
7. Basutoland, Liberia, Mozambique Company.
8. Orange Free State.
9. Nyasaland; Belgian Congo.
10. Mozambique, S. Rhodesia.
11. Gold Coast.
12. New Republic.
13. Northern Rhodesia.
14. British Central Africa.

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J. BIRD, 25 Westhill Rd., London, S.W.18, England

OBSERVATION PLUS MEMORY

(A competition sponsored by Mr. A. E. Basden at the February meeting of The Philatelic Society of Natal.)

You are invited to give the names of the country whose stamps have portrayed, or do portray as a major part of the design the emblems mentioned in the questions. All countries are African.

1. What country's stamps portrayed the letters "V.R." in the design: not an overprint?
2. What country's stamps portrayed a Merino Ram?
3. What country's stamps portrayed an anchor (NOT Cape)?
4. What country's stamps portrayed the Lion of Judah?
5. What country's stamps portrayed a man on a motor-cycle?
6. What country's stamps portrayed a stern-wheel steamer?
7. What country's stamps portrayed a crocodile?
8. What country's stamps portrayed powder horns?
9. What country's stamps portrayed a leopard?
10. What country's stamps portrayed a great bridge?
11. What country's stamps portrayed a great castle?
12. What country's stamps were at one time dated?
13. What country's stamps portray both a giraffe and elephant?
14. What country's stamps portrayed native supporters in the armorial bearings?

(Answers on page 57)

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S. PEIMER

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DURBAN.

FLAG STAMPS

Most of the United States Philatelic magazines refer to a scarcity of the Korea Flag stamp. They point out, however, that as 15,000,000 were issued there should be no meteoric rise in value. 15,000,000 of each of the Flag stamps were issued except in the case of the first seven "Flags" issued, where 20,000,000 of each were issued. These were Poland, Czechoslovakia, Norway, Luxembourg, Netherlands, Belgium and France.

SOCIETY NEWS

THE PHILATELIC SOCIETY OF JOHANNESBURG.
President, F. J. H. Lang; Hon. Secretary, L. Buchen. P.O. Box 4967, Johannesburg; Meetings, 2nd Tuesdays, Public Library, Johannesburg, 7.45 p.m.

February 13: Unforeseen circumstances made it impossible for the West Rand Stamp Club to pay us their annual official visit and provide the exhibits of the evening. However, they have very kindly offered to be our guests at a later meeting and assure us that they can table some very interesting exhibits, and we hope that this can be arranged.

Meanwhile, Mr. L. Buchen, our hon. secretary, filled the breach for the West Rand Stamp Club by tabling a very nice (although unfortunately not written up) exhibit of the stamps of Holland. Mr. J. N. Schubart appropriately expressed the thanks of the members present to Mr. Buchen, both for his exhibit and for coming forward at short notice to fill the breach.

Another few pounds were realised from the usual auction for War Funds.

February 27: Unfortunately, only a few members were able to attend this meeting so that Mr. W. Oppenheim, who was providing the exhibit for the evening, did not carry out his original plans. Nevertheless, he made some interesting remarks on our hobby, and quoted prices from a 1907 Stanley Gibbons catalogue which, when compared with the latest edition, show that phenomenal increase in values have occurred in a great many issues.

In addition to his remarks, Mr. Oppenheim tabled several of the current British Colonial sets and indicated, with shells, the values which are now obsolete and which are due for a probable early rise in catalogue quotations.

March 13: This meeting was very largely attended, and in the opinion of many present the exhibit of the evening proved to be the most outstanding single country exhibit ever tabled in the long history of the present society.

Mr. G. Carlton Jones showed his classic collection of the stamps of Nova Scotia. Indeed, this exhibit, due to its repleteness, immaculate presentation, and beauty, deserves to be classified as a museum piece, giving a complete historical record of the stamps of Nova Scotia.

Starting with copper plate engravings of the principal centres such as Halifax, New Brunswick and other places of interest in that colony in the middle 18th century, there followed almost a century (from 1766 to 1863) of pre-stamped covers. Then there were a complete set of proofs of the issues of 1851 and 1853, as well as re-prints of the 1851 issue, including the values 1d., 3d., 6d., and 1s. Numerous shades of the 1851 issue, mint, gave a complete picture of this beautiful early issue. One of the many highlights was an example of the scarce narrow H in Halifax not recorded by Jarrett. The 3d. 1851 was shown both on blue and white paper, the 6d. on yellow paper and the 3d., used as postage due on a cover marked with the notation "all or none."

Then followed a sequence of amazing die-plate proofs of the 1860-1863 issue, as well as specimens and counterfeits, also imperf. upright and imperf. horizontal blocks.

Another outstanding item was a cover showing the 8½ cent in pair which is described as "almost unknown."

In fact, space is insufficient to mention the many rare items contained in this outstanding single country exhibit. Perhaps the best description and remarks which can be given about it is summarised in the words of Mr. William Redford who expressed the thanks of Mr. William Redford who expressed the thanks of Mr. William Redford who expressed the thanks of the members, when he said that it was "the most complete, complete collection he had ever seen."

Mr. M. Frankel was elected a member of the society.

As there were only a few items offered for war fund auction, only a comparatively small amount of £2 10s. was realised, and we therefore request members, who can do so, to contribute as much material for our monthly auction as possible.

Mr. I. Isaacs very kindly read the notes of the month.

April 10: There was a good attendance at this meeting when Mr. H. Schwartz exhibited his stamps of Ascension and St. Helena. Although this exhibit for

these countries was not complete, it was indeed a very commendable effort, and the stamps were very neatly presented. The elusive St. Helena 15s. (S.G. No. 113) was included, as well as many of the early Queen Victoria overprinted values.

Mr. J. Burrell, who expressed the meeting's thanks to Mr. Schwartz, pointed out that it was an especially commendable effort in view of the fact that Mr. Schwartz has been collecting for such a short time. With such a collection as a basis and with the very keen interest which he is showing, Mr. Schwartz will undoubtedly have some very outstanding material to table even after another short period of two and a half years.

Mr. J. Robertson, in addition to reading the notes of the month, referred to several items of topical interest. Among other things, he pointed out that in the current sets of three of the British Colonies the following values are now obsolete: Jamaica 2½d., Gambia 5d., and Fiji 5d. and 1s.

£9 was added to our war funds as a result of the evening's auctions.

Our president informed the meeting that it had been decided by the committee that, inasmuch as the attendance at the 4th Tuesday meetings during recent months had been so unsatisfactory, and steadily reducing at subsequent meetings, it had been decided to discontinue our second monthly meeting altogether. Exhibitors scheduled to show at the second monthly meeting for the present syllabus will be asked to exhibit at the regular monthly meetings during the next year.

H. E. B.

NYASALAND PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

President, Mr. C. Stevens; *Hon. Secretary*, Mr. Anson; *Meetings*, 2nd Mondays, Tobacco Auction Rooms, Limbe, 5 p.m.

Minutes of a meeting of the Nyasaland Philatelic Society held at the Tobacco Auctions, Ltd., Limbe, on Monday, 12th March, 1945.

Present: Mesdames Wright, Lane and Milne; Messrs. Stevens (chairman), Anson, Foote, France, Dr. Roberts, Dr. Baird, Milne, Wilson, Booth and Bell.

The chairman extended a hearty welcome to the Zomba members.

Minutes: The minutes of the last meeting were read. Mr. Milne proposed and Mr. Booth seconded that they be accepted as read. Carried.

Arising out of the Minutes: Capt. Foote, on behalf of the Zomba members, addressed the meeting on the subject of Approval Books. Referring to the minutes of the previous meeting on this subject, Capt. Foote went on to say that it was the wish of the Zomba members that they should receive Approval Books first, alternately with Limbe; there were ten members in Zomba and he assured the meeting that if this were adopted the books would not be detained unnecessarily. To avoid any delay he suggested that the books could be sent to one member, and who, on receipt of them, would immediately inform all other Zomba members; they would then meet the same evening and return the Approval Books immediately. After a lengthy discussion Dr. Baird proposed that in the event of Approval Books becoming more plentiful the Zomba members should receive half the number received, direct. Mr. Booth seconded this proposal and added that the Zomba members' claim should be given sympathetic consideration, and that if the agenda for the meeting preceding the receipt of Approval Books is full, it should be left to the secretary's discretion to send some of the Books direct to Zomba.

Dr. Baird's proposal, together with the amendment of Mr. Booth, was then put before the meeting and carried.

The secretary was then instructed to write to Robertson Stamp Company and request them to send us additional Approval Books, and more often.

Correspondence: The secretary read out a letter from the Philatelic Federation of Southern Africa concerning the cost of the South African Philatelic Magazine published by them, asking the views of this society on (a) Should the price of this magazine be increased, or (b) To appeal to the societies and individual philatelists for subsidies or donations, as the magazine in question has been published at a loss for the past few years.

The chairman informed the meeting that we were affiliated members of the above society, but did not receive any magazine from them, and proposed that before any answer be sent to the Philatelic Federation the secretary should write to the hon. secretary of this Federation for a specimen copy of their magazine. Carried.

The monthly letter from the Philatelic Society of Natal was tabled.

Items of Interest: The secretary, on behalf of Mr. Wilson, tabled photographs of the original designs of the new Nyasaland stamps. The chairman passed a vote of thanks to Mr. Wilson, and on behalf of the members congratulated him on the splendid designs.

Capt. Foote tabled the 2d. Matabeleland stamp depicting the white line on the haversack, and also the error "G" inverted as "D" in the 2d.

Dr. Baird tabled three 20 cent current issue of Uganda-Kenya-Tanganyika stamps each with different perforations, and explained a simple manner to identify these perforations.

The perforations also differ on the 30 cent stamp in the same way. The 13½ x 13½ perforation has twenty points, the 13½ x 13½ has 22 points all on the long side of the 20c and 30c stamps in question.

Membership: The secretary read out an application from Mr. Nye of Zomba requesting that he become a member of this society. He was proposed by Capt. Foote and seconded by Mr. Anson. His membership received the approval of the meeting.

Cash Statement: This was read out. At present the balance in hand was £17. Mr. Milne proposed and Capt. Foote seconded that the cash statement be accepted as read. Carried.

Society's Collection: The curator read out his cash statement, and the balance in hand was 18s. Mr. Anson proposed and Mrs. Wright seconded that this cash statement be accepted as read. Carried.

New President: The chairman, before asking for nominations for the chairmanship for the 1945/46 year, gave a short address on the activities of the society for the past year, and thanked those who had assisted him during his year of office.

Mr. Milne proposed Mr. Booth as president for the year 1945/46. Mrs. Wright seconded this proposal, and Mr. Booth was elected as president for the year 1945/46. Vice-president, Mr. C. Stevens.

Hon. Secretary and Treasurer: Mr. Anson agreed to carry on the duties of secretary/treasurer.

Committee: The following were proposed, seconded and agreed: Dr. Baird (Zomba) proposed Mr. Booth, seconded Mr. Stevens; Mrs. Lane, proposed Mr. Stevens, seconded Mr. Anson; Mrs. Wright, proposed Mr. Anson, seconded Mr. Booth; Mr. Jewell, proposed Mr. Booth, seconded Capt. Foote; Mr. Milne, proposed Mr. Stevens, seconded Mrs. Lane.

Raffle: A block of six Cape of Good Hope 1d. stamps were raffled, the winner being Mr. Stevens.

Exchanges: Dr. Baird, Mr. van Geldere and Mr. Stevens all had Approval Books on the table, and the Approval Books from Robertson Stamp Company received last month were again tabled.

After light refreshments the meeting terminated at 7.20 p.m.

EAST LONDON PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

President, Mr. A. Watson; *Hon. Secretary*, Mr. S. F. Fowler, P.O. Box 168, East London. *Meetings*, Colosseum Building, 2nd Fridays, 7.45 p.m.

There was a good attendance of both members and visitors at the April meeting, in opening which, the president referred to the recent death of President Roosevelt, who, like many other famous men, found relaxation in his stamp collections from the cares of state. All present stood as a token of respect to a great man.

Among the visitors we were glad to meet Mr. A. C. K. Jones, of Johannesburg, who has been holidaying at Bonza Bay, also Pilot Officer Whitworth, of the R.A.F., whose regular attendance of the past few months ends with this meeting. Members were unanimous in wishing him everything of the best in his new sphere, also Dr. Pickles, whose imminent departure was notified.

This being the annual general meeting, the minutes of last year's were read and confirmed, following which the outgoing officers made their reports, which showed that the past year had been a very successful one and that the society was in a very healthy condition both financially and as regards membership, which now stands at 36.

The election of officers for the coming year was then proceeded with and resulted ultimately in Mr. Andrew Watson becoming president for another year, with Mrs. Hasenjager as vice-president. For the secretaryship there was, as usual, no competition, but Mr. Fowler undertook to carry on for another year, which was very satisfactory. The new committee will consist, in addition

tion to the officers, of Mr. C. Hampson and Mr. T. A. Harper.

Various interesting arrivals were passed round for inspection, including the Canadian War Issue set used, the Muscat set on India mint, the new 2d. Union pictorial, the new marginal printings of the 1d. and 6d. Union and a few covers. Subsequently, Mr. Makin tabled a very fine display of a portion of his West Indian collection, including both early and recent issues, most of the Jubilee sets and the attractive current pictorials. The display was greatly appreciated by all present.

Full justice having been done to the excellent refreshments provided by the president, who was heartily thanked for same, the usual auction was proceeded with, a good many lots being offered and disposed of.

During the evening, the president called attention to the report in the April "S.A. Philatelist" of the Philatelic Society of Natal's meeting, which stated that that society was the oldest in South Africa, etc. He said that no doubt the statement was made in all good faith, but, without any desire to cause controversy, he might point out that the East London Philatelic Society was founded in 1909, and he believed that the Pretoria Society was considerably older still.

Mr. Harper mentioned that he was present, by invitation of Mr. Norman Welsford, at what he understood at the time, was the inaugural meeting of the Philatelic Society of Natal at Durban on September 29, 1911. The report of this first meeting appeared in Stanley Gibbons Monthly Journal for October, 1911, page 383. T.A.H.

PRETORIA PHILATELIC SOCIETY

President, Lt.-Col. G. Lance Horne; *Hon. Secretary*, H. A. Wager, P.O. Box 514; *Meetings*, 1st and 3rd Mondays, 8 p.m., Technical College.

April 3: Mr. F. C. Ferguson in the chair. It was decided that the society collection of stamps should be dismantled and sold, except for the Union stamps on which the society would concentrate in future.

Dr. Broughton read a paper on Belgian Congo. He gave a geographical outline of the country, and he also described its origin and development. In dealing with the stamps, he went into great detail of the different issues. He pointed out how the need arose for so many surcharges and overprints, especially in the handstamped ones. As many as 18 different settings of the handstamped surcharges had been found. Dr. Broughton tabled a very fine and extensive collection of the Belgian Congo. This was supplemented by Mr. Oppenheim, who showed a nice lot of the more recent issues.

April 16: Lt. Col. Horne in the chair. A special general meeting was first held to consider a notice of motion for the inclusion of an hon. auditor in the activities of the society. This was passed and Mr. Holgate was appointed for this year.

Ordinary Meeting: It was decided to advertise in the "S.A. Philatelist" the remaining Simenhoff catalogues at 2s. 6d. each.

Mr. Beyers read two papers, one on Philately as a Factor in Education, in which he thought that more use could be made of philately in early education, and he pointed out what a great interest had been taken by the children in a few instances where the teacher had introduced stamps for illustration.

The other paper was on the charity issue of Austria, 1935, depicting Austrian military heroes. He gave a short, but interesting, account of each hero shown on the six stamps of the issue. Each had achieved a great name and fame in the wars and struggles of Austria in its past history.

Prof. Wager showed collections of Finland, Montenegro and Norway.

H.A.W.

PORT ELIZABETH PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

President, G. K. Forbes; *Hon. Sec.*, M. G. Sheffield, P.O. Box 88; *Meetings*, Room 8, City Hall Basement, at 7.45 p.m. 1st and 3rd Tuesdays.

The first meeting of the month was, as usual, an auction, and was well attended.

The second and business meeting was held on April 17; Mr. T. H. Nicholson took the chair, and presided over 30 members and three visitors.

Mr. E. Randall was made a member, and two more names were proposed.

A cordial welcome was given to Mr. Sinnott, of the Cape Town Branch.

Two of our most prominent members handed in their resignations: Mr. C. Sheffield, who has been hon. secre-

tary for 21 years; Mr. Campbell, been in office of exchange superintendent for over five years.

They will be a great loss to the society and hard to replace, but we can only wish them the best of luck and the members' grateful thanks for all the hard work they have done for the P.E. Branch.

Captain Crewel was responsible for the evening, and displayed 50 pages of New Hebrides. Before the pages were tabled, Capt. Crewel read a very interesting paper about the islands, from 1606, when they were first discovered, until the present time. It was not until 1897, however, that they had their first official stamp, which was printed in dual languages, French and English. Three pages of these early stamps were displayed, both mint and used, and were of great interest to all members.

Interest was also shown over the latest issued, which bear the overprint FRENCH LEGION.

A hearty vote of thanks was accorded to Capt. Crewel.

As May 15 is the annual general meeting, will all members please make it their duty to attend.

The meeting closed at 9.30 p.m.

L.E.C.

THE PHILATELIC SOCIETY OF NATAL.

President, A. L. Bevis; *Hon. Sec.*, G. Milner. Palmer, P.O. Box 588, Durban; *Meetings*, 1st and 3rd Wednesdays at London Assurance House, 319 Smith Street (in the rooms of the Durban Camera Club, top floor), 7.30 p.m.

The meeting held on the 4th April, 1945, was one that every one must have enjoyed. Mr. W. H. Winde's notes on "what is what" in the stamp world gave some interesting information, and the society trusts that the notes circulated with their monthly circular has proved of interest.

Mr. Hall Jones ran the monthly competition, which was well patronised, although mentioned as an easy one, as all the previous ones have been, by the results one would say that they are becoming more difficult. These competitions are well received and have proved their worth if only showing us how little we do really know of our catalogue. The highlight of the evening was the most instructive and interesting talk on the people and stamps of Brazil, together with a wonderful exhibit of old Brazilian stamps by our friend Mr. A. E. Basden. In thanking Mr. Basden, Mr. Percy Bishop intimated that this was not only of historical interest, but of great philatelic interest as well, and felt sure that this exhibit had been enjoyed by all. In conclusion, the usual monthly auction was held with more lots than heretofore, and prices realised were very satisfactory.

W.H.W.

THE JEWISH GUILD PHILATELIC SECTION.

Chairman, Mr. A. Gladstone; *Hon. Sec.*, Mr. I. Isaacs, 910 His Majesty's Buildings, Eloff Street, Johannesburg.

At the meeting held on April 19, Mr. L. Buchen tabled his collection of stamps of the Plebiscites which came into existence after the last war. These included stamps of the Saar, Memel, Marienwerde, Upper Silesia, Allenstein and Slesvig.

The collection was an almost complete one, and included some of the varieties. The scarce charity set of 1932 issue of the Saar was complete in fine used condition. The exhibit was not only of great philatelic but was also of great historical interest as very largely illustrating the effects of the Treaty of Versailles. As stamp-issuing countries, all of them had a very short life. The exhibit was much appreciated by all who saw it, and a hearty vote of thanks was passed to Mr. Buchen.

Mr. Buchen gave a short talk on his impressions of Upper Silesia where he happened to be at the time of the Plebiscite, and stated that, compared with Poland at the time, that district seemed to be prosperous.

During the evening some interesting items of philatelic gossip were exchanged, and numerous stamps changed hands at the auction held by the hon. auctioneer, Mr. Buchen.

The next meeting of the section will be held on Thursday, May 17, when the exhibit will be items by all members. All visitors, members as well as non-members of the Jewish Guild, will be very welcome, and if they wish to show some items this will be much appreciated. The meeting will be held at the Jewish War Memorial Hall in Von Brandis Street, on the first floor. Refreshments will be provided.

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U/C 161

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Proprietors and Publishers :

THE PHILATELIC FEDERATION OF SOUTHERN AFRICA

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Whole No. 243.

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JUNE, 1945.

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VICTORY IN EUROPE

The long awaited victory in Europe has arrived and the people of the United Nations have been rejoicing. Doubtless there will be numerous stamps issued to celebrate the victory, and philatelists all over the world will never be better pleased than when acquiring such stamps for their collections. Amongst the recent news items is one stating that the Allied authorities intend to destroy all the German stamp issues bearing Hitler's photograph and other Nazi propaganda. This is a recognition of the potent value of stamps for propaganda purposes.

Amongst the most popular stamp issues of the war are the U.S.A. "Flag" stamps and our own South African large defence issue. It is good to know that of all the occupied countries for which "Flag" stamps were issued all, except Korea, have now been liberated.

It is probable that when things become more normal in the former occupied countries there will be a large demand for the "Flag" issues and we think the S.A. war effort issues will also be much sought after.

V V V V V V

AUSTRALIA

Australia's first commemorative for four years are three denominations in honour of the arrival of their new Governor-General, the Duke of Gloucester. The stamps are "double heads" featuring the Duke and Duchess in uniform in oval panels with joined sprays of British oak and Australian gum leaves above. The values are 2½d. (red) for ordinary domestic and Empire postage, 3½d. (blue) being the Postal Union rate, and 5½d. (blue black) for ordinary domestic rate plus registration or air mail fee. The stamps were put on sale on 19th February and will be current for approximately three months.

NEW ZEALAND

A special Victory set is foreshadowed, but particulars are not yet available.

UNION, S.W.A. AND PROTECTORATES

Recent Printings:—

Following on the information given in our April issue, herewith notes supplied by the Post Office authorities in respect of printings of postage stamps, stationery, etc., carried out during the period 15th February to 15th May, 1945:

(a) War Postage Stamps:

½d.—Job No. 964. This order has now been completed by a final delivery on 22/2/45, bringing the total to 308,050 sheets x 360. Cylinder 40 as before.

1d.—Job No. 6989. An order for 300,000 sheets x 360. 73,500 delivered up to date. Cylinder 6936 as before.

2d.—Job No. 6192/8646. On this order for 1,200,000 sheets x 240 the deliveries from the old cylinder 6931 remain at 377,500 sheets; those from the later cylinder, No. 39, which has been in use since 20/7/44, now amount to 662,086 sheets.

(b) Ordinary Pictorial Stamps:

2d.—Job 3650. 25,225 sheets x 120 delivered between 27/2/45 and 6/3/45. Cylinders 6913 Int. and 10 Ext.; new.

[The new stamps chronicled in our last issue no doubt came from this printing.—Ed.]

(c) Roll Stamps:

1d.—Job 3651. 2,100 rolls x 1,012 stamps and 1,100 rolls x 506 delivered subsequent to 2/4/45. Cylinder 16 as before.

(d) Inland Pictorial Postcards

1d.—Job 10568. 2,264,000 cards have now been delivered on this order. Cylinders 86 (stamps) and 85 (pictures).

(e) Air Letter Cards:

3d.—Job 3653. Deliveries from cylinder 79 remain at 2,032,680, and a further lot of 2,914,800, of which delivery started on 1/4/45, come from a new cylinder, No. 76.

6d.—Job 5205. Deliveries now total 2,217,528, from cylinder 74 as before.

(f) Official Postage Stamps:

$\frac{1}{2}$ d.—Job 11,075. 299 sheets x 240, supplied by the P.M.G. Overprinted Official—Offisieel on flat-bed from old formes.

1d.—Job 11075. 299 sheets x 240, supplied by the P.M.G. Overprinted Official—Offisieel on flat-bed from old formes.

(g) South West Africa:

(1) 43,800 3d. Air Letter Cards, printed from cylinder 76, overprinted "S.W.A." on rotary machine, using same slug as before.

(2), (3) and (4). War postage stamps supplied by the P.M.G. and overprinted "S.W.A." on a flat-bed machine from old formes. 3,000 sheets x 360 of 1d.; 999 sheets x 240 of 1s.; and 499 sheets x 240 of 1s, 3d.

(h) Basutoland:

224,400 3d. Air Letter Cards, printed from cylinder 76, overprinted "Basutoland" on rotary machine, using same slug as before.

(i) Bechuanaland:

143,256 3d. Air Letter Cards, printed from cylinder 76, overprinted "Bechuanaland" on rotary machine, using same slug as before.

Bantam Marginal Imprints

Further to the note given last month by Mr. J. Robertson, he now reports that the 1d. has the margins printed in red (the first lot with 360's was in purple) and there is no longer a blank space opposite the central arrow. There are now 11 sets of 360's as against the original 10.

The 3d. still has slogans on all the margins, but they have been noted in a bright blue colour in place of the former light blue.

The statement in our February issue that the margins of the 1s. stamps had appeared in sepia (the colour of the 1s. 3d. stamp) was not quite correct. There was definitely a difference in colour between the stamps and the margins, but the marginal colour is better described as a dark brown.

It has been reported to us that the 3d. and the 1s. 3d. sheets have been seen with plain blank white margins, but whether this is an error or is intentional is not yet certain and further information is awaited.

O.F.S. 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ d. STAMPS—CORRECTION

In Mr. Rich's article which appeared in our April issue, p. 41, in line 13 of the second column, the numeral " $\frac{1}{2}$ " should be inserted after the words "... and a Scotch Roman."

RHODESIAN ADMIRALS

A very fine specialized collection of the Admiral Type of Rhodesia, in superb mint and used condition, is for sale.

All stamps are picked copies, and the lot contains some rare stamps like S.G. 213 mint, 242, 274a (4) 245 (3), 246, 250, 276a, 277 (4), 279a, 279b (4), 309, 311 (2), 311a (4), etc.

The Cat. Value is £200, and the price for the complete lot, mounted in "de luxe" Leather Album, is £125 cash.

List with details sent on request.

K. THIELE

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By A. A. JURGENS

Copies of this book can now be had at the reduced price of £1 17s. 6d. (Postage and packing 2/6 extra). Send your order to either Mr. S. Kaganson, Sec. C.T. Philatelic Society, P.O. Box 1973, Cape Town, or to Mr. J. Silvie, P.O. Box 5, Cape Town. Only 500 copies of this book were printed, a large quantity of which were destroyed in Darter's fire. The book offered here is not a Second Edition having been printed at the same time as the 200 Subscription Copies which were sold at three guineas each. The contents and the paper on which the book is printed being the same, the only difference being a slightly cheaper binding in red cloth. Cash with order.

EGYPT

Lieut. Shingler sends specimens of the 2 and 22 mills in continuation of the new King Farouk series. Also a large purple 10 mills stamp with the same, only bigger, portrait of the King, issued on February 10th in honour of his 25th birthday. On 2nd March there appeared another large commemorative for the 50th anniversary of the death of the Khedive Ismail; this is also of 10 mills denomination, dark olive-green with a portrait of the monarch.

These commemoratives were supposed to be on sale for one day only; there was the usual rush for them and applicants received only about 6 per cent. of the cash tendered.

EGYPT—POSTAGE/PREPAID

From time to time in the past three years there have been given in our columns lists of the numbers of the Egyptian post offices with an "Egypt—Postage/Prepaid" postmark. Here follows the list brought up to date of numbers reported to us; further specimens or numbers not in the list will gladly be acknowledged.

4 5 6 7 8
 10(?) 11 14 15 16 17 19
 21 25 26 27 29
 30 31 33 34 36 37 38
 40 42 43 47
 50 51 52 53 54 55 56 57 59
 60 61 62 63 64 65 67 69
 70 71 72 73 77 78 79
 82 83 84 87 88
 93 94 95 97 99
 100 101 104 107(?) 121
 137 138 154

There is also a similar machine cancellation mark with an asterisk in place of a number.

WANT TO BUY

Cash or Exchange

Per 12, 100, 1,000 and more, regular supplies of sets and singles from Basutoland, Bechuanaland, Northern Rhodesia, Nyasaland, Swaziland, S.W. Africa and others.

Send offers by air, do not send stamps until I send Import Number.

B. SAVITZ

13 Adbolton Avenue, Gedling, Nottingham, England.

Member B.P.A. London Member P.T.S. London.

(Concluded from page 72)

90^s miles from the North Pole. He described the interesting events attached to the issue of the U.S.A. series of Flag stamps, and he touched upon the experiments made in England with the Rocket Post.

Mr. A. V. Jacob, from Cape Town, tabled his fine collection of Rhodesia, mostly mint. There were many unique items which Mr. Jacob described in an interesting talk. A vote of thanks for his exhibit was passed with acclamation.

H.A.W.

"INCONNU"

Speaking in the House of Assembly on the Posts and Telegraphs vote, a member said that he had received a "dead letter" on which was marked "Unknown, Inconnu, Onbekend." He asked why should a native word go second with Afrikaans third? It was explained to him that "inconnu" was a French word, and indeed an international one as the official language of the U.P.U.; it was not the native "ikona" as he seemed to think. The member then stated that he had been told by a Senator that "inconnu" was a native word.

Writing about the above incident, Mr. A. H. Sydow of Cape Town suggests that all Union Post Offices should be supplied with rubber hand stamps, each of which should be quadrilingual, as follows:—

ONBEKEND
 INCONNU
 IKONA IN
 UNKNOWN

This was to be impressed on all dead letters and thus all sections of the community should be satisfied, despite any linguistic shortcomings.

PHILIPPINES

"Linn's Weekly" of 29th March gives a list of Japanese occupational stamps issued in the Philippines from March, 1942, to January, 1945. Some are overprints, the majority new issues. Counting in postal stationery there are at least 62 items; more if those issued both perf. and imperf. are counted separately.

S. RHODESIA

Mr. H. E. Ward of Bulawayo writes regarding the 2d. Matabeleland commemorative:

"On the first day of issue I purchased two sheets of 60 stamps, and on one sheet I had the saddle roll flaw. On the other sheet that flaw was missing, but there was another flaw, namely, a nick in the second 2."

"I have seen several sheets since and this flaw seems persistent on all the sheets which do not have the saddle flaw."

"I think this is due to there being printed two panes of 60 stamps each in a sheet, which is afterwards cut in two."

"The flaw on stamp No. 8 occurs on the pane with the nicked 2."

Mr. Ward would also like information about a postmark which he has on a Rhodesian 4d. large arms stamp of 1910. The portion of the postmark showing reads ". . . VEGAPOORT/ . . . DESIA." Can any reader identify this? No clue is available in the list of Rhodesian postmarks published by Major Harrington in 1935.

U.S.S.R.

A set of five stamps, 30k, 50k, 60k, 1r and 2r, has been issued honouring the painter Ilya Yefinovitch. The 30 k and 1 r values have a portrait of the painter, and the other three a reproduction of his best known painting "The Cossacks drafting a letter to the Sultan."

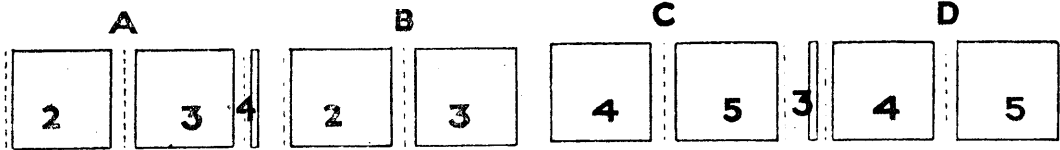
THE GEORGIAN BOOKLET STAMPS OF THE UNION OF SOUTH AFRICA

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

Category A.—½d. and 1d. denominations prepared from ordinary sheets of 240 units per sheet divided into 4 panes of 60, each of which contained 10 horizontal rows of 6 stamps. Surfaced printed from electrotyped en epargne plates on white wove paper water-marked one "Springbok head" per stamp, by Thos. De la Rue and Co., Ltd. Perforated by a comb machine to the gauge of 14.

About three years ago I began to doubt that all ½d. and 1d. stamps emanating from the 2s. 6d. booklets were prepared from sheets printed from plates which comprised the well

known four paned "three normal three tete-beche" rows of cliches described under the subsequent Category B. Consequently owing to the absence of complete booklets or panes of these stamps I searched a large accumulation of used Georgian low valued stamps and found and separated such singles and pairs which showed indications of guillotine cuts on their left- and right-hand sides into four groups as the following diagrams show. Unfortunately, however, I did not find any stamps with margins attached showing the holes made by wire-stitching, or wire staples.



All such stamps found showed cancellation dates for the years 1914-15-16-17-18-19-20. Again all showed the normal upright water-marks. None were discovered with a portion of another stamp attached tete-beche. Thus I concluded that all 2/6 booklets of stamps manufactured during the years 1914 to 1920 or early in 1921 contained ½d. and 1d. stamps in panes of 6 prepared as follows:

A number of sheets would be placed so as to form a pad and then guillotined horizontally and vertically. Thus a whole sheet of 240 units was cut into 40 smaller sheets of 6 units each of which contained 2 horizontal rows of 3 stamps which I designate as booklet panes. A whole sheet will derive

- 10 panes of 6 stamps with portions of the left-hand margin.
- 10 panes of 6 stamps with portions of the right-hand margin.
- 10 panes of 6 stamps with portions of the central gutter margin on the right-hand sides.
- 10 panes of 6 stamps with portions of the central gutter margin on the left-hand sides. The portions of the margins were left attached to the stamps for binding purposes.

The following represents the top and the bottom four horizontal rows of stamps of an ordinary sheet of 240 units and the method of cutting the sheet into 40 panes of 6 units each.

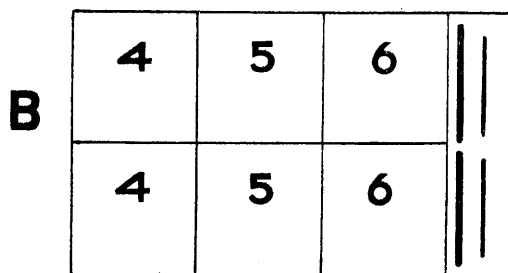
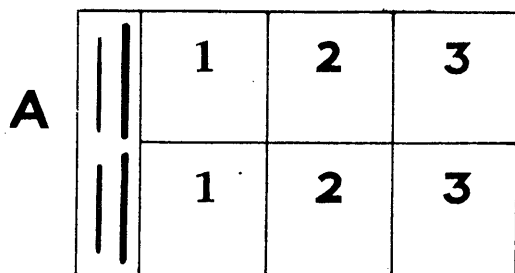
	R	North West Pane (P)	C—M	North East Pane (P)	L	
Row 1	R	: J 1 2 3	4 5 6 J :	: J 1 2 3	4 5 6 J :	L
Row 2	R	: J 1 2 3	4 5 6 J :	: J 1 2 3	4 5 6 J :	L
Row 3	R	: J 1 2 3	4 5 6 J :	: J 1 2 3	4 5 6 J :	L
Row 4	R	: J 1 2 3	4 5 6 J :	: J 1 2 3	4 5 6 J :	L
	R	J X X X	X X X J	J X X X	X X X J	L
Row 7	R	: J 1 2 3	4 5 6 J :	: J 1 2 3	4 5 6 J :	L
Row 8	R	: J 1 2 3	4 5 6 J :	: J 1 2 3	4 5 6 J :	L
Row 9	R	: J 1 2 3	4 5 6 J :	: J 1 2 3	4 5 6 J :	L
Row 10	R	: J 1 2 3	4 5 6 J :	: J 1 2 3	4 5 6 J :	L
	R	(P)		(P)		L
		South West Pane		South East Pane		

In the foregoing diagram the capital letters represent: R—Right-hand Margin, L—Left-hand margin, J—Jubilee Line, C—M—Central gutter margin, (P)—Plate number, X—decorative pillars between the panes,

—position of the holes after the booklet panes were wire-stitched between the booklet covers. The horizontal and vertical lines which form the rectangles enclosing groups of representations of six units

and jubilee lines above represents the edges of the booklet panes after having been cut from the whole sheet. The guillotine general cuts through the centres of the horizontal rows of perforations above rows 1, 3, 5, 7, 9 and below rows 10 of each whole sheet pane and vertically through the centres of the perforations between rows 3 and 4 and to the left and right of the jubilee lines. Sometimes the vertical cuts were made beyond the vertical row of perforations between rows 3 and 4 and left a portion of a fourth row stamp attached to a third row stamp as per illustration A above which represents 2 and 3 with a portion of 4. Illustration B shows stamps 2 and 3 without a portion of stamp 4 where the guillotine cut was made on the edge of the design of stamp 3 leaving it without lateral perforations on its right-hand side. Illustration C shows stamps 4 and 5 where the guillotine was made on the edge of the design of

stamp 4 leaving it without lateral perforations on its left-hand side. Illustration D shows the vertical cut made beyond the perforations and leaving a portion of a third row stamp attached to a fourth row stamp. The top and bottom margins which contained the plate numbers were cut and discarded, and also the decorative pillars. The horizontal and vertical edges showed various degrees of cutting, but the foregoing descriptions will serve to show that the stamps under this category did not emanate from a plate with normal and tete-beche cliches. The stamps in my collection with portions attached represented by illustrations A and D above show the portions normally printed and not tete-beche as will be described subsequently. Full panes of 6 stamps extracted from 2/6 Boolets falling under this category will appear with binding margins as follows:



Example A shows Jubilee Line, wire binding and margin on the left-hand side, and example B shows Jubilee Line, wire binding, and margin on the right-hand side. The wire binding will appear over the cover.

I had never seen a complete booklet with the panes bound as described above, but in my letters to Mr. H. E. Lobdell anent the publication of "The De La Rue Georgians of South Africa" in the "Collectors Club Philatelist" I placed the foregoing findings at his disposal. In a letter from him, Mr. Lobdell states:

"Your supposition about early booklets having been made from ordinary sheets is correct. I enclose a photograph from Steve Rich's pages showing the covers and two panes bound at the left, and a similar photo showing cover and two panes bound at the right."

Mr. Rich informed Mr. Lobdell that these 2/6 booklets contained four 1d. panes of 6 and two 1/2d. panes of 6, and that the early booklets had dark-red covers (later changed to pink, were interleaved with waxed paper, and fastened together with wire staples. I do not know whether these booklets contained interleaves with commercial advertisements as in subsequent issues, sold at 3/- and 3/6 each.

Category B: 1/2d., 1d., 1 1/2d., and 2d. denominations prepared from sheets of 240 units per sheet divided into 4 panes of 60, each of which contained 10 horizontal rows of 6

stamps, and each row contained 3 stamps in normal positions together with 3 stamps tete-beche to the normal ones. Surface printed from electrotyped en epargne plates on white wove paper watermarked one "Springbok head" per stamp, by Thos. De La Rue and Co. Limited. Perforated by a comb machine to the gauge of 14. On each sheet 120 stamps showed the watermark upright and normal and 120 stamps showed the watermark inverted. Each sheet showed 40 pairs tete-beche in the third and fourth vertical rows.

During September, 1921, booklets which contained 12 1/2d., 12 1d., and 12 1 1/2d. stamps (two panes of 6 for each of the three values) were issued for sale at 3/- each. Subsequently when the inland rate for letters was increased from 1 1/2d. to 2d. per oz. booklets which contained 12 1/2d., 12 1d., and 12 2d. stamps (two panes of 6 for each of the three values) were issued for sale at 3/6 each. Both of these series of booklets were interleaved with six pages which showed advertisements in English and Dutch of the products of Lever Bros., Limited, and its associated companies, viz.:

(1a) Sunlight Soap (1b) Life Buoy Soap (2a) Royal Vinolia Shaving Stick (2b) Luz (3a) Monkey Brand Cleanser (3b) Santas Disinfectant (4a) Vim Cleanser (4b) Life Buoy Zeep (5a) Cobra Boot Polish (5b) Royal Vinolia Scheer Zeep (6a) Lux (6b) Sunlight Zeep.

A number of sheets would be placed so as to form a pad and then guillotined horizont-

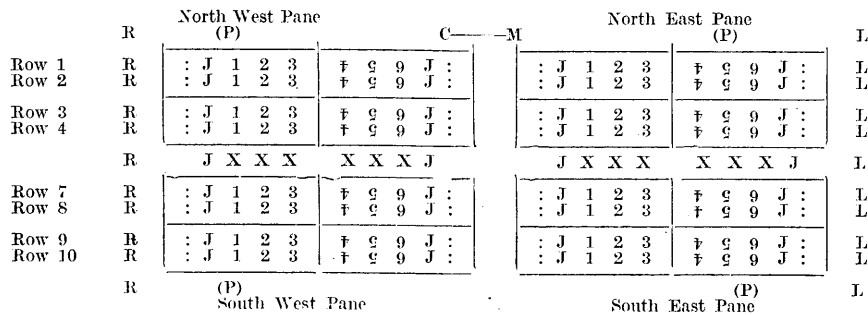
ally and vertically. Thus a whole sheet of 240 units was cut into 40 smaller sheets of 6 units each of which contained 2 horizontal rows of 3 stamps, and a whole sheet will derive:

- 10 panes of 6 stamps, with watermarks normal and upright, together with portions of the left-hand margin.
- 10 panes of 6 stamps, with watermarks normal and upright, together with portions of the central gutter margin on the left-hand sides.
- 10 panes of 6 stamps, with watermarks inverted, together with portions of the

central gutter margin on the left-hand sides.

10 panes of 6 stamps, with watermarks inverted, together with portions of the right-hand margin on the left-hand sides. The portions of the margins were left attached to the stamps for binding purposes.

The following represents the top and the bottom four horizontal rows of stamps of a whole booklet sheet of 240 units and the method of cutting the sheet into 40 panes of 6 units each. It is not known whether these sheets showed plate numbers.

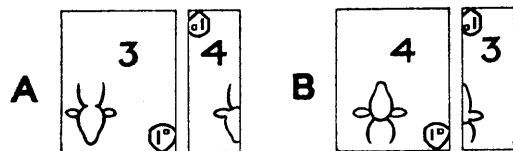


In the foregoing diagram the capital letters represent: R—Right-hand margin, L—Left-hand margin, J—Jubilee Line, C—M—Central gutter margin, X—decorative pillars between the panes, :—the position of the holes after the booklet panes were wire-stitched between the booklet covers. The figures 1, 2 and 3 represents the first three stamps in normal positions and 4, 5 and 6 inverted, the second three stamps tete-beche to the first three in each horizontal row. Thus stamps 1, 2 and 3 contain their watermarks in normal and upright positions, whilst stamps 4, 5 and 6 contain their watermarks in inverted positions in each row throughout the sheet.

The "South African Philatelist," of February, 1923, reported: "It is of interest to note that the Distributor of Stamps, Pretoria, received from the printers three cases of 10,000 sheets each of the 1½d. denomination, in which the tete-beche occurs. Since 40 pairs tete-beche are found on each sheet it follows that the total number received was 1,200,000. Postmasters were instructed to use these up as far as possible on parcels and telegrams." When these sheets of the 1½d. denomination were issued for sale over the counter it was found that the composition of a sheet was identical to the description given above. Whole sheets of the ½d., 1d. and 2d. denominations were never issued for sale as such, but the sheets were printed in the same setting as described above and as found anent the 1½d. whole sheets. This is proved below.

The horizontal and vertical lines which form the rectangles groups of representations of six units and jubilee lines in the diagram above represents the edges of the booklet

panes after having been cut from the whole sheet. In instances where the vertical cuts were made beyond the vertical perforations between rows 3 and 4, e.g., a portion of stamp 4 is found attached to stamp 3, or a portion of stamp 3 is found attached to stamp 4. Such portions of stamps attached are found tete-beche to the whole one, viz.:



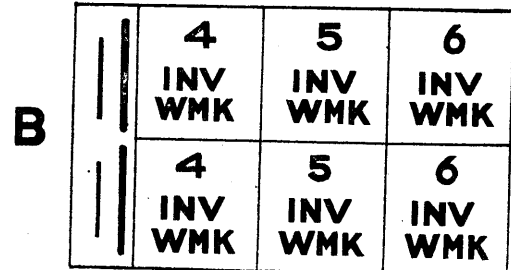
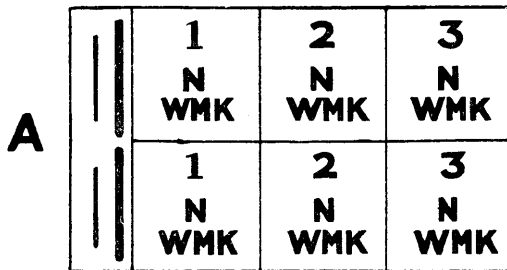
Example A shows stamp 3 with watermark normal and upright with stamp 4 attached tete-beche, value tablets at bottom and top respectively. Example 4 shows stamp 4 with watermark inverted with stamp 3 attached tete-beche, value tablets at bottom and top respectively. In example A the design of stamp 3 would appear normal and upright and the design of stamp 4 inverted and similarly in example B.

Prior to the issue of booklet stamps printed from plates described under this category ½d., 1d. and 2d. stamps were very rarely found with their watermarks inverted. This was another factor which led me to conclude that booklet stamps of the ½d. and 1d. denominations were obtained from the ordinary sheets referred to under category A.

In my collection I have mint booklet panes of 6 of the ½d., 1d., 1½d. and 2d. denominations with portions of stamps attached tete-beche as shown in the foregoing sketch, as

well as used singles, pairs and blocks in the same condition with cancellations for the years 1922-23-24-25-26.

Full panes of 6 stamps extracted from booklets under this category show the binding margins and watermark positions as follows:

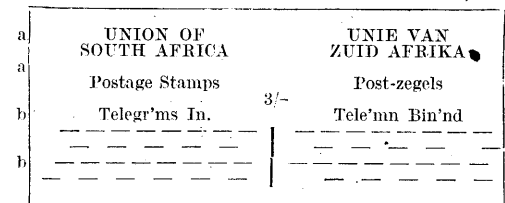
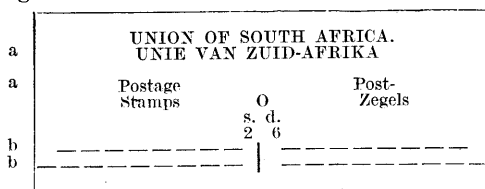


In the foregoing N WMK represents normal watermark and INV WMK inverted watermark. The binding margins in A represents that from left-hand sheet margin, and the left portion of the central gutter margin of a sheet, whilst the binding margin in B represents that from the right-hand sheet, and the right portion of the central gutter margin. It will thus be observed that no booklet stamps with binding margins on the right-hand side can exist which fall under this category B.

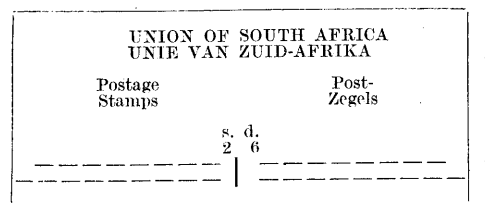
a—a and b—b represents the wire staple binding, O the coat of arms of the Union of South Africa. Below the 2/6 are tariffs of (a) TELEGRAMS INLAND on the left-hand side and TELEGRAMMEN BINNENLAND on the right-hand side.

I doubt whether early booklets completely bound are in existence in South Africa. The following will illustrate the binding and printing on the front covers:

The later booklets had the following on the front covers:



When booklets were issued which contained the 2d. denomination in lieu of the 1½d. ones the value 3/- was typographically cancelled with two horizontal bars and 3/6 printed to the right-hand side thereof.



POLAND

The Lublin Government have issued a set of five charity postage stamps. These stamps are a set previously issued by the German Government of Poland; they are now over-printed in black with a five-pointed star enclosing the hammer and sickle device of the Soviet Union and are surcharged with new values.

KENYA

Mr. Tunstall reports that export regulations regarding stamps have been relaxed. They may now be sent to Empire countries (Canada and Newfoundland excepted), but a license has still to be obtained for each sending.

He also states that new markings are appearing on some sheets, taking the form of faint letters and figures in reverse on the top margins. Further particulars to follow.

Always Wanted: Stamps of all colonies and countries. Singles, sets and in bulk on or off paper.
Always Available: Approvals, new issues, etc., against cash or references.
 Geo. F. Rowe, 11 Barmouth Road, London S.W.18.

MAFEKING SIEGE CANCELLATION— THE "1900" SLUG

In "The S.A. Philatelist" of February, 1945, Dr. Freund deals with the "1900" slug used in the Mafeking C.G.H. date stamp which was used for the cancellation of Mafeking stamps from sometime in March onwards. This small, condensed "1900" was in place of the "00" which would normally have been issued to the office from Cape Town.

He states that this particular slug was found in the Magistrate's office. This, of course, may have been the case, but, if it is implied that the slug came from the Magistrate's official date stamp then we must query the correctness of the statement. We have specimens of the type of date stamp used by Magistrates and Civil Commissioners in Cape Colony at this period; the figures of the stamp are considerably larger than those of the "1900" of the siege cancellation and, in addition, they only show the last two figures of the year. The arrangement of the date in them is, for example, 29 AU 99.

Moreover, if it is assumed that the slug was one issued to the Magistrate's office from Cape Town, it still leaves unsolved the difficulty which we raised in connection with the similar slug used in the Vryburg occupation cancellations, viz., "How did the slugs get into these two towns, if they came from outside?"

We are indebted to Dr. Freund for pointing out the difference between the "9's" of the Vryburg and the Mafeking marks, viz., that in the former the foot of the "9" is curved up, but not in the latter. Also, that in forged Mafeking cancellations the "9" may have a curved up tail. These facts may be found to have some bearing on the question of the origin of these slugs; in the meantime we feel that their origin is still unexplained.

Another point in Dr. Freund's note which we must query is his statement that the military authorities destroyed the Mafeking siege cancellation, immediately after the siege. We have three reasons for doubting the validity of this statement:—

(1) Why should they have done so? It was not made by them, nor was it their property. It belonged, with the possible exception of the "1900" slug, to the Cape Postal authorities. That the telegraphist, Mr. A. Thomas, may have removed the slug which is now in Dr. Freund's possession, we do not question, but he did not do so immediately after the siege was raised.

(2) We have specimens of covers posted in Mafeking on June 5th, June 13th, and August 3rd all showing the "1900" slug in the cancellation. (The siege was raised on May 17th.) The two June items are without stamps and are endorsed "Mail service suspended" in red ink, and both show transit postmarks of Kimberley dated 19 June.

(3) We have specimens of the Mafeking C.G.H. cancellation with dates in 1900, 1901, 1903, and even as late as 1906. It is highly improbable that these marks come from a new date stamp made to replace the one supposed

to have been destroyed after the siege, because in late 1900 a new type of date stamp came into use at Mafeking which had no C.G.H. in it.

A. A. JURGENS.
J. H. HARVEY PIRIE.

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BRITISH COLONIAL CHANGES

Ascension. The 4d., 1s., 2s. 6d., 5s. and 10s. have now appeared on thin white paper, perf. 13 x 12½. There is practically no change in their shades.

Mauritius. We are informed by the Robertson Stamp Co. of Johannesburg that the 2c, 5c, 10c and 12c were on sale in the colony in 1944 perf. 15 x 14. According to "Gibbons' Stamp Monthly" this unusual perforation is closely connected with S.G. Nos. 154-157 of Hong Kong and, like these, was probably printed in 1941 under emergency conditions on rough surfaced, thick paper resulting in poor, dull printing with prominent embossing on the backs. The supply now appears to be exhausted, its place being taken by stamps in the old perf. 14.

Nyasaland. The 5s. has now appeared in very deep bright shades of blue and green.

Swaziland. The new printings of all values have now been issued, perf. 13½ x 14, although all are not actually on sale in the Protectorate as yet. The most marked changes in shades are in the 1d. and 6d.

BRAZIL

Brazil has issued something unique in the way of postal stationery. This is a transparent envelope for the transmission of paper money; it has printed on it in violet a Cr. \$1.00 stamp, which has the figure "1" inclined to the left in such a manner that its shadow projected to the right forms with it a "V." At the foot of the stamp, in white, is an inscription signifying "For Victory buy War Bonds."

Two more commemoratives have been issued, both of square diamond shape, in blue (the first light, the second dark) and of 40 ctvs. value. The first honours the centenary of the death of the statesman Martim Franc. Rib. de Andrada, and shows his portrait; the second commemorates the centenary of the pacification of Rio Grande do Sul and features a meeting of the military negotiations concerned.

Thanks to Dr. Mario de Sanctis for specimens.

U.S.A.

March 3rd saw the issue of a Florida State commemorative, 3c bright purple. It marks the centenary of the State's admission to the Union. The central design is the State seal with map of the State and the wording "In God is our trust"; to left and right are the dates 1845 and 1945. In the lower left section are the gates of St. Augustine, the oldest standing fortification in the Union, dating back to Spanish times about 1638; lower right is the Capitol in Tallahassee, the capital of the State.

COLLECTORS' WANTS AND OFFERS

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

Seychelles and Sierra Leone fine used copies wanted. Particularly Edward and George. High prices willingly paid.

William Redford, Box 7012, Johannesburg.

Transvaal, Griqualand West, O.F.S. covers and rarities wanted by

A. E. Basden, Killarney, Brickhill Road, Durban.

For Service, promptness and satisfaction.

Benoni Stamp Shop, Box 485, Benoni.
Phone 54-1692.

Wanted. Airgraph Xmas greetings from various service units—any theatre of war. State price and description to G. N. Gilbert, Box 15. Westminster.

Wanted: Transvaal, Natal, Cape, O.F.S., Bechuanaland, Gambia, St. Helena, Egypt, France. Picked copies, rarities and varieties, also 9,000 items for world collection up to 1933 issues. E. Hunt, Box 2437, Johannesburg.

Wanted: Airstamps (Used) and airmail labels of all countries.

Dr. C. L. L. Murray, Kuilsrivier, Cape.

SEYCHELLES

From "The Stamp Lover" it is gathered that this group of islands has five post offices, viz., Victoria and Anse Royale on Mahé, the principal inland, Grande Anse and Bay St. Anne on Praslin Island, and La Digue on La Digue Island. For a short period there was an office "Cascade," lying between the first two mentioned places; its postmark is a rarity and should be looked for on mails of about 25 years ago, on K.E. VII stamp, both single and multiple C.A. issues, and also on the K.G. V "Postage—postage" issue.

SOMALIA

According to "Stamp Collecting" some eight values of Italian Somaliland stamps, captured on the occupation of Mogadiscio, were overprinted "British Occupation," but the Higher Command refused to sanction their use and they were ordered to be turned in for destruction. This is said to have been carried out at Addis Ababa, with the exception of about 24 sets, which were retained as souvenirs. The stamps, therefore, fall into the "prepared but not issued" class.

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JOHANNESBURG

MONTHLY PHILATELIC BULLETIN

Each month The Windsor Stamp Co. publish THE WINDSOR MONTHLY PHILATELIC BULLETIN, an attractive 12 page illustrated list.

Contents include many offers of interesting stamps, including sections for Empire and Foreign; New Issues; Stamps for Investment; High values; Specimens; Accessories; Special offers and a Monthly Outstanding Bargain.

No, we are not telling you any more as we wish you to obtain and judge the M.P.B. for yourself, and, of course, as a subscriber have the exclusive offers each month of stamps in short supply at reasonable prices.

Subscription 2s. 6d. for one year's supply of 12 issues, which please remit by British Postal Order. Specimen copy 3d.

THE WINDSOR STAMP COMPANY
UCKFIELD - SUSSEX - ENGLAND

LIBERATION STAMPS

Luxemburg has issued a set of four, as follows:—

- 60c. and 1f. 40, with an ancient galley and "Hommage a la France."
- 2f. 50 and 3f. 50, with figure of Britannia and "Thanks to Britannia."
- 1f. 20 and 1f. 80, with a snake-killer and "CVABA C.C.C.P."
- 4f. 20 and 4f. 80, with American eagle and "Thanks to America."

Burma is reported as about to have a series of the contemporary stamps of India overprinted for use in Burma as the civil administration takes over.

The Philippines are to have new stamps, which have been prepared in Washington. As a temporary measure certain earlier issues overprinted "Victory" have been employed. Some of these overprints were done locally, others in Washington.

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Full particulars from:
S. G. Walton, 252 St. John's Road, Canley Vale,
N.S.W., Australia.

Belgium. Two sets are reported from here; one of at least sixteen values printed by Waterlow & Sons figuring a large V and the lion of Brabant; the others, probably printed in Belgium, feature King Leopold III, or the Belgian coat of arms with a large red V superimposed.

Jugoslavia is stated to be having a new issue printed in London, but no particulars are yet available.

Czechoslovakia. The Czech Ministry of Economic Reconstruction, whilst still in London, sent supplies to Kosice of a series of six stamps, figuring portraits of Czech soldiers and airmen who had died fighting with various allied forces on various fronts. These stamps were to be taken into use as the country was liberated.

Germany. British authorities have announced that they are seizing all stocks of German stamps showing Nazi features and are destroying them. AMGOT stamps printed in Washington will be employed. It is not clear whether this procedure applies to the whole of Germany or only to British-occupied parts.

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RUSSIAN COMMEMORATIVE STAMPS

10th Anniv. of Stratosphere Heroes (3) ..	6/0
25th Anniv. of All Union Lenin Young Com. League (5)	7/6
75th Anniv. of Chaplygin (2)	2/9
100th Anniv. of Krylov (2)	2/9
20th Anniv. of Death of Lenin (7)	12/6
100th Anniv. of Repin (painter) (5) im- perf. or perf.	8/0
100th Anniv. of Rimsky-Korsakov (4) im- perf. or perf.	10/6
Heroic Cities (4)	2/9
War Heroes (2) set	2/9
War Heroes (3) set	3/6
War Heroes (5) set	3/0
Air Mail 1944 (2)	4/0
Orders of the Great Patriotic War, 1, 3, 5, 10 Rouble	38/6
Orders of the Great Patriotic War, 15, 20, 30, 60 Kopek, perf. or imperf.	3/3
Day of United Nations (2)	7/6
Teheran Conference (2)	6/0

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BAHAWALPUR AND JASDAN

Collectors of Indian States may have to start two new pages in their albums.

The first mentioned State has had "service" stamps from the beginning of this year for use on official correspondence within the State boundaries. The stamps are six in number, ½a to 1r, pictorial in character and were printed by De la Rue & Co.

Jasdan, according to "Scott's Monthly Journal," inaugurated a postal service on 15th March, 1942. There are twelve post offices and the stamps, which were printed by Messrs. L. V. Indap & Co., Bombay, are issued in booklets containing 200 stamps. 13,000 (? stamps or booklets) are said to have been printed to date.

SWITZERLAND

There is to be a charity issue in connection with the collection of 100 million Swiss francs which the country is aiming at as a gift for war victims in neighbouring lands.

According to "Mekeel's Weekly" this series will beat two records in Swiss postal history—there will be a 3 fr. stamp with a surtax of 7 fr., i.e., much more than has ever been charged previously and, secondly, this stamp will surpass in size the largest Swiss stamp ever issued.

GREENLAND

"Stamps" reports the issue on 1st February of a new set of nine pictorial stamps, values 10 to 5 K. The stamps were engraved by the American Bank Note Co., and no more than 100,000 sets will be printed.

SOCIETY NEWS

EAST LONDON PHILATELIC SOCIETY

President, Mr. A. Watson; *Hon. Secretary*, Mr. S. F. Fowler, P.O. Box 168, East London. *Meetings*, Colosseum Building, 2nd Fridays, 7.45 p.m.

There was a comparatively small attendance at the meeting on the 11th May, owing to the inclement weather, only 13 members and five visitors braving the elements. Among the latter we were glad to welcome Mr. Ingham, of the Johannesburg Society, Mr. Turnbull, from Vereeniging, and a naval visitor, Lieut. McCallum. Two new members were proposed and duly elected.

As usual, a number of items of philatelic interest received during the past month were passed round for inspection. These included several much-travelled service envelopes, which bore many interesting postmarks.

The evening's display was in the hands of Mr. Fowler who showed an extremely fine lot of mint recent issues in complete sets, among which were to be noted the Bahamas Landfalls, Hong Kong Centenaries, Al Busaid on India and many other varieties seldom seen.

After the refreshment interval, a number of auction lots were submitted by Mr. Durkin, a goodly proportion of which found new owners.

T.A.H.

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PORT ELIZABETH PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

President, G. K. Forbes; *Hon Sec.*, Mr. Malcolm, P.O. 88; *Meetings*, Room 8, City Hall Basement, at 7.45 p.m., 1st and 3rd Tuesdays.

The first May meeting was as usual an auction and social evening, and was enjoyed by all. The second was the annual general meeting and was held on 15th May with a large attendance. Mr. G. K. Forbes was in the chair. The retiring secretary read the yearly report, and said that over £200 had been given to War Funds from the sale of stamps, not counting the thousands sent to London and other centres to be sold for the relief of War Victims. We have 11 members still on active service, and sincerely hope they will soon be with us again.

Then came the election of officers, and all were returned to office, except Mr. C. Sheffield who retired after 21 years' service as Hon. Secretary and Treasurer. It was unanimously carried that he should be made a Life Member as a slight appreciation of his long and faithful service. We shall all miss him, but hope he will be present at most of our future gatherings. Mr. Malcolm was chosen as the new secretary and Mr. Sheffield promised him his full support. It was with pleasure we heard that Mr. A. S. Campbell had rescinded his resignation as it is probable that in the near future he will again reside in Port Elizabeth. It is doubtful whether we would ever attain the services of a more capable Exchange Superintendent.

The syllabus was then drawn up for the following year, and the meeting closed at 9.45 p.m.

L.E.C.

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THE PHILATELIC SOCIETY OF NATAL.

President, A. L. Bevis; *Hon. Sec.*, G. Milner Palmer, P.O. Box 588, Durban; *Meetings*, 1st and 3rd Wednesdays at London Assurance House, 319 Smith Street (in the rooms of the Durban Camera Club, top floor), 7.30 p.m.

A particularly fine evening was had by all at our usual monthly meeting.

At our ordinary May meeting the competition, which by the way is very much looked forward to, was under the direction of Mr. A. S. Maskell. In spite of the fact that he maintained that it was easy, it gave quite a lot of us a headache, and the writer and a few others did not even trouble to hand in their papers. This competition was won by Mr. P. C. Bishop. I wish I knew as much about my Catalogue as he does.

Mr. W. H. Winde's notes are still proving of interest, although he is getting a bit worried as one member has already brought for auction items which have been quoted by him, and to justify his notes he felt that he had to purchase these lots. All the information which is read by him is obtained from various philatelic publications which he acknowledges.

Mr. L. Lyle exhibited an unusual collection comprising stamps of Royalty, Ships, Castles, Flowers, Animals

and Pictorials. These were well set out, and he intimated that this collection had been got together in his spare time. I always thought that philatelists were never up to date.

The highlight of the evening was the presentation to Mr. Percy Bishop made by Mr. Lyle on behalf of the Society. The occasion was Mr. Bishop's leaving for the old country for good at least he says so, but we don't think so. Mr. Percy Bishop is a very old and esteemed member of this Society, having done much for us and for philately in general. We wish him many happy days, and he can be assured that we shall miss him. Mr. Percy Williams also said a few words regarding his old friend, what a tower of strength he had been to philately through his wonderful organising ability. With him go all our best wishes.

W.H.W.

CAPE TOWN PHILATELIC SOCIETY

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

Thursday, 22nd March: "Canada" was the subject for display at this meeting at which there was again a good attendance of members and visitors. The display was given by the President, but unfortunately he could not be present in person. Mr. Solomon stated that Mr. Vallance was better known for his "Rhodesians," but this collection of Canada was a "new love"; by the way it was expanding it showed promise of also being an outstanding collection in time.

After the usual business of the evening had been transacted, an auction took place.

Thursday, 12th April: We had a real treat at this meeting when Mr. G. K. Forbes, president of the Port Elizabeth Society, gave us a display of the stamps of Newfoundland and British North America.

The attendance was large, and all expressed their appreciation of being able to view such a fine collection.

The outstanding item was a complete sheet of the 3d. green triangular stamp of Newfoundland, especially interesting as it is so closely related to our own Cape Triangulars.

The Newfoundland collection was very nearly complete and the finest show of that country presented to this Society.

Nova Scotia was also well represented, and very interesting here were the proofs, colour trials, and specimens—a grand opening to any collection.

The early issues of Canada were also fully represented.

Mr. Jurgens, that old veteran of philately in the Cape, moved a very hearty vote of thanks to Mr. Forbes, recalling early days and associations. The vote was seconded by Mr. Croxford, after which Mr. Forbes thanked all present for the very cordial reception he had received. The usual auction brought to a close a most enjoyable evening.

Thursday, 26th April: There was again a good attendance when Mr. B. L. Cock tabled "A Philatelic Medley." We were shown sheets dealing with postal history, the printing of postage stamps, watermarks, etc., together with a few pages of the Geo. VI issues, Egyptian commemorative, and varieties of the large Union War Issue.

In the remarks made after the display reference was made to the fact that one does not often find a family of collectors, but here we had husband, wife and son, all members of the Society.

A number of new members were elected, and the evening closed with the usual auction.

Thursday, 3rd May: On account of the holidays this month our meeting was brought forward a week, and this no doubt accounted for the smaller than usual attendance. Those who did attend, however, were well rewarded by a very interesting talk and display by Mr. L. Simenhoff of the "Occupational Stamps of S.W.A."

The collection—the result of 20 years' work and research—was as complete as possible, and must be undoubtedly the finest of its type. The opening sheets dealt with the Military Postmarks of 1914 and then covered in alphabetical order the various P.O.'s in S.W.A., including the T.P.O.'s. Mr. Simenhoff gave a very interesting talk on the various items displayed, and traced the history of the "Occupationals" from 1914 until replaced by the first overprint of 1923.

Thirty-Fourth Annual General Meeting: This was held on the 17th May and there was a good attendance of members. Mr. W. D. Vallance, the President, reviewed the past year's activities—a year of outstanding successes in all spheres.

Membership had increased and now stood at 168, attendance at the 24 meetings held averaged between 45 and 50, and the displays given by members had been of a high standard. Auction sales totalled £180 and this figure does not include the many items offered for sale for Red Cross Funds.

In the Exchange Section, total sales reached the record figure of £680. Donations to Red Cross and War Funds were also on a high level, the sum of £425 being realised.

Mr. Vallance paid special tribute to Mr. Cameron and Mr. Kaganson for their fine work in connection with this drive. In conclusion he thanked all the officers as well as all members for their support during the year.

After reports from the Hon. Treasurer and the Hon. Exchange Superintendent, came the election of office-bearers for the forthcoming year.

Mr. Vallance, although pressed by many members, declined renomination, so Mr. L. Simenhoff was elected President.

The other office-bearers (all re-elected) were: Vice-President, Mr. Mummery; Hon. Sec., S. Kaganson; Hon. Treas., K. Cameron; Hon. Exchange Superintendent, B. L. Cock; Librarian, E. J. Croxford; General Committee, Mrs. Cock, and Messrs. K. Alexander, J. W. Gregory, and Comdr. C. E. D. Enoch; Press Correspondent, B. L. Cock.

Mr. L. Simenhoff, in taking office, paid tribute to the excellent manner in which Mr. Vallance had carried out the duties of President for the past year, setting a standard which would be difficult to maintain.

The first duty of the new President was a pleasant one—that of electing Mr. K. Alexander as an Hon. Life Member.

This was acclaimed by all as there is no one more popular than "Alec." It was agreed that a "Scholars' Evening" be again included in the syllabus, and the committee was instructed to make the necessary arrangements. A motion that the society undertake a New Issue Service was defeated.

B.L.C.

NYASALAND PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

President, L. V. Booth; Hon. Sec., Mr. Anson; Meetings, 2nd Mondays, Tobacco Auction Rooms, Limbe, 5 p.m.

At the April meeting the Society decided to become a subscriber to the "S.A. Philatelist." A correspondent in Australia and another in New Zealand wished to exchange stamps, and two members undertook to get in communication with them. Mr. E. Bartlett, of Blantyre, was elected a member.

A guessing competition was held as to the values and colours of the three new Australian stamps, and Mr. Milne was the winner. He also won a "quiz" on the identification of six stamps.

The business ended with an auction of ten lots of stamps, from which the Society benefited by the amount of 4s. 10d.

PRETORIA PHILATELIC SOCIETY

President, Lt.-Col. G. Lance Horne; Hon. Secretary, H. A. Wager, P.O. Box 514; Meetings, 1st and 3rd Mondays, 8 p.m., Technical College.

May 7: Lt.-Col. Horne in the chair.

Allan Cup Competition. There were seven entries. Messrs. Wright, Wilson Gomm, Strachan, Ramsay, Bottomley and Wager. The judging was by popular vote, each member placing the candidates in order of merit. Mr. J. Wilson was awarded the cup and first prize for his original display of Philatelic Portraits and Major Ramsay the second prize for his attractive exhibit of Australia. The chairman, in presenting the awards, commented on the excellence of the exhibits.

Trophy Prize. Two competitors. Dr. Broom, who showed the results of his researches into the plating of early Transvaal stamps, and Dr. Broughton, who showed a very extensive collection of Postmarks on Turkish stamps. The judges, Messrs. Obermeyer, Hawke and Wright considered both exhibits of equal merit and a Certificate of Merit was awarded to each.

May 21: Dr. Broughton in the chair. Mr. Hawke read an article on Post-War Philately.

In the absence of Mr. F. C. Ferguson his paper was read by Mr. Ravenscroft. It was on philatelic items of interest. He gave an account of how letters were distributed from Craig Harbour, a post office about

(Concluded on page 63).

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South African Railways



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Vol. 21, No. 7.

JULY, 1945.

Whole No. 244.

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Vol. 21, No. 7.

JULY, 1945.

Whole No. 244.

UNION AND S.W.A. NOTES

Flaws on Postcard Stamps.

Mr. R. E. J. Currell notes flaws on recently issued 1d. pictorial postcards. One, with a view of Kaimaan's Falls, Wilderness, has red bar extending from the right side (as you look at it) of the ship diagonally upwards to the edge of the vignette; the other, with a picture of two bushbuck in the Kruger Park has a white "full moon" behind the top of the mainmast.

New Type of Meter Post.

Mr. E. G. Powell notes the appearance (earliest date seen 30-1-45) of a new type of meter post stamp. The key letter is H. Further details, we hope, next month.

Bantam Margins.

The 2d. has now come out with 240's in the vertical margins; two types, a dark shade with 10 sets of figures (none opposite the central arrow) and a light shade with 11 sets of figures.

3d. *Minor Variety.* Mr. J. N. Sharp reports a pale shade of the 3d. (S.G. No. 59) in which the lines in the scrolls over the figures of value are very indistinct.

S.W.A. Mr. Nöckler notes that the 1½d. has the same type of overprint which was reported in our May issue as appearing newly on the 1d. and 6d.

He also reports that the 1d. bantam with overprint has appeared locally with the purple marginal imprint.

The Robertson Stamp Co. records the 2d. and 6d. Postage Dues with figures of value brownish instead of black.

CORRECTIONS

(1) In Mr. A. Hilton Sydow's article in our issue of February, 1944, on the Union air mail stamps, near the top of p. 15, second column, where it says "(8) Printed stamps (2 denominations); Planographic; Positive," read "Typographic" in lieu of "Planographic." Thanks to Mr. S. G. Rich for drawing attention.

(2) In the same writer's article on booklet stamps in our last (June, 1945) issue there are two small mistakes:

(a) On p. 66, second column, nineteen lines from the bottom, "Example 4" should read "Example B."

(b) On p. 67, first column, in the two diagrams of the booklet covers there should not be a hyphen in "ZUID AFRIKA."

+ + +

TRISTAN DA CUNHA

This lonely island is once more in the news, certain information about it having appeared in the public press. It cannot yet be said, however, to be quite on the philatelic map. For the greater part of the war period the island has been occupied by and under the control of the Royal Navy, and since 1941 there has been a meteorological station in operation which was set up by S. African sappers and has since starting been worked by a small detachment of the S.A. Air Force, Meteorological Section. Their daily weather reports have been found so useful for long-range weather forecasting in the Union that the station is practically certain to be kept in operation, and even other island stations are now under consideration.

Postally the island has probably been better served during the war period than it ever was before, but records of this service are going to be hard to identify. The civil "post mark" of Tristan was not allowed to be used, and letters coming from the island merely showed a mark such as appears on mail from any R.N. ships. This applies both to letters from service personnel and from the islanders; the only difference being that the latter had sometimes (? perhaps always) a manuscript endorsement "Civilian Mail."

Letters going to the island even did not bear its name. It had a special naval designation, which was changed at least once, but these "security names" have not yet been made public.

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N.S.W., Australia.

SOME SWISS AND FRENCH NOTES

[The following notes have been sent by the Rev. A. Brutsch-Du Pasquier of the Cana Mission, Mamathes, Basutoland, through the medium of Mr. A. Lichtenstein of Bloemfontein.—Ed.]
Switzerland.

The 1943 "postal centenary" stamp (reproduction of the 4 and 6 Rappen, Zurich, 1843) had a special cancellation in red, in the shape of the old postmark, inscribed all-round 100 Jahre Schweiz, Postmarken Zurich, date in centre between Swiss cross (top) and Posthorn (bottom). I don't know how long the postmark was used. The cover I have got bears the date 7.III.43.

In September, 1943, there was a national philatelic exhibition in Geneva. This had a special red postmark with fancy border, inscribed all round "Exposition philatélique nationale Genève": date between initials GEPH (top) and Swiss cross (bottom).

Further, a special miniature sheet was issued, reproduction of the "double de Genève," 1843, with dates 1843, 1943 on each stamp, and also above both with posthorn between. The stamps are green on grey-green miniature sheet with white border. The sheet is printed with a scale-like pattern. On top, ribbon with dates and posthorn, as on stamp; bottom, initials GEPH; on three sides, in French (bottom), German (left), Italian (right) inscription reading "Le centenaire des timbres-poste-Suisses," etc. Face value 5c + 5c. sold at 3 f. to the benefit of the Swiss Red Cross.

1944—the following stamps have been issued:—

(1) Jubilé Olympique: three values: 10c yellow, 20c purple, 30c blue. Validity still unknown (put on sale 15th June). (2) Fête nationale: four values, instead of two as usually (except 1938-39, one only and 1940, four).

(3) Set commemorating 25 years Swiss air post. Different types of commercial aircraft used in Switzerland. I only know three values, 20c, inscribed in Italian 1919 Posta Aerea Svizzera 1944; 30c, 1919 Poste Aérienne Suisse 1944, and 1.50, 1919 Zurich-Genève-Zurich 1944 (in ribbon); above ribbon 20.9.1944 (I think there has been a special flight), colour of the 1.50, grey (on buff? centre only, not paper), 1919 and 1944 in red; Swiss shield in right corner (bottom). Put on sale on 1.IX.44; validity until 31.V.45 only.

(4) Charity set: four values as usually; 10c, 20c and 30c; flowers as 1943 issue (but different); 5c portrait of Numa Droz, former President of the Swiss Confederation, born in 1844. The colour of the 5c is a different shade of green than usually.

On February 17th of this year I got a very interesting cover. Letter sent by air mail with the following stamps: 90c ord. 2—air mail; and bloc of 4 of the 10+10 National Feast, with *wrong date on postmark* 19.IX.43. I think this is a very rare curiosity.
France.

On December 27th, 1943, I got a letter from Corsica with the following stamps: 50c (old type), Algeria reissued (Vichy), without R.F.;

4.—blue Algeria (Vichy), arms design, and 4.50 grey (type Marianne of Algeria, but inscribed POSTES only instead of Postes ALGERIE).

Recently I got a cover (letter sent 2.XII.44, from Paris) with the following stamps: 50c Mercure type, blue-green, inscribed (top) Postes Françaises, instead of République Françaises. No inscription at bottom, and 4fr. Iris type of 1939-40 inscribed Postes (on top) and République Françaises (bottom). The early issue was only for the values 80c to 1.50. May be the stamp was prepared before the Armistice, but not issued by the Vichy Government.

AUCTION REALISATIONS

We have received from Messrs. H. R. Harmer, their 19th Annual Résumé. This contains numerous notes of interest to collectors and also contains a résumé of prices realised at their Stamp Auctions held in London and New York for the season 1943-44. The following are some of the prices realised:—

Basutoland, 6d. Official, used, £60.

Bechuanaland, 1887, £5 O.G., £19.

Cape of Good Hope, 1855-58, 6d. Slate Lilac S.G. 7 (unused with enormous margins all round), £20.

Cape of Good Hope, 1855-58, 1s., bright yellow-green (S.G. 8) (superb used), £23.

A used block of four of similar stamps, £40.

Cape of Good Hope, 1855-58, 1s., deep dark green (S.G. 8a), a block of 8 with large margins, £110.

Cape of Good Hope Woodblock 1s., carmine, used (S.G. 13a) (slight thinning), £40.

Cape of Good Hope 1d., deep carmine-red (S.G. 18), block of 8 with large margins, £44.

Egypt, Birthday £1 (S.G. 295), a mint vertical strip of 3, £27 10s.

Egypt, Port Quad Set (S.G. 185-188), all O.G., £39.

Great Britain Silver Jubilee 2½d. Prussian Blue, marginal unmounted mint copy, £45.

St. Helena, 1934 Centenary Set in mint blocks of 4, £57 10s.

Sierra Leone: 1933 Wilberforce Set, used on pieces, £50.

South Africa, 1926, ½d. black and green, a superb O.G. tête-bêche paid (S.G. 30a), £45.

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5 France, Committee of Liberation ..	£1 7 6
4 Poland Montecassino cpl.	£1 2 6

EMPIRE

1 India 1926, 15 Rupees (218) used	17 6
6 Bahawalpur 1945, ½a. to 1 R. mint	8 6
16 Idar State, 1945, ½a.—4 as. mint in booklet sheets of four	5 0
13 Nepal 1907-1935, 2 pice—1 rupee, used	7 6
3 Egypt 1925 Geographical cpl. used	£1 15 0
17 Australia 1937/44, ½d. to 5s. fine used	7 6

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PHANTOM STAMPS

Has any South African reader got a copy of F. J. Melville's book "Phantom Stamps"? The Editor would appreciate a loan of it.

MONTHLY PHILATELIC BULLETIN

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CORRESPONDENCE

The Editor,
"South African Philatelist."

MAFEKING S.G. 11C.

Sir,—Once more we are indebted to Dr. Freund for a valuable contribution to our philatelic knowledge.

His explanation of the setting of the double surcharges, one inverted, on Mafeking No. 11C is I think sound and unassailable.

But there is a matter arising out of his article which has been in my mind for some time and which I think might well be discussed and ventilated. It is whether these "errors" are genuine or deliberate.

Dr. Freund comments on the *paucity of errors* in the Mafeking surcharges. On the contrary one may express surprise at their number. Seven errors in a total of fifteen issues (nearly fifty per cent.) can hardly be described as a few.

I cannot agree with Dr. Freund that there was hardly any thought for stamp speculation then because there were advertisements in the "Mafeking Siege Mail" from would-be purchasers and also for the reason immediately below.

The late siege postmaster was evidently a philatelist, and seeing that the bulk of these errors come from his collection or accumulation it is hardly uncharitable to come to the conclusion either that the errors were deliberate and/or that he took advantage of his position to remove them before sale to the public.

I can help Dr. Freund to locate Copy No. 1; I bought it and it is now in the British Museum Collection.

Yours, etc.,

EDWARD MOSELY.

AUSTRALIA

Duke of Gloucester Commemorative set 3 mint complete (Blocks pro rata)	1/6
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Imprint blocks	10/0

NEW ZEALAND

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" overprinted official ..	11/6

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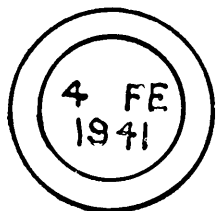
EAST AFRICAN ARMY P.O. AND CENSOR MARKS

ARMY P.O. MARKS

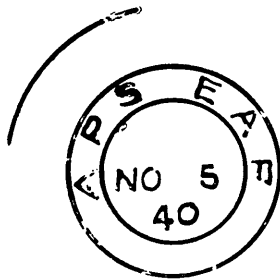
Little information has been published about this group of postmarks since the beginning of 1942, when Mr. Tunstall gave some additions to the illustrated list published in our issue of August, 1941. Since then a few more additions have come our way, but as few, if any, more seem likely to come. The time appears appropriate for a short summary of the data available up-to-date. Perhaps some of these P.O.'s are now functioning as far afield as Burma but the recording of these will have to be done by others who have access to the material.

The first five of the following types appear to have been early or temporary marks used mainly before the standard or permanent type (No. 6) was introduced. (The letters in brackets after the numbers refer to the types as they were given in the August, 1941 article referred to above):

1. (d) Is stated by Mr. Tunstall to have been used as early as 1939; it has been seen dated as late as 30/6/41. All marks in black.



1 (d)



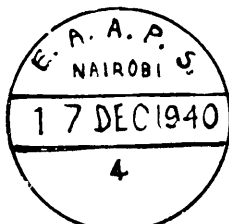
2 (a)

2. (a) Seen with dates ranging from 18/3/40 to 31/1/41. All in black.

3. (b) According to Mr. Tunstall there are only Nos. 1 and 2. Dates seen 28/10/40 to 7/1/41. All in black.



3 (b)



4 (c)

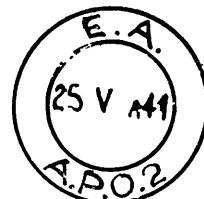
4. (c) Nos. 3, 4, 6 and 8 known, all Nairobi. There is also a Nairobi one with "Base, registered" in place of a number; this appears

to have been used in A.P.O. No. 2 (Type 6). There may have been a No. 9 but its existence is not definitely confirmed and no confirmation has come forward of this type with Mombasa in place of Nairobi. Dates 16/11/40 to 28/1/41. All in violet, but No. 6 also seen in black.

5. (e) Only No. 8 has been recorded, with date 1/2/41, in violet.



(5) (e)



6 (f)

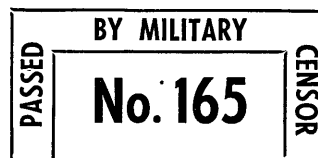
6. (f) The definitive type. Earliest dates seen are No. 55 of 15/2/41 and No. 2 of 20/2/41. Numbers recorded are 2 20 51 52 53 55 56 57 58 59 60 61 62 63 64 65 66 67 69 71 74 75 83 84 85 86 88 and 89. All marks in black with the exception of No. 57 in slate-blue (only one specimen seen). Locations at one time or another: No. 2, Nairobi; No. 52, N. Rhodesia; Nos. 53, 59 and 64, Madagascar.

Two other marks may be mentioned, one specimen of each having been seen: (a) A double circle mark, outer circle double-lined 40 mm. in diameter; wording between the circles is "ARMY SIGNALS/E.A.F." Date in one line across the centre, 6 SEP 1941. (b) Possibly an East African mark, a double circle, outer one 32 mm. in diameter; apparently no wording between the circles, merely a cross at the bottom. Date in the centre between chords, in two lines, 4 JUN 41/8 a.m.

CENSOR MARKS

Following is a list of Censor marks seen on correspondence from East Africa, mostly during the years 1940-43. The first half-dozen or so are approximately in the order of frequency of occurrence in the material which has been accessible; of the others only one or two of each have been seen. From the wording of the marks it will be seen that some obviously belong to the East African Forces, some to South African, etc.; others give no definite clue as to the force to which they belong, all that can be said is that they were in use in East Africa. Even the term "East Africa is delightfully vague. It might include anything from Tanganyika in the south to Eritrea in the north, and from Zanzibar or Somaliland in the east to Uganda or the Sudan in the west.

1. A frame of this shape—



Several sizes, but running around 40 x 20 mm. "Passed/by military/Censor" in the frame, a number in the enclave with, usually but not always, a signature below it. In washed-out violet or grey-black, violet, purple, red or blue.

2. Like No. 1, but with the enclave closed in below and divided horizontally into two compartments. A number in the upper compartment and, usually, a signature in the lower one. In violet.

Nos. 1 and 2 sometimes are accompanied by an additional mark in the form of a rectangle 18 x 15 m.m. with the wording "O.H.M.S./No. (same number as the Censor's)/Military/Franked." This mark may also be found alone without a Censor mark.

3. Rectangle about 40 x 20 mm. with "Passed by Censor/M.F.F. No. 353 U.D.F./Goedgekeur deur/Sensor." In violet, purple or black. Many different numbers seen.

4. Rectangle about 60 x 25 mm. with "Passed by Base Censor/E.A. No. . . . /Deur Hoofsensur Goedgekeur." In red.

5. Like No. 1 but with "E.A." above the number. In violet or blue.

6. Rectangle about 60 x 22 mm. with "Passed by Sub Base Censor/E.A. No. . . . /Deur Onder Hoofsensur/Goedgekeur." In red.

7. Like No. 2 but with "And Postal Frank" in the lower compartment. In grey-black.

8. Double rectangle, outer one about 45 x 23 mm. "Passed/by Military/Censor / E.A. Forces" between the lines. A number in the centre. In purple or violet.

9. A rectangle 55 x 15 mm. with "Passed by Base Censor/E.A. No. . . ." In red or

violet.

10. On Officer's signature in manuscript only.

11. A square of about 29 mm. with "(Eagle)/R.A.F./Censor/ (Number.)" In grey-black, purple or violet.

12. Similar wording to No. 11, but inside a hexagon. In violet.

13. A circle 29 mm. in diameter with "Unit Censor/India" inside the circumference and "Y 2" in the centre. In violet. This mark was on a cover franked with mixed British and Kenya stamps, and there was also a censor's mark of Type 9.

14. A rectangle about 55 x 37 mm. with "Deputy Chief Field/Censor/Received from A.P.O./3 Jun 3/Returned to A.P.O./4 JUN." All in red except the last date which is in purple.

15. A double-lined circle of 44 mm. diam. with "Deputy Chief Field/Censor/Received from A.P.O./11-12-1943/Returned to A.P.O./12 DEC 1943." In violet. This mark is on a cover with the original postmark E.A. Type 6, No. 51; there is a previous censor's mark of E.A. type 5, No. 1/46, and the cover is backstamped with an E.A. Type 6 mark, No. 2 of date 12-XII-43.

Censor's Seal.

Only one seen. White paper about 90 x 27 mm. with "Opened by Base Censor" printed on it in black. Tied to the cover by a censor's mark of Type 9 above.

Any additions to these lists of East African postmarks and Censor's marks will gladly be recorded.

J. H. HARVEY PIRIE.

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JOHANNESBURG

A VICTORY CANCELLATION

Britain was well to the fore with a Victory cancellation—a V superimposed on two swinging bells of triumph and the wavy lines of the canceller showing the V in morse, . . . —. First information, from the Windsor Stamp Co., indicated 10 May as "first day," but later news shows that at some places it was used on V-E Day, 8 May.

S. RHODESIA—COLOURED POSTMARK

Mr. J. F. Davidson, Bulawayo, reports that for several months the postmark of the Filabusi P.O. (a double circle mark with "Filabusi/S. Rhodesia" and the date across the centre in one line) has been in purple ink, both cancelling stamps and as a back-stamp. Suspicion has been aroused among Rhodesian collectors that it might be a fiscal cancellation.

It is perfectly genuine and used by the postmaster because his stock of black ink was so bad that it would not give proper impressions. Before starting to use it he got in touch with headquarters and was informed that there were no regulations forbidding the use of purple ink.

BELGIAN CONGO

The latest Bulletin of the Cercle Philatélique de Leopoldville is full of troubles over matters such as the increase in the issue of the special Red Cross issue, with its tremendous overcharge for the Society, and the special sale of stamps for the benefit of leftist funds. Such troubles, we fear, are almost inevitable when stamps are issued for other than purely postal purposes, and it is not for the good of philately to have such issues.

There is also recorded the purchase in Johannesburg of French Equatorial stamps with forged surcharges; the source of these, however, appears to have been traced to Elizabethville, but not, so far, to any definite individual.

Forged inverted Ruanda-Urundi overprints are also recorded and described.

RECENT BRITISH COLONIAL PERFORATIONS

In the "Philatelic Magazine" of 20th April, Mr. A. H. Harris gives a simple account of perforation changes in war time stamps. He adopts a half-millimeter as the normal limit of differentiation, separates the stamps according to their printers, and, when stamps in a set differ in shape, lists the short-side perforation first.

Four private firms and three Government Departments have shared in the production of K.G. VI stamps, but only in the case of Messrs. Waterlow & Sons and Messrs. De La Rue & Co., have perforation varieties been introduced (due to enemy action upsetting the consistency of their machines).

Of Waterlow's productions certain stamps of the following countries show varieties:—Br. Guiana, Cayman Is., Grenada, Jamaica and St. Lucia.

Of De La Rue's there are again certain stamps of Barbados, Gibraltar, Cayman Is., Ceylon, Hong Kong, Kenya, Montserrat and Sudan.

The Sudan are the rarest (3 p on 3½ p, 3 p on 7½ p and 5 p on 10 p) which occur either as 11½ x 12½ or as 14. The Kenya stamps are the most confusing; Mr. Harris gives the following list but admits the possibility of there being others:—

13 x 11½: 5c 10c, 50c, 1s., 3s.
13: 1c, 15c, 20c, 30c, 3s., 5s.
13 x 13½: 1c, 15c, 20c, 30c, 2s., 5s., 10s.
14: 10c, 20c, 30c, 2s., 5s., 10s., £1.

SOMALIA—M.E.F. AND E.A.F.

"Stamp Collecting" clears up some of the darkness which has prevailed as to the postal services of Italian Somaliland since its occupation:

The veto on overprinted Italian Somaliland stamps after the occupation of Mogadishu (or Mogadiscio) early in 1941 left the territory without either stamps or a postal service other than the A.P.O.'s of the occupying forces.

A civil postal service was instituted on 13th April, 1942, with five post offices operating; the stamps supplied were British stamps overprinted M.E.F. (first London printing), five values: 1d., 2d., 2½d., 3d. and 5d., retailed in E. African currency at 9c, 17c, 21c, 25c and 42c respectively.

These were in use till 14.1.43 when existing stocks were ordered to be returned to the British P.M.G., and on the following day a new series of British stamps overprinted E.A.F. were put in use. These, with their equivalent local price were: 1d. (10c), 2d. (20c), 2½d. (25c), 3d. (30c), 5d. (40c), 6d. (50c), 9d. (75c), and 1s. (100c).

This set is still in use, the postmarks are those of the former Italian administration or, occasionally, E.A. A.P.O.'s (especially No. 74) which appear still to be functioning there.

NEW REPUBLIC AND NATAL

In his article on "South African Combination Covers" published in our issues of January and February, 1943, Mr. A. E. Basden states that Transvaal and Natal stamps could be purchased in New Republic post offices for prepayment of letters proceeding beyond the border. He records four specimens of covers with New Republic and Transvaal stamps, but none with Natal stamps. It may be noted that in a recent Postal History auction, Messrs. Robson Lowe, Ltd., put up two pieces showing the combination of New Republic stamps with those of Natal.

CHANNEL ISLANDS

The press reports that owing to the shortage of penny stamps in Guernsey in December, 1940, the Germans ordered twopenny stamps to be cut in half. They tried to corner the supply of bisects but the islanders were too clever for them. Specimens genuinely used by the inhabitants are now fetching £5 or more, whilst the German "racket" specimens are going at about £2.

(Concluded from page 84)

During the evening Mr. J. Robertson notified the members of some items of interesting philatelic news. A new Gibbons' Empire catalogue was expected to arrive in South Africa within a month. The Belgian Congo Red Cross issue had been so much oversubscribed that no applicant had received more than three sets.

An auction for war funds realised the sum of £2 9s. An amendment to the Constitution of the Society was passed by the necessary two-thirds majority. This amendment was to increase by a small amount the subscriptions payable by members. As all members obtain a copy of the "S.A. Philatelist" monthly, which is paid for by the Society, they still get very good value for their subscriptions.

+

I.I.

NEWFOUNDLAND

The following extract from "The Stamp Lover" of January-February, 1945, should be of interest to collectors of Newfoundland stamps:—

"Writing in "Meekel's Weekly Stamp News," Hubert Lyman Clark discloses that he was offered recently some blocks of early Newfoundland stamps genuinely used in 1944. A letter of enquiry to the Postmaster of St. Johns elicited this reply: "I beg to acknowledge your letter of September 5th, 1944, with reference to some unused copies of our postage stamp issue of 1862. I wish to advise, provided these items are not cancelled and not mutilated to any great extent, they are acceptable as franking at their face value."

"This information may cause a flurry in the dovescots, because all values of the 1861-62 series are priced in the catalogues at substantially more in used condition than unused. However, there should be no difficulty in distinguishing between the old-time postmarks (to which the catalogue prices refer) and the modern ones. Another point of interest is that the face value of the 1861-62 series is in shilling and pence, whereas the present currency is cents and dollars. A prevalence of headaches among postal clerks can be visualised if many of the early issues are used on correspondence."

The "tip" in the above article as to the postmarks on used specimens applies equally to those issues of Union stamps (none of which are demonitized although all pre-Union issues are), where the used are priced more than unused, particularly in the airmails and the Jubilees. The date in the postmark is of particular importance.

E. BLUM

P.O. BOX 1669

CAPE TOWN

recommends his services to Dealers and Collectors alike for Selling and Buying stamps from all countries. Price List now ready and can be sent to applicants free on demand. Collections and Accumulations bought for spot cash. Highest prices paid. Established in South Africa since 1930. First class references.



A SAN FRANCISCO STAMP

The U.S.A. Postmaster-General announced on 10th April that a special stamp would be issued on 25th April in honour of the opening on that day of the United Nations Conference at San Francisco. The stamp is of the size and shape of the "Flag" stamps, of 5c denomination, printed in blue. The design is a simple one; at the bottom there is "5c United States Postage" with a small branch of laurel above it. The main design was originally meant to read simply "Toward/United Nations/April 25, 1945," in 3 lines. With the death of President Roosevelt, a last minute change was made by adding his name as a tribute to the great statesman to whom the Conference owed its inception.

BURMA

Military administration stamps are being issued in the following denominations: 1p, 3p, 6p, 9p, 1a, 1½a, 2a, 2½a, 3a, 3½a, 4a, 8a, 1R, 2R, 5R and 10R. No other details yet.

—Windsor Stamp Co.

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

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

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DISTINGUISHED FEATURES OF THE FRAME PLATES OF THE RECTANGULAR STAMPS OF THE UNION

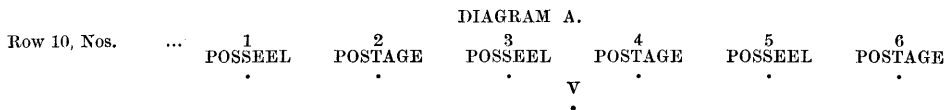
PRINTED BY BRADBURY, WILKINSON & CO., LTD.

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

The transverse rectangular pictorial stamps of the Union of South Africa which were recessed-printed from intaglio steel plates by Bradbury, Wilkinson & Company, Limited, comprised seven denominations, each in a different design, vide Gibbons' illustrations Nos. 11 to 16. Six thereof appertained to the bi-coloured category and were dual-printed from separate frame plates and from separate vignette plates, namely, 2d. (Union Buildings), 3d. (Groote Schuur), 1s. (Gnus), 2s. 6d. (Ox-wagon inspanned), 5s. (Ox-wagon outspanned), 10s. (Cape Town and Table Mountain), and the remaining one to the monocoloured category, namely, the 4d. (Native Kraal) printed solely from combined frame and vignette plates.

The stamps of the seven denominations cited afore were inscribed in English and Afrikaans

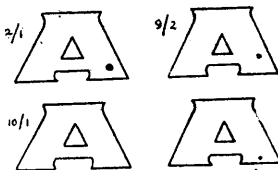
alternately throughout the sheet, and were issued initially in sheets of 120 units. Each 120-contained sheet was divided into two panels of 60 each arranged in 10 horizontal rows of 6. On each sheet the horizontal top margins and the vertical lateral margins were plain as well as the vertical gutter which separated the said panels; the horizontal bottom margins showed the printer's imprints and minute guide-dots, not always readily visible to the naked eye. With certain exceptions, each sheet showed 12 such guide-dots so arranged that on the bottom margin of each of its concomitant panels six guide-dots appeared approximately 4mm-5mm distant from the bottom edges of the six stamps which formed the bottom horizontal row No. 10 of the panel and which are represented in sextuple by the words "Posseel" and "Postage" alternately in the following diagram:



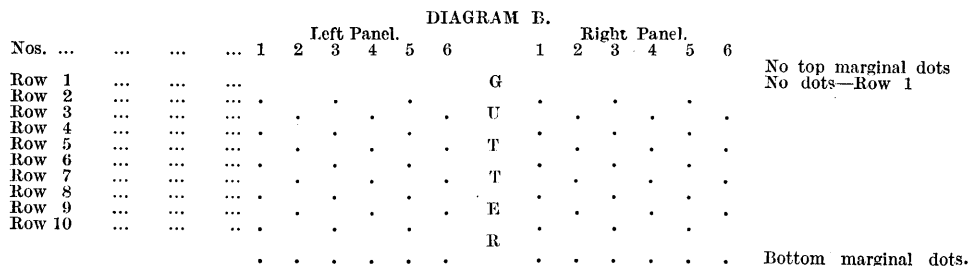
Of the six guide-dots per panel indicated afore in Diagram A, Nos. 1, 3 and 5 appeared vertically and alternately below the second "S" of "POSSEEL" on each Afrikaans inscribed stamp of Row 10 anent each denomination, whilst Nos. 2, 4 and 6 appeared vertically and alternately below the "T" of "POSTAGE" on each English inscribed stamp of Row 10 anent each denomination. A seventh guide-dot per panel appeared vertically below the letters "V and/or E" of the word "ENGRAVERS" included in the printer's imprint. On certain plates of the 2d. and 1s. denominations the guide-dots were omitted. In addition to the seven external marginal guide-dots per panel, in positions as limned in Diagram A, apropos to the 1s. denomination internal guide-dots were disclosed on certain Afrikaans inscribed stamps which were printed from the

first frame plate of this denomination. The frame designs of the 1s. denomination which were printed in blue showed their text matter in white. A blue dot appeared on the right limb of the first "A" of "AFRIKA" part of the name "SUIDAFRIKA" lettered in white on each Afrikaans inscribed stamp alternately throughout a 120-set issue sheet but with the exceptions of those located in the first horizontal row of each of its concomitant panels. Thus out of 60 Afrikaans inscribed stamps on a 120-set issue sheet, 54 thereof exhibited such blue dots which will be referred to in this monograph as "A" dots. An "A" dot did not form part of an Afrikaans inscribed stamp frame design. The "A" dots were printed from minute hollows or holes which were made in the steel plate before the frame designs were imparted to it in recess by a hardened steel transfer-roller which held the frame design anastatic in quadriform, negative, and alternately engraved in English and Afrikaans.

If a print had been taken on to a blank sheet of paper from the said steel plate at this stage before the said frame designs were rolled-in then the external marginal guide-dots and the internal "A" guide-dots would have been



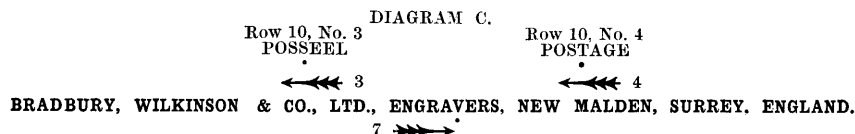
shown printed in the positions as per the following diagram:



Incidentally, the dots anent Rows 2-10 in the foregoing Diagram B represent also the disposition of the 54 "A" dot Afrikaans inscribed stamps on a printed 120-set issue sheet. On a printed sheet the "A" dots differed one from another as regards size and location within the limb of the said "A" of "AFRIKA." All "A" dot stamps of the 1s. denomination emanated from FRAME PLATE 1 and not from FRAME PLATE 2. I own a first day cover with "A" dot 1s. stamps affixed thereto. The minute hollows or holes were made in Frame Plate 1 incipiently as guide points for the consecutive positional adjustments of the said plate when it was placed on the bed of the transfer-press immediately below the affixed transfer-roller which imparted to the said plate the succession of quadriform impressions in recess of the frame designs. It is interesting to note that the "A" dot plate of the 1s. denomination of the Union of South Africa made by BRADBURY, WILKINSON & COMPANY, LIMITED, in 1926 or 1927 bears analogy to the "C" dot plate of the 5 cents denomination of Canada made by the AMERICAN BANK NOTE COMPANY in

1859, as regards internal and external-marginal guide points adduced afore. Coloured "C" dots appeared in the "C"s of "Cents" lettered in white on each stamp of a 100-set sheet of the "Beaver" design, and these "C" dots also showed variations as regards size and location.*

An entirely separate negative die which comprised the requisite text matter was utilised for transferring the printer's imprint to the frame plates of the six bicoloured denominations and to the single plates of the mono-coloured denomination in each instance in a position subjacent to the third and fourth vertical rows of images of each 60-set panel per plate, and also subjacent to the horizontal alignment of guide-dots Nos. 1 to 6, with guide-dots Nos. 3 and 4 respectively, in various positions, according to the different plates of the different denominations, in the vicinities above the letters "K" and/or "I" and/or "N" of "WILKINSON" and the letters "U" and/or "R" of "SURREY" of the printer's imprint, with guide-dot No. 7 in the vicinities below the letters "V" and/or "E" of "ENGRAVER," thus:



The negative printer's imprint die was not entered intaglio in each instance with the same positional exactitude in relation to marginal guide-dots Nos. 3, 4 and 7, and accordingly originated slight positional differences which enable imprint pairs or blocks of stamps of the same denomination to be separated as the products of different plates (in this monograph—the frame plates) after taking into consideration also differences of shade and gauges of perforation. This method of separation was adopted owing to the absence of marginal plate numbers on the issue sheet. The data cited hereunder have been compiled from items in the writer's collection. The collaboration of Union Specialists is invited in order to check up the following data and to bring to light any missing items, through the "South African Philatelist."

1s. Denomination

PA1. Guide-dot 3— $\frac{1}{2}$ mm above upper diagonal limb of K. of Wilkinson.

- A2. Guide-dot 4— $\frac{1}{4}$ mm above centre of U of Surrey.
- A3. Guide-dot 7 and another dot— $2\frac{1}{2}$ mm below VE of Engravers.
- PB4. Guide-dot 3— $\frac{1}{4}$ mm above KI of Wilkinson.
- B5. Guide-dot 4— $\frac{3}{8}$ mm above right limb of U of Surrey.
- B6. Guide-dot 7— $2\frac{1}{2}$ mm below and midway between V and E of Engravers.

The items with numbers prefixed A and B are applicable to imprint pairs of stamps from the A and B panels of FRAME PLATE 1, 120-set in two panels of 60 each. In this monograph FRAME PLATE 1 has been referred to as the "A" dot plate. Stamps from FRAME PLATE 1 were perforated to the gauges of 14 x 14 and 14 x 13 $\frac{1}{2}$.

*Vide London Philatelist, Apr. 1939, "SOME PHASES OF THE CANADA '59 ISSUE," by Senator J. A. Calder.

PA7. Guide-dot 3—1mm slightly to left above I of Wilkinson.

A8. Guide-dot 4— $\frac{1}{2}$ mm above UR, about midway, of Surrey.

A9. Guide-dot 7— $2\frac{1}{2}$ mm below V of Engravers. PB10. Without guide-dot 3.

B11. Without guide-dot 4.

B12. Guide-dot 7— $2\frac{1}{2}$ mm below V of Engravers.

The items with numbers prefixed A and B are applicable to imprint pairs of stamps from the A and B panels of FRAME PLATE 2, 120-set in two panels of 60 each. Stamps printed from FRAME PLATE 2 do not show the "A" dots, and the marginal guide-dots are somewhat smaller in size than those from Frame Plate 1. Stamps printed from FRAME PLATE 2 were perforated to the gauge of $14 \times 13\frac{1}{2}$ mm. The Official-Offisiel overprint $17\frac{1}{2}$ - $18\frac{1}{2}$ mm reading down was applied to stamps from FRAME PLATE 2, perforated 14×13 .

3d. Denomination

PA13 Guide-dot 3— $1\frac{1}{2}$ mm above K of Wilkinson.

A14 Guide-dot 4— $1\frac{1}{2}$ mm above centre of U of Surrey (smaller dot).

A15 Without guide-dot 7.

PB16 Guide-dot 3—1mm above upper diagonal limb of K of Wilkinson.

B17 Guide-dot 4—1mm above centre of U of Surrey (larger dot).

B18 Without guide-dot 7.

The items with numbers prefixed A and B are applicable to imprint pairs of stamps from the A and B panels of FRAME PLATE 1, 120-set in two panels of 60 each. Stamps printed from this plate were perforated to the gauges of 14×14 and $14 \times 13\frac{1}{2}$.

4d. Denomination

PA19 Guide-dot 3— $\frac{1}{2}$ mm slightly to the right above I of Wilkinson.

A20 Guide-dot 4— $\frac{1}{2}$ mm slightly to the left above R of Surrey.

A21 Guide-dot 7— $2\frac{1}{2}$ mm below V of Engravers.

PB22 Guide-dot 3— $\frac{1}{2}$ mm to the left above N of Wilkinson.

B23 Guide-dot 4— $\frac{1}{2}$ mm above R of Surrey.

B24 Guide-dot 7— $2\frac{1}{2}$ mm below and midway between V and E of Engravers.

The items with numbers prefixed A and B are applicable to imprint pairs of stamps from the A and B of panels of PLATE 1, 120-set in two panels of 60 each. Stamps printed from PLATE 1 show the perforations 14×14 .

PA25 Guide-dot 3— $\frac{3}{4}$ mm slightly to right above I of Wilkinson.

A26 Guide-dot 4— $\frac{3}{4}$ mm slightly to right above right limb of U of Surrey.

A27 Guide-dot 7— $2\frac{1}{2}$ mm and another dot 1mm below V of Engravers.

PB28 Guide-dot 3—1mm slightly to the right above I of Wilkinson.

B29 Guide-dot 4—1mm midway above UR of Surrey.

B30 Guide-dot 7—2mm below and midway between V and E of Engravers.

The items with numbers prefixed A and B are applicable to imprint pairs of stamps from the A and B panels of PLATE 2, 120-set in two panels of 60 each. Stamps printed from PLATE 2 show the perforations $14 \times 13\frac{1}{2}$.

2d. Denomination

PA31. Guide-dot 3— $\frac{1}{2}$ mm above KI of Wilkinson.

A32. Guide-dot 4— $\frac{3}{4}$ mm above right limb of U of Surrey.

A33. Without guide-dot 7, but dot immediately below V of Engravers.

PB34 Guide-dot 3— $\frac{3}{4}$ mm above I of Wilkinson.

B35. Guide-dot 4— $\frac{3}{4}$ mm midway above UR of Surrey.

B36. Without guide-dot 7.

The items with numbers prefixed A and B are applicable to imprint pairs of stamps from the A and B panels of FRAME PLATE 1, 120-set in two panels of 60 each. Stamps from FRAME PLATE 1 were perforated to the gauge of 14×14 . Stamps printed from FRAME PLATE 1 are slightly larger transversely than stamps printed from FRAME PLATE 2. The Official-Offisiel overprint $17\frac{1}{2}$ mm reading upwards was applied to stamps printed from FRAME PLATE 1, perforated 14×14 .

PA37. Without guide-dot 3.

A38. Without guide-dot 4.

A39. Guide-dot 7— $2\frac{1}{2}$ mm below V of engravers.

PB40. Guide-dot 3—1mm above upper diagonal limb of K of Wilkinson.

B41. Guide-dot 4—1mm above centre of U of Surrey.

B42. Guide-dot 7— $2\frac{1}{2}$ mm below V of Engravers.

PC43. Guide-dot 3— $1\frac{1}{2}$ mm above upper diagonal limb of K of Wilkinson (L).

C44. Guide-dot 4— $1\frac{1}{2}$ mm above centre of U of Surrey (L).

C45. Guide-dot 7— $2\frac{1}{2}$ mm below V of Engravers (L).

PD46. Guide-dot 3— $1\frac{1}{2}$ mm above upper diagonal limb of K of Wilkinson (R).

D47. Guide-dot 4— $1\frac{1}{2}$ mm above centre of U of Surrey (R).

D48. Guide dot 7— $2\frac{1}{2}$ mm below V of Engravers (R).

The items with numbers prefixed A, B, C and D are applicable to imprint pairs of stamps from the A, B, C and D panels of FRAME PLATE 2, 240-set in four panels of 60 each. Stamps printed from FRAME PLATE 2 were perforated to the gauges of 14×14 and $14 \times 13\frac{1}{2}$. Items C43—45 relate to a left-hand panel without the "Split d" variety, Row 8, No. 2, whilst items D46—48 relate to a right-hand panel with the said variety. The Official-Offisiel overprint 19mm reading upwards was applied to stamps overprinted from FRAME PLATE 2, perforated 14×14 and $14 \times 13\frac{1}{2}$.

2s. 6d. Denomination

PA49. Guide-dot 3— $\frac{5}{8}$ mm slightly to left above I of Wilkinson.

A50. Guide-dot 4½mm slightly to left above R of Surrey.

A51. Guide-set 7—2½mm below V of Engravers.

PB52. Without guide-dot 3.

53. Without guide-dot 4.

54. Guide-dot 7—2mm below AV, midway, of Engravers.

The items with numbers prefixed A and B are applicable to imprint pairs of stamps from the A and B panels of FRAME PLATE 1, 120-set in two panels of 60 each. Stamps printed from FRAME PLATE 1 were perforated to the gauge 14x 14. The Official-Offisiel overprint 17½-18½mm reading down and also the 18mm overprint with thin type were applied to stamps from FRAME PLATE 1. No imprint pairs have been examined with the perforation gauging 14 x 13½, and it has not been ascertained, hitherto, whether a second frame plate was utilised.

5s. Denomination

PA55. Without guide-dot 3.

A56. Without guide-dot 4.

A57. Guide-dot 7—2½mm below V of Engravers.

The numbered items prefixed A are applicable to imprint pairs of stamps from one of the panels of FRAME PLATE 1, 120-set in two panels of 60 each. The pairs of imprint stamps examined from FRAME PLATE 1

were perforated to the gauges of 14 x 14 and 14 x 13½. From corner pairs of stamps with both gauges of perforation which have been examined, it would appear that a second frame plate was not utilised.

10s. Denomination

PA61. Guide-dot 3—Next to I at bottom, between K and I of Wilkinson.

A62. Guide-dot 4—Next to upright limb of R, between U and R. of Surrey.

A63. Guide-dot 7—2½mm below E of Engravers.

PB64 Guide-dot 3—Immediately below I of Wilkinson.

B65. Guide-dot 4—Immediately below upright limb of first R of Surrey.

B66. Guide-dot 7—(not discernible owing to perforations).

The items numbered and prefixed A are applicable to imprint pairs of stamps from one of the panels of FRAME PLATE 1, 120-set in two panels of 60, and perforated to the gauge of 14 x 14. The items numbered and prefixed are applicable to an imprint pair in my collection perforated to the gauge of 14 x 13½, and very likely emanates from FRAME PLATE 1.

The final paragraph of my paper printed on page 33 of the "S.A. Philatelist" of March, 1944, is amended thus:

I have allocated stamps in my collection as follows:

Denomination.	A (14 x 14) Across.	B (14 x 13½) Downward.	C (14 x 13½) Upward.
2d.	Plate 1		
2d.	Plate 2	Plate 2	Plate 2
3d.	Plate 1	Plate 1	
4d.	Plate 1	Plate 2	Plate 2
1s.	Plate 1	Plate 1	
1s.		Plate 2	Plate 2
2s. 6d.	Plate 1	Plate 1	
5s.	Plate 1	Plate 1	Plate 1
10s.	Plate 1	Plate 1	

COLLECTORS' WANTS AND OFFERS

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

Seychelles and Sierra Leone fine used copies wanted. Particularly Edward and George. High prices willingly paid.

William Redford, Box 7012, Johannesburg.

Wanted: Transvaal, Natal, Cape, O.F.S., Bechuanaland, Gambia, St. Helena, Egypt, France. Picked copies, rarities and varieties, also 9,000 items for world collection up to 1933 issues. E. Hunt, Box 2437, Johannesburg.

Captain Priest, P/B. Marandellas, Southern Rhodesia, offers Rhodesians and British Colonials. Send want list.

Wanted. Airgraph Xmas greetings from various service units—any theatre of war. State price and description to G. N. Gilbert, Box 15. Westminster.

Transvaal, Griqualand West, O.F.S. covers and rarities wanted by A. E. Basden, Killarney, Brickhill Road, Durban.

Wanted: Airstamps (Used) and airmail labels of all countries.

Dr. C. L. L. Murray, Kuilsrivier, Cape.

For Service, promptness and satisfaction.

Benoni Stamp Shop, Box 485, Benoni. Phone 54-1692.

SOCIETY NEWS

PORT ELIZABETH PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

President, G. K. Forbes; Hon. Sec., Mr. D. G. Y. Malcolm, P.O. Box 458; Meetings, Room 8, City Hall Basement, at 7.45 p.m., 1st and 3rd Tuesdays.

1st June: The meeting was a large gathering.

It was decided at the general meeting that for the future the display should be shown at the beginning of the meeting, so that members could have time to scrutinise the specimens.

19th June: Mr. Forbes showed 50 pages of his well-known collection of Newfoundland and Nova Scotia. The collection is well worth seeing and extends from the first issues until the present time; the only gaps being a few extreme rarities. There were several pages of specimen stamps which were very interesting.

Three new members were enrolled and three more proposed.

It was with deep regret we heard of the passing of one of our members, Mr. C. A. Coetzee, and the president asked all members to stand as a gesture of sympathy. A wreath and condolences were sent to Mrs. Coetzee.

There was a small auction which was very enjoyable and the packages were quickly sold.

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L.E.C.

PRETORIA PHILATELIC SOCIETY

President, Lt.-Col. G. Lance Horne; Hon. Secretary, H. A. Wager, P.O. Box 514; Meetings, 1st and 3rd Mondays, 8 p.m., Technical College.

4th June: Mr. Oppenheim in the chair. Dr. Broom showed some more discoveries in old Transvaal stamps, this time in the 1d. Black of 1883.

Mr. T. M. Winsley read a paper on Malaya. He tackled this enormous area in a workmanlike manner and described how the different states had come into being and under what jurisdiction they came. In nearly all the states the first issues of stamps were stamps overprinted. Later each state issued its own stamps, although stamps of all the states could be interpostally used. Centenary commemoratives of some states which were now due had been held up by the Japanese invasion. Mr. Winsley had been in these parts for a considerable time so his talk was very realistic and interesting. To illustrate his paper he showed a very extensive collection of the stamps of the different states.

18th June: Mr. F. C. Ferguson in the chair. Mr. H. N. B. Hawke read a paper on the Levant with special reference to Syria. He enumerated the different countries that had established Post Offices in the Levant and gave an account of the different stamps used, nearly all of them being overprinted or surcharged. He then described the difficulties that had arisen over the settlement of Syria after the last war, and especially the differences that had arisen between Syria and France, although France, after much discussion had been granted the mandate over Syria. Mr. Hawke drew attention to the similarity of the conditions that existed in Syria after the last war and those that existed at the present time, both connected with France.

Stamps of the Levant were tabled by Mr. Hawke and

+

H.A.W.

EAST LONDON PHILATELIC SOCIETY

President, Mr. A. Watson; Hon. Secretary, Mr. S. F. Fowler, P.O. Box 183, East London; Meetings, Colosseum Building, 2nd Fridays, 7.45 p.m.

Nineteen members and one visitor were present at the June meeting. Membership cards were distributed to those present and one new member was elected.

The report of the committee on sundry matters was submitted and approved by the meeting.

Various interesting items were passed round for inspection, including the British Victory Bells postmark, pairs of Kenya 70c on 1s. showing perfs. out of alignment, etc.

Mr. T. A. Harper then exhibited about 100 sheets, selected from his collection of early imperforate issues; these were studied with great interest.

The condition throughout was very good for this class of stamp, and among the items of interest shown, the

following are worthy of mention:

Superb copies of the 1d. black Great Britain on entires, with black and red postmarks, one dated 9th May, 1940.

Gambia no watermark and C.C. Victoria first types. "Registered" and "Too Late." Belgium first issue, including S.G. 8 (double figures).

France 1849 15c, 40c and 1F superb.

Spain including S.G. 58 (inverted frame).

Russia S.G. 1.

Wurttemberg 18 kr, Hanover, Mecklenburg-Schwerin, Italian States, Greece Paris prints and many others.

The display was followed by the usual auction, a good many lots finding purchasers.

During the evening a competition was held, the specimens for which had been kindly loaned by the president of the Philatelic Society of Natal. The winner was Mr. J. Hoal, one of our younger members. Mr. Harper promised to arrange another competition for the next meeting.

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T.A.H.

THE PHILATELIC SOCIETY OF NATAL

President, Mr. A. L. Bevis; Hon. Sec., G. Milner; Palmer, P.O. Box 588, Durban; Meetings, 1st and 3rd Wednesdays at London Assurance House, 319 Smith Street (in the rooms of the Durban Camera Club, top floor), 7.30 p.m.

The meeting held on 6th June was well attended. Mr. W. H. Winde's notes were read; members are still pleased to listen to these, not having tired of hearing his voice yet.

The monthly competition was run by our president, and he exhibited the stamps concerned after the competition. This was won by Mr. J. Lyle with ten correct answers. If the Editor has room perhaps he will publish it and readers can see what they can do.

It is hoped that the new edition of the S.A. Hand Book will be available before the end of the year. Display was by Mr. A. L. Bevis consisting of a variety of East African Empire and Foreign Stamps. This display was well received and particularly glowing remarks were passed regarding the manner in which the stamps were set out and the headings together with details of the countries.

I hear that our Society has invited the S.A. Philatelic Federation to hold its next Congress in Durban about October, 1946. The usual auction was held and was well patronised. New members are coming along to swell our Society, but there is room for many more.

W.H.W.

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THE PHILATELIC SOCIETY OF JOHANNESBURG

President, Mr. E. C. Sprighton; Hon. Secretary, Mr. J. Robertson, P.O. Box 4967, Johannesburg; Meetings, 2nd Tuesdays, Public Library, Johannesburg, at 7.45 p.m.

The annual general meeting of the Society was held on 12th June. The retiring president, Mr. F. J. H. Lang, presented the report of the previous year. It had been a successful year: the meetings had been well attended and the Society had raised over £250 for war funds by its exhibition at the "Speed the Victory Fair" held in November-December, 1944. In addition other moneys had been raised for war funds at the auctions at monthly meetings, and also by means of donations.

The retiring hon. secretary, Mr. L. Buchen, the hon. treasurer, Mr. M. Jecks and the hon. exchange superintendent, Mr. J. W. Schubert, also presented reports. They showed the Society to be in a sound position.

Before retiring from the presidential chair, Mr. Lang announced that the Executive had awarded the Lang Silver Cup for this year to Dr. J. H. Harvey Pirie. This cup (originally presented by Mr. J. H. Lang) is awarded annually by the Executive to the member of the Society considered to have best furthered the interests of the Society and of philately generally during the past year.

The elections for the honorary officers and committee for 1945-46 resulted in the following Executive: elected: President, Mr. E. C. Sprighton; vice-president, Mr. L. Buchen; hon. secretary, Mr. J. Robertson; hon. treasurer, Mr. M. Jecks; hon. exchange superintendent, Mr. J. W. Schubert; hon. publicity officer, Mr. I. Isaacs; members of committee, Messrs. W. Redford, F. E. Ingham and Gordon Brown. In addition, Mr. F. J. H. Lang and Dr. J. H. Harvey Pirie are ex officio members of the Executive as being past presidents during the preceding three years.

(Continued on page 79)

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THE PHILATELIC FEDERATION OF SOUTHERN AFRICA

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AUGUST, 1945.

Whole No. 245.

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The Philatelic Federation of Southern Africa

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AUGUST, 1945.

Whole No. 245.

THE PHILATELIC FEDERATION OF SOUTHERN AFRICA

A meeting of the Executive of the Federation was held at Johannesburg on July 17, 1945, under the chairmanship of Mr. A. E. Basden.

The views of constituent societies had been received as to the raising of the subscriptions to the "South African Philatelist." In accordance with the views of the majority of the Societies the Executive agreed as from July 17, 1945, single copies of the "Philatelist" should be 9d., whilst the annual subscription should be 8s. The honorary business manager, Mr. Redford, reported that there was no prospect of printing costs being reduced for the next few years.

The Executive has accepted the invitation of the Philatelic Society of Natal to hold Congress at Durban in October, 1946. This will be the first post-war Congress.

The Executive will be pleased to consider invitations from constituent societies for the holding of Congress for 1947. Invitations should be submitted to the hon. secretary, Mr. I. Isaacs, 910 His Majesty's Buildings, Eloff Street, Johannesburg.

The hon. editor of the "South African Philatelist", Dr. J. H. Harvey Pirie, will be much obliged if all papers of interest which are read at society meetings are submitted to him for publication in the "Philatelist." It is the policy of the "Philatelist" to publish as much as possible of original research work particularly regarding countries included in Southern Africa.

Constituent societies may now send in to the hon. secretary any resolutions, notices of motion and any other matters of interest they wish to have discussed at the 1946 Congress. The following extracts from the Constitution

of the Federation are given for the benefit of constituent societies:

Rule 4: Every affiliated society may be represented by delegates at the annual Congress as follows:

- (a) Each society under 25 members by one delegate.
- (b) Each society of 25 members and under 50 members by two delegates.
- (c) Each society of 50 members and under 75 members by three delegates.
- (d) Each society of 75 or more members by four delegates.

Rule 5: Any philatelist present at Congress may speak with the permission of the chairman but only the official delegates, not more than six members of the local executive committee and members of the Permanent Executive Committee shall be entitled to vote and such votes must be registered personally.

Rule 21: Papers entered for competition must be original and never have been published.

Rule 24: Awards will be made for papers on the following subjects, viz.:

- (1) The Southern African Philatelic Research award for the best original research paper on any South African Philatelic subject.
- (2) For the best original research paper on any subject not eligible for (1).
- (3) For the best paper on any general philatelic subject, and any other paper the Permanent Executive Committee may decide upon.

NYASALAND

A catalogue of a recent H. R. Harmer Inc.'s sale in New York illustrates what appears to be an uncatalogued variety of the "cheque-book" stamps. This is a vertical pair with the oval centre entirely missing from the upper one.

AIRGRAPH SERVICE TO CEASE

An airgraph from Messrs. Francis J. Field, Sutton Coldfield, England, dated 19.6.45, says "This is probably one of the last airgraphs to be despatched from Great Britain to South Africa." Official notice has since stated that the service (both ways) ceased on July 31.

UNION POSTCARD FLAW

Mr. C. Calitz has independently reported three postcards with the first of the flaws recorded by Mr. Currell in our July issue. As the same stamp cylinder is used for all the pictorial postcards, it is of course reasonable to expect that the flaw should turn up on any or all of the picture varieties.

SIERRA LEONE

The 5d. value is to be demonetized on 1.1.46. It is already off sale at the Crown Agents, but any stocks left in the Colony will remain on sale to the end of the year—if there are any.
—Windsor Stamp Co.

SWITZERLAND.

A set of 13 stamps (5c to 10fr) was issued on 9th May to commemorate the coming of peace in Europe (quick work!), also a Red Cross Pax stamp 5c+10c on the same day.
—Windsor Stamp Co.

S.W.A. OVERPRINTS ON "BANTAMS"

Mr. O. Lohff, of Walvis Bay, draws attention to an interesting feature about the spacing of the overprint on the 2d. Bantam. It would be interesting to know if a similar feature occurs on other denominations, but here follows what he has to say about it on the 2d. and the observation can be confirmed from specimens submitted.

"The overprints in general are 8 mm. apart (from the A of one to the S of its neighbour on the left), with the exception of the space in the centre of the sheet which is 10 mm. wide. A continuous spacing of 8 mm. would gradually move the overprint from the centre of the stamp towards the left-hand side and on to the white frame. As it is, the 2 mm. allowance does not quite make up the slight variation, and I have a sheet on hand showing the overprint starting slightly off centre to the right on the first stamps and the 10 mm. spacing bringing the overprint so far to the right that the A of SWA on the 7th, 8th and 9th stamp is printed on the white perforation strip, the 10th, 11th and 12th showing the A gradually coming back into the coloured portion of the stamps.

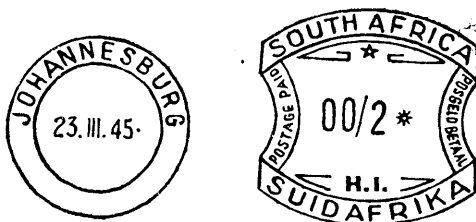
I enclose a sample showing the opposite, the first stamp being overprinted slightly to the left bringing the overprint on the 6th stamp (centre) directly to the edge. Then comes the 10 mm. space bringing the overprint on the next (7th) stamp back towards the centre of the stamp.

While most pairs of this issue thus show the overprint spaced 8 mm. apart, all centre-pairs have it 10 mm. apart, which might be of interest to collectors."

Mr. Lohff also submitted a 3d. stamp showing the C of Africa with a white dot on top of it, giving the impression of a bigger type C having been used. Is this variety already known and is it of any interest? (Whether it is of much interest or not would appear to depend on whether it is a constant feature or not. Will Union and S.W.A. collectors keep a look-out?—Ed.)

NEW TYPE OF METER STAMP

Herewith an illustration of the new type of meter stamp in use in the Union, briefly chronicled last month:



It is a "Hasler" (hence the key letter H). So far, only H 1 is known, issued on 15.1.45 to Messrs. V. Gokal and Co., Johannesburg. The machine is a multivalve one and has been in the country for some time, as there are specimen impressions extant dated early in 1940 showing a solid rectangular block from which the H 1 was probably cut. Thanks to Messrs. G. W. Hockey and R. Axer for additional information.

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and many others.	

SUBSIDIARY-DIE CHARACTERISTICS AND WATERMARK POSITIONAL VARIATIONS OF THE UNION 4d. TRIANGULAR STAMPS

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

The imperforate triangular 4d. postage stamps were issued initially as single units enclosed in sealed packets on 1st January, 1926. Each packet imprinted "60—4d. postage" contained sixty English inscribed stamps, whilst each packet imprinted "60—4d. posseel" contained sixty Afrikaans inscribed stamps. All stamps which emanated from such sealed packets were guillotined by the printers from 120-set sheets. On or about 15th April, 1926, these stamps were issued in 120-set sheets, i.e., the English inscribed stamps in sheets of 120 units each and the Afrikaans inscribed stamps in sheets of 120 units each.

The stamps were recessed-printed from curved intaglio steel plates by Bradbury, Wilkinson and Company, Limited. The stamps were printed in pairs base to base with a 7 mm. wide separating margin which extended diagonally downwards from left to right, whilst vertical and horizontal margins $6\frac{1}{2}$ mm. wide separated each pair. A 120-set sheet exhibited six pairs vertically and ten pairs horizontally, namely 60 pairs, when such sheet was held in the position which showed the multiple springbok head watermarks in normal upright positions. Two plates were used: one 120 set (60 pairs) for the English inscribed stamps, and one 120-set (60 pairs) plate for the Afrikaans inscribed stamps.

A flat primary or master-die of steel was engraved intaglio and negative with the emblematical figure of "Hope" in sitting posture and reclining on an anchor on a quasi engine-turned background, the corner embellishments, and the three embellished allotments for the ultimate engraved text matter on the secondary dies. From the said siderographic master-die, two secondary flat dies of steel were produced by means of a primary cylindrical steel transfer-roller; both of these dies were intaglio and negative, anonymous and undesignated, and replicas in every respect of the master-die. Subsequently the words "POSTAGE," "FOUR PENCE," and "SOUTH AFRICA" were engraved on one of the secondary dies, now designated the "E" die, and the words "POSSEEL," "VIER PENNIES" and "SUIDAFRIKA" were en-

graved on the other secondary die, now designated the "A" die. Thereafter, from the said "E" die, two separate impressions were taken up by a secondary cylindrical steel transfer-roller, and likewise, from the said "A" die, two separate impressions were taken up by the same transfer-roller. Thus the secondary cylindrical transfer-roller held two pairs of impressions on its periphery, anastatic and positive, and replicas in reverse respectively of the secondary flat dies "E" and "A," intaglio and negative. One of the said pairs of impressions picked up base to base and now designated "E1" and "E2" had their text matter in English, whilst the other pair of impressions also picked up base to base by the transfer-roller and now designated "A1" and "A2" had their text matter in Afrikaans. Finally from the said secondary transfer-roller, anastatic and positive, two flat steel plates were produced, intaglio and negative, now designated the "E" plate and the "A" plate. The "E" plate received 60 binary impressions (60 E1 and 60 E2) which made it 120-set, and similarly the "A" plate received 60 binary impressions (60 A1 and 60 A2) which made it 120-set. These flat plates were bent around solid cylinders for use on a rotary-plate printing machine.

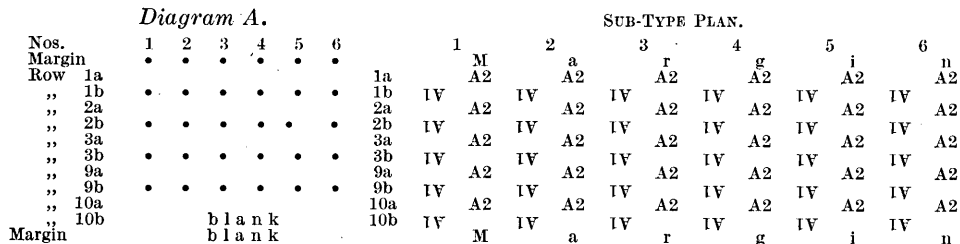
Certain portions of the anastatic or raised lines of design of the impressions on the secondary cylindrical transfer-roller sustained very slight damage, and consequently originated certain correlative intaglio defects after rolling-in entries on each of the two intaglio printing plates. Each defect was multiplied 60 times on each plate, namely, Plate "E" and Plate "A." Accordingly, the resultant blemishes on the printed stamps due to the said defects together with certain outer and inner marginal guide dots, evolved a mode of differentiating the sub-types of stamps designated E1, E2, A1 and A2 hereafter. Of course, these sub-types E1, E2, A1 and A2 have their geneses in the secondary cylindrical transfer-roller subsidiary-dies "E1," "E2," "A1" and "A2" referred to afore, and to minute holes or hollows in the respective plates.

The following is a synopsis of the subsidiary-die and guide-dot indications on—

- (1) English inscribed stamps
 - Sub-type E1—Guide dot in inner margin $\frac{1}{4}$ mm. midway above "O" and "S" of the word "Postage."
 - " E2—No guide-dot above "O" and "S" of "Postage."
 - " E2—Guide-dot in outer top margin $6\frac{1}{2}$ mm. above "O" of "Postage."
- (2) Afrikaans inscribed stamps
 - Sub-type A1—Guide-dot in inner margin 1 mm. to the right above "O" of "Posseel."
 - " A2—No guide-dot above "O" of "Posseel."
 - " A1—White areola or dash 1 mm. below left limb of first "N" of "Pennies," due to absence of intaglio line.
 - " A2—No white areola or dash as afore.
 - " A1—White areola or dash contiguous to arm immediately above elbow resting on anchor.
 - " A2—No white areola or dash as afore.
 - " A1—No blur or weakness as below.
 - " A2—Very slight blur or weakness on curved line of colour above first "N" of "Pennies,"

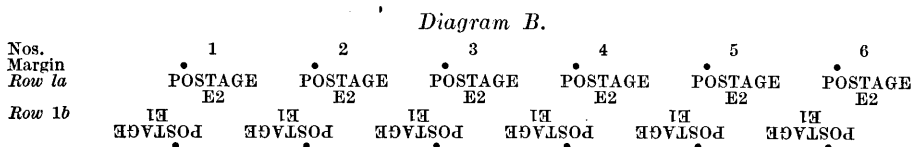
The guide-dots were printed from minute hollows or holes which were made in the steel plates before the impressions of design were imparted to the said plates by the secondary transfer-roller. On the printed sheets of stamps these guide-dots are not readily visible

to the naked eye. If prints had been taken on to sheets from the "E" and "A" Plates before the designs were rolled-in then the guide-dots would have been shown printed on such sheets in the following positions:—



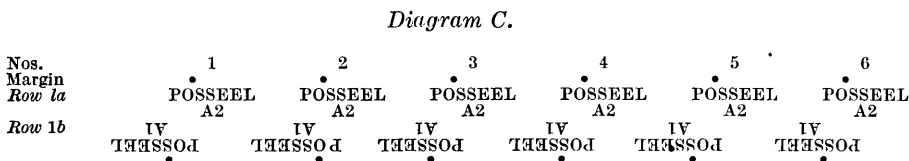
The foregoing Sub-type Plan is ancillary to the foregoing Diagram A, and should be read in conjunction with Diagram C as well as the remarks preceding the sketches in Fig. A and Fig. B, further on in this monograph, anent the normal and inversive positions of the word "POSSEEL."

The following Diagram B shows the positions of the guide-dots relative to the positions of the sub-type stamps of the first horizontal row of pairs of stamps of an "E" sheet:—



Guide-dots appeared on the top margins, in each instance approximately 6 1/4 mm. above an "O" of "Postage." No guide-dots appeared above the letters "O" of the words "Postage" in Row 10b and none appeared on the bottom margin. See Diagram A and Sub-type Plan afore.

The following Diagram C shows the positions of the guide-dots relative to the positions of the sub-type stamps of the first horizontal row of pairs of stamps of an "A" sheet:—



Guide-dots appeared on the top margins, in each instance approximately 4 mm. above an "O" of "Posseel." No guide-dots appeared above the letters "O" of the words "Posseel" in Row 10b, and none appeared on the bottom margin. See Diagram A afore and Sub-type Plan.

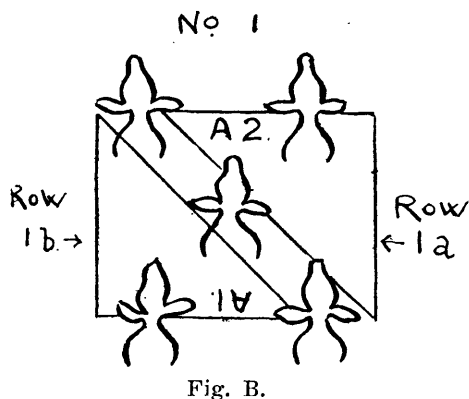
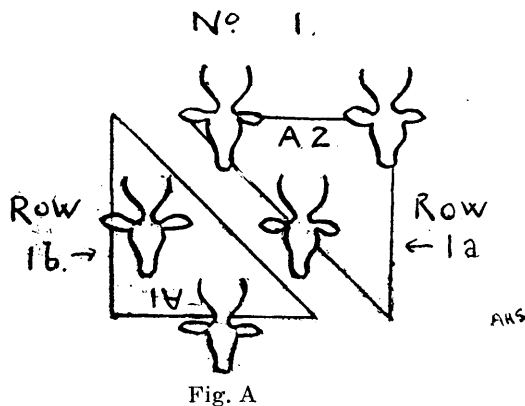
watermarks in normal upright positions or in positions inversive to normal (inverted watermarks) but not in sideway positions, then the letters of the words "Postage" and "Posseel" appear inverted or upside-down, as shown in Diagrams B and C in respect of all E1 and A1 sub-type stamps. See also the Sub-type Plan ancillary to Diagram A.

Thus it will be observed that each sheet contained 54 guide-dots, each one superjacent to the letters "O" and "OS" of "Posseel" and "Postage" on each A1 and E1 sub-type stamp, respectively, of horizontal Rows 1 to 9, and 6 guide-dots on its top margin. When a sheet of stamps, English inscribed or Afrikaans inscribed, is held in a position showing its

The following sketch represents:—

Fig. A.—The positions of a pair of stamps from the top left corner of a sheet of stamps with Afrikaans inscriptions and with the watermarks in normal upright positions.

Fig. B.—The positions of a pair of stamps from the top left corner of a sheet of stamps with Afrikaans inscriptions but with the watermarks in positions inversive to normal (inverted watermarks).



In Fig. A and in Fig. B, sub-type stamp A2 is represented as emanating from horizontal Row 1a and vertical Row 1, and sub-type stamp A1 from horizontal Row 1b and vertical Row 1. See representation of complete horizontal Row 1a and 1b in Diagram C and the Sub-type Plan adjacent to Diagram A. Also sub-type stamp A2 is shown as a right-angled triangle with "A2" representing the word "POSSEEL" in normal upright position, whilst sub-type stamp A1 is shown as a right-angled triangle with "A1" representing the word "POSSEEL" in inverted position.

From the foregoing Figs. A and B it is very patent that the watermarks are distinguishable.

- (1) When pairs of stamps base to base (or blocks) are viewed with the word "POSSEEL" in normal and horizontal position anent the upper stamp (or stamps) sub-type A2—
 - (a) Watermarks normal.
 - (b) Watermarks inverted.
- (2) When pairs of stamps base to base (or blocks) are viewed with the word "POSSEEL" in normal and horizontal position anent the upper stamp (or stamps) sub-type A1—
 - (a) Watermarks normal.
 - (b) Watermarks inverted.

- (3) When a single stamp is viewed with the word "SUIDAFRIKA" and its base-line in normal and horizontal position and the word "POSSEEL" in diagonal position on the left:—

- (a) On Sub-type A1 stamps—noses of bucks pointing to the word "Posseel"—Fig. A.—From normal watermarked sheets.
- (b) On Sub-type A1 stamps—horns of bucks pointing to the word "Posseel"—Fig. B.—From inverted watermarked sheets.
- (c) On Sub-type A2 stamps—horns of bucks pointing to the word "Posseel"—Fig. A.—From normal watermarked sheets.
- (d) On Sub-type A2 stamps—noses of bucks pointing to the word "Posseel"—Fig. B.—From inverted watermarked sheets.

The foregoing variations have been dealt with as applicable to stamps with Afrikaans inscriptions. These watermark variations have been found applicable to the English inscribed stamps. In my collection it has been observed that the inverted watermarked stamps are in the minority. I should like to hear from Union specialists, per the "South African Philatelist," as to which of the two watermark types they have found to be the scarcer.

COLLECTORS' WANTS AND OFFERS

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Seychelles and Sierra Leone fine used copies wanted. Particularly Edward and George. High prices willingly paid.

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Transvaal, Griqualand West, O.F.S. covers and rarities wanted by A. E. Basden, Killarney, Brickhill Road, Durban.

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STUDY YOUR COUNTRY'S STAMPS

NYASALAND

The new set, previously foreshadowed, will be issued on September 1. They are mainly pictorials; denominations as in present issue.

RHODESIA

At a recent sale by H. R. Harmer in London a mint horizontal strip of three of the 1s. Victoria Falls of 1905, imperf. between (S.G. 97a cat. price of pair £50) fetched 100 guineas. Other scarce Rhodesian items in the same sale also went for big prices.

NORTHERN RHODESIA

"Stamp Collecting" lists the release of new N. Rhodesia printings by the Crown Agents in April of this year. Here are the colours with (in brackets) the colour of the previous release in May, 1944; the most striking difference is in the 1½d. which is now orange in place of yellow-brown; ½d. deep green as in 1942 (pale green); 1d. deep reddish brown (deep brown); 1½d. orange (deep yellow brown); 2d. dull carmine red (carmine red); 3d. deeper ultramarine (deep ultramarine); 4d. deep violet as in 1944 (pale violet); 6d. (grey); 1s. deeper black and yellow brown (black and yellow brown); 2s. 6d. deep green and black (green and black); 3s. pale blue and pale violet (blue and violet); 5s. deep mauve and grey (mauve and slate grey); 10s. greyish black and green (greyish black and green); 20s. deep purple and pale scarlet (purple and scarlet).

CHANNEL ISLANDS

According to the "Philatelic Magazine" the "Arms" stamps of Guernsey and Jersey, and the pictorial stamps of Jersey (which, it is now learnt, were printed in Paris) have been recognised as valid for postage by the British P.O. One has even been seen posted at Plymouth, receiving the Victory Bells postmark.

"Stamp Collecting" quotes some interesting facts about the stamps, taken from a "Catalogue and Handbook of the Stamps of the Channel Islands" compiled and just published on the spot by Mr. E. J. Baker, of Guernsey.

AUSTRALIA

A correspondent in Australia writes that used copies of the Duke and Duchess commemoratives are being bought up so feverishly that it is difficult to get any stock of them.

TIPS

"Sagesse," in the "Stamp Magazine," recommends the following, from an investment point of view: (1) The forthcoming Burma military administration set, 16 values, 1 p. to 10 R. (2) Australian Duke and Duchess set, also the current 5s., 10s. and £1 values, which will shortly be obsolete. (3) S. Rhodesia 1940 Jubilee set. (4) S. African and S.W.A. Coronations, of which supplies are about exhausted. (5) Zanzibar Al Bu Said set, which has not much longer to run.

U.S.A.

Sales of the San Francisco Conference stamp, first day and later, have beaten all American records.

Although this stamp may in a sense be said to have been a Roosevelt memorial, there is to be issued shortly a series of four (1, 2, 3 and 5 cents), each with a portrait of the late President. On the three lower values there will be, in addition, respectively the White House, the so-called Little White House at Warm Springs, Georgia, and the Roosevelt home at Hyde Park. The design of the 5c is not finally decided, but it has been suggested that it should be one showing the late President's world-wide interest.

Following the Roosevelt series will come a set in honour of the Armed Services. Suggested designs are the raising of the Stars and Stripes at Iwo Jima for the Marines; the Remagen Bridge across the Rhine for the Army; a scene at the Annapolis Academy (this year being the 100th anniversary) for the Navy; an Atlantic convoy for the Merchant Marine, and a rescue at Sea for the Coast Guard.

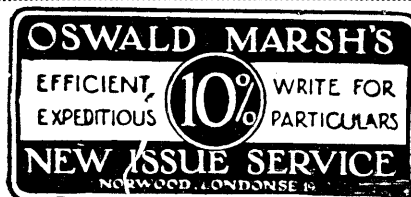
GERMANY

A.M.G. stamps appear to have been in use since about March 19, the first place of use being in the Aachen area. The stamps are just about as attractive as those previously issued for use in Italy and in France. They were printed by lithography in America. The main feature is a large Gothic "M" in white upon an oval colour. There are figures of value in the upper corners with "A.M. Post" between them; at the bottom is "Deutschland," and "Pfennig" runs vertically down either side. So far nine denominations are reported, from 3 to 25 pf.

"Linn's Weekly" reports that a special ward was opened in December in the Charite (Berlin's biggest hospital) for stamp collectors who had gone crazy through frantic efforts to keep their war stamp collections up to date.

O.F.S. 2½d. STAMPS—CORRECTION.

A correction was made in our June issue to Mr. Rich's article which appeared in the April issue, but unfortunately a second correction was omitted (there must have been a philatelic gremlin about!). On p. 41, col. 2 where it says "Roman 1 and Antique 2 in ½" but better described as "1 over 2," this last should be I over 2." The sight-recognition character in the "½" is I, not 1. The same misprint occurs again lower down in describing the variety of the "I over 2" with ordinary 2.



THE BROKEN PLATE OF THE MAFEKING BADEN-POWELL STAMP

By DR. K. FREUND

One of the most striking and fascinating stamp varieties is the so-called "Broken Plate variety" of the Mafeking Siege "Baden Powell" stamp. It is hardly even seen; in fact, it is such an elusive item that nothing but mere statements of its existence have appeared until now, mostly incorrect statements at that, as we shall see. A clear description has never been given yet.

The general lack of any particulars about this variety has caused Stephen G. Rich in his recent book "Philately of the Anglo-Boer War" to go so far as to suspect that the variety probably exists "on counterfeits only (p. 54).

It is the purpose of this article, therefore, to give for the first time a clear description of the variety.

A Variety of the LARGE Plate.

Some writers presume that the variety occurred on the smaller B.P.-plate. F. Melville (Cape Handbook, 1906, pp. 80, 95), B. W. H. Poole (S.A. War Provisionals, 1901, p. 39) and L. N. & M. Williams ("Stamp Review," Nov., 1937) are of this opinion. The latter explained to me in a letter that seeing there were two plates of the B.P. stamp, first a smaller one (SG. 19, 20), later a larger one (SG. 21, 22), the smaller one must have been the one which broke, thus necessitating the second plate.

This is not correct. The smaller plate never broke nor cracked during the printing period, as the late siege postmaster, Mr. J. V. Howat, has confirmed to me. He also told me that the only reason for the issue of the large plate was the consideration that it would be an improvement in appearance on the first small-sized stamp. Here are some particulars in this regard:

The small 3d. B.P. stamp was the first Mafeking Blue to be issued (7.4.00). The issue of a 1d. (Cyclist) stamp was also contemplated, but a trial printing of it in a similar small size did not show well the details of the design, so a large 1d. was the definite issue three days later (10.4.00). The consideration that this large 1d. stamp showed off well and that a higher denomination like the 3d. B.P. stamp should certainly not be of smaller size than the 1d., led to the manufacture of the large B.P., which appeared also on the 10th April, 1900, together with the 1d. Cyclist issue.

Cause of the Crack.

During printings from this large B.P. plate a mishap occurred to Mr. D. Taylor, the photographer, who was in charge of manufacturing the blue stamps: *He dropped the negative glass plate accidentally and broke it.*

It has been alleged that the damage was done purposely to create a unique variety for speculative reasons. Such discredit is definitely not justified. One cannot imagine that the creator of the plate, after exerting himself in the laborious task of manufacturing it, should take the risk of smashing the glass plate and his whole work to bits, in order to have a possible variety. It can safely be assumed that the photographer was not philatelically "trained" enough to expect a smashed plate to be a special attraction for philatelists. To handle a glass plate and work with it, is in general a delicate job, and if one considers that the printings were made under extraordinary circumstances and at times of heavy bombardment, one can understand that there could hardly have been any thought of stamp speculation, and that there was every excuse for an accident as happened.

To understand the complicated process of manufacturing another plate again (which would have been the third), was found unnecessary, as the frame holding the plate and the printing paper during printings, could equally well hold together the *broken* glass plate without complications.

Description of the Crack.

The crack (break) went right across the plate, affecting mainly the middle row of stamps. Here is a diagram (Fig. 1) of a complete sheet, indicating the exact position of the crack:

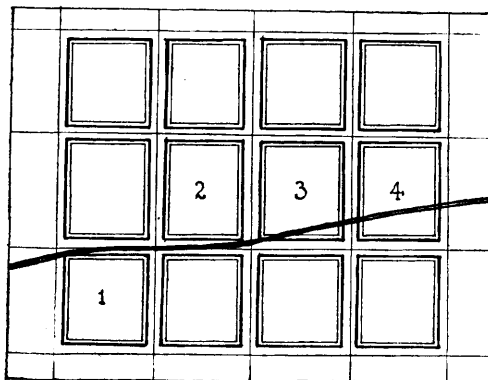


Fig. 1 (reduced from natural size).

As can be seen, the following four stamps of a sheet show the crack (in each case *slanting*):

- Row 3 No. 1 (on left top margin)
- Row 2 No. 2 (on bottom margin)
- Row 2 No. 3 (on bottom of stamp picture)
- Row 2 No. 4 (across stamp picture)

Thus, there are four *difference varieties of position* of the crack. It must be noted, however that positions 1 and 2 are hardly ever recognised on single copies, as the crack runs in these positions mostly through the line of perforation, or very close to it (see sketch).

The following illustration (Fig. 2) shows these positions 1 and 2 in a block of six stamps (left half of sheet):



Fig. 2.

When the two parts of the broken glass plate were placed into the printing frame, they were not necessarily fitted neatly in relation to each other, so that one can notice certain *displacements*. These displacements are not so much noticeable in positions 1 and 2, as the break does not interfere here with the stamp pictures, but they are more evident in position 3 (see Fig. 3), and very pronounced in position 4 (see Fig. 4). The frame lines of the stamp picture are out of alignment where the two parts are placed against each other.

Besides the four varieties of position, there are also *varieties of width* of the crack (break). On some copies the crack has the appearance of a *very narrow* gap (see Figs. 3 and 4), on other copies it appears *wide*, showing as a comparatively thick white line (see Fig. 5).

These varieties of width have led to some theories about "stages" in the development of the crack:



Fig. 3.



Fig. 4.



Fig. 5.

(Same position as in Fig. 3, but *wide* crack.)

The So-called "Rejoined" Plate.

Melville (pp. 80, 93), for instance, believes that the glass plate was just cracked originally, having in mind copies with a narrow gap like in Figs. 3 and 4, and that during printings the crack progressed until at last the negative broke altogether (wide gap like in Fig. 5). L. N. & M. Williams ("The Stamp Lover," Jan.-Feb., 1944) are of similar opinion.

Poole (p. 69) on the other hand, presumes that the plate first cracked and broke, regarding copies like Fig. 5 as the first stage, and that at a later stage the two loose parts were *rejoined*, believing that copies like Figs. 3 and 4 show such a join.

Both theories are wrong; in particular there was never any "join."

The fact that there are "displacements" on *all* copies, i.e., with the wide as well as with the narrow gap, indicates that there could not have been just a "cracking" at the beginning, but that there must have been a break into two parts right away at the accident, as cannot be expected otherwise in the flat glass plate.

With regard to the supposed "join," the thin black lines (see in Figs. 3 and 4) have probably been mistaken for that. But as one can see in Fig. 5, these black lines appear partly also on the wide-gap copies. These black lines were caused by *prismatic refraction* due to the irregularity of the glass plate at the edges. Anyway, there was no reason why the printings from the two glass parts should have been interrupted and a join administered, seeing that the printing frame

could hold the two parts comfortably and that the printings, actually made from them, were quite successful.

Summarising, there are *no stages* in the development of the crack, but only the varieties of *narrow* and of *wide* breaks, caused by the *inconsistency of the distance* between the two glass parts in the printing frame.

Two Sizes of the Large B.P. Stamp.

There are two different sizes of the large B.P. stamp in existence, on both of which the "crack" variety is represented.

Although these two sizes have occasionally been reported, they have been wrongly ascribed to different *plates*. In reality, the slightly smaller size (23 mm., against the normal 24 mm.) was caused through *shrinkage of the paper* on account of *dampness* during the printing process. The width is in both cases the same, as paper always shrinks in one direction.

The "crack" variety, as mentioned, can be found on normal-sized as well as on the slightly smaller-sized stamps.

Quantity of Copies.

Now, the question most at heart will naturally be: How many printings were actually made altogether from the "broken" plate? Unfortunately, this cannot be ascertained any more. The late Mr. D. Taylor did not leave us any particulars in this regard. According to some information I received, for which, however, I cannot vouch, five stamp sheets were printed altogether after the accident, meaning 20 copies in all affected by the break. (The reproduced copies, another single and a vertical strip of three are in the writer's collection.)

Although I pass this information on with all reservation, I must say that according to my experience and to extensive enquiries this figure is most probably correct.

Concluding, I would like to emphasise that there is hardly any other error or variety of such striking and pronounced appearance, and at the same time with such a "clean record," as the "broken B.P. plate." Only the lack of any information until now has apparently kept it from attaining catalogue status.

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THE WINDSOR STAMP COMPANY
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The Editor,
"South African Philatelist."

A NATAL FAKE

Sir,—In February, 1945, a collector in Indiana, showed me a stamp from a collection bought in England in 1920, which appears to be a hitherto unknown variety. It appears to be an inverted overprint of the Natal 1s. green with carmine overprint "POSTAGE" in a semicircle, issued in 1870 (Gibbons No. 57).

Comparison, using microscope as well as high power hand lens, with six copies of the 1870 1s. with normal green overprint and some 20 copies, including blocks, of the 1s. orange of 1888 with the same overprint, shows several aberrancies. In the inverted overprint, the O is round, not oval; the A larger than the other letters; the E has all three horizontals of equal length instead of the centre one short.

Under the microscope the overprint appears to be very carefully hand-drawn or hand-painted. The "carmine" colour is really an orange-red. It was skilfully worked on, so that determination of whether the overprint or the cancellation is on top where they meet, has not been feasible.

Cancellation is the common numeral 2 in grid, weakly struck. Traces of two more strikes of cancellation appear near top and bottom. This copy has lower right corner missing and also a large thin spot; perfs. cut design at left and nearly touch it at bottom. I am suggesting to the owner that he mark the stamp "False overprint" indelibly on its back.

Yours, etc.,

STEPHEN G. RICH.

(Concluded from page 96)

THE PHILATELIC SOCIETY OF JOHANNESBURG.

President, Mr. E. C. Sprighton; Hon. Secretary, Mr. J. Robertson, P.O. Box 4967, Johannesburg; Meetings, 2nd Tuesdays, Public Library, Johannesburg, at 7.45 p.m.

At the July meeting Mr. A. Gladstone exhibited his fine collection of Russian stamps. The exhibit included the earliest Tsarist issues as well as the most recent Soviet commemoratives.

The Charity stamps of both regimes were shown, the rare 1905 issues being included. Some of the stamps were most unusual issues. Thus there were the "Philately for Children Stamps" of 1922 sold for one day only at Moscow, and stamps sold only at the Philatelic Bureau. The exhibit included some miniature sheets as well as some "locals." The exhibit was well mounted on black paper.

During the evening Mr. Isaacs read some notes of philatelic interest and showed a cover which had been posted at Rome on 31st December, 1944, addressed to Johannesburg and which was franked with the old stamps of the Fascist regime.

Four new members of the Society were elected during the evening. The usual auction on behalf of war funds was held, and good prices were realised.

I.I.

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THE PHILATELIC SOCIETY OF NATAL

President, Mr. A. L. Bevis; Hon. Sec., G. Milner; Palmer, P.O. Box 588, Durban; Meetings, 1st and 3rd Wednesdays at London Assurance House, 319 Smith Street (in the rooms of the Durban Camera Club, top floor), 7.30 p.m.

The July meeting was well attended. Our good old friend Mr. P. C. Bishop, who has left us for the old country, wrote a particularly pleasing letter thanking the Society for the co-operation and good fellowship he had enjoyed during his twenty-five years of membership. In bidding the Society good-bye, he presented a cheque to be used for whatever purpose the Society might think fit.

The competition this month was by our hard working secretary; this was well entered for, the winner being Mr. Grace with nine out of the eleven questions correct.

An exhibition of the stamps of Egypt was given by Mr. W. T. Williams and enjoyed by all present.

The secretary advises us that this is the last of the series of competitions and that something new will be brought forward at our next meeting which would be just as interesting if not more so, than our last series. Is it a Brains Trust by any chance?

We are hoping that many of our visitors will in the near future become members, we need many more if we want our post-war plans to be a success. It is hoped that within the very near future a sub-committee will be formed to go into ways and means so that we can proceed as soon as circumstances permit.

W.H.W.

U.S.S.R.

Recent issues include two in honour of the author, A. G. Griboyedov, 30k. and 60k. (portraits) and there are now six illustrative of military orders and medals. This set exists both perforated and imperforate.

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6 Brazil 1943, Stamp Centenary, cpl. mint	8/6
3 do. 1943/44 Commemos. (765, 767, 775) mint	2/0
5 Brazil 1944 Air Provis., 768/772 cpl. mint	3/6
11 Curacao 1936/43 Numeral Pictorial, mint	3/6
8 do. and Surinam, Royal Family, cpl. mint	7/6
6 Italy 1926 St. Francis, cpl. mint	3/6
5 do. 1934 Soccer, cpl. mint	5/6
2 Nicaragua 1943, V issue, cpl. mint	1/6
8 Nigeria 1936, King George V, ½d. to 1/- mint	8/6
3 Mexico 1940, Stamp Centenary (643/45) mint	5/6
3 Mexico 1942 Astro-Physios Air (691/93) mint	4/6
6 Zanzibar Dues, 1936 cpl. mint	4/6

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REVIEWS AND NOTICES

Stanley Gibbons' *Priced Catalogue Part I* (British Empire), 1945. Published price 10s. 6d., postage extra.

This has appeared unexpectedly soon after the last edition (1944). It incorporates issues down to about the end of January. It is noted that quarters have been eliminated in the description of modern perforations although varieties already listed may retain them.

Prices have been extensively revised, mainly upwards, although a few reductions have been noted. This applies both to old issues and to more modern stamps. In the first case it is due to shortage of material coupled with a steadily increasing demand; this is notable, for example, in the case of the Cape triangulars, which have almost all jumped up, in some cases considerably.

In the case of modern and recently obsolete stamps, rises are due in a great measure to speculation both by large scale operators and ordinary collectors. A warning is given that the reward likely to be reaped is not the one expected by those who have indulged in laying up stocks of anything modern which they may have imagined would become rarities. Dealers get all low priced issues, while current, in quantities pretty certain to ensure against this likelihood.

The catalogue is excellently produced and very welcome.

A Review, 1943-44. Private treaty and auction sales in the rooms of Robson Lowe, Ltd., 50 Pall Mall, London S.W.1.

This review of a year's working when bombs were still falling and the building was badly damaged is a record of steadily increasing prices being obtained. These brought large quantities of stamps on the market and they changed hands as quickly as they could be prepared for sale.

The brochure illustrates a number of the outstanding items dealt with and also describes the various other activities of the firm.

Their aims during the war years and for the peace years to follow have been: "That certain standards shall never be lowered—those of fair prices for fine quality; not to sell anything that we shall be ashamed to buy back again when the buyer has become the seller."

"Bridging the Atlantic," by N. C. Baldwin. Published by Francis J. Field, Ltd., Sutton Coldfield, England. Price 10s. 6d., post free.

This is the next to appear of the Aero-Field Handbook and will be of great interest to all air mail collectors. It will be a chronological history of some 350 major events from 1873-1944 in the way of Atlantic flights (proposed, attempted and successful). All and every air-mail services connected with these will be dealt with and there is a priced catalogue for all the countries concerned.

Publication was arranged before VE day, so the edition will be very limited and orders will be handled in strict rotation.

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JOHANNESBURG

SOCIETY NEWS

PRETORIA PHILATELIC SOCIETY

President, Lt.-Col. G. Lance Horne; Hon. Secretary, H. A. Wager, P.O. Box 514; Meetings, 1st and 3rd Mondays, 8 p.m., Technical College.

July 2: Mr. H. N. B. Hawke described four new Roosevelt Commemoratives.

Mr. H. Rudd gave a very comprehensive paper on Charity Stamps. They first appeared in Australia in 1897 and soon nearly every country was issuing them. The most continuous series in child welfare stamps were those of Switzerland of which a set of four has been issued every year. The number of charity objects is very varied and the amount of money raised has been considerable, the stamps, although used for postage, being sold over their face value. Mr. Rudd enumerated a list of the different objects such as war funds, orphans, sick and wounded, famine, cancer, tuberculosis, etc.

July 16: Mr. Hawke read an extract dealing with the issues of stamps in the Channel Islands during the German occupation.

Five-minute Papers: Mr. Wilson described the two ways in which watermarks are made and showed how the use of ultra-violet light could be used to bring out watermarks. Mr. Watson gave a description and details of the building of the Zambesi Bridge. Prof. Wager gave an account of the rise and fall of the small stamp-issuing state of Memel and illustrated his talk with stamps of Memel. Mr. Oppenheim gave a brief account of some of the changes in the price of stamps as shown in the new catalogue. He pointed out that dealers were now laying down unlimited stocks of any new issues. Mr. Bottomley described the precarious passage of mail by the Tin-pot method prevailing in Tonga. He showed an interesting cover of a letter sent by that means.

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H.A.W.

PORT ELIZABETH PHILATELIC SOCIETY

President, G. K. Forbes; Hon. Sec., Mr. D. G. Y. Malcolm, P.O. Box 458; Meetings, Room 8, City Hall Basement, at 7.45 p.m., 1st and 3rd Tuesdays.

As usual first meeting of the month was social and auction, and was well attended.

The business meeting was held on July 17, 1945, and was supported by a large gathering of members.

The display was in the hands of Mr. Fowlds and Mr. Archer. Mr. Fowlds tabled 30 pages of Australia, in both mint and used state. There was one page given over to specimens which was very interesting. The complete issue to commemorate the landing of the Duke and Duchess of Gloucester, in blocks of four, mint, completed a fine display.

Mr. Archer tabled ten pages, five of Guatemala and five of Honduras Republic. The Guatemala lot had the complete issue printed in 1881.

After the display the president sold several books of stamps from Stanley Gibbons, and as usual—there were more buyers than stamps—and some were drawn for.

A small auction of about 20 packets of stamps drew to a close a very pleasant evening.

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L.E.C.

EAST RAND PHILATELIC SOCIETY

President, Lt. J. A. B. van Wyk; Hon. Secretary-Treasurer, E. N. Rigg, 103 Kemston Avenue, Benoni; Meetings, 3rd Tuesdays, 8 p.m., Hotel Regent, Benoni.

June meeting had a fair attendance, and after the formal business had been disposed of, the rest of the evening was taken up with first, a competition arranged by the secretary, which was won by Lt. van Wyk, then Mr. Shepherd displayed his collection of Rhodesian Double Heads showing the different perfs., 13, 14 and 15.

Mr. Rigg then exhibited his collections of Nyasaland, Natal and St. Helena.

July meeting: News of the month was given by Mr. Suklje. Items of interest: Several covers were passed around showing various post marks and new issues of stamps.

Exhibit for the evening was provided by Mr. Suklje; this was a further section of K.G. VI stamps in blocks

Islands, Canada, Nyasaland, Australia, Union of South Africa, South-West Africa, Mauritius, Kenya, Uganda, Tanganyika, Turks and Caicos, Basutoland, New Hebrides, Sierra Leone, Hong Kong, India, Togo, Somaliland, Zanzibar.

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E.N.R.

EAST LONDON PHILATELIC SOCIETY

President, Mr. A. Watson; Hon. Secretary, Mr. S. F. Fowler, P.O. Box 168, East London; Meetings, Colosseum Building, 2nd Fridays, 7.45 p.m.

The July meeting took place on the evening of the 13th, eighteen members and nine visitors attending. After the usual business, several interesting covers and the latest U.S.A. commemoratives were passed round, while Mrs. Alabaster also produced for inspection a copy of the new S.G. British Empire Catalogue, which had just been received.

Copies of the competition arranged, as promised, by Mr. T. A. Harper were then distributed. 30 Mottoes and Inscriptions were given and the competitors allowed 15 minutes in which to note against each the name of the country on whose stamps it appeared.

Most members found that, although they knew the mottoes, etc., quite well, they were uncertain on which country's stamps they appeared. Two prizes were donated by Mr. Harper, the winner being Mr. C. H. Thornton with 25 correct out of 30—a really splendid effort. Mr. Paviour was the runner-up with 17 correct.

A short talk by Mr. Jensen followed, which was most instructive, after which the same member tabled the evening's display, commencing with mint and used Kenya, the former including mint blocks of four of everything from and including the Jubilee set, the highest values and all perforation varieties. Next came a number of sheets of attractive complete sets, each bearing a different artistic design executed in black and white. These undoubtedly enhanced the appearance of the pictorial sets so mounted, and constituted the finest ornamental display yet seen here. Mr. Jensen was heartily congratulated on his display.

The meeting closed after the usual auction, many lots being disposed of by Mr. Jensen who kindly deputised for the official auctioneer, absent through illness.

Four new members were proposed during the meeting and duly elected.

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T.A.H.

THE JEWISH GUILD PHILATELIC SECTION

Chairman, Mr. A. Gladstone; Hon. Sec., Mr. I. Isaacs, 910 His Majesty's Buildings, Eloff Street, Johannesburg. Meetings: Last Thursday in each month at the Jewish Guild Memorial Hall, Von Brandis Street, Johannesburg, at 8 p.m.

At the meeting held on June 28 there were two exhibits. Mr. I. Isaacs showed a selection of covers flown on various stages of the Great Britain—Australia opening service in December, 1934. The exhibit included some pilot-signed covers, and showed most of the stages. Dr. A. Kaplan showed a practically complete collection of the Free French Provisional Issues for the Cameroons and Equatorial Africa. The exhibit included both the "Spitfire" sets, one on a flown cover. There were also rare varieties including the "Oeuvres de Guerre" with missing "s" in pair with normal in all the values. The ambulance set was included as well as many blocks. Mr. Gladstone and Mr. Mark Rose spoke on Mr. Isaacs' exhibit and Mr. Gladstone spoke on Dr. Kaplan's exhibit.

Some items of interest were shown round by members, including first day covers of the United Nations' stamp, issued by U.S.A. to commemorate the San Francisco Conference and to pay tribute to the late President Roosevelt.

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NYASALAND PHILATELIC SOCIETY

President, Mr. C. Stevens; Hon. Secretary, Mr. Anson; Meetings, 2nd Mondays, Tobacco & Cigar Rooms, Limbe, 5 p.m.

At the May meeting there were 11 ordinary and four junior members present, together with a visitor, Dr. Wragg, from Southern Rhodesia.

Mr. Booth informed the meeting that a new printing of the 5s. stamp, on thinner paper than the previous printing and of a slightly different shade, was now on sale at the post office.

The rest of the time of the meeting was spent over sale and exchange.

C.J.A.

(Continued on page 94)

The SEASONS

Spring flowers are a blaze of colour . . .
Summer sunbathing is here again . . .
Autumn leaves are falling . . . what do
you fancy for the "July" ?—
the seasons may mean no
more than that to **you**.

But to **railwaymen** they mean constant changes in the hard routine of national transportation. They mean that locomotives and rolling stock must be diverted to this district and that, to distribute fertilizers before the spring planting, to bring in the summer fruit or the bumper crops of autumn, or to carry more coal for the fires of winter. Only a complete survey of the agricultural, industrial, military and social activities of South Africa in wartime could give you a true index of the work the Railways have to do.

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SEPTEMBER, 1945.

Whole No. 246.

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UNION AND S.W.A.

Mr. R. Aner reports finding the following minor varieties:

- (a) A sheet of the small 1½d. mine dump stamp in which a piece of intrusive matter has been drawn over the whole of Row 6 at the level of "South Africa—Suid Afrika," giving it a blurred appearance.
- (b) The brown 1½d. Bantam, in which a band of red about half-an-inch wide occurs across the whole width of Row 9 from selvedge to selvedge, giving the stamps a red-brown appearance.

Mr. E. J. Beunderman reports having obtained in 1944 the ½d. and 3d. Postage Dues (S.G. Nos. D22 and D28) with inverted watermarks.

Mr. H. Roth, of Outjo, records that on the bantam 1s. with small SWA Opt., there is one stamp on each sheet with little rings above the smaller cannon of the first tank; also that in the 1s. 3d. war effort there is an English inscribed stamp with a white dot on the "H."

VICTORY STAMPS

The Minister of Posts and Telegraphs, Senator Clarkson, states that in commemoration of the United Nations' victory, a special issue of postage stamps in the denominations 1d., 2d. and 3d. will be on sale at all Union post offices from Monday, December 3, till Thursday, January 31, 1946.

The stamps, which will measure about 1½in. by ¾in., will be designed to typify respectively "victory," "peace" and "hope."

They will be bicoloured, and will be overprinted for use in S.W.A.

Rumour hath it that it was intended to issue them on V-J day, but the plan was spoiled by that day coming along so soon.

U.S.A.

The first of the Roosevelt memorial stamps has arrived, viz., the 3c, in purple, showing a vignette of the late President on the left and a view of the White House on the right.

KENYA

The "Stamp Magazine" announces that De la Rue printings appear to be going back to their original 11½ x 13 perforations, in which case the various values of this colony which came out in perf. 13, 13 x 13½ or 14 should be good items to get before they are all snapped up.

The plate numbers and perfs. of the printing released in April are given in "Gibbons' Stamp Monthly" as follows (the number in brackets after the plate number indicate the stamp in the bottom row under which the number appears):

		Frame.	Centre.
5c	13 x 11½	5 (9)	2A (10)
5c	13 x 11½	5 (9)	2B (10)
10c	13 x 11½	5 (9)	5B (10)
20c	13 x 13½	4 (9)	5B (10)
30c	13 x 13½	3 (9)	3 (10)
50c	13 x 11½	1 (9)	2B (10)
1s	13 x 11½	1 (9)	5A (10)
1s	13 x 11½	1 (9)	5B (10)
3s	13 x 11½	1 (9)	5B (10)
5s	13 x 13½	1 (2)	3 (10)
10s	13 x 13½	None	5B (10)

The No. 5 of the two 5c frame plates is in the same position as before but is a narrower figure than previously. The 15c plate numbers were not available. The 2s. and £1 are unchanged, the latter still being perf. 14. Shade changes are very slight.

Mr. Tunstall writes that there is great complaint about the time taken for mails to arrive from Britain. By sea they average 43 days (shortest 32, longest 52); by air they average 25 days (quickest 18, longest 33). Apparently all air mail from Britain goes by sea to Egypt, and only from there is it flown; air mail to Britain often goes all the way by air, but no guarantee is given that it will do so.

STAMPS TO OR FROM ABROAD

A reader asks if there are still countries with which exchange of stamps is prohibited. The position is that buying, selling or exchange is still only permissible with British Empire countries, and even those not in the sterling bloc (Canada and Newfoundland) are excluded.

MONTHLY PHILATELIC BULLETIN

Each month The Windsor Stamp Co. publish THE WINDSOR MONTHLY PHILATELIC BULLETIN, an attractive 12 page illustrated list.

Contents include many offers of interesting stamps, including sections for Empire and Foreign; New Issues; Stamps for Investment; High values; Specimens; Accessories; Special offers and a Monthly Outstanding Bargain.

No, we are not telling you any more as we wish you to obtain and judge the M.P.B. for yourself, and, of course, as a subscriber have the exclusive offers each month of stamps in short supply at reasonable prices.

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CORRESPONDENCE

Sir, SWISS NOTES.

On page 74 of your July issue in "Some Swiss and French Notes" mention is made of a set commemorating 25 years Swiss air post. The three values mentioned are the 20c, 30c and 1.50.

I have in my possession a 10c stamp (posted in Geneva on the 5.XI.44) inscribed 1919 Schweiz, Luftpost 1944. This stamp was on an envelope bearing the 20c and 30c referred to in the notes. The stamp is of a white biplane flying, with the ground beneath shown as a brownish sepia.

Yours, etc.,

BRIAN NICHOLS.

Sir, NEW REPUBLIC

The war being happily over I can safely answer the challenge in the note "New Republic and Natal," on p. 78 of the July "Philatelist."

I have such a combination cover, particulars as follows:—

Cover franked with New Republic 2d. (S.G. 197) obliterated with Vryheid oval postmark, dated 6-Jun-88, and Natal 1d. (S.G. 99) obliterated with Dundee, Natal, postmark dated 9-6-88, and backstamped Helpmakaar, Natal, 9-6-88 and G.P.O. Natal (Pietermaritzburg), date torn off. The Helpmakaar date has been altered by two ink strokes through the "9," thus making, apparently, the date 11th.

I was interested to read that Robson Lowe had put up two New Republic—Natal combination pieces at a recent auction, and hope one will find its way to South Africa.

Yours, etc.,

A. E. BASDEN.

UNIDENTIFIED RHODESIAN POSTMARK.

Sir,

In your June issue, Mr. H. E. Ward asks for information regarding a Rhodesian postmark. May I suggest that he may be wrong in presuming that the letter before the G is a V. The juxtaposition of the V and G is most unlikely in a Bantu language. Presuming the letter to be an N would give the possibility of NDANGAPOORT.

There is, I believe, such a place in the Fort Victoria district, near the Chiredzi River, and not far from Gaka. Major Harrington's list might verify this. (His lists, unfortunately show no P.O. ending in "Poort."—Ed.)

Yours, etc.,

T. M. SHAND.

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WHY COLLECT ONLY BRITISH COLONIALS ?

By M. K. CAMERON.

(A paper read before the Cape Town Philatelic Society.)

Recently in conversation with an old member of the Society the subject of foreign stamps cropped up. "I only collect British Colonials," he said. It was not so much the actual words that struck me as the emphatic and scornful tone of voice. As a collector of some foreign stamps, I was so taken aback that I had nothing to say at the time. However, I thought the matter over and made a few judicious enquiries, as a result of which I found that my friend was not an isolated case, but that many other members took up the same attitude. I began to seek for an explanation.

One realises, of course, that one's collection must be limited, but why limit it to British Colonials only? In any case, one could not collect all the stamps shown in Part I of Gibbons' catalogue, although I know of many who have scrappy bits of a good many of the colonies without making a decent show of any.

Admittedly, most of the recent pictorial types are attractive, but interest in these is being killed by the quarter perf. boggy, and

what is more monotonous to look at than rows of the key types? Then there is the question of cost. With few exceptions, the early issues are prohibitive in price, and the average collector of moderate means has no hope of ever owning enough copies to make anything like a representative collection of all the colonies. Naturally, we all like to possess rare stamps, but even if we do manage to procure a few oddments here and there, this, in my opinion, does not make a collection.

So, as I asked before, why draw a cordon around British Colonials only? Far be it from me to suggest that they should not be collected. But this fetish of Gibbons' Part I, alpha to omega, and nothing beyond, is, it seems to me, merely narrow-mindedness. Or is it perhaps some obscure form of patriotism?

What then is the alternative? Obviously, more variety in collecting, including one or two foreign countries plus a strictly limited selection of British Colonials. Very tentatively, I would suggest an ideal general collection made up as follows:—

One British Colony (or Dominion) and one foreign country from each of the continents, Europe, Asia, Africa and America (North and South could be regarded as separate if desired), together with Australia or New Zealand, and of course individual fancies, such as Great Britain or Unions. Surely this would give enough scope for anybody's talents and purse. The result could be less than a dozen very good, varied and interesting collections all of which could be made reasonably complete, instead of fifty or sixty scrappy "colonies," most of which would show probably less than 25 per cent. of the stamps listed in the catalogue. The collector, also, would gain an extended knowledge of the world, and, perhaps, lose some of his narrow-mindedness.

I have not said anything about the stamps of Mozambique on the table, which accompany this little paper. They are merely one of my foreign collections, but a very interesting lot to collect.

I can recommend Mozambique as a very satisfactory addition to anybody's South African collection, but, of course, this is only my own particular fancy and each of you must follow his own.

AIRCRAFT SERVICES

By MAJOR L. E. CREAMY, Bulawayo.

The announcement that the Airgraph Service between the United Kingdom and the Empire ceased after the end of July was received with interest and possibly with some regret by us all.

This method of communication was evolved by the authorities in Britain as a war-time measure in April, 1941, and first came into use for Service personnel in the Middle East as a cheap and quick means of corresponding with friends and relatives in the United

Kingdom. It met with an immediate response at a time when many complaints were being received at the delays of letters experienced by all concerned owing to the shortage of shipping space. The service in the opposite direction was inaugurated later in the same year, the first official message being sent by H.M. The Queen to General Sir Claud Auchinleck, Commander in Chief, Middle East Forces, in Cairo on the 14th August, 1941.

The first airgraphs were sent from Southern Rhodesia on the 15th November, 1941. This was a special concession to R.A.F. personnel only to enable them to send Christmas Greetings to their friends and relatives at home. The first public service was inaugurated on the 18th May, 1942, and this was available for both Service men and civilians. The service from the Union of South Africa opened on the 1st May, i.e., nearly three weeks before ours. The system to Southern Rhodesia from the United Kingdom did not, however, commence until the 10th September, 1942, at the same time as the service to the Union. This latter was inaugurated by Mr. Winston Churchill, who sent a special message to the Prime Minister of the Union, General J. C. Smuts.

Contrary to the general belief, the idea behind this Airgraph system is not a new one. It is, in fact, 75 years old. In 1870 messages were sent to and from beleaguered Paris during the Franco-German War by a similar method. Messages then were transcribed on large sheets of paper which were reduced by micro-photography on thin films of collodium. 18 or 20 of these films were rolled on to a tube, fastened under the wing of a carrier pigeon, and dispatched to Paris. On arrival the messages were put into a magic lantern which enlarged them so that they could be copied out. It is recorded, however, that most of the pigeons were untrained and only about one-quarter of the messages ever reached Paris. Still, the idea was undoubtedly a good one and was the basis of the present service which has operated so successfully through those difficult war years.

The advantage of the system is shown when it is realised that 1,600 Airgraph messages weigh 5 ozs. only as against 50 lbs. if they were sent as letters in the usual manner. The popularity of the scheme may be gauged by the fact that over 200 million of these messages have been dispatched from the United Kingdom to countries where facilities for processing them were available. The disadvantage of the scheme is, obviously the lack of privacy that it must necessarily entail. It has, however, served a most useful purpose in keeping Servicemen and others in far off lands in close touch with their people at home, and for this we must say—"Well Done and Thank You, Airgraphs."

[We might acknowledge here the receipt from Messrs. Francis J. Field of a Last Day Airgraph (dated 31st July, 1945). It illustrates a page from the "H. Crabtree" Collection to commemorate the passing of this service.—Ed.]

HANDSTRUCK LETTER STAMPS OR STAMPLESS COVERS

We recently had in our columns a spirited discussion between Mr. A. A. Jurgens and Mr. S. G. Rich upon the proper nomenclature to describe the marks on covers of the pre-adhesive stamp era.

Jurgens, in dealing with the marks in use in the Cape of Good Hope for prepaying postage prior to the introduction of adhesive stamps in 1853 maintained it was correct to call them "handstruck letter stamps" because at the time of usage they were always officially known as letter stamps.

Rich regards such terminology as archaic and confusing to-day when a "stamp" means "an adhesive stamp" and refers to the American "Stampless Cover Catalogue" as an example of what modern current usage should be.

Mr. Edward E. Goodchild, writing in "Stamps," on "Stampless Covers" with the sub-title "The Manuscript and Handstruck Postage Stamps of British North America," supports the Jurgens point of view. He admits, of course, that the word "stamp" has changed in usage; adhesive stamps were originally officially styled labels, but the public, which had for so long been used to the term "stamps" in connection with the handstruck postage stamp, came to use it to describe the adhesive stamp.

In the pre-adhesive era such things as "Stampless Covers" did exist—they were letters carried by favour, not by a carrier or by the Post Office. This was legally permissible. He states, however, "Handstruck and manuscript postage stamp covers are generally described, but erroneously so, as stampless covers, or pre-stamp covers, it not having been fully grasped that the kind of stamps used is only an indication concerning the postage, whether its having been paid is indicated by an adhesive, handstruck or manuscript postage stamp."

(There is, of course, little more in this than was brought out in the Jurgens-Rich correspondence, but it appears to indicate that there is more than one point of view in America itself.—Ed.)

FRANCE

The authorised "liberation" stamps of France have been pretty well covered by A. H. Harris in the "Philatelic Magazine" of 9th February. This is followed up in "Mekeel's Weekly" of May 14 and 21 with a compilation by the "France and Colonies Group" of the very confusing overprints which were made in many towns. Some order is brought out of the present chaos but the final sentence should be borne in mind: "This list has purposely been given as pessimistic a bearing as possible with regard to the status of the various items and as to reporting forgeries."

BRAZIL

On April 16 two special stamps were issued in connection with the 10th Brazilian Congress of Esperanto. One, of Cr. \$1.20 an air mail stamp, in dark sepia, has a portrait of Dr. Zamenhoff, the creator of Esperanto; the other, in green, of 40c denomination, for ordinary postage, has an allegorical design. Special non-obliterative cachets were also put on covers, by Post Office officials, in the Rio de Janeiro area.

On April 28 three stamps and a miniature sheet were issued on the occasion of the centenary of the birth of the Chancellor Barao do Rio Branco. The values of the stamps were Cr. \$0.40, 1.20 and 5.00, the two higher values being air mail stamps. The miniature sheet, in green, measuring 10.5 x 15 cm., has one of the "Ex Libris" of the Chancellor. At the post office of the Palacio Itamaraty, from April 20-27, there was in use a special cancellation and also a special non-obliterative cachet in connection with this celebration.

From 1-8 May, there was in use at the Post Office of Uberaba a special non-obliterative cachet in connection with the 11th Exposition Feira Agro-Pecuararia.

—Dr. Mario de Sanctis.

A Victory Set is reported by "Stamps" (also through the co-operation of Dr. M. de Sanctis), as probably the first special Victory issue. There are five stamps with designs typifying respectively courage, glory, victory, peace and co-operation.

N. RHODESIA—PLATES AND DIES.

The Africana Museum, Johannesburg, some little time ago received on indefinite loan certain plates and dies of Northern Rhodesian stamps, with the authority of the P.M.G. of that territory. All are well defaced; they are a rather heterogeneous lot and, one might say, curiously incomplete. Here is a list of them:

- 1.—KING GEORGE V. REVENUE STAMPS :—
 - £5, Frame duty die, numbered 10510
 - £2, Frame duty die, numbered 10511
 - £30, Frame duty die, numbered 10513
 - £50, Frame duty die, numbered 10514
 - Value blank, Frame duty die, numbered 10466
 - A smaller size than the others.
 - A blank duty, numbered 10468.
- 2.—POSTAGE AND REVENUE STAMPS, KING GEORGE ISSUE, 1925 :—
 - 2d. Single Working Die, numbered 10502
 - 3d. Single Working Die, numbered 10505
 - 4d. Single Working Die, numbered 10517
 - 5/- Frame duty die, numbered 10533
 - These two sets of dies are all negatives.
- 3.—CYLINDERS, EACH WITH TWO IMPRESSIONS. POSITIVES. ?MASTER DIES :—
 - £2 Revenue Stamp, numbered 4081, 10511.
 - Postage and Revenue Stamps :
 - 1½d., numbered 4071, 10506.
 - 1d., numbered 7394, 10507.
 - 1/-, numbered 4084, 10515.
 - 5/-, numbered 4087, 10533.
 - 10/-, numbered 4090, 10535.
- 4.—COPPER PLATES :—
 - 2d. 12 horizontal by 10 vertical, numbered 35417.
 - 2/6 10 horizontal by 8 vertical, numbered 35442.
 - 10/- 10 horizontal by 8 vertical, numbered 35451.
 - 20/-, 10 horizontal by 8 vertical, numbered 35452.
- 5.—STEEL PLATE OF THE 3D. CORONATION STAMPS, 6 HORIZONTAL BY 10 VERTICAL.

E. BLUM

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India "Al Busaid" 25 different. Postage and Service complete	52/6
Italy, Air. S.G. Nos. A 11a to A, 17, com- plete	10/0
Vatican State, Latest complete set of 10 different (short issue)	10/0
U.S.A. United Nations commemorative . .	1/0
French Guiana Airmails complete, 8 differ- ent S.G. Nos. 145 to 152	30/0
Australia "Duke of Gloucester" set . . .	1/6 and many others.

BURMA

The Military Administration stamps have materialised. They are, apparently, stamps of the 1938-40 issue, 16 values, 1 p. to 10 R, with the strange overprint "MILY ADMN."

Somebody concerned with their preparation must surely have had his thoughts centred on his girl friend, for the correct Army abbreviation would have been "MIL. ADM." Actually there seems to have been little or no need for an abbreviation at all; in some of the stamps the complete wording could have fitted in one line, and on the others quite easily in two lines.

"Stamp Collecting" illustrates a number of stamps issued by the Japanese during their occupation. This will raise a problem for British Empire collectors: are they going to include "occupational" in their collection?

THE PHILATELIC EXPORTER

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S. RHODESIA

Mr. C. Calitz reports a 2d. Matabeleland Commemorative with a slit in the front of the base of the figure "2" of 2d.

BRITISH COLONIAL CHANGES

The *Jamaica* Constitutional Commemorative set was due to appear on 20th August and will be on sale for a year. Seven values, 1½d. to 10s.

St. Lucia is shortly to have three new values, viz., 8d., 3s. and £1. Size and designs as current low values.

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JOHANNESBURG

SOME OLD TRANSVAAL STAMPS

3. THE PENNY OF THE SMALL "T" ISSUE OF 1879

By R. BROOM, F.R.S.

About the middle of 1879 the supply of Queen's Head Penny stamps began to run short and a new issue of 54,000 was printed from the old Otto plates, and these appeared on 26th August. As the issue only lasted about three months, and so it was mainly used for local letter postage and for newspapers, thus comparatively few specimens were sent to England and the Continent, it is less known than any of the other of the issues of the First British Occupation.

The plating of these stamps is a matter of the greatest difficulty. For months I regarded it as impossible. But I obtained from Mr. Basden a nice collection of the Black Penny of 1883. These are remarkably easy to plate. Then I obtained a good collection of the Penny on Orange of 1877-78. To plate these, though a matter of great difficulty, I found was possible. Then I started on what seemed an impossible task, to plate the Penny Orange and Yellow of 1879. It has taken me the evenings of some months. The stamps are moderately rare and many are badly printed. But I have succeeded in plating 31 of the 40 of the left pane and 32 of the right. These 63 are, I think, correctly plated beyond all doubt. I have over a dozen others, most of which certainly belong to the unknown gaps, but they are mostly badly printed, and I have not yet succeeded in determining them. Still, enough is now known to make my results seem worthy of publication.

As is well known, the issue was printed on two different papers, Yellow and Orange; but as stated by Curle and Basden, "the respective numbers of each colour are unknown." In S.G. Catalogue, the Red on Yellow imperf. is priced at 25s. and the Red on Orange at 20s., from which one might infer that Orange paper specimens are rather commoner than the Yellow types. I incline to think that this is not so.

I have of this issue 128 specimens, and of these 93 are on Yellow and 35 on Orange

paper. Except for eight specimens which are unused all have gone through the post from various offices in the Transvaal. Curiously enough in Pretoria specimens with the "1" post mark the numbers are more equal—20 on Yellow and 16 on Orange. On the other hand in specimens from outside post offices the Yellow greatly preponderate. Of 12 specimens with the Lydenburg "13" postmark all are on Yellow paper. Of the 675 sheets issued I think it not improbable that about 475 were on Yellow paper and about 200 on Orange.

As is well known, four stamps in each 80 have the small T in Transvaal. These are Nos. 16, 24, 32, and 40 of the right pane. Nos. 16, 24, and 32 are rather difficult to identify. No. 40 is easy to plate owing to a spot on the right side of the N of EEN, of the left side and a spot on the shield above the lion's head. In Curle and Basden's book on Plate 10 an illustration is given of one of the small T's. This is No. 16. On the uncoloured plate opposite page 36 we have an illustration of No. 32.

No. 12 of the left pane has the R of V.R. smaller than in the other stamps. Yardley says: "Hitherto I have found this variety only on the stamps on Orange paper." and Curle and Basden also only record it as occurring on Orange paper. As might be expected, it occurs on both the Yellow and Orange papers. And curiously enough there are two or three minor varieties of this stamp. The R being small has probably been loose. I give photographs of three varieties. In one the top of the R is on a level with the top of the V. In another the bottom of the R is on a level with the bottom of the V and the stops, and in the third the R is in an intermediate position.

If I am right in believing that about 200 sheets were printed on Orange paper, there were 200 small R's printed on Orange, and probably only about 10 of these survive—mostly unrecognised. The small R's on Yellow paper are probably more than twice as common.



Upper Row:—

1. Small R on Orange paper (R high)
2. Small R on Yellow paper (R intermediate)
3. Small R on Yellow paper (R low)

Lower Row:—

4. Stamp R 38 with damaged a in Transvaal
5. Stamp L 20. Normal type
6. Stamp R 38 with a in Transvaal corrected
4 is on Orange paper; 6 on Yellow.

Another interesting stamp is No. 38 of the right pane. It occurs in two varieties. In one the first "a" of "Transvaal" is badly broken. It looks as if a tiny little ring of metal had been pressed into the top of the "a". And it is to be noted that this variety is not constant. I have another example of Right 38 where the "a" is undamaged. What has probably happened is that when the first sheets were printed the damaged "a" was seen and a new "a" was put in its place. We can be pretty certain of this as there are two other very minute flaws in the "Transvaal" which are present in both varieties. If the error was early corrected only a few sheets could have had it, and not improbably the stamp may be unique.

Yardley calls attention to still another variety. In it "the word 'Transvaal' measures 14 m.m. instead of 13½ m.m. horizontally, the distance between the letters 'a' and 'n' being abnormally wide. This variety occurs in the fortieth stamp of the left pane." Curle and Basden in their chapter "Catalogue of Transvaal Postage Stamps" give as "minor errors of type," "letters 'a' and 'n' in Transvaal wide apart," and this is given as occurring on both the Yellow and Orange papers.

There is possibly some mistake here. I have a stamp which is unquestionably L 40. In it the "Transvaal" measures, including the serif at the bottom of the "l", 14.5 m.m., and this is the width of the word "Transvaal" in the majority of specimens in the left pane. There are, however, a few where it is 14.2 and 14.3 m.m. In the right pane there are about a dozen stamps that have the Transvaal from 14.2 to 14.3. The difference seems to me to be too trifling to be worthy of note.

It may be that in some stamps of which I have not a specimen, and which Yardley has mistaken for L 40, the word Transvaal is wider. Or it may be that in the early sheets there was a manifest gap between the "a" and "n" and that this was corrected in the later sheets. As the damaged "a" was corrected, a badly arranged Transvaal might also have been corrected.

There is considerable variation in the spacing of the V.R. There are more than half a dozen varieties. The width of the V.R., including the serif and the stop is in R 22, 7.4 m.m., in L 12, 7.5 m.m. and in R 36 7.6 m.m. In L 11

it is 8.3 m.m. The majority measure 7.8 m.m. to 8 m.m. The difference between the V.R. in L 12 and in L 20, which I have photographed, can be seen at a glance.

TIMOR

In view of the freeing of this Portuguese island from the Japanese, stamps have become urgently needed, and here follows a translation from the Mocambique Government Gazette, No. 33 of 18th August, 1945, indicating steps which have been taken to relieve the position:—

"Important circumstances make it necessary for the Colony of Timor to be provided with Postage Stamps in quantities and necessary taxes for the regular business of the Post and Telegraph Department, having this in view and to avoid the inconvenience which would result from the delay in the despatch of such stamps by the Mint (in Portugal), Stamps of the Colony of Mocambique can be utilised for this purpose, providing the necessary surcharges and surtaxes are printed." Signed: Doctor Marcelo Caetano, Minister of Colonies. (At present on a visit to Mocambique.)

The necessary stamps have been surcharged and surtaxed by the Government Printing Works at Lourenco Marques, and forwarded to Timor. I understand from the Postmaster here that the stamps will only be sold at Timor.

The following stamps have been overprinted TIMOR with new values in Avos:—

Ordinary postage. S.G. Nos. 347, 350, 352, 354, 356 and 357.

Air postage. S.G. Nos. 364, 365, 367, 368 and 370.

The number overprinted was 20,000 of each value, except in the case of No. 368 (5 E Air), of which there were 40,000.

A. E. SHEARD.
Lourenco Marques.

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ARMY P.O.'S—ADDITIONAL RECORDS

Following on the publication in our May, June and July issues of various lists of Army postmarks, etc., a number of correspondents have sent in additional records, and these are here summarised. I am indebted to the following for information:

Messrs. E. J. Beunderman, C. Calitz, G. A. Clarke, J. F. Fick, G. N. Gilbert, C. Hampson, G. Kirchhoffer, P. Loewenstein, E. G. Powell, J. N. Sharp, A. Tabachnik, C. R. van Blommestein, H. R. Warren and E. G. Willson.

(1) *South African Army Postmarks.*

Additional to the numbers recorded on p. 49, May issue, the following have to be added: 9, 23, 23A, 25, 37, 40 and 42.

To make the sequence complete the following numbers have not yet been recorded: 1B, 26, 27, 34, 35, 38, 43 to 49, both inclusive, and 52 to 59, both inclusive.

As regards size, etc., it has been recorded that No. 5 occurs in both the 25-26 mm. and the 28-30 mm. sizes. In the smaller size there are also two varieties of lettering, one larger than the other—the letter "U," for example, is 2½ mm. wide in the one variety, and only 1½ mm. in the other. The original No. 5 was of large size, the smaller size is of later introduction.

The date arrangement appears to be of the "23X42" type in all the 25-26 mm. marks, and of the "18 APR 44" type in all the 28-30 mm. marks. There is one exceptional variety, however, a No. 14 still larger than usual, with the lettering in tall thin letters and the date thus "14 V 43."

Three numbers, 23A, 37 and 51 have appeared in a new variety. No. 37, which had not been recorded before, has been reported by two observers. In one instance the mark was of "standard" type with dates 6-III-45 and 20-VIII-45, in the other, with date 25-VI-45 (size 26 mm.) the lettering "A.P.O.-U-M.P.K." is much smaller and is bunched up near the top of the mark. The "A" and "K" instead of being below the level of the date line are well above it. The new No. 51 is exactly similar in type, but has the little error of the stop, which should be after "M," being before that letter. In IX-42 it was of standard type; the earliest date seen of the new variety is 10-VII-45. No. 23A is only recorded so far in this new variety, with date 24-III-45.

Another little error noted in a very clear mark of date 21-X-40 with every letter and number distinct, but there is no "K" and no number.

Mr. Calitz records an entirely new type, but, from other information received, it has probably been in use for a year or two, apparently as a backstamp on re-addressed undeliverable letters to South African P.O.W's. Most probably the office is in London. It is a double circle mark; between the circles at the top is "SOUTH AFRICAN A.P.O. (U.K)" with a "1" at the bottom, separated from the top wording by short thick black chords.

The date is in three lines in the centre, thus "A/27 JU/45." The cover was originally addressed to a P.O.W. in Italy, but was returned as undeliverable, receiving various endorsements. It was two years on its travels altogether.

An additional type of mark must be chronicled, even if its use was not strictly official. This is a double oval rubber stamp mark in violet, the wording being S.A.W.A.S./.....Branch. The recorder of this mark states that whilst up North he regularly received parcels from one particular town with the stamps thereon cancelled by this mark.

For the benefit of the uninitiated it may be explained that S.A.W.A.S. stands for the South African Women's Auxiliary Services. These ladies, voluntary part-time workers, gave service in a great many ways, one of which was helping in post-offices. Their marks were valid for franking their official correspondence, but whether they were authorised to use them for cancelling stamps is doubtful.

Indeed, I have been told by S.A.W.A.S. working in a post office in another town that it was forbidden. Still, it appears to have been used regularly in at least one town.

(2) *Egypt—Postage Prepaid.*

Additional to the list given on p. 63 of the June issue, there have been recorded the following numbers: 2 10 (definite) 18 22 24 28 32 41 44 48 49 53 68 76 80 89 90 91 102 114 121 123 131 132 140 and 144.

The following have also been reported as "probables," but their identification is not quite certain: 3 9 39 and 141.

(3) *East African.*

Additions to the definitive type (No. 6) recorded on p. 76 of the July issue are Nos. 3 4 5 6 68 72 77 79 81 and 87.

Another type of Censor's Seal has been noted: white paper about 90 x 24 mm. with "Opened by Base Censor/Deur Hoofsensor Geopen" printed on it in black; it was tied to the cover by a Censor's mark of Type 6 in the July record. Presumably, from the bilingual wording, this label was used in a South African censorship office.

Several other censor marks and seals have come to light, but as they all appear to occur on civilian mail they are not recorded here. At some future date we hope to deal with the censor marks, etc., of various African territories.

Major Milligan reports that the E.A. A.P.O.'s in Kenya appear to be closing down. Mail from men still in the E.A. Service that used to come with A.P.O. marks is now coming with civil postmarks.

(4) *Sudan and Eritrea.*

Very little material has been available from this theatre of war as there were no South African units serving in it, although some individual soldiers were there in various capacities.

There were British Field Post Offices and Indian F.P.O.'s. We have one mark of Indian F.P.O. No. 23 on a cover posted at Amba Alagi in Abyssinia, just after the junction of the Eritrean force with the E.A. and S.A.

forces and the final surrender of the Duke of Aosta; also a British F.P.O. No. 174 mark on a cover with Sudan stamps.

Mr. G. A. Clarke of Broken Hill, S. Rhodesia, who served with a battalion of Ethiopian patriots, records two interesting postmarks, one of which is probably an Army P.O., the other practically certainly is not. The first is from a rubber stamp, in purple; it is a double-lined circle, outer diam. 39 mm. At top is "Sudan P.O. No. 15" (at least it is probably 15, the 5 is not very clear); the date is across the centre "24 NOV 1940"; below is a thick dark chord, the length of the wording on top. There is a censor's mark of the type listed as No. 1 for East Africa, and also the "O.H.M.S./No. 143/Military/Franked" which so frequently accompanied this type of mark.

His other postmark, on a cover with the same censor mark and military frank, is in black from a metal stamper. It is a single circle mark 27 mm. in diameter. At the top it reads "White Nile" (running inside the circle); then, in two horizontal lines "T.P.O. No. 2/20 NO 40 8-9A"; below this again two lines of Arabic.

Two R.A.F. censor marks from this area are (1) a single lined circle 25 mm. in diam., in purple. Inside, from top to bottom "(A crown)/Passed by/R.A.F./Censor/No....." with a name and rank written across the mark. (2) A rectangle 50 x 20 mm. with a crown and eagle at top left; in the rest the same wording as in No. 1. In slate-blue. Various other R.A.F. censor marks might possibly belong to the East African or Eritrean areas, but it has not been possible in many cases to know whether they were used there or in some part of the M.E.F. area.

Finally, there may be recorded, however, a British type of censor mark from this area and also from East Africa. It is one common to many areas where British troops are or have been, viz., a shield 30 mm. high, with a crown on top; inside, "Passed by/Censor/No....."

J. H. HARVEY PIRIE.

NEW SETS Foreign and Colonial:

NEW ARRIVALS IN SETS:

10 Bolivia 1943 Commemo. Post and Air cpl.	5/6
9 Charkari 1931, 1a-5r. cpl (cat. 9d.)	2/6
10 Cuba 1942 Democracy: perf. and imperf.	3/6
5 Cuba 1943 Fifth Column cpl.	2/0
3 Cuba 1943 Postal Employees cpl.	1/0
20 Iran (Persia) 1938/40 to 5 Rials	3/6
6 Italy 1921/22 Dante & Massini cpl.	2/0
7 U.S.A. Airmail 1941/4 6c-50c used	4/6
13 U.S.A. Commemos. 1937/43 mint	7/6
13 U.S.A. Flags 1943/4 cpl. mint	17/6
6 U.S.A. latest 1944/5 Commemos. incl. United Nations, mint	3/6

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POLAND—"UNDERGROUND" STAMPS

It has recently come to light that the Polish underground movement had a postal system, complete with stamps. Some of these were similar to the set issued by the Polish Government in London in 1941, with the word "Podziemna" (Underground) added at the bottom of the stamps. There were also some others. Probably most were destroyed after use as being found in possession of them would not have been healthy.

COLLECTORS' WANTS AND OFFERS

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

Seychelles and Sierra Leone fine used copies wanted. Particularly Edward and George. High prices willingly paid.

William Redford, Box 7012, Johannesburg.

Wanted: Transvaal, Natal, Cape, O.F.S., Bechuanaland, Gambia, St. Helena, Egypt, France. Picked copies, rarities and varieties, also 9,000 items for world collection up to 1933 issues. E. Hunt, Box 2437, Johannesburg.

Captain Priest, P/B. Marandellas, Southern Rhodesia, offers Rhodesians and British Colonials. Send want list.

Wanted. Airgraph Xmas greetings from various service units—any theatre of war. State price and description to G. N. Gilbert, Box 15. Westminster.

Transvaal, Griqualand West, O.F.S. covers and rarities wanted by
A. E. Basden, Killarney, Brickhill Road, Durban.

For Service, promptness and satisfaction.
Benoni Stamp Shop, Box 485, Benoni. Phone 54-1692.

BARGAIN OFFER: Somaliland 1938 5Rs mint 30s. cash with order; also other stamps for sale.

T. E. Karachiwalla, Mackenzie Road, Mombasa.

6d. BANTAM WAR STAMPS.

The Editor,

As one of the most interesting re-entries or double impressions has recently occurred in this denomination, I am giving a brief description of the printings which have so far appeared—all of which appear to have a bearing on this variety.

The first printing started with an Afrikaans stamp in the top left corner, and the slogans in the margin above started with English, and were the same colour as the stamps.

The slogans in the side margins—"Buy Union Loan Certificates—"Koop Unie Leningsertifikate," also the same colour as the stamps were set very close in to the edge of the stamps, and this did not allow any margin of error when printing the stamps, as the slightest maladjustment would result in the slogans cutting into the stamps themselves.

These first printings had mostly a wide margin on the left and a narrow one on the right, although I have seen some sheets with the margins about equal. The control numbers appeared twice in the right margin, and these were in a dark blue colour.

In these first sheets, the word "Buy" of the left-hand marginal slogan at the bottom started approximately level with the top of the word "Sertifikate" in the bottom margin, and the distance between "Leningsertifikate—Buy" in the other portions of the margins was very close, being about 2½ mm. apart.

The words "Certificates" next to the central side arrows also had no stops.

The second printing—the one with the re-entry or double impression of the side marginal slogans—started with the Afrikaans version of the top marginal slogan above the first Afrikaans stamp.

The side slogans are approximately 2½ mm. further out in the margins, giving far more scope for error in setting, and portions of the slogans in their old narrow setting appear underneath in varying degrees of clearness, the plainest being at the top and bottom of the left-hand margin, and fading almost out towards the central arrows.

In the right-hand margin very faint signs are present of the old setting, so faint in most sheets as to be almost indistinguishable.

There is a stop after the words "Certificates" next to the arrows, and the space between the words "Leningsertifikate—Buy" is now about 5 mm.

The "Buy" of the left-hand bottom slogan starts lower down than in the first printing, and is just below the level of the bottom of the word "Sertifikate" in the bottom margin.

The control numbers are in black or grey.

The side slogans are not truly aligned and slope out from the bottom, the bottom half sloping out from the word "Buy" up to the arrow, then the top half starts slightly set in again and slopes out to the corner.

The position is reversed on the right-hand side.

If the double impressions in the left margins of this printing are compared with the slogans in the first printing, it will be found that they absolutely agree in measurement and position, so it would be reasonable to de-

duce that the old slogans had been erased from the cylinder and the new ones re-etched in about 2½ mm. further out, and that in the process portions had been left and had appeared as re-entries or double impressions.

This would be borne out, too, by the fact that the impressions were clearest at the top and bottom and faded out towards the middle, where there would be no danger of disturbing the top or bottom slogans in the margins there, but when it is realised that these top and bottom slogans have also been altered—starting now with Afrikaans over Afrikaans, instead of English over Afrikaans, it is difficult to see why this double impression did occur, and why there are absolutely no signs of anything of the sort in either top or bottom margins.

Up to this point one would have classed this variety with the re-entries of the extra horns and ears in the ½d. booklets which occurred early on in the roto printings, but the above facts, plus the fact that in the third printing, i.e., the one now in use, with the slogans removed in the side margins and numerals and lines in purple in their place, both positions of the old slogans show quite distinctly in *Yellow* under the purple printing—rather upset this theory.

As there are now two double impressions, and both appear to be of the same intensity, it is difficult to believe that a second erasure of the cylinder to re-etch in the numerals would leave the old first traces as well as the second lot, and both more or less of the same strength, and also as the cylinder is now inked with purple ink, why and how on earth does the double impression recur in *yellow*?

In this printing the signs of the double impressions in the right-hand margin are much more pronounced than they were in the second printing, with only the one re-entry.

Again another headache!

However, I think I have got the solution, in fact, it seems to be the only possibility left.

I believe that the old slogan cylinder, which already had the first slogans erased and re-etched in further out was used for the new printing with the purple margins.

The January issue of the "S.A.Ph." notes that a new printing of 6d. had come out with a new cylinder, No. 74.

They must have taken this slogan cylinder, erased the old slogans and used it for the new stamps, using a completely new cylinder for the purple numbers, etc.

This would account for the double impression in yellow in the side margins.

Perhaps the Government Printer could give us a headache cure without unduly endangering the safety of the realm.

G. N. GILBERT.

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Full particulars from:

S. G. Walton, 252 St. John's Road, Canley Vale,
N.S.W., Australia.

SOCIETY NEWS

EAST RAND PHILATELIC SOCIETY

President, Lt. J. A. B. van Wyk; *Hon. Secretary-Treasurer*, E. N. Rigg, 103 Kemston Avenue, Benoni; *Meetings*, 3rd Tuesdays, 8 p.m., Hotel Regent, Benoni.

At the August meeting several interesting covers were shown in the items of interest. News of the month was given by Mr. Suklie, including articles from several stamp magazines.

Competition arranged by our president was very interesting, the portion of the stamp exposed being very small in area, and this had several of the competitors guessing. This competition was won by Mr. Bode.

The exhibit for the evening was provided by our president who chose his collection of South-West Africa, a very popular country with most of the members. The collection was very well displayed on white sheets with a black background, and the exhibit starting from the 1923 issue up to the present Bantam issue was extremely well represented with varieties and overprints.

Our next meeting, on the 18th September, will be our annual general meeting.

+
E.N.R.

PRETORIA PHILATELIC SOCIETY

President, Lt.-Col. G. Lance Horne; *Hon. Secretary*, H. A. Wager, P.O. Box 514; *Meetings*, 1st and 3rd Mondays, 8 p.m., Technical College.

August 7: The president read an article on some phoney English stamps issued in Switzerland.

Mr. W. H. Bottomley read a paper on George V issues dealing chiefly with the Jubilee Commemoratives. He gave a detailed account of their printings as well as of the numbers printed and the errors to be found. He explained the apparent rarity of some of the denominations, and pointed out that the rarest and most difficult to obtain was the One Rupee Mauritius. Mr. Bottomley tabled a complete collection of these stamps, as well as a fine lot of S.W.A.

August 20: Mr. Hawke read some topical extracts. The Victoria Buildings contingent provided the evening's programme. This was an innovation, and took the form of a Brains Trust. Messrs. Broughton, Broom, Dodd, Wilson and Wright were asked to officiate as the Brains Trust, and Lt.-Col. Horne acted as question-master. The questions were many and varied, and many of them caused much discussion, and there was not always unanimous agreement. The questions included philatelic subjects such as advice to beginners, use of damaged stamps, cleaned stamps, repaired stamps, use of quartz or Mercury lamp, colour charts, etc.

+
H.A.W.

PORT ELIZABETH PHILATELIC SOCIETY

President, G. K. Forbes; *Hon. Sec.*, Mr. D. G. Y. Malcolm, P.O. Box 453; *Meetings*, Room 8, City Hall Basement, at 7.45 p.m., 1st and 3rd Tuesdays.

A large gathering was in attendance when the meeting opened on August 21, with Mr. G. K. Forbes in the chair. It was a pleasure to have Mr. Sheffield with us as it isn't always convenient for him to attend. As stated in a previous issue, the display is the first item of the evening, and Mr. G. P. Smith tabled 48 pages of British possessions, all mint. The display was one of the finest members have seen for some time. The sets were all complete, including those which contain the higher values. Four pages of India Al-Busaid complete postage and service in blocks of four, also sets of S.W.A., Voortrekker and Huguonot also in blocks of four. The pages were neatly mounted, and Mr. Smith deserved the hearty vote of thanks he received.

A new member was enrolled. Mr. F. H. Nicholson then auctioned about 20 packets, which were quickly sold. Mr. Sheffield then put forth a suggestion that members should be encouraged to ask any questions about stamps, postage, overprint, etc., especially the younger members. Mr. Forbes said he would answer or get the answers to any questions put to him. The meeting closed at 9.30 on a very enjoyable evening.

+
L.E.C.

THE PHILATELIC SOCIETY OF JOHANNESBURG.

President, Mr. E. C. Sprigton; *Hon. Secretary*, Mr. J. Robertson, P.O. Box 4967, Johannesburg; *Meetings*, 2nd Tuesdays, Public Library, Johannesburg, at 7.45 p.m.

At the meeting held on August 14, the Rev. Loxley Chamings provided the exhibit for the evening.

Mr. Chamings showed several sheets from his geographical collection—stamps illustrating towns and other places. Each sheet was illustrated with a well-drawn map showing the places which were shown on the stamps. Besides the geographical sheets, the exhibit included some recent sets of British Empire, including the Canada war issue stamps, sets of Cyprus, Newfoundland and many others. A very interesting portion of the exhibit were sheets of the Channel Islands local stamps used during the German occupation. Although originally intended for local use they actually paid postage for oversea letters. Mr. Chamings gave a short talk on these stamps.

During the evening eight new members of the Society were elected. Mr. Isaacs read some recent extracts from philatelic magazines.

The usual auction for war funds was held and there was some lively bidding.

I.I.

+ THE 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.

The Society's monthly meetings, although not frequently reported in "The Philatelist," have been held regularly, and have been well attended, averaging about 15 members. They have usually been of great philatelic interest as all exhibits have been well received. At each meeting the usual auctions and exchanges have taken place, as also the election of new members. At the March meeting tribute was paid to the memory of the late W. W. Hornby, a foundation member of the Society. The following is a brief resume of the principal exhibits:

February 16: O.F.S. by Mr. J. Lewis. A fine collection.

March 16: Edward VIII by Lt. B. H. Friedman. An excellently displayed exhibit.

May 18: O.F.S. Revenues by H. L. Kaplan. Interesting, educational, surprising.

June 15: "Favourite Sheets." Mrs. J. L. Lewis, Coronations; Lt. B. H. Friedman, Some George V Issues; Mr. C. A. Larsen, S.W.A. Postmarks; and Mafeking Siege and "Republics" paper currency by Mr. H. L. Kaplan.

July 20: Meeting held at Mr. Liss' residence, S.W.A. by Mrs. C. A. Larsen. A well displayed comprehensive exhibit.

NYASALAND PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

At the June meeting a monetary gift was announced from Mr. Hadlow, a country member. He was warmly thanked for this, and it was decided to use it for the purchase of new printings of the local stamps for the Society's collection.

Items of interest shown included two blocks of the S. Rhodesia 2d. Waterfall stamp and a No. 105 Nyasaland with a sulphur surface.

A quiz "test your skill" was won by Mr. Farquhar. A number of approval books were passed round.

L.B.

+ THE JEWISH GUILD PHILATELIC SECTION

Chairman, Mr. A. Gladstone; *Hon. Sec.*, Mr. I. Isaacs, 910 His Majesty's Buildings, Eloff Street, Johannesburg. *Meetings* Last Thursday in each month at the Jewish Guild Memorial Hall, Von Brandis Street, Johannesburg, at 8 p.m.

At the meeting held on July 26, the exhibit was provided by Mr. E. C. Sprigton. This was a choice selection from his collection of Great Britain stamps.

The exhibit included most of the specimens and some essays. There were some pre-stamp covers as well as the Mulready covers. The Stock Exchange forgery was shown in juxtaposition with the genuine stamp. There was the 2½d. Silver Jubilee in the Prussian Blue shade; a large block of the Coronation stamps overprinted for use in the Spanish Zone of Morocco showed the "Centimes" error. It is impossible to enumerate all the fine items shown, but mention must be made of a complete collection of the cylinder numbers of the Coronation stamps.

The exhibit was much appreciated. Unfortunately Mr. Sprigton could not be present to receive the thanks of the members in person. The exhibit was tabled by Mr. Isaacs on his behalf.

During the evening Dr. A. Kaplan showed a block of 4 of each of the ½d. and 1d. King George V Great Britain imperforate

I.I.

CAPE TOWN PHILATELIC SOCIETY

President, L. Simenhoff; 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 two meetings held on June 28 and July 12 there were big attendances.

The displays were in the hands of Mr. L. A. Meyer who exhibited the stamps of Holland, and Mr. K. Alexander who tabled a few of his "Bits and Pieces."

The display by Mr. Meyer was well received, more especially as it was augmented by a very interesting talk on the stamps and country by Dr. Baumann, of Stellenbosch, who deputised for the Netherlands Consul who was to have been present.

Mr. Alexander as usual gave a very interesting showing of his "Bits and Pieces," which included Charities, Commemoratives, etc., a great many of them being in blocks of four and more.

As is now usual in all displays given by Mr. Alexander, Medals and Coins had to find space on the table and this occasion was no exception, and drew quite a lot of attention.

The usual auction was held at both meetings, some fine items being put up for sale.

It was with regret that we received the news of the transfer of Comdr. Enoch to Durban, but our loss will be their gain.

Thursday, July 26: This date was set down for a display by Cdr. C. E. D. Enoch, but unfortunately, as mentioned in last month's notes, he has been transferred to Durban.

Mr. S. Kaganson stepped into the breach and gave us at very short notice a display of a portion of his George V collection.

It is a long time since we had seen a display of this series, and it was much appreciated by the large number of members and visitors present.

The stamps were artistically arranged and mounted, and there were very few vacant spaces. The exhibitor gave a few interesting facts concerning the stamps, noting, inter alia, that the name of George V appeared on only one stamp—the 10s. Jamaica. Another interesting note was to the effect that a number of this series were issued after the King's death.

During the business portion of the meeting members were shown enlarged photographs of the Union stamps, which had been presented to the Society by the Bureau of Information. These are to be framed and hung in the club room.

The usual auction brought to a close a very entertaining and interesting evening.

Thursday, August 9: "Mozambique" was the subject for display at this meeting, and there was quite a fair attendance considering the prevalence of coughs and colds after the wet weather we have been experiencing here in the Cape.

Mr. K. Cameron, the exhibitor, gave a talk on his display. His paper, which we hope will be published in our magazine, makes interesting reading and gives food for thought.

The collection itself was fairly complete, except for one or two obscure items, but on the other hand many items shown are not catalogued.

The meeting ended after the usual business and auction sessions had been completed.

B.L.C.

+

THE PHILATELIC SOCIETY OF NATAL

President, Mr. A. L. Bevis; Hon. Sec., G. Milner; Palmer, P.O. Box 588, Durban; Meetings, 1st and 3rd Wednesdays at London Assurance House, 319 Smith Street (in the rooms of the Durban Camera Club, top floor), 7.30 p.m.

The chairman stated that some copies of Mr. A. A. Jurgens's book, "The Handstruck Letter Stamps of the Cape of Good Hope 1792-1853 and the Postmarks, 1853-1910," were available at 37s. 6d. per copy. He stressed the value of this work to all interested in stamps of the Cape of Good Hope, mentioning that Mr. Jurgens had sustained a very severe loss in having the whole of the first edition destroyed by fire, and sincerely hoped that members would take the opportunity of securing a copy of this work. Mr. Baden amplified the chairman's remarks, and said that he hoped as many copies as possible would be sold in Durban. At the invitation of the chairman, Mr. Baden gave a brief outline of what transpired at the last meeting of the executive of the S.A. Philatelic Federation. The formal application of the Philatelic Society of Natal to hold the Congress in Durban in 1946 was confirmed, and he hoped that members would get together and make preparations for making the Congress an outstanding success. With regard to the "Philatelist," we were all pleased to hear

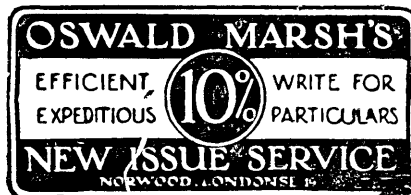
that this excellent magazine was in a sound position; that its proposed increase would be welcomed as we could expect big things from it as soon as the paper controller saw fit to allow this publication to increase its number of pages. The subscription being increased to 8s. we feel was wanted to put this journal on its feet. The attention of members was drawn to the fact that the executive had carried on right through the war, and the thanks of all philatelists were due to them for their interest in the welfare of the Federation.

The monthly competition sponsored by Mr. J. Lyle proved a very novel one. A set of the latest issue of the Belgian Congo was mounted on black paper and members had to decide which of the three colours read out by Mr. Lyle was the correct colour according to Gibbons. Considerable merriment ensued when Mr. Lyle read out the correct colours, and congratulations are due to Mr. W. T. Williams who correctly named the colours of eight out of twelve.

Mr. Winde's usual notes on "What is what in the Stamp World" were read and well received by all.

The high standard of the collection of Union stamps displayed by Mr. W. Hall Jones evoked very considerable comment, and was thoroughly enjoyed by all present. Amongst such wealth of interesting stamps it is difficult to individualise, but the following were some of the outstanding pieces: The 9d. Air Mail with rare strut error and imperforate on left side; a pair of the 9d. imperforate on the left side; a set of Postage Dues with figure of value offset at back; a set of Jubilee Stamps showing the cracked skull variety 2d. with horizontal and vertical perforations missing; a block of 1d. showing offset printing; and a block of air mail stamps showing the value printed in colour of the stamp. After a number of interesting items had been offered for sale and disposed of at very fair prices, the meeting closed with a feeling of a night well spent.

W.H.W.



CHANNEL ISLANDS

In the Jersey coat-of-arms stamps issued during the German occupation the designer, Major Rybot, got away with a subtle insult to the Fascist leaders.

The 1d. design has a minute A in each corner (inverted in the top two); this is said to stand for "Ad Avernum Adolf Atrox," which is Latin for "To hell with you, atrocious Adolf."

The ½d. design has similarly inverted A's in the top corner and a B in each bottom corner. In this instance the letters are said to stand for "Atrocious Adolph" and "Bloody Benito."

GERMANY

Argument is still going on as to what was the last stamp issued by the "Gross Deutsches Reich." There appear to be three possibilities:

- (1) A 42 pf., bright green, with portrait of "Der Führer."
- (2) A 6 pf. and 14 pf., brown, commemorating the 600th anniversary of the founding the State of Oldenburg.
- (3) A stamp honouring the Volksturm, 12 pf., and 8 pf. It depicts three of its members set for battle, and has the inscription "Ein Volk Steht Auf" (A people rises).

The SEASONS

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U/C 161

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Vol. 21, No. 10.

OCTOBER, 1945.

Whole No. 247

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The Philatelic Federation of Southern Africa

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UNION & S.-WEST AFRICA NOTES

Recent Printings :

Herewith notes supplied by the Post Office authorities in respect of printing of stamps, etc., carried out during the period 16th May to 21st Aug., 1945. For previous records see p. 61 of our June issue.

(a)—War Postage Stamps.

½d.—Job No. 9975. On an order for 200,000 sheets x 360, 22,500 were supplied on 21/8/45. Cylinder 40 as before.

1d.—Job No. 6189. 293,960 sheets x 360 have been supplied on this order up to 7/8/45. Cylinder 6936 as before.

2d.—Job No. 6192/8646. Deliveries from cylinder 39 up to 3/7/45 amount to 839,292 sheets x 240.

3d.—Job No. 9976. 54,700 sheets x 360 supplied between 3/7/45 and 10/7/45. Cylinder 7014 as before.

(b)—Ordinary Pictorial Stamps

2d.—Job No. 4672. On an order for 35,000 sheets x 120, 8,500 were delivered on 7/8/45. Cylinders 6913 Int. and 10 Ext. as before.

2s. 6d.—Job No. 4673. 17,946 sheets x 60 delivered on 21/8/45. Cylinders 27 Int. and 7017 Ext. as before.

5s.—Job No. 4673. 5,900 sheets x 60 delivered on 21/8/45. Cylinders 6929 Int. and 41 Ext. as before.

10s.—Job No. 4673. 4,800 sheets x 60 delivered on 14/8/45. Cylinders 6918 Int. and 6934 Ext. as before.

(c)—Roll Stamps

1d.—Job No. 3651. Totals of 3529 rolls x 1,012 and 1,906 rolls x 506 have been delivered on this order since 2/4/45. Cylinder 16 as before.

(d)—Inland Pictorial Postcards

1d.—Job No. 9977. On an order for 2,720,000 cards, 1,716,480 have been delivered since 29/5/45. Cylinders 86 and 85 as before.

(e)—Air Letter Cards

3d.—Job No. 10048. On an order for 3,600,000, 1,438,200 have been delivered since 5/6/45. Cylinder 76 as before.

6d.—Job No. 5205. Final delivery on 22/5/45, bringing total to 2,521,728. Cylinder 74 as before.

6d.—Job No. 6887. An order for 5,000,000 cards. Between 12/6/45 and 26/6/45 there were delivered 627,000 from cylinder 74. Since 19/7/45 there have been delivered 647,000 from a new cylinder No. 91.

(f)—South-West Africa

2d. War Postage Stamps.—4,999 sheets x 240 supplied by the P.M.G. and overprinted S.W.A. from old formes on 5/6/45.

4d. War Postage Stamps.—299 sheets x 360 supplied by the P.M.G. and overprinted S.W.A. from old formes on 31/7/45.

3d. S.W.A. Postage Stamps.—599 sheets x 60 supplied by the P.M.G. and overprinted Revenue/Inkomste from old formes on 5/6/45.

6d. S.W.A. Postage Stamps.—399 sheets x 60 supplied by the P.M.G. and overprinted Revenue/Inkomste from old formes on 5/6/45.

* * *

Mr. O. Lohff has now located the 3d. bantam with a white dot on top of the "C" of Africa, making it look like a larger letter, as No. 6 in the top row.

Mr. C. Calitz reports finding in a 2s. 6d. booklet of ½d. and 1d. stamps a vertical line in a centre pair of one of the sheets of six 1d. stamps, which was through the "M" of Inkomste in the top stamp and the "R" of Africa in the stamp below it.

The bantam 3d. has now appeared with the sheets showing figures (360) in the margins, continuous, *i.e.*, repeated eleven times with no blank opposite the central arrow.

The ordinary civilian all-air service at 1s. 3d. per ½ oz. rate was resumed from Britain to South Africa on 14th September, the first mail being delivered in Johannesburg on 24th September. A service from South Africa to Britain has been in operation since 22/5/44.

A PHILATELIST RETURNS

Lieut. Shingler, who has returned to the Union from the wars, sends notes picked up on his travels, about various issues. We give them arranged more or less from north to south:

Gross Deutsches Reich. Numerous emissions appearing at various times during the past year or two. Interesting, but they can wait for more complete cataloguing.

Austria. Graz overprints, really an "Austria Liberated" issue. This consists of 19 values (1—80 pf.) of recent German stamps bearing Hitler's portrait, overprinted vertically in black "Osterreich" with three vertical lines on either side.

Italian Socialist Republic. (a) "Monuments" set of 13 values, 12 (5c—3l) being for ordinary post, and one (L25l), a larger stamp, for express. These figure mainly monuments and buildings in various Italian towns. The 30c occurs in two shades of brown, one without watermark. Two values, the 20c red, Bologna cathedral, and the 25c green, Roma-Florenzo, have been overprinted respectively L1.20 and L2 in black, with "Poste Italiane" replacing "Repub. Sociale Italiana—Poste" which is obliterated by close set black lines.

(b) The Bandiera brothers have been honoured by three large sized stamps, 25c, L1 and L2.50, bearing their heads, a laurel branch and the dates 1844-1944.

Italy. The L10 orange of the Fascist regime (with head of Emperor Augustus) has been overprinted L2.50 with lines obliterating the fascist emblem, leaving only Poste Italiene.

Egypt. Three more values, 1, 15 and 20 mill. of the new Farouk series appeared in July. The Pan-Arab Union conference was commemorated the same month by the issue of two stamps, 10 mill purple and 22 mill green. These feature the flags of the various states of the Union with that of Egypt at the top. It is understood that stamps of similar design will be or have been issued by the members of the Union, the main variation being that each will have its own flag top centre.

WANT TO BUY

Cash or Exchange

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Send offers by air, do not send stamps until I send Import Number.

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S. RHODESIA

It is reported in "Stamp Collecting" that the latest printing of the 2d. Falls, on thin paper and of a deeper shade, has reverted to its original perforation of 12½, with which it made its debut in 1935. In 1941 it was changed to 14.

URGENT: WANTED TO BUY:

Collections, Accumulations, Dealers Stocks, Rare Single Stamps, etc., etc., in fact any kind of saleable material.

I am in a position to offer the highest prices obtainable, as I am doing a very large and quick turnover and require stock immediately to satisfy my world-wide clientele.

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Favourable prices will be appreciated and—still more important—will enable us to send you larger and more frequent orders than would otherwise be possible.

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LEADING STAMP FIRM OF NORTH AMERICA.

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Pretoria "Brains Trust"

At a recent meeting of the Pretoria Philatelic Society a programme was arranged by a certain section of the military members who elected a "Brains Trust" to whom they put previously prepared questions for extempore reply.

The "Brains Trust," comprising Dr. Broom, Dr. Broughton and Messrs. Wright, Dodds and Wilson, provided much interest and information to the members, and the evening was generally regarded as both entertaining and instructive.

The following are the questions submitted with a precis of the replies:—

1.—Question

To what extent and in what manner is the repair of stamps regarded as permissible without being considered "faking"?

Answer

This question elicited some difference of opinion. Whilst some members consider that no repairs of any sort are permissible, others feel that, provided there was no intent to deceive a purchaser, any repair was irreproachable and suggested the dictum "Better a manifest repair than a manifest tear." It seemed to be felt generally, however, that as the stamps of any collector will probably ultimately be sold, the repair of stamps must have the effect of deceiving a purchaser and should not be resorted to beyond the removal of dirt, rust and creases.

2.—Question

Is it possible to remove entirely, without damage to the stamp, creases from (a) mint; (b) used stamps? If so, how?

Answer

There appears to be no method of removing a crease from a mint stamp without affecting its gum, and when the crease in a used stamp is so severe as to have broken the fibres of the paper, it is also irremovable, but if to a lesser degree it may be removed by moisture and pressure under heat.

3.—Question

Why does Stanley Gibbons catalogue the stamps of Great Britain in great variety of detail and does not accord the same treatment to the stamps of the rest of the British Empire?

Answer

Several reasons were advanced for this. It was suggested that having bigger stocks, the proprietors of the catalogue know more about the stamps of Great Britain than those of other countries. Each country is inclined to specialise in its own stamps: the more definite varieties of plate number and corner letters provide greater scope for itemisation in a

catalogue than do the stamps of other Empire countries.

4—Question

It seems to be generally accepted that stamps are far more expensive in Cape Town than in any other part of the Union. What is the reason for this, and is it likely to prevail?

Answer

The members quite agree that this is so and all attribute it to the spate of passing military and naval traffic through the port: it seemed generally to be considered unlikely that this condition is likely to prevail.

5—Question

Is there a satisfactory colour chart available in normal times? Do the various big stamp dealers agree on the designations of various colours, e.g., is "Carmine Red" in Gibbons the same as "Carmine Red" in, say, "Whitfield King"? If no satisfactory chart is available, how can a novice decide with any degree of certainty on the various shades of the same colour as quoted in the modern catalogue?

Answer

This most vexed question brought forth some interesting opinions:

It seemed generally to be the opinion that no existing colour chart is satisfactory to a collector. It was pointed out, moreover, that the difficulty in setting standards of colour lay in the fact that no one person can tell whether what he sees appears to him to be the same as that which it appears to another. It is understood that in the U.S.A. some colour chart giving shades by numerical valuation was in existence, but there was no further information available regarding it. The consensus of opinion was that it is not possible to standardise colours, but that specialists could agree about the colours in which stamps had been produced, and upon the identity of the different coloured issues. Thereafter it would be up to the dealers and catalogue issuers to co-operate, which is not done at present, as in some cases, in regard to one stamp one catalogue lists six colour varieties, whilst another lists four differently named varieties. In the meantime the collector can only learn to distinguish and identify colours by comparison with known varieties and thus acquire experience.

6—Question

Should a complete sheet of Orange Free State stamps containing a number of errors and varieties be broken up to exhibit, ^{separately} the individual stamps containing the errors and varieties or should the sheet be retained intact, and if so, why?

Answer

There was complete unanimity in the reply to this question, which was that the sheet must most certainly be retained intact in order to know the position of the errors and varieties occurring on the sheet.

7—Question

Is it desirable and does it make a collection more interesting to collect colour and shade varieties which are not mentioned in catalogues?

Answer

There were diverse opinions on this matter. Some felt that the catalogue gave quite enough colour and shade varieties, if not too many, and that as shade varieties are often mere printing accidents and are not always indicative of separate printings but may even occur on the same sheet, a collector should not go beyond the distinctions made in the catalogue. Others pointed out that herein, *inter alia*, lay the difference between the specialist and the general collector and that the specialist having large quantities of material passing through his hands, can collect and arrange a larger variety of colours and shades which may be informative and interesting, though not considered worthy of catalogue rank for the purpose of the general collector. It was also pointed out that there are important shade varieties which are not separately listed in the catalogue.

8—Question

As stamps on first day covers seem to be worth more than the stamps themselves, does any additional value attach to a single stamp off cover but franked clearly with a postmark dated on the first day of its issue? If so, to what extent and if not, why not?

Answer

It was felt that stamps on first day covers should not have any greater value than stamps on or off cover bearing any other postmark date and that the comparatively modern craze for first day covers has created a quite artificial, unjustifiable and possibly only temporary value for them. There is, therefore, no additional value attaching to a separate stamp merely by virtue of any particular postmark date because those who might regard a first day cover as of additional value, would not accept a single stamp as a "first day" collectible item. A member pointed out that a "penny black" cover dated 6th May, 1840, would undoubtedly have a greater value than a separate undated stamp of that issue, and it was agreed that such a genuinely historic item was rather different from the artificially and deliberately created covers bearing modern commemoratives and that in such circumstances different considerations apply.

(To be continued)

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THE FAR EAST

Various philatelic papers have chronicled a number of Japanese overprints on stamps of Burma, Philippine Islands and Sarawak. Very probably such will have been found to have occurred in North Borneo, Dutch East Indies, etc., to say nothing of definite occupational issues. It may be taken for granted that new issues will be required in practically all the over-run territories.

PHILATELY AND THE DETECTIVE STORY

The detective story is to-day one of the most popular forms of fiction and it is interesting to note that in recent years there have been numerous references to philately by the authors of this interesting section of literature.

In many cases it is the criminal who is depicted as the stamp collector, but one author at least has a favourite detective who is bitten with the hobby. In some of the stories written by Mr. Vaughan Williams, his detective is Mr. Treadgold, a tailor by profession who has a flair for solving mysteries and who in his spare time is a philatelist and has one of the finest collections of British Empire in the world. In "Dead Man Manor" Mr. Treadgold finds himself in a remote Canadian village on a stamp hunting expedition, and the stamps he finds play an important part in helping him to solve the mystery of a murder which takes place.

In the "Chinese Lounge Mystery" by Ellery Queen the whole plot is based on a Chinese local stamp of great value. Murder is committed to possess it.

"Three Stamps of Death" by Maxwell Grant has a very strong philatelic interest. The three stamps referred to are three specimens of the British Solomon Islands issue of 1907. The story is actually about a gang who are dealing in forbidden issues of stamps from enemy-occupied territories. There are numerous references to stamps and the story is a most interesting one.

I. ISAACS.

★ ★ +

GERMANY

More AMGOT stamps are unlikely, as a new issue is foreshadowed when the Inter-Allied Commission is properly in the saddle. (It is still not clear whether the full issue has been four or nine denominations.) There has been no exchange in mails between the different occupied zones, but within city limits apparently any German stamp not showing any Nazi emblem has been valid for use concurrently with the Military Government issue.

The "American Philatelist" for August has a very interesting article on the inflation stamps of 1921-23, "The Catalogue's Stepchildren," as they are called. Also another on the colossal task facing the Allies in rebuilding the German Post Office at present.

BELGIUM

Philately has evidently got going strongly here. We have received a postcard issued on the occasion of a philatelic exhibition held in Antwerp on 21 and 22 July; it has a special cancellation reading "Antwerpen/Postzegel Tentoonstelling."

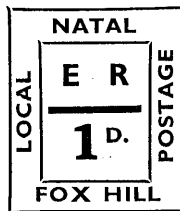
A so-called Liberation series of 14 overprinted stamps turns out to be a privately organised series made by the Belgian Dealers Association. They were only used at Bastogne and may be given status as locals.

NATAL LOCAL POSTS.

Some time ago a correspondent wrote asking for information about a supposed Local Post said to have once been in operation in Natal.

Details about this have been tracked down in Fred J. Melville's "Phantom Philately," for the loan of which thanks are due to Mr. A. Lichtenstein of Bloemfontein. What follows is taken verbatim from Mr. Melville's book and there appears to be no further comment needed; readers should be able easily to decide whether this scheme came into the category of Local Posts or not.

In 1902 the "Philatelic Monthly Referee" received a letter from a correspondent in Natal, with the 1d. Natal stamp, and in addition a label of which the accompanying is an approximate representation. It was followed



by the explanation that it was "used for franking correspondence carried across country per Kaffir runners . . . they were printed by 'Pinhole' process." The "Stamp Collector's Fortnightly" later obtained a full history from the originator, and it is sufficiently frank to outclass the Fox Hill labels from any category of local Postage stamps:

It was simply a private local manufactured by myself and used on letters which my native carried to a friend of mine some few miles off. This Kaffir was paid at the end of the month at the rate of one penny for each letter he had carried during that period. Not wishing to take the trouble of making a note of each letter or packet I sent, I printed a certain number (100) of this stamp and despatched half to my friend. At the end of the month it was of course plain to see how many letters had been carried each way by the number each of us had left. Thus each paid his

own postage in a lump sum. Being dissatisfied with the first design I subsequently manufactured a second, and finally a third type, printing 40 of the former and 50 of the latter.

When my friend moved away a short time ago it was more convenient to write per post, and hence the Local Service was discontinued.

The stamps appear to have been made on a home-made duplicator, or perhaps cyclo-style (which may explain the 'Pinhole' process); the first type is approximately as illustrated; the second has a three-letter monogram in place of ER, and the third has a very amateurish profile portrait.

o o o

Since finding this record of the Fox Hill post Part 5 of the "Catalogue of Local Postage Stamps" has appeared (see page 119).

From it we quote the following:—"About April, 1846, the 'Natal Witness,' a Durban newspaper, ran a private postal service between that town and Pietermaritzburg. Copies of the newspaper and letters were carried by native runners, who took two days over the journey. So far as can be ascertained, no stamps were issued, nor have the compilers seen any covers which could definitely be ascribed to the service. The post ceased operations in 1850."

10 Different Airmail Covers	5/0
Great Britain K.G. V 1912-22 Mint 1d.	
1/- 10 values	8/6
K.G. VI 5/- and 10/- light blue, used . .	3/9
St. Lucia K.G. VI used 2/- at 3/3; 5/- at 8/6	
New Guinea 1939 Air 5d. used	2/0
Poland "Monte Cassino" mint	15/0
300 Different Br. Colonials 10/-; 500 22/-;	
1,000 60/-; 1,500 £6 10s.; 2,000 £12 10s.	

CASH WITH ORDER: POSTAGE EXTRA.

F. G. FIFOOT, P.T.S.

125 College Road, Moseley, Birmingham, England

AUSTRALIA

We have received a very well produced illustrated price list of stamps from the philatelic department of Myer Emporium, Ltd., Box 783, P.O. Melbourne. It is strongest in British Empire stamps, but there are also quite a number of foreign; it is described as for beginners and medium collectors.

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Victory Set

This is to consist of 11 stamps, from ½d. to 1s. denominations. The designs submitted by Mr. J. Berry, of Wellington, were decided on by a committee of postal officials and philatelists. The ½d., 9d. and 1s. present New Zealand scenes; the other denominations offer tribute to the Dominion Government, the people of Great Britain, the Royal Family and to various service and workers' groups.

Health Stamps for Roosevelt Collection

Knowing the late President's interest in the care of crippled children, a complete set of the health stamps was offered to him. It was accepted, but unfortunately the actual collection did not reach America before his death.

The 1945 Health Stamps depict the statue of Peter Pan in Kensington Gardens, London.

Wood Pulp Paper Issues

Most of the war issue stamps are on this paper, which is so absorbent that postmarks often leave a greasy stain. It is hoped better paper will be available soon, but, of course, this will mean a whole lot of new shades.

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S. RHODESIAN POSTMARK

Mr. H. C. Dann writes from England that the clue to Mr. Ward's unidentified postmark, mentioned in our June issue, is to be found in his "Romance of the Posts of Rhodesia," p. 136.

The mark is practically certainly that of Sebangapoort, an office opened in 1898 but named Selukwe the same year. The original cancellation stamp remained in use for some years contemporaneously with the new Selukwe one.

Mr. Frank W. Porter, of Bulawayo, has also sent the identification as Sebangapoort.



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JOHANNESBURG

MAFEKING SIEGE CANCELLATION

THE "1900" SLUG

By DR. K. FREUND

In the June number of this Magazine, Dr. Harvey Pirie and Mr. A. Jurgens query two points mentioned in my brief article on the "1900" slug of the Mafeking cancellation (*ibid.*, February, 1945).

At the outset I would like to point out that my statements made in that article were based on information given to me by the late siege postmaster, Mr. J. V. Howat, and by the late Mr. A. Thomas, who was telegraphist and did relief duty at the siege post office. I had no reason to doubt the correctness of their statements, but it is, of course, possible that their recollections may not have been accurate in every detail.

As far as I know, there is hardly any personality left now who had any connection with the postal service of the siege and who might have helped us with our problems. At the time when I corresponded with the two mentioned gentlemen, I was mainly interested in the problem of the various printings of the Mafeking stamps and did not ask for further particulars about the cancellation date stamp.

However, I think I have found now a very likely solution of the problem concerning the *origin* of the "1900" slug, and also some further details with regard to the Mafeking date stamp in general:

I.

While going through some Mafeking material of "odds and ends," I came across a photo of a Mafeking cover, the former owner of which had jotted down at the back the following interesting note: "The post office official had no index '00' for the year, so he had a '1900' made in the besieged town."

The person in question has also died, and I could not obtain any further help or clue in this connection. But although we cannot verify it any more, there is every likelihood for this being correct. A glance through the siege newspaper copies will convince one that there were many craftsmen in the besieged place who could have easily produced such a slug. The most likely presumption is that it was manufactured in the comparatively well-equipped printing works of "The Mafeking Mail" (Messrs. Townshend and Son).

To do Mr. Thomas, who informed me that the slug was found in the magistrate's office, some justice it is possible that the "1900" slug was first ordered and intended for the magistrate's office, where it was needed right away in January, while the special postal service came into being only on March 23, and only then the problem of a "1900" slug arose here. I can imagine that there are various date stamps for different departments required in the magistrate's office, so that the

examples seen by Mr. Jurgens and Dr. Pirie are no criterion.

In reconstructing the case as best we can (we have apparently no other choice left any more), I would say that the slug was actually derived from the magistrate's office, as Mr. Thomas said, and that it had been *manufactured* for this office in the besieged town.

II.

With regard to the destroying of the Mafeking date stamp, it is possible that Mr. Howat's information, although given in good faith, may be erroneous, as nearly half a century has passed since the event and he may have been transferred on promotion soon after relief.

As soon as there was again contact with the Head Office in Cape Town, the general principle of the postal authorities was to put out of use everything connected with the special siege service, especially the stamps and the printing paraphernalia, and an Announcement by the Postmaster-General in the Government Gazette later in the year (9/11/1900) was a confirmation of this policy. The reason was that only the original face value of the overprinted issues had been paid by the military authorities to the civil postal authorities, while all revenue which had accrued from the surcharge above face and from the locally made stamps had gone to the military authorities. This was done mainly to obtain extra revenue in order to pay the high remuneration for the native runners.

Mr. Howat's information respecting presumption was apparently based on this general policy, and I must state here in his defence that a *different cancellation was actually used immediately after relief in the latter part of May*, namely, the "Field P.O." (base office) cancellation. I possess such a cover with a Mafeking stamp affixed, which was passed by the authorities and cancelled with the "Field P.O." cancellation.

Incidentally, Mafeking has not been recorded yet as belonging to the places where this cancellation was used, so here are some particulars for the specialist: It is the Base Office "double circle" mark, 26 mm. in diameter, dated MY 20, 00, the asterisk above date is just under 3 mm. in size, and there are vertical dashes before FIELD and after B.O. The cover was doubtlessly posted in Mafeking, as it has the imprint of the "Mafeking Club" on its flap, has the address of the sender written on it and last but not least bears a Mafeking stamp. Besides other transit postmarks, it shows one of Kimberley dated MY 27, 00.

It is possible, as I say, that in June, when things became settled to a certain extent, the old date stamp, used during the siege, was resorted to again, as Dr. Pirie and Mr. Jurgens presume. It is an easy matter to check this up *definitely*, i.e., whether the cancellations specified by them are actually from the old siege date stamp or from a new one of similar type:

During the latter part of the siege, certain letters of the date stamp became worn and damaged, developing constant characteristics of the lettering of the cancellation (just as we find them in lettering of overprints). The main characteristics which should always show distinctly, even in cases of heavy inking, are the following: The I and G. of MAFEKING show cuts, slanting upwards, and the H of C.G.H. has a horizontal cut through its right foot.

The description of further particulars and characteristics of the cancellation, including dates of their development, will be the subject of a separate article.

Here these three pronounced characteristics may suffice. They must show in the examples mentioned by Dr. Pirie and Mr. Jurgens, if their theory that the siege cancellation was kept in use for some time afterwards holds good.

COMMENT BY J. H. HARVEY PIRIE
AND A. A. JURGENS

Dr. Freund brings forward some evidence that this slug may have been made locally in Mafeking. It is not conclusive proof but we must accept it as a possibility, perhaps even a probability.

We still think it unlikely that it was made for a date stamp in the magistrate's office. These offices did normally have more than one stamp, an oval brass one and several rubber stamps. The former would normally have had an "00" in fairly large figures, the "1900" might have fitted into it, but why supply this stamp when others were available? However, this is a comparatively minor issue and the argument need not be laboured.

We cannot agree with his statement that it is possible to check up *definitely* by the presence or absence of certain flaws in the letters of the postmarks whether the covers were reported as posted on 5th and 13th June and 3rd August, were made by the old siege canceller or by a new one of the same type.

Actually they show the cuts in the "I" and the "H" but not in the "G."

We are familiar with these flaws, which are often seen on genuine postmarks, but they are not constant: it is easy to find two marks alongside of each other on one "piece," one showing the flaws, the other not. So much depends on the amount of inking and the degree of pressure used in making them.

For example, we have marks (not on stamps, from backstamps on covers and from telegram forms) dated as late as 10th November, 1900, some of which show all of these flaws (and others), some show one or other of them, or none at all.

Moreover, it is exceedingly unlikely that if a new stamper had been issued it would have had the year expressed as "1900." It would have been in the standard manner, "00." Nor would it have been likely to have had the letters "C.G.H." at all: that type had become obsolete in the Cape, and it would have had the new type, which definitely was supplied in 1900. Further, knowing when telegraphic and rail communications were restored between

Mafeking and the south, we do not consider it possible that a new date stamp could have arrived from Cape Town, at any rate, by 5th June.

The finding of a British B.O. cancellation from Mafeking is an interesting new place record for this type of army postmark, but, of course, it has nothing to do with the subject under discussion. That particular army P.O. must have accompanied the relieving column.

We raised the matter of the 1900 slug in connection with Vryburg postmarks, only incidentally mentioning the Mafeking one. Since then we have found a similar slug in a mark from Richmond, Natal. It would seem probable that other Natal offices had them also. We might put forward the theory that some such slugs were captured by Boer forces in Natal, that one was taken to Vryburg and that a Boer carrying one was captured by the Mafeking defenders. This would give a common origin (presumably Cape Town) for all these identical or very similar slugs, but it is perhaps straining one's imagination rather far! So we think this subject had better be dropped until more definite evidence turns up. (Agreed, Editor.)

Offers from Britain.

CHANNEL ISLANDS (Jersey). German Occupation issues. Arms of Jersey. Complete pair. Mint 2/6. Used 3/4. Pictorials. Complete set of 6. Mint 10/-. Used 13/6. Pictorials. Short set of 4 highest values. Mint 8/-.

CHANNEL ISLANDS (Guernsey). German occupation issue. Arms of Guernsey. Complete issue of 5 stamps. Mint 16/-. Used 15/6.

EIRE. "Young Ireland Movement" Commemorative issued Sept. 15th. The complete mint set of 2 values 1/-.

ITALY (Sicily). 1943 Allied Military Government issue (AMGOT). The complete mint set of 9 values, obsolete and scarce. 10/9.

JAMAICA. 1945 Constitution Commemorative, issued August 20th. The complete mint set of 7 values 1½d.—10/- 22/6. Short set of 6 mint values 1½d.—5/- 10/-.

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U.S.A.

The 1 cent Roosevelt memorial stamp appeared on 26th July. It shows his portrait and house at Hyde Park and first day covers were issued from the Hyde Park P.O. The 2 cent with the same portrait and the "Little White House" was issued at Warm Springs on 24th August.

WHEN WAS VRYBURG C.G.H. OCCUPIED IN 1899 ?

In connection with the Vryburg issue of stamps, overprinted Z.A.R. on or about November 24, 1899, the question has been raised as to when this town was occupied by the Transvaal Boers during the war that gave occasion for this issue. It has been generally taken for granted, and I have followed this in my articles published in 1941 to 1943, as well as in my book on "Philately of the Anglo-Boer War," that the occupation took place about this time.

Mr. Ed. Richardson, Ithaca, N.Y., who has access to the "Times History of the War in South Africa, 1899-1902," unearthed recently some definite information on Vryburg from that source. In Vol. 2, on page 272, he found a considerable history of the occupation of Vryburg. The Boers approached it on October 14, 1899, cutting off rail and telegraph communication from the south. On the morning of the 15th, a public meeting in Vryburg demanded that the town be surrendered. Major Scott, British army officer in charge, left the town that same day with the six men who stood for resistance. On October 18, 1900, Vryburg was occupied by a force of about 1,300 Boers commanded by General J. H. de la Rey.

This puts the occupation some five weeks before the appearance of the stamps. In the light of this fact, the statement made by others as well as myself, that no Transvaal stamps were brought to Vryburg by the Boers, must be dismissed as an error due to lack of information. It is clear that a shortage of stamps did occur during the occupation, in the second half of November, and that the Vryburg issue was made to supply this need. That the General may have said what is often alleged as the reason for making the stamps, "Oh, slap the Queen in the face," or equivalent words, is quite possibly true and would be in character. But that this was the *reason for the issue* is to neglect the actual situation. There is an explicit statement as to lack of stamps having existed in Vryburg, in the Transvaal's "Extraordinary Circular No. 80, issued by the postal authorities at Pretoria on November 29, 1899, and quoted in several articles and books.

Up to writing this article, I have no record or report of Transvaal stamps used at Vryburg before November 24, 1899. If any such have been preserved, a record of the value and date of use, and description of the cover, if they are still on cover, would be a useful addition to our philatelic knowledge of Vryburg in 1899 and 1900. Whoever may have such items is urged to publish a record of them.

STEPHEN G. RICH.

(Mr. Rich seems to have overlooked the article by Pirie and Rich in the "S.A. Philatelist," 1944, p. 122, where the occupation date was put at October 25, 1899, on the strength of a cover bearing a mixture of Cape and Z.A.R. stamps and stated to have been a "day of occupation" cover. Which evidence is the more credible? Anyway, it is now clear that

Z.A.R. stamps were used prior to 24th November and a shortage of them provides a reason for the overprinted issue. The cover just mentioned had Cape ½d. and 1d. (Hope standing) stamps and Z.A.R. ½d., 1d., 2d. and 1s. stamps of the 1896-97 issue.—Editor.)

THE PHILATELIC EXPORTER

is the independent advertising circular of a group of well-known British, Colonial and Foreign Wholesalers, distributed by airmail throughout U.S.A., Canada, Australia, New Zealand, India, Egypt, Palestine, British West Indies, Malta, Gibraltar, etc. In Europe it is circulated throughout France, Holland, Belgium and Switzerland.

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ENGLAND.

EUROPEAN LIBERATION STAMPS

Netherlands is having a 7½ cent "Herrijzend" (Rise Again) stamp featuring the lion trampling on a dragon.

Czechoslovakia has had a number of locally applied overprints on stamps of the erstwhile Bohemia-Moravia Protectorate, but it is not yet clear how far these are recognised by the central government.

Austria has had overprinted Hitlerian stamps, some with merely "Osterreich," others with a heavy grill of bars across the head. There is now a definitive issue of the Austrian Republic, featuring the old eagle, but with a sickle and a hammer flanking it on either side.

There has also been an AMGOT issue of 11 denominations. The design, common to all, shows figure of value in top corners, "Groschen" down the sides, "Osterreich" at the bottom and a posthorn in the centre.

Norway has been using the stamps prepared and used by the Government while in England. These stamps have also been overprinted "Verge Land" (words from the National Anthem signifying "I will defend my country"). There have also been some new issues since the Government returned home, including three dedicated to the poet Wergeland.

U.S.S.R. has issued a set of three depicting the rout of the Hitlerite hordes near Moscow, also two commemorating Stalingrad.

CHINA

China issued on 7th July a series of five stamps (\$1, 2, 5, 6, 10 and 20) commemorating her treaty with Britain and U.S.A. made in 1943 doing away with extra-territorial rights. The stamps bear the Marshal's portrait, the New York Statue of Liberty and the flags of the three nations in natural colours.

Collectors' Wants & Offers

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

Seychelles and Sierra Leone fine used copies wanted. Particularly Edward and George. High prices willingly paid.

William Redford, Box 7012, Johannesburg.

Transvaal, Griqualand West, O.F.S. covers and rarities wanted by A. E. Basden, Killarney, Brickhill Road, Durban.

Wanted: Transvaal, Natal, Cape, O.F.S., Bechuanaland, Gambia, St. Helena, Egypt, France. Picked copies, rarities and varieties, also 9,000 items for world collection up to 1933 issues. E. Hunt, Box 2437, Johannesburg.

For Service, promptness and satisfaction.

Benoni Stamp Shop, Box 485, Benoni. Phone 54-1692.

Captain Priest, P/B. Marandellas, Southern Rhodesia, offers Rhodesians and British Colonials. Send want list.

BARGAIN OFFER: Somaliland 1938 5Rs mint 30s. cash with order; also other stamps for sale.

T. E. Karachiwalla, Mackenzie Road, Mombasa.

Pencancelled Cape Triangulars wanted for specialised collection high prices paid for fine copies.

Thiele, 455 West Street, Durban.

Exchange wanted all countries. Can supply wholesale Silver Jubilees, Australians, New Issues, etc. Send prices stating requirements.

J. R. Allen, Dale House, Frosterley. Co., Durham, England.

Mr. E. Tamsen, Box 13, Nylstroom, has still some blocks and controls, also entires of African countries to offer.

Jubilees: Complete mint including Seal and N.Z. dependencies in blocks with rare narrow letters; also complete on cover, most F.D.C. and private addresses, including Seal and extra odd values. Coronations: Complete mint and F.D.C. In 2 fine albums, £88.

Q. de Beer, Boshof, O.F.S.

Wanted to Exchange: Mint and used, South Africa for Canadians, Newfoundland mint and used.

John Butt, 235 Grand Avenue, London, Ontario, Canada.

Wanted to buy: Miniature 1d. South Africa without rouletting, block of six, 3 x 2 cr larger block.

Reply c/o the "S.A. Philatelist."

Review

We have received the final (Part 5) of Messrs. E. F. Hurt and L. N. and M. Williams' "Priced Catalogue of Local Postage Stamps." This includes from Trondhjem, Part 2, to Zawiercie, together with an appendix including various posts not included in earlier parts.

The only African item in the main portion is the Uganda "Missionary" series of type-written stamps. Should not the printed stamps of 1896 also have been included? They were only valid for postage as far as Mombasa and had to have E.A. Protectorate stamps added on mail going overseas.

The Appendix includes the O.V.S. "Commando Brief" and "R.D.M." stamps, also the Matabeleland Reuter's Telegraph Service stamps and a postal service run by the "Natal Witness" about 1846-50. We hope to have something more to say about some of these later.

Meanwhile, the authors are to be congratulated on the completion of a very fascinating catalogue.

New Arrivals :

Ethiopia 1945 Menelik Centenary, cpl. mint	6/6
Ethiopia 1945 Victory issue, on un-issued Red Cross cpl. mint	5/6
Nyasaland Pictorial (14) cpl. mint	55/0
Nyasaland Pictorial (13) to 10/- mint	30/0
Nyasaland Pictorial (9 values) to 1/- mint	4/6
Great Britain, George VI, 10/- bright blue, superb used	2/0
Great Britain, George VI, 10/- bright blue, pairs	4/6
Great Britain, George VI, 10/- bright blue, blocks of 4	10/6
Jamaica Constitution cpl. (expected any day) mint	27/6

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BLOEMFONTEIN, O.F.S.



GREECE

There were expected to be issued about 1st September three Roosevelt memorial stamps; each bearing his portrait in colour with a deep surround in black

SOCIETY NEWS

THE PHILATELIC SOCIETY OF NATAL

President, Mr. A. L. Bevis; Hon. Sec., G. Milner Palmer, P.O. Box 588, Durban; Meetings, 1st and 3rd Wednesdays at London Assurance House, 319 Smith Street (in the rooms of the Durban Camera Club, top floor), 7.30 p.m.

September was undoubtedly one of the best attended meetings for many moons, which we hope is a good omen for the future.

The usual monthly notes on "Stamps Worth Watching For" was read by Mr. W. H. Winde.

A very fine collection was tabled by Mr. A. F. van Leeuwen, consisting of Holland and Dutch East Indies. This exhibit was outstanding considering the short period in which it had been collected, and was enjoyed by all.

As mentioned before, something new would be held in the way of a competition, and it proved to be a "Brains Trust." The Brains Trust consisted of Mr. L. Bevis, Mr. G. Milner Palmer, and Mr. A. E. Basden. Here are some of the questions asked, and the readers can wrestle with these themselves. "Which in your opinion is the more desirable to collect, Mint or used stamps?" "Does a stamp purchased as a mint copy cease to be such when it is affixed to an album sheet by hinges, if so, what description would you then apply to it?" "Can you explain what is meant by the terms 'Essay' and 'Die-proof'?"

The manner in which these questions were answered by the trust was most illuminating, and was definitely a philatelic education.

The usual auction was held, and the meeting closed with the feeling that a good night had been passed with enjoyment by all. W.H.W.

★

THE PHILATELIC SECTION OF THE JEWISH GUILD

Chairman, Mr. A. Gladstone; Hon. Sec., Mr. I. Isaacs, 910 His Majesty's Buildings, Eloff Street, Johannesburg; Meetings, last Thursday in each month at the Jewish Guild Memorial Hall, Von Brandis Street, Johannesburg, at 8 p.m.

At the meeting held on August 30, the East Rand Philatelic Society paid a visit to the Guild and were responsible for the exhibits of the evening.

After the formal business of the meeting was concluded, Lt. J. A. B. van Wyk, president of the East Rand Society, took the chair and introduced the exhibitors.

Mr. J. Rigg showed some sheets of Sarawak, and other British Empire issues. All the specimens were in fine condition, and the exhibit was most interesting.

Mr. H. Suklje's exhibit was shown for him by Mr. Gutsche. It consisted of mint blocks of four of all the issues of King George VI. It was a fine exhibit which made a beautiful show.

Mr. J. Shepherd showed a fine lot of Cape Triangular stamps, including some fine wood blocks in perfect condition. All the specimens shown were with perfect margins and there were some pairs and blocks.

Lt. van Wyk showed his collection of South West Africa. This included nearly all the errors and varieties. There were nearly all the varieties "no stop after A." The exhibit included the miniature 1s. with the overprint inverted. Altogether the exhibit was a nearly complete collection of this interesting country.

Dr. A. Kaplan spoke on the exhibit and proposed a vote of thanks to the visitors, which was heartily accorded.

The evening concluded with a quiz contest between teams from the Guild and the East Rand. Dr. Kaplan was the question-master. The East Rand was the winner of the contest. I.I.

★

THE PHILATELIC SOCIETY OF JOHANNESBURG.

President, Mr. E. C. Sprighton; Hon. Secretary, Mr. J. Robertson, P.O. Box 4967, Johannesburg; Meetings, 2nd Tuesdays, Public Library, Johannesburg, at 7.45 p.m.

At the September meeting there were two exhibits. Mr. I. Isaacs showed his collection of 20th Century Bermuda. Except for a few of the varieties of shade,

the collection was complete in mint specimens. There were also a few used in the more recent issues. The exhibit included the Commemoratives and the George VI 2d. 1938 issue. There were some flown and censored covers.

Mr. L. Buchen tabled an almost complete collection of Bosnia, and introduced his exhibit with a short paper. This was a most interesting historical exhibit.

Mr. H. Suklje spoke on the exhibits, and proposed a vote of thanks to the exhibitors.

During the evening two new members were elected.

Mr. I. Isaacs read some notes from current philatelic literature, and the usual auction was held for war funds. I.I.

★

PRETORIA PHILATELIC SOCIETY

President, Lt.-Col. G. Lance Horne; Hon. Secretary, H. A. Wager, P.O. Box 514; Meetings, 1st and 3rd Mondays, 8 p.m., Technical College.

September 3: Lt.-Col. Lance Horne in the chair. Mr. H. N. B. Hawke read an article on the bisects of the Channel Islands during its occupation.

Competition Evening: This was arranged by Mr. Hawke and Dr. Broughton in the form of questions on philatelic knowledge to be answered by the members. Mr. Hawke gave twenty questions requiring "yes" or "no," or false or true as answers, and Dr. Broughton gave twenty questions requiring very concise answers. Both sets of questions were well thought out and covered a wide range of philately. The two winners were Mr. Wright and Mr. Oppenheim, who tied for first place, but in a second short contest Mr. Wright became the winner with Mr. Oppenheim second. Prizes were awarded.

September 17: Lt.-Col. Lance Horne in the chair. Mr. Hawke read an article on the reorganisation of Gibbons Stamp establishment.

Mr. Oppenheim gave an interesting talk on the Republic of Dominica, a place which he had visited in the Caribbean Sea. This is part of the island of Haiti and was the first place where Columbus landed, and in fact where he was eventually buried. He gave a short account of the changes which had taken place in the government of the country. Many very interesting stamps had been issued, but they appeared very difficult to obtain, especially considering that they were not very high priced. Mr. Oppenheim showed a fairly extensive collection of those he had been able to obtain. He also showed a few sheets of some rather uncommon stamps, including some of Jersey. H.A.W.

★

PORT ELIZABETH PHILATELIC SOCIETY

President, G. K. Forbes; Hon. Sec., Mr. D. G. Y. Malcolm, P.O. Box 458; Meetings, Room 8, City Hall Basement, at 7.45 p.m., 1st and 3rd Tuesdays.

The first meeting of the month was given over to an auction, and all present had an enjoyable evening.

The second and business meeting was on September 18, and a large gathering attended.

The display was in the capable hands of Mr. Malcolm who showed 50 pages from his general collection. As the president remarked, "There was some really good stuff, nearly all the sets were mint neatly mounted."

The style of mounting the Nyasaland stamps, which were complete, was unique and interesting. Half of the display were airmails of different countries, and Mr. Malcolm is to be congratulated on his splendid exhibits.

The secretary then read a paper on Mauritius stamps, and why in early days they were the only stamps of British possession to differ from the English design.

A hearty welcome was given to Mr. Eric Carr, president of Grahamstown Society, who at one time was secretary of the P.E. Branch.

A hearty vote of thanks was given to Mr. Malcolm, and the meeting closed at 9.15 p.m. L.E.C.

★ ★ ★

NYASALAND

The new series duly appeared on 1st September, and a very nice looking lot they are — 14 denominations, ½d. to £1, total face value 42s. 9d.

The SEASONS

Spring flowers are a blaze of colour . . .
Summer sunbathing is here again . . .
Autumn leaves are falling . . . what do
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Vol. 21, No. 11.

NOVEMBER, 1945.

Whole No. 248

The Past Season

With the August Sale at Bournemouth the 1944-45 auction season drew to a successful close and following the custom of previous years we publish below the results of all those auctions held during this period under the direction of Robson Lowe Ltd., of Pall Mall, London, S.W.1.

No. of Sales.	Class of Sale.	No. of Lots.	Valuation.	Realisation.	Percentage of Realisation.
14	Great Britain	3,919	£21,022	£22,513	107.1
9	*Specialised	2,131	£34,935	£35,335	101.1
16	General	4,483	£28,269	£29,532	104.4
5	Postal History	1,432	£5,260	£5,885	111.8
11	Bournemouth	3,142	£21,042	£21,161	100.5
55	Total	15,107	£110,528	£114,426	103.5

* These figures include the collections of British Guiana and Belgium which were sold intact at the valuation (£8,000 and £7,500 respectively) before the sales. Abstracting these figures the percentage realisation is raised to 102.3 under this heading.

We do not make a practice of publishing any commentary from the buying and selling public as we believe that the annual publication of our figures proves the popularity of the methods adopted for the disposal of philatelic properties. These methods have made the purchase of valuable collections a sound financial proposition, a high proportion of the material offered having been previously sold by us in the past.

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Whole No. 248

Editorial

STRONG MEAT

On another page we publish a communication in verse from a reader who describes himself as a collector of Union stamps on a semi-specialised basis.

It will be fairly obvious that his verse has reference to articles by Mr. H. A. Sydow and, in a covering letter sent with the verse he states that he has read these articles with much interest, that they have helped him to a better understanding of his stamps and that he looks forward to more of them.

At the same time, however, he admits that he has to read, re-read and study the articles before fully grasping the purport of them—hence his “Rubaiyat.” The writing is without malice, for he is a friend of Mr. Sydow, and has informed him of his authorship.

We have recognised all along that Mr. Sydow’s articles are highly specialised, strong meat, and perhaps “caviare to the general.” But we have ample proof that they are appreciated by the particular specialists to whom they appeal. And, let it not be forgotten, that one of the main objects in view when the *South African Philatelist* was taken over by the Federation was to provide a medium for the publication of specialised articles on the philately of Southern Africa. The particular value of Mr. Sydow’s research will be more generally appreciated when the points he has made come to be absorbed into the new Union Handbook now in preparation under the auspices of the Federation.

In the meantime, it is up to those whose interests lie in other fields to let us have the benefit of their studies—write about them and let your fellow-collectors share your knowledge. Don’t be a lone wolf.

ETRE

Two stamps, 2½d. and 6d., commemorating the centenary of the “Young Ireland Movement”; they portray a youth sowing seed.

—Windsor Stamp Co.

UNION AND S.W.A.

Mr. Axer notes that the new printing of the 10s. stamps, which has been on sale in Cape Town since 24-8-45, is of a deep shade of brown, which considerably enhances the appearance of the stamps.

He also records that the meter post numbers have increased considerably since Mr. G. W. Hocking’s list of them as at 4-3-43 was published. Neoposts have increased from 278 to 292, Midgets from 365 to 401, and Univerals from 158 to 203.

The 1½d. bantams, after having been unobtainable at most offices for many months, have made a reappearance during the past two months or so. It would seem that reserve stocks have been put on sale, with instructions to get them used up as quickly as possible, for they are being stuck in large blocks on parcels and telegrams, and don’t the postal clerks like it!

The ½d. bantams have now appeared with marginal 360’s in green.

Mr. Roth reports that the 4d. bantam with purple marginal imprint, overprinted S.W.A., is now on issue.

He has also forwarded for inspection five 2d. Bantams (two Unions and three with S.W.A. overprint), all of which show a white hair line running vertically the whole length of the stamps, approximately in the centre of them.

We hope to illustrate our Victory issue in next month’s issue.

★ ★ ★

O.F.S. MYSTERY

Under this heading *Stamp Collecting* of September 8 illustrates stamps from a private letter addressed to a lady in England under date of September 16, 1900. Two of the three stamps have the normal V.R.I. overprint; the third is a penny stamp with an overprint of V.R. only, of a type reminiscent of that used on Transvaal stamps some twenty-three years earlier. Could it have been an experimental overprint which found its way into circulation, or what is its nature? Have any of our Free State specialists knowledge of anything similar?

ASSIDUITY ASIDE.

(A collector of "Unions" is somewhat bemused after trying to digest certain articles in *S.A. Philatelist* Nos. 223, 228, 244.)

Go, humble creature; mount where science reigns!

Accept the proffered research and its gains.
Absorb the learned wisdom, given sincere,
Couched in such phrases—exquisitely clear!
Then leave unturned no stone by swift
applying

Such knowledge to your pages. Keep on
trying . . .

Consider your children, whom the philatelic
muse

Has cunningly inspired—shall they choose
To drift in shameless ignorance, without
thought

For stampic mysteries? Or yet be taught
The "wheres" and "whys" and "hows" your
science bounds,

And tread with you its many mazy rounds?
Enough, I say! shall I let it be known,

To future generations, that I own
No "Transverse Rectangulars" in "sextuple"
array

Giving me "guide-dots" when or where I may?
And shall I say that I have never learned
To show my "backgrounds quasi-engine-
turned"?

Or that "allotments" to be really great
Must be "embellished" in "subjacent" state
With "dual-printed vignettes"? "Definitively"
No!

I'll have my "binary impressions" in
"intaglio,"

"Cited afore," my "concomitants" find
In "anastatic quadriform" behind,
And all "impinging," "lateral margins" show
How I my "gutters vertical" do know.

"Anent" each new denomination see
The printer's imprint "limned" horizontally
In "hardened steel" my "positives" display,
(My "negatives" in "transfer" rolled away.)

.

So shall at length, in persevered array,
My pages proudly flaunt their massed display.
Some may admire. Others will disdain
The detail. Only I, will know the pain!!

"PETTIFOG."

THE CURRENT TWOPENNY STAMP.

AN OPTICAL ILLUSION

By Emil Tamsen

On behalf of stamp collectors I wish to register a strong protest against the current twopenny stamp (which appeared about the beginning of March, 1945) having been passed for issue by the Government Printing Works.

The facade of the Union Buildings, Pretoria, between the two towers is in reality, of course, concave outwards, as seen by anyone regarding it from outside. But in the vignette of our latest twopenny stamp does it look concave? To me it looks convex, the centre bulging towards one, instead of looking farther away than the ends.

I admit, however, that there is an element of optical illusion about this appearance. If on *thinks* of it as concave, one *can* see it as concave; but I have to think very hard to see it thus (as it should be), ordinarily I see it as convex.

As to whether this is the result of a peculiar lighting effect when it was photographed or has been brought about in the reproduction from the original photograph, I can offer no opinion, but I do feel that the authorities in the Government Printing Works have been, to say the least, careless in passing this stamp for issue when it can so glaringly misrepresent one of our lovely buildings. It is unfortunate that they have broken a record of many well designed and well finished stamps with no errors or faults of significance.

Pictorial stamps of a country are intended to show up the best points, like beauty spots, or historical scenes, buildings, etc., and an artist may be permitted some idealisation, but not to the extent of turning part of a building inside out!

Some of our pictorial stamps have now done about twenty years' service; the large war issue on the whole looked well, the small war issue served as well under difficult circumstances and the Victory stamps will suitably close the war period. Could we not now have something different, typical of South African life in peace time?

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UNION ARMY P.O.'s

The time for the full story of the Union Army Post Offices is not yet, for some of them are still operating; but in reply to a request for certain information about their work, the Director of the Army Postal Service has supplied the following information, which we have much pleasure in publishing:—

(a) South African Army Post Offices operated in (i) Northern Rhodesia, Kenya, Uganda, Tanganyika, Eritrea, Italian Somaliland, British Somaliland, Ethiopia (Abyssinia); (ii) Madagascar; (iii) Egypt, Libya, Cyrenaica, Tripolitania, Tunisia, Algeria, Morocco; (iv) Palestine, Syria; (v) Sicily, Italy; (vi) Great Britain; (vii) South Africa.

(b) (i) East African postage stamps were sold in the countries named in (a) (i) except Northern Rhodesia, where the stamps of that country were used; (ii) On 3.2.41 the South African and East African Army Postal Services were amalgamated and the date stamps "A.P.O.—U—M.P.K." were substituted by "E.A./A.P.O." This arrangement lasted until the conclusion of the East African campaign. (iii) South African postage stamps were not sold by the Army Post Offices abroad until our troops started operating in Egypt, but South African stamps proffered for use prior to then would have been accepted as valid. The same would probably have applied to stamps from the Protectorates, S.W.A. and the Rhodesias. (iv) Union Postage Stamps were sold at the South African A.P.O.'s established in the countries named in (a) (ii), (iii), (iv), (v), (vii). (v) In Great Britain, British postage stamps were sold.

Postage was payable on all postal matter from U.K. to the Union until the introduction during July, 1945, of the free air mail concession to troops, when parcels, etc., only were paid for.

The Army Post Office in the United Kingdom was a section of the U.D.F. Repatriation Unit and as such dealt with mail for released S.A. Prisoners of War and the Repatriation Unit Staff.

A section was, however, detached for duty at S.A. House to assist with the disposal of mail for South Africans who had their correspondence addressed there.

Several S.A. A.P.O.'s operated in the United Kingdom; A.P.O. (G.B.) 1 being the most important.

(c) When the British troops of the Mediterranean Force arrived in Egypt all soldiers were required to pay postage, but after negotiation arrangements were concluded whereby letters posted "On Active Service" were accepted free. Air Letter Cards were introduced to certain countries of the British Commonwealth and British postage stamps were used in prepayment.

Egyptian postage stamps were used for all items which had to be passed to the Egyptian civil post offices for delivery or onward transmission.

At all Army Post Offices established in Egypt, in accordance with the arrangements concluded, Egyptian date-stamps supplied by

the Egyptian Civil Postal Administration were used for cancellation purposes.

(d) With the advent of Dominion troops permission was granted to the Dominion Army Postal Services serving them to organise their own postal services and to use postage stamps of their own dominions.

In order to facilitate postal arrangements generally it was an unwritten law that any postal items bearing postage stamps of British or Dominion Army Postal Services serving in the same area, would be accepted at any A.P.O. under their respective controls.

(e) Outside of Egypt cancellations were effected by means of the date-stamps of the British and Dominion Army Postal Services.

(f) [A complete schedule was given of the postage stamps despatched from the Union up to 23.8.45 to Army P.O.'s serving abroad. What follows is only a summary of the main facts therein of philatelic interest.]

In Madagascar the stamps used were all of the large war issue (all denominations ½d. to 1s.) plus small and large-sized registered envelopes.

In the Middle East, N. Africa and Italy, the first supplies were of the current ordinary pictorial issue, denominations ½d., 1d., 2d., 3d., 4d., 6d., 1s., 2s. 6d., 5s. and 10s. plus small and large-sized registered envelopes. The three highest values and the registered envelopes remained on issue throughout.

The other pictorials were gradually replaced by the large war issue (all values, including the 1s. 3d. denomination) after 22.9.41.

The large war issue stamps in their turn were gradually replaced by the miniature war issue after 1.8.42, all denominations having been supplied.

The quantities of the different denominations supplied varied enormously. For example, of the ½d. denomination (pictorial, large and small war effort) there was £265 worth; of the 1d. (all three varieties), £4,395 worth; of the 1½d. (large and small war effort) £124 worth; of the 2d. (large and small war effort) £857 worth; of the 3d. (all 3 varieties) £204,601 worth; and so on. The total values of stamps and envelopes supplied abroad was £387,437.

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AUSTRALIA

It is announced that during the three months the Duke and Duchess of Gloucester set were on issue sales of the 2½d. were nearly 90 million, of the 3½d. just over 4 million, and of the 5½d. a little short of 6 million.

A Victory set is now stated to be in preparation, probably of the same denominations as the Gloucester series.

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We would therefore be pleased to have you send us immediately a detailed list of what you have for sale. Or, if you prefer, send a sample book. (Please *do not* send us stamps on consignment unless we specifically ask you to. Always send us first a list of offers.)

Please be sure to state the price and the quantity available of each item, and the name of the catalogue whose numbers you are using.

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The Latest Discovery in Union Bantams

AN ASTONISHING "FIND"

(By HINKO SUKLJE.)

A short while ago when purchasing 2d. Bantams for everyday use, I was fortunate in noticing a peculiarity in the first sheet given me, and further examination revealed a whole series of peculiar sheets. They were of the current, latest, printing.

The horizontal perforation on the sheets was found to be misplaced, gradually moving upwards across the sheets until the stamps were perforated exactly through the centre; then the perforations gradually began moving down again (slower than up) until the perforations were again normal. This process of misplacement took place in a batch of 24 sheets with consecutive Serial Numbers which, for convenience I will call 0001 to 0024 (these are not the real numbers). Having the opportunity, I naturally purchased the 24 sheets intact.

Now here is the astonishing discovery:—

The perforations reached the centre of the stamp, cutting the sailor across his mouth (see illustration) with sheet No. 0006. This sheet



No. 0006 also had the top three rows completely blank, while rows 4 to 20 were quite normal except that rows 5 and 6 had part of the background round sailor's head faint or almost missing.

Sheets No. 0007, 0008, 0009 and 0010 were found to be completely *blank*, except for the usual Serial Numbers on the right-hand margins. The perforation was now again on its downward journey.

Sheet No. 0011, on which the horizontal perforation had moved half the journey down again, had *only* the top four and a half rows printed, the balance of the sheet being blank.

On the next thirteen sheets the perforation gradually moved further down until it reached its normal position again with sheet No. 0024.

Sheet No. 0024 was found to have a *join*

in the paper across the 6th and 7th rows from the top of the sheet.

This completed the "FIND," which must be a very rare one, and it is beyond my conception how all these sheets were passed or overlooked, eventually reaching a Post Office.

This is all the more phenomenal because of so many errors in a batch of 24 consecutive sheets.

Just one more peculiarity: On all the sheets I found the distance between two horizontal lines of perforations to be 24 mm. with the following exceptions: On Sheet No. 0001 I found the distance between the first and second and between the twelfth and thirteenth lines of perforations to be 25 mm. Whether any importance can be attached to this I do not know, but this difference of one mm. is quite definite.

And who said the age of "Miracles" and "Finds" is past!!

Collectors' Wants & Offers

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

Seychelles and Sierra Leone fine used copies wanted. Particularly Edward and George. High prices willingly paid.

William Redford, Box 7012, Johannesburg.

Transvaal, Griqualand West, O.F.S. covers and rarities wanted by A. E. Basden, Killarney, Brickhill Road, Durban.

Wanted: Transvaal, Natal, Cape, O.F.S., Bechuanaland, Gambia, St. Helena, Egypt, France. Picked copies, rarities and varieties, also 9,000 items for world collection up to 1933 issues. E. Hunt, Box 2437, Johannesburg.

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Mr. E. Tamsen, Box 13, Nylstroom, has still some blocks and controls, also entireties of African countries to offer.

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CHANNEL ISLANDS (Guernsey). German occupation issue. Arms of Guernsey. Complete issue of 5 stamps. Mint 16/-. Used 15/6.

EIRE. "Young Ireland Movement" Commemorative issued Sept. 15th. The complete mint set of 2 values 1/-.

ITALY (Sicily). 1943 Allied Military Government issue (AMGOT). The complete mint set of 9 values, obsolete and scarce. 10/9.

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(By L. A. Wyndham, *Cape Times Ltd.*, 1936).

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NOTES ON THE CYLINDERS OF THE MIDGET WAR STAMPS (AND THEIR CONCOMITANT SLOGANS) OF THE UNION OF SOUTH AFRICA

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

The War or National Defence stamps, yeleft midget and also bantam stamps, in small vertical and in small horizontal format consist of eight denominations, namely, ½d. green, 1d. red, 1½d. brown, 2d. purple, 3d. blue, 4d. green, 6d. orange vermillion, and 1s. brown, together with the sepia 1s. 3d. denomination in conventional size. These monochromatic stamps were and are being printed at the Government Printing Works, at Pretoria, by the rotogravure or rotary photogravure process. Two cylinders at a time were used in respect of the printing of each denomination, to wit, one for the stamps and the other for their circumjacent marginal slogans.

THE 360 CATEGORY.

The ½d., 1d., 3d. and 4d. denominations are grouped under this category as, although printed in the web, they are issued in sheets of 360 units, marshalled in 20 horizontal rows of 18 each. The pictorial representations on the ½d. and 1d. stamps are shown in vertical format on each one on the sheet; but on each one of the 3d. and 4d. stamps the pictorial representation is shown in horizontal format on the sheet. The ½d. and 1d. denomina-

tions are printed in normal upright positions, whilst the 3d. and 4d. denominations are printed sideways, the former facing to the right and the latter to the left. Each stamp of the ½d., 1d. and 3d. denominations is inscribed unilingually; and as separate entities, the English and Afrikaans inscribed stamps are arranged alternately throughout the sheet. Each 4d. stamp, however, is inscribed bilingually.

The top and bottom horizontal margins per sheet exhibit the following English and Afrikaans printed slogans in collateral alternate positions:—

- (a) MAKE NATIONAL SECURITY YOUR OWN/BUY UNION LOAN CERTIFICATES, and
- (b) DRA NATIONALE VEILIGHEID OP U HART/KOOP UNIE-LENING-SERTIFIKATE.

The sheet juxtapositions of the said English and Afrikaans composed slogans (indicated "e" and "a," respectively, hereunder) and the Afrikaans and English inscribed stamps (indicated "A" and "E," respectively, hereunder) of the 1d. and 3d. denominations are represented thus:—

SLOGAN CYLINDERS 2 AND 3.

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	
Row S	e	a	e	a	e	a	e	a	e	a	e	a	e	a	e	a	Top
Row 1	A	E	A	E	A	E	A	E	A	E	A	E	A	E	A	E	
Row 20	E	A	E	A	E	A	E	A	E	A	E	A	E	A	E	A	
Row S	a	e	a	e	a	e	a	e	a	e	a	e	a	e	a	e	Bottom

On the sheets of the ½d. denominations, however, the English and Afrikaans composed slogans and

the English and Afrikaans inscribed stamps are juxtaposed thus:—

SLOGAN CYLINDERS 1, 2 AND 3.

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	
Row S	e	a	e	a	e	a	e	a	e	a	e	a	e	a	e	a	Top
Row 1	E	A	E	A	E	A	E	A	E	A	E	A	E	A	E	A	
Row 20	A	E	A	E	A	E	A	E	A	E	A	E	A	E	A	E	
Row S	a	e	a	e	a	e	a	e	a	e	a	e	a	e	a	e	Bottom

The left lateral margin of a sheet exhibited the following slogans:—

- (c) Below the central lateral arrow and reading upwards—Buy Union Loan Certificates. Koop Unie-leningsertifikate Buy Union Loan Certificates, and are abbreviated thus—B1-K1-B2. The following characteristics have been observed:—

Cylinder 1.—Small break top right limb of "B" of "Buy"—B1 minute protuberances right limb of "U" of "Union" B1.
Cylinder 2.—Coloured dash above initial "C" of "Certificates" B1.

Cylinder 3.—Small dot below "L" of Loan—B1.

- (d) Above the central lateral arrow and reading upwards—Koop Unie-leningsertifikate Buy Union Loan Certificates. Koop Unie-leningsertifikate, and are abbreviated thus --K2-B3-K3. The following characteristics have been observed:—

Cylinder 1.—Dot below right limb of "u" of "Buy"—B3.

Cylinder 2.—2mm vertical line after terminal "e" of "sertifikate" K2, and coloured dot above right limb of "U" of "Union"—B3.

Cylinder 3.—6mm. horizontal line above terminal "n" of "Union" and also "L" of "Loan"—B3.

The right lateral margin of a sheet exhibited the following slogans:—

- (e) Above the central lateral arrow and reading downwards—Buy Union Loan Certificates. Koop Unie-leningsertifikate Buy Union Loan Certificates, and are abbreviated thus—B4-K4-B5. The following characteristics have been noted:—

Cylinder 1.—Dot to left of left limb of "U" of "Union"—B4.

Cylinder 2.—Nil.

Cylinder 3.—Dot to left of "B" of "Buy"—

B4. Small indentation at bottom of "o" of "Union"—B4. Dot below extremity of top curve of "C" of "Certificates"—B4.

An indentation occurs in the bottom curve of the second "e" of "leningsertifikate." This variety originated from the original artist's drawing which was transmitted to the Master Negative, and from the latter in turn to Slogan Diapositives 1 and 2 as blemishes both of which latter are reflected on Slogan Cylinders 1, 2 and 3.—K4.

(f) Below the central lateral arrow and reading downwards—Koop Unie-leningsertifikate Buy Union Loan Certificates. Koop Unie-leningsertifikate, and are abbreviated thus—K5—B6—K6. The following characteristics have been noted:—

Cylinder 1.—Defective stop over second "i" of "leningsertifikate"—K6. Coloured dash and dot over "a" of same word—B6.

Cylinder 2.—1½mm. vertical line after final "e" of "leningsertifikate"—K5.

Cylinder 3.—Dot to the left near top of first "i" an two dots after final "e" of leningsertifikate—K5.

An indentation occurs in the top serif of the "p" of "Koop"—K5, like a minute double prong, and shows in Slogan Cylinders 1, 2 and 3. This variety also originated from the original artist's drawing. *Vide* remarks under paragraph (e) afore.

Slogan Diapositive 1 was utilised for the preparation of Slogan Cylinder 1, which latter was employed only in combination with the ½d. denominated Stamp Cylinder 40. Slogan Diapositive 1 was abandoned owing to the development of a large flaw which was reflected as a large green blob over stamp No. 16 of Row 1 of the ½d. Cylinder 40, and, accordingly, Slogan Cylinder 1 was also abandoned. On Slogan Cylinder 1 the "B" of "Buy"—B4—horizontally was lower in alignment than the word "Dra" over stamp 18 of Row 1. On Slogan Cylinders 2 and 3, prepared from Slogan Diapositive 2, the "B" of "Buy"—B4—horizontally, respectively, was and is higher in alignment than the word "Dra."

Under the 360 category the Stamp and Cylinder combinations are as follows:—

1. ½d. denomination.—Stamp cylinder 40 (green) and slogan cylinder 1 (green); stamp cylinder 40 (green) and slogan cylinder 2 (green); stamp cylinder 40 (green) and slogan cylinder 3 (purple). Stamps Nos. 1-18 of Row 1 of Cylinder 40 in worn condition were printed in combination with Slogan Cylinders 1 and 2 (green) and 3 (purple), but in their re-touched conditions with Slogan Cylinder 3 (purple) only. Anent Slogan Cylinder 1, the lower kern of the "f" of "leningsertifikate"—K3—is 1¼ mm. distant from the "C" of "certificates" printed horizontally above Stamp No. 1 of Row 1. Anent Cylinders 2 and 3, the distance between the said lower kern of the "f" and the said initial "C" is 2½ mm. It was remarked that at the top of the left lateral margin the distance between the terminal "e" of "leningsertifikate"—K3—and the initial "B" of "Buy"—B1—anent Slogan Cylinder 1 was 7¾ mm., whilst the distance between the said terminal "e" and initial "B" was 5 mm. anent Slogan Cylinders 2 and 3. These measurements were taken from sheets trimmed abnormally high and which showed the bottom and top rows of slogans in juxtapositions.

2. 1d. denomination.—Stamp cylinder 6922 (red) and Slogan Cylinder 2 (red); stamp cylinder 6936 (red) and Slogan Cylinder 3 (purple); stamp cylinder 6936 (red) and numeral cylinder 1 (purple); stamp cylinder 6936 (red) and numeral cylinder 2 (red). *A diapositive flaw in the shape of a white spot appears above the figure of value tablet on stamp No. 7 of Row 2 of Cylinders 6922 and 6936. A large red spot appears on the nurse's uniform below the collar on stamp No. 7 of Row 2 of Cylinder 6922. A large white spot appears adjacent to the elbow of the left arm of the nurse on Stamp No. 16 of Row 20 of Cylinder 6936.

3. 3d. denomination.—Stamp cylinder 7014 (blue) and Slogan Cylinder 2 (blue); stamp cylinder 7014 and Slogan Cylinder 3 (both blue).

4. 4d. denomination.—Stamp cylinder 54 and Slogan Cylinder 2 (both green); stamp cylinder 54 (green) and Slogan Cylinder 3 (purple).

(To be continued.)

Always Wanted: Stamps of all colonies and countries. Singles, sets and in bulk on or off paper.

Always Available: Approvals, new issues, etc., against cash or references.

GEO. F. ROWE, B.P.A.,
11 Barmouth Road, London, S.W.18.

(Concluded from page 132.)

from which he read some extracts which were very amusing in the light of present day philately. Mr. Wright tabled a very extensive collection of West Indian stamps.

H.A.W.

★

PORT ELIZABETH PHILATELIC SOCIETY

President, G. K. Forbes; Hon. Sec., Mr. D. G. Y. Malcolm, P.O. Box 458; Meetings, Room 8, City Hall Basement, at 7.45 p.m., 1st and 3rd Tuesdays.

Members had an enjoyable evening at the first meeting in October, which, as usual, was given over to an auction. Attendance was good and packets were quickly sold.

The second and business meeting was held on October 16 and was not so well attended.

Mr. T. H. Nicholson was absent through illness, and we sincerely hope he will be recovered and able to attend the next meeting.

Mr. Robinson was responsible for the evening and displayed 30 pages of Empire Airmails. These stamps on a black background were neatly mounted and spaced and were very interesting, as they were mostly complete, and some of the high values were well worth scrutinising, and members were keenly interested. Owing to eye trouble, Mr. Robinson was unable to be present, but Mr. Forbes deputised for him.

Mr. Forbes tabled 52 first day covers. These were very interesting, as most of them had either pairs or blocks of stamps fixed. Forty-five small packets were put up for auction, and being quickly sold, the evening closed at 9.15.

L.E.C.

Join

THE INTERNATIONAL EXCHANGE CLUB
and build your collection cheaply with the help of overseas members. Membership costs only 4/6 per year, or three years 12/- and competitions offer free extensions. (Used stamps on or off cover accepted for fees by arrangement).

Full particulars from:

S. G. Walton, 252 St. John's Road, Canley Vale,
N.S.W., Australia.

MAFEKING "1900" SLUG

The accompanying figure should have been included with Dr. Freund's paper in last month's issue, but it had to be omitted owing



to an accident to the block. It illustrates the cuts or nicks which he describes as developing in the letters I, G and H.

U.S.A.

The khaki-coloured 3c stamp honouring the Army appeared on 28 September. It pictures American troops marching under the Arc de Triomphe in Paris—a huge wide, long column of men with the Arch small in the background. *Linn's Weekly* criticises it as a design with possibilities ruined by putting too much into it—mass murder on a stamp, in fact.

FRENCH COLONIES

"Stamp Collecting" reports a complete new series of stamps for the French West African Colonies prepared by De La Rue and Co. in London from a design by Mr. Edmund Dulac. It is understood there are 19 denominations. The design shows head and shoulders of two armed soldiers, a Berber and a Senegalese.

VICTORY STAMPS

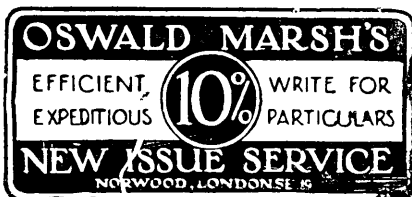
In addition to issues which we have already reported as made or forthcoming, the following have come to notice:

Abyssinia.—Already issued, the set of five Red Cross stamps of 1936 overprinted with a large V; numbers limited. This country is also soon to have a set of five commemorating the 50th anniversary of its having a postal service. Also a limited issue.

Greece.—A single stamp is announced for early appearance.

India is to have a series; details not yet available.

Philippines.—Certain stamps of the 1938-40 issue received a further handstamped overprint of "VICTORY."



RECENT WAR ISSUES

A WARNING

We have already had occasion in our pages to advise collectors not to be in a hurry to buy war issues until it is known which are to be recognised and what quantities are available. At present there is a tendency in some quarters to push the sale of such stamps at whatever prices collectors will pay, and they appear to be willing to pay almost anything. Experience with the stamps of World War I should have taught a lesson.

Messrs. H. E. Harris & Co., of Boston, Mass., one of the largest stamp dealing firms in America, have put the position very bluntly in the American philatelic press. They urge both collectors and dealers to go easy with these issues, and they are refusing to handle them themselves until they have reason to believe that they can offer them at prices corresponding to their true values. They consider that any dealer handling recent Axis issues at present does so at the risk of losing the goodwill and continued patronage of his customers when the true character and values of these issues is known.

THE PHILATELIC EXPORTER

is the independent advertising circular of a group of well-known British, Colonial and Foreign Wholesalers, distributed throughout U.S.A., Canada, Australia, New Zealand, India, Egypt, Palestine, British West Indies, Malta, Gibraltar, etc. In Europe it is circulated throughout France, Holland, Belgium and Switzerland.

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The Philatelic Exporter

494, FULHAM ROAD, LONDON, S.W.6., ENGLAND.

BRAZIL

This country is going strong in commemoratives, according to information received from Dr. Mario de Sanctis.

30th May saw two issues, both of 40 cents, one celebrating the 150th anniversary of the birth of F. M. da Silva, composer of the national anthem, the other the 50th anniversary of the founding of the Geographic-Historic Institute of Bahia.

The five Victory stamps are being tied in miniature sheets, with descriptive text in either Portuguese, Esperanto, Spanish, English, Russian, Chinese or French, and, finally, a sheet with text in all of these languages—making eight sheets in all.

The return of the Expeditionary Force from Italy is being celebrated by a set of five stamps (20 cents, 40 cents, \$1, 2, and 5) termed as a whole "The Smoking Snake."

SOCIETY NEWS

THE PHILATELIC SOCIETY OF JOHANNESBURG.

President, Mr. E. C. Sprighton; Hon. Secretary, Mr. J. Robertson, P.O. Box 4967, Johannesburg; Meetings, 2nd Tuesdays, Public Library, Johannesburg, at 7.45 p.m.

At the meeting held on October 9 the East Rand Philatelic Society paid an official visit to the Johannesburg Society and provided the exhibits.

After the official business was concluded, the chair was handed over to Lieut. van Wyk, president of the East Rand Society.

Mr. S. Legator showed a complete collection of the stamps of Egypt, including all the rare items. Locals, commemorations and varieties were all present.

Mr. H. Suklje showed some fine specimens of used stamps of King George VI. All were perfect copies.

Lieut. van Wyk showed his fine collection of stamps of S.W. Africa. Most of the errors were represented, including the inverted overprint on the miniature 1s.

I.I.



EAST LONDON PHILATELIC SOCIETY

President, Mr. A. Watson; Hon. Secretary, Mr. S. F. Fowler, P.O. Box 168, East London; Meetings, Colosseum Building, 2nd Fridays at 7.45 p.m.

September: Owing to unavoidable circumstances, the meeting had to be postponed for a week; in consequence a number of members were unable to attend, but 20 members and five visitors were present.

Interesting philatelic items were passed round for inspection, including covers from Czechoslovakia, U.S.A., Rhodesia, etc., while the new Egyptian issues commemorating the "Pan-Arab Union," were also shown.

Mr. Watson gave a short talk on his recent visit to the Transvaal, with particular reference to the collection of stamps now being exhibited at the Africana Museum.

There was also a discussion as to whether the Society should undertake to indent for new issues on behalf of members, but this matter was held over pending receipt of certain further details.

One new member was proposed and duly elected.

Mr. C. H. Thornton then tabled the first portion of his display, which took the form of "The Travel Story of a Letter, in Stamps." This was something new to most of the members and attracted much interest. Following the tea interval, Mr. Thornton continued with a truly marvellous exhibit of early classics, including many rarities seldom seen. With such a wealth of material, it is possible to mention only a few of the more striking items and regret that space prevents a more complete description. No modern issues were included, but the earliest of many of the West Indian Colonies were there in brilliant condition, including St. Vincent bisects on pieces, St. Lucia, Barbados 1d. on half 5s., Grenada "Postage" overprints, etc.

Among stamps of countries outside the British Commonwealth one noted a fine page of early Brazils, including the "Bullseyes," while the United States pages included the 5c. and 10c. of 1847, the latter in a fine pair, the 1851 imperforate set, the 1869 issue with the exception of the 90c., the 1865 large Newspaper Stamps, an imperforate copy of the unissued 3c. scarlet of 1862, Columbus set to 2 dollars, covers with early U.S.A. and Confederate States stamps and many other items. A very fine display, which was greatly appreciated by all present.

The meeting closed after the usual auction.

October: At this meeting 19 members and two visitors were present. A hearty welcome back was extended to Mr. C. Hampson, who has made a good recovery from his recent operation.

A number of interesting items were passed round for inspection, including 6d. British booklets, specimens of the Guernsey issue, U.S.A. Roosevelt stamps and the new Jamaica set. In addition, Mr. J. P. Shingler, who has recently returned from the North, gave a most interesting display of some of the European war issues, both enemy and Allied, and, in addition, the new Nyasaland set in mint pairs. The former included the Austrian set overprinted on the German Hitler stamps, Croatia, German War Effort, Yugoslavia Tito

issue and the scarce set issued by Yugoslavia for use in Fiume. Practically all of these stamps were beautifully printed in very attractive colours and made a fine display.

Mr. Paviour showed his very fine and exhaustive collection of Canada from the earliest to the current issue. Most issues were shown, both mint and used, many blocks of four being included. The large and small Queen's head issues were very complete, most values being in a range of shades. Particularly noticeable also were several sheets bearing complete sets with the official O.H.M.S. perforation. Many interesting covers were included and the display was rounded off with a good selection of large revenue stamps.

T.A.H.



NYASALAND PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

President, L. V. Booth; Hon. Sec., Mr. Anson; Meetings, 2nd Mondays, Tobacco Auction Rooms, Limbe, 5 p.m.

At the September meeting 18 members and two visitors were present.

Regret was expressed that the Government had not seen its way clear to grant the Society's application for presentation of a set of the Colony's new stamps to the Society's collection. The Chief Secretary had explained that there was an official stamp collection which would be deposited in the Central African Territories' Museum if and when such an institution were established: it was not possible also to supply the Society.

Mr. Milne, in the circumstances, presented a set, a gift received with many thanks.

Capt. Twynam then demonstrated to the meeting the results of his research work into the various printings of the K.G. VI leopard type of stamps. This communication was much appreciated.

A large selection of approval books were handed round.

L.A.B.



THE PHILATELIC SECTION OF THE JEWISH GUILD

Chairman, Mr. A. Gladstone; Hon. Sec., Mr. I. Isaacs, 910 His Majesty's Buildings, Eloff Street, Johannesburg; Meetings, last Thursday in each month at the Jewish Guild Memorial Hall, Von Brandis Street, Johannesburg, at 8 p.m.

At the meeting held on September 27, members were asked to show some stamps they didn't like.

Mr. I. Isaacs showed a cardboard cylinder smothered with stamps of the German inflation period. Millions of marks had paid the postage.

Mr. A. Gladstone showed some sheets of the countries he collects which issued some stamps of inferior design to their usual issues. Stamps of Russia, France and the United States were included.

Mr. W. Oppenheim's choice of dislike was the miniature sheet of Hitler issued by Germany.

The members much enjoyed the unusual nature of the exhibits.

The meetings of the Philatelic Section of the Jewish Guild are open to all stamp collectors whether members of the Guild or not.

I.I.



CAPE TOWN PHILATELIC SOCIETY

President, L. Simenhoff; Hon. Secretary, S. Kaganan, P.O. Box 1973; Meetings, 2nd and 4th Thursdays at Yorkshire Buildings, Strand Street, at 7.30 p.m.

September 15: The large crowd of members and visitors present at this meeting were given a real philatelic treat when Mr. Jurgens showed his collection of the stamps of Bechuanaland. The display was attractive and fully annotated, and blocks of a large number of the series were the rule rather than the exception.

Early postmarks were well to the fore, a branch of philately in which Mr. Jurgens has a particular interest. A book dealing with the stamps and history is in preparation by Mr. Jurgens, and when published will be eagerly sought after by collectors of Bechuanaland. The exhibitor, in his usual inimitable manner, gave an interesting talk on the stamps displayed.

During the business portion of the meeting it was decided to have auctions at alternate meetings only and in their place to have talks, competitions, etc., in an endeavour to make our meetings more interesting. A small sub-committee was formed, and we look for-

ward with interest to our next meeting, which is in their hands.

August 23: There was a big attendance of members and visitors to view a collection of Cape Triangulars by Mr. C. O. Plumbridge. The collection of approximately 140 of these stamps was started only a few years back and the major portion was obtained in Cape Town at auctions, etc., and a very representative collection it proved to be. There were no fewer than seven "Wood blocks," one of which was a particularly fine copy. Noticeable also was a very fine pair of the "slate blue" fourpenny. Many of the stamps were on cover and made a very interesting display.

Included also were stamps of Griqualand West with the various "G" type overprints and an interesting Mafeking Siege first day cover.

An item which was not connected with the above but was shown by Mr. Plumbridge as a matter of interest, was a set of Italian Somaliland stamps overprinted "In British Occupation." The overprinting was done by the South African forces when they took over the country at the beginning of the war, but the issue was prohibited and withdrawn and very few of these sets are known to exist.

★

EAST RAND PHILATELIC SOCIETY

President: Lieut. J. A. B. van Wyk; **Hon. Secretary-Treasurer,** E. N. Rigg, 103 Kemston Avenue, Benoni; **Meetings,** 3rd Tuesdays, 8 p.m., Hotel Regent, Benoni.

September: The 26th annual general meeting. The following were elected to the various positions in the Society: **President,** Lt. J. A. B. van Wyk; **vice-president,** Mr. J. Shepherd; **secretary-treasurer,** E. N. Rigg; **delegate to Federation,** Mr. J. Shepherd.

News of the month was given by Mr. Suklje. Several covers were passed round as items of interest.

Exhibits for the evening were provided by Mr. J. J. Fine, showing George VI issues in mint and used condition, comprising approximately 50 different sets, of stamps.

★

THE ORANGE FREE STATE AND BASUTOLAND PHILATELIC SOCIETY

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

The October meeting was very well attended, with many visitors and would-be members being present. An attractive programme was drawn up for the coming year. At the usual auction some fine material was put up for sale and good prices were realised. Two new members were enrolled.

The main attraction of the evening was an excellent display by Mr. A. Lichtenstein, who presented this time "Germania and Hohenzollern types of the former German colonies." The collection was practically complete and none of the numerous scarce "mark" values and rare British occupational overprints were missing.

The following is a list of the Society's officers for the coming year: **President,** Mr. M. Liss; **Vice-President,** Mr. C. A. Larsen; **hon. secretary-treasurer,** Mr. R. G. Lyon; **exchange superintendent,** Mr. A. J. Denne; **publicity Officer,** Dr. K. Freund; **hon. auditor,** Mr. W. Dickie-Clark; **committee members,** Mr. J. B. Levy, Capt. Richardson, Mr. A. Scheffer. K.F.

★

THE PHILATELIC SOCIETY OF NATAL

President, Mr. A. L. Bevis; **Hon. Sec.,** G. Milner Palmer, P.O. Box 588, Durban; **Meetings,** 1st and 3rd Wednesdays at London Assurance House, 319 Smith Street (in the rooms of the Durban Camera Club, top floor), 7.30 p.m.

Our meetings continue to increase in popularity and at the October meeting between 50 and 60 members and visitors were present. Amongst the latter we were particularly pleased to see Dr. Kaplan, of Germiston, and Mr. Osborne, of Johannesburg. After the formal business Mr. Winde presented his very popular review "Stamps Worth Watching For." Arising out of Mr. Winde's remarks a set of the recently issued Nyasaland stamps was shown by Mr. J. Lyle.

The "Brains Trust" (goodness knows why they are called that, as some members said they would not trust them with anything, let alone brains!) were then called to order by the question master, our worthy secretary, and proceeded to answer the questions to the best of their ability, the questions being: (1) What is meant

by the term "Re-Entry" as applied in philately (2) When a perforation is stated to be 15x14, etc., it is understood that the first number refers to the top and bottom perforation of the stamp. Do you consider the proposal put forward overseas that in future the first number should refer to the short side of the stamp, irrespective of whether it is top, bottom or sides, a better arrangement? (3) What is the difference between chalk-surfaced and toned papers, (4) What in your opinion is the best method of absorbing atmospheric moisture from a cabinet used for the storage of stamps? The first and third were dealt with by Messrs. Basden and Lyle respectively, whilst the other two were answered by all three members of the Trust. The discussion was listened to with close interest and after each question a number of supplementary questions were fired at the Trust, and in most cases answered. A record has been kept of the answers, and when space permits we hope the Editor will be able to publish them.

The display for the evening was in the hands of Mr. W. H. Winde, who tabled some fifty sheets depicting the war-time issues of Germany, many of which were in mint condition. Incidentally, Mr. Winde tells me he does his mounting between 1 a.m. and 4 a.m., when he is not disturbed by his wife. The quality of the printing of the stamps and the artistic merit of many of them evoked considerable comment. For a country which, according to the Allies' propaganda, was short of everything and badly shaken by air raids, the standard of their postal issues was remarkable, and it occurs to the writer that the Government Printer might do worse than carefully study the stamps issued by Germany and many of the other European countries before proceeding with the printing of the new issues of the Union. Some of the sets that were particularly noted were a set depicting the war effort, a similar issue to our own, only printed in pre-war format as against our insignificant scraps of paper: the Leipzig and Vienna Fair issues, and several charity sets.

Lt.-Commander Enoch, in a breezy little speech, commented on the excellence of the arrangement and writing-up. In conclusion he expressed the warmest thanks of all present to Mr. Winde for the very interesting and attractive display he had presented.

The meeting closed with the usual auction, in which were included a number of items specially donated for sale on behalf of St. John's Ambulance Association funds, which as a result benefited to the extent of £7 is. A.L.B.

★

PRETORIA PHILATELIC SOCIETY

President, Lt.-Col. G. Lance Horne; **Hon. Secretary,** H. A. Wager, P.O. Box 514; **Meetings,** 1st and 3rd Mondays, 8 p.m., Technical College.

October 2: Mr. A. G. Konya read a paper on stamp design and workmanship. He described what should be the foundation for a stamp design and he gave a brief account of the different methods of printing stamps. He deprecated the bad designs and workmanship of Union stamps and pointed out that the equipment in the Government Printing Works was easily comparable with that in Vienna, where such beautiful stamps were produced. Mr. Konya thought that designs for stamps should be thrown open to artists in South Africa, and he proposed that steps should be taken to approach the S.A. Federation of Philatelists with the view of getting the matter placed before the Minister of Posts and Telegraphs. This was seconded by Dr. Broom and the secretary would write to that effect.

Dr. Fitzsimons placed on exhibit a collection of war-time issues of the Balkan countries.

October 15: Mr. Hawke read an article on the disturbances of philately due to the war.

Items of interest: Dr. Broom showed and described a specimen of the rare variety of the bald eagle in Transvaal stamps, of which there were probably only two specimens in existence. He also showed a specimen of the Mt. Currie postage label and explained how this could be regarded as being a true postage stamp.

Dr. Broughton showed and explained some interesting Zululand postmarks. Mr. Dodd showed a sideline in stamps—those overprinted for excise such as Douane and other Duty stamps. Mr. Hawke showed an interesting cover with Channel Island stamps and also a complete arranged set of the plate numbers of the English 1d. red.

Mr. Wilson gave some interesting statistics of the numbers of stamps printed in South Africa and England in 1932. Mr. Wright brought a stamp magazine of 1863

(Continued on page 129.)

The SEASONS

Spring flowers are a blaze of colour . . .
Summer sunbathing is here again . . .
Autumn leaves are falling . . . what do
you fancy for the "July" ?—
the seasons may mean no
more than that to **you**.

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In spite of difficulties,
the work gets done !

South African Railways





U/C 167

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Proprietors and Publishers:

THE PHILATELIC FEDERATION OF SOUTHERN AFRICA

Price 9d.

REGISTERED AT THE G.P.O. AS A NEWSPAPER.

Price 9d.

Vol. 21, No. 12.

DECEMBER, 1945.

Whole No. 249

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★ ★ ★

Our Auctions are not confined to the sale of Great Britain. **Specialised Stamp Sales** are held regularly in which the stamps of one country or group of countries are offered. In this way the specialist collector (if he is on our mailing list) is assured that nothing which falls into the category of his particular study will be overlooked. Presentation in this manner provides the vendor with the assurance that his material will find the finest market amongst the most discriminating buyers.

★ ★ ★

General Stamp Sales are held in London and in Bournemouth and offer General Collections of all descriptions, whilst **Postal History Auctions** are scheduled periodically wherein early documents of a postal nature, handstruck stamps, and covers bearing adhesive stamps are offered for the student.

★ ★ ★

There are two exclusive features of all our auctions: (1) the fact that our estimate of the current market value is printed against each lot (1944-45 season we sold stamps valued at £110,528 for £114,426) and (2) our monthly magazine *The Philatelist* counts among its subscribers most of the advanced specialists who form the backbone of the buying public in the London Stamp Market.

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Vol. 21, No. 12.

DECEMBER, 1945.

Whole No. 249

VICTORY — PEACE — HOPE



Union, S.W.A., Protectorates

The "Victory" issue, illustrated on the previous page, was put on sale throughout the Union on Monday, 3rd December, and will remain on sale till Thursday, 31st January, 1946, after which date stocks on hand, are to be returned to the Controller of Stores.

The stamps are being overprinted "S.W.A.," "Bechuanaland," "Basutoland" and "Swaziland" for use in these territories respectively.

The validity of the stamps will not cease at the end of January, and there is no intention of demonetizing them at any early date. During their period of sale the corresponding values of ordinary and war effort stamps will only be supplied if specially asked for.

The stamps are all bicoloured, of the size of the present 2d. (Union Buildings) stamp. They are printed in sheets of 120 with stamps inscribed alternately in English and Afrikaans; perf. 14 with multiple springbok head watermark.

Printing was done on a rotary machine, the cylinders used being: 1d., 21 Int. and 3 Ext.; 2d., 7019 Int. and 7023 Ext.; 3d., 6922 Int. and 6928 Ext.

The 1d. denomination is available for both postal and fiscal purposes, the 2d. and 3d. for postal use only.

The motive of the one penny stamp is Victory. It figures a soldier holding a South African flag on the battle-field; shattered buildings are depicted and the "V" sign appears in the background. The frame is in red and the centre brown.

The twopenny stamp is suggestive of the return to peaceful occupations. The ex-volunteer now "puts his hand to the plough," symbolic of peaceful industriousness. Frame in violet, centre blue-black.

The threepenny stamp symbolises "Hope," showing the profiles of a man and woman gazing at a star in the evening sky with expressions suggesting their expectation of a lasting peace. Frame light blue, centre dark blue.

$\frac{1}{2}$ d. *Bantam unrouletted.* Mr. H. B. Marcussen reports having a strip of 3 of the bantam $\frac{1}{2}$ d., "unrouletted between." He was given to understand that this was part of a sheet of which all but about 12 similar strips of 3 was sold over the counter in the ordinary course of business. This makes the third denomination known in this state, the 1d. and $\frac{1}{2}$ d. having previously been seen.

Xmas Tuberculosis Labels. These "Health stamps" this year depict five children dancing in a ring round a large double cross. The slogans on the booklets are "Prevent tuberculosis in contact children of tuberculosis sufferers" and "Health's smallest lamp a Christmas stamp."

1d. *Bantam Flaw.* Mr. S. J. Hagger reports a flaw common to both cylinders which

have so far been used for this stamp. It is on the 10th stamp of the 18th row and is on the veil, just above and touching the nurse's right shoulder.

Collectors' Wants & Offers

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

Seychelles and Sierra Leone fine used copies wanted. Particularly Edward and George. High prices willingly paid.

William Redford, Box 7012, Johannesburg.

Transvaal, Griqualand West, O.F.S. covers and rarities wanted by A. E. Basden, Killarney, Brickhill Road, Durban.

Wanted: Transvaal, Natal, Cape, O.F.S., Bechuanaland, Gambia, St. Helena, Egypt, France. Picked copies, rarities and varieties, also 9,000 items for world collection up to 1933 issues. E. Hunt, Box 2437, Johannesburg.

For Service, promptness and satisfaction.

Benoni Stamp Shop, Box 485, Benoni. Phone 54-1692.

Pencancelled Cape Triangulars wanted for specialised collection high prices paid for fine copies.

Thiele, 455 West Street, Durban.

Mr. E. Tamsen, Box 13, Nylstroom, has still some blocks and controls, also entireties of African countries to offer.

Exchange desired with Collectors in all British Colonies. Offer Ceylon, all issues, Jubilees, Coronations, Pictorials, etc.

C. M. Anthony, care of K. B. T. Perera, 35 Queen Street, Colombo, Ceylon.

Wanted: Stamps of all colonies and countries, including low values, sets, coronations, anything suitable for packeting, etc.

Otterburn Stores, Box 50, Estcourt.

Liberia: Collections, sets, single stamps, etc., wanted for specialised collection. Bennett, Box 733, Capetown.

I offer my specialised collection of Great Britain, 1840 to 1944 (numbering 1144 of which 279 are mint). Cat. price, £393, for £100.

Particulars from E. J. Brierley, Morkel Street, Somerset West. Seen by appointment.

FRANCE

Amongst the recent commemoratives are two, 1 fr. and 4 fr., showing a profile portrait of the famous actress Sarah Bernhardt.

Wholesale for Dealers:**EGYPT:**

Mint or very fine used:	per 12	100
1936 Anglo-Egyptian Treaty	60/-	—
1938 Royal Wedding	100/-	—
1940 Child Welfare	15/-	£6
1944 K. Fuad Memorial	8/-	64/-
1945 K. Farouk Birthday	8/-	64/-
1945 Ismail Pasha Memorial	8/-	64/-
1945 Arab Union (2 values)	18/-	£7
1937-1940, Farouk 13m. (scarce)	6/-	48/-
Very fine used only:	per 12	100
1933-38 Air complete set of 21 . . .	335/-	£134
1941 Air complete set of 4	18/-	£7
1939 Farouk (Portrait & various view) complete set of 5	18/-	£7

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TONGA: 1938 Jubilee Set, fine used set on famous **Tin Can Mail** cover (cat. normal at 14s.), special offer at 10s. 6d. each.

CURACAO: 1945 Red Cross, fine attractive set, used on cover. (London price up to £7 10s.).

SURINAME: 1945 National War Fund, another attractive set, 6 values, used on F.D. cover: 75s. each.

Only a few of each available,
so "first come, first served."

LATEST ARRIVALS:

AMGOT for Austria, 16 vals. cpl. 10s. 6d.

Netherlands, Admirals, etc., 17 cpl. 8s. 6d.

U.S.A. Modern Commemos, fine used blocks, selections available on request.

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This is a well produced monthly price list. It contains information regarding new issues, the prices I am prepared to pay, and my selling prices for sets and singles, both mint and used. Collections, mixture, at specially attractive prices will be offered each month.

Special offers in the November issue will be:

Falkland Is. Dependencies 32 values mint 13/6, used on covers £1. New Zealand Health 1945 issue 2 values 4½d. used 5½d. Jamaica Constitution set 1945 issue mint 19/6, used 22/-. Australia Duke of Gloucester 3 values 1/-, used 1/3. Burma Military Administration complete set 16 values 37/6.

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Pretoria "Brains Trust"

(Continued from p. 113 of October issue.)

9—Question

It is assumed that in any country the forging of that country's postage stamps is an offence against its laws, but it is doubted whether in all countries it is an offence to reproduce the stamps of other countries which would not affect the revenue of the country of which the forger is a subject. Has any international agreement been reached to prevent the forging of the stamps of countries other than that of the forger?

Answer

After some discussion on this subject, it seemed to be agreed that whereas no known international agreement had been reached on the matter, the common law of fraud would probably apply in each country and the regulations of the International Postal Union would probably cover the point.

10—Question

Is the conventional method of hinging stamps the best way of keeping a collection, or is the method submitted considered an improvement, and if so, is book form or the loose card form preferred?

Answer

The method submitted for inspection comprised cards bearing strips of washed celluloid photographic film behind which stamps were placed in arranged positions and held there, protected, yet clearly visible. It was generally agreed that the method was most suitable for storage of stamps pending arrangement in a permanent collection, but that it would be too bulky and did not offer the facility for writing up and that the conventional method of hinging stamps on to sheets of paper was therefore preferred.

11—Question

An explanation is sought of the disparity between the catalogue prices at which Stanley Gibbons sell stamps and the prices at which the same stamps in equally good condition are offered for sale by other dealers?

Answer

Various explanations were put forward. Some members thought that, whereas smaller dealers preferred small profits and quick returns, Stanley Gibbons looked to the future and, knowing what the real value of a stamp was likely to be, was willing to wait until he obtained it. Another member pointed out that Gibbons possibly derived a lot of his trade and profit from the stamps catalogued by him at

a penny, and which were really worth much less. In some respects it seemed strange that Gibbons was able to maintain such tremendous sales at prices higher than those at which other dealers offered material, but it was generally agreed that a high standard of quality, an international reputation, a reliable warranty and the fact that owing to his huge stocks and capital investment, Gibbons was able to supply stamps not obtainable elsewhere. All combined to create the position which obtains.

12—Question

What is a mercury vapour lamp, and will it definitely establish whether a fiscally cancelled stamp has been cleaned or a damaged stamp repaired?

Answer

A mercury vapour lamp gives an ultra violet light, as does a quartz lamp, and it will generally show erasures, alterations or repairs, which are not visible under ordinary light. It was pointed out, however, that some artist forgers worked under a violet ray and cases were known in which a repair not visible under the lamp became visible in sunlight.

13—Question

What is the cause of "rust" in stamps? Does it only occur in mint stamps? Can it be cured by Chloramine T? If so, how is this applied and is there any other cure?

Answer

This question evoked some scientific discussion on fungus and bacteria. It was generally agreed that damp was the cause of rust, that it occurred in both mint and used stamps, though it was more prevalent in mint stamps, owing to the greater susceptibility of the gum, and that it can be removed from used stamps by the application of Chloramine T.

14—Question

What is the best method of storing stamps, mint and used, singles and in sheets, in a locality where the humidity is very high?

Answer

Various opinions and suggestions were proffered in reply to this question. In the Malay States collectors keep stamps in airtight cedar wood boxes, containing chloride of lime, which absorbs moisture. In Hong Kong and Brazil they coat the backs of mint stamps with talcum powder and put them between oiled paper. Thymol is sometimes put in boxes of stamps, but some doubt was expressed as to whether this was moisture-absorbent or merely disinfectant. After many experiments in Durban it was understood that a Durban collector had evolved a method of keeping stamps in that climate which was followed by many members of the Natal Philatelic Society, but as the conditions in the Transvaal were entirely dissimilar, details of the method were unknown here.

15—Question

What is the most reliable method of cleaning and restoring the colour of stamps?

Answer

Much information was made available in response to this question. Some stamps can be improved by boiling, though in some cases such treatment would prove fatal. Ether applied with a camel-hair brush removes grease and improves the stamp. Weak chlorine water improves the whiteness of paper but may be dangerous to some stamps. Dioxogen and subsequent exposure to sunlight restores colour. A pinch of salt in water prevents the colours of stamps from running.

16—*Question*

Is it desirable to include in a stamp collection a torn, damaged or fiscally cancelled stamp if the collector is unable and unlikely to obtain a perfect specimen on account of its rarity or cost?

Answer

The members were quite divided on this question. On the one hand it was asserted that stamps not in sound condition should never be included in a collection as they spoil it and may be regarded as indicative of the general state of the collection. If it is desired to retain them as examples of extreme rarity or some particular point of interest they should be separately displayed as outside the main collection. On the other hand, it was felt that where certain items are scarce and unobtainable in sound postally used condition, it is far better to include a damaged copy than to leave the collection incomplete, and the view was expressed that, particularly where stamps served both postal and revenue purposes a good fiscally cancelled copy of a high denomination should not be despised or rejected.

17—*Question*

Is it likely that "good" foreign stamps such as "Austrian doctors," "Luxemburg Anniversary of Royal Marriage," etc., will ever attain the same popularity outside their respective countries as the stamps of the British Empire?

Answer

Despite a variety of conflicting opinions on this question, the consensus of opinion seemed to be in the negative. It was felt that for some years the foreign countries on the Continent would not or should not have money to spend on philatelic luxuries, and that although there are probably more foreign than British collectors, the stamps of foreign countries have a more restricted local interest than the universal appeal of British Empire stamps. Moreover, the integrity of British postal services ensures their popularity and the many propaganda issues of foreign countries bring them into disrepute with a large proportion of collectors. Contrary opinions were, however, expressed to the effect that, whereas British Empire stamps often run into high denominations, which sometimes accounts for their value, the good foreign issues of low denomination, interesting design and fine production will come into their own.

18—*Question*—

Which of the following bases of collecting should be recommended to a beginner when advising him what and how to collect, and why? :

General collection; a group of foreign countries; the British Empire; specialisation in one country; first day covers; air mail stamps; postal stationery; commemoratives.

Answer

The general opinion of the members seemed to be that a beginner should start off by collecting on general lines, and so obtain some knowledge and experience of the hobby. Thence he should proceed on a more restricted basis according to his fancy and finally should graduate as a specialist on a particular country, at which stage he would become a philatelist rather than a stamp collector. Some members strongly advocated adherence to the British Empire on account of the better investment offered thereby, but others considered that the financial and investment side of the hobby should not influence a collector and that interesting lines of collecting such as that of postal stationery should not be ignored.

Gt. Britain K.G. VI used 5s. at 1s. 3d.; 10s.	
at	2/0
Kuwait Air 1933, 6 annas, used	5/6
Germany Air 1944: 25th Aniv. mint, 3	
vals.	3/3
Packets, all different, 300 Brit. Colonials . .	9/0
500 21s., 1,000 60s., 1,500 £6 10s.,	
2,000 £12 10s.	
100 Egypt 15s., 100 Canada 13s. 6d. 150	
Iran	17/6
100 Airmails 18s. 6d., 1,000 All World . .	30/0
500 Indian States 50s., 250 K.G. VI (No.	
G.B. or Coronations)	35/0
Cash with Order: Postage Extra:	
Wanted: Stamps of all British Colonies.	

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MALAYA AND BURMA

The "Philatelic Magazine" states that old stocks of Malaya stamps with a Military Occupation overprint were due to be issued in October. No further details yet to hand.

Burma's "Mily. Admn" are to be replaced (perhaps already are replaced) by a series printed in new colours from the plates of the original K.G. VI issue of 1938 (from "Stamp Collecting").

NYASALAND. 3d./Is. pictorial set mint . .	4/0
VICTORY set. 3 pairs S.A. or S.W.A. mint	1/3
S.W.A. 16 pictorials 3d. to 1s. mint . . .	6/3
Also available, mint and used Basutoland,	
Bechuanaland, Nyasaland, Northern Rhodesia,	
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registration extra, otherwise post free.	

N. P. Greenham, 18, Cochrane Place, Durban

GERMAN AMGOT STAMPS

The American printed supplies are said to be nearly exhausted, and it is rumoured that there will in future be separate issues for each zone of occupation. A locally printed issue for Saxony has already appeared.

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Please be sure to state the price and the quantity available of each item, and the name of the catalogue whose numbers you are using.

Favourable prices will be appreciated and—still more important—will enable us to send you larger and more frequent orders than would otherwise be possible.

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1942 Watermarked. French Bank Note Paper.

MINT ½d. Gr. and 1d. Red: Pairs at 11s.
(4v) Bl. of 4 21s. (8v).

1942-4 Unwatermarked. White Paper.

MINT ½d. Dk. Yel. Gr. and 1d. Mag. Red.
Bl. of 4 at 4s. (8v)

1944 Scarce locally printed & last stamp issued

MINT 2½d. Blue at 2s. 3d. Bl. of 4: 9s.
2½d. Blue Scarce Souvenir F.D.C. at 3/6

IMPRINT BLOCKS OF 4 of the 1942 ½d. &
1d.: 1942-4 ½d. and 1d. and 1944 2½d.
5 imprint blocks of 4 (20 stamps) 70s.
per set.

BISECTS:

2d. K.G.V. 1912-24 Bisect used on piece	£5 12 6
2d. K.G.V. 1912-24 Bisect F.D.	£6 12 6
2d. K.G.V. 1934 Bisect used on piece	£6 2 6
2d. K.G.V. 1934 Bisect F.D....	£6 17 6
2d. K.G.VI. 1937 Bisect used on piece	£2 10 6
2d. Centenary Bisect used on cover	£1 5 0
2d. Centenary Bisect F.D. on piece	£1 7 6
2d. Centenary Bisect F.D.C. ...	£1 10 6
Eight "Express" Covers with 8 bisected 2d. Centenary and ½d. K.G.VI. on each cover. 8 unique covers	£80 0 0

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NOTES ON THE CYLINDERS OF THE MIDGET WAR STAMPS (AND THEIR CONCOMITANT SLOGANS) OF THE UNION OF SOUTH AFRICA

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

(Continued from page 129 of November issue).

THE 240 CATEGORY.

The 1½d., 2d., 6d. and 1s. denominations are grouped under this category for although printed in the web, they are issued in sheets of 240 units arranged in 20 horizontal rows of 12 each. The pictorial representations of the 1½d., 2d. and 6d. stamps are shown in vertical format on each stamp, but that on the 1s. denomination is shown in horizontal format. The first mentioned trio are printed in normal upright positions, whilst the latter denomination is printed sideways facing to the right. Each stamp of the 1½d., 2d. and 6d. denominations is inscribed unilingually, and as separate entities, the English and Afrikaans inscribed stamps are arrayed alternately throughout the sheet. Each 1s. stamp is inscribed, however, bilingually.

The top and bottom horizontal sheet margins disclose the following Afrikaans and English printed slogans in collateral alternate positions :—

- (a) MAKE NATIONAL SECURITY YOUR OWN/BUY UNION LOAN CERTIFICATES, and
- (b) DRA NASIONALE VEILIGHEID OP U HART/KOOP UNIE-LENING-SERTIFIKATE.

The sheet juxtapositions of the said English and Afrikaans composed slogans (hereunder indicated "e" and "a" respectively) and the Afrikaans and English inscribed stamps (hereunder indicated "A" and "E" respectively) of the 2d. and 6d. denominations are represented thus :—

SLOGAN CYLINDER 1.

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	
Slogan Row, Top	e	a	e	a	e	a	e	a	e	a	e	a	Top
Row 1	A	E	A	E	A	E	A	E	A	E	A	E	
Row 20	E	A	E	A	E	A	E	A	E	A	E	A	
Slogan Row, Bot.	a	e	a	e	a	e	a	e	a	e	a	e	Bottom

On the sheets of the 1½d. denomination the English and Afrikaans composed slogans and

the English and Afrikaans inscribed stamps are juxtaposed as follows :—

SLOGAN CYLINDER 1.

	e	a	e	a	e	a	e	a	e	a	e	a	
Slogan Row, Top	e	a	e	a	e	a	e	a	e	a	e	a	Top
Row 1	E	A	E	A	E	A	E	A	E	A	E	A	
Row 20	A	E	A	E	A	E	A	E	A	E	A	E	
Slogan Row, Bot.	a	e	a	e	a	e	a	e	a	e	a	e	Bottom

A new slogan cylinder was introduced subsequently on which the English and Afrikaans slogans were transposed, so that these slogans and the

English and Afrikaans inscribed stamps of the 2d. and 6d. values were juxtaposed thus :—

SLOGAN CYLINDER 2.

	a	e	a	e	a	e	a	e	a	e	a	e	
Slogan Row, Top	a	e	a	e	a	e	a	e	a	e	a	e	Top
Row 1	A	E	A	E	A	E	A	E	A	E	A	E	
Row 20	E	A	E	A	E	A	E	A	E	A	E	A	
Slogan Row, Bot.	e	a	e	a	e	a	e	a	e	a	e	a	Bottom

The left lateral margins of a sheet exhibited the following slogans reading upwards anent Slogan Cylinder 1 :—

Buy Union Loan Certificates. Koop Unie-leningcertifikate Buy Union Loan Certificates v Koop Unie-leningcertifikate Buy Union Loan Certificates. Koop Unie-leningcertifikate, abbreviated B1.K1 B2 v K2 B3.K3. On Slogan Cylinder 2 the slogan B2 is the same, but a stop is put in between the final "s" of "Certificates" and the central arrow. Slogans are abbreviated B1.K1 B2. v K2 B3.K3. The following characteristics have been noted :—

Cylinder 1.—No stop after final "s" of "Certificates"—B2. The lower kern of "f" of "sertifikate"—K3—1½mm. from the "C" of "Certificates" printed horizontally above stamp No. 1 of Row 1.

Cylinder 2.—Stop after final "s" of "Certificates"—B2. The lower kern of "f" of "sertifikate"—K3—3mm. from the "S" of "Sertifikate" printed horizontally above stamp No. 1 of Row 1. Dash over "O" of "Loan"—B3.

The right lateral margins of a sheet exhibited the following slogans reading downwards anent Slogan Cylinder 1 :—

But Union Loan Certificates. Koop Unie-leningcertifikate Buy Union Loan Certificates v Koop Unie-leningcertifikate Buy Union Loan Certificates. Koop Unie-leningcertifikate, abbreviated B4.K4 B5 v K5 B6.K6. On Slogan Cylinder 2 the slogan B5 shows a stop between the final "s" of "Certificates" and the central arrow. Slogans are abbreviated thus :—B4. K4 B5. v K5 B6.K6. The following characteristics have been noted :—

Cylinder 1.—No stop after final "s" of "Certificates"—B5. Dot under "s" of "Certificates"—B4. Dash to the right above "L" of "Loan"—B5.

Cylinder 2.—Stop after final "s" of "Certificates"—B5. The distance between the terminal "e" of "sertifikate"—K4—and the "B" of "Buy"—B5—is $5\frac{1}{2}$ mm., whilst on Cylinder 1 the distance between the said "e" and "B" is 2mm.

Under the 240 category, the Stamp and Cylinder combinations are as follows:—

1. $1\frac{1}{2}$ d. denomination.—Stamp Cylinder 7019 and Slogan Cylinder 1; stamp cylinder 43 and Slogan Cylinder 1.
2. 2d. denomination.—Stamp Cylinder 6931 and Slogan Cylinder 1; stamp cylinder 6931 and Slogan Cylinder 2; stamp cylinder 39 and Slogan Cylinder 2. A purple smudge is shown about 3mm. below the "el" of "posseel" on Stamp No. 1 of Row 1. This is a Diapositive flaw and is reflected on Stamp No. 1 of Cylinder 6931 and of Cylinder 39. On Stamp No. 1 of Row 19 of Cylinder 6931 a purple dash is shown above the "d" of 2d. A horizontal line of colour is to be found to the right of the sailor's head on Stamp No. 8 of Row 18 of Cylinder 39.
3. 6d. denomination.—Stamp cylinder 6916 and Slogan Cylinder 1; stamp cylinder 6916 and Slogan Cylinder 2; stamp cylinder (74) and numeral cylinder 1.
4. 1s. denomination.—Stamp cylinder 46 and Slogan Cylinder 1; stamp cylinder 46 and Slogan 2. A vertical smudge is shown to the left of Stamps Nos. 1 of Rows 1 and 2. A series of dots is shown on Stamp No. 11 of Row 1.
5. 1s. 3d. denomination.—Stamps of this denomination are printed in 240-set sheets, but in combination with slogan cylinders used in combination with the 360-set stamps of the $\frac{1}{2}$ d., 1d., 3d. and 4d. denominations. The 1s. 3d. Stamp Cylinder 37 and Slogan Cylinder 2; Stamp Cylinder 37 and Slogan Cylinder 3.

* NOTE.—Since this paper was written several denominations have been printed with numbers in the lateral margins in place of slogans. Two combinations are given in connection with the 1d. denomination. Fuller description of this form of combination will be given in due course.

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CONGO AND RUANDA-URUNDI

In the *Philatelic Magazine* of 24 August, M. Y. Laoureux gives a list of quantities printed, overprinted or destroyed of the 1941 Albert Memorial set, and also of the war-time provisionals of these two countries.

The October *Bulletin* of the Leopoldville Philatelic Circle, under the heading "Congo stamps which have never seen the Congo," tells of 12 sets of the 1943 issue of both territories, imperforate. Eight complete sets have been given to various distinguished personages, Belgian and others; one set is being broken up and single stamps are being distributed amongst other individuals (Belgian and foreign politicians and diplomats). The tenth set has somehow or other found its way into the possession of a Belgian firm of stamp dealers and is for sale.

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JAMAICA

The "Constitution" set, seven values, $1\frac{1}{2}$ d. to 10s., was put on sale in the island on 20th August. It has not been welcomed as a thing of beauty or a joy forever, having been described as entirely without imagination. The 2s. stamp in particular is described by the "Philatelic Magazine" as a "corpse among the cobwebs."

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CHANNEL ISLANDS (Guernsey). German occupation issue. Arms of Guernsey. Complete issue of 5 stamps. Mint 16/-. Used 15/6.

EIRE. "Young Ireland Movement" Commemorative issued Sept. 15th. The complete mint set of 2 values 1/-.

ITALY (Sicily). 1943 Allied Military Government issue (AMGOT). The complete mint set of 9 values, obsolete and scarce. 10/9.

JAMAICA. 1945 Constitution Commemorative, issued August 20th. The complete mint set of 7 values 1½d.—10/- 22/6. Short set of 6 mint values 1½d.—5/- 10/-.

NYASALAND. Attractive two-colour pictorials issued Sept. 1st. Complete mint set of 14 values ½d.—£1 54/6. Short sets, ½d—5/- (12) 16/-; ½d.—1/- (9) 4/3.

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JOHANNESBURG

SOCIETY NEWS

THE ORANGE FREE STATE AND BASUTOLAND PHILATELIC SOCIETY

President, Mr. M. Liss; 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 various philatelic problems of internal as well as of general character were discussed. A number of small stamp lots were sold at the usual auction sale.

The feature of the evening was Mr. J. Lewis' display of his "Union Jubilee stamps." This collection is highly specialised, and nine progressing stages were shown, for instance, of the "cracked skull" variety in blocks together with the variety "Line through SUID-AFRIKA." There were also "first day" covers, affixed with complete sets of the "major varieties," which is remarkable as these varieties were not known to the average collector on the day of issue.

K.F.

★

PRETORIA PHILATELIC SOCIETY

President, Lt.-Col. G. Lance Horne; Hon. Secretary, H. A. Wager, P.O. Box 514; Meetings, 1st and 3rd Mondays, 8 p.m., Technical College.

5th November: Mr. Konya gave his reasons for the unsatisfactory designs of the Union stamps and he described the futile competitions for stamp design already held in the Union.

Mr. H. J. Weil read a very interesting paper on German stamps from 12 years before the war. He showed how the illustrations on the stamps kept pace with the rise of Nazism and was a good example of how postage stamps could be used to portray the political and industrial development of a country as well as to advertise propaganda. He described the various portrait and charity stamps. The paper was full of detail, and showed Mr. Weil as a careful and painstaking explorer into the realms of philately.

19th November: Some enlarged photographs of the drawings of the Union Victory stamps were on view and it was the unanimous opinion of the members that they were not a credit to the Union.

Dr. R. Broom gave a talk on further researches he had made into Transvaal stamps. He described some varieties hitherto unrecorded and commented on their rarity. He dealt first with the surcharge of Halve Penny on the 3d. stamp and showed that the "E" varieties indicated different plating from that recorded. He then discussed the disputed point about the number of issues of the 6d. blue and he considered that this could now be decided in favour of there being three issues. This would mean changing the date of the first issue. Dr. Broom showed the plating arrangement of these stamps in support of his contention. Dr. Broom stated that he hoped to publish the results of his researches in the near future.

H.A.W.

★

CAPE TOWN PHILATELIC SOCIETY

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

Thursday, 27th September: At this meeting the large attendance of members and visitors had a real surprise when Mr. V. F. Gysebergh showed his specialised collection of Belgium. This must be one of the finest of its type in the Union as it won no less than three Gold Medals at Exhibitions at Brussels and Antwerp before the war. The early issues were well represented by really superb copies.

Essays and proofs of many of the issues were shown, one proof exhibited being printed on silk. Many of the items were on entires and added to the attractiveness of the collection.

The beautiful commemoratives and charities of Belgium were complete, including the various "Orvals" from 1928. Another outstanding item was the "Cardinal Mercier" set, and among the "Airmails" was noticed the rare 5 franc purple which was only on sale for one day.

In place of the usual auction members took part in a Philatelic Quizz, and from the amount of interest displayed it was evidently enjoyed by all.

Mr. Simenhoff and Mr. C. R. V. Solomon tied for first place, and much enjoyment was had when the Quizz Master tried to eliminate these two, Mr. Solomon eventually being declared the winner. A "Bulletin" of stamp interest was read by Mrs. J. Hotz, being extracts of interesting items from various stamp magazines.

Thursday, October 11: At this meeting Mr. R. Axer gave us a display of a portion of his collection of New Zealand. This country, with its various types of printing and papers, tends to frighten most collectors, but Mr. Axer made it look quite easy and extremely interesting from the study and research point of view—a phase of philately many of us tend to shun these days. Mr. Axer did not start with the early classics but started with the Edward issues and all the various varieties were well represented.

The "Healths," particularly the early issues in both mint and used condition drew particular attention. An interesting exhibit was that of the various Booklet stamps issued in New Zealand complete in booklet form.

Mr. Axer gave an interesting talk on the stamps tabled, and stated that he had started the collection away back in the "nineties" as a schoolboy.

The usual auction took place at the conclusion of the business portion of the meeting.

Thursday, 25th October: "Leaves from my Album" was the title of the display of the evening, which was in the hands of Mr. L. F. Rivers, and this proved a most interesting exhibit.

Particular mention must be made of the very attractive manner in which the various pages were set out and written up, especially those pages on which maps were drawn. These were beautifully drawn to scale and in some cases coloured in, and one noticed many present trying to see if they were actually drawn or pasted on.

The sketches, illustrating varieties drawn to scale alongside the actual stamp, created quite an impression. The pages exhibited were various, the biggest portion being of Aden and Burma, and among the latter was seen the recent Military Admin. set in blocks of four.

Covers with British stamps used in Aden were also well to the fore. Other interesting items which Mr. Rivers displayed from his "Philatelic Scrap Book," as he called it, included pre-stamp covers, air mail covers, interesting war covers which had survived enemy action, Rhodesian stamps used as currency, Mount Currie express label, Congo imperfs. and inverted overprints, etc. The exhibit was rounded off with pages showing the much discussed Channel Island stamps.

At the conclusion of the business a most interesting hour was spent when a series of questions were put to various members for expression of their views.

We hope to publish a separate article on this latter portion of the meeting as all the questions were of general interest.

B.L.C.

★

THE PHILATELIC SECTION OF THE JEWISH GUILD

Chairman, Mr. A. Gladstone; Hon. Sec., Mr. I. Isaacs, 910 His Majesty's Buildings, Eloff Street, Johannesburg; Meetings, last Thursday in each month at the Jewish Guild Memorial Hall, Von Brandis Street, Johannesburg, at 8 p.m.

The main exhibit of the October meeting was provided by Dr. A. Kaplan, who showed some choice sheets of his collection.

These included a sheet of Palestine 5 m.m. on 1 Piastre with the "millimes" error, a block of the 1 m. postage due imperforate and also Palestine errors including the inverted overprints.

He showed also all the Southern Rhodesia Imperforates and the Rhodesia double heads errors of colour.

Some choice Egyptian were included, as well as the chief centenary issues of the British Empire, including Falklands, Cayman, St. Helena and Bahamas Landfall. There were also some choice foreign including the Austrian 10s. Dolfuss and the "Wipa" sheet. Mr. Sprighton spoke on the Empire part of the exhibit and Mr. Buchen on the foreign portion.

Another exhibit was provided by Dr. N. Hirschman who showed his collection of Hong Kong. These in-

cluded the early Queens used specimens with interesting postmarks and the centenary issue mint.

Mr. W. Oppenheim spoke on the exhibit.

Many interesting stamps changed hands during the evening.

All philatelists are welcome to Guild meetings I.I.

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THE PHILATELIC SOCIETY OF NATAL

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

The annual meeting of the Society took place on the 7th November, when the following officers were elected.

President, W. H. Winde; Vice-presidents, L. Bevis, A. E. Basden, J. Lyle, E. E. Gagel, J. R. Simpson; Hon. sec. and treas., G. Milner Palmer; committee, W. Hall Jones, R. F. Swan, A. Adler, H. Hanna, Lt. Comm. C. E. D. Enoch, R.N.R., and H. E. Davis, sales packet superintendent.

Many useful suggestions were discussed for the furtherance and well-being of the Society which the committee will tackle as soon as possible. A very good attendance assured the election of the officers that are likely to support the Society to the full. As the president intimated, the well-being of the Society did not only depend on him and the committee alone, but on the moral support of all the members. In conclusion the president thanked those present for electing him, and he hoped to emulate Mr. Bevis, who had done much for the Society and Philately in general.

★

EAST LONDON PHILATELIC SOCIETY

President, Mr. A. Watson; Hon. Secretary, Mr. S. F. Fowler, P.O. Box 168, East London; Meetings, Colosseum Building, 2nd Fridays at 7.45 p.m.

At the November meeting 26 members and two visitors were present.

New arrivals and varieties received during the past few weeks were passed round for inspection. These included the new 3d. Bantam postage due, the Marshal Petain set of France, and the new 4 fc. Liberation Stamp of the same country, new Italian and Monaco sets, the Marshal Tito set for Yugoslavia, etc., etc.

Another interesting item was a mint copy of the K.E. VII 2s. 6d. Revenue stamp, with inverted head.

Various philatelic and society matters were discussed, and a small committee was appointed to interview the City authorities, with a view to the inclusion of a stamp exhibition in the East London centennial celebrations which will take place in 1948.

After refreshments had been dealt with, during which interval Mr. Jensen conducted an exchange corner on novel lines, the president called on Messrs C. H. Thornton, H. Courlander, J. F. Paviour and T. A. Harper to act as a Brains Trust and, the members having gathered round, proceeded to put various questions of philatelic interest. These questions had been kindly supplied to the president by the Pretoria Philatelic Society, being those asked at one of their recent meetings. Certain of them were omitted, however, having been published in the "S.A. Philatelist" together with the answers thereto.

A most instructive hour or more was spent and thoroughly enjoyed by all. The Pretoria Society's answers were read out by Mr. Watson, and it was found that they were practically identical with the opinions expressed by our own representatives.

It was decided to hold another "Brains Trust" evening at a later date, the questions to be furnished by our own members.

Owing to the lateness of the hour, the lots submitted for sale by auction were held over until the next meeting.

T.A.H.

★

THE PHILATELIC SOCIETY OF JOHANNESBURG.

President, Mr. E. C. Sprignton; Hon. Secretary, Mr. J. Robertson, P.O. Box 4967, Johannesburg; Meetings, 2nd Tuesdays, Public Library, Johannesburg, at 7.45 p.m.

At the November meeting the annual auction in aid of the Johannesburg Hospital was held. The sum of £31 10s. was realised from the sale of stamps donated by members. This means that the Hospital benefited to the extent of £63 as the Administration authorities give £1 for £1.

Before the usual meeting a special general meeting of the Society was held in order to amend the constitution. The chief amendment was in connection with the election of members of the Society. The amendments, as suggested by the Executive Committee were duly passed.

I.I.

★

PORT ELIZABETH PHILATELIC SOCIETY

President, G. K. Forbes; Hon. Sec., Mr. D. G. Y. Malcolm, P.O. Box 458; Meetings, Room 8, City Hall, Basement, at 7.45 p.m., 1st and 3rd Tuesdays.

The auction held on the first Tuesday in November was a large one and about 150 packets were put up for sale. These didn't sell quite so quickly as usual and some were held over until the business meeting.

A welcome visitor from East London, Mr. Jensen, gave a display, and it was very interesting as each page of stamps were mounted in a design.

The stamps tabled were animal, flowers and architecture, and we were grateful to our visitor for giving members a treat.

The business meeting was held on the 20th, and a large crowd attended. This was a member's evening when each member had to table two pages or pay a fine of 3d. Some pages were keenly scrutinised, especially one by Mr. Forbes of faked stamps, and one by Mr. Warren of two blocks Union halfpennies with the design printed on both sides.

We were pleased to welcome two visitors on this occasion, Mr. Collie, from Johannesburg, and Mr. Parnell, from East London, the latter will be in Port Elizabeth for some time, and we hope to see him at our future meetings.

L.E.C.

★ ★ ★

TRISTAN DA CUNHA

It was announced in the press on 10th October that the Royal Mail ship "Darro" had arrived in Cape Town to pick up stores and mail for Tristan and South America, and was leaving in a few days time. This is the first public announcement of a mail for the island since 1939, and the "Darro" is stated to be the first ship to have left Table Bay for Tristan this year.

As "talking about ships and shipping" seems now to be freely permitted, the note in our July issue may be followed up by stating that during the early war years the island's official designation by the Royal Navy (which took over charge of it) was "H.M.S. Job 9." This was good camouflage as it was the type of designation given to a naval ship temporarily in a dockyard for repairs. Later on the island became officially "H.M.S. Atlantic Isle."

The news has also been released that the Union Meteorological Section is sending a survey party to Gough Island (220 miles S.S.E. of Tristan) and also to Marion Island (in the Indian Ocean about 1,000 miles S.E. of Port Elizabeth) with the object of seeing whether it is practicable to set up stations there, as it is expected that they would be most valuable for long-range weather forecasting.

We may, therefore, in the future have other island posts to deal with in addition to Tristan da Cunha.

FOREIGN EXCHANGES

We have to welcome a recommencement of exchange with Continental Europe, in the shape of a number of the "Nordisk Filatelistisk Tidsskrift" (the official organ of the Scandinavian Philatelic Union) from Copenhagen. This is the first philatelic journal received from Continental Europe since 1940.

The SEASONS

Spring flowers are a blaze of colour . . .
Summer sunbathing is here again . . .
Autumn leaves are falling . . . what do
you fancy for the "July" ?—
the seasons may mean no
more than that to **you**.

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