

# *THE* SOUTH AFRICAN PHILATELIST

*Proprietors and Publishers :*

**THE PHILATELIC FEDERATION OF SOUTHERN AFRICA**

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JANUARY, 1940.

No. 1.

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# The SOUTH AFRICAN PHILATELIST

Proprietors and Publishers :

The Philatelic Federation of Southern Africa

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Vol. 16.

JANUARY, 1940.

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## Correspondence

The Editor,

*South African Philatelist.*

Sir,—In your October number there appears an article on "Southern Rhodesia's Stamps. First Issue," in the third paragraph of which it is stated that (a) a new head die was used for the  $\frac{1}{2}$ d., 1d.,  $1\frac{1}{2}$ d., and 3d. values, (b) the old Die I of Rhodesia was employed for the 8d., 10d., 2s. 6d., and 5s. values, and (c) Die III was used for the 2d., 4d., 6d., 1s. and 2s. values.

A cursory examination of these stamps will reveal the following facts: (a) a separate new die was used for each of the values  $\frac{1}{2}$ d., 1d.,  $1\frac{1}{2}$ d. and 3d.—the cap cover shading alone will show this (by the way "head" dies were not required for single printing) and (b) the head die used for the whole of the other values appears to be Die II, retouched by adding a light outline to the cap cover, putting a light outline to the ear quite different from that of Die III and doing away with the "white shoulder," etc.

I wonder whether I shall be challenged on these statements.

Yours, etc.,

W. J. HARRINGTON.

### CORONATION PRINTING AND FLAWS.

Sir,

I have read Mr. P. J. Hervey's letter in your December issue, regarding the above, with a good deal of interest.

I have five different printings of the  $\frac{1}{2}$ d. and 1d. values, and am finding it difficult to decide the order in which they were issued.

I have a complete sheet of the 1d. value, showing all the flaws mentioned by Mr. Hervey. Although this sheet has the watermark pointing to the right (which Mr. Hervey calls the first printing) I think it is the second printing of the 1d. I have come to this decision as I have another complete sheet of the 1d. value, showing watermark pointing to the right, which has none of the flaws common to the other values.

I have spoken to a number of collectors regarding the latter, and none of them have seen any other complete sheets, and contend that they were all broken up to be used on first day covers.

The second variety mentioned by Mr. Hervey is the 13th stamp in the 4th row.

With regard to the third variety. I do not quite understand the description, but there is a small white dot in the extreme left corner of the head plate, and this occurs on the 3rd stamp in the 3rd row.

Yours, etc.,

J. R. LEVY.

### DOUBLE-PRINTED UNION K.G. $\frac{1}{2}$ d.

The Editor,

*South African Philatelist,*

Sir,

Permit me briefly to reply to Mr. S. C. W. Wareham's remarks on page 188 of the *South African Philatelist* of December, 1939.

I, I have not seen the *Sunday Times* of 16th September last, nor did I write an article for it. A Capetown journalist interviewed me for some two hours recently, stating he intended writing an article for the *Cape Argus* on South African stamps, and that he was interviewing several other local philatelists as well for that purpose. I do not exactly know what I am

represented as having said, but from Mr. Wareham's remarks it would appear as if I valued a single K.H. doubly-printed ½d. stamp at £200. I did nothing of the kind! When asked what I considered the highest-priced Union stamp, I showed the journalist Mr. Ritchie's book, which Mr. Wareham refers to, and he read pages 33 and 34, which deal with the ½d. double impression King's Head. He asked me what price I intended placing on the item. My reply was that as I had catalogued the best (top) pair at £150 and as Messrs. Stanley Gibbons had catalogued a single copy at £75, I considered £200 a fair price for the pair of stamps. I definitely did not refer to a single stamp.

II. Mr. Wareham goes off the deep end because the Natal Philatelic Society's publication did not include my item 100a, which I now learn is in Mr. Wareham's collection. Why blame me? (Opening paragraph, page 188, December *South African Philatelist*.) I was not responsible for this publication.

I am pleased to hear, from Mr. Wareham's article, that a new handbook is about to be printed, and hope the authors will give Mr. Wareham's article every consideration.

III. I have seen items 100 b and 100 c and shall be pleased to see Mr. Wareham's block of 42 (including 100 a). I can assure him that when at some future date I have another catalogue-handbook printed, I shall *again* recognise the item and perhaps adjust the price.

Yours, etc.,

L. SIMENHOFF.

[Mr. Simenhoff appears to have mis-read Mr. Wareham's remarks slightly. Mr. Wareham does not blame Mr. Simenhoff for the lack of mention of this item in the Natal Philatelic Society's handbook. Nor does he state that a new handbook is about to be printed; he merely says it is rumoured that one is to make its appearance one of these days.—Ed.]

#### SOUTH AFRICAN PIGEON POSTS.

In a recent number of "Linn's Weekly Stamp News," Mr. Park Smith describes the three officially recognised Pigeon Posts which there have been in this country. The first two are well enough known, viz., at Cape Town in connection with the Peace Celebrations on 2nd August, 1919, and from Worcester to the Strand on Coronation Day, 1937. The third is not so well known and, in fact, we are unaware that it had official recognition by the postal department. It took place at Dans-kraal, near Blood River, Natal, as part of the Voortrekker celebrations on 7th December, 1938. A considerable number of pigeons were released carrying copies of the Vow made by the Voortrekkers on the spot one hundred years before. We would be glad to have further particulars of just how this can be construed as being a pigeon post.

#### SEYCHELLES SPECULATORS.

According to "Linn's Weekly Stamp News," the numerous provisionals of this Colony issued in 1901-02-03 were largely necessary because of the operations of a small group of speculators in the islands.

Steamer communications in these days were infrequent and, despite ordering well in advance for probable needs, it sometimes happened that commonly used values would be exhausted before reinforcements arrived.

In June, 1901, new supplies of stamps of the 3c value were delayed even more than usual in arrival and speculators, learning that stocks were very small, proceeded to buy them up and thereby force the post office to prepare some kind of a provisional. For about two months the 36c overprinted 3c sufficed, then these gave in and the 16c was overprinted; after another month the 10c was used and this lasted till the regular issue arrived.

In June, 1902, more provisionals were necessary, but as these were mostly higher values, 30c and 45c, the limitation of sales to one sheet per person made even the 2c on 4c last two months or more.

In 1903, one speculator having recovered from the 1901 spree—or possibly having recouped on the 1902 provisionals—learned that the total printing of the new 3c K.E. was only 40,000 stamps. He bought up 25,000 of these within two days of issue and once again forced the hands of the postal authorities. They overprinted 32,000 of the 15c with 3c and limited the sale, but by roping in a number of helpers the wily one defeated them and the entire lot was sold out in one day. Next 24,000 of the 45c were overprinted, but they also quickly wound up in the hands of the speculators. With grim determination the post office then overprinted 12,000 of the 18c and limited the sale to five stamps per person with a total of 400 stamps per day. This rule discouraged the speculators and anyway they had on hand about all they could handle. The 3c on 18c lasted till the second printing of the 3c arrived and in the end proved to be the most valuable of the three provisionals.

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**KENYA NOTES.**

(1) Mr. W. Tunstall records four new slogan postmarks in use now. Two of these are in rectangular box frames, one reading simply "Kenya," the other "Make / Your Home / In Kenya." The other two are without frames and read respectively: "East Africa Produces / Cotton, Maize, Coffee / Sisal, Flax, Wool," and "Register or Insure / Articles / Of Value."

(2) From a correspondence which has appeared in the "East African Standard" it would appear that the personality of the African native who figures in the border of the 15 cent. stamp has been a subject of dispute amongst the Kenya natives, some claiming that it was a portrait of Chief Odera of the Jaluo tribe, others that it was Chief Kinanjui of the Wakikuyu. The problem has been settled by Mr. G. Gill Holmes, the designer of the stamp. He states that his subject was a Wakikuyu warrior in ceremonial dress, but not any particular individual.

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## A Philatelic Pilgrimage Through Asia

By Rev. Wm. LOXLEY CHAMINGS, B.Sc., B.D. (Philatelic Society of Natal).

(Continued from page 181 of December issue)

14. We now go North and West into *Siberia*, the Asiatic territory of that amazing product of modern times, the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics. As yet no stamps have been issued showing any clear views of this land of far distances, but there are hints of characteristic scenery in the seven stamps shown, from an ethnographical set of 21 issued in 1933, and much as we may deprecate some of the little ways of the Soviet Philatelic Bureau, it must be admitted that many Russian issues, and this one in particular, are full of intrinsic interest. This series perpetrates the philatelic crime of having no less than seven stamps all of the 15 kopeck denomination, but it succeeds in bringing before us in most vivid form the life and surroundings of 21 different races amongst the vast population of the Union, and to the student of humanity it offers a fascinating field of research. Take the upright 25 kopeck carmine for example. As the inscription shows, the people represented here are Turkmen. These consist of nine tribes of Turkic stock and speech, found mostly in West Turkistan, numbering some 300,000. They are hardy, thickset, predatory, stock-breeding nomads, living for the most part in villages in winter and in travelling encampments in summer. Since coming under Russian control many, as the stamp witnesses, have taken to agriculture.

15. We cross the mighty Hindu Kush rampart into *India*. The Government of India have given us two splendid sets of geographical stamps, to commemorate the inauguration of New Delhi in 1931, and the Silver Jubilee of George V. in 1935. Note that the picture of the Victoria Memorial, Calcutta, on the 9 pies black and grey-green Jubilee shows us this fine building not as it is, but as it was in its early stages. It was begun in 1906 and four square towers as shown were erected at the corners, but in November, 1934, the work of adding domes to each of these was begun, and has since been completed. One may compare the earlier and later printings of our own South African 2d. stamp. On this sheet are also a Portuguese stamp of Goa on the West, a French stamp of Pondicherry on the East, four finely produced of Jaipur, an ornament to any collection, and a solitary specimen of a miserable set issued by Charkhari in 1931, the subject of a sorry ramp that reduced the value of postmarked copies to next to nothing.

16. *Hyderabad*, the chief Native State of India, deserves a sheet to itself. The excellent

engraving of the issue of November, 1931, carried out at the mint in Hyderabad City, is itself a testimony to the high standard of technical skill reached in this Native State, whilst in architecture, science, and medical research Hyderabad is far in advance of many other states. Its ruler, the Nizam, reputed to be the wealthiest man in the world, is an enlightened and broadminded Moslem who gives generous support to any movement for the welfare of his people. His Silver Jubilee as Nizam fell in 1936, but owing to the death of King George V it was postponed to 1937, when it was celebrated with great festivities. The occasion was marked by the issue of the four stamps here shown, each depicting a building owing its inception and erection to the support of the Nizam. Perhaps the most interesting of these is the lowest value, the 4 pies, slate and violet, inscribed "Unani General Hospital." This is situated a little to the South-East of the famous Char Minar, or Four Towers, in the heart of the old city, shown on the 1 anna brown of the 1931 issue, and the view of it shown is from a photo taken from the roof of Mecca Masjid, the principal Mosque. It is in the Saracenic style, and was designed by the architect of the Chief Engineer's Office, Public Works Department. This Hospital well exemplifies the sane policy of the Nizam in blending all the finer elements of ancient Indian culture with modern scientific knowledge, for here modern medical science is practised on eastern principles by native doctors known as hakeems. The highest value, the 2 annas, slate and green, shows a reproduction from the architect's plan of the Osmania Jubilee Hall, and lacks the portico subsequently added on the right side. This Hall was built to celebrate the Nizam's Jubilee, and it was here on February 13, 1937, the first day of the celebrations, that the Nizam received the congratulations not only of his own people but of the whole world. He has once again placed his vast resources at the disposal of the King-Emperor in this present crisis.

17. *Afghanistan* is a neighbour of India, but the road between the two is one of the most mountainous in the world, lying through the turbulent district of the North-West Frontier. The most powerful Moslem State in the East, Afghanistan is one of the strangest lands in the world, and its stamps are certainly in keeping. Only a collector with a very deep purse and an acquired taste in art would attempt to collect the early issues, which at best are little more than locals, but for me at least there is a strange fascination in the



rather crude yet effective designs of 1931 and onwards, after Afghanistan had joined the U.P.U., and I hope that something at least of this fascination has crept on to the sheet now shown. Those three K's—Kabul, Khyber, and Kandahar—what stories of raids and risings, camels and caravans they call up! A word about each, and we must push on. Kabul, the capital, lies in a charming hollow of the mountains 6,400 feet above sea-level, higher therefore than Johannesburg. The Amir's palace figures in the 25 poul grey-green, his Council Chamber on the 40 poul sepia, the Fortress on the 15 poul brown, and so on. The Khyber Pass, depicted on the 75 poul scarlet, the scene of many a grim struggle, is the only practicable road between Afghanistan and India. It is 33 miles in length and in parts only 15 feet wide. The 30 poul red shows a ruined fort at Kandahar, a romantic walled city of some 60,000 inhabitants. The four main gates lie North, South, East, and West, and are defended by six double bastions and the angles by four circular towers. The four main streets leading from these four gates are 40 yards wide, bordered with trees and flanked by shops and houses. At their intersection rises a splendid dome 50 yards in diameter.

18. Continuing westward we enter *Iran*, late Persia. Only eight of its numerous stamp issues show any places. Of these the two which show the ruins of Persepolis are the most interesting. Persepolis lies 35 miles North-East of the modern Shiraz, and is reputed to have been founded by Cyrus the Great. It was the capital of the ancient Persian Empire, and its mighty ruins testify to its former greatness. The 10 dinar grey and orange of the 1935 issue depict rather vaguely the ruins in general, while the 5 toman grey, blue, and gold of 1915 gives a good idea of the Palace Gateway. Some conception of the immense size of this palace may be given by the bald statement that the Great Hall alone covered 2½ acres. It is said that Alexander the Great, who captured Persepolis in 331 B.C., set this palace on fire with his own hand in a drunken frolic, instigated by the courtesan Thaïs.

(To be continued).

#### BRAZIL COMMEMORATIVES.

Dr. Mario de Sanctis kindly communicates the following details of four recent Brazilian commemorative issues:

23rd August, 1939: Stamp issued in commemoration of the centenary of Santos (26th January, 1839-1939). Value, 400 reis; printed in bright blue. It shows an aerial view of the town and the harbour. Wmk., Correo Brasil. Perf., 11, in sheets of 80 stamps.

23rd August, 1939: Stamp issued to commemorate "1a Reuniao Sul-Americana de Botanica", 1st South American Congress of Botany (Rio de Janeiro, 12-19 October, 1938). Value, 400 reis; printed in green. The

stamp shows an Ipé flower and Orchideas. Wmk., "Correo Brasil," perf., 11, in sheets of 80 stamps.

3rd September, 1939: Stamp to commemorate the "3a Eucaristico National Congress of Ruifi (Pernambuco), 3-7 September, 1939. Value, 400 reis, printed in carmine. Wmk., "Correo Brasil," perf., 11, in sheets of 80 stamps.

(The above three stamps engraved "taille douce" and printed at the mint, Rio de Janeiro).

12th September, 1939: Stamp to commemorate "Day Soldat". Value, 400 reis, printed in ultramarine; shows portrait of "Duque de Caxias"; in sheets of 80 stamps. Wmk., "Correo Brasil". *Rouletted*. Printed in rotogravure by Lito-tip. Guanabara Rio de Janeiro.

14th October. On this date there were put on sale in Rio de Janeiro and in New York four stamps commemorative of Brazil's participation in the New York World's Fair ("Feira Mundial de Nova York"). The denominations and their subjects are respectively: 400r. orange (Washington), 800r. dark green (Dom Pedro II), 1,200r. carmine (Grover Cleveland), and 1,600r. deep blue (Statue of Liberty, Rio de Janeiro).

#### POSTAGE STAMP CENTENARY.

The front page of an issue of "Linn's Weekly Stamp News" bears the following resolution intended to be signed by readers and sent to the President of the United States of America:

##### RESOLUTION

**For the Celebration of the 100th Anniversary of Postage Stamps.**

To The Honourable Franklin Delano Roosevelt, America's Number One Philatelist.

Whereas the first adhesive postage stamp was issued for general public use in the year eighteen hundred and forty, and

Whereas the postage stamp is and always has been one of the greatest helps and boons to all mankind in the distribution and dissemination of learning and knowledge,

**Be It Therefore Resolved** that the Honourable James A. Farley, Postmaster-General of the United States of America, be instructed to issue for use throughout the year 1940, a special postage stamp honouring and in commemoration of the one hundredth anniversary of the birth of the postage stamp.

Neither snow nor rain nor heat nor gloom of night stays the postage stamp from the swift completion of its appointed rounds.

As one of the stamp collectors of America, I petition you Mr. President that this resolution be adopted.

## Northern Rhodesia

EMERGENCY AIR MAIL SERVICES  
IN 1929.

By I. H. C. GODFREY.

A serious strike on the Rhodesia Railways, the main line of which runs 505 miles from the Zambesi River to the Congo border, entirely disrupted communications, and the carriage of mails in the Colony between February 16th and March 6th, 1929. During those three weeks every endeavour was made to maintain mail services between towns in Northern Rhodesia and to Southern Rhodesia by other means of transport.

The postal authorities at N'dola and Livingstone, the extreme north and south mainline stations, seized the opportunity, whenever it occurred, of using aeroplanes which were visiting the territory for disposing of accumulated mail matter. Aviation was, however, still in its infancy in Northern Rhodesia at the time, and visiting planes were very few and far between.

At this time the Aircraft Operating Company, with its headquarters at Bulawayo, were engaged in making aerial surveys and one of the company's small machines made several special flights from Southern Rhodesia up to Livingstone.

### THE AIRCRAFT OPERATING COMPANY, LTD. (Bulawayo).

February, 1929. Bulawayo—Livingstone—  
Bulawayo.

A two-seater Puss-Moth "ZS-ACT," belonging to the Aircraft Operating Co., Ltd., with its headquarters in Bulawayo, flew from that town to Livingstone and back on eleven occasions during the period of the strike, primarily to assist tourists who were marooned at the Victoria Falls. The small machine, having very limited accommodation, was only able to carry a few pounds of mail on each flight, and then only when space was available.

Letters carried on these emergency flights required no surcharge, nor airmail labels, and can only be identified by the dates of the postmarks at Bulawayo and Livingstone; some were posted on arrival at their destination.

Captain Douglas Mail was the pilot on all of these services.

Covers are known bearing the following legible postmarks:

Livingstone—February 21st, 23rd and 25th.  
Bulawayo—February 23rd.

### ROYAL AIR FORCE.

February 25th, 1929. N'dola—Broken Hill—  
Bulawayo.

Four Fairy-Napier machines, in command of Squadron-Leader C. R. Cox, of the Royal Air Force, arrived at Bwana M'Kubwa aerodrome, near N'dola, on February 25th.

The planes, which had left Cairo on the 12th, were on a routine flight to Cape Town, and the chance of despatching mails by them to Southern Rhodesia was taken by the N'dola, Bwana M'Kubwa, Broken Hill and Livingstone Post Offices. The planes left Bwana M'Kubwa shortly after their arrival and reached Broken Hill the same day. They arrived at Livingstone on the 27th and at Bulawayo, 650 miles distant from N'dola, on February 28th.

The weights of mail carried are officially given as: N'dola to Broken Hill, 200 lbs.; Broken Hill to Livingstone, 400 lbs.; Livingstone to Bulawayo, 200 lbs.

Letters were, unfortunately, not back-stamped on arrival but flown covers can be identified by the Northern Rhodesian post-marking.

### "MARYLAND FREE STATE" (Van Lear Black).

February 28th, 1929. N'dola—Bulawayo.

Soon after the departure of the Royal Air Force squadron, an American millionaire, Mr. Van Lear Black, reached N'dola on an attempted record flight from London to Cape Town. His large Fokker monoplane, "Maryland Free State," in charge of two Dutch pilots, Mns. G. Geysendorfer and J. B. Scholte, had left London on February 11th and, on her departure from N'dola on the 28th, she was entrusted with a small quantity of His Majesty's mails for delivery at Bulawayo, where the mail arrived next day, via Broken Hill and Livingstone.

As in the previous two instances, no additional postage was charged and, as no airmail labels or distinctive markings were applied, covers can only be distinguished by the postmarks.

### ZANZIBAR POSTMARKS.

Mr. Tunstall, of Uplands, Kenya, writes that although the statement made in our August number that there is only one post office in Zanzibar (with the postmark "Zanzibar") appears to be correct so far as the island of Zanzibar itself is concerned, it is not correct if the whole Protectorate is taken into consideration. On the island of Pemba, north of the main island of Zanzibar, but part of the Sultanate, there are at least two offices with their own cancellations, viz., Weti and Chakichaki.



### SLOW-MOTION MAIL.

The accompanying photograph, sent us by Mr. Park Smith, will interest curio collectors, although it can scarcely, perhaps, be dignified with the term "philatelic." It was carried by caravan by the owner-driver thereof in his 30,000-mile trip in Africa and North America, the trip lasting nearly two years. Starting from Cape Town on 10th December, 1937, it

will be seen from the postmarks that he visited (among many other places, of course) Lusaka, Nairobi, Kampala, Beira, Dakar, Miami, New Orleans, Mexico, New York, Toronto, Salt Lake City, San Francisco, and Los Angeles. The cover returned to The Strand on 14th November, 1939, just missing in its last lap (which was not by caravan) a couple of U-boats.

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

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### GREAT BRITAIN.

The 10s. stamp of the new reign appeared on October 30. The size is the same as the 2s. 6d. and 5s. values, but the design is a new one. The King's head is within a conventional cartouche of a decorative design and is surrounded with branches of laurel which have

become a traditional decoration on British stamps. Included in the design are the four floral emblems of England, Scotland, Ireland, and Wales. Above the cartouche is set the Imperial crown, and the denomination is shown in large figures in each of the lower corners. The design stands out in light tones against a uniform blue background.

## Orange Free State

ON GELDHOF'S BOOK AND A. E. BASDEN'S ADDITIONAL INFORMATION PUBLISHED IN *THE SOUTH AFRICAN PHILATELIST* ISSUES OF JUNE, JULY, AND AUGUST, 1939.

By W. REDFORD.

1890-91. *One penny surcharge on threepence.* A. E. Basden states there are a number of minor varieties but some of these appear to be constant. There are, for example, the Hook serif, the hollow stroke in 1, and the split foot of the d.

My friend Mr. C. H. Thornton, of East London, tells me that he has a variety of the Double Surcharge consisting of the wide-spaced 1d. together with dropped "d" in the other 1d.

*One penny surcharge on fourpence.* The split foot of the d also occurs in this surcharge. There is a variety of the double surcharge not mentioned by either Mr. Basden or Mr. Geldhof, this is the normal surcharge plus an additional almost diagonal surcharge. On the copy in my possession part of this second overprint appears on the outside margin of the sheet. This variety cannot be described as "constant" as probably only one sheet was carelessly printed in this manner.

1892. *2½d. on threepence.* Like Mr. Basden, I have not come across most of the varieties mentioned by Mr. Geldhof, but I have the No. 9 variety, that is the curly-foot 2 in fraction. A close examination of this 2 leads me to the opinion that this may be the result of damage to the type, but nevertheless the result is definitely a curly-foot 2.

1896. *Halve Penny on threepence.* Accepting two varieties mentioned by Mr. Geldhof, which I have not yet seen, "Two obliterating bars" and "Two periods after Penny," in Type 1 of this surcharge, that is "H" to right of "P", I make the full list of varieties in this printing number twenty-two as follows:

1. "Peuny" for Penny.
2. Short obliterating bar.
3. "Peuny" for Penny with short bar.
4. Two obliterating bars.
5. Bar at top instead of bottom.
6. Short bar at top.
7. Bars at top and bottom.
8. Bar omitted.
9. No stop.
10. No stop with short bar.
11. No stop and no bar.
12. Surcharge inverted.
13. Two stops after penny.
14. Broken "P" in penny.
15. Thick "H" and "P."

16. Thick "H" and "P" with bar omitted.
17. Double surcharge.
18. Double surcharge, one inverted.
19. Double surcharge, one inverted, with "Peuny" error.
20. Double surcharge with no stop, one inverted.
21. Surcharge inverted with short bar.
22. Short bar at top and bottom.

Of the above varieties, the really interesting one overlooked by both Mr. Basden and Mr. Geldhof is No. 11, "No stop and no bar." I had the pleasure of pointing out this variety to Mr. Basden at the recent Philatelic Exhibition in Pretoria. It was a prominent item in Mr. Basden's own fine exhibit of Orange Free State stamps. This item is the last stamp in the top row of the top right hand pane.

In Type 2, I have the variety "Bar at top and bottom."

In Type 3, I have the variety "Bar at top instead of bottom."

*The sixpence ultramarine* without surcharge, as Mr. Geldhof states, was never used for postage, but this stamp surcharged "TF" for telegraphic purposes, certainly was used for postage by the Boer forces during the Anglo-Boer War. I have a copy so used at Colesburg, Cape Province.

1900. *The V.R.I. Issue.* Mr. Geldhof lists the variety "No stop after V and left serif of V broken off." He does not, however, mention "No stop after normal V." According to the Royal Society's Africa, Part 3, the "No stop after normal V" occurs in ½d., 1d., and 2½d. denominations. I have a copy of the ½d. in my collection.

Mr. Basden draws attention to the omission by Mr. Geldhof of the variety "Value omitted" in the halfpenny and one penny values. This variety also exists in the twopence value. I have a used copy.

The variety "Wide space between figure and letter of value" is listed by Mr. Geldhof as occurring in the 1d. and 1s. denominations. This also occurs in the 6d. ultramarine.

There is a variety, due to careless printing, in which half of the letters V.R.I. occur at the top of the stamp, and the other half at the bottom of the stamp, with the value in the middle. I have a copy of the threepence.

As mentioned in the November, 1939, issue of the *South African Philatelist* there are un-

(Concluded on page 11).



# UNION ESSAYS

Oblong design showing a Springbok with Table Mountain in distance.  
Inscriptions all in Afrikaans. Value 1d. (1926 or 1927). In three  
colours:—Black, Blue, Violet.

The three for 42/-.

### ZULULAND.

1888, on Great Britain.

	Unused.		Used.	
	s.	d.	s.	d.
4d. green and brown ..	4	6	5	0
5d. purple and blue ..	12	6	12	6
6d. purple on red ..	7	6	7	6
9d. purple and blue ..	15	0	16	0
1s. green ..	15	0	15	0
5s. rose ..	60	0	70	0

*On Natal.*

½d. green ..	3	0	4	0
½d. green, double over- print ..	60	0	—	—

1894-96.

1s. green ..	2	6	2	0
£1 purple on red ..	60	0	—	—

### ARGENTINE.

1923.

	Used.
	s. d.
10 p. blue and claret ..	7 6
20 p. lake and slate ..	15 0

1936-7.

5 pesos, green and blue ..	0 9
10 pesos, black and lake ..	3 0
20 pesos, chocolate and blue ..	5 0

### URUGUAY.

1930-31 Air Stamps.

3 pesos, ultramarine ..	12 6
4 p. 50 c., deep lilac ..	15 0

1933-35.

10 pesos, blue ..	20 0
10 pesos, lake ..	20 0

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LEOMINSTER - - - ENGLAND.

## Cape Varieties

EXPERTISING AND ULTRA VIOLET RAY TESTS.

By A. A. JURGENS.

The Quartz lamp since its invention has no doubt been a great boon to stamp collectors, particularly to the specialist who often pays huge sums of money for unique and out of the way varieties, but is it one hundred per cent. correct?

A few years ago, Dr. L. B. Goldschmidt, President of the Cape Town Philatelic Society, very kindly placed one of these lamps at my disposal and stated at a meeting of the Society that members having any doubt about any of their pet possessions might bring them along for examination under the lamp.

It has taken a considerable time to become acquainted with the various conditions in which the ultra-violet rays can give useful information, and I have come to the conclusion that whilst the lamp is ideal in detecting stamps which have been cleaned, it cannot always be relied upon in the detection of repairs.

A glaring example of this was in the case of a One Penny blue Cape woodblock, which was purchased from a London dealer by Mr. C. H. Thornton, of East London. This stamp was, so I am informed, forwarded to the Pretoria Philatelic Society for examination, and, according to their report, it was repaired, in that margins had been added, but the Quartz Lamp evidently revealed no other defects. The stamp was later sent to me by Mr. Thornton and I then discovered that it had originally been a pale milky blue Fourpenny to which all three margins had been added, and in addition the "Fourpence" had been removed and the word "Onepenny" substituted.

The work had been executed in such a manner that it was impossible to see any signs of the repair even with a powerful glass, and the Quartz Lamp also failed to reveal the fact that the words "Onepenny" had been substituted for the original "Fourpence," despite the fact that a very careful examination was made.

This stamp was then placed in a black ebony tray and benzine poured over it, when the defects, both the added margins and the substituted "Onepenny" were immediately revealed. The stamp was then examined by several other philatelists, who, without my informing them of the nature of the repairs and additions, immediately came to the same conclusion.

So far as added gum is concerned, I am of opinion that the lamp is only reliable when the back of the stamp can be examined, but where an ungummed stamp has been fixed to a cover and postmarked it is impossible to tell that this has been done.

As an example the following test was made. A one penny Cape stamp, mint, was placed beside a similar one to which gum had been added, with the result that the lamp revealed the difference very distinctly. The stamp with the original gum appeared pinkish, whilst the one with the added gum appeared white. Both these stamps were then fixed to ordinary white paper and placed side by side under the lamp, with the result that no difference whatsoever could be detected.

In the case of overprinted or surcharged stamps, I do not think that the lamp alone can be considered a satisfactory test. On this occasion I took a number of damaged Cape provisionals such as the "One Penny" on 1s., Half-Penny on 3d., One Penny on 2d., and a few of the numerals "3." I then obtained a small supply of printer's ink, and a few letters of the metal type, and with these I made impressions on the stamps alongside the original overprints, with the result that the lamp revealed no difference whatsoever in the inks.

In these circumstances, therefore, I am of opinion that in so far as surcharged stamps of the Cape are concerned the detection of forged overprints can only be made by measurement and comparison of the type used.

Where forged postmarks or defacements are concerned, the same applies here as to the remarks made about overprints.

Being fortunate in having in my possession a few thousand old Cape covers from which the stamps had been removed, I utilised all the duplicates for tests as follows:—

As the Postmasters of the old Cape Colony were supplied with turpentine as a thinning medium for the defacing and stamping ink used at the time, this ink being in most cases identical with ordinary printer's ink, I made impressions with various stamping implements alongside the original postmarks. I also mixed some ink with linseed oil, because I am inclined to think that very often in the absence of turpentine linseed oil was used as a thinning medium, which suggestion lends it-

(Continued on page 13)

## Reviews

ROBSON LOWE, LTD.

We have received from 96 Regent Street "A Review, 1938-39," of the various stamp trade activities carried on there. From this review it is obvious that the organisation there has been expanding greatly during the last few years and is flourishing like the proverbial bay tree. The Review deals with outright cash sales, sales by private treaty, and auction sales; the experience of the organisation being at sellers' disposal in advising as to the best methods. There is a long list of collections and single items with the prices realized for them; this is lavishly illustrated.

*A HISTORICAL CATALOGUE OF U.S. STAMP ESSAYS AND PROOFS. THE OMAHA TRANS-MISSISSIPPI ISSUE, 1898. By Clarence W. Brazer, 415 Lexington Avenue, New York. Price, \$1.*

This work by Mr. Brazer, Governor of the Collectors Club, New York, contains in its 48 pages some 43 illustrations with a history of the origin of each stamp design in the Omaha issue from its inception to its completion. There are also given the names of the designers and engravers, with dates, quantity, and exact size and colours of all known essays and proofs, die and transfer roll numbers.

It is a most painstaking piece of work and beautifully gotten up. From its very nature it can, of course, only make appeal to the U.S. specialist, but for him it will be fascinating.

### *THE BOND STREET STAMP AUCTIONS. RESUME FOR THE SEASON 1938-39.*

Mr. H. R. Harmer's yearly resume of his work has arrived a little belatedly this year. With two sons and other members of his staff called up for service, the famous Bond Street auctions carry on under some difficulties, but they are carrying on. This summary shows the world-wide appeal that these auctions hold for both buyers and sellers, for, necessarily, the one lot cannot be pleased without the assistance of the other.

As regards future prospects Mr. Harmer says, "Prophecy is not in our department, although we see no reason why Philately and the Stamp Market should not flourish in this as they did in the last great war. A long experience of the stamp market under all sorts of conditions has taught us that in philately as in most other things fortune favours the brave, and leaves the timid wallowing in their own misgivings."

We hope so, too. And good luck to your efforts, Mr. Harmer!

## COLLECTORS' WANTS AND OFFERS

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

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

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

William Redford, Box 7012, Johannesburg.

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

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

Globe Postage Stamp Company, 17, St. George's Street, Cape Town.

**Wanted.**—CANADA and other British North America; anything of real interest. Portugal and Gambia Imperfs. Special items connected with Cape Postal History.

G. Carleton Jones, P.O. Box 1167, Johannesburg.

**Exchange.**—Advanced Swiss and European collector seeks exchange against South African and British Colonial.

Write: H. Wuthrich, Bruggerstrasse, Baden, Switzerland.

**Wanted.**—Fiscally used stamps of the British Empire "on entire." Offers invited.

Hollie Woode, A.P.S., J.P.S., 6763 Hollywood Blvd., Hollywood, California.

(Concluded from page 8)

doubtedly four positions of "Mixed stops" in the postage stamps, but neither of my friends make any mention of the two major divisions of the "Mixed stops" variety. The first is the normal "V" and the second is the malformed "V." I have all values, excepting the 2½d., in both divisions, so that it appears that the "malformed V" is constant.

## German East Africa

*Translated from the original article by Dr. Herbert Munk in Kohl's Handbook  
by Dr. J. H. Harvey Pirie.*

*(Continued from page 185 of December issue)*

### GERMAN POST IN ZANZIBAR (Continued)



- 1890 (27 Aug.). Pfennig values of the German Empire issue of 1889, Nos. 46, 47, 48 and 50, also the 2 Mk. stamp No. 37.
- No 46      5 pf. dark green, green  
No 47.     10 pf. rose, pale rose
- No. 48      12 pf. blue
- No. 50      50 pf. (a) brownish red or red-brown (end of Aug., 1890)  
              (b) chocolate brown
- No. 37      2 Mk. (a) dull purple violet (end of Aug., 1890)  
              (b) dark purple (about Nov., '90)  
              (c) dull rose lilac

Friedmann's Handbook and Bungerz only mention one colour (brown-red, red-brown or of a reddish tone) of the 50 pf. value. In the Metzke collection there are two strips of three of this value, both undoubtedly genuinely used on Sept., 2, 1890, only a few days after the opening of the agency. One of these strips (which appears to be part of an originally large block of stamps) is of that vivid reddish intermediate shade which we have listed as No. 50b under the German Empire, whilst the other (from a different source) is almost of a chocolate brown. Both colours must have been present in the first consignment received in Zanzibar, i.e., the one taken personally by Secretary for Posts Steinhagen on his departure from Germany on July 23, 1890 for delivery to the agency in Zanzibar (See *Die Post*, 1914, p. 30).

Our earlier statement (Vol. I pp. 903 and 907) that the brown-red and red-brown transitional shades (replacing the original copper-red colour) came into use in Germany in June at latest, appeared after the opinion had been arrived at that the State Printing Office had gone off the copper-red printing somewhere in March or April and that the stocks distributed in July were no longer of a distinctive colour but were already of various transitional shades.

More recently we have been shown a markedly transitional shade, definitely brownish, with date-stamp of 20-3-90 (as given in original, but appears to be wrong.—Ed.), so that it is quite understandable that brownish stamps have been recorded amongst the July consignment of the 50 pf. value. Stamps of the "real chocolate-brown" shade are fairly common with Zanzibar postmarks of later date; these probably reached Zanzibar in a later consignment.

Of the 2 Mk. stamp No. 37 we had a strip of four used on 1-9-90 and a block of four used on 2-10-90, each of the washed-out bluish shade which is characteristic of the second (later) printing in bluish tones (German Empire No. 37d) and which we have already mentioned as met with in the "Forerunners" of the German Post Offices in the Levant and in China. The 2 Mk. stamps of the first consignment sent to Zanzibar must accordingly have been of the bluish shade which we have listed as (a).

From mid-November onwards are to be met numerous blocks, and singles, of the dark purple shade which we have listed as (b). This, if still more bluish, shades over to the colour described under the stamps of the German Empire as brownish purple (No. 37e) and shows approximately that combination of colour tones which is described by English writers as "plum" or "plum-coloured." These appear to have been on sale in late 1890 and early 1891.

Finally we have on a cover of early May, 1891, a 2 Mk. stamp of that old dull lilac rose shade (German Empire No. 37c) which in Germany generally, shortly preceded the second bluish toned stamps and which is quite characteristic of the stamps in use at the German Post Offices in China during 1887-88 (see also German Post in Lamu).

Although we have seen no other specimen of this shade we have included it in our list.

The occurrence of 3 pf. and 25 pf. stamps on letters genuinely carried to Germany, although such stamps were never on sale at Zanzibar, is to be accounted for, generally speaking by "Forerunner" specialists, such as Rösener-Mainz, Huch and others partially franking covers with such values and sending them to Zanzibar already addressed for return to Germany.

The latter value is also known in the Boden collection on an undoubtedly genuine piece of a registered letter postmarked 3-7-91. This was cut out from the business correspondence



of the London branch of the Deutsche Bank by Consul-General R. (Bremen) and is referred to in the *Ill. Ztschr. f. Kolonialmarken-Kunde* of 1911, p. 67. Possibly we have to deal in this instance with the usage of stamps sent for the payment of return postage as other similar cases are not known from Zanzibar. On the other hand it may be that during the temporary shortage of stamps in December, 1890 (see above), 25 pf. stamps were obtained from somewhere as a provisional measure, this being a value not otherwise much used.

Finally, it may be noted that once again, in July, just before the closing down of the agency, the supply of 10 pf. stamps ran out. This is also authenticated by a note from the superintendent to Dar-es-salaam, so that franking with this value in July, 1891, only occurred in Dar-es-salaam.

(To be continued).

#### THE "KOCHER" STAMPS OF SWITZERLAND.

How many of our readers know of this remarkable emanation of Swiss stamps made in 1909? Very few probably, other than super-specialists in the stamps of that country. They are described by Mr. W. Dennis Way in a recent issue of "Godden's Gazette."

In 1909 the proprietor of the stores, A. Kocher et Fils, of La Chaux-de-Fonds and Vevey, conceived the idea of having advertising labels printed with actual Swiss stamps and received permission from the Swiss Postal Printing Control Office.

The firm supplied sheets of ready printed frames advertising its stores and the Government printers were responsible for the actual stamps printed inside these frames. Twelve thousand of the 5 centime value and two thousand each of the 2c. and 10c. values were printed. In each case the frame was in four colours, green, mauve, blue and red. Thus the complete series consists of twelve stamps, of which the mauve varieties are by far the rarest.

The stamps were a great success and a further 60,000 were ordered from the firm's printers. When these were taken to the Government printer it was found that the Federal Postal Authorities had withdrawn their consent because of the inconvenience the issue had caused. Apparently collectors all over the country had asked for "Kocher" stamps at any and every post office, requests quite beyond the postmasters' ability to gratify.

These stamps were never demonetized and in fact were used thirty years later for prepayment of postage without any objection by the Swiss postal authorities.

No other country has ever had an issue quite comparable and it seems rather strange that the stamps are not listed by the catalogue compilers as their issue appears to have been quite official and in order and the stamps did full postal duty.

#### FIRST STAMPS OF B.E.A.

Mr. B. W. H. Poole, writing in *Mekeel's Weekly Stamp News*, records the following interesting facts about this issue.

The Imperial British East Africa Company, which received its Charter in 1888, made plans to issue stamps for use in its territory in 1890. It had been intended to inaugurate the postal system in May, but apparently there was some delay in the production of the stamps so recourse was had to overprinting three values of the current British stamps as provisionals. The overprints and values were "Half Anna" on 1d., "1 Anna" on 2d., and "4 Annas" on 5d., with, in each case, "British East Africa Company" in three lines above. The overprinting was done by De La Rue and Co., and the only error was a broken "F" in the half anna looking like an inverted reversed "L".

These provisionals had a very short life, and there is no information as to their exact date of issue other than that it was sometime in May, 1890. These stamps have always been scarce as the issue was quite small. There were only 1,440 each of the ½a and 1a and 780 of the 4a.

#### THE STAMP CENTENARY.

Although there will be no celebrations of the centenary of the postage stamp in the country of its birth, the event will not pass altogether unnoticed philatelically. An exhibition is to be held in Washington, and Portugal is probably going to have some commemorative stamps.

(Continued from page 10).

self to the fact that occasionally Cape postmarks are found which have badly stained the paper it was stamped on, and oil would have this effect.

Placing these covers under the Quartz Lamp, no difference between the original postmarks and those stamped by me with the turpentine mixture was revealed, whilst those stamped with the oil thinning compared very favourably with original stampings, thus suggesting oil thinning.

In dealing with a country like Cape Colony, where almost any kind of device was used for the cancellation of stamps owing to so many Postal Agents being appointed without salary and where the Agency was so small that the Post Office did not consider it necessary to issue a defacing stamp, we are liable to unearth most weird cancellations. I have seen cancellations made with the thumb, with corks cut to various designs (a device afterwards used by most Post Offices for defacing stamps on parcels), and even private seals showing the impression in the negative have been utilised for this purpose.

(To be continued).

## Society News

### PRETORIA PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

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

November 6. Mr. Hawke read two interesting articles from the recent philatelic press.

The chairman commented on the recent Congress of the South African Philatelic Federation held in Pretoria, and pointed out that both the Congress and the exhibition had been very successful and satisfactory.

A collection of bisects sent up by Mr. Thornton, of East London, was placed on view. It was a very extensive collection, and showed that nearly all countries, on occasions, and dating back for a considerable time, had sanctioned such bisected stamps for postal purposes.

November 20. Mr. Obermeyer read a paper on the stamps of Portugal and Colonies. He described many of the different issues, and pointed out the great difference in price between used and unused stamps of the early embossed issues. He emphasized the interest that ought to be shown in collecting stamps of Portuguese East Africa as being such a near neighbour of the Union.

Mr. Obermeyer showed a very extensive collection of the stamps mentioned, and Mr. Giovanetti tabled a very fine exhibit of early South Australia.

December 4.—Mr. Hawke read his usual interesting philatelic extracts.

Major Harrington read a paper on the stamps of Zululand. He first gave a brief account of the rise of the Zulu warrior chiefs and their subsequent defeat. Stamps first issued in 1868—stamps of Great Britain and Natal overprinted Zululand and special Zululand stamps appeared in 1891. Overprinted fiscal stamps were also used.

Mr. Baxter exhibited South America and Mr. Basden showed Brazil.

December 18.—This was President's night and Mr. Basden gave a very interesting talk on postmarks and cancellations of the Transvaal. Starting in 1868 the number of towns was very small and he gave a brief account of the probable origin and alteration of some of the place names. He discussed the difficulties he had encountered in tracing the towns allotted to the different numbers and letters. He tabled a remarkable and extensive collection of these postmarks.

H.A.W.

### THE PHILATELIC SOCIETY OF JOHANNESBURG.

*President*, Mark Rose; *Hon. Secretary*, J. Crewell, P.O. Box 4967. *Meetings*, 2nd Tuesdays, 8 p.m., Sanlam Buildings.

At the December meeting, after the usual business of the evening had been attended to, the new issues and members' items were auctioned. The mint new issues included a complete set for St. Vincent, Great Britain 10s., Huguenot South-West Africa, Samoa, and Newfoundland 14c Coronation variety without watermark, and the covers included one particularly interesting item of the coach mail from Texas to the World's Fair.

Dr. J. H. Harvey Pirie read some notes about, and exhibited some actual examples of the numerical postmarks of the Cape of Good Hope. This is the first of a series of such papers he will read on the numerical postmarks of the different provinces of the Union of South Africa. These remarks represent a very interesting sidelight on philately, and as such matters are not dealt with in stamp catalogues, it is well worth while attending our meetings to hear Dr. Pirie's remarks and get the benefit of the research of which they are the result.

In closing his remarks, Dr. Pirie asked that anyone having unusual examples of numerical postmarks might be kind enough to submit them for inspection so that the research work can be continued in the interests of philatelists and philately in general.

After tea interval, Mr. G. J. Houbert tabled a positively amazing exhibit of the stamps of the British South Africa Company and Rhodesia, up to and including the double head issues. As is usual with all of Mr. Houbert's material, every single item contained therein, was in immaculate condition. The best item included in the exhibit in Mr. Houbert's estimation, is a pair of the £1 issue of the British South Africa Company with one stamp bearing the normal overprint "Rhodesia", and the second stamp lacking this overprint. There are only six copies of this error known, and Mr. Houbert pointed out that recently one such pair sold at auction in London at a price of £57 10s., which was actually more than the Gibbons Catalogue price.

Mr. Houbert's remarks about his exhibit, which contained many useful bits of information about the stamps exhibited, was prefaced by a timely reminder to members to show consideration for the exhibitor and his stamps while viewing exhibits tabled at our meetings. Members were particularly asked to refrain from smoking or drinking refreshments while viewing the stamps, and also to refrain from the temptation of handling items in the exhibits.

H.E.B.

## JEWISH GUILD—JOHANNESBURG.

There was a fair attendance at the meeting of the Philatelic Section of the Jewish Guild held on December 21.

There were three exhibits. Mr. I. Isaacs showed a collection of British Empire War Tax Stamps including several varieties such as the Jamaica issues with no stops and Ceylon and Turks issues with double overprints, also a block of Falkland Islands with "albino" overprint and a cover from the same colony from South Georgia.

Mr. P. Kaplan tabled a fine collection of Rhodesia. It was complete in the straight issues and contained some rare varieties including the variety "Company missing" in the B.S.A. overprint on 4d. Cape. There was also a block of 4 £1 double heads showing the gashed ear variety and the values were also represented in this variety. There were many more imperfs and several "specimens."

Mr. J. Robertson showed an almost complete collection of the official Charity stamps of the World. They made a beautiful show and were very interesting as showing for what a variety of causes the stamp collector is taxed—Church windows, child welfare, Olympic Games, Winter Relief, and Health amongst others. Both Foreign and British Empire were represented including our own Voo-trekker Memorial.

Mr. J. Robertson spoke about the Rhodesian exhibit and Mr. J. Shepherd about the War tax and Charity Exhibits.

Amongst items of interest shown during the evening was a cover with New Danish Red Cross Stamps (Mr. E. C. Sprighton), several censored covers of this War (Mr. S. Legator), and the new stamps issued by Lithuania to show occupation of Vilna in October, 1939 (Mr. G. Froelich).

## PHILATELIC SOCIETY OF NATAL.

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

At the December meeting the President welcomed Mr. Parry, of Millsite, Transvaal, a member of the Johannesburg and Bloemfontein Philatelic Societies.

A new member was duly elected, and after formal business of the society had been transacted, the hon. auctioneer wielded the gavel until the interval, bids, however, being somewhat difficult to obtain.

The second half of the programme was taken up with the display of the specialised collection of the stamps of Rhodesia by Mrs. L. Johnston. Commencing with the stamps for the British South Africa Company appearing in 1890, the collection showed the subsequent issues practically complete, in both mint

and used condition. The stamps of Southern Rhodesia and Northern Rhodesia which appeared in 1924, following the division of the territory, were set out in detail, and made a very attractive display. A feature of the collection was the fine condition of the stamps appearing therein.

A hearty vote of thanks to Mrs. Johnston was proposed by Mr. Parry, and duly carried.

At the next meeting of the society, to be held on Wednesday, the 3rd January, Mr. Norman Welsford, a past president of the society, will show his specialised collection of stamps of Belgium. Mr. Welsford, who has recently returned from his European trip, was, a few months ago, held up in Antwerp, owing to his steamer being involved in a collision off Flushing. He took the opportunity of visiting every stamp dealer in Antwerp and Brussels, and his collection of the stamps of Belgium, which he will exhibit, is the result.

G.R.

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

*President*, F. Carter; *Hon. Secretary*, H. G. Ulyate, Box 702, Bloemfontein. *Meetings*, 2nd Fridays, Oranje Koffiehuys, Bloemfontein, 8 p.m.

Although there was only a small attendance at the December meeting quite an enjoyable evening was spent. The exhibit of the evening was given by Mr. Lewis, who displayed his collection of "Interprovincials" and "S.W.A. Provisionals." Amongst the Provisionals were some very fine items and in the Interprovincials, the various issues were well represented. Only specimens on which the postmarks of towns and dates were clearly seen were exhibited.

Four new members were elected, and the society now has a membership of about 75.

Mr. W. D. Kevan, of Johannesburg, was the winner of the set of "N.F." stamps donated by Mr. Rennie, in aid of the Mayors' Fund. This item realised a sum of £2 1s.

The society meets again in February when Mr. Levy will show his collection of Union Dues.

H.G.U.

## THE PHILATELIC SOCIETY OF RHODESIA.

*President*, N. Rose; *Hon. Secretary*, S. A. Rowe, P.O. Box 601, Bulawayo. *Meetings*, 1st Tuesdays, Vacuum Oil Company's offices, Mutual Buildings, Bulawayo.

The annual general meeting of members was held on 4th July at which the President submitted a report on the activities of the Society for the past year. The report disclosed an increase of eight active members. Exhibits

and papers submitted during the year, the President stated, were exceptionally good. The balance sheet showed the Society to be in a satisfactory financial position. The important discovery during the year was varying widths of the low values Southern Rhodesian "Admirals" but as yet no explanation has been suggested.

The retiring officers were re-elected for the ensuing year as follows: President, N. Rose; Vice-President, F. W. Porter; Hon. Secretary and Treasurer, S. A. Rowe. Mr. A. Clegg was elected Hon. Exchange Superintendent. The foregoing officers together with Messrs. E. R. Lancaster and A. Morgan will act as a committee.

At the meeting two new members were elected. An identification competition arranged by Mr. Morgan was won with an all-correct solution. An auction of new issues and members' items was keen and amusing.

August 8.—August meeting was well attended and the usual auction was well supported. Five new members were elected.

Captain L. E. Creasy exhibited a collection of flight covers prefaced by introductory remarks in which Capt. Creasy spoke of the interest and entertainment to be obtained from a study of air mails. The well known "Yankee Clipper" first flight was well represented in the exhibit. Items were supported by maps, photographs and press cuttings, all attractively arranged. The vote of thanks to the exhibitor and subsequent discussion were testimony to the interest shown in the exhibit.

September 5.—This meeting fell at a time when most people were pre-occupied. Many of the men of Bulawayo had left that day for unknown destinations on military duty. As may have been expected the attendance at the meeting was below the usual number.

Colonel G. A. P. Maxwell, C.M.G., D.S.O., submitted a section of his general collection. In presenting the exhibit Col. Maxwell spoke of the very wide range of interests made possible by a general collection, he admitted that the matter of housing was a difficulty in the ordinary way, but claimed that rows of stamps similar in design were not essential to the success of the collection nor to the interest to be derived. He suggested a sample of each type, or as many types as could be secured—naturally, with the addition of any fancy of the individual. Colonel Maxwell had an intimate knowledge, mostly from personal experience, of the countries exhibited and the historical events from which many of the issues resulted. The exhibit and explanations were highly interesting and instructive, the features were referred to in a hearty vote of thanks to the exhibitor.

October 3.—Attendance at the October meeting was fair, one new member was elected.

Mr. F. W. Porter exhibited his comprehensive collection of Rhodesian "Double Heads."

Mr. Porter has taken full advantage of the beauty of these stamps in arranging his collection which was admired. Mr. Morgan's proposal for a vote of thanks was well received, and the meeting terminated with the usual auction.

November 7.—Twenty members attended this meeting. The recently reported Orange Red current Southern Rhodesian one penny value was submitted, several suggestions were made in connection with the colour of this stamp, but no satisfactory opinion could be obtained.

Captain R. H. Stevenson exhibited a large collection of various air mail covers, including a number of rare items. Capt. Stevenson "knows his covers" very well, and his explanations provided much interest. This exhibit was supplemented by a light collection of modern issue by Mr. N. Rose. A vote of thanks to the exhibitors proposed by Mr. Neall was heartily endorsed.

December 5.—Attendance was below average, two new members were elected.

Colonel G. A. P. Maxwell submitted a "difference" collection in which normals and variations of many colonial and foreign stamps were explained. The reasons for many of the variations were dealt with fully by the exhibitor and provided much interest. A vote of thanks proposed by Mr. W. C. Robertson was well received.

An identification competition of British Colonial and Foreign stamps was won by Col. Maxwell. The competition provided much interest and amusement.

The meeting concluded with the usual auction of new issues and members' items.

#### UNION FOURPENNY TRIANGULARS.

"There is a big demand for fine used copies of the 1926 triangulars in both languages. I have noted recently that a shortage is being felt and practically full catalogue is being paid for really fine specimens. I understand that the majority of these are going back to South Africa, where stamp collecting generally is gaining more adherents." So writes "The Seer of the Strand" in the *Philatelic Journal of Great Britain*.

#### PEDIGREES OF RARE STAMPS.

##### "POST OFFICE" MAURITIUS.

The veteran Charles J. Phillips is starting to write up the pedigrees of various rare stamps tracing their history as far back as possible, naming all their owners and, where possible, giving the prices at which they had passed on each transaction.

In the October number of the *Collectors Club Philatelist* he commences his series with the history of the Mauritius "Post Office" stamps and gives most interesting pedigrees, with a number of illustrations, of all the 27 known specimens. These are all the survivors of the 1,000 struck.



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Vol. 16.

FEBRUARY, 1940.

No. 2.

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## Editorial

### STAMP COLLECTING AND PHILATELY.

Mr. Park Smith has, not unexpectedly, risen to the bait laid in our remark in last month's issue that his slow motion cover was a curio but could scarcely, perhaps, be dignified with the designation of "philatelic."

He has consulted Webster's dictionary and there finds that Philately is defined as "The practice of collecting postage stamps." If that definition be accepted then of course it must be admitted that his cover is a philatelic one, for it certainly had collected for him quite a lot of stamps.

It is doubtful, however, if Webster's definition is generally acceptable. We are of opinion that "Philately" has come in most quarters to mean something more than just the collecting of stamps, and that the term is used to imply a study of stamps in addition to the collecting of them.

But just what degree of study is necessary to turn a collector into a philatelist would be very hard to define, for even the veriest tyro at collecting might be said to study his stamps when he has to decide, say, whether a particular stamp falling into his hands comes from Rhodesia, Latvia or Peru.

Need we get excited over the matter, however, when it is the boast of our hobby that everyone is free to collect what he likes and how he likes and that there is room among us for all phases of collecting?

We write in this vein because Mr. Park Smith has submitted to us an anonymous letter received by him anent the slow motion cover. The sender, who signs himself "Real Philatelist," evidently considers himself a very superior person and in the rudest and most intemperate language pours scorn on the recipient's collecting.

Mr. Park Smith fortunately seems to have a good sense of humour and is not taking the letter amiss. In fact he claims that the letter will be a fine advertisement for him in the near future when it is referred to in a forthcoming publication by Mr. Emil Tamsen and himself entitled "From Cover to Cover."

But anonymous letters are despicable things at all times and "Real Philatelist" should be ashamed of himself. He is no credit to our brotherhood and we commend to his notice the Beverley Creed for Philatelists, particularly Article 11, which reads: "That each and every collector should be free to follow his or her individual preference in collecting, with neither let nor hindrance, ridicule or destructive criticism from any individual or group."

### STAMP BOOM IN LONDON.

Mr. H. R. Harmer reports that the stamp market in London is booming and that all seems set for a really record year in 1940.

In proof of this a glance at the prices realized in his sale of "Capes" on December 5/6 shows some phenomenally high prices, a number of them actually world's records. Here are just a few of the items from the triangulars:

- 1d. deep brick red, mint, £21.
- 1d. deep brick red, used, £14.
- 1d. deep brick red, block of 4, used, £24.
- 1d. deep brick red, block of 4, used, £18.
- 4d., deep blue, block of 4, used, £12.
- 1d., rose red, block of 4, used, £20.
- 4d., blue, block of 4, used, £12 10s.
- 6d., slate lilac, unused, £10 10s.
- 6d., slate lilac, on blued paper, £13 10s.
- 6d., slate lilac, bisected, £80.
- 1s., bright yellow green, pair, used, £19.
- 1s., bright yellow green, block of 4, £72 10s.
- 1d., carmine woodblock, used, £65.
- 4d., deep blue woodblock, used, £100.
- 4d., vermilion woodblock error, used on cover in block (one of three known errors in block), £450.

## A Philatelic Pilgrimage Through Asia

By Rev. Wm. LOXLEY CHAMINGS, B.Sc., B.D. (Philatelic Society of Natal).

(Concluded from page 5 of January issue).

19. The change of a single letter carries us westward again from Iran to *Iraq*, the "Mesopotamia" of innumerable War stories, mostly unpleasant. There are only three stamps to show, two ladies sharing the distinction of their very pleasing designs. Of these the one showing the ruined winter palace of the Parthian kings at Ctesiphon, some 25 miles from Bagdad, is the most impressive. The main feature of this place is a huge arch of astonishing beauty and delicacy of design.

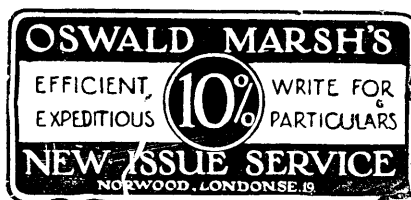
20. Westward once more into *Syria*. Here the all too prolific issues of 1925 and onwards give us a wonderful range of views, and an excellent idea of the country. On the first sheet 16 different places may be found. All 16 simply cry out for attention, for Syria is packed from end to end with interest. I will be content with transcribing a few lines from Mr. H. V. Morton's account of his visit to Krak des Chevaliers, the ruined Castle which figures on the 5 piastre green Postage Due. "The Krak des Chevaliers is a ruined castle about 50 miles North of Tripoli. When you see it from the plain you feel that the agony of getting there is almost worth it. It is the Camelot of your dreams—the Castle of every fairy tale. It stands up on the edge of the sky, with its turrets and its walls, and it seems to you that the sound of the Crusaders' trumpets has hardly died away from its tremendous ramparts . . . These incredible castles, which the Crusaders dotted about the highest mountains in Palestine, are the most silent and mysterious ruins in the world . . . Its size was stupendous. The whole of the Tower of London could have been put in a corner of it. If you could take Windsor and Edinburgh Castles, knock them about and plant them on the top of Ben Nevis, you would have a faint idea of the impression created by the derelict Krak des Chevaliers."

21. The second sheet of Syrian stamps shows six views of Aleppo, seven of Hama, and eight of Damascus. It would seem that Damascus has received more than its fair share, yet this, the oldest of living cities, is surely one of the most interesting also. It has been held in turn by Persians, Greeks, Romans, Arabs, and Turks, and may once again become the capital city of the Arab race. On one of the stamps may be decried the direction of "the Street called Straight," at the end of which is the Christian quarter, where once Paul went to visit Ananias the prophet, on another can be seen the ramparts of the wall down which Paul was lowered in a basket and so escaped the assassin, with an airplane roaring incongruously overhead.

22. Two broken parts of Syria finally claim our attention—the *Lebanon*, and the Sanjak of Alexandretta, or *Hatay*. The Lebanon was proclaimed a republican state under French protection in 1920. After an eruption of overprints it issued its own pictorial stamps in 1925, and here again two sheets are required to do justice to these handsome and interesting views. On the first, 18 different places appear, including the Tyre and Sidon of Biblical fame. Little remains of their old greatness, and in particular their rich trade in purple cloth has gone, though travellers can still pick up on the shore the thin coloured shell of the murex from which the famous dye was made.

23. The second sheet contains five views of Baalbek and eight of Beirut, beside a few others. The pictures of Baalbek give a good idea of its astonishing ruins. Its early Baal worship became later assimilated with Jupiter worship, and it was renamed Heliopolis. Some of the stones are of almost incredible size. In a quarry a mile away is an unfinished monolith weighing 1,100 tons, the exact length of Cleopatra's Needle in London, but six times its weight. Beirut, the capital of the Republic, has grown in the past 90 years from 15,000 to 140,000. The aerial view in the centre of the sheet gives a fine idea of the modern city with the Lebanon Mountains in the background.

24. We bring our tour to an end close to our starting-point, for the North-West corner of Syria, the Sanjak of Alexandretta, otherwise known as Hatay, borders upon Anatolia. On June 23 of this year this little territory was ceded to Turkey, with reservations to safeguard French rights. A month later Turkey issued some crude stamps to mark the event, four of which are shown. Hatay's chief cities are Alexandretta, which the Turks call Iskanderun, and Antioch, so I have included Syrian views of these places on this final sheet. And we shall be in very good company if we finish our journey at Antioch!





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Some values are already obsolete, and all will be withdrawn from use at the end of 1939.

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# Specimen Stamps of the Union of South Africa

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

I believe that the First Congress of the Universal Postal Union which met at Berne, Switzerland, practically ignored the subject of "Specimen" stamps. The Congress which met at Paris in the year 1878, however, endorsed a regulation which necessitated every stamp issuing country to furnish to each of the postal administrations comprising the Universal Postal Union, specimens of its stamps.

It was agreed that the distribution of these specimen stamps should be carried out by the Union Bureau at Berne.

Now what about the Union as far as "specimen" stamps are concerned. To my knowledge nothing has appeared in the South African Philatelic Press in this connection. I therefore offer the following comments:

The stamps of the first permanent Union issue appeared on sale to the public on the 1st September, 1913. These stamps showed the familiar McKennal Head of His late Majesty, King George V., and were surface printed by Thos. de la Rue & Co., Ltd., of Bunhill Row, London, on white and unsurfaced paper, watermarked with a single antelope's head, and perforated to the gauge of 14 by 14.

In my specialised collection of the stamps of the Union of South Africa I have housed the following Georgian Union Stamps printed by Messrs de la Rue & Co., and typographically overprinted by them in bluish-black ink with the word "Specimen": (in Sans Serif Letters).

- 1d. Green.
- 1d. Red.
- 2d. Purple.
- 2½d. Blue and Blue.
- 3d. Black and Orange.
- 4d. Orange Yellow and Olive Green.
- 6d. Black and Violet.
- 1/- Orange Yellow.
- 2/6 Purple and Green.
- 5/- Purple and Pale Blue.
- 10/- Deep Blue and Olive Green.

The word "Specimen" on these stamps measures 13½mm. in length and 2mm. in height.

The postal rate on letters was increased from 1d. to 1½d. per oz. on the 10th May, 1920, and the minimum cost of a telegram was advanced from 1s. to 1s. 3d. Accordingly on the 23rd August, 1920, the 1½d. Chestnut Stamp was issued and on the 1st October, 1920, the 1s. 3d. Violet appeared.

I own the 1½d. and the 1s. 3d. stamps with the word "Specimen" hand-struck thereon in violet ink, measuring 18mm. in length and 3mm. in height.

I have seen the £1 denomination bearing the word "Specimen" hand-struck in green ink. As far as I am aware the 3d. Blue and Blue was never overprinted "Specimen."

During March, 1927, the Union Pictorials which were recessed printed by Bradbury, Wilkinson & Co., Ltd., of New Malden, Surrey, were introduced. I own the following with the word "Specimen" hand-struck thereon in violet ink, the word "Specimen" measuring 14½mm. lengthwise and 2mm. high, viz.: (in Sans Serif Letters).

- Pair 2d. Black and Reddish-Purple.
- Pair 3d. Black and Red.
- Pair 1/- Brown and Blue.
- Pair 2/6 Green and Brown.
- Pair 5/- Black and Green.
- Pair 10/- Blue and Brown.

In 1928 the 4d. brown was issued to replace the 4d. triangular imperforate stamps. I have a pair of the brown 4d. stamps with the hand-struck "Specimen" as described afore. Here I would mention that I have not yet seen or heard of "Specimen" stamps of the 4d. triangular stamp recessed printed by Bradbury, Wilkinson & Co., Ltd., nor the ½d., 1d. and 6d. stamps pictorial stamps which were surface printed by Waterlow & Sons, Ltd., and issued in 1926. The Bradbury, Wilkinson recessed printed pictorials bearing the word "Specimen" were perforated to the gauge of 14 by 14. At a later date all the Bradbury, Wilkinson pictorials were perforated to the gauge of 14 by 13½.

Lastly, I also own the 2½d. Union Commemoration Stamp of 1910 with the word "Specimen" hand-struck in violet ink in script letters. Union Specimens have been ignored catalogue status hitherto, thus I attempt to bring them on the Union Philatelic Screen as "Stars."

## NEWFOUNDLAND—WAR PROVISIONALS.

The first war issues of the British Empire have emanated from Newfoundland. On November 20, the 5c. Royal Visit stamp was overprinted in red, 2c. and 4c., to meet a temporary shortage of the regular 2c. and 4c. stamps due to shipments from England not getting through in time on account of the war. The issue is said to have been a very limited one and business firms and the general public were only allotted sufficient to cover normal requirements.

## Air Mail Notes

By  
I. H. C. GODFREY.

UNION OF SOUTH AFRICA.  
15th JANUARY, 1940. JOHANNESBURG TO  
LOURENCO MARQUES.

The Union Government has awarded the Portuguese Airline—*D.E.T.A.*—a contract for the carriage of first class mail matter from the Rand to Delagoa Bay, the first despatch of unsurcharged airmails being made on January 15. In the reverse direction only surcharged airmail is carried by the *D.E.T.A.* thrice-weekly service.

15th/19th JANUARY 1940—ROYAL DUTCH  
AIRLINES FLIGHT TO JOHANNESBURG.

The K.L.M. Airliner "*Reiger*", which, in December, 1938, flew to South Africa to participate in the Voortrekker Celebrations, left Naples on January 15 on a special flight to Johannesburg, the trip taking 4½ days. The plane, which was in command of Commander G. Blaak and First Officer E. F. Hulsebos, made calls en route at Athens, Cairo, Luxor, Wadi Halfa, Khartoum, Juba, Nairobi, Dodoma, Mpika, and Bulawayo.

A souvenir mail was carried, consisting of 9,100 specially printed envelopes and franked with the "Crow" stamp of Holland, which is only used on special airmail occasions. It is understood that no mail will be carried on the return flight to Europe.

The actual point of departure of this special K.L.M. flight was not Amsterdam, but Naples, owing to war conditions. Letters posted in Italy, and those from Switzerland, for example, which were included in the mailbag made up at Naples, received a rectangular cachet in pale blue, reading:

Volo speciale KLM  
Napoli — Johannesburg  
15 gennaio 1940

[The mail from Holland was not exclusively made up of the special souvenir envelopes.—Ed.]

### UNION "PAID" PARCEL POST LABELS.

For some time there has been in use at various post offices in the Union a system of franking parcels with adhesive yellow labels measuring about 5½cm. x 4½cm. These labels, in addition to the bilingual inscription "Pakketpos/Parcel Post—Paid/Betaal," show the date, the amount paid, a serial number and the office of issue.

Can any reader furnish fuller particulars about when this system was introduced, what is the correct technical description of the machine employed, where used, varieties—in fact, a complete history of the system?

### FINLAND'S MOURNING STAMP.

Of topical interest is a "mourning stamp" once issued in Finland and described by E. W. Richardson in "Stamp Collecting."

Russification of Finland started in 1900 by the suppression of the Finnish stamps and replacement by others with Russian lettering and coinage. The Finns retaliated by printing a black "stamp" with the native name "Suomi" as well as Finland. These were also reproduced on a postcard bearing the legend (in Finnish and Swedish) "God Save Our Fatherland."

When the practice of putting these stamps on envelopes was forbidden, the Finns devised the clever ruse of enclosing their letters in a transparent cover, allowing the mourning stamp to be seen from the outside, but this practice soon became forbidden also.

## COLLECTORS' WANTS AND OFFERS

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

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

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

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

Wanted.—CANADA and other British North America; anything of real interest. Portugal and Gambia Imperfs. Special items connected with Cape Postal History. G. Carleton Jones, P.O. Box 1167, Johannesburg.

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

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

Wanted.—Fiscally used stamps of the British Empire "on entire." Offers invited.

Hollie Woode, A.P.S., J.P.S., 6763 Hollywood Blvd., Hollywood, California.

# Newfoundland. The Coronation Commemoratives of 1911

By A. M. STRANGE.

The secret of Newfoundland's popularity from a philatelic point of view is that the authorities have consistently issued stamps of popular appeal in regard to design. Furthermore—with a few exceptions—their production has been of such excellence as to obviate the appearance of confusing varieties, and one has only to cite the early issues of New Zealand and Eire as a proof that a preponderance of varieties in paper and perforation, re-entries and flaws, etc., will damp the ardour of most collectors.

One of the strongest complaints registered against the postal administrators of Newfoundland is that they have, from time to time, ordered the production of stamps for which there has been no urgent necessity, and it would indeed appear difficult to establish the bona fides of some that have been issued since 1857.

The resentment aroused, however, has never been sufficiently strong to jeopardise the appeal that the colony has for most collectors and it would be no exaggeration to say that it can claim as many—if not more—adherents to-day as ever it did.

This article is primarily intended to deal with the Coronation issue of 1911, but it must not be concluded from the preceding remarks that there was no justification for the production of these stamps. The coronation of Their Majesties King George V and Queen Mary was of such historical importance as to render a commemoration desirable, but it is difficult to explain why the authorities should have considered eleven values necessary for this purpose. The choice of portraits of the King and Queen to serve as designs would appear both apt and logical, but there is less justification for the inclusion of those of Their Majesties six children *and* the Duke of Connaught and the Seal of the Colony.

As ample stocks of the Guy Commemorative and other issues were available at the time it can only be concluded that the authorities accepted the Coronation as an event that presented an opportunity to increase their revenue. That their anticipation was justified is proved by the fact that there was an increase in turnover for 1910-1911 of nearly \$29,000 over that of the previous financial year.

The first official intimation that the public received of this issue was a Government no-

tice that appeared in the St. John's daily press on June 14, 1911.

When the stamps were available on the 19th of that month it was found that they were printed in sheets of 100 (10 x 10). The margins were plain with the exception of a coloured cross in each for quartering purposes.

Messrs. Whitehead Morris were responsible for the printing, which was by the recess method, and the plates were also engraved by this firm. The paper was without watermark.

The first consignment consisted of the following quantities:

1 cent . . .	50,000	6 cents . . .	2,000
2 cents . . .	50,000	9 cents . . .	2,000
3 cents . . .	10,000	10 cents . . .	10,000
4 cents . . .	25,000	12 cents . . .	2,000
5 cents . . .	100,000	15 cents . . .	2,000

(To be continued)

## PHILATELIC SOCIETY OF KATANGA

At the recent Congress held in Pretoria the hope was expressed that the specialised interests of "The South African Philatelist" might be extended further north in Africa than has hitherto been the case.

An opportunity to do so has just been opened to us. On learning from the President of the Rhodesian Philatelic Society the other day that a "Cercle Philatélique du Katanga" had been established we sent fraternal greetings from the Philatelic Federation of Southern Africa and at the same time took the opportunity to ask if any of their members would be so kind as to keep us posted in philatelic matters of Congo Belge.

We have received in reply a most friendly letter from M. Gabriel Lefebvre, D.en Sc., the President of the Society, and he sends with his letter two notes, one dealing with the current stamps of Belgian Congo, the other with those of Ruanda-Urundi. The first of these appears elsewhere in this issue.

## BECHUANALAND WAR LABEL.

A notice appeared in the Johannesburg press recently that a special war stamp had been issued by Bechuanaland. This is true but the stamp is not a postage stamp, merely a label, costing one penny and indicating that this amount has been paid into a War Fund. The labels may be seen on envelopes, like the Christmas and other "charity" stamps, but they have no postal significance.

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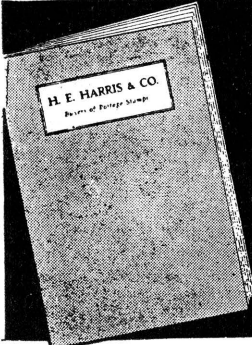
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**UNION VARIETIES : SPECIAL OFFERS.**

- 3d. Roto: 2 English and 2 Afrikaans se-  
tenant, vertical strip of 4, mint (Gib-  
bons cat. 10/-) . . . . . 3/6
- do. as above, but in strip of 6 . . . . . 4/6
- do. "Cobweb between Horns," normal  
and invtd. wmk., the 2 mint blocks.. 3/6
- do. "Dollar" variety, both wmk., 2 mint  
blocks . . . . . 3/6
- do. Re-entry of Horn and Ear, mint block 3/6
- 1d. Roto: the scarce plate 9, with bluish  
centres, normals, mint pair at 2/6,  
used pair . . . . . 6d.
- do. "Boat dropping Anchor," used pair 6d.
- do. "Man jumping from mast into sea,"  
used pair . . . . . 6d.
- 1d. Hyphenated "POSEEL" for "POSSEEL"  
in mint block of 4 . . . . . 1/-
- do. "SUID" for "SUID," mint block of 4 1/6
- do. "Bite in left lower frame," block 1/-
- do. "Ship in Mist" or "Phantom Ship,"  
block . . . . . 1/6
- do. "Bud on Wreath" both wmk., two  
blocks . . . . . 2/6
- 3d. Hyphenated perf. 13½ x 14½ (S.G. 54a),  
horizontal strip of 4, with gutter be-  
tween pairs, mint . . . . . 2/6

Nett, post free.  
Other varieties in stock—joined sheets, etc.  
Selections gladly sent on approval, on request.  
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## Cape Varieties

EXPERTISING.

By A. A. JURGENS.

(Continued from p. 13 of January issue)

Even supposing that attention could be given to the defacing inks used at the time, it would be impossible for any Expert Committee to condemn any particular cancellation on this basis, owing to the fact that every Postmaster was allowed to do his own thinning of the stamping ink, which was not supplied by the Post Office ready for use (in which case all defacements would have been uniform), but the ink was supplied in the form of a thick paste, and then also both turpentine as well as ink was supplied to the Post Office by tender, so that various brands and grades were used between 1853 and 1910. The question of ink, therefore, in so far as Cape stamps are concerned, cannot form any basis for any Expert Committee to give a definite ruling on.

Coming now to some of those illusive Cape items such as the Fourpence black woodblock, the pair of woodblocks forming a triangle (of which only one specimen exists), and the rouletted triangulars.

In the case of the first, I discovered a perfectly black 4d. stamp on a cover dated 1856, and I was delighted to think that this question had now been solved. I painted the stamp with peroxide and this failed to restore its pristine blue, whereupon I forwarded the stamp in question to Dr. Pirie, who informed me that the chemical used by me had evidently lost its strength, because a similar treatment by him restored the stamp to its original blue colour.

The question now is, how many of the known specimens of this stamp have been subjected to this test? To commence with, it does not appear likely that the owner of a mint black stamp will feel disposed to allow this treatment in case it may ruin it. Used specimens can safely be treated, but have they been? The late Gilbert Allis maintained that oxidization was responsible for the so-called black fourpenny, but I do not think he ever made the test with peroxide.

I made this enquiry many years ago, but no one has given any satisfactory reply. If a black fourpence stamp does not change to its original blue in a peroxide bath then it can be nothing else but a proof on water-marked paper due to an error by the printers, and as such still retains its front rank in rarity among Cape stamps.

As to the second, from what has been revealed lately, I am now inclined to think that unless the pair of woodblocks forming a triangle has been subjected to expert examination, they might be a joined pair.

A few weeks ago a photograph of a block of four one penny De la Rue carmine showing two stamps forming a triangle was sent to me. This piece comes from a famous Cape collection and the owner informed me that upon examination he discovered that it was two pairs joined so as to give the triangular effect to two stamps. It would, therefore, be interesting to know whether the woodblock item has been carefully examined from this point of view.

Coming to the triangular roulettes of the Cape, a little while ago some of these rouletted stamps which had been removed from some old documents in the Beaufort West Branch of the Standard Bank, were sent to the Expert Committee of the Royal Philatelic Society, who definitely declared the roulettes to be fakes.

Since then, however, more of these stamps have come to light, not only the triangulars, but the imperf. Revenue stamps issued in 1864, as well. All these later findings appear on the original documents, well tied by both manuscript and other Bank cancellations, and the roulette is in every respect identical to those which had been declared fakes.

One can hardly blame the Expert Committee for their verdict, as up to now it has been believed that only the Standard Bank did this rouletting, and as the Committee only had this particular roulette as their guide, they naturally came to the conclusion that the stamps submitted were fakes in so far as the roulette was concerned.

It will be possible one day to place before the Royal Philatelic Society examples of these roulettes, but as to how many different types were used by the Banks after the 1864 Stamp Act will, I am afraid, never be known.

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## Down Among the Dead Men

A PHILATELIC NIGHTMARE.

[The following account of a vivid dream experienced by one of our readers is published as a little light relief from serious philately.—Ed.]

In the present year of Grace I was an inmate of the "Bokfontein" General Hospital, the outcome of an accident. One evening I asked the Sister in charge for permission to go out on the understanding that I would be back in the ward early the following morning. Permission was readily granted and I must have taken advantage of the Air Service as I next found myself walking down the Main Street of "Blanksdorp" in the murky darkness of a damp winter's evening. Whom should I see approaching but my old friend J.G. He was delighted to see me and said, "You are just in time as I am on my way to a meeting at our old room in Links Street." He continued: "I found several of the old hands who refuse to leave these parts and induced them to come along. They are a pretty gloomy lot and see far too much of their own folk. For example, the wife of A.T. has just married for the third time whilst he has been hanging around for the happy day when she would join him. He always felt he could cope with the matter of a second husband but a woman who can marry three men can marry fifty, he says, and naturally he wants to know where he is. R.B., whom you will also remember, does not like the way his stamps were disposed of since he passed over and only agreed to attend tonight's meeting on the understanding that he would be allowed to bring the matter up." J.G. says, "What a hope he has of obtaining any satisfaction and further, he is to blame for clinging to the Isthmus." I asked J.G. where his headquarters were and he informed me—London, although he was usually on the move and that night would accompany me as far as "Pompoenfontein."

We reached the meeting and after greetings proceeded to business. J.G. displayed some weird items. Uruguay 2c. with a raised rosette as a centre piece, a 3d. Cape Triangular (blue), and I think, a Saxony stamp with revolving corners. A fourth item I remember was a copy of the 24 ct. Newfoundland in which Queen Victoria has appalling cross eyes. The meeting faded away and J.G. and myself were once more in "Blind" Street. I asked him where he got all his good things. He replied, "partly from Government officials without their consent, I am afraid, and from various other sources. For instance, I am accompany-

ing you to "X" to-night with the sole idea of picking up a few stamps. The postmaster, who is an eccentric individual, wears O.G. trousers. "X", as you know, is an airport junction where a considerable amount of postal matter is put on board. If there is anything interesting in the stamp line on air parcels, it is usually a matter of simple manoeuvring to get him to sit on them for a few seconds."

We must have reached the aerodrome and embarked as the next thing I remember was being in the plane at "X" on the way back to "Bokfontein" and looking over the side I saw the eccentric postmaster dashing round followed by J.G. who was awaiting his opportunity to relieve him of a fine block of six 10s. Union which had adhered to the back of his pants.

In the early hours of the morning I said to the Nurse: "You see I got back safely." "So I see," she said, "but where have you been?" "Where do you think?" I said, "and if I told you I do not suppose you would understand." S.S.

### AN UNUSUAL SWAZILAND ITEM.

A Swaziland item which we have not seen recorded before has been brought to our notice by Mr. A. E. Basden, and is shown in the accompanying photograph.



As will be observed it is a pair of the half-penny denomination Z.A.R. with the overprint (in red) "Swaziland" double on the left-hand stamp but only single on the right-hand stamp.

A close examination of the overprints suggests that the upper overprint on the left stamp is from the same type as the single one on the right stamp—for instance, these two appear to have the identical slightly defective first "a". If this supposition be correct it seems to indicate that the right-hand stamp of the pair has actually been a right-hand stamp of the pane and that when the pane received its second overprinting the registration was moved one stamp to the left. In that case there would have been six such pairs as this produced on the pane.

### "SEND GREETINGS TELEGRAMS."

Mr. A. H. Sydow adds Stellenbosch, Paari, George, Middelburg (Cape), Mossel Bay, and Worcester to the list of 18 towns reported in previous issues as using this slogan postmark.

## Correspondence

### O.F.S. V.R.I. VARIETIES.

Sir.—In the November issue of the "S.A. Philatelist" an article on the misplaced stops of the V.R.I. Orange Free State stamps interested me, and I closely examined my own collection to see if I had all the varieties mentioned therein, with the result that I found another variety, viz., V.R.I., with the right-hand stroke of V broken. This occurs on the last stamp of the bottom row of panes thick V printing; this is not a fluke, for it is also to be found in the same position on the half-penny stamp.

Reverting to the 4th variety discovered by Mr. Wareham and verified by Mr. Basden, I have several of them of the 1d. value only, and leaving out Telegraph Stamps, I am strongly of opinion that this variety is only to be found on the 1d. stamp, but unfortunately, cannot locate its position in the panes at present. Concerning the three recognised varieties I have specimens of them on ½d., 1d., 3d., 4d., and 1s., but would like to know if they are to be found on the 2d., 2½d., 6d. and 5s. values. Perhaps some other readers of the "S.A. Philatelist" can enlighten me.

Yours, etc.,

GEO. CHIPP.

### NEW REPUBLIC.

The Editor,  
*The S.A. Philatelist.*  
Sir,

I am grateful to Mr. Ockerse for his reply to my query as to the use of New Republic stamps with those of the Z.A.R., but I fear he has somewhat missed the point!

I know that the combined usage was correct up to July, 1888, but although my cover bears stamps cancelled in January, 1888, it bears four backstamps of February, 1889! It appears therefore that the cancellation was incorrect and that the letter was probably posted in the latter year. If so, was the combination still required?

Yours, etc.,

LANCELOT A. B. SHARPE.

### CORONATION PRINTINGS AND FLAWS.

The Editor,  
*S.A. Philatelist,*  
Sir,

Under this heading and in reply to Mr. P. J. Hervey's letter, Mr. J. R. Levy mentions five printings each of the ½d. and 1d. South Africa Coronation stamps.

Will Mr. Levy kindly enlighten me how to identify the five printings of the above two values, and also if there are additional printings of the 1½d., 3d., and 1s.

Yours, etc.,

A. H. KOTZE.

### BRAZIL COMMEMORATIVES.

Brazil threatens to become as prolific in its commemoratives as France or the U.S.A. Dr. Mario de Sanctis of Sao Paulo, forwards three more issued to commemorate the 50th anniversary of the proclamation of the Republic.

These are:

400r, green with a portrait of Gen. Benjamin Constant, rouletted rotogravure.

800r, black. Figure of Marshall Deodora da Fonseca on horseback, perf. 11, engraved.

1200r, sepia. Portraits of the late President Vargas and of Marshall da Fonseca. Rouletted, rotogravure. All three stamps are water-marked "Correio Brasil."

## RARE and/or UNIQUE "AFRICANA"

- C.G.H.—½d. K.E. DIE PROOF, "Before Hardening," 3/4/02 . . . . . 130/-  
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UNION S.A.—Surface Printed Die Proof 2½d. 1910 completed for issued design by artist's drawing. Unique . . . . . £30  
Engraved proof from above make-up in blue black . . . . . £6  
(N.B.—The above rare Master Plate Die under Gold Coast also applies to Sierra Leone, etc. A very rare item).

I have many other fine things in Egypt, Sudan, Belgian Congo, etc., many unique.

## E. F. HURT

DALKEITH ROAD, HARPENDEN (Eng.)



## The Current Stamps of Belgian Congo

By Dr. Gabriel Lefebvre, Elisabethville.

The stamps actually in use in Congo Belge to-day are:

(1) Those of the 1931-37 issue, native types and scenes, 10c. to 20fr., 18 stamps in all.

(2) Those of 1938, a series of 6 stamps illustrative of scenes in the National Parks.

(3) The series of 1939, semi-postals taxed for the benefit of the Zoological Garden at Léopoldville; 5 stamps with representations of the animal kingdom appropriate to the object of the issue—birds, antelopes, monkeys, crocodiles and lion. These stamps have a tax equal in amount to their postal values, 1fr., 1fr. 25, 1fr. 50, 4fr. 50, and 5 fr.

(4) The miniature sheet of 1937 containing 4 stamps, red and black, of 4fr. 50 each, illustrating the Albert National Park at Rutsuhuru (Kivu). The stamps of the sheet can be used separately.

(5) Air post stamps, 16 in all, of four different issues, 1920 (4), 1930 (2), 1934 (9), and 1936 (1). Of these the 2fr. and 5fr. of 1920 and the 15fr. and 30fr. of 1930 are now practically unobtainable in the colony.

(6) Postage Due stamps, 7 values of the 1923-29 issue.

Two series of stamps were only fairly recently withdrawn from circulation. (a) The Stanley set of 1928 and those of that series which had been surcharged with new values in 1931, together with certain "Floors" (1923-27) also surcharged in 1931-32. These were all withdrawn on 1st July, 1938. (b) The "Four Kings" series of 1935 and the mourning stamp of King Albert were withdrawn on 1st January, 1939.

In both cases the remainders were all destroyed by burning.

Certain details about the current stamps may be of interest to collectors:

The 1931-37 set of native types and scenes presents numerous shade varieties, particularly in the case of the 25c. blue, 50c. violet and 1fr. 25 red-brown, but so far these have not been listed. There is as yet no question of withdrawing this set from circulation. The most interesting stamps of this series are the 20c. magenta, 40c. green, 60c. deep purple, and 3fr. 25 grey-black (okapi) because these values do not correspond with any postal rate, also, of course, the high values, 5, 10 and 20fr.

For the lover of varieties the National Parks series of 1938 is a very satisfactory issue! The central scenes (Volcano, Bamboos, River scenes or Mitumba forest) are framed

by a double white line but at the bottom this double framing may be reduced to a single line or may even be absent altogether. One can therefore have three varieties or settings for each of the six stamps of the set. These varieties have also not been catalogued as yet. There is a prospect of this series being withdrawn in the not very distant future.

The 1939 "Zoo" set has acquired a considerable plus value, particularly for used specimens. As a matter of fact these stamps were never put on sale at post offices but were sold at a private "subscription sale" on 5th July, 1939. Moreover, because of the heavy surtax they have been very little used on actual correspondence.

All Belgian Congo stamps can be bought in mint condition at special counters in Brussels (Central P.O.) or in Antwerp (Central Rly. Sta.); this facility was instituted long ago for the benefit of collectors in the homeland. Stamps may not be postmarked at these counters, however, so all used stamps can be accepted as having been cancelled in the colony.

## RHODESIA

May, 1896. 4d. "Company" Omitted.  
S.G. No. 65.

I have a superb mint copy of the above rarity, as well as many other desirable items of Rhodesia in stock.

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## Society News

### EAST LONDON PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

*President, J. Paviour; Hon. Secretary and Treasurer, S. F. Fowler; Meetings, Second Fridays, Colosseum Tea Lounge, at 8 p.m.*

At the November meeting of the Society the usual number of members were present, and after the reading of the minutes, Mr. H. Courlander gave a resume of the Philatelic Congress in Pretoria and mentioned the very fine displays of the stamps at the exhibition.

Mr. T. A. Harper gave his first display after his recent return from overseas. From his large collection, Mr. Harper displayed some particularly interesting stamps. There were shows about twenty sheets of Early Imperforates of various countries and these appealed to all members present. These were followed by seven sheets of the Barbados "Britannias."

Some fine stamps of the Cape of Good Hope were displayed including the Triangular block of four of the first Perkins Bacon proof in black; 1d. Table Mountain with inverted watermark; five values with the official perforation of the Government Stationery Department, and various errors.

At the December meeting Mr. J. F. Keir was elected a member. The secretary stated he had not yet received the report of Congress and so the questions of subscriptions was left in abeyance.

Mr. J. W. Schofield, of Johannesburg, was present and gave one of the finest displays ever seen in East London. This was so much enjoyed that members prevailed on Mr. Schofield to give a further display a week later, when a special meeting was convened.

At the first display Mr. Schofield showed some very fine Capes—Triangulars, Woodblocks including the 1d. Blue error of colour; a superb copy; a pair of 4d. Woodblocks; 1s. Mint Yellow-green Perkins Bacon. In the "rectangulars" there were two errors of special interest—Crown C.C. Inverted 3d. overprint and THE.EE.

At the display given on the 15th December, Mr. Schofield showed some Early Imperforates of various countries including some fine Belgian issues, Transvaal stamps and a collection of Greece.

The President thanked Mr. Schofield for his great kindness in going to the trouble of showing his stamps while on holiday at the coast, and members endorsed the great pleasure they had received.

There was quite a good attendance of members at the monthly meeting held on the 12th

January, and there were three visitors: the Comtesse Daupias, Mr. Andrew Watson, and Mr. J. H. Aldred.

Mr. Watson received a special welcome in view of his early association with the Society, and the hope was expressed that he would become a regular member in the near future.

The secretary was instructed to write for a report of Congress, and great surprise was expressed that this document had not been circulated.

Two displays were given: one by Mr. E. E. Hansen, of his native country—Denmark—a full range of these stamps were shown, and it was noted that the collection comprised almost all used stamps; the other by Mr. J. Paviour, of St. Vincent and Grenada, and these were very interesting.

A small auction was held, but sellers and buyers were few. Auctions were a regular source of income to the Society and for the future it is hoped that members will give greater support.

J.P.S.

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### THE PHILATELIC SOCIETY OF JOHANNESBURG.

*President, Mark Rose; Hon. Secretary, J. Crewell, P.O. Box 4967. Meetings, 2nd Tuesdays, 8 p.m., Sanlam Buildings.*

The January meeting will remain in the minds of all present as one of the most outstanding occasions in view of the material exhibited by Messrs. Reckling and Godfrey. Among auctions the miniature sheets of the Centenary Stamp Exhibition, which was to have been held from May 6 to May 16, 1940, were auctioned, bringing prices per pair of sheets up to 3s. There was spirited bidding for these sheets. A pair of Newfoundland 8c George VI. issue, one stamp with and one without watermark, were also auctioned, and brought a price of £1 5s. 6d. The £1 Transvaal, used in Durban, brought 7s. and a 2s. Transvaal used in Swaziland, brought 5s. Two further interesting items auctioned consisted of a Tete-beche block of India 1 anna and 2 anna values, George V., the 2 anna value having the pane gutter between two horizontal bars.

Dr. J. H. Harvey Pirie gave his second talk on numerical postmarks, and referred to a new number in the 1600's, which had been discovered since last month. Examples were tabled and referred to of Cape types used in Basutoland, Bechuanaland and Griqualand West.

The second exhibit of the evening was something out of the ordinary. This consisted of postcards and envelopes of Belgium and Holland. This exhibit was very nicely presented by Mr. R. Reckling and Mr. L. Buchen, in offering a vote of thanks on behalf of the Club, remarked that it was almost complete. It included postcard items of Belgium from 1871

right up to issues of 1914 with the German Occupation overprints, as well as envelopes bearing a telegraph stamp used as postage in 1893. The Holland series of postcards was also complete, including items from 1872 up to 1922, among which were postcard errors showing the Queen's head printed on the right side instead of the left side. These were of the year 1891. All of the different sets of postcards were displayed in used and unused condition.

Mr. I. H. C. Godfrey's display of world airmails beggars description. In fact, Mr. Redford, in offering his vote of thanks on behalf of the Club to Mr. Godfrey, expressed the opinion, shared by all those present, that Mr. Godfrey's airmail display deserved to be labelled as the No. 1 exhibit ever put before any of our Society meetings.

The first item in this amazing airmail display was one of the Paris balloon post of 1870-71. As in the case of all of the items in this display, there was a photographic illustration of the balloon which transported these mails, a map showing the places to which this balloon post travelled and interesting news accounts of this postal development.

It is out of the question in anything less than a rather lengthy and profusely illustrated book to record the many interesting items on which those present had the pleasure of feasting their eyes and minds.

Everyone of the important airmail systems of the world were represented in this display, including Imperial Airways, Pan-American Airways, Trans-Pacific, Trans-Atlantic, The Royal Dutch Airways, K.L.M. Service to West Indies 1934, Belgium to the Belgian Congo, Madagascar, French Congo to Europe, etc., etc. Although Mr. Godfrey remarked briefly when displaying these stamps that he had not attempted to give us a complete presentation of world airmails, everyone felt regret that there was not more time available in which to examine the tremendous amount of intensely interesting and beautifully presented material laid before us.

H.E.B.

#### PRETORIA PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

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

January 2.—Mr. Basden was in the chair. Major Harrington read some interesting philatelic extracts.

Mr. Klagsbrun read a paper on the stamps of the New Republic, the origin of which dates back to 1884. It consisted of territory handed over to a party of Boers for help given to a Zulu chief in putting down a rebellion. Its stamps are of great interest, especially as they were only on issue for two years. He described the printing of the stamps as well as

the different cancellations in use. A very interesting exhibit accompanied his paper.

January 15.—Mr. Basden was in the chair. This was the annual general meeting, and after reports were read and adopted the following officials were selected:

President, Mr. A. E. Basden; Vice-President, Mr. R. C. Warren; Secretary, Professor H. A. Wager; Treasurer, Mr. N. L. Watson; Librarian, Mr. H. N. B. Hawke; Exchange Superintendent, Mr. C. G. Mummery; Curator of Society Collection, Dr. A. J. Broughton; Curator of Forgery Collection, Mr. E. H. Gomm.

The Forgery Collection belonging to the Society was placed on exhibition.

H.A.W.

#### THE PORT ELIZABETH PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

*President*, G. K. Forbes; *Hon. Secretary*, C. W. Sheffield, c/o P.O. Box 88, Port Elizabeth. *Meetings*: First and third Tuesdays in each month in the African Room of the P.E. Public Library.

It seems many months since the P.E. Society had publicity. Unfortunately, our Secretary has not enjoyed the best of health and has perforce neglected his duties in that respect.

However, I feel that our meeting of January 16 should be recorded, and am taking advantage of the absence of the Secretary to set a record under way.

Although the holiday season resulted in a depleted attendance, eighteen members and visitors welcomed Mr. Chaplin, of London, who displayed a portion of his collection of Rhodesia; which with his descriptive discourse on the numerous shades, varieties and rarities will long be remembered by those who were present.

I would not care to enumerate the many superb items shown, but my Stanley Gibbons seems now to have a sickly look.

We do not often have a philatelist such as Mr. Chaplin in our city, and hope that he is the forerunner of many. We can guarantee any collector a safe conduct.

Mr. Chaplin has the goodwill of this Society, and we look forward to his next visit. We wish you, Mr. Chaplin, a pleasant journey, good hunting and a speedy return.

Two new members were nominated, and after a short auction when good prices were realised, the meeting closed.

We tender any visiting collector a hearty welcome. Do not stand on ceremony and await a meeting night. We pride ourselves on our hospitality and philatelic entertainment can be arranged.

G.K.F.

## JEWISH GUILD PHILATELIC SECTION.

There was a good attendance at the meeting of the Philatelic Section on January 25, 1940.

The main exhibits were a collection of "Double Head" Rhodesia by Mr. J. Shepherd, and a collection of Southern Rhodesia by Mr. S. Legator.

Mr. Shepherd's collection contained some very rare items, including a specimen of the 6d. with re-entry in the Queen's Crown. The gashed ear variety was well represented, and there were many rare shades. There was also a specimen of the unofficial roulette. Mixed Perforations were well represented and altogether the exhibit, which was well mounted and written up, was a very fine one.

Mr. Legator's collection of Southern Rhodesia was a complete one, including all varieties of perforation, imperfs., and shades. There was a block of the rare 1s. perf. 14 of the last George V issue. There were complete sheets of several values as well as numerous large blocks both mint and used. The imperf. varieties included a specimen of the 1d. value imperf. top and right side.

Dr. A. Kaplan spoke on the exhibits, and a vote of thanks was passed to the exhibitors.

Amongst items of interest shown were covers carried on the recent K.L.M. Flight Holland—South Africa, and a block of current Union 3d. values with four stamps showing centre missing together with four normal.

The next meeting of the section will be held on February 22, when the main exhibits will be "Bermuda", by Mr. I. Isaacs, and "Blocks of 4", by Mr. R. Osborne.

## UNION AND RHODESIA CENSOR MARKS.

Many letters from foreign countries arriving in the Union are now being opened by the censor and closed with a bilingual label U.C.8 reading "Opened by Censor/Deur Sensor Oopgemaak." This has been noted also on a letter posted to Germany before the outbreak of war and returned to sender. As the Union censorship was not set up until December one wonders where the letter had been in the interim.

Cables arrive with a rubber handstamp, "Passed by Censor/Goedgekeur deur Sensor."

We have seen one letter from England opened and closed again with a label P.C.22 "Opened by Censor. Query ? A British censoring. Most printed matter from Britain now carries a mark "Censor Permit No. . . ." This may be printed on the wrapper, handstamped or in manuscript.

From S. Rhodesia we have seen an envelope with a handstamp, "Passed by Censor," and with some handstamped but undecipherable letters over the stamps additional to the ordinary postmark.

In Basutoland a Censorship is in force but it appears to be applied only to correspondence actually addressed to Germany. We have seen a copy of the rubber stamp mark which is a box frame with the wording "Passed by Censor/ (date) / Government Secretary/Basutoland."

We hope to obtain shortly information as to the practices in force in the other two Protectorates.

The  
**SOUTH AFRICAN PHILATELIST**

Published Monthly by the Philatelic Federation of Southern Africa

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

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

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# THE SOUTH AFRICAN PHILATELIST

*Proprietors and Publishers :*

**THE PHILATELIC FEDERATION OF SOUTHERN AFRICA**

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MARCH, 1940.

No. 3.

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# The SOUTH AFRICAN PHILATELIST

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Vol. 16.

MARCH, 1940.

No. 3.

## Philatelic Federation of Southern Africa

At the VIIIth Congress held at Pretoria in November, certain amendments to the Constitution of Congress were passed. These arose from the proposals made by the Philatelic Society of Natal, referred to in previous circulars sent to all constituent Societies.

The amendments agreed to are as follows:—

- (1) The name of the Association has been altered to "Philatelic Federation of Southern Africa," instead of "Philatelic Congress of Southern Africa" as heretofore.
- (2) The subscription has been altered. Each Society must now pay to the Federation Executive a sum equal to 10/- for every 25 of its members or part thereof.
- (3) The constitution of the Executive has been altered as follows:—

"The Executive Committee of the Federation shall consist of representatives nominated by each constituent Society, each Society being entitled to appoint one representative for every 50 members or part thereof. Each Society may appoint alternatives to its nominated members. The Executive shall have power to add to its members. At each meeting of the Executive, five members shall form a quorum. A Chairman, Hon. Secretary and Hon. Treasurer shall be elected by the Executive."

I shall be much obliged if each constituent Society will send to me its subscription for 1939-40 in accordance with amendment (2) above, and also the names of its appointed

Executive members (with alternates), in accordance with amendment (3) above.

Congress authorised the present Executive to carry on until the new Executive is appointed.

With regard to the suggested Resolution from the Philatelic Society of Natal regarding the Adhesive Postage Stamp (referred to in a previous circular), Congress passed the following resolutions:—

- (1) "That this Congress is of opinion that a strong prima facie case has been made out for the claim made on behalf of James Chalmers to be the inventor of the adhesive postage stamp.
- (2) That the evidence brought forward by the son and granddaughter of James Chalmers, if perhaps not conclusive proof of the claim, shows that he is at least entitled to be regarded as the sponsor of the adhesive stamp.
- (3) That the centenary year of the introduction of adhesive postage stamps is a fitting opportunity to have the claim settled once and for all," and that this Congress furthermore resolves:—
- (4) "That the Royal Philatelic Society, as the leading exponent of philately in the country of the invention of the adhesive postage stamp be urged with deep respect to have the Chalmers' claim re-investigated either by itself alone or by a joint commission along with the Philatelic Congress of Great Britain, and to proclaim their verdict to the world."

I. ISAACS,  
Hon. Secretary.

## Reviews

### WRITING-UP LABELS.

Messrs. Stanley Gibbons, 391, Strand, London, W.C.2, have issued attractive booklets of writing-up labels for use in blank-leaf albums. The use of such labels will undoubtedly improve the appearances of many collections.

The booklets do not include names of countries—these are already available in S.G. books of Country Names—but they give an assortment of certain towns or districts (some of the local issues of the Transvaal, for instance), together with a big lot of stamp groups, watermarks, dates, perforations and other miscellaneous items which are desirable headings for album pages.

The booklets are available printed in black on white gummed paper for use in ordinary white-leaf albums, and also printed in white on black paper for use in black-leaf albums.

The price is 2s. 6d. net per booklet.

### SETS AND PACKETS.

Messrs. Whitfield King & Co., of Ipswich, England, have issued as usual their Annual Price List of their extensive range of sets and packets. These will appeal mainly, of course, to junior collectors, although their seniors will sometimes find them useful for filling blanks. This list by no means covers the services which this well-known firm can offer and brief references are made to their approval books and selections, their new issue service, special collections, albums and their ever-interesting monthly "Philatelic Bulletin."

Incidentally, may we send our best wishes to what has euphemistically been described as their latest "new issue"—a son born to Mr. and Mrs. Chas. Whitfield King on 19th December, 1939.

### METER POSTAGE STAMP CATALOGUE.

Messrs. Harris Publications ("The Philatelic Magazine"), of 112 Strand, London, W.C.2, have published the 3rd Edition of their Meter Postage Stamp Catalogue. Price 5s. net.

So far as we are aware meter stamp collecting is not as yet very much in vogue in South Africa, but it is an aspect of philately which has every likelihood of becoming more and more popular as the use of meter machines spreads, and the birds who get in early will catch the best worms.

Meter postage stamps were first used in New Zealand in 1904. They are stamps printed by the users under licence from the P.M.G., direct on to the envelopes, wrappers, etc., by means of a franking machine which records the amount expended. Designs are decided by

the P.O., but users may, if they so desire, print at the same time their own advertisement or slogan postmark. In many business firms or other institutions with large amounts of correspondence the use of adhesive stamps is now completely superseded by meter machines.

This catalogue lists, illustrates, classifies and prices (in many instances) impressions from the automatic postal franking machines of the world.

We can recommend it to every philatelist and we feel certain that many who are just a little bit tired sometimes of the ordinary run of stamp collecting and are looking for something fresh, would fall for collecting meter franks if they just had a glance through this book.

We find in the catalogue an answer to the query we raised in last month's issue about the history of the meter stamps used locally on parcels, but we will not spoil prospective readers' enjoyment by quoting it now.

On another page, under the heading "South-West Africa," it is stated that no illustration is available of the one and only Francotype meter machine in use in the territory. Through the kindness of Mr. R. Axer we are able on another page to give an illustration of this stamp.

### ASIA STAMP JOURNAL.

In a previous number (August, 1939, p. 123) we briefly reviewed No. 1 of this new philatelic paper, published by Mr. A. F. Kerneck, of P.O. Box 4047, Shanghai, and we admit that our notice was rather of the variety which "damns with faint praise."

Since then we have been receiving further numbers and would like to take this opportunity of publicly stating that we have changed our opinion. The Editor is now producing a monthly review with many interesting bits of information culled from philatelic papers the world over, but also containing a variety of short original articles on Asiatic stamps, with information which it would be difficult, if not impossible, to get anywhere else.

He is solving very satisfactorily the difficult problem of combining general with specialised philately under one cover. When it is remembered that he is doing this in face of the grave financial situation resulting from the depreciation of the Chinese dollar, well, we take off our hat to him and wish him the very best of luck in his project.

He has the other necessary qualities for success and, with luck added, should pull through.

### "FROM COVER TO COVER."

There has been held at The Strand a "Centennial Exhibition" under the auspices of the local Chamber of Commerce and other bodies.

The exhibition, open from February 15 to February 18, appears to have been a great success and is likely to become an annual event. This year's one, the first of its kind, was called the "Centennial" because one of its most prominent features was a large display of stamps and covers and these celebrated the centenary of the introduction of the adhesive postage stamp.

A prominent feature of the philatelic portion of the exhibition and a permanent record of some of the covers shown is a booklet published under the title "From Cover to Cover," this being a joint publication by Messrs. Emil Tamsen and Park Smith.

It is most lavishly illustrated and deals with covers which all have a definitely South African interest. There are First Day (Sunrise) covers, Last Day (Sunset) covers; numerous air post items of historic interest; Commemorative covers; Exhibition posts; Scarce Cancellations, etc., etc.

The Somerset Press is to be congratulated on their workmanship and the writers on their having got together an exceedingly interesting collection of postal history items.

Copies are still to be had from The Robertson Stamp Co., The Old Arcade, Johannesburg, price 3s. 6d. post free.

## Obituary

FRED. J. MELVILLE.

We regret to have to record the death of Mr. F. J. Melville, after a long illness, at the age of fifty-seven. Probably no name was better known than his in philatelic circles. He has been writing about stamps for over forty years both in philatelic periodicals and in the lay press. He edited the "Stamp Collectors' Fortnightly," the "British Philatelist" and the "Stamp Lover," the last being the official organ of the Junior Philatelic Society, which he founded in 1899 and which has been his main interest in life ever since.

As a writer he was extremely painstaking and accurate in his assemblage of knowledge—his facts were in reality facts, but he never lost his early journalistic faculty of being able always to write interestingly. This applied both to his more ephemeral papers and to the many volumes which contain material of permanent value to philatelists.

He really knew stamps, however, he did not merely write about them and he was in great demand for the juries of international exhibitions.

Of late years he had returned to an early love—the study of postal history and was the first President of the fairly recently formed Postal History Society.

His name will be remembered so long as philately lives—an epitaph that only few philatelists can earn.

## COLLECTORS' WANTS AND OFFERS

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

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

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

William Redford, Box 7012, Johannesburg.

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

**Wanted.**—CANADA and other British North America; anything of real interest. Portugal and Gambia Imperfs. Special items connected with Cape Postal History.

G. Carleton Jones, P.O. Box 1167, Johannesburg.

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

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

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## Air Mail Notes

By

I. H. C. GODFREY.

### BELGIAN CONGO.

#### "Corsair" Crash—14th March, 1939.

The first time an aircraft of Imperial Airways alighted in the Belgian Congo was on March 14, 1939, the entry on that occasion being purely accidental. The "Corsair" was carrying mails from Durban to Southampton when the accident occurred and cachets, applied by the Post Offices at Khartoum and London to salvaged letters, make interesting souvenirs of an extraordinary adventure.

Reuter reported on January 7, 1940, that the "Corsair," after nearly ten months self-interment in the Congo, was at last flying back to England:

#### "ADVENTURES OF FLYING-BOAT IN THE CONGO."

"On March 14, the "Corsair" was making a homeward flight from Durban to Southampton. She was flying from Port Bell to Juba, when she found herself off her course, and was compelled to alight at Faradje, which is on the River Dangu, about 150 miles south-west of Juba. There were no casualties, and all the mail, freight and baggage was salvaged, but the "Corsair" was badly holed.

"The river was most unsuited for flying conditions, and the country was desolate and remote. Between the river and the nearest road lay at least 2,000 yards of thick bush.

"At the beginning of May the "Corsair" was successfully beached for repairs, and by the end of June she was ready to resume flying. The river in its original condition, however, would have made a take-off impossible, and so with the co-operation of the Congo Government officials a special road was hacked through the bush so that lorries could bring to the riverside great rocks with which to build a dam. Rocks in the bed of the river were blasted away, and on July 13 it was decided that the "Corsair" should attempt a take-off.

"In the course of her run the "Corsair" hit a rock still embedded in the river, and was again damaged. Meanwhile the waters of the River Dangu were falling, and it was soon realised that a second take-off could not be attempted until after the waters had begun to rise in September.

"On October 5 the "Corsair" was once more afloat. In the interval yet another dam had been built and more rocks blasted and the "Corsair" was able to make a successful take-off."

The mails involved were those posted in Southern Africa up to the 8th of March. They

were salvaged in a damaged condition from the flying-boat and sent by road to Juba to be forwarded by the next air service north-bound.

### NORTHERN RHODESIA.

#### Air Postage Rates.

Since the suspension of the Empire Airmail Scheme on the outbreak of war, participating countries have been readjusting their tariffs for letters carried by air. There appears to be no uniformity in Southern Africa, and the schedule of revised rates given in the Northern Rhodesia Government Gazette of January 9 shows some glaring anomalies:

#### Current Airmail Rates—per Half Ounce. N. Rhodesia. Union of S.A.

To: Philippine Is. . .	*7/4	1/6
Falkland Is. . .	*6/7	*2/6 or 1/6
Barbados . . .	*5/0	*2/6 or 1/6
Bermuda . . .	*4/2	*2/6 or 1/6
Australia . . .	3/4	1/3
Hongkong . . .	2/8	1/3

(\*North Atlantic Air Service).

The N.R. Gazette stipulates that places marked with an \* must be superscribed "North Atlantic Air Service," and no option of an alternative route is given the sender as is done in the Union.

A letter addressed to the Philippines, therefore, from Northern Rhodesia has to cross the Atlantic and Pacific Oceans, travelling some 21,500 miles, as against a mere 9,800 miles by the quicker and more direct route, via Hongkong. And the cost of that doubtful privilege is nearly 6s. a half-ounce higher than the rate applicable in the Union!

It would be interesting to know how many residents of Northern Rhodesia will send their airmail correspondence to South Africa under cover to be posted for them; a strictly illegal procedure, of course!

### TRISTAN DA CUNHA.

The southern summer season will soon be over but as yet no mail has come in from the lonely isle nor is there any word obtainable from the post office of any mail being sent there.

We hope they are not going to be left isolated as long as occurred during the 1st German War. Do they know there is a war on, think you? It would look as if they did not, unless perhaps the "Graf Spee" paid them a call and told them.

"Stamps" of 20th January has an interesting article on the island by Mr. H. G. Moore, who visited it on the "Empress of France" in 1928. There is nothing new in it from a purely philatelic or postal point of view but it is an entertaining account of the island and its inhabitants.

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6d., very pale rose, superb  
mint corner block of 4 with  
full sheet margins . . . . £1 0 0  
4d. ultramarine, a precisely  
similar block . . . . . 1 0 0

### 1881.

1d. on 5/-. Variety of Type D,  
with Roman instead of  
antique D, mint . . . . . 2 0 0  
1d. on 5/- mint block of 4,  
types b, c and d (two). mint 2 10 0

### 1882.

½d. on 5/- double surcharge,  
mint . . . . . 4 0 0

### 1890.

1d. on 3d., type a, double sur-  
charge, mint . . . . . 1 10 0  
1d. on 4d., type b, triple sur-  
charge, very fine, used . . 3 15 0  
1d. on 3d., spaced variety,  
(S.G. 66), in pair with nor-  
mal, mint . . . . . 4 0 0  
1d. on 3d., ditto, a fine used  
specimen . . . . . 1 15 0

### 1896.

½d. on 3d., variety with frac-  
tion bar under "d," fine,  
used . . . . . 0 17 6  
(No. 12 on sheet).

### 1896.

2½d. on 3d., variety antique  
"2," S.G. 83a, mint . . . . . 1 10 0  
(used 20/-).

## GREAT BRITAIN. The new

10/- with portrait of King George  
VI, fine, used . . . . . 2 6  
Oct., 1934. George V re-engraved  
types 2/6, 5/- and 10/-, fine  
used set of three . . . . . 2 6

## IRELAND.

### 1935.

On G.B. George V, re-engraved  
types. (Very scarce).  
2/6 chocolate (S.G. 99) . . . . . 2 6  
5/- rose-red (S.G. 100) . . . . 4 6  
10/- indigo (S.G. 101) . . . . 10 6

### 1937.

#### New designs.

2/6 emerald, mint . . . . . 3 0  
5/- maroon, mint . . . . . 6 0  
10/- deep blue, mint . . . . . 11 6

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### All fine, used.

1930. Independence, S.G. 482,  
1 sucre . . . . . 0 2  
do. S.G. 483, 2 sucres . . . . . 0 5  
do. S.G. 484, 5 sucres . . . . . 1 3  
do. S.G. 485, 10 sucres . . . . 4 0  
1936. Darwin, S.G. 524, 2 sucres 0 6  
1938. U.S.A. S.G. 568, 1 sucre . . 0 5  
do. S.G. 569, 2 sucres . . . . . 0 9  
do. Air, S.G. 575, 1 sucre . . . . 0 5  
do. Air, S.G. 576, 2 sucres . . . 0 9

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## The Mystery of the Printings of the 1d. Coronation Stamp

By Dr. K. FREUND, Bloemfontein.

The Union Coronation stamps which were so enthusiastically received by collectors and non-collectors alike during Coronation time, have gradually lost all their attraction on the stamp market, and no other Union issue has experienced such a slump. It may be unique in philatelic history that a stamp, still valid for postage, can be bought at as much as a quarter under face value. This is the fact with the Union Coronations which fetched 2s. 3d. per set at recent London auctions.

However, the true philatelist is not concerned with slumps and market values. One can notice with satisfaction that the philatelic interest and eagerness to study these stamps have remained undiminished.

Many controversies are still raging about their *printings* and the position in this respect is not at all clear yet.

The main cause for these arguments is the fact that a printing of the 1d. denomination was made from a cylinder which is practically free from any major flaw, while for the other denominations and also for other printings of the 1d., apparently a *different* cylinder was used showing constant flaws. The mentioned printing of the 1d. is exceptionally well executed as far as colouring and shading are concerned, in contrast to the other printings of the 1d. which appear rather dry, dull and to a certain extent blurred. While the good printing appears only on stamps with normal watermark (pointing to the right), the other printings with the constant flaws can be found with normal and reversed watermarks.

Now, there are three main *theories* in the field about the 1d. printings.

(1) One opinion is that there was one interior cylinder only, for all printings of all denominations, from which first the comparatively flawless printing of the 1d. was made. When later on the other printings were started, the cylinder was already *worn*, having developed the known varieties.

(2) Another theory is that there were two classes of printings, to be distinguished from each other just by the *position* of the *watermark*. According to this, all stamps showing the watermark normal, belong to the first printings, and all stamps with the watermark reversed are later printings. Therefore, the "good" printing of the 1d. from the special cylinder as well as the 1d. printing made

from the general cylinder, but showing the watermark *normal*, were both first printings and must have appeared together at date of issue. As only a very limited quantity of the latter is known, it is contended that most of these stamps must have gone overseas on first day covers, etc.

(3) According to the third opinion, printings were first made from one interior cylinder, namely, the general cylinder showing the constant flaws, on paper with the watermark normal. The scarcity of the 1d. denomination of this printing is explained as under (2). Thereafter, second printings were made, still from the same general cylinder, but this time on paper with reversed watermark. At last, as there was still a demand for 1d. supplies, a third printing of the 1d. was made, but, it is contended, on account of a breakage of the old cylinder or for some other reason, this last printing of the 1d. had to be made from a new interior cylinder, the good and flawless one. This rather surprising theory, reckoning the good 1d. printing as the last one, is held by several prominent Union specialists.

Which of these three opinions is correct? I think that facts known to us in conjunction with the sparse official information must condemn all three theories.

First of all, it is a fact observed by everyone who went in for first day covers (and who did not at that time?) that of the 1d. denomination only the "good" printing without the main flaws was supplied at issue date. First day covers made up all over the Union as well as the stamps supplied for the overseas trade, showed all without exception the well printed 1d. This fact became so undisputed that in one or two fraud cases the alleged faked first day covers were declared as forged on account of their 1d.'s which were not of the above mentioned printing.

Besides that, the little information supplied by the Government Printer to the "S.A. Philatelist" (see Dr. Kaplan's articles, "S.A. Philatelist", June and September, 1937) stated clearly that two *different* head cylinders were used for the first supply, one for the 1d. and the other one for all other denominations. The two cylinder numbers are distinctly given, namely, as No. 30A and No. 55 respectively. For later supplies of the 1d., the information says, the interior cylinder was changed and

the same cylinder "as was used for the other values, was employed until completion of the order." We will probably never know why at the beginning a special cylinder had to be used for the 1d., why this comparatively perfect cylinder was not used for the other values and why the good cylinder was discarded altogether for the later supplies. Anyway, there is no reason to doubt the official information.

It is out of question that there should have been one cylinder only, developing later the constant flaws. Some of the flaws ("gash at temple," for instance) could from their nature have been caused only during the manufacture of the cylinder, not through wearing off of the plate. Nor could the majority of the constant flaws have been caused through cleaning and scraping off the cylinder which is repeatedly done during the printing process. The "small dot" varieties (row 4 No. 2, row 5 No. 2, etc.), and some of the "light shadings" (row 4 No. 13) are hardly due to rough cleaning, but due to chemical influences during the manufacture of the cylinder.

Some specialists argue that there are a few minor flaws which can be found on *all* printings of all values, including the "good" 1d. as well as the other 1d. printings, thus indicating an identical plate. It is true that the "small dot in right top corner" (row 6 No. 7) and the "scratches behind head" (row 4 No. 18) are common to all printings, but they are flaws of the "head plate." There was one head plate adopted for all stamps from which the two cylinders were manufactured.

The specialists who favour the theory that the "good" 1d. printing, although supplied first, was the last printing, overlook the actual facts. Their argument is that being the last printing it must have been placed on top of all the printings, thus handy for the first supply. In reality, one cannot imagine that 352,600 sheets (the official figure for the 1d. printings) were piled up in one single high column, with the last printing on top. There certainly must have been a number of piles and bundles of the 1d. sheets, equally handy and ready for supply. The argument, therefore, the first supply must have been the last printing, is not convincing.

One need only read the letter of the Government Printer (see "S.A. Philatelist" 1937, p. 137), dated the 9th August, 1937, i.e., nearly three months after first day of issue:

"I have to inform you that the printing of all the Coronation stamps is *now* complete . . . in the 1d. issue the interior cylinder was *changed after* printing 113,000 sheets . . ."

It can easily be understood that not all supplies were ready at date of issue, as originally it was even doubtful whether the short time between abdication and coronation was sufficient for any revised Coronation issue at all. Why query the clear official information?

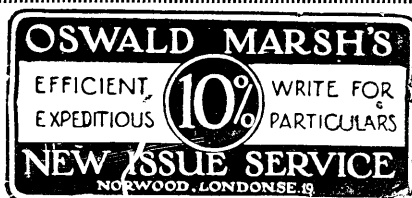
It might be mentioned that nothing can be deduced from the sheetnumbers on the bottom margin. During the printings, the figures started at least twice anew, and the position of the sheetnumbers was changing and inconsistent and can indicate nothing.

Now, our main interest concerns the 1d. printing which shows the common flaws, but has the watermark *normal* (pointing to right). It is regarded as the *scarce* one, as only a small quantity has been located. It belongs to the "later" printing, and the following reason for it seems to be the most logical one:

When the authorities recognised that the first supplies were not sufficient, new printings were started. The printing machine contained still a small balance of the paper reel which was originally used for the first printings. The completion of a printing does not end necessarily with the completion of the paper roll. So the printer started first with the denomination most in demand, the 1d., using now the general cylinder, but at the same time using up the rest of the paper reel which ran through the machine, like before, showing the watermark as normal. When the reel was finished, a new paper roll was fed through the machine, this time, incidentally and unintentionally, causing the watermark to appear reversed.

Just another point must be mentioned with regard to the printings. There are, of course, many shadings within each class of printing, caused by external circumstances during the printing process, like changing day temperature, re-mixing of printing ink, etc. The shadings may be distinctly different, but it is absolutely wrong to "find out" a long series of numerous separate printings on account of such shades only. A printing does not end with the day's work, or with the cleaning of the plate or with getting a new supply of printing ink. These are all incidents during one printing process which might extend over a number of days. In general one can speak about a new printing only when a new and different cylinder is used.

Summarising, we have only two classes of printings of the 1d. Coronation stamp, the first printings from a special, comparatively flawless cylinder with normal watermark, and the later printings from the general cylinder with the common flaws, partly with watermark normal (very small quantity) and partly with reversed watermark.





## Why Not An Expert Committee of the Philatelic Federation of Southern Africa?

Organised philately in South Africa has now well passed its quarter century, and yet we have nothing to show what we have learnt about the stamps of our country, except for publications in various stamp journals from time to time, and when any opinion on our stamps is required they are sent overseas.

It is now about time that South African philatelists begin to realise that something should be done to alter this state of affairs, and the sooner the matter is taken in hand seriously the sooner our knowledge of the stamps of our own country will reach a point of 100 per cent. efficiency, and it is with this object in view that I make the following suggestions.

We have here in South Africa philatelists who have sufficient knowledge of the stamps of Southern Africa to be able to give a good and satisfactory opinion on anything that may be submitted to them, and the question at once raises itself, why send our stamps overseas?

The stamps of the four Provinces incorporated in the Union of South Africa have in the past twenty years formed very serious study among South African philatelists, and I should think that the knowledge gained during that time is in no way inferior to that held by the experts overseas, a fact which in itself warrants the formation of an Expert Committee.

I do not think or suggest that a committee so formed should tackle anything outside the stamps of the four Provinces, viz., Transvaal, Orange Free State, Natal and the Cape Colony, or, say, all countries south of the Zambesi, and if the Philatelic Federation of Southern Africa confine themselves to this there is no reason whatsoever why this committee should not reach the 100 per cent. mark of efficiency in the course of time.

The ways and means of course will be a matter for discussion should the proposal be considered feasible.

I am putting this forward merely as a suggestion and I would be glad if the Executive of the Philatelic Federation of Southern Africa would discuss the matter at their next meeting and take any steps necessary to bring it to the notice of the Societies affiliated to the Federation, and in the meantime I shall be pleased if this can be published in the *South African Philatelist* and that members of the affiliated societies will express their views thereon through the medium of this journal.

A. A. JURGENS.

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### NEW ZEALAND.

The New Zealand Centenary set duly appeared on 2nd January, and first day covers have arrived here. It is a beautiful issue.

### NEW NAMES FOR THE STAMP ALBUM.

*Thailand.* This has long been the domestic name of Siam, but now the authorities are desirous of this name being used officially abroad as well as at home.

*Ifni.* According to Whitfield King and Co.'s "Bulletin" this is not a new colony but a small Spanish territory on the west coast of Africa between Cape Juby and the Spanish Sahara. Hitherto no stamps have been used in it and letters were despatched bearing a rubber stamp stating that postage had been paid.

Recently the Franco Orphan Charity Stamps have been overprinted for use in the colonies and Ifni was included in the list. As the colony is very small only 2,000 sets of these stamps were issued and naturally were all sold out in a very short time.

*Pitcairn Island.* The Crown Agents have announced that a series of eight stamps with various pictorial designs or representations connected with the famous ship "H.M.S. Bounty" are on order. Up till now New Zealand stamps have been used for the island's postal needs and no doubt there will be a rush to secure covers showing Pitcairn Island postmarks on New Zealand stamps as philatelic evidence of the first phase in the postal history of this newcomer to our albums.

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### CENSOR MARKS.

*Bechuanaland and Swaziland.* These two Protectorates have a censorship in operation, but the work would not seem to be very arduous as no rubber stamps have as yet been provided for the censor's use. From Swaziland we have seen one cover with the censor's endorsement in manuscript and presumably the same practice is followed in Bechuanaland when necessary.

*Kenya.* From here we have seen one mark, a rectangular box with the wording "Passed / By Military / Censor" running round three sides; "No. 52" in the centre, and in the fourth compartment (bottom side) there is pencil some figures (? date) and below this an officer's signature.

*Mauritius.* This colony has an oval rubber stamp reading "Passed by Censor / Mauritius."

*Union.*—Another letter posted to Germany just shortly before the outbreak of war arrived back about three weeks ago. Inside, with the letter sent, was a printed form U C 12 with the information, bilingually, "Returned to sender owing to the suspension of communications with enemy countries."

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### PASSING OF "DE PHILATELIST."

We regret to note that, with its December, 1939 number, the well known Dutch philatelic paper "De Philatelist" comes to an end after a successful career of 14 years' life. It is being amalgamated with the "Nederlandsch Maandblad voor Philatelie" published in Breda.

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## German East Africa

*Translated from the original article by Dr. Herbert Munk in Kohl's Handbook  
by Dr. J. H. Harvey Pirie.*

*(Continued from page 13 of January issue).*

### GERMAN EAST AFRICA PROTECTORATE.

(See map and General Introduction in  
November issue).

*Currency.* Minting rights in the Protectorate were exercised by the German East African Company until the year 1902, silver coins (rupees) and copper coins (pesa) being minted. Corresponding with the Indian system (1 rupee=16 annas=64 pice or pesa) 1 silver rupee=64 pesa. The circulation of foreign small change (pesa from British India, the British East African Company, Zanzibar, etc.) was forbidden by the Company in 1893, at which time there were in circulation also not only the rupees of their own minting but also foreign rupees, Maria Theresa dollars from Abyssinia, British shillings, etc.

After the right of coining was taken over by the Imperial authorities in 1902 decrees by the Chancellor (Feb. 28, 1904 to May 1, 1904) dealt with the introduction of the new state silver rupee, which agreed in fineness with the Indian rupee, and the rate of exchange was stabilized on a fixed gold parity at 15 rupees=20 marks (3 Rp.=4 Mk. and 1 Rp.=1.33 Mk.)

Up to this time the rate of exchange for silver rupees had been subject to violent alterations on account of the great variation in the price of silver (the rupee exchange rate sank from about 1.75 Mk. at the beginning of the nineties to about 1.07 Mk. in the middle of the nineties). This made the money order service extraordinarily difficult and complicated; indeed, money order transactions between Germany and the interior of the colony were almost impossible on account of the length of time in forwarding.

By the same ordinance the Pesa reckoning was changed on April 1, 1905, to a Heller reckoning, 1 rupee=100 heller and at the same time the decimal system was introduced as the standard for German East Africa. It was only by this reform of standards in 1904-5 that the money order and C.O.D. business became satisfactory and that money order transactions between the interior and Germany or foreign countries became possible at all.

Money order dealings with other foreign countries using rupees (British India, Zanzibar, etc.) were, however, made difficult by the stabilization of the rate of exchange. In these countries 15 Rp.=£1 sterling and as the £ stood some 35-40 pf. higher than 20 Mk. it followed that the German silver rupee had a

slightly lower value than the Indian rupee. For this reason, according to reports in the contemporary press, the new rupees were, generally speaking, not taken for payments in Zanzibar, for example, and even in the colony itself they were not always acceptable.

The German press (See, for example, the *Kölnische Volkszeitung* of August 23, 1907, or the *Deutsche Tageszeitung* of August 21, 1907, on the subject of new ordinances on standards promulgated by Privy Councillor Helfferich) therefore looked with certainty for still further changes of these "hybrid standards."

The first, developmental, period of our postal service in German East Africa, lasting till about 1894, was occupied with the organization of the postal establishments on the coast. All of these remained in operation right into the period of the Great War.

The first agencies were opened at Dar-es-salaam (later Daressalam<sup>(1)</sup> in German usage) and at Bagamoyo (later Bagamojo) on October 3, 1890. For the first few weeks of their existence these were under the control of the German Postal Agency in Zanzibar. In January, 1891, however, the Dar-es-salaam agency became the head postal establishment and all further agencies opened in East Africa were put under it; in March, 1892, it obtained a specially erected building for postal administrative affairs, and in 1895 (according to Herzog, even as early as March, 1892) it was promoted to the rank of being a Post Office.

Up to 1897 Dar-es-salaam and the postal administration of German East Africa generally was under the control of the postal director (G.P.O.), Hamburg, in so far as service transactions and accounts were concerned; but in 1897 it was put directly under the Imperial Post Office in Berlin and then to some extent it compared in rank itself with a G.P.O.

The official admission of German East Africa to the Universal Postal Union took place on April 1, 1891. The German inland rates of postage were introduced on May 1, 1899, for correspondence with Germany, the German Protectorates and German Post Offices Abroad.

(1) The official changes in designation usually took place some years earlier than dies with the new spelling were brought into use, as the old dies were as a rule used until worn out. In the case of Dar-es-salaam, for example, the change over was decreed on May 24, 1904, but a cancelling die with the new spelling was not employed until the middle of May, 1906.

In the official accounts of the various agencies, however, the new spelling is found as soon as the relative decree was promulgated.

The postal agencies established on the coast up to 1894 are given in the following list. They were only added to in number much later, in 1907, by the opening of one at Tschole on the island of Mafia:

- 1890: 4th October, Dar-es-salaam, later Dar-essalam, became a Post Office in 1895. Bagamoyo, later Bagamojo.
- 1891: 5th May, Tanga (N. coast) a Post Office after 1.1.09.  
17th May, Lindi (S. coast).
- 1892: 14th April, Kilwa (S. coast).  
5th May, Saadani, later Sadani (N. coast).  
15th June, Pangani (N. coast).
- 1894: 1st February, Mohorro, later Mohoro (S. coast).  
30th October, Mikindani (the most southerly coastal agency).

These coastal agencies were administered by professional postal officials, in contradistinction to those opened later on in the interior.

In addition to letter service (ordinary and registered) there was introduced, at the beginning of 1891, a parcel post service (up to 5 kg.) operating to all countries with a parcel post service. All the coastal offices, therefore, with the exception of those at Dar-es-salaam and Bagamoyo, opened in 1890, dealt with parcels from the date of their inception.

On October 1, 1891, a money-order business was started at the coastal offices, operating at first only with Germany (or between the individual offices themselves); from November, 1893, also with British India, and from the end of 1896 with Zanzibar, etc. (For money order dealings between the coastal offices and the agencies in the interior, see later.)

At the beginning of 1895 a "Heavy Goods Postal Service" (Postfrachtdienst, 5-10kg.) was introduced at the coastal offices, and from April 1, 1899 (but still only at the coast) the C.O.D. system was made applicable to parcels and "heavy goods" and, from the beginning of 1901, also to letters.

Finally, in March, 1901, a "Value Declared—Registration Service" (Wertdienst) was introduced at the coast. At first this was limited to "Letters of Value" (up to 250 g.) and to "Samples" (Wertkasten), for which

the unit fee was 2.40 Mk. "Parcels of Value" were accepted only from the beginning of 1914, and then only at Dar-es-salaam and Tanga.

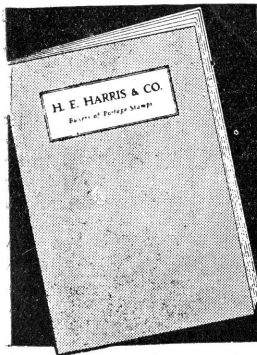
These dates of opening of the various branches of service are given as an aid in the critical study of cancellations. This is of importance in the case of the higher denominations, as genuine usage is rare in comparison with postmarking *par complaisance*. They are also of value in connection with the "Fore-runners" the more so because at most of the offices in the interior opened in 1895 and onwards, most of the branches of service for which the higher denominations were required were either not in action or were so only at a later date, or were so only to the coast and not to Germany or foreign countries.

We have therefore dealt separately with the offices in the interior in a later section, as their management differed in certain essential principles from that of the coastal agencies.

Postal communication between the coast offices and Germany was maintained after July, 1890, by the *German East African Line* (Main line, from Hamburg, via Naples), but the ships only called at Dar-es-salaam and Tanga. Simultaneously with the founding of the Main Line there was instituted an *East African Branch Line*, whose northerly run took in the agencies at Lamu and Zanzibar as well as the other offices on the coast north of Dar-es-salaam, whilst on the southerly stretch it connected the offices there one with another and also with the ports in the adjacent Portuguese territory further south.

After 1893 the *Bombay Line*, a subsidiary of the German East African Line, trading between G.E.A., Zanzibar, Mombasa and India, also served the agencies on the north coast, although at first irregularly, and it was only about 1899 that this line had a ship-post.

All these lines were subsidized by the Imperial Government and functioned as mail steamers. For cancelling purposes they were provided with ship-marks, with inscriptions "HAUPTLINIE" (Main Line), "ZWEIGLINIE" (Branch Line), or "BOMBAYLINIE" (Bombay Line) as the case might be.  
(To be continued)



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# Newfoundland. The Coronation Commemoratives of 1911

By A. M. STRANGE.

(Concluded from page 24 of the February issue).

These were first issued to the public on June 19, 1911. It was noticed that whereas the 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, and 10 cents were perf. comb  $13\frac{1}{2}$  x 14 and bore yellowish coloured gum, the other values were perf. line 14 with white gum. Subsequently all values were reported in both perforations with the exception of the 3, 4, and 10 cents values.

The popularity of the subjects chosen as illustrations for these stamps was mainly responsible for the good reception accorded them by the public. The portraiture itself was rather poor and criticism was levelled at the design of the framework which was judged too ornamental for the size of the stamp and produced an overcrowded effect.

By the end of the year stocks of all values with exception of the 1, 2, and 5 cents were exhausted. Further requisitions for these three values were made during the following seven years and they were still available at the Post Offices in May of 1918.

The date on which the stocks of these values were finally exhausted has never, to my knowledge, been recorded. It is known however that the two lowest values were withdrawn from sale for Postal purposes between December 24 and 31, 1919. A serious shortage of stocks of these denominations rendered this step necessary, but when the S.S. "Graciana" docked at St. John's with the first consignment of the Caribou issue, the sale of the 1 and 2 cents Coronation was resumed although it is not known how long the stocks lasted after this date.

Copies of the 5 cents value could still be purchased in May of 1918, but the levying of a 5 cent and 10 cent War Tax on telegrams, which came into force on May 17, created a heavy demand for this stamp, a demand which was further increased by the fact that there were no 10 cent stamps in stock at the time.

It is officially recorded that this value could no longer be procured by September of that year. In the meantime an order had been sent to Messrs. Whitehead Morris instructing them to proceed with another printing of this value, but this was cancelled on receipt of advice that delivery could not be effected before that of the Caribou issue which was then in course of production.

Considerable interest was aroused by a delivery of the 2 cents value which was made in 1916.

There was a distinct change in colour from carmine to rose red and, what is now commonly known as the "blurred impression," was at

first considered evidence that the stamps had been printed by the lithograph process.

It was also noticed that this consignment was perf. line 14 where as previous printings had been perf. comb  $13\frac{1}{2}$  x 14.

In answer to an enquiry the printers denied that any change had been made in the method of production and explained that war time difficulties in respect of unskilled labour and materials were alone responsible for the differences.

In spite of this assurance some catalogues continued, for a number of years, to describe these stamps as lithograph printed but this has now been corrected.

The 8 cents is another value on which a great deal of attention has been focused.

Endeavours to explain the reason for the two shades of colour that exist in this value has produced two theories; one is simply that two separate printings were made—the first produced the aniline variety, and the second, which was delivered early in September, 1911, the greenish blue.

Poole, who evidently upheld this theory, assessed the value of the stamps the same.

The other explanation is that the aniline stamp is a colour changeling from the greenish-blue, and a specimen in the writer's collection would appear to uphold this theory.

It was purchased some years ago as a greenish-blue, which undoubtedly was a true description at the time, for there was no trace of colour appearing on the back—a peculiarity of the aniline stamp. Some chemical action, however, which is as yet not complete, has taken place in the meantime. A distinct change has taken place in colour which is now beginning to show through on the back of the stamp in blotches.

If this can be accepted as establishing the changeling theory, it is obvious that the catalogue price for the greenish blue which is now quoted at 35s. must harden and that the aniline must depreciate in proportion.

Proofs of all values exist and these are all in black with the exception of the 15 cents which is in lake—the colour of issue. The 8, 12, and 15 cents values are known imperforate.

The total printings of all values was as follows:

1 cent ..	19,938,400	6 cents . . .	30,000
2 cents ..	26,065,500	8 cents . . .	20,000
3 cents ..	50,000	9 cents . . .	20,000
4 cents ..	50,000	10 cents . . .	22,000
5 cents ..	1,035,800	12 cents . . .	20,000
		15 cents . . .	20,000

## STAMP CENTENARY CELEBRATIONS

Our readers will be glad to learn that the British Government has rescinded its veto on commemorative stamps for the centenary of the postage stamp.

There *are* to be commemorative stamps after all; four values, of low denomination, so we understand, although the values have not as yet been officially announced.

And, although the Centenary Exhibition had perforce to be abandoned, the centenary is not going to be overlooked by British philatelists. The Postal History Society has gallantly stepped in and is organizing the 27th Philatelic Congress of Great Britain, to be held in Bournemouth from May 3—6, 1940.

The following letter received from Mr. Robson Lowe, the Hon. Organizing Secretary of the Congress speaks for itself. We have received copies of the commemorative labels, and one is illustrated here:

THE CENTENARY OF THE ADHESIVE  
POSTAGE STAMP,  
MAY 6TH, 1840 — 1940



27TH PHILATELIC CONGRESS OF  
GREAT BRITAIN  
AT BOURNEMOUTH, 1940  
POSTAL HISTORY SOCIETY.

Although the prices for these and for the first day covers may appear high, remember that the proceeds go to the Red Cross, so what you spend will be going to a very good cause.

THE Editor,  
*The South African Philatelist.*

Dear Sir,

Your readers will be interested to know that Great Britain is going to celebrate the Centenary of the Penny Black.

Although it was found impossible to hold the International Exhibition that had been planned, this important event will not be overlooked.

The 27th Philatelic Congress of Great Britain is going to be held from May 3rd to 6th in "The City of Pines," Bournemouth, the most famous of our south coast holiday towns. Special commemorative labels have been issued, reproductions of the original die of the penny black, printed in black and blue and samples are enclosed. The price is 5s. a pair, 20s. for ten pairs, and £8 for one hundred pairs.

On May 6 in The Pavilion at Bournemouth an exhibition of Great Britain will be opened—the *whole of the proceeds will be given to the Red Cross*. On the same day the British Post Office is issuing a special set of Commemoratives—a souvenir envelope is being prepared and we will post a centenary cover bearing the four values from the Congress with the special cancellation on May 6 for 5s. a cover.

We hope that all South African collectors will support this Centenary and secure some of these most interesting souvenirs and at the same time aid a cause that is of outstanding value to humanity.

Yours truly,  
ROBSON LOWE,  
Hon. Organizing Secretary.

UNION HALFPENNY SHADE.

A correspondent has sent a letter franked by a pair of ½d. stamps of such a blue-green shade as almost to fall into a "blue" category rather than a "green." Have any other of our Union specialists noted this recently?

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## Society News

### CAPETOWN PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

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

At the meeting held on 25th January, there were present as visitors Messrs. Klagsbrun and Basden, of Pretoria, and Mrs. and Mr. J. Smith, the wife and son of Professor J. J. Smith, of Stellenbosch.

The exhibit for the evening was "Bechuanaland," by Mr. A. A. Jurgens, but the exhibitor unfortunately was unable to be present in person through ill-health. His collection was on view, however, and the President asked Mr. Basden to act in the dual role of describer and critic of the exhibit and also to propose a vote of thanks to Mr. Jurgens. Mr. Basden gave a short talk about Bechuanaland and described the collection as a "delectable" one and unquestionably one of the best of that country in South Africa.

Mr. Basden also spoke on early Transvaal postal history, referring particularly to the frequency with which the place-name "Upsal" recurred. Mr. Klagsbrun, when invited to say a few words, was in reminiscent mood. He spoke of the efforts made in the north to compile a list of all handbooks dealing with South African philately; then congratulated the Capetown Society on its rejuvenation; and finally appealed for more interest to be taken in the somewhat neglected stamps of Stellaland, New Republic and Pietersburg.

Professor Smith, in replying to Messrs. Basden and Klagsbrun, was on the top of his humorous form in referring to "Upsal" and the origin of the name "Acornhoek."

Mr. Ashmead was in good fettle over the auction which ended a somewhat hectic evening about 11 p.m.

L.S.

### THE PHILATELIC SOCIETY OF JOHANNESBURG.

*President*, Mark Rose; *Hon. Secretary*, J. Crewell, P.O. Box 4967. *Meetings*, 2nd Tuesdays, 8 p.m., Sanlam Buildings.

There was a record attendance at the February meeting presided over by Mr. Mark Rose. There were fifty members and guests in attendance. After the usual business of the evening had been attended to, there was a spirited auction of about twenty members' items and the new George VI. Sierra Leone set up to £1. This new issue with a face value

of £2, was raffled by the Society and won by a lucky member for a chance costing only 1s. 6d. The items auctioned consisted mostly of the stamps of Sudan as well as Egypt and Kenya, prices ranging from 25 per cent. to 60 per cent. of catalogue.

Dr. J. H. Harvey Pirie continued his interesting notes on the numerical postmarks, this time giving particulars of the marks of Natal. He stated that there are seven different types and gave particulars about each one, displaying an interesting exhibit to clarify his notes. As his notes will probably appear in print soon, details will not be given here.

After the tea interval Mr. G. Carlton-Jones tabled an amazing and extensive exhibit of Canadian stamps of the issue of 1859.

This marvellous display is only a small portion of Mr. Carlton-Jones' valuable Canadian collection which is considered one of the best in the world.

The exhibit of the evening comprised many outstanding items.

Beginning with proofs on various papers for each of the values in this 1859 issue, the display was developed to show plate errors, colour shades, imperf. errors, blocks, pairs, strips, in fact every phase of variety and condition imaginable of each denomination in the issue.

Some of the more important items displayed were the 6d. blue-green in an imperf. block of four. This is one of a very few blocks known and is considered to be very valuable. The 5c. in an imperf. pair on piece postally cancelled on February 16, 1859. A page showing examples of all of the different printings of the 10c.; this was a particularly interesting page in view of the wide variation of shades including from the 1st up to the 26th printing. The most valuable item included in the display was a large block of the 17c. value.

An item of special and timely interest consisted of a page bearing two covers of "Soldiers' Mail" carrying two 1c. stamps and the endorsement of the Commanding Officer when the official rate was 12½c. These were postmarked in the year 1863. There were four numerical postmarks including the four-ring variety which was the first Canadian numerical mark in use.

It was apparent to all who spent considerable time in closely examining the many fine and unusual items, that the forty-four years in time and large sums in money, which Mr. Carlton-Jones had invested in building up this fine display, were all well spent. Major Milligan, in commenting on the display, echoed the impressions of all present when he said that Mr. Carlton-Jones' exhibit of the evening had indeed been a philatelic treat of the highest order, and that it was to be hoped that on another occasion we would all have the opportunity of seeing a few more volumes of material out of Mr. Carlton-Jones' fifty volume collection.

H.E.B.



## PHILATELIC SOCIETY OF NATAL.

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

It has been the Society's custom in past years to go into recess during January; but this year, by the express desire of several members, it was decided to hold an informal meeting in that month. There was a good attendance, but no formal business, such as the reading of minutes, etc., was taken. Mr. Norman Welsford, recently back from the Continent, gave a display, with some notes, of a collection of the stamps of Belgium formed by himself while "hung up" in Antwerp waiting for a ship for South Africa.

On Wednesday, February 7, the members reassembled at the Durban Publicity Bureau for the first regular meeting of the year, with President H. H. Hurst in the chair. Arising out of a brief discussion concerning "rust" in stamps it was resolved to form a small subcommittee to make further research into this subject, Messrs. E. E. Gagel, J. P. Malan and V. B. Crockett being chosen to serve thereon.

Displays were given by Miss Irene Johnston (Irish Free State) and Mr. W. Percy Williams (Zululand). Mr. Williams, who has recently added to his Zululands one very elusive item, can now claim absolute completeness in these stamps as far as those issued quite bona fide for legitimate postal purposes are concerned. He gave the meeting some interesting notes on the subject. Mr. H. de Terrason moved a vote of thanks to the two "displayers," which the meeting cordially endorsed.

P.C.B.

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

*President*, F. Carter; *Hon. Secretary*, H. G. Ulyate, Box 702, Bloemfontein. *Meetings*, 2nd Fridays, Oranje Koffiehuis, Bloemfontein, 8 p.m.

The first monthly meeting of the year was held on 9th February.

The Chairman welcomed the members, and after the general business had been disposed of exhibited his collection of Union Postage Dues.

Pride of place must be given to Mr. Levy's three sheets of the One Penny, Rouletted (First Pretoria Printing) Postage Dues, with his article, published by Gibbons in 1925, on his investigations into the various printings. Among the other items of interest were two covers franked with a ½d. King's Head and with cigarette tax stamps to pay Postage Due.

Dr. Freund read a paper on his investigations into the various printings of the 1d. South African Coronation. Mr. Levy exhibi-

ted five complete sheets of this value to illustrate the points raised, and tending to show five different printings.

A general discussion followed on the points raised, lasting for half an hour, then the meeting closed with votes of thanks to the exhibitors.

H.G.U.

## EAST RAND PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

*President*, S. Legator; *Hon. Secretary*, J. Doyle, 41 Rose Deep, Germiston. *Meetings*, Hotel Regent, Benoni, 2nd Thursdays, 8 p.m.

The attendance at the February meeting was the best for many years.

In opening the meeting the Chairman welcomed the guests from the West Rand—this being the youngest Philatelic Society in the Transvaal. After the minutes of the previous meeting were read and passed and other business concluded, the Chair was handed over for the evening to Mr. Burrell, the Chairman of the visiting society.

The visitors provided the exhibits for the evening, which numbered three. The first exhibitor was Mr. Sharp, who tabled a collection of Australians. This was a well written-up and arranged collection containing all the watermark varieties, perforations, shades, and many other catalogued and uncatalogued varieties.

The second exhibit was given by Mr. Glover, and this consisted of a straightforward collection of India. It commenced with some nice 1854 specimens and contained most of the sets to date. It was in a very high degree of completeness.

Mr. Yelland provided the third exhibit, which consisted of U.S.A. This was rather an exceptional exhibit considering the fact it had only been started six weeks before. It contained many nice items and most of the commemoratives. This will certainly prove a very fine collection given time.

H.S.

## PRETORIA PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

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

February 5.—Mr. Warren in the chair.

The Allan Cup Competition will be held this year in respect of any one country of the world. The award will be made on April 15 and entries must be handed in a week prior to that date.

Mr. Hawke read a paper on slogans used in Canada, and he showed a nice collection of them. Dr. Broom gave a talk on the Galapagos Islands. He mentioned the giant tortoises found there and their great interest to science. Mr. Giovanetti described the first air-mail flight from Cape Town to Angola and

showed a lot of covers. Mr. Baxter gave a paper on encouragement to young collectors to show their stamps at society meetings. He tabled a fine exhibition.

February 19.—Mr. Basden in the chair. Mr. Hawke read some interesting philatelic extracts.

Mr. N. L. Watson read an article on the career of King George the Fifth as a philatelist. Starting as a midshipman he eventually got together a very famous collection. Besides being a collector he was a good philatelist and his enthusiasm has undoubtedly helped forward the hobby of philately. He was always ready to loan parts of his collection for exhibition purposes.

Mr. Gomm and Mr. Watson showed a fine lot of pictorials.

H.A.W.

#### JEWISH GUILD PHILATELIC SECTION.

The main exhibits at the meeting of the Jewish Guild Philatelic Section which was held on February 22, 1940, were "Bermuda," by Mr. I. Isaacs, and "Blocks of Four," by Mr. R. Osborne.

The Bermuda collection included almost a complete collection of 20th Century issues in mint state. There were also several flown covers including Pan-American Airways, Transatlantic Flights, and also First Day covers.

The collection of blocks of four was drawn from all countries, British Empire and foreign. Several of the blocks showed errors and varieties.

Amongst items of interest shown were censored covers and First Day covers of the New Zealand Commemorative issue.

The next meeting of the Section will be held on Thursday, March 28. This will be the annual general meeting of the Section.

All members of the Guild and all persons interested in philately are invited.

#### MODERN SOUTH AFRICANS.

Under this caption Mr. Stanley Phillips, Editor of Gibbons' Stamp Monthly," writes in his February number:

"It is very difficult to keep track of all the printings of the modern issues of South Africa, which are extremely interesting from the philatelic point of view, but on which information is very meagre.

"The South African Post Office takes the view that it exists to provide stamps for postal use and that it is no part of its job to keep collectors informed as to minor stamp changes. There is something to be said for this attitude, though it does reduce the sale of stamps to collectors, which any country might re-

gard as worth while, and it makes a full study of these issues by no means easy.

"I know there are articles dealing with plate varieties, in that admirable journal the *South African Philatelist*, but what is wanted by many collectors here is a straightforward article tracing the history of the ordinary non-commemorative postage stamps since they first appeared in 1926, indicating how the various printings may be distinguished and generally throwing a bit more light on the subject than can be given in a catalogue list. The corresponding official stamps also want clarifying.

If any specialist thinks he could write me a non-specialist article of 2,000 to 3,000 words on the above lines, will he please get in touch with me before writing the article, as I might be able to arrange to publish such a contribution, which I know would be welcome to many readers.

"Mr. Parr's recent articles on French stamps are the kind of thing I want, though their subject is so different that they cannot be taken as anything more than a guide as to the philatelic standard required. Lists of plate flaws are barred."

Now then you specialists, here is a fine chance for you. A good job, to be well done. Who will fill the bill?

#### KENYA REMAINDERS DESTROYED.

Mr. W. Tunstall, of Uplands, Kenya, reports that an extract from the 1938 Kenya Colonial Audit Report was published in the local press stating that "Stamps to the face value of the large sum of £1,181,893 of the King George V pictorial and coronation (? error for jubilee.—Ed.) issues were destroyed by a Board of Survey and written off."

That is good news. What a slump there would have been if that amount had been thrown on the market as remainders!

#### S.W.A. METER POST.

Mr. R. Axer, of Capetown, has kindly submitted a copy, illustrated herewith, of what



0199

*Meyer Ziegler*  
WINDHOEK S.W.A.



is understood to be the one and only Meter stamp of this territory. As mentioned on another page, it is catalogued in Harris' Meter Postage Stamp Catalogue, but has the note appended that no specimen is available for illustration.

This lacuna in our knowledge, thanks to Mr. Axer, can now be filled in.

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*Proprietors and Publishers :*

THE PHILATELIC FEDERATION OF SOUTHERN AFRICA

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Vol. 16.

APRIL, 1940.

No. 4.

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Honorary Business Manager: WILLIAM REDFORD, Broadcast House, Commissioner Street, Johannesburg.

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Vol. 16.

APRIL, 1940.

No. 4.

## **I AM A STAMP**

I first saw the light of day in the works of a famous printing firm in London. Transferred to the offices of the Crown Agents for the Colonies, by one pane only did I miss being sold to London dealers. Instead, with a consignment of my brethren of various denominations I pitched up in Central Africa in 1915. For some months we escaped issue to Post Offices until one day a quantity of us was taken to a local printing press and there overprinted. From that moment my serious adventures on active service commenced. A rush was made on the Post Office to which we had eventually been sent and I was soon placed with others of my brethren in the pocket book of a stamp collecting soldier. That very night our new owner was one of a party unexpectedly attacked by some Germans and the pocket book in which we had our being was pierced by a bullet fortunately, without other material damage. Days of trekking followed with intermittent fighting; floods, heat and occasional encounters with wild animals and sauria were our lot until one day we found ourselves in a hospital. Days and nights of delirium were followed by weeks of convalescence on the part of our philatelist who then took the opportunity to display us to interested persons, as in those days we were much sought after and rated high in value. The war over, there came a life of many changes for us, Capetown, Johannesburg, Durban, Pretoria from which last city I was sent alone to Zanzibar on approval to a collector there. Fortunately it seemed to me, as I soon began to feel the effects of the climate, I was returned to the Union unwanted, though it may be sure the indignity did not entirely escape my notice. By this time it was apparent that my issue had lost some of its novelty and popularity. Priced in the catalogue at 15s., I was put on an Exchange sheet at 7s. 6d. For two weary years I travelled round the Union. The circuit completed, my owner sent me to New York for exchange.

In the two months I spent in the U.S.A., I was paraded at various Philatelic meetings with little kudos to myself and had again to experience the indignity of being returned to the Union, an unwanted stamp. Once again I was put on an Exchange sheet, this time priced at 3s. 9d. The same old faces and voices turned me down and on the completion of an 18-months' circuit, my return was met with contemptuous silence on the part of my owner. In execrable taste he then put me on another Exchange sheet at 1s. 6d., though in fairness to him I must say by this time my catalogue rate had been reduced by a half. Another weary circuit of many hundred miles without success. I have been priced as low as a shilling without finding a purchaser.

On the journey I am about to undertake, after being given a good cleaning in benzine, I find myself as fit as ever re-priced at 1s. 6d. In all I must have travelled 30,000 miles at a low estimate, but this time I do feel a home will be found for me, and it will not be my fault if ever I leave the album which somewhere is awaiting my reception.

S.S.

## **S. RHODESIAN COMMEMORATIVES.**

Some philatelic papers have announced, apparently on information received from the postal authorities in Salisbury, that the 50th anniversary commemoratives are not to be issued. Our latest information is quite to the contrary, viz., that they are to be issued as originally planned, some time in June.

## **MOZAMBIQUE COMPANY.**

On 16th February there was issued at Beira a single stamp, value 1.75 in blue, commemorative of the 8th Centenary of the Portugues foundation of nationality. Then central design is a warrior, Afonso Henriques, in Crusader dress against a background of a turreted castle.



# The Union Rotogravure Postage Due Stamps

## A Causerie

By A. HILTON SYDOW, M.R.P.S.L.

The first Union Postage Due stamps printed by the Rotogravure process were of the 3d. denomination and were issued on the 3rd August, 1932. The figures of value were printed in black and the frame design in greenish-blue. This denomination was followed by the 2d. which was issued on the 10th April, 1933. The figures of value of the latter issue were also printed in black but the frame design appeared in reddish-purple. On the 7th June, 1933, the 6d. denomination was issued with the figures of value printed in dull green and its frame design in deep orange. During the month of March, 1934, the 1d. denomination was issued with the figures of value printed in greyish-black and the frame design in red, and almost contemporaneously the 3d. denomination appeared with its figures of value printed in shiny black and its frame design in green.

I purchased copies of the five denominations in each instance shortly after their first appearances. I noticed that the figures of value of the 1d., 2d. and 3d. denominations were printed with shiny or glossy black ink, and that on the reverse sides of these stamps there appeared slight embossings or ridges of the figures of value. These characteristics led me to believe that figures of value were surface-printed from letter-press flat plates. The figures of value of the 1d. and 6d. denominations were printed with dull or grayish black and dull green respectively, and the impressions on the stamps were somewhat blurred, suggestive of rotogravure printing. I pencilled notes in my collection in this connection, but I did not pursue the matter any further until it was published in the "South African Philatelist" that the Union Rotogravure Postage Due stamps were printed from a rotogravure frame or exterior cylinder num-

bered 39, that is, one cylinder was employed for the five denominations; and four figures of value or interior cylinders were also employed and numbered as follows:

1d. . . . .	No. 13
2d. . . . .	No. 28
3d. . . . .	No. 6935
6d. . . . .	No. 12

In connection with the 1d. denomination the figures of value were printed, however, from a flat bed letter-press plate. This confirmed my finding as regards the 1d. denomination only.

From used copies of the 2d. denomination it is very clear that up to at least 1934 this denomination was printed from a rotogravure cylinder for the frame design and from a flat bed letter-press plate for the figures of value. At some subsequent date, however, the letter-press figure of value plate was abandoned and a rotogravure figure of value cylinder was prepared and put into use. From current 2d. dues the rotogravure characteristics can easily be discerned. I have not yet examined sufficient used copies to state when the change-over took place.

In connection with the 3d. denomination a change of colour of the figures of value from black to blue was recorded in the "South African Philatelist" of March, 1935. There seems no doubt to my mind that the blue figures of value were printed from cylinder No. 6935.

I have not yet found specimens of the 3d. denomination with the figures of value in black printed with rotogravure characteristics. I am pursuing this matter and I invite the co-operation of our leading Union specialists.

Thus the Rotogravure Postage Due stamps can be classified as follows:

	(a) 1d. Exterior Rotogravure Cylinder	39	Interior Letter-press Plate	1
	1d. do.	39	do. Roto. Cylinder	13
	2d. do.	39	do. do.	28
	3d. do.	39	do. do.	6935
	6d. do.	39	do. do.	12
	(The 3d. here mentioned is the "blue and blue").			
	(b) 1d. Exterior Rotogravure Cylinder	39	Interior Letter-press Plate	1
	1d. do.	39	do. Roto Cylinder	13
	2d. do.	39	do. Letter-press Plate	1
	3d. do.	39	do. Letter-press Plate	1
	6d. do.	39	do. Roto. Cylinder	12
	(The 3d. here mentioned is the "black and blue").			

Future research will establish whether the 3d. black and blue can be added to category (b) as—

3d. Exterior Rotogravure Cylinder	39.	Interior Roto. Cylinder	6935.
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I have not attempted to mention varieties but I merely introduce Union stamps printed by the combination of two kinds of printing processes, namely, Rotogravure from cylinders and Surface-printing from Letter-press flat plates.

I am assuming that the cylinders mentioned under category (b) are the same as those in use at present. Will the P.P.S. investigate in Pretoria?

### KENYA.

In the *Philatelic Journal of Great Britain* S.o.S. writes: "A stamp to look for amongst duplicates is the current type of 5 cents with the broken rope similar to S.G. No. 111. I am informed that this variety definitely exists although I have not seen it."

### TRISTAN DA CUNHA.

Just after last month's issue had been printed, with the statement that there was no word of any mail to or from the island, there appeared in the local press on 7th March an announcement that "a British warship had recently visited Tristan da Cunha" and that all was well there. This announcement was made in the House of Commons. In the circumstances, if any mail was taken off it probably was sent direct to London, so we may have to wait some little time before we know if a mail has arrived or not.

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6 Provisionals 1922/23, 5c—50c	2/3
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### THE VACUUM MAGAZINE.

The latest number of this interesting little magazine, in addition to the usual crop of various simple hints on how motorists may get "more miles to the gallon," has various articles of value to prospective tourers in South Africa, including one on St. Christopher, the patron saint of motorists amongst other travellers.

There are also some fine illustrations of special appeal to stamp collectors, entitled "Petroleum in Philately." There are reproduced enlargements of various stamps with motor cars of all ages, oil-wells, Pegasus, etc.

Copies may be obtained post free from the Vacuum Oil Co., Ltd., P.O. Box 1969, Cape Town, or from any of the Company's branches.

### THE "BERNHARD" COLLECTION.

The collection of the late Mr. David Bernhard, stated to be the second finest in England and valued at over £150,000, has been bought by Mr. Frank Godden and will be broken up for sale. It has been described as "not a gold medal collection but a series of gold medal collections." Mr. Bernhard left his collection of Nevis to the Royal Philatelic Society, but with that exception all his other series of classics will come on the market. One of the outstanding rarities is a West Australia "inverted swan," of which only eight copies are known.

## NYASALAND

+++

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## Union Notes

### UNION PARCEL POST LABELS.

The paragraph in the February issue of the *South African Philatelist* correctly describes these labels but the following additional information may be of interest.

First of all I may quote the description given in Harris' "Meter Postage Stamp Catalogue." Here they are listed as "ADHESIVE STAMPS," which is, of course, quite correct. 1936. National Cash Register Co. in violet on yellow paper. Ribbon impression. Multi-value.

#### Inscriptions:

NCR. 1 "Parcel Post—Pakketpos" and "Paid"  
NCR. 2. "Pakketpos—Parcel Post" and "Paid"  
NCR. 3. Ditto. Plus "Betaal" under "Paid"

(Unlike their Canadian and U.S.A. counterparts, these labels have no die numbers. The upper corners of NCR. 1 and NCR. 2 are ornamental, while those in NCR. 3 are plain. The only impressions we have seen are: NCR. 1, Durban; NCR. 2 and 3, Kaapstad-Cape Town, and each of these has a figure "1" at left, parallel with denomination and Record No.)

20 I 1940

PAKKETPOS — PARCEL POST  
 2 — 1 — 0 4903  
 PAID  
 BETAAL  
 EAST LONDON OOS LONDEN

These NCR. machines can register amounts from 1d. to 11d., 1s. to 19s., and £1 to £99, or, in all, from 1d. to £99 19s. 11d.

The paper of these stamps is in various shades of yellow, from lemon to ochre. In Cape Town the first date of use of these machines was 15th January, 1936; I do not know the dates of introduction in other centres.

In addition to Cape Town and Durban as mentioned by Harris, I have examples from East London, Johannesburg and Kimberley; I believe they are in use also in Bloemfontein, Port Elizabeth and Pretoria, possibly also in other places, but as to these I cannot speak positively.

As regards types my specimens are:

NCR. 1. Durban.  
NCR. 2. Cape Town.  
NCR. 3. Cape Town, Durban, East London, Johannesburg, Kimberley.

*Minor Variations:* In most cases in the date the month (in Roman figures) comes between the day and the year, but in two instances (Durban and Kimberley, NCR. 3) the month comes first. Whether or not this is constant I cannot say.

The figures on the left, parallel with the amount paid, vary from 1 to 6. These might represent different machines or operators as I have specimens from one and the same place with different numbers.

A. N. HAYNE.

Mr. R. Axer also supplies some notes about these labels and from them the following additional information is gleaned:

A parcel franking machine was first brought into use at Pretoria in August, 1935. Their use at Bloemfontein is confirmed. A Johannesburg occurrence of the month coming before the day in the date is noted, viz., XI-14-1939.

### HYPHENATED THREEPENNY.

The 3d. denomination with SUID-AFRIKA hyphenated has been noted by several observers as appearing on sale about 1st March.



Top, Old. Bottom, New

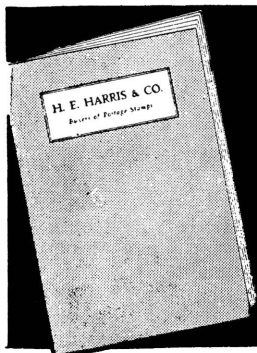
Although the scene is the same, the design has been completely redrawn, the differences being seen in the accompanying block. Moreover, the stamp is now a "one-plate" stamp, not one printed from two plates, centre and frame.

### BLUE-GREEN HALFPENNY.

This shade of the ½d., commented on briefly last month, has been noted on covers from various parts of the Union and is mentioned by two correspondents as having been on sale early in February.

### SHILLING HYPHENATED OFFICIAL.

The Robertson Stamp Co. informs us that the recently issued 1s. with SUID-AFRIKA hyphenated has now been issued with the "OFFICIAL/OFFISEEL" overprint.



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# Ladysmith Siege Post Office

By the late GEO. BLOCKEY

[Note by the Editor.—A year or two before his death Mr. Blockey became interested in the "Ladysmith Siege Post Office," through becoming aware of the existence of a collection of covers bearing this overprint or cancellation. This collection is treasured in the family of Captain Molyneux, who was Officer in Charge of Volunteers Town Guard during the siege.

Mr. Blockey examined this collection very thoroughly and, with his usual care for detail, compiled the lists which follow. At the same time he tried to get in touch with people who had gone through the siege with the object of finding out more about the status and working of this post office.

He sent me the lists some considerable time ago but, at his request, publication of them was held up in view of the possibility of his obtaining information about the post office itself. This quest, unfortunately, was never completed. The only piece of information with some bearing on it which he obtained is contained in a letter (sent on to me since his death), from Mr. W. A. Poulton. This letter quotes part of an order issued by General Sir A. Hunter, Chief of Staff of the Natal Field Force, dated Feb. 6, 1900, which reads as follows:

"For the purpose of the garrison postal service Ladysmith will be divided into nine districts. Each district will have a letter box in as central a position as possible, and a bicycle orderly will be attached to each district. The orderlies will clear the boxes in their districts at stated times, and bring the letters to the General Post Office. The letters will be sorted into districts and given to the orderlies who will then deliver

them to the addresses. Letters will only be delivered to such civilians as are employed by the Imperial Government."

As the earliest Ladysmith Siege Post Office cover is dated Feb. 7th, it looks as if its establishment was a result of the order quoted.

The statement has been made that only 30 covers received this marking and that the Siege Post Office was then captured by the besiegers. This is obviously incorrect, for here is a note of over a hundred covers in one collection alone and the dates on them run right up to the day when the siege was raised.

Here is an illustration of the mark, which

**LADYSMITH SIEGE POST OFFICE**

Feb. 23th 1900.

is usually in blue ink but occasionally in violet ink. It may be on a stampless cover or post-card or it may be cancelling various Natal or British "Army Official" stamps.

Mr. Blockey writes of the mark as an "overprint." I am a little doubtful of the validity of this description, but am leaving it to stand as written by him.

There is no reason for holding up his descriptions any longer and it is to be hoped that their publication will bring forth some further information as to the exact status and working of the Siege Post Office.

In the covering letter sent to me with the lists Mr. Blockey stated that there were 30 duplicates in the collection additional to the 84 described by him. Strictly speaking, the figure 84 should really be 82, as the first two covers in the list are not actually Siege Post Office covers.]

## SIEGE OF LADYSMITH.

2nd November, 1899, to 28th February, 1900.

List of postal covers collected by Captain Molyneux, Officer in Charge of Volunteers Town Guard.

### LIST OF SYMBOLS.

- A.—Covers addressed to Captain Molyneux in various handwritings. C.—Envelope or card overprinted in blue Ladysmith Siege Post Office.  
B.—Covers with no address. P.—Ladysmith circular dated postmark.

No.	Date	Postmark	Stamps used	Addressed	
1	5 Jan.	P	Stamps unobtainable	A	Mimeograph of child "Little Ladysmith" foolscap envelope insert full mimeograph cartoon by Earl Robert "Santa Claus delayed" and signed letter.
2	10 Jan.	P	Natal 1d. red	A	No overprint.
3	7 Feb.	Nil	do.	"	C.
4	7 Feb.	"	do.	"	C. error SEIGE.
5	8 Feb.	"	do.	"	C.

No.	Date	Postmark	Stamps used	Addressed	
6	8 Feb.	"	do.	"	C. error SEIGE.
7	9 Feb.	"	do.	"	C.
8	9 Feb.	"	do.	"	C. error SEIGE.
9	10 Feb.	"	do.	"	C.
10	10 Feb.	"	do.	"	C. error SEIGE.
11	11 Feb.	"	do.	"	C.
12	11 Feb.	"	do.	"	C. error SEIGE.
13	12 Feb.	"	do.	"	C.
14	13 Feb.	"	do.	"	C. dot in place of t in date.
15	13 Feb.	"	do.	"	C. error .E.G:
16	13 Feb.	"	do.	"	C. no t in date.
17	13 Feb.	"	No stamp	"	C.
18	14 Feb.	"	Natal 1d. red	"	C.
19	14 Feb.	P	No stamp	B	C. Foolscap envelope as No. 1, creased and torn.
20	14 Feb.	P	Natal 2½d. blue	"	C.
21	14 Feb.	P	Natal ½d. post card	"	C.
22	14 Feb.	P	Natal 1d. post card	"	C.
23	14 Feb.	P	Natal ½d. green	"	C.
24	14 Feb.	P	Natal 1d. red	"	C.
25	14 Feb.	P	Official Long Tom post card	"	C. Union Postale Universelle Post (Arms) card.
NATAL					
Subject to letter rates. Stamps unobtainable during the siege. Long Tom on face, on reverse panorama of Ladysmith, gun positions and picture of Town Hall printed in brown.					
26	15 Feb.	Nil	Natal 1d. red	A	C. Bottom of t missing in date.
27	16 Feb.	"	do.	"	C. Letter t missing altogether.
28	16 Feb.	"	Nil	"	C. 6 of date dropped.
29	17 Feb.	"	Natal 1d. red	"	C.
30	18 Feb.	"	do.	"	C. dot in place of t.
31	19 Feb.	"	do.	"	C. " error SEIGE
32	19 Feb.	P	Natal 1d. Post card	B	C.
33	19 Feb.	Nil	Nil	"	C. error SEIGE on H.M.S. envelope embossed arms on flap.
34	20 Feb.	"	Natal 1d. red	A	C. error SEIGE.
25	20 Feb.	P	Nil	A	C. on H.M.S. as 33.
36	20 Feb.	P	Long Tom p.c.	A	C. with error SEIGE as 25 but postally used conveying birthday greetings from C.M.
37	20 Feb.	Nil	Natal ½d. Post card	B	C. error SEIGE.
38	20 Feb.	P	do.	B	C. error SEIGE.
39	20 Feb.	Nil	Nil	A	C. error SEIGE on H.M.S. signed R. O. L. Brandon, Adj.G.
40	20 Feb.	P	Nil	B	C. error SEIGE on H.M.S. not used.
41	20 Feb.	Nil	Nil	B	C. error SEIGE on H.M.S. not used.
42	20 Feb.	Nil	Nil	A	C. error SEIGE plain envelope.
43	21 Feb.	Nil	Natal 1d. red	A	C. error SEIGE and Feb. 21th.
44	22 Feb.	Nil	do.	A	C.
45	22 Feb.	Nil	do.	"	C. twice printed.
46	22 Feb.	P	Natal ½d. Post card	"	C. typed on back 116th day of Bombardment.
47	22 Feb.	P	Nil	"	C. plain foolscap envelope folded and creased.
48	23 Feb.	P	Natal ½d. green	A	C. P. twice stamped r in date inverted.
49	23 Feb.	"	Natal 1d. red	"	C. ditto. ditto.
50	23 Feb.	Nil	do.	"	C. ditto. ditto.
51	23 Feb.	P	Natal 2d. stamp	"	C. P. twice stamped ditto.
52	23 Feb.	"	Natal 2½d. blue	"	C. ditto. ditto.
53	23 Feb.	"	G.B. ½d. Army official	"	C. r in date inverted.
54	23 Feb.	Nil	Natal ½d. Post card	"	C. ditto. Message on back signed W. Sangmeister B.M.R.
55	23 Feb.	P	G.B. 1d. Army official	"	C. ditto.
56	23 Feb.	Nil	Nil	B	C. ditto. Plain envelope unused.

No.	Date	Postmark	Stamps used	Addressed	
57	23 Feb.	"	"	A	C. r in date inverted on H.M.S. as 39.
58	23 Feb.	"	"	"	C. ditto. Plain envelope.
59	24 Feb.	"	"	"	C. h in date inverted on H.M.S. as 39.
60	24 Feb.	"	Natal 1d. red	"	C. ditto.
61	25 Feb.	"	do.	"	C.
62	25 Feb.	"	do.	B	C. Unused.
63	25 Feb.	"	Nil	A	C. on H.M.S. signed Frank S. Ralph, Sub-Leader L.T.G.
64	25 Feb.	"	"	B	C. unused plain envelope.
65	26 Feb.	"	Natal 1d. red	A	C. t inverted.
66	26 Feb.	Nil	Nil	A	C. ditto. on H.M.S. as 63.
67	26 Feb.	Nil	Nil	B	C. t inverted plain envelope unused.
68	27 Feb.	"	Natal 1d. red	A	C.
69	27 Feb.	"	Nil	A	C. Typed on envelope "Stamps unobtainable."
70	28 Feb.	P	Long Tom Post card	A	C. Interesting verses on back of card announcing Buller's approach, signed F. M. Fred, 27/2/1900, 118th day of siege.
71	28 Feb.	Nil	Nil	A	C. On H.M.S. as 63.
72	28 Feb.	P	G.B. 1d. Army official	A	C.
73	28 Feb.	"	G.B. 1d. Army official	A	C. Minute defect to stamp
74	28 Feb.	"	Natal 1d. green	A	C.
75	28 Feb.	"	Natal 1d. red	A	C.
76	28 Feb.	"	ditto.	B	C.
77	28 Feb.	"	Natal 2d. stamp	A	C.
78	28 Feb.	"	Natal 2½d. blue	A	C.
79	28 Feb.	"	Nil	A	C. Plain envelope.
80	28 Feb.	"	Long Tom, p.c.	B	C. Twice, once vertically.
81	28 Feb.	"	Cesar's Camp post-card	B	C. Mimeographed battle scene Cesar's Camp, January 6th, slightly damaged.
82	28 Feb.	"	Natal 1d. p.c.	A	C. Signed at back by W. Molyneux, Capt. S.O.V. 119th day of siege and last.
83	28 Feb.	"	Natal 1d. p.c.	A	C. ditto. ditto.
84	28 Feb.	"	Nil	A	C. On H.M.S., signed as 63.

### COMING EVENTS.

Australia.—Queensland is shortly to be celebrating a centenary, that of the inauguration of Free Settlement and approval has been given for the issue of commemorative stamps for the occasion. The number and design or designs have not yet been decided upon.

Ascension.—The colour of the 1d. stamp is to be changed, although the new colour has not been announced.

Dominica.—The administration of this Island has been transferred from the Leeward Is. colony to that of the Windward Is. (It is a common belief that the weather is changing everywhere these days, but a complete change from one side to the other seems to be something quite out of the common!). Philatelically this is being reflected in the introduction of a local farthing rate for newspaper postage and the island is to have a 1d. stamp of the same design as that at present in use in Grenada.

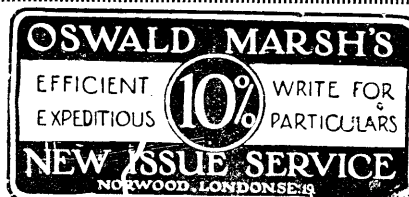
St. Helena.—The 1d. stamp here is also to be changed in colour and there is to be an additional stamp to its series in the shape of a 4d. value in blue.

### FAMOUS AMERICANS.

Two of the authors' set of five, Washington Irving and Fenimore Cooper, were the first of the 35 "Famous Americans" commemorative stamps to appear, on 29th January, 1940. The three remaining authors were due to be issued in February and following them the poets, educators, scientists, composers, artists and inventors are listed to appear at intervals, the final issue being on 28th October.

### NEWFOUNDLAND WAR PROVISIONALS.

As is commonly the case with overprints a whole crop of errors and varieties is being reported in the two Newfoundland war provisionals (2 cents and 4 cents on 5c Royal Visit stamps).





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6d., very pale rose, superb  
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full sheet margins . . . . £1 0 0  
4d. ultramarine, a precisely  
similar block . . . . . 1 0 0

### 1881.

1d. on 5/-. Variety of Type D,  
with Roman instead of  
antique D, mint . . . . . 2 0 0  
1d. on 5/- mint block of 4,  
types b, c and d (two). mint 2 10 0

### 1882.

½d. on 5/- double surcharge,  
mint . . . . . 4 0 0

### 1890.

1d. on 3d., type a, double sur-  
charge, mint . . . . . 1 10 0  
1d. on 4d., type b, triple sur-  
charge, very fine, used . . 3 15 0  
1d. on 3d., spaced variety,  
(S.G. 66), in pair with nor-  
mal, mint . . . . . 4 0 0  
1d. on 3d., ditto, a fine used  
specimen . . . . . 1 15 0

### 1896.

½d. on 3d., variety with frac-  
tion bar under "d," fine,  
used . . . . . 0 17 6  
(No. 12 on sheet).

### 1896.

2½d. on 3d., variety antique  
"2," S.G. 83a, mint . . . . . 1 10 0  
(used 20/-).

## GREAT BRITAIN.

The new

10/- with portrait of King George  
VI, fine, used . . . . . 2 6  
Oct., 1934. George V re-engraved  
types 2/6, 5/- and 10/-. fine  
used set of three . . . . . 2 6

## IRELAND.

1935.

On G.B. George V, re-engraved  
types. (Very scarce).  
2/6 chocolate (S.G. 99) . . . . . 2 6  
5/- rose-red (S.G. 100) . . . . 4 6  
10/- indigo (S.G. 101) . . . . 10 6

1937.

New designs.

2/6 emerald, mint . . . . . 3 0  
5/- maroon, mint . . . . . 6 0  
10/- deep blue, mint . . . . . 11 6

## ECUADOR.

All fine, used.

1930. Independence, S.G. 482,  
1 sucre . . . . . 0 2  
do. S.G. 483, 2 sucses . . . . . 0 5  
do. S.G. 484, 5 sucses . . . . . 1 3  
do. S.G. 485, 10 sucses . . . . 4 0  
1936. Darwin, S.G. 524, 2 sucses 0 6  
1938. U.S.A. S.G. 568, 1 sucre . . 0 5  
do. S.G. 569, 2 sucses . . . . . 0 9  
do. Air, S.G. 575, 1 sucre . . . . 0 5  
do. Air, S.G. 576, 2 sucses . . . 0 9

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## Note on the Stamps of Ruanda-Urundi

By Dr. GABRIEL LEFEBVRE, Elisabethville

Up till 1924 Ruanda-Urundi (Territory under Belgian Mandate) and the Post of Kigoma (occupied by Belgian troops in 1916 but transferred to the British Tanganyika Mandate in, I think, 1921) used surcharged Belgian Congo stamps.

The various surcharges were:

(1) Stamps surcharged "Kigoma", "Ruanda" or "Urundi". All these stamps of the first occupational days are now quoted very high.

[It should be noted that this classification of the first provisionals, which is that followed in Yvert and Tellier's catalogue, is quite different from that given in Gibbons.—Ed.]

(2) Also in 1916, the 4-line bilingual inscription "Est Africain Allemand/Occupation Belge/Duitsch Oost Afrika/Belgische Bezetting."

(3) 1918. Congo Belge stamps surcharged "A.O." (Afrique Orientale = East Africa.)

(4) In 1922 certain of the bilingually surcharged set of 1916 described above were given an additional surcharge of a new value.

All these surcharges were on stamps of the 1916 issue of Belgian Congo—the black centred issue.

From 1924 to 1931 there were six emissions, each with one or other of four different arrangements of the words "Ruanda" and "Urundi" on the "Floors" issue of Belgian Congo.

The two special commemorative stamps of 1925, one with its inscription in French, the other in Flemish, with a surtax of 25c. in aid of the monument at Kinshasha in memory of those killed in the Belgian colonial campaign, were also surcharged RUANDA-URUNDI; likewise the "Bienfaisance" set (Native Protection Fund) of 1930.

Since 1931 the territory of Ruanda-Urundi has had its own definitive stamps, with the designation usually in one line, only the three stamps of the Queen Astrid issue of 1936 having the words separated, Ruanda at the top of the stamp and Urundi at the bottom.

The stamps of Ruanda-Urundi ("R.U." for short) are of artistic design and beautifully executed and when one remembers how few European residents there are in the territory it is not to be wondered at that commercially these stamps fetch higher prices than those of the Congo Belge.

The Postage Due stamps are those of the 1923-29 issue of Belgian Congo surcharged

"Ruanda-Urundi" (surcharge in two lines, spaced.)

R.U. has no special Air Mail stamps, doubtless because, so far, it has not been served by any air line. This may be altered, however, because since November, 1939, there has been an extension of the Sabena line from Stanleyville to Irumu to Kamembe (Costermansville) and Usumbura (the capital of R.U.).

The stamps of R.U., like those of Congo Belge, may be purchased mint at the special counters in Brussels (Central P.O.) and in Antwerp (Central Sta. P.O.).

### ANGLO-FRENCH POSTAGE STAMP.

It has been officially announced through Reuter that a joint Franco-British postage stamp will be issued. The announcement follows the completion of an agreement between the postal authorities in Britain and France on a common plan for the despatch of international mails.

This is a very interesting piece of news, of much greater significance than the mere issuing of commemoratives to celebrate the postage stamp centenary. May it not indicate the beginning of a new era coincident with the start of the second century of stamp issuing,

### BRITISH BECHUANALAND.

Mr. Arthur Blair, in the "Stamp Collector's Fortnightly," reports what he thinks is a hitherto unrecorded constant minor variety in the 1d. Cape overprinted "British Bechuanaland," reading downwards. The variety consists in the top halves of the two letters "ch" being missing.

### NATAL PERFORATED? "OFFICIALS."

We have recently been shown several 1d. Natal Edwardians with two vertical lines of perforations running through them. The lines are 9 m.m. apart and the perf. is 11.

The suggestion was made that this was a method of marking stamps for use in Government departments prior to the introduction of the overprinted "Officials," but no actual proof of the assertion was forthcoming.

Can any reader furnish definite evidence as to the significance of such vertical lines of perforation through these stamps?

## Air Mail Notes

By

I. H. C. GODFREY.

### PORTUGUESE WEST AFRICA.

#### ANGOLA.

A new airmail label for use in this Colony has appeared. The etiquette, which is roughly 3 inches x 1 inch in size, is issued in strips of five on white ungummed perforated paper with a black inscription:

Correios e Telegrafos de Angola  
Etiqueta para Mala-aviao.

ST. THOME and PRINCIPE.

A distinctive airmail label for these Portuguese West African Islands has been issued. Somewhat similar in design to, though very much smaller than, those in use in Mocambique, the etiquettes are printed in black on blue ungummed, perforated paper and are inscribed "POR AVIAO PAR AVION" with a small control marking "Modelo n.º 13."

Size: Approximately 1 1/3 inches x 2/3 inches, issued in sheets of 10.

### PORTUGUESE EAST AFRICA.

#### MARCH 1, 1940. ACCEPTANCE OF TRANS-ATLANTIC AIRMAILS.

Mocambique has now been added to the list of countries accepting mails for conveyance by air over the Atlantic. Until March 1, airmails for America could only be flown to Europe and had to complete their voyage by steamer, but arrangements have now been concluded with the operating Airlines whereby *Imperial Airways* will carry surcharged mails to France or England on their regular air service from South Africa (curtailed since the outbreak of War to one flight a week). The Trans-Atlantic stage will be flown either by *Pan American* from Lisbon or by *Imperial Airways* from England.

The first despatch from Lourenco Marques was made on Saturday, March 2, and consisted of only 42 letters of a total weight of about 29 oz. (i.e. 824 gr.). The bulk of this was commercial correspondence.

Inclusive rates of postage range from 8 E. (1s. 6d.) for a letter weighing 5 grammes, to 130 E. 80c. (about £1 4s.) for one of 100 grammes (say 3½ oz.).

(Acknowledgments to Mr. V. Netto.)

### SOUTHERN AND NORTHERN RHODESIA. MAY, 1934.

#### EXPERIMENTAL FLIGHT TO N'DOLA BY RHODESIA AND NYASALAND AIRWAYS.

A short reference was made in the *South African Philatelist* of June, 1934, to an experimental air service from Bulawayo to Ndola

on May 8 that year and mention was made that no contract had been granted for the carriage of mails. Further facts concerning this flight have now come to light.

A plane left Bulawayo on Saturday, May 5, with one passenger and arrived at Livingstone that day. At 6 o'clock next morning the flight was continued to Broken Hill and N'dola, which was reached at 1 p.m. The return flight to Bulawayo started on Tuesday, May 8.

Capt. Miles H. Bowker, the pilot, carried a small UNOFFICIAL mail as a favour on this experimental flight, but none of the letters passed through the post. Some bear no franking or postmarks of any description, merely being inscribed as having been carried by plane, and autographed. Others seen appear to have had stamps affixed to them on reaching the points of call and were placed in letter boxes so as to obtain postmarks. Only one experimental flight was made and no regular service ensued.

### UNION. 1939.

Mr. L. A. Wyndham has furnished the following news regarding the only South African aviation souvenirs of the present war, so far known.

At noon on Friday, 22nd December, 1939, a "leaflet raid" on Cape Town was carried out as a novel appeal for support for the S.A. Mayors' National Fund. The leaflets depict a bursting bomb with "*This might have been a BOMB*" superimposed, and the descriptions are:

*"It is instead a call to you to help those who are fighting to-day for you in the cause of Freedom and Justice. You can help by sending your cheque or postal order or cash to the Mayor, City Hall, Cape Town, marking your envelope 'Mayors' National Fund.'"*

The aeroplane which carried out the "Raid" was a Puss Moth piloted by Lt. O. G. Davies, and the "Bomb-aimer" was Capt. C. Money. Special permission had been obtained from the Military authorities to fly the machine over the city.

### H. R. HARMER'S SALES.

April 22nd, 23rd and 24th.—A very fine General Sale.

April 29th and 30th.—Specialised collections of Scandinavian Countries.

May 6th and 7th.—A very fine British Colonial collection.

May 20th and 21st.—Specialised collections of British East Africa, Kenya, Tanganyika, Uganda and Gambia.

## German East Africa

*Translated from the original article by Dr. Herbert Munk in Kohl's Handbook  
by Dr. J. H. Harvey Pirie.*

*(Continued from page 43 of March issue).*

Postal communication between the individual coastal stations, and also with Zanzibar, in addition to the mail boats, was supplemented by two Government steamers "Rufidji" and "Rovuma." These, as in other German Protectorates, had no specific cancellation dies; stamps of such letters as were posted aboard them mostly show manuscript pre-cancellations, the definitive postmarking taking place at a coastal post office. (The ship "Rufidji" later on did the pre-cancelling with a small rubber stamp "Rufidji", in violet.)

Between the coast postal establishments there were also regular carrier services by land. For example, these went between Dar-es-salaam and Bagamoyo every other day; between Tanga and Pangani and between Lindi and Mikindani once a week; between others as required.

On April 1, 1901, the East African Main Line was extended to the Cape of Good Hope and on, via the West Coast of Africa, to Hamburg. One ship travelled in the direction Hamburg-East Africa-Cape-West Africa and so back to Hamburg, the next in the opposite direction. There was, therefore, now a second direct service between Hamburg and East Africa, and this, like the former Branch Line, also called at the smaller ports and postal stations on the coast.

The ship-cancellation marks of both lines now had only "OST-AFRIKA-LINIE" (East African Line) in the centre, although to some extent the old "Main Line" mark was still used. Later on the old "ZWEIGLINIE" (Branch Line) mark was re-introduced on both lines.

Through Zanzibar German East Africa had also direct postal communications with Europe by the British Peninsular and Oriental Line (via Brindisi-Aden-Zanzibar) and by the French Messageries Maritimes (via Marseilles-Aden-Zanzibar); also with India by the British India Steam Navigation Co., besides, naturally, with British East Africa, Portuguese East Africa, etc. Thus it comes about that stamps of German East Africa may be found postmarked by the British or the French post office in Zanzibar and, conversely, stamps of Zanzibar, British East Africa, or of the Portuguese territories in East Africa may be found with postmarks of the German East African Mail boats, either alone or along with postmarks of German East African post offices.

From the above facts it follows also that after April, 1901, the ship marks of the East

African Line may be found on stamps or postal matter from German or foreign colonies on the West Coast of Africa.

(The ship-marks of the "Main Line", up to April, 1901, and of the "East African Lines" after that date, may also be found on contemporary German stamps; the older mark on stamps of the 1889 issue, which were also in use in German East Africa as "Forerunners", but in this instance their origin from German East Africa can only be decided by fortuitous evidence such as the names of firms or addresses and the like on covers. The ships of the "Branch Line" carried only the contemporary issue of German East Africa.)

Up till 1893 the forwarding of postal matter to the interior of German East Africa was not a function of the postal administration but of the Government, which, for this purpose, sometimes made use of special carriers (Askaris belonging to the Protectorate troops) sometimes of caravans, mission carriers or such other opportunities as offered.

On December 22, 1891, the Imperial Governor made an agreement with the firm of Schülke and Mayr for the year 1892, by which this firm undertook to keep up a monthly communication between Dar-es-salaam and Tabora and thence on to the military stations of Muanza and Bukoba on the shores of L. Victoria. The messengers were provided with a Government Warrant and an official book for the registering of their times of arrival and departure at each station. In terms of the contract they had to carry the whole official post and any private post there might be, and the whole stretch to Muanza or Bukoba (or in the reverse direction from there to Dar-es-salaam) had to be covered within fifty days. As during the middle of 1892 there was unrest in the Kilimanjaro district and the British postal service from there to Mombasa was interrupted, the British and the missions are believed to have made some use of this officially recognized German private post.

For the working of their *African Lakes Post*, under contract with the Imperial Government in German East Africa, Messrs.

(Perforated proofs, in blue and orange, are known of all values, at any rate, up to the 50c, of these private stamps.



Schülke and Mayr had made adhesive stamps of the values 5c rose, 10c orange, 25c blue, 50c green and 1 dollar brown. These were perf. 11½ and represent the first noteworthy philatelic signs of life in the interior of the Colony.

A request of the firm for ratification of the introduction of these stamps was, however, refused by the Imperial Post Office and as in any case the agreement was not renewed in 1893, these stamps *never actually did postal duty*. Apparently there was an attempt to put them on the market in 1895 as "Prepared for use though not issued." To-day, when old specialized collections are broken up for sale, specimens or sets of these interesting private stamps fetch very high prices. (*Literature. Inter. Briefm. Jour.*, 1893 pp. 299 and 326 and 1895, p. 35):

A second carrier-post between the coast and Tabora, which was established in May, 1893, by agreement between the Governor and an Indian, soon fizzled out and it left no philatelic traces behind.

It was only in 1894, according to Herzog, by agreement between the Government and the Postal Administration, that the forwarding of postal matter to the interior was undertaken by the latter. Even then the Government still provided the necessary carriers, but all details of arrangements were in the hands of the postal authorities. From 1895 onwards postal agencies were set up in connection with the already established military stations in the interior, but, in contrast with those at the coast, these were not under the charge of postal officials, but of the staff of the Protectorate troops.

According to Starke (*Die Post*, 1901, p. 148) two periods should be distinguished in connection with the establishment of the postal agencies in the interior; the first, 1895-96, when those most urgently required were set up, and the second, from 1898 onwards when they were gradually established at such places as had in the meantime grown sufficiently in importance.

With the building of the Usambara Railway from Tanga to Kilimanjaro went hand-in-hand the establishment of postal agencies at wherever was the terminus of the line for the time being.

The following list gives all the postal agencies set up from 1895 onwards. All are in the interior, with the single exception of Tschole on the island of Mafia. Where the offices had been closed down before the outbreak of the Great War, the dates of closure are also given.

1895.

- 1st April: *Kilossa*. On the main road from Dar-es-salaam to Lake Tanganyika, the line followed later by the Central Ry.  
15th April: *Masinde*. On the line followed later by the Usambara Railway. *Closed* 15-3-96.

- 16th April: *Moschi*. Later on the terminus of the Usambara Ry.  
20th April: *Mpapa*. A junction of numerous caravan routes, N.W. of Kilossa.  
29th April: *Kisaki*. On the Kingani River, district S.W. of Dar-es-salaam. *Closed* 15-3-96.  
5th June: *Langenburg*. At the N. end of Lake Nyasa. Moved away from the lake shore, along with the military station, to *Neu-Langenburg* on 2-7-08, its place on the lake being taken by *Muaja*. (See 1908).  
29th June: *Marangu*. S.E. of Moschi, on the British border. *Closed* 15-5-01.  
15th July: *Tabora*. Principal town on the road, and later on the Central Railway, between Dar-es-salaam and L. Tanganyika.  
14th September: *Bukoba*. On the W. shore of L. Victoria.  
1st October: *Muanza* (later *Muansa*). On the S. shore of L. Victoria.  
1896.  
10th January: *Kilimatinde*. On the main road, and later the Central Ry., from Dar-es-salaam to L. Tanganyika.  
1898.  
8th April: *Ujiji* (later *Udjidji*). On L. Tanganyika, near Kigoma which later became the terminus of the Central Ry.  
24th May: *Iringu*. S. of the road from Kilossa to L. Nyasa.  
1899.  
29th April: *Wilhelmsthal*. Near Masinde. (See 15-4-95).  
13th May: *Songea* (later *Ssongea*). In the South, E. of L. Nyasa.  
25th October: *Wiedhafen*. On E. shore of L. Nyasa, to W. of *Ssongea*. *Closed* 31-3-12.  
1900.  
12th March: *Muhesa*. W. of Tanga. Terminus of Usambara Ry. at 1-4-96.  
1901.  
19th August: *Mahenge*. S. of R. Rufiji, between Kisaki and *Ssongea*. The last agency to close, early in September, 1917.  
26th September: *Bismarcksburg*. At southern end of L. Tanganyika.  
1902.  
1st June: *Korogwe*. Terminus of the Usambara Ry. from March, 1902.  
22nd September: *Usumbura*. At the northern end of L. Tanganyika, in the district of Urundi.  
1903.  
25th May: *Amani*. N. W. of Muhesa, on the Usambara Ry.  
1904.  
25th January: *Morogoro*. E. of Kilossa, on the main road from Dar-es-salaam to L. Tanganyika, and, from October, 1907, a station on the Central Ry.  
13th September: *Wugiri*. N. W. of Korogwe on the Usambara Ry. *Closed* 1-10-09.  
(To be continued)

## Society News

### PHILATELIC SOCIETY OF NATAL.

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

The meeting held on March 6 was very well attended. Four new members were admitted to the society.

The alterations to the Congress Constitution rules passed at the recent Pretoria Congress were read and discussed. The following were appointed as our representatives on the Executive committee, Mrs. L. Johnston, and Messrs. Percy C. Bishop and H. Hurst.

It was decided to transfer the date of our May meeting to the 6th, and to call it "The Penny Black Night" when a paper would be read by Mr. Bishop, and suitable displays would be arranged by the members who specialised in the stamps of this period.

Mr. D. Malcolm, one of our Maritzburg members, displayed his extensive collection of the stamps of South-West Africa. Commencing with the stamps current before the occupation and those of South Africa overprinted in 1923 for the use in that territory the collection showed the subsequent issues practically complete in pairs with the English and Afrikaans overprints both in mint and used condition. The pictorials of 1927-30 and 1931 made an attractive display and the airmail, postage due and official stamps were set out in detail.

### EAST RAND PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

*President*, S. Legator; *Hon. Secretary*, J. Doyle, 41 Rose Deep, Germiston. *Meetings*, Hotel Regent, Benoni, 2nd Thursdays, 8 p.m.

There was a good attendance at the March meeting.

Items of interest were shown by Mr. Rigg—the new 1s. 4d. of Australia. Mr. Newson showed the New Zealand Commemoratives mint and used.

Mr. Newson then read the news items of the month and Mr. Doyle read an interesting article on Great Stamp Finds.

During the tea interval a lot of philatelic chatter took place.

The first exhibit of the evening was provided by Mrs. Wood. The country was Costa Rica. This was an interesting little collection off the beaten track. It was well set out and written-up.

The second exhibitor was Dr. Shapiro. His exhibit consisted of a complete mint collection

of the Jubilee issues and a similar collection all on cover.

Both the exhibitors were heartily thanked by the chairman on behalf of the members. The meeting concluded with exchange of stamps between the members.

H.S.

### THE PHILATELIC SOCIETY OF JOHANNESBURG.

*President*, Mark Rose; *Hon. Secretary*, J. Crewell, P.O. Box 4967. *Meetings*, 2nd Tuesdays, 8 p.m., Sanlam Buildings.

At the March meeting there was another bumper attendance at which everyone seemed to enjoy himself very much. Mr. Mark Rose presided over the meeting and also conducted the usual monthly auction consisting of new issues and members' items, the latter bringing very satisfactory prices. The new issues included stamps of Australia, Grenada, New Zealand, Sudan, Trinidad, and Nigeria.

Messrs. D. W. Sutcliffe and W. Glover were elected members.

After the usual business and the auction had been concluded, Mr. Mark Rose turned over the meeting to the charge of Mr. A. E. Basden, President of the Pretoria Society, who were our guests for the evening, and who provided three very interesting and varied exhibits, including a paper and exhibit of the Rural or Zemstvo stamps of Russia, by Mr. E. C. Wright. Also, a paper and exhibit of the stamps of the New Republic, the capital of which was Vryheid, and finally, Mr. A. E. Basden's very outstanding collection of the Orange Free State.

The papers read covering the Russian Rural stamps and the stamps of the New Republic contained many interesting facts, and it is hoped they will be published in full in the *South African Philatelist*.

In expressing the thanks of our society to our guests for their excellent philatelic fare, Mr. Wm. Redford certainly voiced the opinion of all present that the material presented was of the usual very high standard which we have come to expect from the members of the Pretoria Society.

H.E.B.

### PRETORIA PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

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

*March 4th*.—Mr. Basden was in the chair. Mr. Hawke read extracts dealing with Mr. F. Melville and Sir Rowland Hill.

Interesting items were shown and described by Messrs. Wager—two items from Brazil; de Boom—some sheets of Spanish and Italian

Colonies; Giovanetti—two rare items, imperforated between S.W.A., Obermeyer—a Siege stamp of Mafeking and some early mint Holland. Mr. Baxter gave a humorous account of how two items came into his possession and Mr. Wright tabled some interesting items with written description.

*March 18th.*—Mr. Basden was in the chair. Mr. Hawke read a very complete article on the stamps issued in Mafeking during the siege. The paper described in detail the surcharging of the different stamps as well as the numbers of each issue. The three special stamps in blue were also dealt with. Many forgeries of the surcharged stamps were on the market and Mr. Hawke described in detail the methods for their detection.

Fine collections of India Native States were tabled by Messrs. Obermeyer, Klagsbrun, and Wright.

H.A.W.

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

*President*, F. Carter; *Hon. Secretary*, H. G. Ulyate, Box 702, Bloemfontein. *Meetings*, 2nd Fridays, Oranje Koffiehuis, Bloemfontein, 8 p.m.

At the March meeting there was a fair attendance and after the business of the evening had been attended to the Chairman drew attention to an article on Philately in the Cape Argus of March the 2nd.

The evening's exhibit was given by Mr. Ulyate from his collections of Unions. An item of interest was a card displayed in all Post Offices at the time of Union bearing a 2½d. stamp overprinted "SPECIMEN."

Mr. Levy also gave an exhibit of some of his varieties in his collection of King's Heads Issue.

H.G.U.

## Review

"RELIANT" STAMP CATALOGUE." Published by the Link House, 300-304 Gray's Inn Road, London, W.C.1 (publishers of the "Stamp Magazine" and the "World Stamp Digest.") In Sections, price 6d. each (postage 1d. each part). 1st Edition, 1940.

This is a catalogue on a new "sectional" system, meant to cover the requirements of the mass of collectors—especially to be a help to beginners. The six sections issued so far deal with the British Empire—Europe, Southern Africa, Rest of Africa, Asia, America and Australasia. Further sections dealing with the rest of the world are planned.

No minor varieties are included, but major watermarks are listed.

The publishers are not stamp dealers and have no stamps to sell. The prices at which they value stamps, mint and used, have been fixed by a group of dealers of experience and represent average retail market valuation. A new idea is that of "Tips." Various stamps listed with an asterick against them are stamps which the compilers think are likely to rise in value and should prove a good investment at the valuations given.

The publishers are issuing loose-leaf sectional "Reliant" albums with squared spaces numbered to correspond with the catalogue.

## COLLECTORS' WANTS AND OFFERS

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

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

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

William Redford, Box 7012, Johannesburg.

Wanted.—CANADA and other British North America; anything of real interest. Portugal and Gambia Imperfs. Special items connected with Cape Postal History.

G. Carleton Jones, P.O. Box 1167, Johannesburg.

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

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

Wanted.—Fiscally used stamps of the British Empire "on entire." Offers invited.

Hollie Woode, A.P.S., J.P.S., 6763 Hollywood Blvd., Hollywood, California.

To medium collectors wishing to exchange stamps of their own and other countries I will send selections of British, Italian and Portuguese Colonials and other countries.

J. Miguel da Cunha, P.O. Box 510, Beira, P.E. Africa.



# UNION OF SOUTH AFRICA

## Coronation Printings and Flaws

By J. B. LEVY.

### ½d. VALUE.

*1st Printing.*—Duty plate—Myrtle Green. Head plate. Black. Hair on head very pronounced. White patch behind neck, faint. Stamp No. 13 Row 4. Sheet Nos. between stamps 3-4 and 14-15. Watermark left to right.

*2nd Printing.*—Duty plate—Deep Green. Head plate. Brownish Grey. Hair on head, blurred. White patch behind neck, more pronounced. Stamp 13. Row 4. Sheet Nos. same position as on 1st printing. Watermark left to right.

*3rd Printing.*—Duty plate—Bluish Green. Head plate. Greyish Black. Hair on head blurred. Whiter faces. Sheet Nos. between stamps 8-9 and 19-20. Watermark right to left.

*4th Printing.*—Duty plate—Myrtle Green. Head plate—Black. Hair on head very pronounced. Small horizontal cut on 1 of ½d. Stamp 18. Row 6. Scratches through AFRICA and AFRIKA. Stamps 2 and 3. Row 6. Sheet Nos. below stamps 6-7 and 17-18. Watermark right to left.

*5th Printing.*—Duty plate—Deep Green. Head Plate—Greyish Black. Hair blurred. White faces. Cut on 1 of ½d. Stamp 18, Row 6, extends from corner of tablet to top of d. Scratches extending from 2 of ½d. in stamp 1 to side perforation on right of stamp 3, row 6. Albino sheet Nos. below stamps 6-7 and 17-18. Watermark right to left.

Printing flaws are common to all the printings.

### 1d. VALUE.

*1st Printing.*—Head plate—Black. Hair very blurred. Printing flaws same as other values. Watermark *left to right*. Sheet Nos. below stamps 8-9 and 19-20. This is a very rare printing and I have not come across any complete sheets, besides the one which I have in my possession.

*2nd Printing.*—Head plate—Greyish Black. Hair blurred. Watermark right to left. Printing flaws as in other values. Sheet Nos. below stamps Nos. 8-9 and 19-20.

*3rd Printing.*—Head plate—Very Light Black. Hair not so blurred as in 1st and 2nd printings. Watermark right to left. Sheets Nos. under stamps 5 and 16.

*4th Printing.*—Head plate—Very light. Hair as in 3rd printing. Watermark right to left. Sheets Nos. below stamps 6-7 and 17-18.

*5th Printing.*—Printed from a special cylinder for Head plate, colour of which is *Brown*. The only varieties in the head plate, common to the other printings are, cut in cheek, stamp 15, row 2. Scratches behind Head—stamp 18, row 4. White spot in top right corner, in line with top of second Protea. Stamp 7, row 6. In this printing there is a white splash at the back of the King's head—Stamp 20, row 6. This does not occur on any of the other printings. Sheet Nos. below stamps 3-4 and 14-15. This printing of the 1d. was the first to appear, although I contend it was the last printing. If this printing was from a separate head plate cylinder, how do some of the varieties which appear on the other printings repeat themselves in this printing? I should like to have the opinion of other collectors on this matter.

### 1½d. VALUE.

*1st Printing.*—Sheet Nos. below stamps 3-4 and 14-15. Watermark left to right.

*2nd Printing.*—Sheet Nos. below stamps 5-6 and 16-17. Watermark right to left.

### 3d. VALUE.

*1st Printing.*—Sheet Nos. below stamps 3-4 and 14-15. Watermark left to right.

*2nd Printing.*—Sheet Nos. below stamps 8-9 and 19-20. Watermark right to left.

### 1s. VALUE.

*1st Printing.*—Sheet Nos. below stamps 3-4 and 14-15. Watermark left to right.

*2nd Printing.*—Sheet Nos. below stamps 8-9 and 19-20. Watermark right to left.

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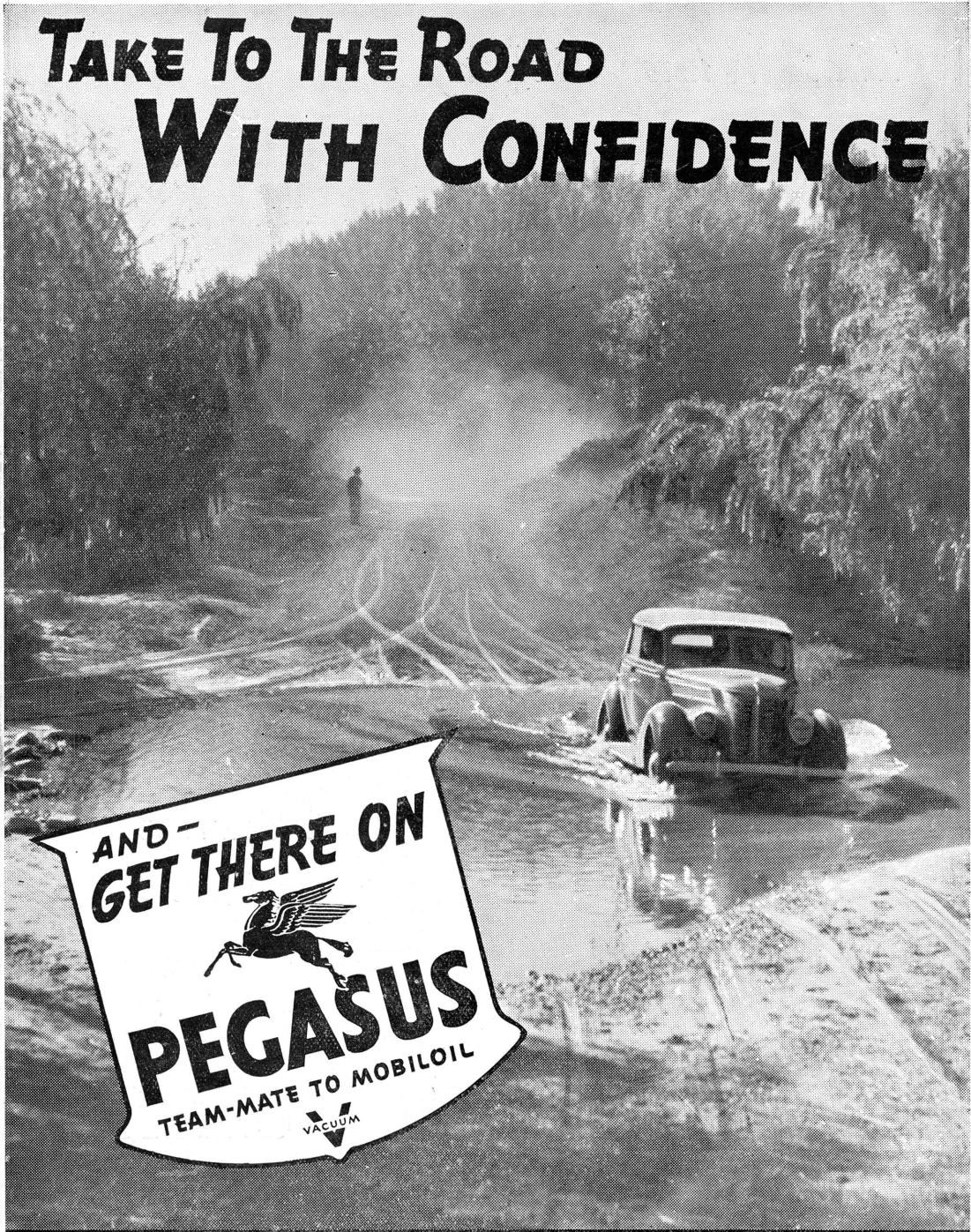
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*Proprietors and Publishers :*

**THE PHILATELIC FEDERATION OF SOUTHERN AFRICA**

Price 6d. REGISTERED AT THE G.P.O. AS A NEWSPAPER. Price 6d.

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No. 5.

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*Proprietors and Publishers :*

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Vol. 16.

MAY, 1940.

No. 5.

### **100 YEARS OF STAMPS**

On 6th May, as everyone knows, it will be 100 years since the first issue of adhesive postage stamps to prepay postage—the British 1d. black and 2d. blue. Their issue made practicable the scheme for a fixed cheap general rate for inland postage.

How much this scheme meant for humanity was soon shown by the rapidity with which the idea was adopted and followed by other countries.

As a by-product the invention of stamps led to stamp collecting and philately, a hobby which is probably more widespread and appealing than any other in the world. With all its ramifications it has appeal for all, be they old or young, rich or poor; there is variety, scope, interest and pleasure for everyone within its ever widening boundaries.

Circumstances are unfortunately limiting the proper celebration of this famous centenary. Instead of a magnificent international exhibition which would have been a Mecca for every philatelist the celebrations in London are being restricted to a comparatively small exhibition in the London Museum from 6th to 11th May. His Majesty the King is exhibiting from his collection; the British Post Office are contributing a display from the muniments section and various leading philatelists are adding their quotas.

The exhibition as a whole will deal mainly with the birth of the postage stamp and its development in Britain during the hundred years which have passed since then. The entire proceeds will go to the funds of the Red Cross and St. John's Ambulance.

Special Centenary stamps are being issued and souvenir envelopes and postmarks are to be in use at the Exhibition. These are, of course, apart from those which will be obtainable at Bournemouth in connection with the Philatelic Congress of Great Britain during the same period.

In the United States there are to be exhibitions in Washington and New York and a commemorative stamp is expected. Portugal also is expected to issue one or more.

San Salvador, however, has been first in the field with stamps. A set of three, one for ordinary postage and two for airmail, appeared on 20th February. The design has a portrait bust of Sir Rowland Hill at the left with the title (somewhat gratuitously) "Inventor of the Postage Stamp" beneath it. To the right is a coastal scene and in the upper right corner the coat of arms of the state.

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## Collateral Plate Printing by Thos. De La Rue and Co. Ltd. of certain of the Union Georgian Stamps

By A. H. SYDOW, A.S.A.A., C.A.(S.A.), M.R.P.S.L.  
(A paper read before the Cape Town Philatelic Society).

The stamps of the first permanent issue of 1913 were surface-printed by Thos. De La Rue and Co., Limited, from flat electrotyped enpargne plates.

The design common to all the denominations included the familiar profile portrait of His late Majesty King George V which was adopted from the archetypal McKennal coinage head, and thus the stamps became known as the Union Georgians, or King's Heads.

All the denominations were issued in sheets of 240 stamps divided into four panes of sixty units and each pane consisted of ten horizontal rows of six stamps. On each sheet a plate number was shown in four positions, namely, above or below the second stamp from a corner. In other words each pane showed a plate number (with certain exceptions).

During the reign in postaldom of the Union Georgians from 1913 to 1925/6 the following plate numbers appeared in connection with the following denominations:

- ½d. — Plate Nos. 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7.
- 1d. — Plate Nos. 3, 4, 5, 6, 7.
- 1½d. — Plate Nos. 1, 2.
- 2d. — Plate Nos. 1, 2.

It will be observed that Plate Nos. 1 and 2 of the 1d. denomination are omitted from this list. These are the exceptions referred to afore.

The following letter is culled from the *South African Philatelist* of July, 1926:  
To the Editor,  
Sir,

As you know, the Union 1d. of the King's Head issue has never been reported with Plate 2 and this has always appeared to me so extraordinary that I have tried to get information on the matter from the Government and the Printers. Owing, however, to the terms on which such firms as Messrs. De La Rue do business with the Government and the time it takes for letters to go backwards and forwards between here (Maraisburg), Pretoria and England I have not yet got the information I want although both the P.M.G. and Messrs. De La Rue have been most courteous and helpful.

In the meantime the following has come to my notice and I would be pleased to have some information from such Union collectors as have in their collections any right lower "Plate Number corners" of the 1d. Union King's Head from the "No Plate Number

Plate." If such collectors will examine the illustration of Plate (1) with perforation inverted which is given in Mr. G. W. Reynold's handbook, page 25, they will notice *two rounded notches* in the jubilee line under the last stamp in the bottom row.

All corners I have seen until recently have had these *two notches* but I have just bought a "No Plate Number" corner which has the perforation inverted and *no notches* in the jubilee line in this position and it has been suggested that this latter may represent Plate (1) and the corners with the notches may be from Plate (2). If any collectors who have right lower corners from the "No Plate Number" plate without these notches will let me see such items I shall be much obliged, as the matter is of considerable interest.

Yours, etc.,

J. RITCHIE.

Mr. J. Ritchie is the well known Union philatelist and the author of the "Adhesive Postage Stamps of the Union of South Africa."

As Mr. Ritchie wrote at that time, the matter is certainly of considerable interest. The two differentiations anent the notches quoted in his letter suggested that two plates of the 1d. denomination were manufactured and were used by De La Rue and Co., Limited, but they bore no plate numbers and consequently no plate numbers were printed on the sheets of 1d. stamps printed from the two plates, except jubilee line indications.

I have a corner block from the bottom right-hand pane without a plate number but with *two rounded notches* in the jubilee line below stamp No. 60. Also I have a corner block from the bottom right-hand pane without a plate number, but without any notches in the jubilee line under stamp No. 60. My friend, Mr. Louis Simenhoff, owns a corner block from the bottom right-hand pane without a plate number but with *one squared notch* in the jubilee line below stamp No. 60. Do these three differentiations signify that three plates were used for printing the 1d. denomination without plate numbers? From the list of plate numbers given afore it will be discerned that the third plate bore No. 3, that is, the number 3 is shown below stamp No. 60 of the bottom right-hand pane of that plate. Incidentally no notch occurs in the jubilee above the plate number—3.



My solution of the problem is as follows:

When Messrs. De La Rue and Co., Limited, commenced printing the very first lot of stamps of the 1d. denomination, *two plates* were affixed to the bed of the printing machine, neither of which bore a plate number nor any indication of differentiation by way of notches in the guard lines of the plates. At a later stage one plate was marked with *one squared notch* in the guard line under cliché No. 51 of the left-hand pane of the plate, and the other plate was marked with *two rounded notches* under cliché No. 51 of the left-hand pane of that plate. The "one squared notch" plate represents Plate 1 and the "two rounded notches" represents Plate 2. Thus a corner block of 1d. stamps from the bottom right-hand pane without plate number and without jubilee line notches may have been printed from either Plate 1 or Plate 2 before these indications were made.

The 1d. denomination plate numbers re-tabulated are thus:

Plate No. 1 (no notch); Plate No. 2 (no notch).

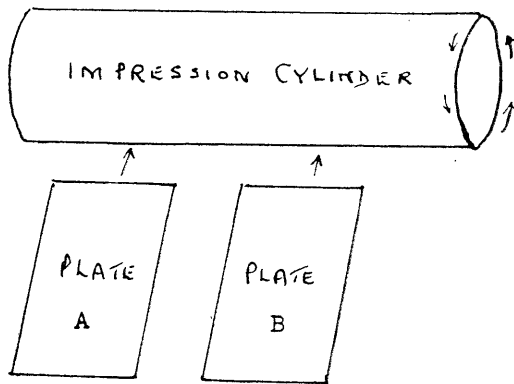
Plate No. 1 (one notch); Plate No. 2 (two notches),

followed by Plates Nos. 3, 4, 5, 6, and 7.

I do not think that Mr. Ritchie was aware of the existence of the "one notch" item at the time he published his letter mentioned afore.

I have previously mentioned that two plates were affixed to the bed of the printing machine. I would further mention that the ½d., 1d., 1½d., and 2d. denominations, together with the 1s. and 1s. 3d. ones were monocoloured. In the case of 1s. and 1s. 3d. denomination the printing of a sheet of 240 stamps was performed in one stage, that is to say, that one sheet at a time was passed between one printing plate located on the bed of the machine and the impression cylinder which brought the paper into contact with the said plate. In the cases of the ½d., 1d., 1½d., and 2d. denominations the printing of two sheets of 240 stamps each was performed in one stage, that is to say, that two sheets were passed between two printing plates located side by side on the bed of the printing machine and the impression cylinder which brought two sheets simultaneously in contact with the said two printing plates. In other words collateral plate printing, meaning that the ½d., 1d., 1½d., and 2d. monocoloured stamps were from two plates in one stage in contradistinction to the bicoloured Georgian 2d., 3d., 4d., 6d., 2s. 6d., 5s., 10s., and £1, each denomination of which was printed from two plates in two stages, and in connection with which one common undenominated head or key plate was used in conjunction with separate denominated duty or frame plates. The common head or key was numbered 1.

Thus when Messrs. De La Rue and Co., Limited, printed the initial 1d. denomination stamps in 1913 the position of the two plates, both without plate numbers and without jubilee line indications, on the bed of the plate was as follows:



The initial printings were performed from the two plates in unnotched condition, and subsequent printings from the plate with one notch and the other plate with two notches. Eventually these plates were replaced by Plates 3 and 4. As far as I am able to judge Plates 4 and 5 had very short lives, and I suggest subsequent collateral usages as follows:

Plates 3 and 5, Plates 3 and 6, and finally Plates 6 and 7.

## EGYPT

1884/1906 set of 12, to 10 pias. . . . .	1/6
1914/22 set of 10, to 200 mils. . . . .	2/-
1922 Crown o/p, (10) to 200 mils. . . . .	2/6
1923/27 King Fuad (20) to 100 mils. . . . .	2/-
1932 Birthday o/p (1) 50 mils. . . . .	1/-
1936 Treaty cpl. mint (3) . . . . .	2/-
Express, Officials and Dues (13) . . . . .	2/3
Collection 75 diff. Egypt, incl. the above, plus 6 others (incl. airs), only 12/6.	

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## MAURITIUS

1877/1902 9 diff. mint, mostly provisionals	3/6
1877/1902 Queen and Arms types, 12 diff., incl. provisionals, used . . . . .	2/-
K.G. and arms, incl. prov., 10 diff. . . . .	1/6
Jubilee and Coronation, 4 diff. . . . .	1/-
The Collection of 35 for only 7/6.	

New selections of these countries available for inspection, on request, against usual references.

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## A. LICHTENSTEIN

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

## Air Mail Notes

By  
I. H. C. GODFREY.

### PORTUGUESE EAST AFRICA. PIONEER AIR MAIL SERVICE IN 1929.

Particulars of what is believed to be a hitherto unrecorded Official Air Mail service in Mocambique have recently come to light.

On Friday, *August 16th*, 1929, the Lourenco Marques Aero Club sent their DH Moth on a special flight to Inhambane, some 250 miles up the coast, with mails. The plane CR-MAA "*Mocambique*" is believed to have been piloted by Mr. Jimmy Childs.

No additional air fee, or labels were required, and letters were franked at the rate of 50 Centavos each. To commemorate the occasion, however, both the Lourenco Marques and Inhambane Post Offices brought into use a pictorial cachet, depicting an aeroplane and  
Via Aérea  
inscribed "Correios de Mocambique." This was applied in purple at Lourenco Marques and in



red at Inhambane for the return flight, which was undertaken on Wednesday, *August 21*, all covers being backstamped. The number of letters carried is unknown but, apparently, very few of these interesting souvenirs have survived.

A record exists of copies of the "Lourenco Marques Guardian" having been flown to Chai Chai (Vila de Joao Belo) by the Aero Club on July 13, 1929, the newspapers being imprinted "Especial Via Aérea"; and also a special edition of the "Noticias da Beira" was flown by Capt. Pais Ramos in October, 1928, but it is not known for certain whether any OFFICIAL mails were carried in the Colony previous to the flight mentioned above.

Can any reader oblige with more details regarding the pioneer air mail services of Mocambique?

(Acknowledgments are due to Mr. V. Netto, of Lourenco Marques, for most of the above information).

### BRITISH OVERSEAS AIRWAYS CORPORATION.

On April 1, 1940, *Imperial Airways* and *British Airways* ceased to exist as independent companies and were merged into a new corporation, BRITISH OVERSEAS AIRWAYS.

The first measure adopted by the new corporation were the resumption of a twice-weekly air service from Southampton to Durban, which had been curtailed since the outbreak of war, and the start of a new service from England to Portugal to connect with the *Pan American Airways* trans-Atlantic services.

The first *British Overseas Airways'* despatch to South Africa was made from Southampton on Wednesday, *April 3*, the mails arriving at Lourenco Marques and Durban on the 12th. In the opposite direction, the flying-boat "*Camilla*" carried the first of the corporation's mails when she left Durban and Lourenco Marques on Saturday, *April 6*, homeward bound. At Lourenco Marques the following quantities of mail were loaded on the "*Camilla*", all of which was posted between April 1 and 6:

For Dar-es-Salaam 27 letters, Zanzibar 20, Mombasa 36, Alexandria 19, India 146, Great Britain 224, Portugal 1,739, and U.S.A. 46.

It should be noted that the Portuguese Airline D.E.T.A. hold a monopoly for the conveyance of mails within Mocambique Colony and, therefore, no mails were carried on the Lourenco Marques-Inhambane-Beira-Quelimane-Macambique stages of the flight.

The first *British Overseas* mail southbound left Lourenco Marques on Monday, *April 8*, for Durban, the mail comprising only 39 letters.

(Mail quantities kindly supplied by Mr. V. Netto).

## B. & K.

The firm that supplies the stamps others cannot. Our prices are reasonable, though in some cases not so low as quotations elsewhere, but we can fill most requirements. We aim to be able to supply

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# BELGIAN CONGO

Some choice RARITIES. Cannot be repeated.  
Every item guaranteed.

*N.B.—The winning medal collections of the Congo at three recent international Exhibitions were chiefly built up by and owed their outstanding pieces to me.*

1. 1886. A perfectly centred unused copy  
5 Fcs. mauve, perf. 14. SG 8a.  
Cat. £8 . . . . . 65/-
2. 1887. The rare photographic Essay, head  
to left d, at foot, "25 centimes 10" 45/-
3. The very rare INLAND & HOMEWARD  
labels of the last Stanley Expedition  
1834. Catalogued 10,000 Fcs. Pair.. £24
4. 1887. Master Die Proof without value £3
5. 1887. Die Proof of 10 centimes . . . . . 50/-
6. 1887. Die Proof of 5 francs . . . . . 60/-
7. 1894. 5 franc lake, cpd. perf. 14½ x 15  
M. 5/-; U. . . . . 3/6
8. 1898. 3 50 fr. An immaculate used copy  
from "Toa" . . . . . 25/-
9. 1909. M. strip 3 x 5c. Congo opt. Type  
4 1st & 3rd Stamps double opt. 20/-
10. 1909. M. block 4 x 10c. Congo opt. type  
4. One double opt. . . . . 22/6
11. 1909. M. block 4 x 25c. Congo opt. type  
3. Two left Double, correcting  
purple to black opt. . . . . 22/6
12. 1909. 1 Fr. Violet Congo opt. type VI,  
unlisted rarity ex Goris collection 35/-
13. 1909. 5 Fr. Congo opt. type IV. in violet,  
inverted, used . . . . . 10/6
14. 1909. 10c. blue (1895) Brussels hand-  
stamp type III. (Cat. 375 fcs.) M. 30/-
15. 1909. 50c. green (1894) Brussels hand-  
stamp type III, unlisted rarity  
ex Goris collection. Bargain . . 45/-
16. 1909. Same stamp but opt. Congo type  
VIII. Bargain . . . . . 45/-
17. 1909. 40c. Mint block 4, Congo opt. type  
VII. Two stamps Double, correct-  
ing violet to black opt. . . . . 30/-
18. 1909. 5 Fr. Mint Brussels opt. type III.  
(Cat. 500 fcs.) . . . . . 35/-
19. 1909. 5 Fr. Mint Brussels type opt. The  
Major re-entry in value. No. 8  
on plate . . . . . 21/-
20. 1909. 15c. Used Congo opt. Double,  
black and violet . . . . . 8/-
21. 1909. 1 Fr. Mint Lilac Rose. Congo opt.  
type VIII, showing part 2nd opt.  
at foot (Normal cost 600 fcs.) . 35/-
22. 1909. 1 Fr. Violet, Mint. The uncat.  
rarity with Congo opt. type II.  
ex Goris collection . . . . . 40/-
23. 15c. 1896 Used in Lado enclave with  
MS. ccl. and Sudan retta . . . . . 30/-
24. 15c., 25c., 1 Fr. 1915 on pieces with the  
altered German date stamp of UDJIDJI,  
scarce (3) . . . . . 17/6
25. Ruanda S.G. 15 Mint, inverted . . . . . 80/-
26. Ruanda S.G. 22, Mint but the scarce  
type II. Opt. . . . . 8/6

*I have many other fine pieces and shall be glad to send selections to interested collectors on receipt of references. These are the result of selected purchases over several years from the leading specialised collections in Belgium and elsewhere*

I SPECIALISE IN RARE AND UNIQUE  
PIECES OF THE WORLD.

**E. F. HURT**  
HARPENDEN, ENGLAND.

## COLLECTORS' WANTS AND OFFERS

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

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

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

William Redford, Box 7012, Johannes-  
burg.

Wanted.—Imperforate issues of all  
countries in good condition, especi-  
ally North and South America.

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

For Quality and Variety—Globe Pac-  
kets.—Extensive price lists free.  
Serious collectors write for finest ap-  
proval books of your country. Re-  
ferences.

Globe Postage Stamp Company, 117  
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Buy Your Centennial Souvenir Now—  
"From Cover to Cover," by Emil  
Tamsen and Park Smith. Price 3s.  
6d.

Mr. Park Smith, The Strand, Cape Pro-  
vince, South Africa.

Transvaal in particular and old South-  
ern Africans generally, wanted by:

A. E. Basden, Box 238, Pretoria.

Mint South Africans, mostly before  
Unipn. Price Lists Threepence.

Chipp, P.O. Lafuta, Cape. '

Penny Postage Centenary, May 6th.—  
Full Set of Four Stamps, mint or on  
registered cover, 10d.

Eric Pollard, "Airmyn," Ashtead, Sur-  
rey, England.

## Russian Rural or Zemstvo Stamps

*(Notes accompanying an exhibit given before the Philatelic Society of Johannesburg.)*

By E. C. WRIGHT.

The exhibit I have chosen to give this evening is one of Russian Rural or Zemstvo stamps. I do not think that I am incorrect in stating that many collectors have never heard of the stamps and that even more have never seen a single one of the several thousand varieties that were issued over a period of some fifty years. It would therefore be as well if I were to explain briefly the reasons for their existence.

In a vast country like Russia, over 20 times the area of Great Britain, where railways are few and far between, towns and settlements in many cases widely scattered and lying often hundreds of miles from the nearest rail, and where, in view of the illiteracy of the population, mail was often very scarce, it was obviously uneconomical for a government post to run a regular service to every town and village. The Government posts were therefore organised regularly between the large cities, but apart from that they were confined entirely to those places on the rail heads. As far back as 1805, however, there had been village posts in Russia.

In order to cope with the remainder of the country, a decree was signed by the Tsar in 1864 ordering and authorising the local governments, i.e. the Zemstvos, to organise any necessary postal services within their boundaries, and also to collect and deliver mail from the rail depots. They were also authorised to issue stamps as a means of collecting the dues of such outward and inward mail carried by their services. This means that the stamps of the Russian Empire proper did not pay postage beyond the confines of the government mail service, and the additional fees, whether for collection from the railroad depot and delivery to the addressee within the Zemstvos, or for transit to the rail head, became an extra charge payable to Zemstvo post shown by a franking with the Zemstvo stamp. The Zemstvo stamps only paid postage within the limits of the Rural districts and letters for any other parts of Russia, or for foreign countries, had to bear, in addition, the regular Russian stamps.

It is interesting to note that these Zemstvo posts, of which the last ceased in 1918, were not run with an eye to profit. In fact 90 per cent. ran at a loss. They were largely subsidised by the wealthy landowners for the benefit of the rural population, and so long as the postal employees were paid the matter was considered satisfactory.

Rural stamps were at first made at the local printing office, usually by the lithographic method; their sizes and patterns varied con-

siderably, some being very large in order that they might be used to close the letter, envelopes being scarce in remote rural localities; some had the shape of a vertical or horizontal lozenge, some were oval, some were square. The earlier stamps were usually imperforate but later on perforations were introduced, sometimes even made on a sewing machine. Tete-beche stamps occur in many issues as well as stamps printed side-ways.

In regard to the designs themselves, in the earlier stages, they had to be quite different from those of the State and in one case an issue was confiscated owing to its close similarity with the ordinary issue of the Government. Later on, however, the restriction seems to have been relaxed somewhat and there are several issues bearing a close resemblance to those of the Russian Empire. In some districts a tendency is to be observed towards new designs and the imitation of foreign stamps; other districts chose a certain design and kept it permanently, the various issues differing from each other only in shades and in small details.

From 1884 onwards, the State Paper Printing Office produced quite a number of stamps for different districts, there being five principal types which were adapted to the various districts by alteration of the name of the district and of the arms appearing in the centre of the design. Stamps produced by the State Paper Printing Office were, of course, invariably well printed and perforated.

The total number of principal varieties issued is approximately 2,500, of which number only about 700 were issued during this century. The number of districts which issued adhesives was 163, and 14 of these also issued postal stationery. Two other districts issued postal stationery but no adhesives.

In the earlier days of stamp collecting, as will be seen from a perusal of the stamp magazines of the period, Russian Rural stamps were regularly chronicled and were much sought after. By 1897, Gibbons Catalogue was devoting no less than 65 pages to them, this list being regarded as a very accurate, although not a particularly detailed one. Unfortunately, the time was coming when Gibbons were to decide they would have to restrict their business to ordinary issues and from the turn of the century, owing to lists no longer being included in the recognised catalogues, the demand for Zemstvo stamps fell away. This possibly accounts for the fact that stamps issued during this century—which should be common—are extremely difficult to

obtain, particularly from English dealers, although when they have got them, they cannot, on the catalogue prices quoted, charge more than a few pence for them.

Since 1899, the last year in which Gibbons listed Russian Zemstvos, several catalogues of the stamps have been published, the publication of the Soviet Philatelic Association in English in 1925 probably being the most practical. As the last stamps were issued in 1918, it is, of course, complete.

To give an idea of the wide range of designs to be found I have chosen some 60 pages of my collection and, as a matter of interest, I am, in addition, including a catalogue issued by H. R. Harmer, London, of an auction sale of the rarities contained in the famous Agathon Faberge Collection.

**"DAMAGED BY FIRE."**

In the "World Stamp Digest" for February there is illustrated a cover from its editor's collection which is of considerable interest to collectors of South African Postal History. The cover is one addressed to the editor, Mr. A. O. Cranc, who at the time was apparently resident in the Barkly West district. He writes about it as follows:

"Wreck covers, although of undoubted historical interest, are usually so unsightly as a result of immersion in the sea or partial destruction by fire that they can hardly be said to add to the appearance of a collection."

Seldom do we come upon such a neat item as that illustrated above. It formed part of the English mail that was being carried north from Cape Town when the mail train was wrecked and caught fire at the little station at Luttig, on the Western Province main line in the central Karroo. This particular envelope escaped with slight scorching round the edges, more evident on the back than on the front of the cover, but, with the rest of the salvaged mail, it received the official handstamp (in two lines) "Damaged by fire at / LUTTIG 17/6/24."

**TRISTAN DA CUNHA.**

As surmised last month a mail was taken from the island direct to London by "a British warship." Letters reached Johannesburg on 15th April.

A curious thing happened to letters which were unstamped. Some kind person stuck on British 1½ stamps and these were cancelled with a London postmark of 26th March. It is to be hoped that this was done by the British

post office and that the Tristan da Cunha Fund was not stung for the benefit of philatelists.

This mail brought back answers to correspondence sent to the island by the "Viceroy of India" which was there about 12th February, 1939. It also brought replies to a mail which must have been taken by the "Carinthia" about 5th March, 1939. It is known that the Carinthia brought mail from the island then, but it was not hitherto certain that it had taken mail. That it did do so is shown by a cover received which has a private stamp endorsement "Posted on board the British s.s. 'Carinthia' on the high seas." This cover is franked with St. Helena stamps which are cancelled with a Type VI Tristan stamp.

The question arises "Had the island been visited this summer season before this particular British warship did so?" A report has appeared in the press of a parcel of socks, etc., having been sent by the islanders as a war comforts gift. How did they know there was a war on?

**NEW ZEALAND.**

In consequence of a change in postal rates the 7d. in the Centenary series is to have little use and is being replaced by an 8d. value of the same colour and design. It was expected out on 8th March.

**ASCENSION AND SAINT HELENA.**

In the former the 3d. denomination is to have a change of colour to grey and black and there is to be a new 4d. in blue and black, of Green Mountain design. The St. Helena 3d. is to be grey and there is to be a new 8d. denomination, in olive.

**S. RHODESIA.**

The "Seer of the Strand" tips the small Falls stamps as excellent investments, putting the 3d. as the best thing of the month even at full catalogue.

**BRAZIL—PRO JUVENTUTE.**

Taking an unconscionably long time on the way we have just received good wishes for Christmas and the New Year from Dr. Mario de Sanctis of Sao Paulo. The letter is franked by a blue "Pro Juventute" stamp showing the star of the east and the three wise men bearing gifts of gold, frankincense and myrrh. The value is 100r.+100r.

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EFFICIENT, EXPEDITIOUS **10%** WRITE FOR PARTICULARS  
**NEW ISSUE SERVICE**  
NORWOOD, LONDON, S.E. 9

**ORANGE RIVER COLONY**

In mint unsevered pairs, showing normal on one stamp, and variety on the other,  
Stan. Gibb. Nos. 185 186 190 194 197 209 216 219  
My prices 2/6 5/- 7/6 10/- 40/- 60/- 1/- 2/-  
221 222 227 228 233 235 238 240 241  
3/6 4/6 45/- 30/- 5/- 15/- 15/- 1/6 4/-

Post Free.  
**GEO. CHIPP, P.O. LAFUTA, CAPE.**

## German East Africa

*Translated from the original article by Dr. Herbert Munk in Kohl's Handbook  
by Dr. J. H. Harvey Pirie.*

*(Continued from page 43 of March issue).*

- 1905.
- 20th May: *Mombo*. Terminus of the Usambara Ry. from 19-2-05.
- 1906.
- 19th June: *Schirati*. On E. shore of L. Victoria, right on the British border. *Closed in August, 1914.*
- 1st December: *Kondoa-Irangi*. About 165 km. N. of Mpapua.
- 6th December: *Aruscha*. S. W. of Moschi, beside Mt. Meru.
- 1907.
- 1st November: *Tschole*. On the S.E. of the island of Mafia.
- 1908.
- 10th June: *Mkumara*. Temporary terminus of the Usambara Ry.
- 21st June: *Muaja*. At the N. end of L. Nyasa. (See Langenburg).
- 2nd July: *Neu-Langenburg*. (See Langenburg, 5th June, 1895).
- 26th October: *Ruanda*. In Kigali, the principal town of the District of Ruanda. (See Vol. I, p. 295).
- 14th November: *Ngerengere*. On the Central Ry. between Dar-es-salaam and Morogoro. *Closed 31-12-12.*
- 1909.
- 1st December: *Buiko*. Temporary terminus of the Usambara Ry.
- 1911.
- 1st January: *Dodoma*. On the Central Ry., between Kilossa and Kilimatinde.
- 1st February: *Leganda*. W. of Moschi.
- 3rd August: *Salale*. N. of the Rufiji delta, opposite the island of Mafia but a few km. from the coast.
- 31st August: *Soga*. On the Central Ry. W. of Dar-es-salaam.
- 5th December: *Handeni*. About 120 km. W. of Pangani and about 50 km. S. W. of Korogwe.
- 20th December: *Kissenji*. District Ruanda, on the shore of L. Kivu, close to the Belgian Congo border.
- 1913.
- 11th February: *Ngomeni*. A station on the Usambara Ry., W. of Tanga.
- 25th March: *Umbulu*. N. of Kondoa-Irangi, S. W. of Aruscha.
- 9th May: *Mnyussi*. On the Usambara Ry., 69 km. from Tanga.
- 1st July: *Urundi*. At Gitega, in the district of Urundi. (See Vol. I, p. 295).
- 1st September: *Utete*. On the rt. bank of the Rufiji, west of the delta.
- 22nd September: *Musoma*. On E. shore of L. Victoria.
- 1914.
- 18th April: *Kigoma*. On E. shore of L. Tanganyika, 6 km. N. of Ujiji. The terminus of the Central Ry.
- It has already been noted that, up to April, 1901, the range of service at the agencies in the interior, unlike that of the coastal agencies, was limited to letter post (ordinary and registered). It was only on April 1, 1901, that a money order service was instituted and even then it was limited to exchange with offices on the coast or other offices within the colony. The variations in the rate of exchange liable to occur between the paying-in and the paying-out dates and the length of time taken in sending the exchange notes to Germany or to foreign countries made such service outside the colony a practical impossibility.
- Payments made in Germany or abroad were addressed to Dar-es-salaam and a local money order made out there.
- Even this limited service to the coast was not instituted at all the offices in the interior, simply through there being no need or demand for it at some places (e.g. at Muhesa and at Korogwe, both on the Usambara Railway). It was only after the introduction of the fixed value rupee and the new heller coinage on August 1, 1906, that direct money transactions between the interior and Germany, etc., became possible and it was probably on this date also that the C.O.D. service was introduced at such offices as were permitted to do a money order business.
- The agencies in the interior did not generally undertake the parcels service introduced at the coast in 1891. Exceptions, however, were the offices at Muhesa and Korogwe on the lower section of the Usambara Railway and the office at Langenburg on L. Nyasa. The parcel post at the last was forwarded by Nyasa steamer through British territory and down the R. Shire by Blantyre to the port of Chinde, but statistics show that in 1904, for example, there were only three parcels carried from Langenburg.
- The agencies on L. Victoria (Muanza, Bukoba and Schirati) were permitted a direct parcel service with Germany and abroad in 1908 because the forwarding could be done directly through British territory by the Uganda Railway from Kisumu to Mombasa. (Incidentally

this accounts for the occurrence of stamps of German East Africa with British East African postmarks such as Kisumu or Mombasa).

Finally, later on after the opening of the Central Railway, various other agencies were allowed parcel post service.

From the foregoing facts it is clear that up to April 1, 1901, there was practically no need of the stamps of the higher denominations at the agencies in the interior, so that the question of the possible occurrence of Forerunners of 2 Mk. value (German Empire No. 37) with postmarks of such agencies is reduced to one of purely theoretical interest.

According to Friedemann the Rupee values for German East Africa were in circulation in January, 1901, although perhaps the old Imperial 2 Mk. stamps were still being used up then. It can be definitely said, however, that the 2 Mk. stamps were not generally given out to the agencies in the interior (or at most only to a few of the postally more important ones) so that in the case of most of the interior offices open before 1901 there was not even the theoretical possibility of 2 Mk. stamps having been used. Even later on, as is generally admitted, genuinely postal usage of the Rupee values at offices in the interior was for years very small, their use being mainly limited to the large coastal offices.

In this connection the yearly statistics published by Kalckhoff from 1900 onwards in the *D. B. Z.*, dealing with the letter, parcel and money order services of the various German Protectorates, are very instructive. For the money order business of the offices in the interior of German East Africa it must be remembered, however, that up to August, 1906, the figures deal only with business between such offices and the coast.

Before the period of railway construction began the posts were forwarded to the interior by the old established carrier routes and when the postal administration took over the forwarding these routes mainly radiated out from Dar-es-salaam, although the route to Kilimanjaro and the north went from Tanga as early as October 1, 1894, along the line followed by the Usambara Railway, which was started in 1893.

From Dar-es-salaam the main road inland followed the line taken later by the Central Railway through Kilossa and Tabora to Ujiji on L. Tanganyika, with a route branching off at Tabora to L. Victoria (Muanza and Bukoba). This was the route operated by the old private post of Messrs. Schülke and Mayr (see above). At Kilimatinde there also branched off southwards a route to the southern end of L. Tanganyika (Bismarckburg), and at Kilossa one to Iringa.

A second main route ran via Mahenge and Ssongea to Wiedhafen on L. Nyasa and from there connected with Langenburg by the S.S. "Hermann von Wissman." This steamer pro-

vided general and postal communications between the German stations on L. Nyasa and those in British Nyasaland. It had no ship-post or ship cancellation. (Alleged M. S. ship cancellations from it are known).

Posts were sent along these various routes twice or thrice a month. After the Usambara Railway from Tanga started building in 1893 and as it gradually pushed its way towards Kilimanjaro the carrier post was *pari passu* replaced by train post, whilst the starting point of carrier delivery was extended further and further northwards as the railhead pushed up. The individual halting places as the railhead moved onwards are shown as temporary termini in the list of postal agencies of the interior. The Usambara Railway was taken over by the Imperial Government at the beginning of 1902. It was open as far as Same about 1909 and later on it was extended to Moschi.

Various railway station cancellations, with "USAMBARABAHN" (Usambara Railway) below and the name of the particular station above, may be found on stamps. Usually these are stations which had no postal agency (e.g. *Kihwi*, *Same* and others) and as a rule there is another post office cancellation. This railway stamping was abused for philatelic ends and was forbidden by the administration in Dar-es-salaam at the beginning of 1908 although the practice did not actually cease until 1909.

The main carrier route westwards from Dar-es-salaam to Lake Tanganyika was gradually replaced by the Central Railway from 1905 onwards. Starting at Dar-es-salaam in February, 1905, it reached Morogoro in October, 1907; Tabora in July, 1912; and the terminus, Kigoma, only in 1914. The terminus at Kigoma is a few kilometres north of Ujiji, the end of the old carrier route.

The Central Railway, like the Usambara Railway from 1-1-09 onwards, had its own Railway Post. The oval die used for cancelling had the inscription "MITTELLANDBAHN (DEUTSCH-OSTAFRIKA)" (Central Railway—German East Africa) and, in the centre, "BAHNPOST" (Railway Post) with the train number and date.

A branch line northwards from Tabora, along the route followed by the old private post of Messrs. Schülke and Mayr, was under construction at the time of the outbreak of war in August, 1914, but had only advanced a distance of some 40 km., and it does not appear to have left behind any postal or philatelic traces.

From December 17, 1900, onwards (opening of the so-called "Colonial Counter" at P.O. 19, Berlin S.W.) the contemporary stamps of German East Africa were on issue in Berlin. Stamps issued after 1914 were never on sale in the Colony and must be regarded purely as "Berlin counter issues."

(To be continued).



## VOORTREKKERS

The Union P.M.G. has just issued "Post Office Progress," being his annual report for 1938-39. This is an excellently well gotten up and interesting book, price only 1s. It is as different from the old fashioned departmental report as chalk is proverbially from cheese. There is lots of information of interest to everyone in the report but this year it has something with a particular appeal to philatelists, namely, an account of the postal aspects of the Voortrekker Centenary celebrations. Here is a brief summary:

Two trek wagons started from Cape Town on 8th August, 1938; they travelled in company as far as Vegkop, O.F.S., where one headed off to Bloedrivier, Natal, the other carrying on to Pretoria. Articles carried by this ox wagon post numbered 101,553 to Pretoria and 10,187 to Bloedrivier.

Specially designed date stamps for the ox wagon mails were employed at Cape Town, Retiefklip, Bloukrans, Danskraal, and Bloedrivier. The designs are illustrated on a plate, together with the date stamps of certain other important points on the route of the trek, viz., Slagtersnek, Bulhoek, and Voortrekkermonument Pretoria.

In connection with the special "Reiger" flight from Holland (6-11 Dec., 1938) it is recorded that 23,184 items were carried by it, of which 4,338 were for delivery in South Africa, 811 for onward transmission by sea, 1,319 for return to Holland by sea and 16,716 for return by air.

On the return flight (26-31 Dec., 1938) 28,221 items were carried. Of these 22,632 were for delivery in Holland, 1,431 for onward transmission by surface transport, 3,284 for return to South Africa by sea, and 874 for return by air.

Information is given as to the sales of the various issues of Voortrekker stamps, but unfortunately not in the form which philatelists would like, and only total values for sales of the different issues are supplied. On the assumption that equal quantities of the various denominations of each set were sold, we have worked out how many complete sets of each

series might have been sold. The assumption, of course, cannot be correct, but the method gives an approximation to actuality and at all events allows of a comparison being made of the sales of the respective issues. Here are the figures:

1933-36 set, on sale up to October, 1938. Face value of stamps sold £42,458 10s. 8d., equivalent to 1,019,028 sets. Same series overprinted for use in S.W.A., £3,609 or 86,616 sets.

1938 set, on sale from 14 Dec., 1938, to 28 Feb., 1939. £12,827 10s. 11d. or 256,550 sets. In S.W.A. £2,891 6s. 7d. or 57,826 sets.

The Government Commemorative stamps of 1d and 1½d. denominations, which largely replaced the ordinary issues of those values for a period of three months realized in the Union £63,876, equivalent to 6,132,096 pairs, and in S.W.A. £1,364 or 132,944 pairs.

## Reviews

*Wholesale Price List for 1940.* Messrs. Whitfield King and Co., Ipswich, England. This is for the trade only and applications for it should be made on a business heading or with a business card enclosed. In the circumstances we need not comment further than by advising our dealer friends of its existence.

*Roman States—Forgeries.* The Billings Stamp Company, 151, 85th Avenue, Jamaica, N.Y., U.S.A. Price 1.00.

Fritz Billig, formerly of Vienna but now located in the United States and operating under the name given above, has published (in German) handbooks on the forgeries of some forty-four different countries. This is his monograph on the 1851 and 1852 issues translated into English. It is very well illustrated and points out by means of arrows on the enlargements the more important features whereby the forgeries (many of them rather dangerously good) can be distinguished from the genuine article.

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## SWAZILAND

In a recent number (Nov., 1939, p. 162) I was responsible for a short note on the stamps and postal history of Swaziland. My attention has been drawn by Mr. A. A. Jurgens, of Capetown, to the fact that in the note I was responsible for helping to perpetuate an error that has stood for a number of years in a standard philatelic work, viz., Messrs. Stanley Gibbons' Catalogue. The statement he draws attention to is that "Swaziland was incorporated into the South African Republic on 21st February, 1895."

I plead guilty. I accepted the statements as authoritative and did not "check my references." A short study of the early history of Swaziland shows that the statement is not quite accurate and for the sake of historical accuracy should be amended.

A brief summary of the early history of Swaziland may not be amiss in this connection. The authority I take my summary from is the "Official Year Book of the Union of South Africa (and of Swaziland, etc.)." The best historical notes are given in the early editions of this work (Nos. 3 to 6, 1920-1923); in later editions the historical notes have been much condensed. The information given is, in its turn, based largely on "A history of the Swazis" by Mr. S. M. G. Honey, Esq., C.M.G., at one time Resident Commissioner of Swaziland. I cannot go further back and refer to the Minutes of the various Conventions referred to in the history, but am of opinion that the statements in the Official Year Book may be taken as fully authoritative.

The early history of Swaziland in its relation to its white neighbours is largely bound up with "concessions" granted for mining and grazing. The first concession given to a white man was by King Mswazi in 1860.

In 1876 King Mbandeni signed an agreement with a representative of the South African Republic ("Z.A.R." for short) confirming various concessions granted and virtually constituting Swaziland a Protectorate of the Z.A.R. but in 1881 the Convention of Pretoria expressly stipulated the independence of Swaziland and this was reaffirmed in the Convention of London (1884).

The Swazi King continued granting concessions and by 1889 the concessionaires were clamouring for better security for their rights than a savage state could give them.

A joint Commission was appointed by the British Government and the Z.A.R. and a provisional joint government set up. This operated from 1889 to 1895, but under it the independence of the Swazis was again reaffirmed.

This dual control or condominium was not a success and further negotiations between President Kruger and the British High Commissioner resulted in yet another Convention which gave the Z.A.R. rights and powers of jurisdiction, protection and administration

over Swaziland without incorporation. Note the last two words. The internal affairs of the Swazis were to be conducted by themselves, and their customs, where not inconsistent with civilized laws, were to be respected. This protection by the Z.A.R. came into force on 21st February, 1925.

On the outbreak of the Anglo-Boer war in October, 1899, the Z.A.R. administration was withdrawn, the Swazis being left to their own devices until the end of the war in 1902. Soon after the signing of peace a Special Commissioner was sent to Swaziland accompanied by a small administrative staff and a force of South African Constabulary. Headquarters of the administration were established at Mbabane; Bremersdorp, the former capital, having been destroyed during the war.

An Order of the King-in-Council proclaimed in 1903 legalized actions taken in 1902 to establish order and placed the administration directly under the Governor of the Transvaal.

It will be seen from this that it was incorrect to describe Stage 3 of the postal history of Swaziland as the stage when "from 1895 to 1900 Swaziland was a part of the South African Republic and used the current Z.A.R. stamps." From a limited, purely postal, point of view the statement was perhaps admissible, just as, somewhat similarly, and at the same time, Basutoland was postally a part of the Cape Colony although not part of it in other respects. But it is quite incorrect to say or imply that Swaziland during this period was incorporated into the South African Republic. It can only be correctly described as a Protectorate of the Republic.

What I wrote about Stage 4 of Swaziland's postal history must also be amended. My statement was "This is a hypothetical stage, and has not yet been proven by the finding of stamps. But from about the middle of 1900 to mid-1902 it would seem almost certain the Z.A.R. stamps overprinted V.R.I. were in use there as in the Transvaal."

I was under the impression that some sort of administration had been functioning in Swaziland earlier in the course of the war, as one was operating in the Transvaal, but apparently this idea was quite wrong.

Stage 4 should therefore be described as lasting from about the end of 1899 to mid-1902 and as being one during which there was no postal system in operation whatsoever. When the British Special Commissioner took over charge a postal service was no doubt set up as part of the administration and the stamps which would have been on issue would have been Transvaal Edwardians. Presumably, however, V.R.I. Transvaals might have been valid for postal use, as they still were for some little time in the Transvaal, so that it might still be possible to find such stamps used in Swaziland, but the date of usage would, of course, be after mid-1902.

I hope there will be no further corrections to be made to the postal history of Swaziland.

J. H. HARVEY PIRIE.

## CENSOR MARKS.

Palestine.—A hexagon with the wording inside "Palestine/Passed by/Censor/No. . . ." We have also seen correspondence emanating from a bank in Palestine which would appear to be exempted from censoring by bearing a rubber stamp reading, "Certified to contain bank correspondence only/(Name of Bank)" and signed by, presumably, a bank official.

Egypt.—This would seem to be a busy place for the censors. The Egypt's censor's mark, which is usually in red, is double circle with a number or initial in the centre and between the circles an Arabic inscription above and "Censorship Dept." below. We have seen this mark not only on correspondence emanating from Egypt itself, but also on transit mail from various countries in Asia. On some covers from Siam and Japan we have observed in addition to the Egyptian mark another (? Singapore) reading "Passed by/(Number)/Censor." As if this were not enough one was also "Opened by Censor" in S. Africa.

Gold Coast.—Rubber stamp "Passed by Censor, Gold Coast" in a polygon, with figure in centre.

Kenya.—Rubber stamp "Passed by Censor/Mombasa." On cover in transit from Aden to S. Africa.

Although not a Censor mark there may also be chronicled here a military frank now in use in Kenya. This is a rubber stamp reading "O.H.M.S. / No. 52 / Military / Franked" in a box frame measuring approximately 17 m.m. by 15 m.m.

Union of S. Africa.—Rubber stamp "P.B.C. JH" in a circle. On a cover from Lourenco Marques to Johannesburg.

Letters from the Baviaanspoort Internment Camp have cachets indicating that they are from a prisoner of war and that they are official free, in addition to a two line mark "Passed by Censor A / Deur Sensor A goed-gekeur."

Sierra Leone.—Rubber stamp "Passed by Censor" followed by a number, in a rectangular frame.

St. Helena.—Rubber stamp "Passed by Censor" in two lines, in a rectangular frame.

Seychelles.—Rubber stamp "Passed by Censor/Seychelles No. . . ."

Nyasaland.—Two rubber stamps; one, an oval with Censor / Blantyre and the date in the centre; the other circular, reading "Passed by/Censor" with a number in the centre.

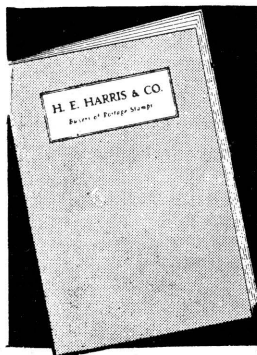
N. Rhodesia.—Small double-lined triangular rubber stamp with "Passed by Censor" between the lines and a number in the centre. Gummed strip closing covers which have been opened reading "Examined by Censor No.—"

Tanganyika.—Rubber stamp "Passed No. 1/ by Censor" in oblong box frame. Blue label closing letters with "Opened by Censor" on it.

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## Society News

### EAST LONDON PHILATELIC SOCIETY

*President, J. Paviour; Hon. Secretary and Treasurer, S. F. Fowler; Meetings, Second Fridays, Colosseum Tea Lounge, at 8 p.m.*

The February meeting of the society was up to the average attendance and members present thoroughly enjoyed a display of British stamps by Mr. Andrew Watson. Many outstanding items were shown including a large variety of Proofs and Essays of the first British stamps printed.

At the March meeting there were two displays of great interest. Mrs. Ansley Watts showed her collection of Aeroplane stamps, and the great range in many countries of stamps depicting aeroplanes was an eye-opener to all members.

Mr. C. H. Thornton showed a portion of his Cape Collection, including some uncommon entires of pre-stamp covers.

The secretary tabled the report of the November Philatelic Congress of Southern Africa. The society was advised that Mr. C. H. Thornton had been elected to the Roll of Honour of S.A. Philatelists and the chairman expressed on behalf of members their pleasure and gratification.

It was agreed to forward the annual subscription to the newly-styled Philatelic Federation of South Africa.

The secretary passed round new issues of Papua, two issues of overprinted Newfoundland Postage Dues and two new U.S.A. Commemoratives.

The March meeting was the Annual General Meeting. Mr. Forbes took the chair for the election of officers. The following were unanimously elected: President, Mr. J. Paviour; Vice-President, Mr. C. Hampson; Hon. Secretary and Treasurer, Mr. S. Fowler; Librarian, Mr. H. Courlander; Press Correspondent, Mr. J. P. Shingler. Committee: Messrs. C. H. Thornton, H. Courlander, and T. A. Harper.

There was a good attendance of members and the President welcomed three visitors, Messrs. Forbes (Port Elizabeth), Jenvey (Johannesburg) and Meyers (local).

The secretary read a letter from England appealing for donations of stamps to be auctioned in aid of Red Cross Funds. On Mr. Thornton's suggestion, it was decided that members should hand stamps to the secretary for transmission to London.

Mr. Forbes expressed his pleasure at visiting the society once again and particularly complimented East London on its very satisfactory financial position. He made sugges-

tions for greater co-operation among Philatelic Societies in the Eastern Province and it was decided the committee should discuss these further and report to the next meeting.

An interesting discussion took place concerning the appointment of a South African Expertising Committee, and members agreed that this principle should be supported at the next Annual Congress. Senior members stressed their views that the expertising should be confined to African stamps.

An enjoyable meeting concluded with a display by Mr. Forbes of Newfoundland stamps. This was a philatelic treat—for the stamps, both mint and used, were in the finest condition.

J.P.S.

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

*President, F. Carter; Hon. Secretary, H. G. Ulyate, Box 702, Bloemfontein. Meetings, 2nd Fridays, Oranje Koffiehuis, Bloemfontein, 8 p.m.*

At the April meeting one of the members, Mr. E. Tamsen, gave to the society a presentation copy of "Cover to Cover" autographed by the authors.

After the business of the evening had been attended to a general discussion followed as to why philatelic meetings were (apparently) so dreary and poorly attended. The chairman read an article from the "Philatelic Magazine" on the subject, giving some reasons, some of which applied to the society. Suggestions were asked for as to ways and means of increasing the town membership and making town members more philatelically conscious.

Mr. Larsen arranged a competition for the evening in place of the usual display. All the members joined in and spent an enjoyable hour testing their memories and their powers of observation.

H.G.U.

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### THE PHILATELIC SOCIETY OF JOHANNESBURG.

*President, Mark Rose; Hon. Secretary, J. Crewell, P.O. Box 4967. Meetings, 2nd Tuesdays, 8 p.m., Sanlam Buildings.*

The April meeting was a "Tyro's Meeting"; exhibits given by members who had not previously exhibited, or by those who had exhibited on rare occasions only.

The result was that several exhibits, although individually small, were of very high standard and covered a very wide range of material resulting in an evening's philatelic entertainment containing something of interest to all present.

Mrs. Greer exhibited five sheets of U.S.A. Commemoratives and read a very interesting paper on them. Amongst those shown were

the 1869 issue (commemorating the joining of the Central Pacific and Union Pacific Railways), the Columbus issue, and the Graf Zeppelin flights of 1930. In her paper Mrs. Greer pointed out that on the stamp "Columbus in sight of Land," the explorer was clean-shaven, while on "Landing of Columbus," he had a fine beard.

Mr. G. Berry showed three sheets of Mafeking Siege stamps, all guaranteed genuine by the postmaster.

Mrs. J. Robertson showed several sheets of Charity Stamps from different parts of the world. They were mostly mint copies and perfectly mounted and written up. It was a particularly interesting exhibit showing how philatelists are mulcted by the governments of the world for such a variety of objects as Rotary Conventions, Church Windows, Anti-Tuberculosis, Child Welfare, and Red Cross. Mrs. Robertson included in her exhibit several "stamps" issued during the Spanish Civil War, as showing one side of the horrors of warfare.

Mr. M. Jecks showed four sheets of perfect mint copies of George V. issue of Gambia.

Mr. W. Opperheim showed several sheets of British Colonial Commemoratives including the Antigua, Bermuda and Cayman Islands issues. There was also the Sierre Leone abolition of slavery set and the Newfoundland Gilbert set besides several others. His exhibit was particularly appreciated by members as these issues are very beautiful stamps as well as being much sought after by collectors all over the world.

Mr. Demasius exhibited two sheets of Modern Turkey Pictorials, the designs of which are very artistic.

Mr. L. Buchen showed several sheets of German Tête Bêche and Se-Tenant varieties. These included some of the rarer commemoratives.

Mr. J. Creewel showed six sheets of New Hebrides, both English and French issues.

Mr. J. Robertson showed a few sheets of Union freaks as an example of Tyro printing.

Mr. Schubert, Mr. Burrell and Mr. I. Isaacs spoke on the different exhibits.

Mr. J. Benjamin read notes on recent happenings in the Philatelic world.

H.E.B.

#### PRETORIA PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

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

April 1.—Dr. Broom gave a talk on philately as a hobby. He pointed out that the collection of something of interest appeared to be ingrained in the human race. Of all things to collect, however, he considered that the collection of postage stamps had much to recommend it ranging as it did from school-

boys to older people. He raised a very controversial subject when he touched upon the method of disposing of a stamp collection and advocated that the sale price of stamps should be stabilised as well as the buying price. In the discussion it was shown that such a Utopia was impracticable.

Mr. Obermeyer showed New Zealand and Mr. N. L. Watson some Polynesia.

April 15.—Mr. Hawke read an extract dealing with the suggested French and English combined stamp.

Major Harrington presented a paper dealing with the importance of examining stamps with a strong lens for minor varieties. In this way many forgeries have been discovered and important knowledge was often obtained which helped in fixing the position of the stamps on the sheet. Many Rhodesian varieties were described and illustrated.

Fine exhibits of Rhodesia were also tabled by Major Harrington and Mr. Obermeyer.

H.A.W.

#### CAPETOWN PHILATELIC SOCIETY

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

22nd February, 1940.—Members were provided with an outstanding display of the stamps of Swaziland by Dr. J. H. Harvey Pirie, who was on a visit from Johannesburg, this being the finest collection of the stamps of this country ever to be exhibited at this society. Dr. Pirie read a short paper on Swaziland and said that he had divided his collection into seven stages, viz.:

- (1)—Postal period prior to 1889.
- (2)—Condominium period 1889-1895.
- (3)—1895-1900 under the Administration of the S.A. Republic.
- (4)—Hypothetical stage—no evidence of Postal History.
- (5)—Period 1902-1910.
- (6)—Interprovincial period, and Union.
- (7)—Definitive issues.

Mr. A. H. Sydow, in moving a vote of thanks, referred to the period 1910-1932, when Swaziland was part of the Union.

Professor J. J. Smith, of Stellenbosch, in seconding, spoke very highly of the exhibit, and said that it was remarkable that such an extensive display could be got together in such a limited field. The great boon of stamp collecting is the investigation in history, he said.

14th March, 1940.—The society had a visitor from overseas who is well known among the philatelists of the Union. He was Mr. Chaplin,

of London, and he and Professor J. J. Smith showed selections from their Orange Free State collections.

The chairman remarked on the excellent exhibits and called upon Mr. Jurgens to thank the exhibitors and at the same time to express his views on the collections.

The secretary, in a brief and lucid manner, discussed the display and drew attention to the many unique and rare items. He mentioned that out of the total issue (including the errors) of the O.F.S., there were only about 70 missing in Mr. Chaplin's collection. He also said that he had always considered the collection of Professor Smith the best in the country, but that he had no idea until this evening what a rival he had in Mr. Chaplin. He then expressed the society's thanks to both these gentlemen for coming so long a distance to give the members this treat.

Messrs. Chaplin and Smith responded, making several interesting references to various items displayed, while Professor Smith in a short discourse of that country's output of stamps, wound up by saying that the 70 stamps referred to by Mr. Jurgens as missing from Mr. Chaplin's collection, if procurable at all, would in all probability cost well over £1,000.

An arrangement was made at this meeting that 5s. be placed to the credit of the Mayor's Fund at each meeting night of the Society.

28th March, 1940.—Mr. D. Harris provided a very fine display of the stamps of South-West Africa. Mr. L. Simenhoff in moving a

vote of thanks elucidated the items displayed, special mention being made of the early and pre-war issues, specimens of type I and VI, rare dues and Air-Mail stamps. Also the interesting and unique items, e.g., pair of double overprinted 2d. pictorial, one normal and one inverted in used condition. Mr. Harris suitably responded.

Two new members elected.

11th April, 1940.—The display for the evening was provided by Mr. A. H. Sydow, who tabled a portion of his very fine collection of Union. A vote of thanks to the exhibitor was moved by Mr. E. Solomon who, in his usual humorous way, warmly complimented Mr. Sydow on his display.

In replying, Mr. Sydow stressed the differences in the line engraved stamps of the Union and referred to the common master die of the head plate used for most of the denominations of British Georgians.

#### BRITISH EAST AFRICA.

The March number of Champion's "Bulletin Mensuel" gives figures which they have obtained of the numbers printed of the various issues from October, 1890, to November, 1895. Although it is valuable to have such information brought before us from time to time it is not new, the figures being all available in a series of highly specialized articles published by Messrs. H. L. Hayman and C. J. Phillips in the *Monthly Journal*, Vol. 14, 1903, also in shorter articles published by E. J. Nankivell in *The Postage Stamp* of January and February, 1908.

## The SOUTH AFRICAN PHILATELIST

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## BRITISH CENTENARY COMMEMORATIVES

Even as late as 5th April it was stated in the House of Commons that the stamps to be issued on 6th May would be five in number, viz., of ½d., 1d., 1½d., 2d. and 2½d. values. Apparently, however, the changes announced in the Budget of postal rates led to a revision of plans and when the stamps duly appeared on 6th May there were six values, a 3d. being added to the above list.

They are all of the same design, which is simple, dignified, and yet adequately exemplifies the occasion they are designed to commemorate.



The colours are approximately the same as those of the ordinary stamps of the same values and it is stated that they will replace these for a period of about two months.

Covers posted at the "Royal's" Exhibition received a large double-circle cancellation in red with "London/Stamp Centenary (Red Cross) Exhibn." between the circles and, in the centre, a red cross and the date in two lines, 6 May/1940.

## UNIQUE AIR MAIL COLLECTION FOR BRITAIN.

Aero-philatelists throughout the world will be delighted to learn that one of the leading specialised collections will never share the fate of so many valuable accumulations in being eventually dispersed, for Miss W. Penn-Gaskell of Widecombe, Devon, has completed the ar-

rangements by which her collection is bequeathed to the British nation through the Science Museum (already famous for its aeronautical section) at South Kensington, London.

Everyone is familiar, by repute or through actual inspection of its treasures at exhibitions, with the exceptional merit and range of this collection, but few are aware that not only does it literally abound with 1919 Newfoundland covers, Franklin Relief Balloon messages and pre-war pioneer flights, but it is rich also in a fine range of rare prints and bric-a-brac that help to reveal the contemporary influence of aeronautics on art and industry. Portions only of this unique collection have received highest awards at many international air and philatelic exhibitions, while its owner, it will be recalled, is the only aero-philatelist with the distinction of election to the Roll of Distinguished Philatelists.

The significance of this munificent bequest, and its acceptance by so competent an authority, is an unique event in aero-philately which will reflect beneficially on its status, and Miss Penn-Gaskell deserves the congratulations and thanks of all collectors for her far-sighted, generous decision.

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# One Hundred Years of Postage Stamps

By PERCY C. BISHOP.

*At the meeting of the Philatelic Society of Natal, held on May 6 in honour of the Postal Centenary, an address was delivered by Mr. P. C. Bishop under the above heading. After describing the various centenary celebrations that were being staged in London, New York and elsewhere, the address proceeded as under.*

All things considered, the Postal Centenary has not fared too badly so far as philatelists are concerned. What has been conspicuously lacking—as a result, of course, of unsettled world conditions—is that universal celebration of a great centenary, that world-wide recognition of the vast benefits flowing from Rowland Hill's great postal reform, that the occasion seemed to demand.

For us as philatelists the reform of the postal system is symbolised in our albums by that most famous of all stamps, the parent and precursor of all the world's postage stamps, the incomparable Penny Black.

Not in all the wide range of Philately has any stamp been more extensively written about, more intensively studied, than this queen of postage stamps. Thanks to the patient studies of specialists it may be claimed that we know to-day virtually all that is to be known concerning the Penny Black. These efforts culminated some years ago in the production of Mr. Charles Nissen's great monograph on the subject, accompanied by its fine series of photographs showing the reconstructed sheets of all the eleven plates. If we couple this with the late Sir Edward Bacon's fine work, dealing with the whole series of the line-engraved stamps of Great Britain, we have at our disposal a complete guide to the Penny Black and its companion pieces of the pioneer postage series.

The comparatively short life of the Penny Black is traceable, at any rate in part, to the difficulty experienced in postmarking satisfactorily on a black surface. In addition to the Maltese Cross obliterations in red and in black, numerous other colours were tried—blue, magenta, orange, yellow—and specimens showing these alternative cancellations are among the British varieties well worth finding.

However, the black stamp had to go and was succeeded in February, 1841, by the well-known penny red, a stamp which, subject to minor modifications of corner-lettering, perforation and watermark, remained in use for the long period of close on 40 years.

There was an earlier attempt to meet the requirements of Rowland Hill's reform in the shape of the letter sheets and envelopes known generically as the "Mulreadies" after the Royal Academician, William Mulready, who was responsible for the design. The Mulreadies

had an even shorter life than the Penny Black, for it was quickly realised that they were a failure. The Press ridiculed them. Artists, some of them quite eminent artists, savagely caricatured the design. The minor poets of the period let themselves go on the subject. Here are some lines from one of their effusions:

Britannia is sending her messengers forth,  
To the east and the west, to the south and  
the north;

At her feet is a lion what's taking a nap  
And a dishcover rests on her knees and her  
lap.

To the left is a Mussulman writing a letter,  
His knees form a desk for the want of a  
better;

To the right is the King of the Cannibal  
Islands

In the same pantaloons as they wear in the  
Highlands;

Some squaws by his side with their infantile  
varmints

And a friend in the front who's forgotten his  
garments.

Below to the left, as designed by Mulready,

In sorrow's effect on a very fat lady;

While joy at good news is plainly descried

In the trio engaged on the opposite side.

Probably you are all familiar with the Mulready and will recognise the lines as a fair chaffing description of a hotch-potch design. Rowland Hill himself began to have cold feet on the subject almost as soon as the Mulreadies were placed on sale and we find him writing in his journal at an early date: "I fear we shall be obliged to substitute some other stamp for that designed by Mulready, which is abused and ridiculed on all sides."

The newspapers were particularly scathing. Martin Wears, in his "History of the Mulready Envelope," declares that only one British paper had a good word to say for it, and that was the London and Westminster Review, the journal that had been foremost in championing Rowland Hill's reform campaign.

Among the general public there were strong objections to what Hill called the "Mulready stamp," which of course was no stamp at all. For one thing the penny and twopence covers and envelopes were not sold at their face values, but at one penny-farthing and twopence-farthing respectively. But the main

objection was the inferiority of the envelope to the adhesive stamp on general grounds of handiness and convenience. And this, I submit, is of special interest as showing that Rowland Hill's original plan was for prepayment of postage by envelope or cover and not by adhesive stamp. Of this more anon.

As regards the special British centenary stamps due to appear to-day there has been a great paucity of news. Up to the time of preparing this paper I have no certain information as to whether or not the designs will include the head of Rowland Hill. If such is not the case then I think the general verdict will be that Britain has missed a grand opportunity to pay an overdue tribute to a man who conceived and engineered an epoch-making reform.

I ask you: what would any other nation have made of the penny postage centenary had Rowland Hill been one of its own nationals? Germany in 1924 devoted an issue of stamps to the 50 years jubilee of the post-card, invented by Dr. von Stephan. In 1903 Sweden discovered a new excuse for stamp-issuing when a 5 kroner stamp was produced to commemorate the opening of a new post office in Stockholm; and since then there have been many issues in many lands on the occasion of new post offices being inaugurated—an ingenious method of making philatelists contribute to the cost of the bricks and tiles. But where would Dr. von Stephan's post-card have been without a Rowland Hill to blaze the trail? Where would the Stockholm Post Office have been, or any other of the foreign post offices glorified on special issues of postage stamps?

Of all the thoughts that crowd one's mind on this centenary day one that is uppermost is a feeling of surprise that Britain has never seen fit to honour Rowland Hill by giving us his head upon one of the nation's stamps. With one or two rare exceptions the Old Country has stood steadfast by the tradition that only the head of the Sovereign shall furnish its postage stamp designs; but surely an exception might be made in favour of the man who was the father of all postage stamps?

Let me emphasise that I speak here of adhesive stamps only. For in Great Britain in 1890, in connection with the postal jubilee celebrations at South Kensington, a commemorative envelope was produced bearing the head of the great postal reformer. Very few of us, however, collect postal stationery nowadays. The only stamps we want are adhesive stamps and this thought brings me to a question that is inseparable from the subject of my address—the question that has often been a matter of controversy: Who invented the adhesive stamp?

Actually the correct answer is "Nobody." Gummed labels were already in use for various purposes—and what is a postage stamp but a gummed label? Moreover adhesive

stamps were already in vogue for revenue purposes.

Rather the question should be: who first suggested the use of the adhesive principle in connection with postage stamps? Put in that way all the available evidence, in my opinion, points to James Chalmers, a bookseller of Dundee, as the author of the adhesive idea.

To understand the importance of this question one must consider the postal conditions prevailing prior to 1840. The postal system, if one could call it a system, was chaotic. Railway development being still in its infancy the stage coach remained the staple means of transport from place to place. The cost of transmitting a letter by post might be anything from twopence to two shillings according to distance, and since payment on delivery was the rule rather than prepayment all sorts of tricks and dodges were employed to evade the postage due on letters by the people to whom they were consigned.

Hill's acute mind seized upon prepayment as the magic solvent that would enable the Government to introduce the principle of a uniform penny rate for delivering a half-ounce letter at any destination in the British Isles. Again and again this point is stressed in the historic pamphlet in which his proposals were set forth. He states there the following among other conclusions:

I. That the present cost of primary distribution is the result of complex arrangements at the Post Office.

II. That these complex arrangements would be avoided, if postage were charged, without regard to distance, at a uniform rate, and were collected in advance.

The last words, "collected in advance," were of the essence of the contract. They represented the keystone of the arch of Hill's great reform. But how was prepayment to be effected? Hill's own ideas on the subject were hazy. He visualised each letter being brought to the counter of the Post Office and the postage paid at the rate already specified, "the letter being weighed if necessary in the presence of the bringer." The letter would then be stamped—or "postmarked" as we should express it to-day—with the date and the address of the receiving house. In all this there was no conception of an adhesive stamp to be affixed to the letter; and went no farther than the payment in coin over the Post Office counter of the postage due on each individual letter.

Later, and at a date subsequent to James Chalmers' proposals, he described the adhesive stamp scheme in words that read very quaintly to-day. He wrote:

"Perhaps this difficulty"—meaning the difficulty of paying in coin for each letter—"might be obviated by using a bit of paper just large enough to bear the stamp, and covered at the back with a glutinous wash



which, by applying a little moisture, might be attached to the letter."

As we all know to-day that "bit of paper just large enough to bear the stamp" became in practice a sheet of paper large enough to carry 240 stamps and the "glutinous wash" of Rowland Hill's description became the "cement" of the official notice on the margin of the sheet. And here is another curious circumstance showing that the Penny Black stamp not only led the way in a world-wide adoption of adhesive stamps but also showed the world exactly in what manner its letters should be stamped. In that quaint marginal inscription already referred to the public were enjoined to "place the label above the address and toward the right-hand side of the letter." But why the right-hand side? One understands that uniformity was desirable for convenience in postmarking; but there are cogent reasons why the left-hand side would have been better, particularly as giving a freer space for the address. Yet there was the instruction, and because of that little phrase on the margin of the sheet of Penny Blacks the whole world adopted the rule that a letter must be stamped at the right hand top corner of the envelope. Nobody in the modern world, unless he be an eccentric or cross-grained person, even dreams of stamping a letter in any other fashion.

That the adhesive stamp was not conceived by Sir Rowland Hill, but most probably adopted by him as the result of James Chalmers' proposals is now generally accepted. To any impartial mind I think the last doubts on the subject have been dissipated by the little book recently published by Leah Chalmers, the granddaughter of the Dundee bookseller, entitled "How the Adhesive Postage Stamp was Born." The brunt of the fight for the recognition of Chalmers' claim, however, had been born by his son, the late Patrick Chalmers, of London, who devoted many years of his life to battling for the truth in this matter, publishing pamphlets and reports galore, constantly bombarding Fleet Street with letters relating to the subject. During the years preceding Patrick Chalmers' death in 1891 I scraped acquaintance with him when I was starting out in life as a young reporter. I obtained from him copies of all the pamphlets and reports he published on what became known as the Chalmers-Hill controversy, and though many of these have gone west in the course of years I have brought along with me to-night a few of the more important survivors.

Whatever might be thought of Chalmers' claim elsewhere, there was never any dubiety on the subject in his native Scotland. In his own birth-town of Arbroath a statue stands to his memory, and in Dundee, where he carried on his business of bookseller and stationer, he is recognised by all as the man whose timely ideas went far to render practicable the great scheme of postal reform by simplifying the principle of prepayment.

Let me say this before I conclude—that in all the postal literature I have studied there is no evidence that Sir Rowland Hill at any time claimed to be the inventor (if that is the right word) of the adhesive stamp.

The statue erected to the postal reformer's memory in Cornhill, London, bears on its plinth the simple yet splendid tribute, "He gave us Penny Postage." Nothing there about stamps, adhesive or otherwise—simply and solely Penny Postage. Unhappily for people in Britain that penny postage has been transformed into twopenny-halfpenny for the duration of the war in terms of the latest Budget; but that is by the way.

To Sir Rowland Hill belongs for all time the great achievement of making penny postage a practicable proposition, thereby paving the way for an ordered postal system throughout the civilised world. And no man could crave a grander, nobler epitaph than that which is carved in the granite of his Cornhill statue, "He gave us Penny Postage."

#### UNION REVENUE STAMPS APPARENTLY POSTALLY USED.

Major Milligan reports that Union revenue stamps are not infrequently to be seen with ordinary postal cancellations, but that this does not indicate postal use of such stamps. He has been informed by a postal official that Post Offices are empowered to cancel revenue stamps on promissory notes in places where a revenue officer is not available.

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## The Influence of the War on English Philately

By ARNOLD M. STRANGE.

During the initial stages of the war the uncertainties of the consequences of aerial bombardment disorganised both private lives and social services. Philately did not escape the consequences of nervous apprehension. Many dealers hastily transferred their business from densely populated danger areas, and took their stocks to those parts of the country in which it was considered they would be immune from danger. Those who remained were not rewarded with additional business, for the majority of people were too occupied with work of national importance to think of stamps.

It was not long, however, before the typically English adaptability asserted itself, and people rapidly became accustomed to the new order of things.

Most of us paused to pick up the threads of our lives that had so hastily been dropped.

Dealers began to return to their pre-war addresses; societies which had circularised their members that their programmes would be cancelled for "duration" very wisely modified their decision, and meetings were arranged at suitable times to enable their members to return home before the "black-out"—a discomfort that has to be experienced before its inconveniences can be even vaguely appreciated.

With the curtailment or disappearance of many distractions of normal life, the value of philately regained its true perspective, and its adherents not only met to discuss stamps, but they started to purchase them again.

Although it is true that high-priced rarities are not in demand, that for both cheap and moderately priced items has far out-distanced the supply, and many dealers are experiencing difficulty in replenishing their stocks. One has only to attend the London auctions to appreciate the interest that philately is arousing, for both attendances and bidding are abnormally high—the prices fetched for a majority of the lots are such that dealers are unable to compete.

The original plans that had been formed for the celebration of the centenary of the first postage stamp have had to be jettisoned, but this important anniversary will be suitably observed, if on a somewhat less ambitious scale.

The tremendous financial burden that this war has inevitably placed upon the public has necessitated many sacrifices which are being born with cheerfulness and fortitude. The fact that philately has not suffered unduly would appear to signify that there are many people who appreciate the importance of a hobby to serve as a distracting influence during the difficult period in which we are now living.

## SOME QUALITY ITEMS

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### BRITISH EAST AFRICA

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20a.	superb	used	cat. £5	40/-
25.	superb	mint	cat. £8	40/-
26.	superb	used	cat. 80/-	20/-
33aa.	superb	mint	cat. £18	75/-
46.	superb	used	cat. £6	35/-
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146.	superb	used	cat. 15/-	6/-
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ALL the advertised items are of exceedingly fine quality, and particularly for the Transvaal, which are very difficult to find in such condition.

## H. E. WINGFIELD

148 STRAND, LONDON, W.C.2

## Ladysmith Siege Post Office

By the late GEORGE BLOCKEY.  
(Concluded from page 56 of April issue).

### VARIETIES OF THE OVERPRINT. LADYSMITH SIEGE POST OFFICE AND DATE.

During the period from 7th to 28th February, 1900, that the overprint was used, it is evident that two separate stamps were available, distinguishable one from the other by the spacing of the lettering of the date and also by the frequent occurrence of the error "Seige." The setting of the letters "Ladysmith Siege (or Seige) Post Office" is the same on both and measures 58½ m.m. The length of spacing of the single figure dates naturally varies in both printings from those of the double figure dates.

Feb. 7, 8, 9	"Siege" date 19 m.m.
	"Seige" " 20½ m.m.
Feb. 10, 11, 12, 13	"Siege" " 20 m.m.
	"Seige" " 22 m.m.

On 13th February three stages of the "Siege" date are noted. In the first the letter t is represented by a dot; in the second the t is entirely missing. In the third stage the missing t is replaced, the entire setting is wider with a comma after th, and measures in all 24 m.m.

From 14th to 18th February the error "Seige" is not seen and has evidently been corrected as there are still two types, one 20 m.m. and the other 24 m.m.

February 19th and 20th, the error "Seige" again occurs and curiously in both types 20½ and 24 m.m. respectively. On 21st February also with "Seige" one type only is noted, but with an additional error reading FEB. 21, th 1900. Measuring 21 m.m.

From 22nd to 28th February "Siege" is normal again. Two types can again be noted differing on the different dates by the length of spacing 20 m.m. to 21½ m.m. and also in the misplacement of the stops and commas.

On the 23rd the r is inverted, on the 24th the h is inverted and on the 26th the t.

During this period rumours had reached the town that General Buller was nearing Ladysmith and during the night of the 25th definite news was received of an early release.

An interesting envelope in the collection is addressed to The Chief of Staff N.F. Forces, Ladysmith, endorsed in red pencil "Good news in during the night, 25/2/00 (signed) A. Hunter." The envelope was passed round and initialled by a number of officers, N.M.R. B.M.R., R.W.E., W.S., J.W./U.C.; A:H., W.E.L., N.S.F.F.

Great excitement must have prevailed during the last week or two which accounts in great measure for the many errors in the overprinting of postal matter in the Post Office and refutes to some extent the view that the errors were purely philatelic.

G.B.

DETAILED LIST OF OVERPRINT VARIETIES.		Length of date m.m.
Feb. 7	L.S.P.O. 58.75 m.m. Stop after Feb. stop after 1900. No comma after th; bottom of t defective . . . . .	19
" 7	Seige Stop and comma after Feb. stop after 1900. No comma after th; bottom of t defective . . . . .	20.5
" 8	Siege Stop after Feb.; comma after th; bottom of t defective . . . . .	19
" 8	Seige Stop and comma after Feb. No comma after th . . . . .	20.5
" 9	Siege Same as 7th . . . . .	19
" 10	Siege Stop after Feb., no comma after th; bottom of t missing . . . . .	20
" 10	Seige Stop after Feb., comma after 10. No stop after th . . . . .	22
" 11	Siege Same as 10th . . . . .	20
" 11	Seige Stop after Feb., comma after 11, second 1 leaning to right . . . . .	22.25
" 12	Siege Same as 10th . . . . .	
" 13	Siege 1st stage t represented by dot. 2nd stage t missing. 3rd stage date type reset 24 m.m. with comma after th . . . . .	20
" 13	Seige Letters S and I represented by dots, comma after 13 . . . . .	22
" 14	Siege Stop after Feb., comma after th . . . . .	20.5
" 14	Seige No comma after th, and 4 leaning to right . . . . .	20.5
" 15	Siege No stop after th . . . . .	20
" 16	Siege No stop after h, t missing . . . . .	20
" 16	Seige Comma after th, figure 6 dropped . . . . .	24
" 17	Siege Stops after Feb., th, and 1900 . . . . .	20

„ 18 Siege	As 17th, but t represented by 2 dots	
„ 19 Seige	No stop after th, t represented by 2 dots . . . . .	20.25
„ 19 Seige	Dots after Feb., and 1900, and comma after th . . . . .	24
„ 20 Seige	As 19th	
„ 21 Seige	Date reads FEB. 21, th 1900 . . . . .	22
„ 22 Siege	No stops after nd, and 1900 . . . . .	21
„ 22 Siege	Comma after nd, and stop after 1900 . . . . .	21.50
„ 23 Siege	r inverted, some with comma after rd, others without . . . . .	20
„ 24 Siege	h inverted, stops and comma all normal . . . . .	20.25
„ 25 Siege	Raised stop after th . . . . .	20.25
„ 25 Siege	No stop after th, and bottom of t missing . . . . .	20.50
„ 26 Siege	t inverted, stops normal, or no stops after h . . . . .	20.50
„ 27 Siege	Stops after Feb., and th, and raised stop after 1900 . . . . .	20
„ 28 Siege	Raised stop after h . . . . .	20.25
„ 28 Siege	No stop after h . . . . .	20.25

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### FAROE ISLANDS STAMPS.

Normally these islands use ordinary Danish stamps. In 1919 a new rate of 7ö came into force for domestic postage and owing to a shortage of these the postmaster was authorised by cable from Copenhagen to make provisional 2ö stamps to be used in conjunction with 5ö values.

From January 1—6 this was done by bisecting 2,000 4ö newspaper wrapper stamps; from January 6—12 by bisecting 3,700 4ö adhesives, and from January 12—24 by overprinting 15,500 stamps of the 5ö denomination with “2 ORE.” Further provisionals were rendered unnecessary by the arrival of a consignment of 7ö stamps.

Will present day events lead to a further shortage of Danish stamps and the use of either a local issue or of British stamps?

## RECENT and NEW ISSUES:

6 Albania Ital. issue . . . . .	1/3
4 Algiers War set cpl. . . . .	4/6
4 Algiers New York Fair cpl. . . . .	1/9
4 Belgium Charity, Belfries . . . . .	9d.
2 Denmark Red Cross cpl. . . . .	1/-
5 Yugoslavia, Zagreb cpl. . . . .	2/9
5 Yugoslavia, Postal Employees cpl. . . . .	3/-
3 Italy Railway Centenary . . . . .	9d.
8 Portugal Legion cpl. . . . .	2/6
4 Turkey, Namik Kemal cpl. . . . .	3/6
8 Turkey, Atatürk Commemo. cpl. . . . .	4/6
6 Turkey, Alexandretta (Hatay) . . . . .	6/9
2 Newfoundland War Provis. cpl. . . . .	1/9
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### DISTINGUISHED BRITISH PHILATELISTS ROLL OF HONOUR.

It is announced that the Board of Election has decided to add the names of the following two philatelists to the Roll for 1940:—

**B. S. H. Grant.** Specialist on Falkland Islands and active worker for philately in Maidstone, Kent. Has had numerous awards at international exhibitions.

**Sir Nicholas Waterhouse.** Specialist in stamps of U.S.A. and author of a U.S.A. catalogue. Has also had numerous international awards.

### GOLD COAST.

A new denomination, a 10s. stamp, printed in sheets of 60, has been added to the general series. The design is similar to the current 1s. value.

## An Unrecorded Boer War Vryburg Cancellation

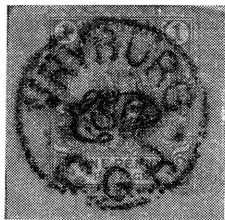
By A. A. JURGENS.

In November, 1899, when the Boers occupied the town of Vryburg, they made use of the circular date stamp in use at the time, for defacing the stamps of the Cape Colony which had been overprinted by them "Z.A.R."

This date stamp consisted of a circle measuring 22½ m.m. in diameter with the name "VRYBURG" at the top, and a large stop at the bottom, in the centre the day, month and year, all within the circle.

When the town was reoccupied by the British it was discovered that the Boers had carried away the type belonging to the date stamp. The missing type was that belonging to the circular date stamp measuring 25 m.m. in diameter showing the name "VRYBURG" at the top and the letters C.G.H. at the bottom.

A small supply of Cape stamps was discovered in the Post Office which had evidently been overlooked by the Boers during their temporary occupation. These were issued to the public and in the absence of the necessary type to denote the date all such stamps passing through the Post Office were initialled by Mr. C. S. St. Quintin, who was appointed Military Magistrate by Col. Mahon.



Why Mr. St. Quintin placed his initials on the stamp without any date is not known, but

the following extract of a letter from him on the subject explains the reason for his initialling all stamps on letters passing through the Post Office.

"In regards to the stamps initialled by me there is a story attached to them.

"You must know that I was engaged by Col. Rhodes as Intelligence Officer for the Mafeking Relief Column. On our arrival in Vryburg I was appointed Military Magistrate by Col. Mahon, and empowered to enrol a Town Guard, etc. On taking over the Government Offices I found a few Cape stamps ½d. and 1d. and a few Z.A.R. stamps. In order to bring Vryburg back on the map as part of the Cape Colony I initialled these stamps and cancelled them by stamping 'VRYBURG' on them—I could not find a date stamp in the Post Office—hence the absence of a date.

"The few Z.A.R. stamps were cancelled by being stamped 'SPECIAL.' A number of these stamps went through the post. I hope you will understand all this."

(Signed) Clifford St. Quintin.

Vryburg, 16th September, 1936.

By this time the old VRYBURG date stamp consisting of a circle measuring 22 m.m. in diameter with the word "VRYBURG" at the top and the letters B.B. (British Bechuanaland) at the bottom was discovered and the Z.A.R. stamps which had been overprinted "V.R. SPECIAL POST" were all cancelled with this. There is no evidence to show that any of these stamps were initialled by Mr. St. Quintin.

The ½d. and 1d. Cape stamps referred to in Mr. St. Quintin's letter were the Half-Penny green Hope seated S.G. No. 59, the Half-Penny Hope standing S.G. No. 67, and the 1d. Hope standing S.G. No. 58.

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## German East Africa

*Translated from the original article by Dr. Herbert Munk in Kohl's Handbook  
by Dr. J. H. Harvey Pirie.*

*(Continued from page 73 of May issue)*

### FORERUNNERS.

The first surcharged issue for German East Africa (Nos. 1-5, see below) was distributed between July and September, 1893, to the postal agencies in existence at that time. The only "real" Forerunners of the pfennig values are, therefore, non-surcharged stamps of the German Empire used at latest before the end of 1893 at such postal agencies as were open at that period. The only "Real Forerunner Cancellations" on pfennig values which can be accepted as genuine are those illustrated herewith. (The dates shown are as given by Starke-Friedemann and are mostly *not* Forerunner dates. *Trans.*)

Friedemann and Bungerz state that, in addition to those cancellations, non-surcharged pfennig stamps are to be found with the postmarks of the coastal agencies at *Mohorro* (Type Bagamoyo II) and *Mikindani* (Type Kilwa), which were opened only in 1894; also with those of *Bukoba*, *Kilimatinde* and *Kilossa* (all single circle marks with three stars), agencies in the interior opened in 1895 or early

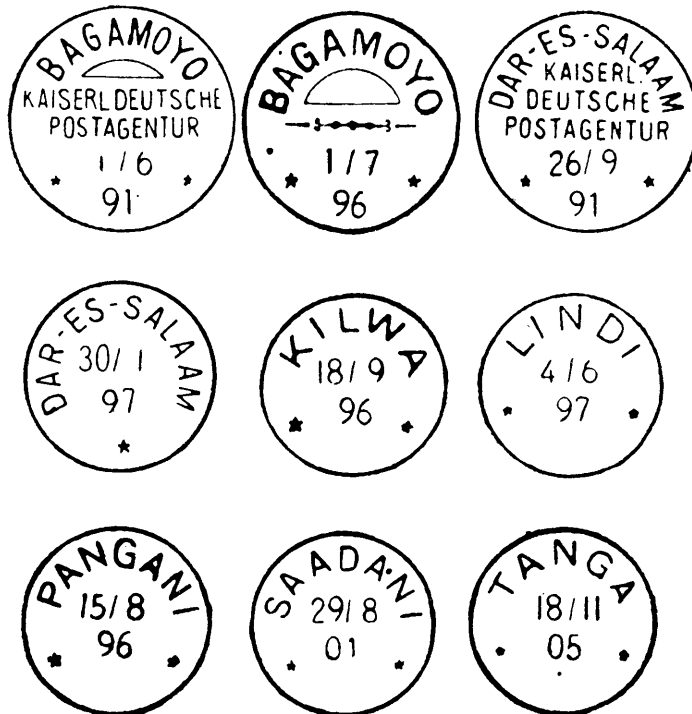
1806. Starke also mentions *Masinde*, an agency only in existence for eleven months.

As the remainders of the non-surcharged pfennig values were simply used up in East Africa it is highly probable that genuine usage of the 1889 issue occurred even after the end of 1893, just as happened in similar circumstances in German New Guinea, German Offices in China, etc. The relationship between the native currency and the surcharged stamps makes the use of the unsurcharged stamps unlikely at the offices in the interior and it is most improbable that the old unsurcharged stamps would have been issued to the newly established agencies, although we know of such an occurrence happening at Friedrich-Wilhelmshafen in German New Guinea.

Probably most of the known specimens are examples of philatelic cancellation for postmark collectors although in individual cases one may be dealing with genuine late using up of stamps actually bought over the counter by private individuals (missionaries and others) before the latter part of 1893. (In this connection genuine usage of the 50pf denomination in the interior only comes into consideration with a very few agencies). As the unsurcharged stamps were not demonetized until September, 1901 (the date when the surcharged stamps were officially declared obsolete) all such usages as those referred to were of stamps definitely valid for franking purposes.

The 2 Mk. stamp with figure of value (No. 37 of the German Empire) was only replaced by the 1, 2 and 3 Rp. denominations at the beginning of 1901 so that theoretically it can occur as a "Real Forerunner" up to that date and with the postmark of any office open before then. This includes all the coastal agencies and all those in the interior given in the list on p. 61, April issue, up to and including Muhesa.

We do not believe, however, in view of the information already given, that 2 Mk. stamps really occur with postmarks of offices in the interior, with the exception, perhaps of a few of the more important places such as Kilossa and Kilimatinde, whilst





on the other hand we have seen many with the postmark of Mikindani, despite the admittedly small postal order business done at this, the most southerly agency.

Both Friedemann and Bungerz definitely record their occurrence with postmarks of Bukoba, Kilimatinde and Kilossa, the first a route terminus and the other two important route junctions. The possibility of "collector's letters," very heavy registered letters, etc., must be considered as it is difficult to understand how such a high postal fee could be charged with an exclusively letter post.

It may be that, after the introduction of money order business at the coast on April 1, 1901, that remainders of the old 2 Mk. stamps were sent for using up in the interior instead of the new Rupee values, wherefore it is very important to find out the dates of these postmarks of Bukoba, Kilossa and Kilimatinde. Since such stamps should only have been used for inside office service and not have been issued to the public, quite apart from their high nominal value we must not too readily take for granted that they were philatelically cancelled.

Stamps of the 1880 German Empire issue were never on sale at the two offices opened in 1890. Dar-es-salaam and Bagamoyo, and white "pieces" with 5 pf or 10 pf stamps of this issue and the postmark of Dar-es-salaam dated 1-1-91 are to be regarded as "philatelic fakes." (See Under "German Post in Zanzibar").

1890 (4 October). Pfennig values of the German Empire Issue of 1889, Nos. 46, 47, 48 and 50 (See Vol. I, p. 903) and the 2 Mk. stamp No. 37 (See Vol. I, p. 896 and Vol. II, p. 52).

- No. 46 5 pf. green, dark green.  
 No. 47 10 pf. rose, carmine.  
 No. 48 20 pf. blue, deep blue.  
 No. 50 50 pf. (a) red brown (?)  
                                   (b) chocolate brown.  
 No. 37 2 Mk. (a) dull purple violet.  
                                   (b) brownish purple, brownish  
                                           carmine.  
                                   (c) dull lilac, light carmine.

It is quite conceivable that the two offices Dar-es-salaam and Bagamoyo could have been supplied at the time of their opening with the latest transitional (red-brown) shade of 50 pf. stamps (German Empire No. 50b) but the only specimens we have seen of this shade were "on piece" and obviously cancelled to order with the Type I Bagamoyo postmark; amongst them were a number with the notorious date 1-1-01 (See "German Post in Zanzibar") and some had on the back the dealer's mark referred to in connection with Zanzibar.

We are of opinion, therefore, that definitely red-brown 50 pf. stamps were never officially issued in German East Africa.

2 Mk. stamps. Stamps of this value of the bluish shade (a) are found, for instance, on parcel cards from mid-1891 onwards. They were probably the stamps of the first consignment received, or, at any rate, part of it. This shade, varying in its proportion of blue and

its washed-out appearance, belongs to the series of tones classed together under the German Empire as the later (second) bluish shades, No. 37d. The specimens which we have examined lie approximately between the dull and dark tones which we have classified under the German Post in Zanzibar as Nos. 37a and 37b. The later strong or bright reddish tones shade over in the latter half of the nineties to almost pure carmine.

Not belonging to this group is the shade which we have listed as 37c, dull lilac, which resembles the dull rose lilac of the second half of the eighties (the phase before the second bluish shades) but nevertheless seems to belong purely to this period of the later darker or stronger mixed colours. We have only seen this shade so far in a few specimens from Tanga.

After the issue of the Rupee values in January, 1901, the stock of 2 Mk. stamps was probably still being used up (See above).

Stamps of 3 pf and 25 pf denominations were never officially issued or employed in German East Africa, although a consignment of 3 pf stamps might conceivably have been sent to some of the post offices in the early days. As a matter of fact all known covers with 3 pf stamps which have genuinely come through the post bear the addresses of well known Forerunner collectors such as Rösener and Huch; there are also numerous specimens whose 3 pf. stamps are of shades (e.g. light yellow-brown) definitely dating them to a period substantially later. Likewise, 25 pf stamps occur almost exclusively on similarly prepared covers or on piece. Some of them even have the notorious date-stamp of 1-1-91.

Bungerz has recorded a case of genuine usage of a 25 pf stamp on a money order counterfoil with the late date of 4-9-97, from Pangani.

Finally there may be mentioned the occurrence of the 2 pf. stamps of 1900 on piece with philatelic cancellations of Bagamoyo. Similar occurrences have been recorded from German New Guinea, etc.

Generally speaking our prices refer to stamps with postmarks of the larger offices like Dar-es-salaam, Bagamoyo and Tanga, but all values occur with all the postmarks shown, although some (e.g. the 5 pf value with Pangani postmark) are regarded by specialists as rare.

In the case of Dar-es-salaam and Bagamoyo the postmarks of Type I are commonly regarded as being the more valuable, although strictly speaking this assumption is not justified for Forerunners if the duration of the period of usage be taken into consideration.

Stamps of any value showing cancellations of genuine usage from any office in the interior are so very rare, if they exist at all, that they merit very special prices, although it should be remembered, that in such cases one would not be dealing, from the point of view of dates, with "real" Forerunners.

(To be continued)

## Society News

### EAST LONDON PHILATELIC SOCIETY

*President, J. Paviour; Hon. Secretary and Treasurer, S. F. Fowler; Meetings, Second Fridays, Colosseum Tea Lounge, at 8 p.m.*

At the May meeting Mr. H. Courlander displayed a few Colonies of his large collection of British Africans. The first was a very representative showing of British Central Africa and Nyasaland issues, with certain airmail covers of the first Nyasaland airmails, and Northern Nigeria and Nigeria were complete in mint state with a fine range of shades. All used stamps shown were in really fine used state.

For the June meeting, the President appealed to those members who had not displayed before to bring along their stamps and any items of philatelic interest. It was also decided to hold an auction of stamps donated by members in aid of British Red Cross funds as had been done in the Great War. Further, any stamps which were of no interest to local members and consequently would not command fair prices would be sent to London for auction. Details of the Southern Rhodesian Commemorative Issue were read out, and members handed in to the secretary details of their requirements of this new issue so that one complete order should be sent.

J.P.S.

### EAST RAND PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

*President, S. Legator; Hon. Secretary, J. Doyle, 41 Rose Deep, Germiston. Meetings, Hotel Regent, Benoni, 2nd Thursdays, 8 p.m.*

At the May meeting the Johannesburg Philatelic Society were the annual visitors.

Notes of the month were read by Mr. Suklje who also gave an interesting paper on "The Fascinating Hobby of Stamp Collecting." An auction of stamps, contributed by members, was held and almost £6 was realised. This total will be sent to the "Mayors' Fund," Benoni.

The chair was then taken over by the visiting society. The visitors provided the exhibits for the evening. Mr. Houbert first showed his collection of Cape of Good Hope. The triangulars were a treat to look at, and all items were in superb condition with full margins, colour and light postmarks. There were twelve examples of "Wood Blocks." The later issues were almost complete, with many varieties of the Overprints and Surcharges. The collection was beautifully arranged and written-up.

The next exhibit was provided by Mr. Buchen, who showed a small collection of German Tête-Bêche and Se-Tenant pairs.

Tea was then served and the interval provided a good opportunity for philatelic talk.

The next exhibit was a collection of New Hebrides, tabled by Mr. Crewell. This Anglo-French Condominium consists of a group of about 30 islands in the South Pacific. The collection included all the issues from the very first issued by the Australasian New Hebrides Co., Ltd., in 1897, to the latest pictorial issue. The setting out and writing-up was an example of perfectness and neatness.

The last exhibit was shown by Mr. Redford. This was a collection of Gold Coast. Mr. Redford preceded his exhibit by an explanatory talk on the stamps of Gold Coast, showing how Gold Coast contained one of the rarest stamps in the world, this being the 4d. embossed, there being only one known copy and that was in the "Tipling" collection. Mr. Redford's collection included many interesting and rare items, among these being a 1s. K.G.V. with watermark A.S. instead of C.A. and also the 20s. mint, the used copies of which are only three in number known. There were also 2d. bisects and a 4d. quartered, this being an excellent specimen.

Dr. Shapiro proposed a vote of thanks to the visiting exhibitors for their very fine show of stamps, and in stating that he thoroughly appreciated and enjoyed all the exhibits, he expressed the opinion of all the members present.

H.S.

### PHILATELIC SOCIETY OF NATAL.

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

To coincide with the date of the Postal Centenary the May meeting of the Society was deferred from May 1 to May 6, when there was a large attendance under the chairmanship of Mr. H. H. Hurst. An interesting display of Penny Blacks and Twopenny Blues, as well as a selection of later British issues, was staged by Messrs. Cornelius, Crockett and Saunders.

An address, "One Hundred Years of Postage Stamps," was given by Mr. Percy C. Bishop, and appears elsewhere in this issue.

G.R.

### JEWISH GUILD, JOHANNESBURG.

The main exhibits at the April meeting of the Jewish Guild Philatelic Section were old German States by Dr. E. Binion and Dr. Grunthal.

Dr. Binion's exhibit included representative sheets of Prussia, Hanover, Thurn and Taxis, North German Confederation, Bremen and Bavaria. There were also some early German

Empire; stamps for use by the German army in Alsace-Lorraine, and some local stamps.

Dr. Grunthal's exhibit included several sheets of mint Bavaria with marginal inscriptions and some sheets of Hamburg, Baden, Hanover, Lubeck, Oldenburg, and Brunswick. There was also a cover with Mecklenberg stamps in fine condition and a sheet of Heli-goland stamps.

During the evening an amusing competition was held. This was the guessing of the countries of stamps almost completely covered. Mr. J. Robertson won with a score of 8 out of 8, and Dr. A. Kaplan and Mr. I. Isaacs tied for second place with a score of 6.

Items of interest shown included Tristan da Cunha covers of the recent mail from that Island carried by a British War Ship.

At the May meeting of the Jewish Guild Philatelic Section the exhibit was part of Mr. E. C. Sprighton's unique collection of 1d. Blacks and 2d. Blues, a fitting exhibit for May, 1940.

Mr. Sprighton showed specimens of every plate number, including the rare plate 11. The other plate numbers were shown in large quantities to illustrate the different check letters and the different post marks. The main item of the exhibit, however, was a complete reconstructed sheet of 1d. Blacks plate 2 from "A A" to "T L", all 240 copies being in fine used condition.

The 2d. Blues were also well represented, including several joined pairs all in perfect condition with margins. The whole exhibit consisted of good to superb copies. No poor copies were shown. Numerous red maltese cross post marks (which are rarer than the black ones) were shown.

The exhibit included 1d. Blacks on cover, a used Mulready cover as well as some pre-stamp covers. As a fitting conclusion to the exhibit there was a first day cover of the recently issued G.B. commemoratives of the first postage stamp.

It is a sad reflection that through war conditions, 100 years after the introduction of 1d. postage in Great Britain, the rate has been raised to 2½d.

Before the exhibit a paper was read by Mr. Sprighton on the method of printing of the 1d. Black, the different plate numbers and the methods of distinguishing them. This was illustrated with photographs, enlarged copies of which were also included in the exhibit.

In speaking on the fine exhibit, Mr. J. Robertson pointed out that Mr. Sprighton's collection was probably unique in South Africa.

During the evening a competition was held, organised by Mr. Robertson, of guessing of countries of stamps which parts only were shown. Mr. J. Robertson kindly donated prizes for the winners. The competition was won by Mr. I. Isaacs and Mr. L. Buchen who tied for first place with a score of 12 out of 13.

H.W.

#### PRETORIA PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

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

May 6. Mr. Hawke read some interesting philatelic extracts.

Mr. Obermeyer read a paper on the Indian Native States dealing with their stamp-issuing activities. He gave a list of the numbers of different stamps issued by each state and emphasized that from the point of view of philately this group of countries offered great comfort to collectors as very few changes in design, etc., occurred over very long periods and hardly any provisionals were found.

Dr. Broughton tabled a fine exhibit of Belgium.

May 20. Mr. Basden read a paper on his researches into the Lydenburg stamps. Although most of these stamps had been considered genuine up to the present he had come to the conclusion that many of them would have to be classed as bogus. This was especially so with the Transvaal Commemorative and by the help of photographs he demonstrated that this stamp was undoubtedly bogus. Mr. Klagsbrun suggested that judgment should be deferred until more information could be accumulated.

Mr. Obermeyer showed a fine lot of Portuguese East Africa.

H.A.W.

#### THE PORT ELIZABETH PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

*President*, G. K. Forbes; *Hon. Secretary*, C. W. Sheffield, c/o P.O. Box 88, Port Elizabeth. *Meetings*: First and third Tuesdays in each month in the African Room of the P.E. Public Library.

#### ANNUAL MEETING.

The members of the above Society held their annual meeting in the Public Library on May 21. The President (Mr. G. K. Forbes) conducted the proceedings, and in his address referred to visits he had made to East London and Grahamstown suggesting at these centres that the S.A. Philatelic Congress for 1941 receive an invitation from this centre (the E.P. and Border district) to hold their gathering at Port Elizabeth. It was agreed that this be carried out. He also stated that the Society had received a letter from the Lord Mayor of London, asking if the Society or any member had spare stamps they could send him to be sold by auction for the Red Cross funds of the Allies.

The secretary gave an exhaustive report of the working of the Society during the past year. The membership was holding its own and the finances were in a favourable condition. The Exchange Superintendent reviewing the year said that in the past 12 months they had put in circulation stamps to the amount of about £350 and about 66 per cent. had

been sold. The revision of the rules and constitution of the Society took up a lot of time and the new syllabus for 1940-41 was approved.

The officers for the ensuing year elected were President, Mr. G. K. Forbes; Secretary, C. W. Sheffield; Exchange Superintendent, T. Campbell; Hon. Treasurer, W. Macmillan; Vice-presidents, T. Nicholson and T. Macgregor; Librarian and Curator, T. Macgregor; Press correspondent, J. A. Prideaux. These officers to form the executive.

J.A.P.

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

*President*, F. Carter; *Hon. Secretary*, H. G. Ulyate, Box 702, Bloemfontein. *Meetings*, 2nd Fridays, Oranje Koffiehuis, Bloemfontein, 8 p.m.

At the May meeting two new members were elected, bringing the total membership of the society to sixty-seven.

In the Exchange Section, the balance of the books, 229 in number, were cleared by Dr. Freund, in his capacity as Exchange Superintendent for 1938/39. The value of the books circulated amounted to £1,071 16s. 5d., with sales of £211 19s. 7d. Sales represent 20 per cent. of the total value of the books, which is very encouraging.

Dr. Freund gave a very interesting criticism and summing up of the most outstanding points of philatelic interest arising from the late Geo. Blockey's most informative article on his research into the ramifications of the cancellations made by the Ladysmith Seige Post Office appearing in the *S.A. Philatelist* of April, 1940. To illustrate his findings Dr. Freund displayed a used and a mint card of the official "Long Tom" Post Card.

Mr. Carter read an article on the "History of Paper" which was most informative and well received by his audience. Methods of manufacture, from the time of the Chinese hand made, to the modern machine made, were fully described.

H.G.U.

#### NEW REPUBLIC.

In a continued series of articles on "The Victorian Postage Stamps of Natal," by Mr. Eric W. Mann, running in the "London Philatelist," there appears incidentally a statement about the stamps of the New Republic.

Dealing with the 1d. provisional of 18th March, 1895, Mr. Mann has occasion to quote parts of a letter from a Mr. Griffin who was in control of the issue of this provisional. He goes on to quote a further part of Mr. Griffin's letter, it being, as he says, of considerable interest, although not strictly relevant. Here it is:

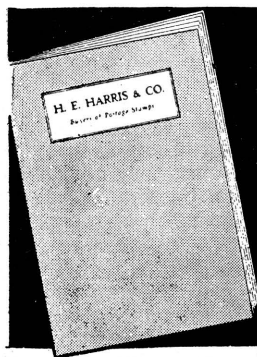
"New Republic Stamps. These were printed from a rubber stamp by Bernard Nel & Co., who went from Maritzburg and opened up business at Vryheid. Only the 1d. and 2d. were recognised as valid for postal purposes within the Republic and therefore they were only local stamps. Any letter coming into Natal had to be stamped with Natal stamps in addition. Values higher than twopence were supplied to 'order' from the rubber stamp. I have reason to believe that this rubber stamp is still in existence in case any ardent collector wants to fill up a few blanks."

Mr. Mann goes on to add:—"If all this is correct, what a chance for Messrs. Stanley Gibbons to save some pages in their catalogue."

#### TRISTAN DA CUNHA.

Last month a query was raised as to how the islanders knew there was a war on before the visit of a British warship early in this year. This has been answered by Mr. A. Crawford, who was a member of the Norwegian scientific expedition which visited the island in the beginning of 1938 and who has still kept in touch with the inhabitants.

The island was visited by a Norwegian whaler in November, 1939, and a small mail was brought off by it. Mr. Crawford received letters by this mail so there can be no mistake about it.



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## Review

**AIR MAIL LABELS (ETIQUETTES).**  
Messrs. Francis J. Field, Ltd., Sutton  
Coldfield, England, 2nd Ed., Price 1s.

This work, No. 5 of the "Aero Field Handbooks," must be invaluable for all collectors of this fascinating sideline of aero-philately. It is a priced list of all etiquettes issued by every country in the world since their first introduction in France in 1918. The prices in the main are only for mint specimens; copies used on cover may also be obtainable from the publishers, sometimes at cheaper rates but often only at much higher figures. All main types are illustrated, a considerable number of them in colour. The work can be most heartily recommended.

### "CANCELLED IN RED."

The writers of detective thrillers have discovered that a secondary interest has now to be introduced into their stories—mere murder is not sufficient. Stamps and crooked stamp dealing provide this in "Cancelled in Red," a story by Hugh Pentecost, which won the £250 Dodd Mod detective story competition.

The scene centres round Nassau Street, New York's down-town stamp area. The red cancellation refers apparently to the murders which crooked stamp dealing leads up to and not to any actual red cancellation on a stamp. We are introduced in the story to honest and dishonest dealers, honest and dishonest collectors and various stamp deals. An 1860 Newfoundland 1s. orange on laid paper ultimately provides the clue which leads to the arresting of the arch criminal.

The writer has his philatelic details well mastered and the story can be recommended as full of interest to philatelists who have also a taste for thrillers.

### SUDAN.

The current 5 milliemes stamp of Sudan has now appeared overprinted "S.G." for use on official mail.

There has also been issued a provisional 5 milliemes postage stamp, 240,000 of the 10 milliemes being surcharged "5 mills," and the equivalent in Arabic. Overprinted locally, two minor varieties occur in the Arabic overprint, one shows the tail missing in the first character, and the other two dots missing from under an Arabic letter.

## COLLECTORS' WANTS AND OFFERS

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

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

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

William Redford, Box 7012, Johannesburg.

**Wanted.**—Imperforate issues of all countries in good condition, especially North and South America.

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

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

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

**Mint South Africans,** mostly before Union. Price Lists Threepence.

Chipp, P.O. Lafuta, Cape.

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

A. E. Basden, Box 238, Pretoria.

**Buy Your Centennial Souvenir Now—**"From Cover to Cover," by Emil Tamsen and Park Smith. Price 3s. 6d.

Mr. Park Smith, The Strand, Cape Province, South Africa.

**Exchange** desired with collectors and dealers. Have large quantities of United States, Canada, and foreign stamps, including Commemoratives, Airposts, Pictorials, General Issues, etc., in exchange for British Colonies, and foreign Pictorials, Commemoratives, etc., in any quantity. Correspondence welcomed!

Sol F. Whitman, 1462 Taylor Avenue, New York City, U.S.A.

## ZANZIBAR.

## POSTMARKS AND CENSOR MARKS.

In our January number, Mr. Tunstall reported that two cancellations might be met with on Zanzibar stamps other than that of ZANZIBAR itself. These are the marks of two offices on the island of Pemba, which lies to the north of the main island of Zanzibar. The spelling of the names of these as given in his note is not quite correct. We have now seen specimens of these marks and the correct spelling is WETE and CHAKE CHAKE.

No actual censor's mark seems to be in use at Zanzibar so far, but we have seen a cover from there which has been opened, and then closed by a small white label with merely the words in red "Opened by Censor."

## O.F.S. DOUBLE SURCHARGE, S.G. No. 76.

In the April number of the "Philatelic Journal of Great Britain," Dr. Mosely has an interesting article on this variety, illustrated by photographs of a complete sheet of Nos. 69-76. The photographs certainly go to show that the double surcharging was due to a handstamp as stated by de Reuterskiold in "Africa Pt. III," and not by running the sheets through the press a second time as recently maintained by Geldhof.

The excuse for double stamping seems to have been that in some instances the original surcharge was weakly impressed and in others that the original surcharge was misplaced and did not fall entirely on the stamp. In some cases, however, there appears to have been little reason for a second impression and it can only be attributed to exuberance on the part of the man with the handstamp.

## A SEYCHELLES ERROR.

In the March number of "Godden's Gazette" Mr. G. W. Dixon draws attention to the error S.G. No. 23, 12 cents surcharged on the 16 cents stamp Fie I, with the surcharge inverted. Apparently this error was observed by the authorities and a vertical bar of red ink was applied to them. Copies to be perfect should therefore show this bar but apparently there are stamps about which have had the bar removed. On the other hand it is possible that some copies got into circulation before the error was observed and the bars applied.

## S.W.A. METER POST.

Mr. F. Mattei and also Mr. Axer record a second meter stamp used in this territory, viz., S.W.A.2, Land Bank, Windhoek. An unconfirmed rumour says that although it has been in use it is already discontinued.

## WEST RAND STAMP CLUB.

This Club is now entering on its second year. It has had a very successful first year of existence, and, judging from what we have seen of some of its members, has sufficient enthusiasts in its ranks to keep it going good and strong.

At the Annual General Meeting, held on 2nd May, the following office bearers were elected for the ensuing year:—

President: J. Burrell.

Vice-Presidents: A. F. Johnstone and R. W. Morley.

Hon. Secretary: E. J. Sharpe, P.O. Box 5, West Rand.

Committee Members: D. Powell, C. Wallach, M. Burrell, W. M. Glover.

The Club meets on the 1st Thursday of each month at 8 p.m. in the West Rand Buildings, Human Street, Krugersdorp.

## GRAMOPHONE POST.

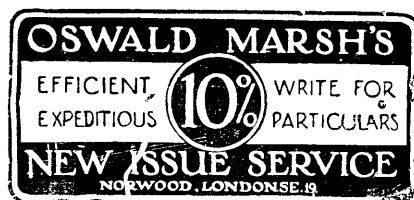
The Argentine postal authorities have recently introduced a novel postal service for which a set of three special "Fonopostal" stamps has been issued. Instead of writing a letter you go into a special cabinet and record your message on to an unbreakable gramophone disc. This is sent to the addressee who has to "play" it on his gramophone. The special stamps cover cost of the disc, recording, packing and postage.

## UNION PARCEL LABELS.

Mr. Axer has now added Germiston to the list of towns given in our April number as using Meter parcel post labels.

## SOUTHERN RHODESIA.

Southern Rhodesia's Jubilee Commemoratives duly appeared on Monday, 3rd June. We hear there was a great rush with first day covers. We hope to hear about them from our Bulawayo philatelic friends for next month's issue.



# “LOOK NORTH” and it means GO NORTH

Seaside excursion tickets issued during June-August (see leaflets) and general winter excursions available daily between all S.A.R. stations from 15th June to 6th July.

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*Proprietors and Publishers :*

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Price 6d. REGISTERED AT THE G.P.O. AS A NEWSPAPER. Price 6d.

Vol. 16.

JULY, 1940.

No. 7.

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# The SOUTH AFRICAN PHILATELIST

*Proprietors and Publishers :*

## **The Philatelic Federation of Southern Africa**

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Honorary Business Manager: WILLIAM REDFORD, Broadcast House, Commissioner  
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No. 7.

## The Postage Stamp

The following notes are taken, with due acknowledgments, from the Introduction to the Catalogue of the Stamp Centenary Exhibition held in London, May 6th—14th, under the auspices of the Royal Philatelic Society.

"We have become so used to the Postage Stamp, and regard it so much as a mere article of daily utility, that far too few appreciate what effect its arrival and progress have had upon the history of our Empire and of the world at large.

It is therefore very fitting that we should start by stressing some features of the Postage Stamp which are seldom, if ever, sufficiently appreciated.

It was the keystone of cheap postage, keystone because the operation of cheap postage necessitates prepayment of the postal rates, and its convenience and expedition equally require that this should not always be done by coin over a post office counter while the office is open . . .

"Secondly, although it only started as a form of British Post Office receipt for cash, which could be attached to correspondence, it has grown in a hundred years to occupy a unique position in international paper currency. Since the formation of the Universal Postal Union and the establishment of the rates over the world a postage stamp registered at the headquarters of the Union at Berne must be recognized outside its country of origin as an international security valid to carry letters to the full extent its facial value entitles it to do by international agreement. A postage stamp is a letter's passport, in a way more powerful than any other passport as it requires no visa. Even in war time a postage stamp is still valid although it is of enemy origin and Great Britain will still recognize

an enemy stamp though the coinage or bank notes may be regarded as "ersatz." A passport cannot entitle one to special services from the Government of a foreign power, a postage stamp can and does.

"Thirdly, the Postage Stamp is a running commentary on the national history and development of the last hundred years. Every change of ruler, variation of frontier, alteration of system of coinage and even of substantial exchange rate is recorded by it. The development of postal and trade routes and the improvement of carriage by land, sea, and air are all noted and dated by it.

"Fourthly, the Postage Stamp is, with the possible exception of its flag, a nation's most important international symbol. British stamps have always carried the head of the sovereign, the centre of Empire unity, and it is a matter of supreme national importance that in design and execution they should be worthy of what they represent."

Further, writing of the Birth of the Postage Stamp and of subsequent issues of British stamps, it is noted:

"One word should be added on a point to which attention is often drawn. There is no name of the country of origin on our stamps. It is not always understood that this is a matter of national pride particularly relevant to this Centenary.

"We did not need a name in 1840 because there were no others, and the original stamps were only recognized in this country.

"Brazil, the first nation to follow us in 1843 had no name on their first stamps either, but they were the only Government issue on the American continent. For some years since then the spread of the use of the postage stamp and the establishment of the Universal Postal Union have involved a general presumption that the name of the country of origin should be stated, but as a tribute to our responsibility for starting this system we have never departed from our first principles in this respect."

## An Item of Interest

By W. J. E. BAXTER,  
Pretoria Philatelic Society.

At a recent meeting we enjoyed some little discussion as to whether it was not altogether ridiculous and improper that a man should shuffle off this mortal coil at the early age of 57. It was remarked by the speaker that possibly the connection between such a discussion and the study of postage stamps was not very obvious.

To-night I want to go one better, just for two minutes. Not being a doctor, I can't speak about births or deaths. But a few words about the Irish Sweep may serve just as well.

I know we are supposed to be discussing stamp items of interest. But you see, Mr. Chairman, one of the many advantages of our hobby lies in the fact that a stamp may possess for its owner far more than the merely philatelic interest. I venture to say that there are very few collectors who could not single out some stamp from their collection and tell a story about it, probably having nothing whatsoever to do with philately. In some cases it may be only a matter of finance—some outstanding rarity picked up at a bargain figure. Or, again, there may be stamps with sentimental associations.

I wonder if any of our lady members keep carefully treasured in a special album a collection of entires showing the stamps crosswise on the bottom right hand corner or upside down on the top left hand corner. I remember there used to be all sorts of variations by means of which affectionate messages could thus be conveyed. Probably, however, modern youth is more of a believer in direct action and the language of stamps has shared the fate of the valentine.

There are stamps which recall an incident, a place, some long forgotten friend. A few years ago, I was enjoying afternoon tea with an old relative in his pleasant home on the outskirts of London, when the post arrived, bringing a letter from his son in the Malay States. Knowing that I was a collector, the old gentleman tore off the stamp and gave it to me. It is of no value, a very ordinary copy and heavily postmarked, but I keep it in my collection as a memento of a very enjoyable holiday visit.

Stamps may be of interest for all manner of reasons.

But what has all this got to do with the Irish Sweep?

South Africa, as you know, Mr. Chairman, is a very good, pure-minded and highly moral

country. Our legislators shudder at the idea of gambling, and the mere whisper of anything in the nature of a lottery or sweepstake sends them frantic. (Perhaps they are frantic lest they may be too late to get tickets for themselves, but that is neither here nor there—I wonder whether any of us in this room to-night have got tickets safely tucked away in our pocket books !)

Yes, we are all highly moral. Members of Parliament, judges, magistrates, predikants and policemen, railway porters and tram conductors, even civil servants and bankers (when they can afford it)—we all buy tickets in the Irish Sweep. But, don't forget, in theory we disapprove of it absolutely. More especially as the other fellow always wins. It is all very, very wrong.

A good many years ago a lady of my acquaintance confided in me that she held a ticket that had drawn a horse in the Irish Sweep. She was the last person on earth I would ever have suspected of infringing our gambling laws and I indicated that I was grieved and disillusioned in her.

"Oh, that's all right," she said. "But the point is, you work in a bank, don't you? Now I want to know how I can collect the money without anybody getting to hear that I've won a prize."

I suggested that she should wait until she ascertained whether her horse won before doing anything.

Eventually, it did not, but I was able to assist her in collecting a useful little amount as an "also ran," and to celebrate the event she wanted to give me a memento.

"What about a new tie?" she said. "That one you are wearing is getting pretty mouldy."

I told her that ties may come and ties may go, but for the price of a new tie I could get a much more enduring memento.

So we sent off a postal order for five shillings and in due course I became the possessor of the Labuan "Crown" set of stamps of 1902.

The set is not one of any outstanding importance philatelicly. It was the last Labuan issue before the territory became incorporated (in 1906) in the Straits Settlements, and judging by the price at which Stanley Gibbons offer the set, there must have been numerous remainders available for stamp collectors. The design is an attractive one and the stamps make up a bright and pretty page in the collection.

For my part, however, their main interest will always rest in their association with my lady friend's successful investment in the Irish Sweep.

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# The Numerical Postmarks of Southern Africa

By J. H. HARVEY PIRIE.

Numerals have rather a special fascination for the student of postmarks, probably because they do not of themselves betray their place of use—this has to be ferreted out by finding covers or by delving into archives for official lists.

Having made a small collection personally and having tried to locate them, I have been struck by the paucity of our records in this respect. It has occurred to me that it might serve a useful purpose to gather together the available information about such postmarks; collectors will then more readily see the enormous lacunae which are waiting to be filled up. Many collectors, even if they are not specially interested in postmarks, must have specimens in their collections which would fill a blank or two in our knowledge. If they would just look over their material in the light of this article and forward any information they can add to the "South African Philatelist," it would be received with gratitude and could be gathered together and published as a supplementary report.

The following notes are based on such published information as I have been able to find, with a few small additions from my own material, but I have specially to thank Messrs. A. E. Basden, H. H. Hurst, A. A. Jurgens and Prof. J. J. Smith for much information freely given. Without their co-operation this compilation would have been woefully incomplete. As it stands I think I can say that it at least provides a useful base to work up from. The various territories of Southern Africa are taken in alphabetical order, with the exception that the Cape is considered first for the reason that one particular type of numeral postmark used extensively there has been copied in, or borrowed by, a number of the other territories and it is convenient in their case to refer simply to their "Cape type" of numeral postmarks.

## CAPE OF GOOD HOPE.

The numeral postmarks of this territory fall into the following groups:



Fig. 1.

(1) The Octagonal Numbered Letter Stamps in use before the days of adhesive postage stamps. After the introduction of adhesive stamps in 1853 these were still employed for a considerable period, at any rate at some of the offices possessing them, as defacers, although stamps so cancelled cannot be described as just very common.

The numbers run consecutively up to No. 60, although No. 1 of the series is not known. All but nine have been identified as regards their place of usage. See Fig. 1.

(2) This is the type of numeral postmark which, for convenience, I shall refer to throughout this communication as the "Cape Type 2." It is a type which was used very widely throughout Cape Colony and for a long period of time, viz., from the date of its first introduction in 1864 right up to, and, indeed, even considerably after, the Union in 1910. Moreover marks of this type are to be found in use to a greater or lesser degree in practically all the other Southern African territories.

The type may be described as a vertical oval grid with a square or rectangular box in the centre enclosing a number. The bars of the grid all run horizontally, there being three above and three below the box, also three short bars on either side of it; the length of the latter varying with the size of the box. In the contemporaneous British type of mark, from which the idea for this was probably derived, the single side bars run vertically and are slightly curved into the line of the oval; also there is no box round the number.

Three main varieties or "issues" of this type may be distinguished. See Figs. 2a, 2b, and 2c.

(a) The first issue began in 1864 and of this lot the numbers certainly did not exceed



Fig. 2a.

400 and may even have not exceeded 300. The bars in this variety are all thick and the vertical (long) axis of the oval measures approximately 28 m.m. The mark (and this applies to all three issues) was used as a stamp defacer and along with it there was employed a small circular place and date stamper. In the marks of this period the defacing numeral and the place and date stamp were sometimes combined into one stamping instrument; in other cases they were used separately, necessitating two stamping operations.



Fig. 2b.

(b) With the second issue, which commenced about 1870, the numbers ran up to about 1,000 (No. 996 is known). The bars of this variety are still thick but the long axis of the oval is rather less, measuring approximately only 26 m.m.

Mr. Jurgens has located the place of use of about 150 of these two varieties of thick barred numbered ovals. This has been done by the laborious method of collecting covers with both numbered cancellations and locative date stamps as there does not appear to be any record available of the offices to which numbers were allotted. In making this collection he has made the interesting discovery that certain numbers have been used at more than one office at different periods and also that certain towns used two, or even three, different numbers at different times. Further there does not seem to have been any definite system followed in the distribution of the numbers as he has identified, for example, three offices within a few miles of each other with such varied numbers as 18, 216 and 510.

He is further of opinion that all the thick barred defacers issued prior to 1896 could not have been used in the Cape, as, up to that date, there were nothing like 996 post offices in the Colony. I would hazard the suggestion that a fair proportion at any rate, if not perhaps all, of the numbers which could not have been used up in Cape Colony may be accounted for by their having been made over to and used by the postal authorities in various other territories in Southern Africa. Some of the possibilities in this direction are demonstrated in later parts of this compilation.



Fig. 2c.

(c) In the third issue, which began about 1896, the bars of the grid are thinner; the length of the oval is approximately 27 m.m. With this series the numbers run well up into four figures; I do not know the upper limit, the highest number I have seen personally is 1392.

There are considerable variations in the size and character of the numerals in this Type 2. Sometimes they may be described as "coarse," being of about uniform thickness throughout their whole length, but quite possibly this is to be accounted for in part at least through broadening by wear. In many, however, the numerals are "fine" with sharply defined edges, broad parts and thin parts—regular "waists," in fact.

In height they vary from 6 m.m. to 8 m.m. The great majority are probably between 6½

and 7½ m.m., but there are to be found some measuring the extremes of 6 m.m. or 8 m.m. I have two Edwardian Cape stamps with numeral cancellations in which the figures measure only 5 m.m. in height. These are dealt with in the O.F.S. section, but I might just state here that Mr. Jurgens is most emphatic in his opinion that these are not truly Cape marks.

Variations other than those due to wear are also to be seen in the numerals of one and the same number. This is perhaps especially noticeable in the case of No. 1 (Cape Town), where several different varieties of "1" are to be found. Obviously several different implements with the same number were employed either simultaneously or successively.

As the use of Type 2 numeral defacers extended at many offices into the period of Union it must be remembered that the cancellations are liable to be found on stamps of Natal, O.F.S. or Transvaal used interprovincially. This possible snag has to be kept in mind when trying to locate the place of usage of such numeral defacers when there is no accompanying place and date stamp available.

(To be continued)

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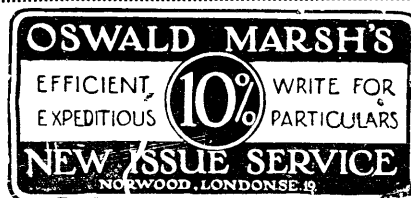
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**UNION METER PARCEL LABELS.**

Mr. R. Axer confirms the use of a Meter Parcel Post machine at Port Elizabeth. Its probable use there was mentioned in our April issue, p. 52. The label is of type N C R 3.



## Lydenburg (Boer War) Issue

**S.G. No. 1**

By A. E. BASDEN.

(A paper read before the Pretoria Philatelic Society)

If you will turn to page 518 of Stanley Gibbons' 1940 catalogue and look at the first item under "Lydenburg" you will find that it reads:

(1) "Sept., 1900. Commemorative stamp. T34 surch. V.R.I.-1d. red." and the item is placed *over* Type LI.

But if you will go back to page 499 of the 1939 catalogue you will find the first item reads slightly differently, as follows:

(2) "Sept., 1900. Commemorative stamp optd. V.R.I. as in Type L I. 1d. Red."

And if you will go back still further to, say, page 463 of the 1928 catalogue, you will be surprised (and chagrined) to find the item reading as follows:

(3) "Sept., 1900. Commemorative stamp, Type 38, surcharged as Type L I, in black. 1d. carmine."

and in the two latter cases the item is placed *under* Type L I.

In all three catalogues you will find that Type L I remains the same, viz. V.R.I. over 3d., the letters being in the same type as that used for overprinting the rest of the Lydenburg series, viz. the 1896 issue of Transvaal overprinted V.R.I.,  $\frac{1}{2}$ d. to 1s.

It will be noticed, however, that the denomination of S.G.1 remains the same throughout, viz., 1d. carmine (red).

And thereby hangs a tale!

Two years ago (1938) while preparing a note on the Lydenburg Issue for the book on the stamps of Transvaal (Curle and Basden—now about to be published) I discovered that "Africa," page 598, recorded a Lydenburg stamp which I thought was not catalogued and which I always considered to be bogus, viz. V.R.I.—1d. on 1d. Commemorative; but did not record the V.R.I.—3d. on 1d. Commemorative, which I thought to be genuine, and which I always understood was stamp S.G.1.

On turning to my catalogue at the time, I found the first item read as (2) above, which, read carefully, means a 1d. Commemorative overprinted with the letters "V.R.I." in the type used in the illustration. And then I was "up against it" as Dr. Plumb might well have said; for, to the best of my knowledge, there was no such thing as a 1d. Commemorative overprinted with the letters "V.R.I." only; and S.G.1 might mean either the "V.R.I.—1d." as recorded by "Africa" or the "V.R.I.—3d." on 1d. Commemorative as not recorded by "Africa." I did not think of looking at an earlier catalogue as I had no

thought, at the time, that the wording in the catalogue might have been altered. One doesn't expect such changes in items of long standing.

Now in spite of the fact that S.G.1 reads "1d. carmine (red)" and not "3d. on 1d. carmine (red)," all the advanced collectors that I know in South Africa always considered S.G.1 to be the 3d. on 1d. Commemorative; and this opinion is in accord with the S.G. heading in the early catalogues, vide (3) above.

Moreover, it was the view of all those advanced collectors referred to that the Commemorative stamp, overprinted "V.R.I.—1d." in block (instead of Old Style Roman) capitals, was bogus.

Thus the problem resolves into:

- (a) Are the "V.R.I.—1d." on 1d. Commemorative (12½ mm. and 10 mm.) bogus stamps?
- (b) Is the "V.R.I.—3d." on 1d. Commemorative genuine or bogus?
- (c) To which stamp does S.G.1 refer—(a) or (b)? (To be continued)

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## Air Mail Notes

By  
I. H. C. GODFREY.

### UNION OF SOUTH AFRICA AND SOUTH-WEST AFRICA.

Owing to the requisitioning of all aircraft and personnel of South African Airways, all inland air mail and passenger services were suspended on May 25, 1940.

On June 10 the air mail service between the Union and Europe was suspended and it is expected that in the near future a new route from England to the Union down the West Coast of Africa will be inaugurated.

### EXTENSION OF EMPIRE AIR SERVICE—NEW ZEALAND.

British Overseas Airways, and its subsidiary companies, have now commenced to operate a regular air service linking New Zealand across the Tasman Sea with their net of air lines. The distance between Auckland and Sydney, the terminals of the new service, is approximately 1,250 miles.

A special purple cachet reading "NEW ZEALAND — AUSTRALIA — ENGLAND THROUGH AIR MAIL SERVICE INAUGURAL FLIGHT 1940" in six lines was applied to first flight covers. Mails addressed to South

Africa were posted on April 27 and reached Durban on May 15, some of the covers being backstamped at Cairo en route May 11.

Owing to prevailing restrictions, little official information was given regarding this important new service and, from this end, there is no record of any mails having been despatched in the reverse direction on the inaugural flight.

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My Prices	1/-	1/9,	1/9	1/6	1/4	2/-	9d.				
83	84	116	152	200	224	226	228	231	233	267	
1/-	2/-	1/-	2/6	1/-	1/3	2/6	2/6	3/6	2/-	2/3	
<b>CAPE COLONY.</b>											
29	43	56	63	64	65	68	73	76			
1/3	1/-	10/-	1/4	3/6	1/9	1/6	1/-	1/2			
GEO. CHIPP, P.O. Lafuta, Cape.											

### CENSOR MARKS.

A negative mark which we fancy comes from Bombay, seems to strike a new note. It appears at all events on a cover from Goa and reads "Not opened by Censor." A companion cover by the same mail was marked "Passed by Censor," although this also did not appear to have been opened by the censor.

"Mail Service Suspended." Letters from various European countries are now finding their way back here with this endorsement in rubber stamps of several types. Usually such letters have also "Opened by Censor" labels.

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## The Stamps of the New Republic

By  
S. A. KLAGSBRUN.

It has always struck me as strange that the issues of the New Republic have received such scanty attention at the hands of collectors in South Africa. It is true that they are very unattractive in appearance—yet they abound in interest.

I accordingly felt that a few notes on the stamps may possibly prove of interest and stimulate members to devote a little more attention to them.

A few words about the history of the territory formerly known as the New Republic may not be out of place.

After the death of Cetewayo, the Paramount Chief of Zululand in 1884, his son, Dinizulu, got into trouble with some of the minor chieftains of his race, and this resulted in open fighting, in which Dinizulu generally got the worst of it. On the advice of the white adventurers in his camp, he called in the assistance of Boers from the neighbouring districts of the Transvaal and O.F.S. on the promise of being rewarded with land if he succeeded in quelling the rebellious Chieftains. The Boers readily responded.

After some hard fighting, the Boers were successful, and the rebellion was ended. Dinizulu was crowned King of Zululand. His allies, the Boers, withdrew to the part of the country which he had given them as a reward for their assistance. This tract of country, some 2,000 square miles in area, has a rich soil, well watered, and sheltered, and a temperate climate. It was proclaimed by the Boers in 1884, as the New Republic, with the town of Vryheid as its capital and Mr. Lucas J. Meyer was elected the first President. Officials were appointed, a Parliament elected and the Government was modelled upon that of the neighbouring S.A. Republic. By treaty of October, 1886, the New Republic was recognised by Great Britain as an Independent State. In 1887 negotiations were opened with the S.A. Republic for the incorporation of this territory, and on September 14, 1887, a treaty to this effect was concluded, under which the New Republic became the district of Vryheid in the S.A. Republic. The treaty of 1887 was submitted to the Government of Great Britain, by which the Treaty was sanctioned, and a convention upon the subject was entered into, which was signed at Pretoria on June 11, 1899, and at Capetown on the 20th of the same month. The Convention defined the exact boundaries of the territory, made provision for the preservation of the graves of certain

Zulu Chiefs situated within that area, settled (in the negative) all questions of a Boer Protectorate over the remainder of Zululand proper, and concluded by stating that the Convention must be ratified by both Parliaments within six months. Ratification took place within a month and in July, 1888, the New Republic ceased to exist as an independent state, after a short life of just four years. In January, 1903, the district of Vryheid was transferred to and became a district of the colony of Natal. In 1885, Mr. Esselen, Judge of the High Court, went to Europe and there purchased the apparatus and a supply of paper for the local manufacture of stamps. The plant, if I may call it so, consisted of a rubber stamp with movable figures for values and dates (similar to those used in offices in those days). The inscriptions are "NIEUWE REPUBLIEK" in two lines at the top, "ZUID-AFRIKA" in one line at the bottom with value and date in centre, enclosed in a plain rectangular frame with small ornament within each corner of the frame. The paper was of two kinds, one, straw-coloured and the other blue-granite. The paper was sent out ready gummed and perf. 11½. No information is available why two colours of paper were brought out and used. The printing was carried out by one or other of the Treasurer-General's clerks. The dates found on the first issue are those of the printing and not necessarily those of issue.

The stamps of the second issue bear the same design as the first, but there is an embossed design added. The device consists of an oval design larger than the stamp, having in the centre the Coat of Arms of the Republic with the motto on a band, "Eendragt Regtvaardigheid en Liefde." (Unity, Justice and Charity). Behind the Arms are four flags of which the tops of two only show above, but there are four staves below, and above in a semi-circle are the words "Nieuwe Republiek, Zuid-Afrika." In this issue the embossing was always done after the stamp had been printed. As to what date this embossing machine (which only did one stamp at a time) arrived, where it came from, and when it was first used, no information is available, and one has to examine the stamps themselves to draw conclusions.

The third issue is the same in design as the second, but without date.

For a reference list with errors and varieties, I would refer members to the Catalogue. This is, however, not complete, as even in the very small lot I am showing this evening, I have several which are not listed.

### CANCELLATIONS.

The earliest known is a small circular with words within two circles, above "POST-KANTOOR," below "NIEUWE REPUBLIEK."

The second cancellation stamp is of oval shape, inscribed "VRIJHEID" above,

"NIEUWE REPUBLIEK" below, and with a date in the centre, at each side of which is a cross nearly touching the outer frame. This is found in black, also in red.

The third cancellation mark is similar to the second but it is only inscribed "VRY-HEID" (with "Y" instead of "IJ"), there are no crosses at the sides and the name of the Republic is replaced by three small stars. This was impressed in lilac, but occasionally in black or red. Many stamps are found obliterated in manuscript with dates and initials.

#### FORGERIES.

A number of forgeries exist but none of these need cause the collector any alarm. They are easily recognised. Even the most dangerous, some of which I show, which are on the original paper, can be readily identified, even though bearing cancellations from the original obliterator. These all have *NO* fullstop after the word "AFRIKA," whereas the genuine have a fullstop. The small cut appearing in the top of the first "E" of "NIEUWE" is not shown on the forgery, for which many thanks.

I would in conclusion record that my notes are based upon the article by Emil Tamsen appearing in *S.G.M.J.* in December, 1902, January and February, 1903.

#### SOME STAMP CENTENARY SOUVENIRS.

*Great Britain.*—The Catalogue of the Royal Society's Exhibition is a fine production, although got out in a hurry, in the style of the Prospectus of the abandoned international exhibition; a considerable part of the introduction is quoted on our front page. Special souvenir envelopes, in two sizes, designed for use with the commemorative stamps, were on sale at the exhibition and through dealers. The special exhibition postmark was referred to in last month's issue. Messrs. Waterlow and Sons printed a nice set of souvenir seals for the exhibition.

At the Philatelic Congress, held under the auspices of the Postal History Society, in

Bournemouth, special envelopes, also featuring the penny black, were in evidence and a special postmark was employed. This was a large double circle in black, with "Bournemouth / Adhesive Stamp Centenary Exhibition" between the circles and a cross and the date in the centre.

In both instances the monies received went to the Red Cross and St. John funds.

Various private firms had their own souvenir envelopes.

*Brazil.*—In S. Paulo a special postmark was in use, featuring the head of Queen Victoria as a negative with a black background, thus cleverly representing the penny black.

*Dominican Republic.*—Two commemoratives stamps issued on May 6, of 3c and 7c denominations. They incorporated a portrait of Sir Rowland Hill.

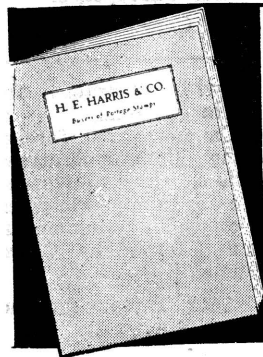
*Australia and Canada.*—Various philatelic societies had special exhibitions and private commemorative seals.

In Canada Mr. I. H. C. Godfrey reports that a special slogan postmark was in use on May 6, for one day only. It reads "May 6th 1940 / Centenary / of the / Postage Stamp."

*Italy.*—According to a note in *Stamp Collecting* the Union Filatelica Lombarda, of Milan, had an attractive souvenir label and special postmark commemorative the centenary, at an exhibition held on April 21.

*U.S.A.*—Numerous exhibitions were held, many of them having their own commemorative seal. A commemorative stamp was widely expected and prepared for but it did not materialize. According to *Linn's Weekly Stamp News* rumour hath it that the postal authorities, or whoever was responsible for the decision not to issue a stamp, were fearful that such an act might be a breach of neutrality on the part of the Government. An agitation is being started that a stamp should still be issued during the centenary year.

The Kenmore Stamp Co. issued a very nicely illustrated four-page loose leaf supplement to the May issue of their catalogue, the *KenMore Collector*.



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## Review

**THE POSTMARKS OF GREAT BRITAIN & IRELAND**, *Being a Survey of British Postmarks from 1660 to 1940*. By R. C. Alcock and F. C. Holland. 579 pp. Price 21s. nett. R. C. Alcock Ltd., 11 Regent Street, Cheltenham, England.

The firm of R. C. Alcock, Ltd., is well known through their publication the *Philatelic Adviser* as specialists in British Postal History. Mr. Alcock and his collaborator, Capt. F. C. Holland, are to be congratulated, firstly, on their amazing energy in having got together this enormous wealth of material and, secondly, on their courage in publishing at the present time. They had intended postponing publication but were pressed to proceed with the work as a contribution to the Centenary celebrations and did so. Authors, printers, and publishers are all to be congratulated on the result.

The work deals with "postmarks" interpreted in the widest sense of the term, i.e., any and every kind of mark made by the post office, and there are no fewer than 2,205 illustrations of marks ranging from the earliest Bishop marks to the latest meter and slogan postmarks. Special chapters deal with such things as Too Late marks, T.P.O.'s, Ship and Packet marks, Army Post Offices, Commemorative marks, etc., etc. There is a good Index and a list of the more important bibliographical references.

This book is bound to become a standard, convenient and authoritative work of reference for all students of British Postal History and Postmarks.

It is intimated that all new or additional information acquired will be recorded and illustrated in special supplements to the *Philatelic Adviser*, of the same format as the book, so that they can be readily assembled in a binder, thus keeping all postmark information accessible and compact.

### EUROPEAN EXCHANGES.

Our Continental European exchanges have now practically all disappeared. Austrian, German, Scandinavian, Dutch, Belgian, Italian and French, if they are still being published, no longer reach us. In the last number received of *La Revue Postale* from Brussels, there was a reprint of a part of Mr. W. Redford's article in our January issue on O.F.S. issues. The part which intrigued them most seemed to be his listing of 22 varieties of the 1896 Halve Penny on Three-pence.

## COLLECTORS' WANTS AND OFFERS

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

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

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

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

William Redford, Box 7012, Johannesburg.

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

A. E. Basden, Box 238, Pretoria.

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

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

**Wanted.**—Imperforate issues of all countries in good condition, especially North and South America.

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

**Mint South Africans**, mostly before Union. Price Lists Threepence.

Chipp, P.O. Lafuta, Cape.

**Exchange** desired with collectors and dealers. Have large quantities of United States, Canada, and foreign stamps, including Commemoratives, Airposts, Pictorials, General Issues, etc., in exchange for British Colonies, and foreign Pictorials, Commemoratives, etc., in any quantity. Correspondence welcomed!

Sol F. Whitman, 1462 Taylor Avenue, New York City, U.S.A.



### FROM PENNY BLACK TO THREE CROWNS.

Mr. Geddes Smith, in *Scott's Monthly Journal*, indulges in reflections on a hundredth anniversary. He commences by saying there are too many commemorations in general, but that no one interested in stamps can begrudge the attention given to the penny black.

Considered as a work of art he attributes to it the quintessence of dignity. He then discusses the artistic merits of various stamps throughout the century. Coming to modern times he says "Speculators and greedy governments have done their best to take the fun out of collecting contemporary stamps. In the dreary wastes of dull and trivial stuff that rolls off the presses the fresh designs of (only) a few countries where the stamp is respected as an art form stand out bold and clear."

He ends up: "If I were to pick a single stamp to round out the century I should point without hesitation to the Swedish 'three crowns' design of 1939. Here again one finds the aura of royalty and the delicacy of line that go back to the very beginnings of the postage stamp, but the ancient symbols are exquisitely simplified and set against a legend stripped to its essentials in a pattern as elegant as 1840 and as modern as to-morrow. This is not only classic design; it is a recapitulation of postage stamp history. There will be commemoratives here and there to mark the hundredth birthday of the penny black; good, bad, or indifferent, none will do the job so well as this Swedish masterpiece."

### BURMA CENTENARY STAMP.

It is reported in some of the British philatelic papers that Burma issued one stamp to celebrate the centenary of the postage stamp. This was the current 2½ annas surcharged "Centenary of the First Adhesive Postage Stamp" and the stamp has the value of 1 anna.

The printing is said to be very small in numbers so this stamp should prove to be rather a good one.

## SOUTHERN RHODESIA JUBILEE ISSUE

This issue, commemorating the fiftieth anniversary of the constitution of Rhodesia as a definite entity, was issued on Monday, 3rd June. The set consists of the following stamps:

½d., green and mauve, Arms of the B.S.A. Company flanked by panels showing a native with shield and assegai and a native policeman; 1d., black and red, hoisting the flag, Fort Salisbury, 1890; 1½d., black and brown, portrait of Rhodes; 2d., green and mauve, pioneer fort and mail coach, Fort Victoria; 3d., black and blue, Rhodes makes peace, 1896; 4d., green and brown, Victoria Falls Bridge; 6d., sepia and green, statue of Sir Charles Coghlan, first prime minister, 1923; 1s., blue and green, portrait of Queen Victoria on the left and, below, a view of Lobengula's kraal, and, on the right, portrait of King George VI, with view of Government House, Salisbury, below.

The Philatelic Society of Rhodesia issued a very attractive first day official commemorative envelope showing an outline map of Africa with Southern Rhodesia marked in red. We are indebted to Mr. N. Rose, President of the Society, for a specimen with a set of stamps cancelled on the day of issue.

### SIERRA LEONE.

Mr. G. H. Boucher, writing some little time back in the *London Philatelist* about the large fiscal stamps surcharged "Postage and Revenue" in 1897, states that although these stamps are not popular the 2s. denomination surcharged 2½d. is a far rarer stamp than the present catalogue prices would suggest. The prices run from £7 10s. to £45 according to the variety of type of the 2½d., so if they are much underpriced, as suggested, possessors of these stamps must congratulate themselves on having something good in hand.

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## German East Africa

*Translated from the original article by Dr. Herbert Munk in Kohl's Handbook  
by Dr. J. H. Harvey Pirie.*

*(Continued from page 91 of June issue)*

### OVERPRINTED STAMPS.

1893 (July). Postage stamps of the German Empire Nos. 45, 46, 47, 48 and 50c, of the issue of 1889, with a single-line surcharge, A1, in black, showing the native value, but not the name of the territory.



A 1

3 PESA 3

1. 2 PESA 2 on 3 pf.
  - (a) gray brown (Marginal Imprint II)
  - (b) pale brown (Marginal Imprint III)
  - (c) dark brown (Marginal Imprint III)
2. 3 PESA 3 on 5pf. green. Length of Surcharge 15.25 mm.
  - Error I. Surcharge 16.5 mm. Distance between "A" of PESA and "3" wider. Stamps Nos. 5 and 55 of sheet.
  - Error II. Surcharge 14.25 mm. Distance between "A" of PESA and "3" narrower. Stamps Nos. 16 and 27 of sheet.
  - Error III. Surcharge 14.25 mm. Distance between "3" and "P" of PESA narrower. Stamp No. 98 of sheet.
3. 5 PESA 5 on 10 pf. rose, carmine. Length of Surcharge 15.35 mm.
  - Error I. Surcharge 16.5 mm. Distance between "A" of PESA and "5" wider. Stamp No. 5 of sheet.
  - Error II. Surcharge 14.25 mm. Distance between "5" and "P" of PESA narrower. Stamp No. 58 of sheet.
  - Error III. (POST) (Dar-es-salaam, Apr. 1894 onwards).
4. 10 PESA 10 on 20 pf. blue, deep blue.
5. I. 25 PESA 25 on 50 pf. bright chocolate brown I Length of Surcharge 17.5 mm. (Marginal Imprint II).
5. II. 25 PESA 25 on 50 pf. chocolate brown (shades) II Length of Surcharge 16.9 mm. (Marginal Imprints II or III).
  - Error I. Upper part of surcharge missing (Nov., 1895 on).

According to Starke these surcharged stamps were received at Dar-es-salaam from July onwards, at Lindi and Kilwa about the middle of August, in Pangani at the end of August, and at Tanga and Saadani during September.

*The original stamps.* The sheets of the earliest printings still had marginal imprint II (See Vol. I p. 904) *i.e.* on the upper margins of the sheets there was a row of numerals indicating the value of stamps below, but no border of fine lines on the other margins.

Individual stamps of the 2 Pesa value belonging to the first printing can also be distinguished from those of later printings by the grey brown shade as against pale brown or dark brown. Stamps of the first printing of the 5 Pesa are pale rose; this shade also occurs in later printings, but the sheets have marginal imprint III. The original printing of the 25 Pesa is on sheets with marginal imprint II and the surcharge 17½ mm. long; a later printing on the same sheets shows the surcharge only 16.9 mm. long and this shorter surcharge also occurs on sheets with marginal imprint III.

Complete sheets or parts of sheets with marginal imprint II are rare in all values and fetch special prices.

The original sheets of all the later printings of surcharges have marginal imprint III (IIIA or IIIB in design) and, at the earliest they cannot have been done before the beginning of 1895 (See Vol. I pp. 904 and 905).

As partly right and partly left panes were used, and as the right panes sometimes had pane (double-pane) numerals, a partial differentiation of the individual printings can also be made by using this criterion (See also Vol. II pp. 60 and 61).

In the case of the 3 pesa and 5 pesa values there are various errors in the surcharge which occur only in certain positions and in certain printings.

For a consideration of the plate-error III on the 5 pesa stamp see Vol. I p. 906, where the gradual development of the flaw on stamp No. 7 of a plate of 10 pf. stamps is described. According to the *I.B.J.* of 1911 this error is known on a registered cover from Dar-es-salaam of date 7-9-94 used in a block of four, the other three being normal. The *Phil. Ber.* of Jan. 1926 illustrates a used specimen emanating from Dar-es-salaam in April, 1894. Unused specimens of this error, which can only occur on sheets of the first printing, with marginal imprint II, so far do not appear to have been recorded.

The perforation of the original sheets with marginal imprint II is a comb-perforation, sometimes horizontally, sometimes vertically; the controls, which are on the margins of

the reel of paper from which the sheets were cut, are in violet or blue (See Vol. I p. 901).

*The Surcharge.* It follows from the character of the errors on the 3 pesa and 5 pesa stamps that the surcharge was made up of logotypes, the word "PESA" and the two figures of value each being a separate entity in the whole. The full length of the surcharge and the distances between word and figures are therefore not always quite constant, apart from the really faulty, specially catalogued, errors.

The catalogued errors are found entirely on various printings with marginal imprint III, and, practically speaking, they were *never* sent to German East Africa, but were sold to the trade by the Imperial Postal Museum, where they had been sent as museum specimens. Used specimens of these errors are therefore unknown.

In this small re-issue the following errors (See below) occur:

(a) On the 3 pesa value

Error I on stamp No. 5 of the right pane and stamp No. 55 of the left pane. (Marginal imprint IIIA).

Error II on stamps Nos. 16 and 27 of the right pane. (Marginal imprint IIIA and control number 4).

Error III on stamp No. 98. (Marginal imprint and control number as in Error II).

(b) On the 5 pesa value

Errors I and II on stamps Nos. 5 and 58 respectively, of the left pane. (Marginal imprint IIIB).

(c) The varieties of length of surcharge in the case of the 25 pesa value are not due to variations in one setting but to different settings, of which the later employed one, 5 II, was taken into use before the change over from sheets with marginal imprint II to sheets with imprint III. (The greater length of surcharge 5 I is due mainly to a greater distance between the first "5" and the "P" of PESA.)

Error I (defective printing of the upper part of the surcharge) is, so far, only known on two used specimens. From the description given of one of them in *Köhler's Catalog*, No. 40 the defect can be traced to misplaced or insufficient registering so that this is merely an irregularity similar to the defective sheet overprint of Belgium II, No. 17, described in Vol. II p. 12.

At the meeting of the *Berlin Philatelic Club* held on December 7, 1903, there were shown unused specimens of the 2, 3 and 5 pesa values with the paper quite oily. This oily appearance was probably due to the waxed paper which is used as a protective layer between sheets of stamps sent to tropical regions to prevent them sticking together. It is not correct to blame such waxed sheets for

certain changes in shade of the stamps or of the gum (waxed sheets were chosen for this purpose just because they have no such chemical action), but the paraffin wax has actually the defect that at high temperatures it may occasionally sweat out and saturate the sheets of stamps.

The gum and paper of sheets which were kept for a long time in Africa not infrequently show a yellowish tone; the ink, *e.g.*, on the 3 pf. stamps may also present a slightly altered appearance (yellowish).

10 pesa stamps of a Prussian blue colour—in the case of the Forerunners as well as in the case of the surcharged stamps of the 1889 issue—are due to colour change subsequent to printing. Such Prussian blue coloured stamps are commonly found, although not exclusively so, on letter paper of a certain grey-green sort, so it may be presumed that this paper has certain ingredients which favour such a chemical change.

(To be continued)

## Correspondence

Editor,  
*South African Philatelist*,  
Sir,

UNION ROTOGRAVURE POSTAGE DUES  
and  
PERFORATED NATAL EDWARDIANS.

I read with interest Mr. A. H. Sydow's article in the April number of your magazine on the subject of "The Union Rotogravure Postage Due Stamps."

You will be interested to know that I have a copy of the 5d. black and blue wholly printed by rotogravure which would appear to establish Mr. Sydow's theory regarding the figure of value of this value being printed from Roto Cylinder 6935 in black. Perhaps I should add that I have seen at least one other copy of this stamp.

My copy came to me from a new issue service so that it would appear that the issue of this stamp appeared immediately after the 3d. blue and blue.

On page 58 of the same number there is a reference to Natal Edwardians perforated with two vertical lines of perforations. Unfortunately I am unable to clear up the mystery as like your other readers I had assumed it to be an "official." It would appear though that there were other values so perforated besides the 5d. which you mention. I have a copy of the 6d. with vertical perforations in my collection.

Yours, etc.,

EDW. LAUDER.

## Society News

### THE PHILATELIC SOCIETY OF JOHANNESBURG.

*President*, Mr. F. E. Ingham; *Hon. Secretary*, F. Lang, P.O. Box 4967; *Meetings*: 2nd Tuesdays, 8 p.m., Sanlam Buildings.

The retiring president, Mr. Mark Rose, took the chair on Tuesday night, June 11, presiding over the annual general meeting.

The attendance was well above the average and those present were gratified with the reports submitted by the Treasurer, Secretary and Exchange Superintendent.

Reviewing the activities of the Society for the past year, the retiring president, Mr. Mark Rose, expressed the view of philatelists in general when he stated that we owed a debt of gratitude to the founder of our hobby which has brought so much relief from the distractions and worries which have been thrown upon us since the outbreak of war.

The Secretary pointed out that attendances at meetings have been well above the average of previous years, indicating that indeed our members have been turning more actively towards their hobby for pleasure and relaxation than in previous years.

Several suggestions were made and adopted in the interests of members, philately in general, and the Allied cause. Among these are:

1. A decision to maintain all members leaving on active service as active members with full privileges.
2. A monthly auction to be held, the proceeds of which will be deposited in the Society's war fund, out of which contributions will be made regularly to such war charities as the Committee may determine from time to time. No time was lost in this connection as several items were auctioned at the meeting.

The report of the Exchange Superintendent included the interesting fact that during the past year, thirteen packets, having a total cash value of over £1,400, had been circulated among members without any losses and that several hundred pounds worth of stamps had been purchased by the members from these packets.

The following officers and committee members were elected: F. E. Ingham, President; I. Isaacs, Vice-President; F. Lang, Secretary; G. J. Houbert, Treasurer; G. Demasius, Exchange Superintendent; H. E. Bowen, Publicity Officer; Committee members, Mrs. W. Redford, Mr. W. Redford, Dr. J. H. Harvey Pirie; Ex Officio members, Mark Rose, J. W. Schofield, E. C. Sprigton.

Some auctions followed the exhibition of the Society's collection of Southern Africa, which now has a catalogue value of over £600, and the curator of which is Mr. G. J. Houbert.

H.E.B.

### CAPE TOWN PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

*President*, M. Rothkugel; *Hon. Secretary*, A. A. Jurgens, 26 Woodside Road, Tamboers Kloof, Cape Town. *Meetings*: 2nd and 4th Thursdays, Medical House, 35 Wale Street, Cape Town, at 8 p.m.

Thursday, 25th April, 1940.—Mr. W. L. Ashmead gave the members a real treat when he tabled his collection of Western Australia. The old issues were there in profusion, including bi-sected stamps on covers, imperforates, and many other rare items. The collection is what can be expected from such an eminent philatelist. In moving a vote of thanks Mr. Hobday enlarged on the valuable exhibits displayed.

According to a resolution taken at the last annual general meeting an auditor had to be appointed; Mr. C. O. Plumbridge was elected.

Thursday, 9th May, 1940, Twenty-eighth Annual General Meeting.—The President, Dr. L. B. Goldschmidt, in the Chair. There was a very large attendance of members.

The following office-bearers for the ensuing year were elected: President, Mr. M. Rothkugel; Vice-President, Mr. C. O. Plumbridge; Hon. Secretary and Treasurer, Mr. A. A. Jurgens (re-elected); Hon. Exchange Superintendent, Mr. L. Simenhoff; Committee, Messrs. E. Solomon, K. Alexander, C. I. Bate, R. Axer, and W. J. H. Gregory.

Mr. H. B. Conisbee thanked Dr. Goldschmidt for his services during the past year. Mr. A. Jurgens also paid tribute to the sterling qualities of the retiring President. "I have always been impressed by the ready response to all matters concerning the Society despite the fact that the Doctor has such very little time to himself, and by his sincere fairness in everything and to everyone, and I shall miss him sadly," he said.

It was decided that the Society's Exchange Section be re-established, and Mr. L. Simenhoff was elected Exchange Superintendent. Mr. Simenhoff appealed to members to support this branch of the Society's activities.

Mr. E. Solomon wished to know whether the subsidy to the *S.A. Philatelist* has justified itself. Twenty members had availed themselves of this privilege, which cost the Society £2 10s. This represents 25 per cent. of the members. There are, of course, many members who subscribe to this journal direct. It was decided that the system be continued.

Mr. Jurgens proposed that the Society should subscribe to publications on philatelic literature and appoint a Librarian. After dis-

cussion however it was decided that until such time as the Society had proper accommodation to house a library and appoint a full time librarian it would be inadvisable to purchase such books, but that the Public Library should be encouraged by a contribution on our part to purchase such publications.

Dr. Goldschmidt explained that the outgoing Committee approved of the idea of holding a philatelic exhibition and stamp auction, the proceeds of which would be donated towards the Mayors' Fund. After discussion the matter was left in the hands of the incoming Committee.

Mr. H. Meyer proposed that an honorarium be awarded the Hon. Secretary. This was seconded by Mr. K. Alexander and carried unanimously.

Thursday, 23rd May, 1940.—Members were given an opportunity of viewing one of the finest and most complete collections of Foreign and Colonial Meters exhibited by Mr. R. Axer. This collection is beautifully written up and arranged and gives a very good idea of what can be accomplished in this new branch of philately. Mr. Axer was suitably thanked by the President, Mr. Solomon and Mr. Simenhoff.

A.A.J.

#### EAST LONDON PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

*President, J. Paviour; Hon. Secretary and Treasurer, S. Fowler. Meetings: Colosseum Tea Lounge, 2nd Fridays, 8 p.m.*

There was an average attendance at the June meeting, and half the time of the meeting was taken in the auctioning of stamps for British Red Cross Funds; there was a fair result in cash sales, and the unsold items were packed up for sending over to London. Members appreciated a letter of greetings and a present of Cape Triangulars from Mr. W. K. Forbes, President of the Port Elizabeth Philatelic Society for this good cause.

Mr. I. Lazarus was present at the commencement of the meeting to say good-bye to members before leaving on active service. As a young member, his display of stamps of Egypt was the main show of the evening, and this was much enjoyed by members. Mr. Ansley Watts also gave a display of certain British Africans including Malta.

J.P.S.

#### EAST RAND PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

*President, Mr. S. Legator; Hon. Secretary, J. Doyle, 41 Rose Deep, Germiston. Meetings: Hotel Regent, Benoni, 2nd Thursdays, 8 p.m.*

At the June meeting the attendance was poor due to Thursday being a drilling night, so it was decided to hold the next meeting on a Wednesday.

Pages of interest were shown by Mrs. Wood—New Great Britain Commemoratives—and Mr. Fine—Latest Rhodesian Commemoratives. The notes of the month were read by Mr. Suklje who also read a paper on "Forgeries and Fakes."

During the tea-interval a competition was arranged by Mrs. Wood. This consisted of a dozen stamps whose surface was covered with the exception of a very minute area, leaving the members to guess from what country it originated. It certainly is a good means of testing the stamp collectors' knowledge of his subject.

The exhibits of the evening were provided by the following members: Mrs. Wood showed a small collection of Liberia; Mr. Lydell exhibited some British African K.G. V sets and others; Mr. Fine showed the latest K.G. VI issues.

The meeting concluded with the sale and exchange of stamps between members.

H.S.

#### PHILATELIC SOCIETY OF NATAL.

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

In Mr. Hurst's absence Mr. H. de Terrasson presided over the June meeting of the Society, when 32 members and visitors attended.

Mr. V. B. Crockett gave a bright display of recent Colonial new issues, with notes thereon. This member has taken up as a sideline the collecting of the first stamps issued in each colony. He gave us a display of some 30 examples of these accompanied by brief descriptions.

Proposals to conduct a Stamp Drive for War Funds, with Mr. Norman Welsford, one of our past Presidents, as hon. Organiser, were approved, and Mr. Welsford's organisation is now in full swing.

G.R.

#### PRETORIA PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

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

June 3rd.—Five-minute papers. Mr. Beyers gave a talk on the career of Lord Cochrane who was represented on two stamps of Chili. Mr. Hawke read an article on the Great Britain Penny Black describing the unique collection of Mr. Vallency. Mr. Giovanetti described the stamps of the Suez Canal, only on issue for about three months in 1868. He warned members about the large number of forgeries on the market. Mr. N. L. Watson read an interesting extract dealing with all the processes connected with the printing of stamps in

Great Britain. Especially interesting was the colossal number of stamps printed.

June 17th.—Mr. Klagsbrun read a paper on telegraph stamps and gave good reasons why they should be included in a philatelic collection as they represented amounts prepaid for special delivery of certain correspondence. Not many countries issued them as special stamps but he pointed out that they were worthy of collection. Mr. Basden added a description of telegraph stamps formerly in use in all four provinces of the Union.

Dr. Broom gave a short account of the career of Mulready, the artist who designed the envelopes bearing his name in 1840. He also brought along one of his famous oil paintings for exhibit.

Mr. Obermeyer showed a fine lot of Transvaal.

H.A.W.

#### THE PORT ELIZABETH PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

*President*, G. K. Forbes; *Hon. Secretary*, C. W. Sheffield, c/o P.O. Box 88, Port Elizabeth. Meetings: First and third Tuesdays in each month in the African Room of the P.E. Public Library.

A nice display of early English stamps was exhibited at the June meeting by Messrs. Forbes, MacGregor, and Harmer. The attendance of members was very good. The efforts put forward for collecting parcels of old

stamps to be sold for the benefit of war funds has had a good response. Keen interest was taken in all the proceedings as was evidenced by the lively exchanges across the room of some of the points brought forward. At the close of the meeting the president, Mr. G. R. Forbes, thanked the exhibitors for their display.

J.A.P.

#### STAMP DRIVES FOR WAR FUNDS.

Stamp collectors can help as such in raising money for various war funds. Several of our Societies, we are aware, are holding auctions and sales for this purpose.

The Philatelic Society of Natal has launched what is perhaps the most ambitious effort in this direction amongst our Societies and we can commend this effort to anyone who has not otherwise made arrangements for making use of his spare stamp accumulations. They are willing and anxious to receive all and every kind of stamp from the commonest  $\frac{1}{2}$ d. and 1d. upwards, and in any quantity.

They will do the sorting out and all incidental expenses are being borne by the Society. The work is under the charge of Mr. Norman Welsford, so you can count on its being well done.

If you are not already making your mail and your accumulated spares work in this connection send all you can to the "Hon. Organiser, Stamp Drive for War Funds, P.O. Box 2105, Durban."

## The SOUTH AFRICAN PHILATELIST

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AUGUST, 1940.

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## Union Notes

The 6d. current pictorial type seems to have been redrawn, the central background now being heavily lined and on the Afrikaans stamp the name SUID-AFRIKA measures 17 mm. In previous editions of this stamp the lines of shading were comparatively faint and SUID-AFRIKA measured 16½ mm.

The July issue of "The Stamp Magazine" publishes a note of yet a third type of this stamp with SUID-AFRIKA measuring 17 mm. but with the thin background lines of the first type.

We have received the following information from the Post Office Publicity Department: ALTERATION TO 3d. POSTAGE STAMP DESIGN.

(UNION OF SOUTH AFRICA).

The basic design of the old and the new 3d. postage stamp is the same.

While the English wording remains unchanged, the only change in the Afrikaans is that "Suid-Afrika" has been hyphenated.

The minor alterations in the two designs are as follow:

- (a) The narrow black panel shading of the old design has been replaced by broad toned shading.
- (b) The sky shading, and
- (c) the small edging lines of the old design have been delted.

### THE INTERIOR:

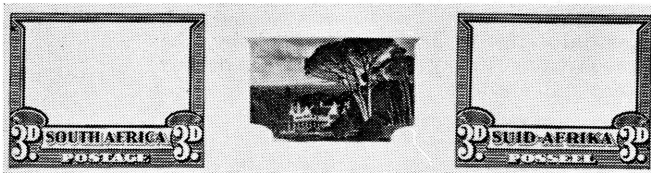
The old stamp had an engraved reproduction of Groote Schuur.

The new stamp is now a pictorial reproduction of the subject, giving greater detail and in true perspective.

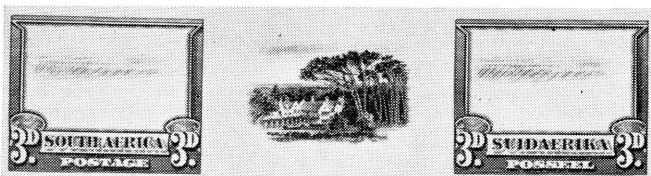
NOTE: The new stamp was recently issued in the Union of South Africa.

The Post Office Publicity Department has kindly sent us a photographic reproduction showing the difference between the old and new stamps.

According to a circular issued by the Post Office (kindly passed on to us by the Robertson Stamp Co. (Pty.) Ltd.), the current Union Pictorials 5s. and 10s. values have been overprinted "Official—Offisieel". This means that all values of the current pictorials have been so overprinted except the 3d. and 4d. values. Official stamps are, of course, used by Government departments for correspondence overseas but such stamps are also available to the general public for ordinary postal purposes.



New stamp.



Old stamp.



# Lydenburg (Boer War) Issue

## S.G. No. 1

By A. E. BASDEN.

(Continued from page 102 of July issue)

With a view to solving the problem I wrote to the Royal Philatelic Society, London, furnishing references to current catalogues (Gibbons, Scott, Kohl, etc.) to "Africa" and to Bertram Poole; and suggesting that the firm of Stanley Gibbons be asked to say to which stamp their S.G.1 related. My letter, unfortunately, got into the wrong hands at first and I got an unsatisfactory reply; but, on complaining, Sir John Wilson, President of the Society and Curator of the King's Collection, very kindly investigated the problem and supplied me with thoughtful and copious notes on the Lydenburg issue, together with photographs; and I very highly appreciate his action.

Subsequent to this I discovered the differences in the variously dated S.G. catalogues, and still do not know to which stamps S.G.1 refers; for Sir John did not ask Stanley Gibbons, but assumed that they had perpetuated a mistake; but then he was not aware that S.G. had altered their description of S.G.1. We shall therefore only know the answer to item (c) of the problem when Stanley Gibbons supplies it.

Now as regards item (a), V.R.I.—1d. on 1d. Commemorative. This is recorded in "Africa," as mentioned earlier; it is recorded by Bertram Poole, it is clearly catalogued by Scott (No. 222); and is catalogued but incorrectly described in Kohl, which says that the opt. "V.R.I." is in black and further surcharged "1d." in violet! The overprint recorded by "Africa" is 12½ mm. in length; and this measurement coincides with the specimen, shown in the photograph, of this stamp, used in conjunction with an un-overprinted 2d. Transvaal (1896); both obliterated by the large circular Army Post Office canceller

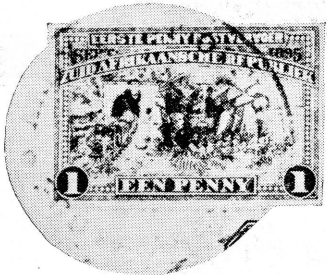


Fig. 1.

which is frequently found on the Lydenburg stamps. In this photograph (Fig. 1) it will be noted that the "1d." is very close to the

"V.R.I.", being only some 1½ mm. between. In my specimens the "V.R.I." measures 10 mm., and the distance between 8½ mm. In my specimens the letters (which are in block capitals) and figures vary sufficiently to show that they were not printed from the same hand press, and the impression is sufficiently deep to infer that the overprint was made by machine. I have always considered these to be forgeries; but I was assured by the supplier of two of my copies that he purchased them from soldiers returning from the Lydenburg area on their return to Natal. (N.B. Two of the postmarks commonly found in the Lydenburg issues were Natal cancellers, viz. P.O.A.43 and the N.F.F. octagonal canceller). Sir John Wilson says "I do not see how it is possible to doubt the authenticity of the Commemorative Stamps overprinted V.R.I. 1d. in view of the information published on pages 529, 530 of 'Africa', Part III."

At first sight that seems to settle the matter, but as the writer of these notes, it is my duty to be critical. If you will note the photograph carefully you will see that the postmark is dated October, 1900, and yet it is used with a 2d. 1896 un-overprinted stamp, although the overprinted 1896 stamps were issued in the previous month. It will also be noted that although the letters appear to be of the same fount as the normal Lydenburg overprint, viz., "Old Style Roman," the impression is so uneven and blurred that one is reasonably entitled to assume (having regard to other considerations mentioned in this article) that it was not printed by machine but impressed by hand. And I have also to state, on unimpeachable authority, that applicants could get any stamps they liked cancelled on request. In consequence I feel myself to be something of a doubting Thomas, and should like further information.

We now come to item (b) viz., the V.R.I.—3d. on the 1d. Commemorative. This is the stamp we here, in South Africa, used to consider S.G.1. The merits of this stamp are that the letters V.R.I. and the surcharge 3d. appear to be in the same fount and spacing as the overprint and surcharge on the 1896 issue. This item is also to be found on cover (vide Fig. 2) used with overprinted 1896 stamps. Sir John Wilson says of it "I have seen this stamp and have always considered it perfectly genuine, but there is no copy in the Royal Collection." For some time I could not find any fault with it, except that it is not recorded in "Africa" or by Poole or by Scott; and it must be admitted that this is

an omission of importance. Now I have to go further and declare that, in my opinion, this 3d. on 1d. Commemorative is bogus. My reasons: first, all the specimens I have examined (including the four copies before you



Fig. 2.

to-night) are identical; that is to say the three letters "V.R.I." do not differ, the "R" is always the long-tailed variety, the figure "3" and the letter "d" do not change. Second, if you look through a collection or accumulation of Lydenburg overprints you will find that there are many more short-tailed "R's" than long-tailed, and that no two items are exactly identical as to all three letters and the stops, due to the use of worn and broken type. You will already have grasped my meaning.

But now let me go farther, and draw your attention to the fact that although the letters "V.R.I." of the 3d. on 1d. are similar to the normal overprints on the 1896 issue, the figure "3" and the letter "d." differ from the surcharge on the 1d. 1896; all of the former being identical to each other, consequently differing from any of the 3's and d's on the 1896 issue, which may slightly differ as between one another.

But, it may be asked, what about the "used on cover?" To that I can only reply, as I have mentioned above, that there was no difficulty in having any stamps on cover obliterated and getting the covers handed back over the counter. Besides (and this fact is of great importance) it will be noticed that all the specimens shown are obliterated with Lydenburg in double circle town canceller, and still more significant where the date can be seen it is the same, viz., 28 Sep. followed by two marks, like dropped spaces for 00. (This peculiarity of the dropped spaces is specially noticeable on Dr. Pirie's cover, illustrated in Fig. 2.)

Finally, my informant, (the owner of the other stamps specially photographed for this occasion, who personally purchased his stamps at the Lydenburg Post Office in 1900 and had some of them postmarked and returned over the counter as he was anxious that they should not be dirtied or damaged) tells me he purchased all values available and he never saw or heard of the overprinted Commemorative stamps, either at the time or subsequently until he saw my specimens of the "V.R.I.—3d." on 1d. and the "V.R.I.—1d." on 1d. shown here to-night.

And finally, in my opinion (based, admittedly, on not entirely conclusive evidence) all Lydenburg overprints (other than S.G.2—9, inclusive, of normal type with allied minor varieties) should be rejected as bogus or forged, even if they have been passed by an expert committee.

In addition to the photographs mentioned above I am showing to-night a photograph of normal ½d. to 1s. Lydenburg sent me by Sir John Wilson; an enlarged photograph (with originals) of normals and minor varieties purchased by the owner personally in Lydenburg at the time; an enlarged photograph (with originals) of postmarks used in Lydenburg, stamps owned by the same person; and an enlarged photograph (with originals) of what I assume to be forged overprints, one stamp being postmarked by one of the regular Lydenburg town cancellers.

In addition to the cancellations shown in the photograph, I show on my page of Lydenburgs the octagonal N.F.F. canceller; a 4d. with Army Post Office, Machadodorp, cancellation; and a 1d. used at Glencoe Junction, Natal, Dec., 1900. Taking also into consideration the P.O.A. 43 canceller, it seems that troops from Natal were strongly in evidence at Lydenburg at the time.

With regard to the fogged overprints shown in the photograph, it will be noted that they are wider than in the genuine, of a different fount, and probably impressed by hand, being flat and imperfect.

Sir John Wilson has kindly furnished particulars of other Lydenburg items in the Royal Collection; and I think it will be pleasing to all Transvaal collectors to have this information. They are as follows:

- (1) V.R.I. wide spaced and in the same type as the V.R.I. 1d. on the Commemorative stamp as shown in the photograph. Sir John Wilson believes this to be good and an important stamp, but suspects the use of a hand-stamp in its production as for the V.R.I.—1d. on the Commemorative.
- (2) 3d. on 1d. very thin V.R.I., small stops, and much thinner. Of this he says the surcharge has no bite and is probably bad.
- (3) "On the 4d. only a used copy on piece with slightly taller letters and the fount of type similar, but I think distinguishable. Rather small stops. Looks certainly good."
- (4) A 6d. somewhat similar to (3).
- (5) "Entirely different type wide spaced thin type with small stops on the 1d. as described in "Africa," Part III. I think may be good (see Yardley, page 530, last paragraph)."

I hope that my paper will provoke discussion, not only to-night but also in the press, if this paper is printed, as I believe it may be, in the "South African Philatelist."

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	1½d. brown	..	..	..	..	..	1/6	1/3

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# The Numerical Postmarks of Southern Africa

By J. H. HARVEY PIRIE.

(Continued from page 101 of July issue)

## CAPE OF GOOD HOPE (Contd.)

(3) This is a group of varieties or modifications of Type 2, all being of comparatively late introduction. There are at least the following varieties, but may be more:



Fig. 3a.

(a) Grid with 4 thin bars top and bottom and 5 side bars. See Fig. 3a.

(b) Grid with 5 thin bars top and bottom and 5 side bars.

(c) Grid with 2 thick bars top and bottom and 3 side bars.

(d) Grid with 6 very thin bars top and bottom and 6 side bars. The bars may be either split into three lengthwise as illustrated (see Fig. 3d), or they may be continuous.



Fig. 3d.

(e) Grid with 3 thin bars top and bottom and 5 side bars.

(f) Grid with 4 thin bars top and bottom and 5 side bars. (The top and bottom bars split into three lengthwise).

(4) A horizontal oval grid. The grid is identical in character with Type 2, but the number

in the box is placed so that it reads with the long axis of the oval horizontally instead of vertically.

(5) In Mr. Jurgens' "Postal History of the Cape of Good Hope," published serially in "The South African Philatelist," Feb.-Aug., 1939, he states (p. 112): "Various other numeral postmarks designs followed from time to time, all of which can be traced to mark-



Fig. 5a.



Fig. 5b.

ings previously used by the British post offices, but as these are too numerous to de-

tail here I have left them out, but they are all recorded and will be fully explained and shown in the work nearing completion."

I do not know how many types may come under this heading so we will have to wait for Mr. Jurgens' book for further particulars. The two specimens figured as Nos. 5a and 5b, however, may be taken as probably belonging to this category. It must be noted that these are taken from freehand drawings, not tracings, and may not be quite accurate reproductions of the originals.

(6) I am including as Type 6 the variety figured as that number. This was used apparently only in Cape Town and on cheap rate matter. Mr. Jurgens states it was introduced about 1886 and he records its occurrence on newspaper

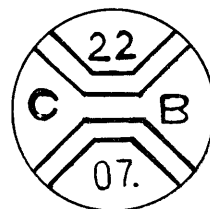


Fig. 6.

wrappers; I also have a specimen cancelling a 3d. stamp on an open envelope. Mr. Jurgens records Nos. 1, 2, 11, 24, and 30, I have also No. 22; he thinks the letters "C" "B" probably stand for "Circulars Branch" or "Circulating Branch."

Whether such marks should be included under the heading of "Numeral Cancellations" is a matter of definition. If one restricts the term to numbered cancellations in which each number indicates a different post office, then, of course, they should not be included. I favour, however, a wider definition which would include any postmark whose main distinctive feature is a number, even if this number be merely one of a series all in use at one particular office.

This wider definition is probably necessary to include the following series of triangular marks, in the case of which I think considerably more than one number was in use at one and the same office. The idea occurs to me that possibly this set of marks figured as Type 6 may have been the precursors of the triangular marks and were replaced by them.

## COLLECTORS' WANTS AND OFFERS

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

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

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

William Redford, Box 7012, Johannesburg.

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

A. E. Basden, Box 238, Pretoria.

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

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

**Wanted.**—Imperforate issues of all countries in good condition, especially North and South America.

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

**Mint South Africans**, mostly before Union. Price Lists Threepence.

Chipp, P.O. Lafuta, Cape.

**Exchange** desired with collectors and dealers. Have large quantities of United States, Canada, and foreign stamps, including Commemoratives, Airposts, Pictorials, General Issues, etc., in exchange for British Colonies, and foreign Pictorials, Commemoratives, etc., in any quantity. Correspondence welcomed!

Sol F. Whitman, 1462 Taylor Avenue, New York City, U.S.A.

(7) Triangles. These were used mainly on checked printed paper and other cheap rate matter. Their use extends into Union



Fig. 7a.

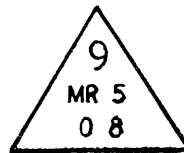


Fig. 7b.

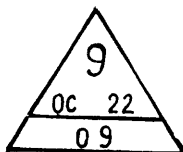


Fig. 7c.

times so that Cape marks may be found on stamps of the other provinces used interprovincially and also on Union stamps. There were at least the three varieties figured as Nos. 7a, 7b and 7c.

I have also seen type 7b or 7c marks on letter-rate covers, along with other ordinary cancellations. What their significance is in such circumstances I have not discovered.

(To be continued).

### PITCAIRN ISLAND STAMPS.

The latest recruit to the stamp issuing islands of the Pacific is Pitcairn Is., of "Bounty" fame. Hitherto it has managed to get along very nicely with New Zealand stamps for its very occasional mails, but now it is going to have 1d., 1d., 1½d., 2d., 3d., 6d., 1s. and 2s. 6d. denominations of its own. Mint stamps may be ordered through the G.P.O., Suva, Fiji, but if you want used specimens write to Chief Christian on the island and they may reach you within a twelvemonth.

We do not know the population of the island, but fancy it is only a few hundred as there was an overflow of excess population some time ago to Norfolk Is. (which, incidentally, is now also having its own stamps). It appears to us that this is, in the main, just another revenue raising ramp, but so long as there are foolish collectors willing to buy such proceedings will go on. We can look forward to a time when every island and atoll in the Pacific will have its own issue.

### SOUTH AFRICAN ARMY POSTMARKS.

Postal units are now in operation with the South African military forces. The only type of mark we have seen so far is a double circle with A.P.O.—U—M.P.K. above and a number (3) below, the date being in one line across the centre.

We would be glad to receive any information as to other types or numbers which may be in use, with, if possible, the location of the office (although this will not be for publication at present). The date of introduction would also be of interest.

## Obituary

DEATH OF C. J. PHILLIPS.  
FOUNDER OF STANLEY GIBBONS, LTD.

With the death of Mr. C. J. Phillips in New York at the age of 77 there passes one of the big veterans in philately.

Born in Birmingham, he started collecting at the age of 10 with a packet off a Christmas tree, but sold his first collection to buy furniture on the occasion of his marriage. He had entered the Assay Office as an accountant and began dealing in stamps while there, but soon threw up his job to make stamps his career.

At this time Mr. E. S. Gibbons, who had been dealing for thirty years, wished to retire and "C.J.P." turned the business into a private limited liability company in which he held all the ordinary shares. Under his energetic management the company went ahead by leaps and bounds and, wanting new worlds to conquer, he opened branches in New York and Buenos Aires. Later these branches were disposed of.

When nearly 60 years of age he sold out of S.G., moved to New York and set up as a dealer in rare stamps, again making a great success of his business. He was not only a successful dealer, however, but a thorough philatelist in every sense, several authoritative monographs standing to his credit in addition to many shorter writings.

### MR. JOHN ASH RETIRES.

"The one man in Australia who has made millions, and has seen fabulous fortunes go up in smoke, said he had had enough and would be glad to get out of the money-making game." Thus says the Melbourne *Herald* in announcing the retirement of Mr. John Ash, manager of the Note Printing Branch of the Commonwealth Bank.

His name and his work are familiar to all collectors of Australian stamps, as his office undertakes not only the printing of all Commonwealth currency and other securities, but also postage stamps.

Mr. Ash retires after thirteen years' service in his position; previously he had some twenty odd years with Thomas de la Rue and Co. in London. His farewell message to philatelists, given to the A.S.M. states: "I would like to say how much I appreciate your friendly criticism, especially those who think that there are too few varieties; this I feel is the highest form of flattery."

He leaves behind him what is one of the finest securities' printing works in the world and the only printing works in the Southern Hemisphere that engraves and manufactures printing plates on steel.

Fortunes that go up in smoke is a reference, of course, to the periodical destruction of soiled bank notes.

—*Australian Stamp Monthly.*

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  - 2.—1920/23 wmk. Mesh, 25 pf to 50 mk, sixteen sheets, price 15/-.
  - 3.—1922/23 miners etc., 5—40 mk, 7 sheets for 7/6.
  - 4.—1919 airmail and 1923 large oblong to 100,000 mk. 11 sheets for 15/-.
  - 5.—Munich Exhibn. and 1923 Air, 6 sheets for 12/6.
  - 6.—1923 circular numerals, 200 to 75T mk., eight sheets for 15/-.
  - 7.—Provisionals, 5T to 2 Mill., twenty sheets for 22/6.
  - 8.—Ditto, Rouletted, nine sheets for 8/6.
  - 9.—Rosette type, 500T to 1 Milliard, 13 sheets for 15/6.
  - 10.—Officials, wmk. Lozenges, 10 pf to 10 mk, ten sheets for 20/-.
  - 11.—Do., wmk. Mesh, five sheets for 10/-.
  - 12.—do. Caterpillar o/pt and Provisionals, 30 mk. to 2 Mill., nine sheets for 15/-.
- The above 12 sets of 125 sheets (11,950 stps.), face value over 200 milliard marks, cat. about £49 7s. 6d., for only £7 17s. 6d.  
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## German East Africa

*Translated from the original article by Dr. Herbert Munk in Kohl's Handbook  
by Dr. J. H. Harvey Pirie.*

*(Continued from page 108 of July issue)*

### OVERPRINTED STAMPS (Contd.)

After the introduction of the next issue these stamps with Surcharge A1 were used up, mostly officially, over quite a long period and they were not expressly demonetized until September 30, 1901. The *Phil. Ber.*, Vol. III, p. 828 states that they were still being used by the Post Office in 1897 and by the public in 1898. From 1898 on the postal administration in Dar-es-salaam no longer regarded them as current but one could still frank letters with them, unchallenged, either alone or along with stamps of the next issue, apparently up till 30-9-01.

Such frankings after 1898 are characterized by the addresses, nature of the franking, etc., as almost exclusively "made for collectors," although one might occasionally even then be dealing with genuine usage of the old stamps by a private individual.

As there was very little opportunity of using stamps of the 25 pesa denomination at offices in the interior up to April 1, 1901, stamps of this value with postmarks of an office in the interior are undoubtedly more valuable than those used at the coast.

In contrast to the complete using up of this issue in the Colony is the fact that the various small printings in which occurred the errors described above, were sold as remainders to the trade on behalf of the Imperial Postal Museum. Probably, indeed, the errors were made (? subsequently) with this object in view.

1896 (about April). Postage stamps Nos. 45-48 and No. 50c of the German Empire issue of 1889 as before, but this time surcharged with the oblique, bold, 3-line Surcharge A2, in black. This surcharge gives not only the local native value but also the territory of usage. Surcharge thin, thick or shiny.

6. 2 Pesa (a) grey brown  
(b) yellow brown  
(c) pale reddish brown  
(d) brown, dark brown
7. 3 Pesa green, bright green, dark green
8. 5 Pesa rose, red, carmine
9. 10 Pesa blue, pale blue, deep blue
10. 25 Pesa chocolate brown (shades), pale chocolate brown

These stamps with the new surcharge were on sale at the official counter in Berlin in the first half of April. If the *Neuheitenmeldung des Phil.* of June 15 is to be believed, they were obtainable soon afterwards in the

colony; but, on account of the fact that the previous issue was gradually used up, they were only taken into use at individual offices by degrees.

For a description of blocks of 10 (Proofs—all 5 denominations) issued at the end of 1899 in which one stamp with this surcharge occurs *se tenant* horizontally with an overprinted stamp of German New Guinea and similarly with one of Samoa, and *se tenant* vertically with another of Togo, see under "German New Guinea," p. 134.

At the time of the setting up of this surcharge only sheets with Marginal Imprint III were in use (Design IIIA or IIIB—See Vol. I p. 905). As both right and left panes were used for surcharging and as these had sometimes horizontal, sometimes vertical comb perforation the same criteria are available for distinguishing different printings as in the case of the previous issue with surcharge A1. Control overprint (See Vol. I p. 901) apparently only in violet.

Colour fading from the influence of the tropical climate may be noted as in the case of the previous issue.

The surcharge, according to Friedemann, may be fine (thin lettering) or bold (thick lettering) on contiguous stamps in the earlier printings, in later printings only bold, whilst in the latest shiny surcharges also occur.

The stamps were declared invalid on Sept. 30, 1901, but for a further period of nine months they were permitted to be used along with the succeeding definitive issue.

1901, 1 January (in Berlin on 17-12-00). Definitive issues, Types 1 and 2. The so-called "Ship Type" (the "Hohenzollern" under full steam). Pesa values typographed in one or in two colours on white or on coloured paper, perf. 14:14. Rupee values line engraved on copper in one or in two colours, perf. 26:17 holes. No watermark.

- 11 2 Pesa brown  
Error. Imperf. (light brown)
- 12 3 Pesa green
- 13 5 Pesa rose carmine
- 14 10 Pesa ultramarine
- 15 15 Pesa black and orange on salmon
- 16 20 Pesa black and lake
- 17 25 Pesa black and purple violet on salmon
- 18 40 Pesa black and carmine on rose
- 19 1 Rupee dark lake
- 20 2 Rupees bright green, yellow green
- 21 3 Rupees greenish black and reddish vermilion

The first printings of the pesa values were made in Aug.-Sept., 1900 (the four lowest values in August, the bicoloured stamps in September). The issue was put in circulation in the colony over the counter in Dar-es-salaam on New Year's day, 1901, according to the *I. B. J.*, 1906, but in Berlin they were put on sale on 17-2-00 on the occasion of the opening of the so-called "Colonial Counter."

For a consideration of the subject of the preparation of the plates for these stamps see Vol. I, pp. 913 and 919.

The sheets of the typographed stamps (Panels of 10x10 with harrow-perforation of each two panes horizontally alongside of each other) have rows of numerals on the top margin indicating the total values of the stamps underneath. They are totalled up in R(upees) and P(esa) in this manner, for example: 50P; 1R 36P; 2R 22P and so on. On the other three margins are rows of fine lines—Marginal Imprint III, of design B or C in the case of the monocoloured stamps and design A in the case of the bicoloured stamps.

On the sheets of the monocoloured stamps with Marginal Imprint IIIC there are also occasionally pane (double-pane) numbers. In this respect these sheets differ from those of German New Guinea, which appeared simultaneously, but they resemble the latter in having the name of the territory "DEUTSCH-OSTAFRIKA" printed in plump moderate sized letters on the bottom margin under stamps Nos. 92-94, 97-99. In the case of the bicoloured stamps this is in the black colour of the centre plate. In the bicoloured stamps there is also the number 128 printed in the colour of the frame plate on the left margin of the left pane. The same number is found on the New Guinea issue.

The Control overprint still appears to occur only in violet.

The line engraved stamps are printed in sheets of 5 horizontal rows of 4 stamps each, and may have either both margins perforated through or only the right margin, but never (at least judging by our material) the left margin only. The same is found in the German New Guinea issue.

The imperforate variety of the 2 pesa value was never issued and is definitely from proof or trial sheets. Sheets came into the possession of a Berlin stamp dealer in 1900, presumably through the Imperial Postal Museum, and single copies were divided off by him and put on the market. The marginal figures on these sheets do *not* sum up the values of the vertical rows in Rupees and Pesa as occurs in all the issued sheets of all values, but in Marks (decimal counting), thus, 1.50; 1.80; 2.10 and so on. The statement of the firm holding the sheets (*B. B. Z.* 1905, p. 78) that it was a trial or proof for the marginal imprint of the pesa values of the ship pattern therefore sounds quite credible.

On Stamp No. 37 of the right-hand pane of the 2 pesa value (with Marginal Imprint

IIIB) the "E" of "DEUTSCH" shows a marked deformity of the middle horizontal bar. The free end has a clod-like thickening so that the space between the top and bottom bars of the "E" and the following "U" is almost completely filled up by a coloured smudge. Cause damage to the cliché; squeezing in of some foreign matter, etc.

The pesa values were demonetized on March 31, 1906; the stamps with heller reckoning having been issued on April 1, 1905; they were valid therefore for a full year alongside of the heller stamps. The greater part of the pretty considerable remainders was sold to a Berlin stamp dealer. The stocks still on hand in the state printing office at the beginning of 1907 should (according to the *Deutschen Verkehrs-Ztg.*) have been officially destroyed early in Feb., 1907 along with the German Empire stamps of offices abroad. Nevertheless, right down to the time of the Great War numerous lots of remainders could be obtained at official auction.

The rupee values remained in circulation till 1918 as the change in currency brought in on Feb. 28, 1904, did not alter the designation "Rupee" for the higher denominations. After the close of the Berlin Sales Dept. for colonial stamps by the imperial P.O. (July 1919) large remainders of the rupee values were offered in open auction.

Used specimens of the higher values, derived from parcel cards, etc., were officially auctioned in small lots from Dec. 1910 on. They were obtained later in greater quantity, cut off from money orders, etc. (Compare "German offices in China, Morocco, etc."). These were sold by the Imperial Postal Museum in November, 1923, to a philatelist in Milan and put on the market by him.

- 1905 (1 April). Type 3. Change in currency and an additional new value (No. 28). Ship pattern as before but values now in Heller currency. No. Wmk.
- 22 2½ Heller yellowish brown, grey brown, reddish brown
- 23 4 Heller green (pale, dark), yellow green
- 24 7½ Heller rose, rose carmine
- 25 15 Heller pale ultramarine, bright ultramarine
- 26 20 Heller black and reddish orange (pale, bright) on yellow
- 27 30 Heller black and magenta
- 28 45 Heller (a) black and purple violet  
(b) black and lilac
- 29 60 Heller black and carmine on rose

*Marginal Imprints.* In contrast with the previous issue, in this one (judging from our sheets) the bicoloured stamps are also printed only on sheets with Marginal Imprint III B; the panes therefore can no longer be identified by the marginal imprints as right or left panes of a sheet divided by harrow-perforation 2x100.

The monocoloured stamps now also only occur on sheets with Marginal Imprint III B (no longer III C).

Perforation of the right or left margins is conspicuous by its absence (such lateral marginal perforation is characteristic up to this time of all surface printed productions of the state printing office from the issue of 1875 onwards, at first with vertical, later with horizontal comb-perforation); the perforation in our material is now exclusively horizontal comb-perforation. The double-pane numbers noted in the monocoloured stamps of the last issue are not present; lastly, in contrast with the previous issue, the cutting of the sheet margins is usually such that the right and left margins are equally broad, so that one can no longer speak of left or right panes.

All these features seem to point towards one conclusion, viz., that, at any rate for the main part, the stamps with heller reckoning were no longer being printed from several small pane plates but from a single large pane plate, although this may seem rather strange in view of the fact that the postal traffic in the colony had obviously permanently increased in amount.

The printing of these sheets occurred at the time of the introduction of the practice of giving sheets an indent number; these sheets have such numbers printed on the bottom margin (in the case of the bicoloured stamps printed in the colour of the frame) but the year date is not yet subjoined to the number. All values were printed under the ? first) indent number H 6283. Some other values (e.g. the 20 heller) are known with another indent number. Indent No. H 6283 occurs both with and without the index letter "H"; presumably the letter was removed from the cylinders during the course of printing.

A sheet of the 2½ heller value (pale yellow brown) which we have, is the only one without an indent number.

The marginal imprint "DEUTSCH-OST AFRIKA" on the bottom margin is the same in design and position as in the previous issue.

*Shades.* Almost all values exhibit a variety of shades and many of these are so striking (in the 2½, 15 and 45 heller values, for example) that they can only be attributed to different printings or orders. Generally speaking the pale shades seem to belong to the earlier printings and the bright shades to the later emissions. In the case of the new value, 45 heller (No. 28) according to the *Ill. Ztschr. f. Kolonialmarken-Kunde*, 1909, p. 83 the colour of the first printing was violet (bluish), later it became reddish, first light, then dark.

*Bisects.* Friedemann states that 10 specimens of the 7½ heller stamp were used provisionally as 4 heller stamps at Wugiri on Jan. 4, 1906; single bisected stamps have also been recorded from other places, e.g. in the same month, from Moschi.

Such cases are all purely philatelic tricks, which can be accounted for partly by the fact that the persons in charge of the postal agencies in the interior were not professional postal officials but members of the protectorate troops or others.

These unwatermarked stamps remained in circulation alongside of those of the succeeding issue. Only the 60 heller value was demonetized on March 31, 1912, after the expiry of an exchange respite period (See under next issue). The remainders were disposed of by auction and sale after the Great War by the Imperial Postal Museum.

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#### ARGENTINE STAMP CENTENARY. SOUVENIR SHEET.

Argentina issued a souvenir miniature sheet as a stamp centenary commemoration. This embodied five "first issues," viz., of Corrientes, Buenos Aires, Cordoba, and two of the Republic. The sheet has a stamp centenary inscription and the dates 1840 May 1940. A certain number, said to be 30,000, had an additional inscription "Philatelic Exhibition of Cordoba" and were only sold at Cordoba with admission tickets to the Exhibition. A printing of 100,000 without the philatelic exhibition legend were on sale in Buenos Aires at their face value of 30c from May 25-31.

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## Air Mail Notes

By  
I. H. C. GODFREY.

### BASUTOLAND AND THE AIR MAIL.

The first Basuto to make an aerial ascent was the ruling Paramount Chief Griffiths, who on October 31, 1919, was taken for a short flight over London in an open Avro biplane at the invitation of the British authorities. In that year Basutoland became a signatory to the International Air Navigation Convention, but it was not until fifteen years later that the Protectorate's first and only air mail was flown in and out of the territory.

The formidable nature of the interior of Basutoland, with its mountains and ravines, makes the country totally unsuited for aviation and, although landings can be made near the principal administrative centres such as Maseru, Quthing and Mafeting, there are no recognised aerodromes in the territory. We are indebted to the Secretariat at Maseru for the following interesting information (dated 2.4.40):

*"No mails have been despatched officially from Basutoland by air, but on the 26th May, 1934, Mr. D. W. How, who was then Assistant Commissioner at Quthing, took advantage of the first aerial flight from Quthing to Maseru to send a letter to the Resident Commissioner of Basutoland by this means. This letter is filed for record in the Secretariat, Maseru.*

*"As there are no licenced aerodromes in the Territory, no permission is granted to Pilots to alight except in cases of extreme urgency, and then only at the pilot's and passengers' own risk. The Basutoland Government accepts no responsibility in connection with the landing of any aircraft in the Territory."*

The circumstances of the aforementioned flight were as follows: Chevalier Dr. D. Vollet, the Medical Officer at Quthing, chartered a plane, owned by the Aliwal North Roman Catholic Mission, to fly him in answer to an

urgent summons to Maseru, the Capital of the Protectorate, a distance of about 80 air miles. The plane was piloted by a Swiss national, who unfortunately lost his life shortly afterwards in a flying accident.

In addition to the official communication which is filed at Maseru, one other souvenir of this flight is known. It is a cover addressed to Natal, which was carried by Dr. Vollet from Quthing and posted on his arrival at Maseru.

The following notice was recently issued by the Kenya Information Officer:

#### "WARNING TO PHILATELISTS.

"The Kenya Information Officer is authorised to issue the following:

With reference to the notice which has already been issued in the press, drawing attention to the undesirability of the transmission in correspondence of used or unused postage stamps, for philatelic and collecting purposes, the Chief Censor advises that there is no objection locally to the exchange of stamps between certain Empire countries, although no responsibility can be accepted for any suppressive measures that may be taken in other countries.

The following is a list of the countries to and from which the transmission of stamps is forbidden:

(a) All foreign countries including Egypt and Iraq; (b) countries within the Empire.

British Somaliland, Aden, Trans-Jordania, Burma, Gibraltar, Cyprus, Rhodesia, Northern and Southern, Sudan, Palestine, India, Ceylon, Malta, Union of South Africa, Nyasaland.

The use of intermediaries in Empire countries as a means of establishing contacts for the exchange of stamps with persons in those countries specified in paragraph 2 is not intended, and cases which come to notice of attempts to evade requirements in this respect will be dealt with in accordance with the provisions of the Defence Regulations."

We are indebted for the above information to Mr. W. Turnstall, of Uplands, Kenya.

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## New Republic Cancellations

By J. H. HARVEY PIRIE.

The article on The Stamps of the New Republic by Mr. S. A. Klagsbrun published in last month's (July) issue set me looking over my small collection of the stamps of this territory.

He described three varieties of cancellation marks to be found on these stamps in addition to manuscript cancellations.

To my surprise I found two types of cancellation not mentioned by him. The first was a numeral cancellation of the type I have called the "Cape Type 2" (See also last month's issue, p. 100). I have five specimens of this, all clearly decipherable, on S.G. Nos. 9, 26, 40, 43, and 197. The number in each instance is the same, viz., 232.

The second type I unfortunately have no single perfect specimen of but an effort at reconstruction from eleven partial specimens shows it to be apparently a circular cancellation about 35 m.m. in diameter with coat of arms in the centre and the words, just inside the circle, "VRYHEID NIEUWE REPUBLIEK ZUID AFRIKA" at the top and separated by two stars or asterisks from those below, "POST KANTOOR."

Incidentally, not dealing with cancellations, and merely confirming a known fact, I came across recently a letter from Mr. D. J. Esselen, who was Government Secretary of the New Republic, to the Hon. Sec., Philatelic Society of Johannesburg, of date 26th August, 1907. In this letter Mr. Esselen stated (evidently in answer to a query put him) that the stamps of the New Republic were not recognized by the Universal Postal Union; that they were used to carry letters to the border post offices of Utrecht or Dundee; and that arrangements had been in force with the postmasters of these towns for stamping such letters with South African Republic or Natal stamps as the case might be. The stamps were valid for postal and revenue purposes within the New Republic and were sold under proper authority of the Government over the counters of the respective public offices.

### BASUTOLAND.

Postally speaking, Basutoland was a part of the Cape of Good Hope prior to the time of Union, or, at any rate, from 1871 to 1910, and it might therefore be expected that postmarks similar to those in use in Cape Colony might be found here.

Actually I have two numeral postmarks of the typical Cape type 2b. One is from Mafeking with the date SP 30. The year is blank but as the cover is addressed to a prisoner-of-war in Ceylon and bears a P.O.W. censor's mark it must be of the period 1900-1902. The number is probably 156; the last two figures are quite clear and the first can scarcely be anything other than a 1.

The other mark is from Morija, of date FE 24 90. Again the figures of the numeral defacer are not absolutely clear, but it is difficult to make anything of the numeral other than 277. I use this phraseology because No. 277 has been recorded by Dann (*London Philatelist*, June, 1939, p. 189) as used in Rhodesia.

### BECHUANALAND.

The following numeral postmarks of Cape type 2b have been identified by S. G. Rich with their place of use: 172 at Taungs Station, 209 at Maribogo and 638 at Mafeking. Jurgens identifies 204 from Maraisburg and 555 from Vryburg. I have a specimen of the "204" mark and it is noteworthy as not being of the Cape standard Type 2; but a variety with four thick bars top and bottom and four thick side bars. Also a "534" (standard Type 2)—place unidentified. These places are all in British Bechuanaland.

Rich records a mark of this type from Palachwe (Palapye, Bechuanaland Protectorate) but the number is unreadable. I have a mark "-79" (first figure not decipherable) on a 1s. Bechuanaland Protectorate stamp of the 1888 issue, and No. 1052 on a 4d. of the 1897 issue.

Quite possibly a dozen marks of this type may be found as used in Basutoland and possibly even more from Bechuanaland.

### GRIQUALAND WEST.

The only numerical postmark which I can record as probably coming from this territory is on a 1d. (S.G. No. 15) with a mark of the type classified under the Cape of Good Hope as 5a. Only half of the numeral appears, but it is probably either a "5" or a "6". The specimen is, unfortunately, not on cover, so that the date of use is unknown, nor can it be stated positively that the cancellation was done in a Griqualand West post office. The stamp might have been used at a later date in Cape Colony; meanwhile it is recorded as a "possible."

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## Review

"THE ROMANCE OF THE POSTS OF RHODESIA, BRITISH CENTRAL AFRICA AND NYASALAND," by H. C. Dann, F.R.P.S.L., including numerous authentic anecdotes and descriptions of the early postal services with full details of 800 postmarks, also 107 unique photographs of mail runners, canoe dug-outs, ox wagons, "Buffalo Bill" coaches, etc., and early post offices taken by the first Administrators, pioneers and postmasters—with 9 maps. Reprinted from the *London Philatelist*, the official journal of the Royal Philatelic Society, with many additions. A book of equal interest for philatelists and those interested in the history of Central Africa."

The above remarks are copied from the fly leaf of a monumental work which has recently been published by Frank Godden, 110-111 Strand, London, W.C.2. at the very low price of 7s. 6d. These remarks, however, convey but a very inadequate idea of the store of philatelic and general information contained within the covers of the book in question which should undoubtedly be added to the library of at least every collector of the stamps of the countries mentioned.

One of the special features of this book is that most of the information has been obtained from many prominent officials who served in various capacities during the early days of the British South Africa Company and with whom the author was fortunate to get into direct and personal touch.

The particular aspect or, as some collectors would say, sideline of philately dealt with is that of postal cancellations and a perusal of the book will show in a convincing way that in some cases it is the postmark that creates not only the value of, but, what is more important, the philatelic interest in a particular item. As Mr. Dann says in respect of the postal cancellations of certain post offices: "These postmarks are very rare and I think it is not an unsafe prophecy to make that Rhodesian stamps and covers with these cancellations will become 'classics' in years to come."

The activities of a true philatelist are not confined to the study of the postage stamps of his particular country; in the case of the collector of the stamps of Rhodesia those activities will be greatly stimulated and intensified by reading Mr. Dann's book which can be thoroughly recommended to anyone, collector or otherwise, who is in any way interested in that land of romance and adventure—Rhodesia.

W.J.H.

## MOBILE POST OFFICES.

The Mobile Post Office introduced in Johannesburg on 24th Jan., 1937, to serve the N.W. suburbs has proved such a success that the use of such units has been extended.

The new vehicles are a great improvement on the original, being considerably larger and roomier. They are built on a Chevrolet 4-ton bus chassis and have an inside space of about 9 x 7 feet, weighing something over 10,000 lbs. Clients can have all their wants (and these may be such as are catered for at any ordinary post office, telegraphic facilities included) attended to inside under cover with comfortable seats and desks. There are two compartments, one for Europeans and one for non-Europeans.

One unit started operations in Cape Town on 1st May and one has commenced in Durban. Mr. Park Smith reports that at first the Cape Town unit had no special cancelling stamp of its own, merely an ordinary town one, but perhaps this has been changed. About the Durban unit we have no information so far, beyond the fact of its being working. Perhaps some correspondent there can give further details.

A second unit started business in Johannesburg on 1st July, this one operating in the N.E. suburbs. This has two cancellation stamps, reading respectively MOBILE P.O. No. 2 / (JOHANNESBURG) and MOBILE P.K. No. 2 / (JOHANNESBURG) between circles and the date across the centre in one line. It may be remembered that the cancellation of the original Johannesburg unit was a large bilingual one; this has now been changed and it has two unilingual stamps like those described above but with No. 1 in place of No. 2.

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## STAMP CENTENARY COMMEMORATIVES.

News has come through of three more countries having issued commemoratives of the stamp centenary.

*Mexico* has issued a series of ten, 5c, 10c, 20c, 1p, and 5p for ordinary mail and the same values in different colours for air mail. The design is the same throughout—tall stamps with a full-sized reproduction of the penny black above, 1840 CORREOS 1940 below  
MEXICO

and a suitable inscription surrounding the whole

*Bulgaria* has two stamps, 101 and 201. These are also tall stamps with 1840-1940 at the top, a floral emblem to the right of the centre piece, which is a reproduction of Bulgaria's No. 1 issued in 1879, and inscription below.

The *Dominican Republic* has also commemorated, figuring Rowland Hill, but details are not yet to hand as to the denominations.

## The Inventor of the Adhesive Postage Stamp

In a recent issue of "The London Philatelist" there is an article giving a preliminary view of the paragraphs, on the Chalmers-Hill controversy, prepared by Mr. James B. Seymour for the new edition of his work on "The Stamps of Great Britain," Part I.

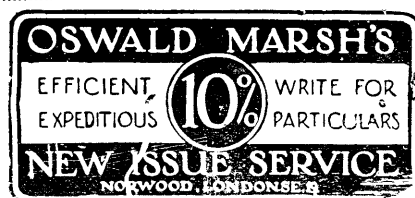
As the claim of James Chalmers to be the inventor of the adhesive postage stamp was discussed at the last Philatelic Congress of Southern Africa, held last November at Pretoria, and certain resolutions were passed (referred to below), the following extracts from the article in "The London Philatelist" may be of interest to our readers:

". . . In 1837, in Rowland Hill's pamphlet, "Post Office Reform," was published . . . He advocated the adoption of a uniform charge of 1d. per  $\frac{1}{2}$  ounce within the United Kingdom, irrespective of distance, the postage to be prepaid by means of stamped covers or adhesive labels. His scheme met with opposition in official circles, but public opinion prevailed and a Parliamentary Committee was appointed to consider the proposal. The report presented to the House in March, 1839, was mainly favourable, and a Bill was introduced, which received the Royal assent in August, 1839. Immediate steps were taken to give effect to the recommendations, and prizes were offered for the best suggestions for adhesive labels or stamped paper. . . . Among others, essays were submitted by Sevier, Chalmers, Roper, Cheverton, Henry Cole and Charles Whiting. . . . The most interesting of the essays, which caused a great controversy in later years, were those submitted during 1838 and 1839 by James Chalmers, a bookseller of Dundee. In 1881 these gave rise to an acrimonious discussion, which was carried on for 10 years, by Patrick Chalmers, who claimed that his father was the inventor of the postage stamp, and made unwarranted attacks on the postal authorities because they promptly rejected the claim. In 1882 the Philatelic Society, London, investigated the claim, and rejected it, and in 1888 Pearson Hill, the son of Rowland Hill, published a 33-page pamphlet on the subject. James Chalmers, who died in 1853, was a pioneer whose interest in postal reforms deserves to be remembered, but he was not responsible for the claims made on his behalf. Probably no one can claim to have invented postage stamps. In 1837 Rowland Hill proposed the use of adhesive labels, but the evolution of the "Penny Block" which was the outcome of the idea, was the product of many minds. . . ."

At the Philatelic Congress of Southern Africa, held in November last year, the following resolutions were unanimously passed:

- (1) "That this Congress is of opinion that a strong *prima facie* case has been made out for the claim made on behalf of James Chalmers to be the inventor of the adhesive postage stamp.
- (2) That the evidence brought forward by the son and grand-daughter of James Chalmers, if perhaps not conclusive proof of the claim, shows that he is at least entitled to be regarded as the sponsor of the adhesive stamp.
- (3) That the centenary years of the introduction of adhesive postage stamps is a fitting opportunity to have the claim settled once and for all," and that this Congress furthermore resolves:—
- (4) "That the Royal Philatelic Society, as the leading exponent of philately in the country of the invention of the adhesive postage stamp be urged with deep respect to have the Chalmers' claim re-investigated either by itself alone or by a joint commission along with the Philatelic Congress of Great Britain, and to proclaim their verdict to the world."

It will seen, therefore, that the delegates present at Congress were not by any means satisfied that the claims made on behalf of James Chalmers should be rejected. A few months prior to the Congress, Miss Leah Chalmers, grand-daughter of James Chalmers, published a pamphlet entitled "How the Adhesive Postage Stamp was Born." The evidence tabulated therein makes out a strong case on behalf of James Chalmers. (See Review in September, 1939, issue of "The South African Philatelist"). It is to be hoped that the last word in the controversy has not yet been spoken and that the claims of James Chalmers to be the sponsor of the adhesive stamp will be universally recognised.



## Society News

### JOHANNESBURG JEWISH GUILD.

The stamps of Holland were the exhibits at the June meeting of the Philatelic Section of the Jewish Guild, the exhibitors being Dr. A. Kaplan and Mr. R. Reckling.

Dr. Kaplan's exhibit included the Dutch Colonies. Early issues of Holland were well represented by perfect used specimens lightly cancelled. The modern issues were nearly complete including the commemoratives, air and charity. Numerous covers were shown and the whole exhibit was nicely mounted and well written up.

Mr. R. Reckling included a specialised collection of Dutch postal stationery in his exhibit neatly mounted on large sheets of cardboard which well set off the specimens. Numerous sets of commemoratives and charity were also included in his exhibit, and it contained numerous covers of special flights illustrated by appropriate news cuttings.

Amongst items of interest shown during the evening were numerous censored covers, and the latest commemoratives. I.I.

### PHILATELIC SOCIETY OF NATAL.

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

There was an unusually large number of visitors at our July meeting, when a large number of stamps were auctioned for the various war funds, particularly "Speed the Planes."

Mr. J. Lyle afterwards showed a quantity of sheets of classified pictorials, all of which had some bearing on the present world situation. Royalty, Maps, Aeroplanes, Locomotives, Victory Stamps and numerous others, including stamps printed on bank notes, currency stamps and the Death Mask Stamp of Servia.

Arising out of Mr. Bishop's address on the Postal Centenary last month, it appears that Durban possesses a link with the days of Rowland Hill's great reform in the person of Miss Mabel L. Hooper, who informs us that her great-uncle, the late Thomas Boucher, was Comptroller of the British Post Office at the time, and that it was he who worked out the financial and economic side of Rowland Hill's plan. Indeed, it was largely due to Boucher's mastery of facts and figures that the opposition to the scheme was worn down. It appears that Mr. Boucher was invited to accept a knighthood for the part he played in the great reform, but the honour was de-

clined. The Government of India also greatly appreciated his work, and by order of the authorities, his portrait was placed in the head Post Office of each important Indian city. P.B.

### THE PHILATELIC SOCIETY OF JOHANNESBURG.

*President*, Mr. F. E. Ingham; *Hon. Secretary*, F. Lang, P.O. Box 4967; *Meetings*: 2nd Tuesdays, 8 p.m., Sanlam Buildings.

Our newly elected president, Mr. F. E. Ingham took the chair at our July meeting.

Although the attendance was much smaller than it has been for a long time, the meeting proved most interesting and enjoyable. After the usual business was finished, we held our first regular monthly auction on behalf of our war fund. Many of the items auctioned had been contributed by the general public and left by generous individuals at the premises of local stamp dealers with instructions that these donations were to be sold at our regular monthly war fund auction. In addition to single stamps and mounted sets, contributions for the auction by members of the general public included special covers, accumulations of stamps in envelopes, boxes and albums, duplicate books, catalogues and philatelic supplies. Indeed, there was something for everyone and everyone was interested in something as was proved by the fact that despite the comparatively small attendance, a total amount was collected for the war fund of £8 12s. 0d.

It was announced by the president that the committee had decided to set aside from our liquid assets the amount of £100 to be paid into a special war fund. This action was heartily approved by all members present, so that during the course of the present month, contributions will be made from the Society's war fund to such deserving organisations as the British Red Cross, S.P.C.A. Ambulance Fund, and the Y.M.C.A.-Toc H Fund.

The meeting was informed that the Committee had completed the syllabus for the year and that this syllabus, instead of being printed separately as in previous years, will appear monthly on the notices of meetings.

There were two interesting exhibits, the first, Poland, by Mr. L. Buchen, and the second, British Empire War Tax Stamps by Mr. I. Isaacs. Messrs. Robertson and Demasius who commented on the exhibits, stated that Mr. Buchen's collection of Poland is almost complete and contains many items which it is very difficult to secure. In fact, particularly under present conditions, a good many items are actually unobtainable here. Included among these stamps of Poland were up-to-date items including German stamps overprinted, German-Eastern posts, Polish stamps with a German occupational overprint and

Russian stamps postmarked from points in Poland now occupied by Russia.

It was pointed out that Mr. Isaacs' collection of British Empire War Tax stamps is probably the most complete in this country and is fully indicative of the manner in which the various colonies and dominions of the British Empire during the last war, augmented their revenue for war expenses as a mean of their postal service.

Mr. Ingham, in summing up the evening's entertainment and in thanking the exhibitors, very aptly pointed out that we had indeed had a most war-like (although not belligerent) evening, in that the stamps of Poland were of the country first invaded which brought the British Empire into the war and, secondly, Mr. Isaacs' exhibit indicated how the stamps in which we are interested can be used to help win the war.

At the August meeting, to be held on Tuesday, the 13th, Mr. Oppenheimer will submit a very unusually interesting exhibit of stamps and covers of the United States. Also there will be a further monthly war fund auction; contributions in the form of stamps, catalogues, philatelic supplies, will be welcome, by members or non-members. All contributions should be sent to the Secretary, P.O. Box 4967, Johannesburg. H.E.B.

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#### PRETORIA PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

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

July 1.—Mr. Warren in the chair. Mr. Hawke read some interesting philatelic extracts, one dealing with specialists and general collectors and another on carrying on philately in war time.

Mr. Obermeyer tabled a fine exhibit of stamps from the different countries of Scandinavia and Mr. Wright showed an unusual lot of locals from the same area.

July 15.—Mr. Basden was in the chair. Mr. Giovanetti read a paper on stamps as an investment. He spoke of a slump in stamp collecting on account of war conditions and pointed out that it was probable that many European collections would come on the English market. Very minor varieties of stamps always seemed to appeal to a certain class of collectors and were easily saleable. Mr. Klagsbrun considered that a collection of good quality stamps was always a realisable asset.

Mr. Giovanetti showed his fine collection of S.W.A.

**War Fund.**—It has been decided to start a subscription in aid of War Funds and the Society appeals to members and the general public to donate stamps for that purpose from time to time. The stamps will be sold to the best advantage and all the proceeds given to the Fund. Please start now with the first donation. H.A.W.

#### EAST LONDON PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

*President, J. Paviour; Hon. Secretary and Treasurer, S. Fowler. Meetings: Colosseum Tea Lounge, 2nd Fridays, 8 p.m.*

At the monthly meeting held on the 12th July, there was an average attendance and Mr. T. A. Harper gave a most interesting display of a small portion of his large collection. First were shown early Imperials of certain European countries and South African States. A page of early Belgian issues was particularly fine; in fact all stamps were picked copies showing good margins and light cancellations.

Then came a representative showing of early Colonial issues. South Australia was most prominent and the beautiful shades and fine condition made an outstanding presentation. There were a few pages of early Canadians, chiefly the issues during 1868 to 1897 from Montreal Printings and these made a perfect show.

A letter reporting the Minutes of the Executive Meeting of the Philatelic Federation of Southern Africa was read and the decision to hold or to cancel Congress in October is awaited with interest. After the usual refreshments, the monthly auction of stamps in aid of Red Cross Funds was held and a fair number of stamps were sold.

J.P.S.

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#### THE PORT ELIZABETH PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

*President, G. K. Forbes; Hon. Secretary, C. W. Sheffield, c/o P.O. Box 88, Port Elizabeth. Meetings: First and third Tuesdays in each month in the African Room of the P.E. Public Library.*

The usual monthly meeting was held on the 16th instant, under the Presidency of Mr. G. K. Forbes (President). The principal business of the evening was the solidifying of the system arranged by the Society for the collection and disposal of stamps in aid of the Governor-General's Fund. It was reported that parcels of stamps had been received in large quantities, for which the Society are very grateful. Quite a number of items were sold by auction and the sum realised will be sent to the Governor-General's Fund. The President mentioned that he had just returned from the Cape and had the honour of looking over the—what he considered—largest selection of three-cornered stamps and early issues of the Cape in South Africa.

The collection was that of Mr. Jurgens, a well-known figure in the stamp world. Mr. Forbes' description of many of the stamps he had seen was very interesting to the members. I.A.P.

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Vol. 16.

SEPTEMBER, 1940.

No. 9.

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Vol. 16.

SEPTEMBER, 1940.

No. 9.

### **Transvaal Postage Stamps**

by

J. H. CURLE and A. E. BASDEN.

A Review by W.R.

This book, published under the auspices of The Royal Philatelic Society, London, sets a new high standard in the world of Philatelic literature. True, as a lover of the stamps of Transvaal, I am probably somewhat biased in favour of this fine work, but let any reader who is even faintly interested in Transvaal stamps read the book himself and then judge the value of my opinion.

The stamps of this once popular country amongst stamp collectors have been out of favour for many years, and that is not surprising when we remember the shoals of forgeries, reprints, fakes and forged overprints that have plagued any collector who has been tempted to add Transvaal to the countries whose stamps he collected. In addition to all this trouble, one must admit that prior to the publication of Curle and Basden's book, Transvaal has been a most difficult country for the average collector to tackle. Apart from the substantial number of rarities, many quite beyond the reach of the man of moderate means, there are the many different printings, the large number of rarities of paper on which the stamps were printed, and the difficulty in telling a genuine stamp from a reprint or forgery.

For the real philatelic student there has been available the fine series of articles by Yardley in the Royal Society's "Africa" (Part three), but most people who have read and studied those articles will agree that such study has certainly been a labour, even if a labour of love.

Yardley obtained a large amount of his information from the veteran amongst Transvaal collectors, Emil Tamsen. Incidentally, one of the few errors in the book under review is the statement that Mr. Tamsen is a German. He is actually a Dane.

With the aid of the new book it is fairly simple for the collector with a small knowledge of "Transvaals" to go through his collection of these stamps and separate the genuine from the reprints and forgeries. Even if this process causes a certain amount of disappointment, in finding seamps which he considered genuine, to be either reprints or forgeries, nevertheless he will have the satisfaction of knowing just what his collection consists of and, when buying a stamp in future, he will know just what he is getting for his money.

For those who have not collected this country in the past, the book gives them the opportunity of taking up one of the most interesting philatelic countries of the whole world. They will also have the advantage of collecting stamps of a country whose stamps, in relation to their variety, are probably the most underpriced (at present) in the whole catalogue.

Having given our readers the reasons why I consider this book should be carefully read by everyone interested in stamps, and particularly by all those interested in the stamps of South Africa, let us now see what the book actually contains.

To open with, we have an interesting introduction telling us something of the early history of the Transvaal, of its people of those days, of some of the great philatelists of the past who were interested in its stamps, of the first Postmaster-General, the late Fred Jeppe, of the arrangements he made to have the first issue of stamps printed, and introduces us to that master rascal amongst stamp printers of all times—Adolph Otto.

There is a full description of the stamps printed by Otto, together with what is up to now the most complete detail of his reprints and forgeries. These details are supported by some very fine illustrations of the genuine stamps and also of the forgeries and reprints, and this issue will now be an easy study for even a novice.

I do not quite agree with the authors' conclusion on Otto's Threepence. Admittedly he sold to dealers in Europe quantities of

stamps, printed from the original plate, in all kinds of fancy colours, but have we any proof that the stamps supplied to dealers, on the instructions of Jeppe, were in the reddish-lilac shade only? Were they all imperforate? Was it not possible that Otto had already in mind his scheme to supply dealers with stamps for his own benefit and therefore included in the lots supplied to the dealers on Jeppe's instructions rouletted copies in various shades of lilac and also in blue. The late Charles Hand, who spent a lifetime in the study and collection of "Transvaals," told me that in his opinion, Otto had followed the above-mentioned procedure.

Chapter 3 gives us information on the Viljoen printings, including the official Tamsen figures of the quantities of the different printings, whilst chapters 4 and 5 deal with the stamps of Borrius, Piet Davis and The Stamp Commission in a clear and concise manner.

The first British occupation, including the first overprinting of Transvaals, is fully dealt with. The different overprints are illustrated and detailed and we are given some very useful information about the relative rarity of the different stamps. Two interesting diagrams show the rarities, quantities and position on sheet of the One Penny surcharge Queen's head and the total number of each value of the Queen's heads sent to the Transvaal is given. I would point out that the Halfpenny and Two Shillings of this issue in mint condition are rare and underpriced in the catalogues.

The second Republic stamps are dealt with in a very informative manner, particularly the numerous surcharges on the Enschede printings, and this also applies to the V.R.I. overprint with its many rarities and errors. The Boer War local issues are adequately described. The King's Head issues, Proofs, Specimens, Postal Stationery, etc., all receive attention.

The chapter on the Rarest Transvaals gives a comparison of the market value between these stamps and the "Post Office" Mauritius. This part of the book is, however, of only academic interest to the reader, as the stamps described are practically unobtainable. We can, nevertheless, keep a lookout for rarities in the minor errors, such as the "Defestive Yes," which on some stamps is extremely rare.

The authors mention most of the minor errors, but omit mention of the "Barred Six," which first appears in the Sixpence dull-blue of 1877. The section dealing with Postmarks gives us a lot of most useful information, particularly for the new collector of "Transvaals." The uninitiated could easily throw away a really fine pre-cancelled copy under the impression that it had been used for revenue purposes.

One of the high-lights of the whole book is the section dealing with forgeries, and here we get a lot of information which is

entirely new to most of us. The complete descriptions, aided by the excellent illustrations, will enable us, in most cases, to pick out the genuine stamps from the junk and so get together a collection of real stamps, instead of a collection of printed material showing the art of the printer of forgeries and reprints. It is true that with the Enschede stamps we will still have to watch the perforations, gum and colour of the printing ink, but after studying this book, these difficulties will not be insuperable.

The concluding section of the book consists of the most complete and easily followed Catalogue of Transvaal Postage Stamps ever published, and this alone would justify the publication.

There are twelve fine plates, of which seven are magnificent examples of the printer's art. I have never seen better natural colour reproductions of stamps than we have here.

From the point of view of production, I do not think that the book could be improved upon, and it is evident that the authors, in their love of Transvaal stamps, are giving the Philatelic public the opportunity of securing a copy at a price which is much less than it could possibly have cost to print. Our sincere congratulations to Messrs. J. H. Curle and A. E. Basden on a difficult work, splendidly done.

(Copies of the book can be obtained through Mr. A. E. Basden, P.O. Box 238, Pretoria, at 10s. 9d. post free).

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# The Numerical Postmarks of Southern Africa

By J. H. HARVEY PIRIE.

(Continued from page 118 of August issue)

## NATAL.

My personal collection of Natal numerical postmarks is only a small and scrappy one, but even in it there are half-a-dozen different varieties of marks. A study of these, combined with information given me by colleagues, emboldens me to publish this record in expectation of eliciting much additional information. So far as I can ascertain nothing has been published about them previously.

The first five types described can all, I think, be traced to more or less contemporaneously used marks in British post offices.

(1) Horizontal Oval Grids. (See Fig. 1). These, as shown in the tracing, consist of a number, of which the numerals are approximately 7 m.m. high, inside a horizontal oval grid of three bars above and below and two bars on either side.



Figure 1.

The horizontal axis of the oval is about 22 m.m. long and the vertical axis 17 m.m. Different marks show some variation in the thickness of the bars, some being quite thin, others thicker. This might be due either to wear or merely to variations in the hardness of striking the mark. Not infrequently the two thin side bars seem to merge into one thick bar. Of this type I have seen Nos. 9, 10, 11, 14, 16, 17 and 23.

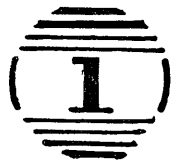


Figure 2.

(2) Flattened Circular Grid. (See Fig. 2). I have only two rather poor specimens of this personally, but Mr. Hurst sent me a fine tracing of a No. 2 taken from an entire dated 1866. Mr. Basden has also one or two specimens on single stamps. As the tracing

shows the numeral (only Nos. 1 and 2 seen) has four bars above and below and a single curved bar on either side.

(a) I have seen one incomplete specimen (on 1s. of July, 1873, belonging to Mr. Basden) which may, temporarily, at all events, be noted here as a variety. In this there are also four bars above and below, but at the sides are three horizontal bars, unevenly spaced, so that there are 3 m.m. between the centre one and the upper and lower side bars, whilst the latter are quite close to the top and bottom series respectively. The numeral in this case is a No. 1.

(3) Larger Circular Grids. (See Fig. 3). These consist of numbers with three thickish bars above and below them, no side bars. I

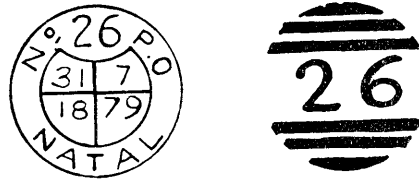


Figure 3.

have Nos. 5, 20 and 26 definitely like the tracing figured and I think Nos. 1 and 2 (with very thick figures) also occur, but I have not seen a specimen sufficiently complete to be quite sure.

Varieties: Two may be described. (3a) I have seen four specimens of a No. 5 with a side bar (curved as in Type 2) on the right side, but none on the left. Whether this should have bars on both sides or whether the bar on the right is just due to uneven pressure on that side I am not prepared to say.

(3b) A No. 2 with 3 bars top and bottom, the outermost in each case thin, the other two thick, but also with curved vertical side bars. I have also a possible third (3c), a No. 25 which appears to have five bars below. Number above unknown. (It may, however, be a double strike as 2 of the 5 bars appear to be not quite parallel).

Judging from one entire which I have, the Type 3 marks were used as stamp defacers along with a numbered date stamp of the design included with Fig. 3. I do not know if such numbered date stamps are ever to be found cancelling stamps, but so far I have not seen any so doing.



Figure 4

(4) Vertical Oval Grids with Side Bars (See Fig. 4). These have three bars above and below and single vertical bars laterally, the latter being curved to the shape of the oval. The numeral has no box round it. Nos. 1 and 2 (Pietermaritzburg and Durban respectively) of this type are very commonly seen but I do not know of any higher

numbers. Varieties of both No. 1 and No. 2 are to be found, with differences in the char-

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acter of the numerals, thickness of the bars and over-all length of the grid.

(5) Vertical Oval Grids without Side Bars. This I have not seen personally but Mr. Hurst has told me of it, and in two varieties: (a)



Figure 5a.

A No. 1 similar in type to Type 4 but without the side bars. This he has on an entire dated 1876. (b) Also a No. 1 but the oval, although of practically the same width as Var. 5(a), is so shortened vertically as to make the mark almost circular. Alternatively the mark might be described as similar to Type 3, but it is smaller and is not quite circular in outline.

This he has on an entire of 1877. (c) Mr. Basden has given me a tracing of a No. 2 with only two bars above and below.

(6) Vertical Oval Grids of Cape Type 2. These marks are of the Cape type 2a, i.e., with thick bars, but only about 26 m.m. vertical diameter. There are three bars above and below, three short horizontal bars laterally and the number is in a rectangular box. I have No. 67 on 1d. (S.G. No. 99) and have seen the same number on a 6d. (No. 102). I have also seen Nos. 16 on ½d. (No. 96), 17 on 1s. (No. 59) and 72 on 1d. (No. 99).

The numerals in all cases are very neat and "fine" and in height run 6—6½ m.m.

None of these specimens provide conclusive proof that these "Cape" marks were actually in use in Natal, but the two facts that the specimens recorded are all on Victorian stamps and that the numbers are all low and within the range of those employed in Natal are presumptive evidence in favour of their being truly "Natal" marks and against their being interprovincial "Cape" marks.

Varieties: (6a) This has 4 bars top and bottom and 5 horizontal bars on either side of the box. I have No. 1 of this variety, both in black and in blue.

(6b) In this variety there is no box around the number. I have two specimens of this:



Figure 6b.

No. 53, which is sufficiently complete to show the four bars below and the three side bars. (See Fig. 6b), and No. 65 which shows three bars above and below but the mark is not complete at either end, and there might quite well be really four bars. In neither is there any trace of the box.

(7) P.O.A. marks. (See Fig. 7). These marks have figured in literature, but under a wrong designation. A writer on British Army Postmarks has claimed them as such under the mistaken belief that the initials stood for "Post Office—Army." His mistake

was perhaps excusable inasmuch as he was describing the marks as occurring on British stamps. but this was really only a case of British stamps used in Natal civil post offices just as such stamps are to be found with the marks of various civil post offices in the Cape, the Orange River Colony and the Transvaal during the period of the Anglo-Boer war.



Figure 7.

The initials, of course, stand for "Post Office Agency," the official designation given

to postal establishments carrying out certain limited postal functions and usually situated in small country stores.

The marks all seem to correspond very closely with the sample figured, such little variations as are to be seen being all explicable, I think, by variation in the force of stamping.

My specimens run up to No. 120, but I do not know what the actual highest number in use was. These marks were in use at any rate up till 1910, but I do not know whether they were continued after Union.

The following is a list of the early Natal Post Office numbers. I received the list from Mr. A. E. Basden, but he wishes acknowledgment for it to be made to Mr. J. H. H. Chamberlain, of Durban, who actually compiled it. Since starting on this compilation I find the list has been published by Mr. Eric W. Mann in the *London Philatelist* (1939, Oct., p. 304) as part of his work on "The Victorian Postage Stamps of Natal."

#### OLD NATAL POSTMARKS.

1857 — 1878 — 1880.

- |                      |                     |
|----------------------|---------------------|
| 1. Pietermaritzburg. | 24. Singuasi.       |
| 2. Durban.           | 25. Camperdown.     |
| 3. Verulam.          | 26. New Hanover.    |
| 4. Umhlali.          | 27. Seven Oaks.     |
| 5. Point.            | 28. Rietvlei.       |
| 6. Pinetown.         | 29. Springvale.     |
| 7. Umzinto.          | 30. Umzimkulu.      |
| 8. Isipingo.         | 31. Boston.         |
| 9. Tongaat.          | 32. Noodsberg.      |
| 10. York.            | 33. Buffalo.        |
| 11. Greytown.        | 34. Dundee.         |
| 12. Richmond.        | 35. Good Hope       |
| 13. Howick.          | (Smidts).           |
| 14. Mooi River       | 36. Umhlanga.       |
| (Whipp's).           | 37. Umkomaas.       |
| 15. Bushman's River  | 38. Beaumont.       |
| later Estcourt.      | 39. Murchison.      |
| 16. Weenen.          | 40. Queen's Bridge. |
| 17. Colenso.         | 41. Blackburn.      |
| 18. Cathkin.         | 42. Glendale.       |
| 19. Ladysmith.       | 43. Mount Moreland. |
| 20. Newcastle.       | 44. New Guelderland |
| 21. Woodside.        | 45. Kearsney.       |
| 22.                  | 46. Hermansburg.    |
| 23. Nottingham.      | 47. Harding.        |

(Continued overleaf)



## Importation of Stamps Into Great Britain

According to a notice we have seen addressed by a stamp dealer to clients abroad, all letters containing stamps should be addressed to the consignee, c/o the British Philatelic Association, Ltd.

The notice reads as follows:

"In order to comply with the latest regulations concerning the importation of Postage Stamps into Great Britain, it is necessary for all letters containing stamps, whether they are stamps which we have ordered, or returns from any of our consignments, to be addressed to our firm, c/o The British Philatelic Association, Ltd., 3, Berners Street, Oxford Street, London, W.1. Letters or packages containing stamps which are not addressed to us in this way are likely to be seized at the Customs. This only applies to letters containing stamps, ordinary letters and those containing cheques or drafts can be addressed to us direct as usual."

We understand that several dealers have sent out similar notices to their clients in South Africa.

The following notice on the same subject appears in "Stamp Collecting":

"Notice to Importers and Exporters."

"In connection with the Import and Export Prohibitions affecting postage stamps of philatelic interest, the Board of Trade have decided to centralise arrangements for the import and export of these stamps in the British Philatelic Association.

"Application forms either for the import or export of stamps, and full information as to the procedure to be followed, may be obtained from the Secretary, British Philatelic Association, 3, Berners Street, London, W.1.

"The Board of Trade have made an order . . . under which the definition of postage stamps which may not be exported without licence to any destination is modified so as to cover postage stamps of philatelic interest and similar articles."

## The Red Cross and St. John Fund Philatelic Auction Sales

We have been asked to publish the following appeal by the Lord Mayor of London on behalf of the above object. During the last war an appreciable contribution to the Red Cross and St. John Fund resulted from the efforts of philatelists and others associated with them, principally from the public auction of stamps and other philatelic material donated for those objects.

Dear Sir,

I earnestly appeal to all stamp collectors and those interested in philately—both at home and abroad—to give their utmost support to the forthcoming Philatelic Auction Sales on behalf of the Red Cross and St. John Fund. It is hoped that it may be possible to hold the first sale at the Mansion House in the first week of November.

His Majesty the King has graciously shown his interest in this auction by promising to contribute a set of original Artists' drawings for Pictorial designs of a British Colony from his own collection.

This is an occasion when every collector can follow the lead of His Majesty. Not everybody can present stamps of great rarity, but common stamps are wanted as well as rare ones, and donations are also invited of pre-stamp covers, philatelic literature, postal prints, or anything else of a postal or philatelic nature.

All donations should be addressed to the Lord Mayor, Philatelic Section, The Mansion House, London, E.C.4, and will be acknowledged by me. The names of all donors will also be printed in the Auction Catalogue, which will form a permanent record of the contributions of philatelists to this worthy cause, and all cash donations in lieu of Philatelic material for this Fund will be similarly acknowledged and recorded.

Yours, etc.,  
F. W. Nonn,

Lord Mayor.

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### OLD NATAL POSTMARKS.

(Concluded from previous page)

- |                 |                     |
|-----------------|---------------------|
| 48. Byrnetown.  | 61. Mid Illovo.     |
| 49. Ixopo.      | 62. Mount Mariah.   |
| 50. High Flats. | 63. Stafford's.     |
| 51.             | 64. Thornville.     |
| 52. New Leeds.  | 65. Fox Hill.       |
| 53. Curry's.    | 66. Spring Grange.  |
| 54. Umtwalume.  | 67. Musgrave Road.  |
| 55. Umpunulo.   | 68. Ferry Hotel.    |
| 56. Zululand.   | 69. Ifafa.          |
| 57. Illovo.     | 70. Edendale.       |
| 58. The Dargle. | 71. Mount Prospect. |
| 59.             | 72. Stanger.        |
| 60. Sydenham.   | 73. Caversham.      |
|                 | 74.                 |

## Liberia Goes Into the Stamp Business With Both Feet

The Government of the Republic of Liberia advises that it will establish a philatelic agency at the offices of its Consulate General at New York City which will be under the direction of the Consul General at that office.

This office will be operative beginning July 29, 1940, and effective from that date. *All philatelic orders should be addressed as follows:*

THE LIBERIAN PHILATELIC AGENCY  
Liberian Consulate General  
277 Broadway  
New York, New York, U.S.A.

Please note that no orders will be filled from Monrovia or any other post office in Liberia. The Liberian Philatelic Agency will service Liberian stamps to all parts of the world.

The supervisor in charge of the agency will be an attaché that has philatelic understanding and knowledge and will see to it that strict attention is paid to the matter of condition.

The agency director will also keep the trade properly and promptly informed, in advance of any new issues, withdrawals, demonitizations, and general information that is felt would be of interest to stamp collectors. All issues hereafter, when announced, will state the number to be printed, and every care will be taken to eliminate any uncertainty with respect to those points upon which collectors and dealers always wish to feel assured.

Only absolute postal issues will be supplied and all stamps supplied by the philatelic agency will be in use postally in Liberia. The stamps from this time on, and until otherwise announced, will be produced by the American Bank Note Company at New York City, U.S.A.

All orders to be accompanied by remittance in United States Dollars by P. M. O. or draft. Certified cheques on any United States bank will be accepted.

DIXON B. BROWN,  
Postmaster General, R.L.

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## German East Africa

*Translated from the original article by Dr. Herbert Munk in Kohl's Handbook  
by Dr. J. H. Harvey Pirie.*

*(Continued from page 122 of August issue)*

- 1905 (14 Dec.)-1911 (1st half of the year.  
Stamps of Type 3 as before, but with  
Watermark of Lozenges (German Em-  
pire Wmk. Type 1).
- Line engraved stamps: Var. 1 Perf.  
26:17 holes  
Var. 2 Perf. 25:17 holes, 1919, not  
issued in the colony.

The stamps or varieties printed in *italic face type* were officially issued, but not in the colony itself.

		Date of issue in Berlin
30	2½ Heller (a) golden brown, dark golden brown (b) <i>dull golden brown</i> (H2319.19)	30— 1—06
31	4 Heller green, dark green (H4596.13)	12— 5—06
32	7½ Heller (a) rose carmine, no sheen (b) rose carmine with metallic sheen (H4596.13)	13— 8—06
33	15 Heller ultramarine, dark ultramarine (H4596.13)	27— 6—06
34	20 Heller black and orange-red or dark orange-red on yellow	1st half of 1911
35	30 Heller black and lake or dark lake (H4596.13)	16— 7—09
36	45 Heller black and lilac or dark lilac (H4596.13)	27— 6—06
37	60 Heller black and carmine on rose	14—12—05

		Var. 1 Perf. 26:17 Holes	Var. 2 (1919) Perf. 25:17 Holes
38	1 Rupee (a) <i>lake</i> (April, 1916) (b) <i>carmine-red, rose-red</i> (Feb. 19)	X	X
39	3 Rupees (a) greenish black and reddish vermilion (10-9-08) (b) <i>greenish black and bright red</i> (shades) 1919	X	X
	<i>Not officially issued (at the Colonial Counter) (Nov. 1920)</i>		
1	2 Rupees <i>bright yellow green</i>		X

The 1 rupee stamp (No. 38) was issued only in Berlin, in April, 1916, and philatelically cannot be considered as of full value; the 2 rupee stamp (No. 1) was never issued even at the Berlin counter but was first released after the conclusion of peace at an auction sale held by the Imperial Postal Museum on November 1-3, 1920. Friedemann states (p. 42) that the number sold was 11,900.

There were numerous printings of most of the values of the typographed stamps, with the exception perhaps of the 60 heller value, which was withdrawn from circulation in the early part of 1911 (see below). The earlier printings (those before the financial year 1908) were on sheets which had indent numbers but no year of issue subjoined. All values, excluding the already withdrawn 60 heller, were included in printing No. H 4596.13 which was the last to reach the colony.

After the war there was one more printing made (with the number H 2319.19) of the 2½ heller value, for sale at the Berlin counter. This stamp, No. 30b, is therefore shown in italics, in the check list above.

The last regular printing, H 4596.13, is distinguishable in all values by the substantially darker and greasier colours; this, together with the glossier paper is partly responsible for the appearance of these so-called war stamps.

Although it would probably be justifiable to recognize "varieties" in most of the values of this issue; because of the fact that mint sheet material is, practically speaking, limited to the last, 1913, printing, and although mint specimens of the earlier less dark shades are undoubtedly more valuable, we have actually listed only one special variety, viz., in the case of the 7½ heller. This is readily distinguish-

able from all the earlier printings by a typical greenish metallic sheen. This variety has already been recorded as occurring in the stamps of German New Guinea at approximately the same time (Stamp No. 21a). These 7½ heller stamps with metallic sheen are also found in the last stamp booklet issue (Booklet C—see below), a fact which approximately fixes the date of issue of these booklets, this date being otherwise undetermined.

Although the dark shades listed second in the above check list are found exclusively in the printing of 1913 it should be noted that in some cases, e.g., the 2½ and 20 heller values, the colour only became noticeably darker *during* the progress of printing.

We cannot recognize (as does Friedemann, p. 32) a special greasy or smudgy printing as a particular characteristic of the post-war issue H 2319.19 (No. 30b); many sheets of No. 30b are distinguished rather by their so-called "porous" printing, similar to that found in Nos. 20 and 21 of German New Guinea. The special feature of this is the presence on the stamps themselves, and even more markedly on the margins (e.g., in the rows of fine lines and in the row of figures of value) of numerous small non-printed spots; they are almost constantly present over watermark lines so that, apart from the quality of the paper itself, it may be that the fault lay in insufficient dressing being present.

In addition to a differentiation of separate printings on a basis of shades and printing execution it is possible to subdivide the issue on the grounds of the varying appearance of the words "DEUTSCH-OSTAFRIKA" printed on the bottom margin of the sheets.

Up to the printings of 1910 these words were the same in design and position as are found in the issue without watermark and in the ship pattern with pesa values (see above). In the orders of 1912 (H 2565.12, 2566.12) the lettering is only about half the size and the right-hand word is printed more towards the right of the sheet, lying under stamps Nos. 98-100 instead of under Nos. 97-99.

In the big printing of 1913 there is a return to the large sized lettering but the position, especially of the right-hand word, is no longer uniform in all values, a difference from what prevailed up till 1910.

In the 1919 post-war issue No. 30b quite different letters (italic, with ornamentations) were used for the printing of "DEUTSCH-OSTAFRIKA" on the margins. They are like those we find in the overprints made by the State Printing Office on German stamps from 1919 onwards (e.g. the letter "O" in Ostafrika is almost identical in appearance with the figure "0" in overprint A5 of Germany and with the figure "0" of the inflation provisionals.

The specialist can easily divide this apparently very uniform issue into four separate groups on the bases of differences in

printing and differences in the bottom margins.

As regards the imprints on the other margins of the sheets (arrangement of the fine line, non-perforation, pane-numbers) and also as regards the sheet edges, the description given under the unwatermarked issue holds good for this issue also, with the exception that in the last printing of the bicoloured stamps with watermark the marginal imprint III B shows a new development, in that the lower border of fine lines is interrupted in the middle for approximately a stamp's breadth and in the gap thus made there is a coloured dot put in.

The assumption is, therefore, that the watermarked issue was also, in the main at any rate, printed from plates of only one pane. There is an apparent contradiction in the fact that sheets of the 1913 issue often have the left margin perforated through, from which it might be concluded that sheets were 2 x 100 and, consequently, also that plates consisting of a horizontal pair of panes, were used for printing them.

But this is only an apparent contradiction.

Use of the old vertical comb perforating machine is not a likely explanation of this perforation through the side margin, for the following reasons (1) because in the sheets of 1913 the bottom margin is also always perforated through, (2) because the coloured dots are missing from both left and right margins, (3) because sheets with through perforation of only the left margin are not generally found in the vertical comb-perforation products of the State Printing Office.

Much more probably the explanation lies in the use of one of the new horizontal perforating machines which were introduced at the State Printing Office in 1910 or later.

These machines perforated two sheets, horizontally side by side, in one operation, perforating (horizontally) the margins of the two sheets as they overlapped in the centre.

We have been able to prove, from printer's waste, that these machines, although intended for perforating sheets of 2 x 100, were also used for perforating single sheets of 100, of the 1913 issue, probably as an emergency measure.

In the 45 heller denomination there are in both printings, sheets of which lie before us, certain stamps in which the "5" of the left-hand figure of value has a somewhat shortened, truncated looking top stroke. On sheet H 2031.10, for example, this irregularity is present on stamps Nos. 10, 11, 13, 45, 75, 80 and 89, whilst on sheet H 4596.13 it is to be seen on stamps Nos. 12, 45, 71, 95 and 96.

The really extraordinary feature about this appearance is that it only occurs on the 5s. of the left-hand figure of value, never (or almost never) on those of the right-hand figure.

As these figures—according to reliable information—were not inserted as type by the State Printing Office, but were engraved on the plates and, seeing that the irregularities vary slightly on practically every one of the above mentioned stamp numbers, we must conclude that the varieties are due to irregularities in the engraving and not to any fault in the printing plates or stereotypes.

Still more surprising than these 5s. with defective top strokes is, in our opinion, the fact that the 4s. also occur in at least two different designs and again only in the left-hand figures of value. The varieties in the figure "4" are found in the angle between the oblique and the horizontal bars in front; sometimes this is more markedly acute, sometimes the front is gradually flattened out perpendicularly. In the right-hand figures the "4" is uniform throughout the whole sheet.

In the case of the line-engraved stamps the various shades of red printing and the two different perforations afford a good basis for differentiating the printings. This is specially important in the case of the 3 rupee denomination, because in this value the first printing (? printings) did genuine service in the colony whilst the latter was only sold at the Berlin Counter (in the case of the 1 rupee no printings reached the colony—they were only sold in Berlin).

The post-war printings (Var. 2, with the so-called "war-perforation" 25 x 17 holes) can be recognized by the so-called "thick corner perforation" either at the right top and left bottom or at the left top and right bottom corners of the stamps.

On the other hand it is not always possible, in our opinion, to distinguish the various printings solely on the grounds of the different shades of red; we have found, for example, in one and the same parcel of sheets, 1 rupee sheets of a carmine-red almost identical with the red of the unwatermarked issue whilst others were of a decided red (rose red or deep red) shade.

According to the *D. B. Z.*, Vol. XXX p. 104, however, the colour of the frame is sufficient by itself to distinguish Varieties (a) and (b) of the 3 rupee value from one another, Variety (b) being darker.

By 1911 the 60 heller denomination had come to be regarded as superfluous for business in the colony and it was no longer given out at the counter; at the same time or somewhat later it was also withdrawn at the Berlin sales department. The using up or exchange of those still in the hands of the public was fixed for March 31, 1912, but although the denomination was officially demonetized on this date isolated cases of its use even after that time occurred either by oversight or in ignorance.

The stocks of the above values still present in the colony at the time of the outbreak of war were completely used up by the end of

1915; indeed the denominations most used for printed matter (2½ heller) and other most commonly employed values were finished months before that date. The postal administration therefore had to have resort to various provisional measures (Postage Paid franks, etc., see below) at the end of 1915 or earlier, (in May, 1915, for the delivery of printed matter and for internal office use).

There appear to have been small stocks of the rupee values (the 1 rupee and 2 rupee denominations still being of the unwatermarked issue) still in existence up to 1916; the 1 rupee, for instance is known postmarked November, 1915, at Lindi and in the middle of January, 1916, at Mikindani; the 2 rupee at the end of October, 1915, from Lindi; and the 3 rupee in mid-November, 1915, from Wilhelmsthal.

In March, 1916, the relief ship "Marie" succeeded in running the blockade and landed at Sudi Bay. It brought a fresh lot of German East African stamps to the colony. These were in use up to the time of the closing down of the last agency to remain functioning—Mahenge, September 3, 1917—and in the Field Posts for a few weeks longer.

After the closing of the Berlin Sales Counter the remainders (which were almost exclusively of the 1913 printing in the case of the typographed stamps) came on the market through the Imperial Postal Museum, both by auction and by open sale. (See above for the 2 rupee stamp No. I).

Used specimens of the only high value (3 rupees) watermarked stamp actually used in the colony, from parcel cards, etc., have been found in the large lots which were sold in November, 1923, to Milan by the Imperial Postal Museum. (See under the previous issue). (To be continued)

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S.G. Nos.: 12, 30, 32, 34, 35, 36, 37, 38, 39.  
My Price: 7d. 1/- 9d. 9d. 7d. 10d. 1/9 8d. 10d.

S.G. Nos.: 63, 64, 65.

My Price: 8d. 1/6 1/4

GEO. CHIPP, P.O. Lafuta, CAPE.

## Correspondence

Sydney-on-Vaal,  
August 12, 1940.

The Editor,  
*S.A. Philatelist.*

Sir,—In connection with the article entitled "The Inventor of the Adhesive Postage Stamp" in the current issue, there is a rather pertinent paragraph in the review of Miss Leah Chalmer's pamphlet in the *Gibbons' Stamp Monthly* of October, 1939: "We think it doubtful whether either Chalmers or Rowland Hill really *invented* the adhesive postage stamp, but it seems obvious from the records that while Hill's main preoccupation was the stamped cover, Chalmer's whole plan was based on the use of adhesive labels, consistently advocated until their adoption, so that leaving aside the question of absolute priority, the latter might well be called the Sponsor of the Adhesive Stamp, while the former's title to be the Father of Penny Postage is equally strong."

An interesting Paper was read at the Royal Society of Arts on May 1, 1940, by Samuel Graveson, Hon. Treasurer of the Postal History Society, which gives some quotations from Rowland Hill's pamphlet of 1837 (3rd edition) including the following:

"Persons unaccustomed to write letters would, perhaps, be at a loss how to proceed. They might send or take their letters to the Post Office without having had recourse to the stamp . . . Perhaps this difficulty might be obviated by using a bit of paper just large enough to bear the stamp, and covered at the back with a glutinous wash, which the bringer might, by applying a little moisture, attach to the back of the letter."

Further: "A contributor to the *London and Westminster Review* in 1840 reminded his readers that the collection of postage by means of a stamp was practised in Paris as early as 1653."

"The principle was proposed to the British Post Office before Rowland Hill by a Mr. Stead."

"May we accept, therefore, if not as an axiom, as a definite probability, that in a democratic State no invention is the product of one mind only, but the fruit of many minds and years of trial and experience. How many real inventors have seen others take the credit for something that have passed on to them."

The above are quotations from the Paper. The Chairman of the meeting of the R.S.A. was Col. H. W. Hill, a grandson of Sir Rowland Hill, and in the discussion he stated:

"It has not infrequently been said that Rowland Hill had consistently recommended the

use of stamped covers, the expression 'stamped covers' in the minds of present-day critics being exclusively reserved for envelopes. This misunderstanding is due to a failure to realise that the words 'stamped covers' were a generic expression for 'stamped covers, sheets, and half sheets of paper already stamped and also the use of stamps.' To avoid endless repetition of this comprehensive statement, the more convenient phrase of 'stamped covers' was commonly used by the supporters and antagonists of postal reform. When Rowland Hill desired to be more specific, he referred to 'the little bags called envelopes.' Prior to 1840 envelopes were rarely used in private correspondence; 'Covers' were extensively used, the letter being folded in such a way that the address occurred on a part of the sheet of paper which comprised the letter. Briefly the words 'stamped covers' were used to express prepayment of postage by all means other than by money payment . . . he had in February, 1837, suggested the use of adhesive stamps for postal purposes (adhesive stamps for legal purposes date back to 1694). He, however, regarded their use as just a detail in his great plan. Proposals to introduce adhesive stamps unaccompanied by a scheme of uniform postage would have been of small value."

James Chalmers suggested the use of adhesive postage stamps in a paper published in the "Post Circular" of April 5, 1838, entitled "Remarks on various modes proposed for franking letters under Mr. Rowland Hill's plan of Post Office reform" (dated Feb. 8, 1838).

It appears to me to be futile to attempt to settle any claim to the honour of the "invention of the postage stamp," particularly if only evidence is produced from representatives of any one of the many engaged in its adoption in 1840 and prior to that date.

Yours faithfully,

J. G. RICHARDS.

P.O. Lafuta,  
Cala, Cape,  
July 31, 1940.

To the Editor,  
*S.A. Philatelist.*

Sir,—I have in my possession a complete sheet, 240 stamps in four panes, each 60 stamps of Bechuanaland, Stan. Gibb. No. 32 and am surprised that only one variety is shown by this firm in their catalogue. If you consider a description of the numerous varieties that occur in this sheet would be of interest to readers of the *S.A. Philatelist*, I will give them as under, taking S.G. variety, viz., "no stop" as the starting point:

1. This is found on all panes except the R.H. bottom pane row 3 No. 3.
2. Missing r in British in both L.H. panes 3rd stamp in 7th row, but only in bottom R.H. panes 1st stamp in 7th row.

3. Dotless i in British found in both R.H. panes 3rd stamp in 9th row but not in L.H. Panes.

4. Missing t in British found in both R.H. panes 3rd stamp in 10th row also in both bottom panes 3rd stamp in 8th row.

5. Dot on lower serif of s, on the R.H. panes these are found on 3rd row Nos. 2, 4, 6, again on the 7th row Nos. 4 and 6; in the L.H. panes they are found in 3rd row 2, 4, 6, and again in the 7th rows Nos. 2 and 6.

6. Broken B in Bechuanaland found in both L.H. panes row 7 No. 1.

7. Another broken B in Bechuanaland both R.H. panes No. 1 in 8th row, but not in L.H. panes.

8. Broken B and d in Bechuanaland in both R. H. panes row 5 Nos. 1, 3, 5, and also row 9 Nos. 3 and 5, but in the L.H. top pane they are found in row 5 Nos. 1, 3, 5, but in bottom L.H. pane it is only found in No. 3 fifth row.

9. e in Bechuanaland appears to be a nine (9) instead, it would seem that all the panes are identical, but in the L.H. top pane owing to heavy inking of type it looks like an 8 (eight); this variety is found in rows 5 and 9, Nos. 2, 4, 6, in rows 5, and 4 and 6 in rows 9.

10. Dot at bottom of r in British, this variety is only found in the top R.H. pane row 1 No. 1.

11. t in British has no cross bar, found in both bottom panes row 2 Nos. 3, 4, 5, in R.H. pane and row 2 No. 3 in L.H. pane.

12. Tiny dot after Bechuanaland, these are found on all panes in rows 3, 7, 8, 9, 10, and Nos. 3, 5 and 6.

13. Broken l in land, thus, land, and found in R.H. bottom pane row 7 Nos. 4 and 6.

14. Another broken l in land, thus, land, and found in R. and L.H. bottom panes row 3 Nos. 4 and 6.

15. t in British hardly visible row 8 No. 3 R.H. bottom pane.

Yours sincerely,  
GEORGE CHIPP.

P.O. Box 1106, Johannesburg,  
12th August, 1940.

The Editor,  
*The S.A. Philatelist.*

Sir,—With reference to your request in the last issue of your paper re S.A. Army Postmarks, I have the honour to inform you that I have just received a letter from a friend of mine from somewhere in Africa of the same type as the one mentioned by you but with the number "One" in figures, thus (1) instead of three as in your case. I hope this will be of interest to you.

I remains, sir,  
Yours truly,  
H. J. POTGIETER.

P.S. I have the envelope in my possession.

## COLLECTORS' WANTS AND OFFERS

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

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

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

William Redford, Box 7012, Johannesburg.

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

A. E. Basden, Box 238, Pretoria.

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

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

**Wanted.**—Imperforate issues of all countries in good condition, especially North and South America.

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

**World Collection.**—Wanted perfect condition space fillers for Elobey, Afghanistan, Spanish Guinea, La Aguera, Tamos, Albania, Tripolitania, Thrace, Orad and many other unusual countries up to 1933 issues only.

E. Hunt, P.O. Box 2437, Johannesburg.

### BRITISH STAMPS USED ABROAD.

We have received from Messrs. Robson Lowe, Ltd., a handsomely produced catalogue of a sale of British Stamps Used Abroad, held at their auction rooms at 96 Regent Street, London, on July 31st and August 1st. The catalogue consists of 68 pages, with numerous illustrations. Amongst items of interest to collectors of "Africans" referred to in the catalogue are a collection of British stamps used at the Royal Niger Company's stations, several covers posted at Egypt and Suez, several covers posted at the Morocco Agencies Post Offices, and a few covers from Madeira and Ascension.



## Union Notes

We have received information from the P.O. Controller of Propaganda of the printings of stamps covering the period 20th July, 1939, to 22nd July, 1940.

### *Huguenot Commemoration Stamps overprinted "S.W.A."*

The sheets for these were supplied from Postmaster-General's stocks and overprinted from type on a flat bed printing machine. The same forme was used as previously. 500 sheets of 120 of each value ( $\frac{1}{2}$ d.+ $\frac{1}{2}$ d., 1d.+1d., and 1 $\frac{1}{2}$ d.+1 $\frac{1}{2}$ d.) were overprinted on 28th July, 1939.

### *Ordinary Postage Stamps.*

$\frac{1}{2}$ d.: 507,500 sheets of 240, delivered 21st November, 1939, to 30th April, 1940, old cylinders 25 int. and 7019 ext.

Deliveries to a total of 243,000 sheets of 240, up to the 24th October, 1939. Old cylinders 25 int. and 7019 ext. (This was the completion of the order stated in our issue of June, 1939, as having been started on the 25th April, 1939).

1d.: 536,150 sheets of 240, delivered 20th July, 1939, to 16th January, 1940. Old cylinders 35 int. and 50 ext.

A further 499,600 sheets from the same cylinders were delivered between 1st February, 1940, and 30th March, 1940.

34,500 sheets from new cylinders were delivered on the 16th May, 1940, as portion of an order of 500,000 sheets. 6 int., 17 ext. Further deliveries to a total of 395,000 sheets have been made on this order up to the 22nd July, 1940.

1 $\frac{1}{2}$ d.: 31,000 sheets of 120, delivered 26th to 29th February, 1940. New cylinders, 62 int., 15 ext.

3d.: 63,000 sheets of 120 delivered 30th January to 8th February, 1940. New design and new cylinders, 55 int., and 30 ext.

4d.: 26,500 sheets of 120, delivered 6th to 8th February, 1940. Old cylinder No. 61.

1s.: 58,800 sheets of 120 delivered on 7th May, 1940. Old cylinders 6925 int., and 38 ext.

5s.: 3,200 sheets of 60 on the 29th February, 1940. Old cylinders, 6929 int., and 41 ext. (The sheets were printed in 120's and cut in half for issuing.)

10s.: 1,500 sheets of 60 delivered on 21st August, 1939. New design and new cylinders, 6918 int., and 6934 ext. (The sheets were printed in 120's and were cut in half for issuing.)

A further 2,400 sheets from the same cylinders and printed in the same way were delivered on 9th January, 1940.

### *Roll Stamps.*

$\frac{1}{2}$ d.: 1,511 Rolls x 1,000 and 620 Rolls x 500 delivered 2nd November, 1939, to 11th March, 1940. New cylinders, 23 int., and 24 ext.

100 Rolls x 500 and 120 Rolls x 1,000 delivered on 9th July, 1940. New cylinders. 7020 int. and 5 ext. (This is portion of an order of 500 Rolls x 500 and 800 Rolls x 1,000.)

1d.: 2,485 Rolls x 500 and 3,667 Rolls x 1,000 delivered between 10th August, 1939, and 5th March, 1940. Old cylinders, 23 int. and 24 ext.

480 Rolls x 1,000 delivered on 30th May, 1940. Same cylinders. (This is portion of an order of 2,000 Rolls x 500 and 3,000 Rolls x 1,000.)

### *"Official" Stamps.*

500 sheets of  $\frac{1}{2}$ d. (240 in each sheet) overprinted on 9th February, 1940, "Official—Officieel."

500 sheets of 1d. (240 in each sheet) similarly overprinted on 21st June, 1940.

500 sheets of 1 $\frac{1}{2}$ d. and 1,000 sheets of 2d. (120 stamps per sheet) similarly overprinted on 9th February, 1940.

500 sheets of 2s. 6d. (60 in each sheet) similarly overprinted on 20th November, 1939.

500 sheets of 5s. and 300 sheets of 10s. (60 stamps per sheet) similarly overprinted on 28th March, 1940.

The sheets for all the above items were supplied from Postmaster-General's stocks and overprinted from type on a flat-bed printing machine. The same formes were used as previously.

### *Stamp Booklets.*

2s. 6d. booklets each containing 12 x  $\frac{1}{2}$ d. stamps and 24 x 1d. stamps. 292,349 booklets have been delivered since 2nd November, 1939, as part of an order of 300,000 booklets. Old cylinders  $\frac{1}{2}$ d.: 8 int. and 10 ext., 1d.: 6 int. and 6930 ext.

### *Postage Stationery overprinted "S.W.A."*

38,400 x  $\frac{1}{2}$ d. Postcard, 1,920 x 1d. letter cards 9,600 x 4d. Registered Envelopes G, and 2,400 x 4d. Registered Envelopes H.2 were overprinted "S.W.A." on 23rd January, 1940. The items were all supplied from Postmaster-General's stock and overprinted from type on a flat-bed printing machine, the same formes being used as previously.

(N.B. We have seen the new 5s. and 10s. stamps overprinted "Official—Officieel". The "Official" is on the left-hand side of the stamps whereas in other values it is on the right-hand side. On the 10s. stamp the overprint is more widely spread than on the 5s. value.—Editor)

### *Military Post Office Cancellations.*

Mr. A. Hylton Sydow, of Cape Town, informs us of the new Military Post Office cancellations.  
(Concluded on page 144)

## Society News

### THE PHILATELIC SOCIETY OF JOHANNESBURG.

*President*, Mr. F. E. Ingham; *Hon. Secretary*, F. Lang, P.O. Box 4967; *Meetings*: 2nd Tuesdays, 8 p.m., Sanlam Buildings.

Our Vice-President, Mr. I. Isaacs, was in the chair, and there was a fairly large attendance and the programme was unusually interesting and varied, consisting of two very interesting exhibits, a spirited War Fund auction, a Stamp Recognition competition, and a raffle.

The Stamp Recognition competition was ingeniously prepared by Mr. Robertson. Briefly, it consisted of a black perforated board, through which portions of twelve stamps were visible. No one was able to recognise all of the stamps, but Mr. Oppenheim correctly recognised eleven; while Messrs. Schubart and Demasius came second, recognising ten; Mr. Jecks recognised nine and Mr. Sutcliffe came fourth with eight.

Mr. I. H. C. Godfrey, after a few interesting remarks, tabled a beautifully written up and illustrated display of the air posts of Nyasaland, commencing with the first experimental flight which took place in 1931. Mr. Godfrey pointed out that his display illustrated the tremendous speeding up in the mails of Nyasaland from 1908 to 1938, with special emphasises on the effect of air posts. In 1908 it took four weeks for mail to travel from Blantyre to Salisbury, in 1928 four days, and in 1938 two-and-a-half hours.

The second exhibit comprised stamps of the United States displayed by Mr. W. Oppenheim. In conjunction with this exhibit Mr. Oppenheim entertained us with amusing and comprehensive remarks on the developments of philately in the United States. As his remarks were somewhat out of the ordinary, it is probable that they will appear elsewhere in this publication, as they are too long to be included in the limited space allotted to these notes.

Dr. Kaplan, in commenting on the air posts exhibit by Mr. Godfrey, rightly expressed the opinion of those present when he said that Mr. Godfrey's material is always so interestingly prepared and so well illustrated with maps, pictures, etc., that we are indeed fortunate in having Mr. Godfrey in our midst so that we can enjoy the pleasure as well as the instruction to be gained from his displays.

When commenting on Mr. Oppenheim's very extensive display, Mr. Carlton Jones aptly remarked that, inasmuch as Mr. Oppenheim had demonstrated such extraordinary resourceful-

ness in amassing such an extensive collection of material in first-class condition, principally by the medium of exchange in the short period of four years, we could look forward to other and even more outstanding displays from him in another few years.

As usual, our Honorary Auctioneer, Mr. Mark Rose, conducted a spirited auction, the proceeds of which, amounting to £6 14s., will be used to good purpose in our War Fund. In addition to dozens of items contributed by members and the general public, there were several new issues auctioned including stamps of Southern Rhodesia, Strait Settlements, New Zealand, Eire, Fiji, Ascension, St. Helena, Gold Coast, Johore, and Perak.

It was announced that our Society will visit the Pretoria Society on October 21, and as we would like to go over in force we make note of this date here so that members not present at the meeting will be able to make arrangements to attend the Pretoria meeting.

The next meeting will be held on September 10, and will be in charge of our guests for the evening, members of the East Rand Philatelic Society.

H.E.B.

### CAPE TOWN PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

*President*, M. Rothkugel; *Hon. Secretary*, A. A. Jurgens, 26 Woodside Road, Tamboers Kloof, Cape Town. *Meetings*: 2nd and 4th Thursdays, Medical House, 35 Wale Street, Cape Town, at 8 p.m.

Meeting held in Medical House on Thursday, 11th July, 1940, at 8 p.m.

*Exhibits*.—Several members, due to the tragic circumstances, did not feel disposed to exhibit. Two members, however, were unaware of this, and in consequence, they brought stamps for display. The President thanked the two exhibitors, Messrs. Axer, who showed N.Z. Centenary stamps and those of the British South Sea Islands, and Mr. Gysbergh, who displayed Athens and Paris printings of early Greece.

The President, Mr. Rothkugel, was in the chair.

The Chairman at the outset referred to the tragic losses of Messrs. Jurgens and Harris, who both lost their only daughters under most tragic circumstances. Members rose as a token of respect. The Acting Secretary, Mr. Simenhoff, was asked to write to both families, expressing the sympathy of members. Messrs. Rothkugel, Ashmead and Alexander, represented the Society at the funeral of Barbara Jurgens, and, as both funerals took place at the same time, Mr. Simenhoff attended that of Molly Rose Harris on behalf of the Society.

The Chairman announced that a floral tribute and telegrams had been sent by the Society.

The minutes of the previous meeting were read and confirmed. It was announced that

Mr. Simenhoff would carry on for the time being in place of Mr. Jurgens as Hon. Secretary.

Mr. Alexander conducted the auction, which realised £5 0s. 6d.; commission, 10s.

Refreshment Fund, 3s.; Mayors' Fund (ex-collection), 3s.

The ordinary meeting was followed by one of the Committee and the members of the Mayors' Fund Exhibition and Auction Committee.

Meeting held in Medical House, on Thursday, 25th July, 1940, at 8 p.m.

Present.—As per attendance register.

Exhibit.—Mr. Sydow displayed a stamp medley, comprising items from his collection, portraying the technique of stamp printing. Mr. Conisbee moved the vote of thanks.

The President, Mr. Rothkugel, in the chair.

The minutes of the previous meeting were read and confirmed. A letter from the Jurgens family was read by the chairman and also one of thanks from Mr. and Mrs. Harris.

Mr. S. M. Tatham was proposed as a member by Mr. Muller, seconded by Mr. Rothkugel.

The Acting Secretary laid on the table a reply from the Governor-General's Secretary re Patronage of the Exhibition. It was decided to ask the P.M.G.'s Patronage.

The Chairman informed the meeting that the exhibition would be held in the Banqueting Hall on 28th and 29th October next, to be followed by a stamp auction on the 30th and following day, if necessary. The Secretary was instructed to remind members who had not done so to reply to the circular of 4th July re exhibition.

The auction conducted by Mr. Alexander realised: for Refreshment Fund, 2s. 6d.; Governor-General's Fund, 5s.

Stamps sent by the "Speed the Planes" Committee were sold by auction and realised £5, which amount was paid over to the Committee at the City Hall.

The proceedings terminated at 11 p.m.

L.S.

#### EAST RAND PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

*President*, Mr. S. Legator; *Hon. Secretary*, J. Doyle, 41 Rose Deep, Germiston. *Meetings*: Hotel Regent, Benoni, 1st Wednesdays, 8 p.m.

The August meeting of the East Rand Philatelic Society was held at the Hotel Regent, Benoni, on Wednesday, the 7th. The attendance was up to average. Mr. Rigg was appointed acting secretary in the place of Mr. Doyle who is on active service. It was also decided to hold future meetings on the first Wednesday of each month, this evening being more suitable under present circumstances. It was also decided that this Society would support the Natal Society's Stamp Drive for War Funds.

Among the items of interest shown were various First Day Covers by Mr. Newson;

Censored covers by Mr. Rigg; Barbados by Mrs. Wood; and the latest U.S.A. Commemoratives by Mr. Suklje.

First on exhibit was an interesting collection of Manchuria tabled by Mrs. Wood which included most of the stamps from that country. Mr. Newson showed a few Canadians on the latest printed album sheets. These new album sheets certainly had some advantages but also some disadvantages.

Tea was then served and everybody participated in the usual philatelic chatter.

The next exhibit was provided by Mr. Shepherd. This consisted of the gem items from his S.W.A. collection, including such items as Inverted overprints on first issue and 4d. Air Mail; Double overprints; Missing and defective letters in overprints; Missing fullstops; Transposed overprints; Shifted overprints; Control corner blocks and lots of other varieties. Among the straight items was the rare first 10s. in a block of four.

Mr. Shepherd also showed a collection of Malta which was practically complete including all types of overprints of "Postage" and "Postage and Revenue."

The evening concluded with a proposal of a vote of thanks to the exhibitors by Mr. Suklje who expressed a warm appreciation on behalf of the members for the very fine exhibits shown.

The September meeting will be the Annual General Meeting.

H.S.

#### EAST LONDON PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

*President*, J. Paviour; *Hon. Secretary and Treasurer*, S. Fowler. *Meetings*: Colosseum Tea Lounge, 2nd Fridays, 8 p.m.

The monthly meeting of the Society took place on the 9th August and for the first time since the war commenced there was a poor attendance—just over half the average attendance—being present. For this reason it was not possible to hold the monthly auction in aid of Red Cross Funds.

Mr. C. Hampson displayed his fine collection of Union stamps and there was a very representative showing of these popular stamps.

Mr. Hampson has a wonderful range of Union varieties and one item was greatly fancied. This was a mint block of four 2d. Postage Due imperf.—Catalogue No. 114(a). After the usual vote of thanks, the meeting terminated.

J.P.S.

#### PRETORIA PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

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

August 6.—Mr. Basden was in the chair. Mr. Giovanetti showed some censored covers and covers of the Mobile Post Office of South Africa. He also tabled a fine exhibit of

early Australians. Mr. Obermeyer showed an extensive collection of New Zealand.

August 19.—Mr. Basden was in the chair. Mr. Hawke read some interesting philatelic extracts. Mr. J. Beyers read a paper on the 1935 issue of Austria depicting Austrian Heroes. He gave a brief account of the career of each of the naval and military heroes and the account thus embraced a brief survey of the military history of Europe during the last hundred years. Each one was shown to be worthy of being featured on a commemorative issue of stamps.

Mr. Basden tabled a very fine collection of Brazil. H.A.W.

#### JEWISH GUILD PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

Chairman: Mr. L. Buchen; Hon. Secretary: I. Isaacs. Meetings: Last Wednesday in each month at the Jewish Guild.

The chief exhibits at the meeting held on Thursday, August 29th, were South African Covers by Dr. A. Kaplan, and Switzerland by Mr. L. Buchen.

Dr. Kaplan's exhibit were chiefly covers illustrating South African Army activities of the 20th Century, but there were also some interesting covers of Civilian life. The army covers included South African War censored covers, Great War censored covers and Present war covers. Numerous Field and Camp Postmarks were represented.

Other covers included the Red Cross Flight of 1918 and numerous covers with postmarks of Philatelic and other Exhibitions in South Africa. There was also a Pigeongram carried by Pigeon during the Flights in connection with the Coronation of King George VI., 1937. Numerous Paquetbot cancellations were also shown.

Mr. Buchen's exhibit was an almost complete collection of Switzerland from earliest issues (including Cantonal issues) to the latest models, all in perfect condition. Miniature sheets and Charity stamps were well represented, as well as the special air stamps. There were also some specimens of League of Nations issues. Switzerland contains some of the world's most beautiful stamps (particularly in the pro-Juventute issues) and Mr. Buchen's exhibit provided an artistic and colourful display.

## Air Mail Notes

By

I. H. C. GODFREY.

#### HANDLEY PAGE No. 17.

After a period of almost two years the existence of yet another Handley Page cover has to be recorded and added to Mr. L. A. Wyndham's check list as: "No. 17. Addressed to Mr. Frank Morris, 123 Donkin St., Beaufort West. Posted at Cape Town, 13 Feb., 1920. Stamped 2/1d."

Mr. Wyndham writes that as a result of the drive by the Hon. Secretary of the Cape Town Philatelic Society for material for the auction in aid of the Governor-General's Fund which the Society is holding towards the end of October, Mrs. Morris, of Beaufort West, very kindly donated the cover mentioned. Those interested in this cover, which it is understood is in perfect condition, should get into touch with the Hon. Secretary of the Cape Town Society.

#### LYDENBERG STAMPS.

With reference to the notes on Lydenberg Stamps appearing in recent issues of the "South African Philatelist," Mr. Basden would be glad to have a sight of as many 3d. on 1d. Commemorative Stamps as possible. If collectors who have specimens of this item, used or unused, on or off cover, would kindly post them to Mr. A. E. Basden, Box 238, Pretoria, Mr. Basden would be much obliged. The stamps will be returned without delay.

#### ROYAL APPOINTMENTS.

Messrs. Stanley Gibbons, Ltd., announce that by gracious command of H.M. The King, they have received a Royal Warrant of Appointment as Philatelists to His Majesty.

The firm of Mr. Chas. Nissen & Co., Ltd., also announce that it has been honoured with a Royal Warrant issued under date July 1st, 1940, and has been appointed into the place and quality of Stamp Dealers to His Majesty.

(Concluded from page 141)

cancellations: "A.P.O.—U—M.P.K. 3." between two concentric circles. He has also No. 4 in his possession. (See also letter from our correspondent Mr. H. J. Potgieter).

#### South African Army Censor Marks.

Letters from soldiers "somewhere in Africa" bear a censor mark in purple in three lines all enclosed in a rectangle. The wording is:

Top line: "PASSED BY CENSOR."

Middle line: "M.F.F. No. U.D.F."

Bottom line: "GOEDGEKEUR DEUR CENSOR."

We have seen Nos. 18 and 23. The number is in larger type than the letters M.F.F. and U.D.F.

Mr. Sydow informs us of a new Union 1d. stamp which is smaller in size than the old issues. The new stamp measures 18 mm. horizontally as against 18½ mm. for the old issue. "South Africa" measures 16½ mm. and "Suid-Afrika" 15¼ mm. He informs us that sheets of the new stamps are on sale at Cape Town Suburban Post Offices, and he has seen used specimens postmarked Worcester 10th July, 1940, and Johannesburg, 17th July, 1940.

He informs us also that the Postmark illustrated on Page 101 of the *South African Philatelist*, Fig. 2c (in the July issue) has been used recently on a cover he has in his possession received in July, 1940.

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OCTOBER, 1940.

No. 10.

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# The SOUTH AFRICAN PHILATELIST

Proprietors and Publishers :

## The Philatelic Federation of Southern Africa

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Vol. 16.

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No. 10.

## Union Notes

### POSTAGE RATES.

By Government Notice No. 1438 of the 6th September, 1940, the postage rate for the transmission of letters posted in the Union for destinations within the Union, Basutoland, Swaziland, Bechuanaland Protectorate and South-West Africa, is 1½d. for the first ounce and 1d. for each additional ounce. The rate for Postcards to the same destinations is ½d. each. The rate for Postcards, reply paid, is 1d. each. These rates came into operation on 16th September, 1940.

### INSURED PARCELS SCHEME.

The Postmaster-General has announced that, as from October 1, 1940, parcels addressed to destinations in the Union, South-West Africa, Bechuanaland Protectorate, Swaziland and Basutoland may be insured against loss or damage on payment of insurance fees (which are on a sliding scale according to the value of the parcel) in addition to the postage rates.

Special labels obtainable at all post offices must be affixed to insured parcels which must be handed in at a post office counter and a receipt obtained.

From the date of introduction of the above service parcels addressed to destinations referred to above will not be accepted for registration.

This information should be of particular interest to members of Philatelic Societies who are on Exchange Circuits and also members of Stamp Exchange Clubs.

### UNION ARMY POST OFFICE.

In the Union Army Post Office marks "A.P.O.—U—M.P.K." (referred to in the last issue) numbers 2 and 10 have been noted, in addition to those previously referred to.

The Censor Mark referred to in the last issue has been seen with a variety of different numbers. The highest number we have seen so far is No. 46.

### UNION 1½d. ERROR?

We have been informed that the current Union 1½d. stamp has been seen without the gold background. Our informant was offered a strip for sale (at a very high premium on face value), but as the stamp was not *se tenant* with the normal stamps and as, moreover, he was not convinced of their genuineness, he refused them.

It is possible to remove the gold from these stamps by chemical means so that such a variety is always open to suspicion.

Such an error, if genuine, would be of great interest to Union specialists, but as it can be artificially produced they would be well advised to obtain a guarantee of genuineness, if possible, before purchasing.

### A NATAL RARITY.

The Kenmore Kollector has in recent issues published an address given by Ernest G. Jarvis, on May 4, 1940, at a celebration of the centenary of the Penny Black at Hamilton, Canada. This address, entitled "Not in the Katalog," contains the following note about the second 30s. Edwardian stamp of Natal issued in 1908:

"This thirty shilling Natal owes its scarcity to two factors — first, its short life, and second, the fact that its use during currency was mainly fiscal or telegraphic.

"The stamps appeared originally printed in purple and orange, in April, 1908, following the discovery of fraudulent cleaning and re-use of the same value in singly fugitive ink.

"Shortly afterwards it was decided to employ separate stamps for Revenue purposes. Consequently, in June, 1909, the £1 10s. combined 'Postage and Revenue' stamp was withdrawn from circulation, and immediately commenced to soar in value. Unused, with full gum, it is rare, but postally used, excessively so."

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# The Numerical Postmarks of Southern Africa

By J. H. HARVEY PIRIE.

(Continued from page 134 of Sept. issue.)

## NEW REPUBLIC.

I have five specimens of New Republic stamps with a numeral cancellation of Cape type 2. In all the number is the same, namely, 232. It must be admitted that the occurrence of this mark, as seen on loose stamps only, is not full proof of the use of this mark in the territory of the New Republic. I record their existence in the hope that further evidence may yet be dug up.

Mr. A. A. Jurgens informs me that No. 232 was the number of Barkly West Post Office, so that something more than the occurrence of this number on loose stamps is necessary to prove its genuine use in the New Republic.

## ORANGE FREE STATE.

The outstanding numerical cancellations used in the O.F.S. are the (1) *Horizontal Oval Grids*. These grids, around a circle with a letter or number inside, were the earliest cancellations employed and they continued fairly generally in use until the middle nineties. Professor Smith states that in one instance, but in only one (No. 17), the use persisted into 1900 and the mark may be found on the V.R.I. overprints.

Geldhof, in his "Stamps of the Orange Free State," p. 52, describes two varieties, which unquestionably include the majority (but perhaps not quite all) of these killers.

- (a) the earlier and commoner variety, with 16 thin bars;
- (b) the later, with 11 thicker bars.



Fig. 1a.



Fig. 1b.

Some numbers (notably Nos. 1 and 11) are to be found with both 16 and 11 barred grids, the latter being presumably replacements of the former. Up to No. 19 (? No. 20) it is mostly 16 bars that are to be seen. From No. 21 upwards I have only seen 11-bar specimens.

The numbers run consecutively from 1 up to 30 and there are also known Nos. 35 (S. G. Rich) and Nos. 45, 49, 51, 55 and 57 (A. E. Basden. Prof. Smith has also Nos. 51 and 55).

Only a few have been definitely allocated to their places of use, by having been found on covers with place and date stamps additional to the grid killer. These recorded are: No.

1=Bloemfontein (but also used at Clocolan according to Basden), No. 2=Winburg, No. 3=Harrismith, No. 4=Fauresmith, No. 17=Ladybrand, and No. 24=(possibly) Bloemfontein. To these can be added from Prof. Smith's collection No. 6=Kroonstad, No. 11=Bethlehem, and No. 19 (probably, but not quite certainly)=Reddersburg.

The numerals usually run about 6½ or 7 mm. in height, but in the case of one specimen of No. 1 as much as 8 mm., and in the case of No. 2 as small as 5 mm. In the case of certain numbers (notably Nos. 1, 10, 25 and 29) numbers of different sizes and even somewhat different character may be seen. Probably in such instances there has been replacement of a worn out number by a fresh one.

(c) A third variety must, I think, be accepted for No. 11. In this the circle is not continuous but is represented by a series of dots, or rather short segments, each segment opposite its corresponding bar. I was lucky enough to come across several specimens of this variety, but all rather imperfect. One could not be certain even that the number was "11", though all showed some segmentation of the circle. Mr. Basden produced a similar indistinct specimen. One was submitted to Messrs. Geldhof and Rich for an opinion, but their view was that it was a "stutter-double" due to motion of the device when the mark was being struck. I thought the dots and lines were too sharp to be accounted for in this way but left the matter open for a better specimen to turn up.

It was not long until this occurred. Prof. J. J. Smith kindly let me look through his collection and there was a beautiful specimen, of which the accompanying Fig 1c. is a photograph. This I think should be convincing.



Fig. 1c.

(d) A possible fourth variety is one noted by Basden, a No. 3, in which there appears to be an outer line and the grid has not distinct lines, but uniform plain shading. As

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suggestions of an outer line may often be seen in heavily impressed specimens, I think this should only be accepted after confirmation.

(2) *Vertical Oval Grids*, similar to Cape Type 2.

Regarding marks of this type Geldhof (*loc. cit.*, p. 54) writes: "The numeral cancellations found on the 1902 and later King's head issues, mainly on the multiple-watermark stamps, contain the numeral or letter in a rectangular box within a vertical oval grid of heavy horizontal bars. These are established as being from the Cape of Good Hope. The numerals are high, running into the thousands, and the usage belongs to the period of inter-provincials, 1910 to 1913, when the stamps of all four former colonies were used indiscriminately through the Union of South Africa."

Evidence for the statement that these cancellations "are established as being from the Cape of Good Hope" is not given and I propose to sustain the thesis that the statement is not warranted. I admit straight away that my evidence is not absolutely conclusive; as I have not so far been able to find any of the cancellations which I regard as truly O.F.S. cancellations on cover with locative date stamps. Until such are found, however, I think it is justifiable to argue from presumptive evidence, provided that one is not too dogmatic about the conclusions drawn therefrom.

I also admit that *some* of the cancellations of this type seen on Edwardian O.R.C. stamps are truly Cape cancellations of the inter-provincial period and I exclude from my argument any mark with a four-figure number or any one in which the numerals are "coarse" in character or are  $6\frac{1}{2}$  mm. or more in height; these are practically all certainly Cape cancellations of inter-provincial (or later) date.

My collection, however, contains a small series of numeral cancellations of this type on Edwardians in which the numbers do not exceed 100, the numerals themselves are all "fine" in character and their height is either 5 mm. or  $6\frac{1}{2}$  mm.

My numbers are 5, 13, 16, 23, 53, 63, 86, 89, 96 and 100. Even of these I wish to leave out of consideration here Nos. 5, 13 and 16 as in them the numerals are  $6\frac{1}{2}$  mm. high and numerals of the same "fine" character

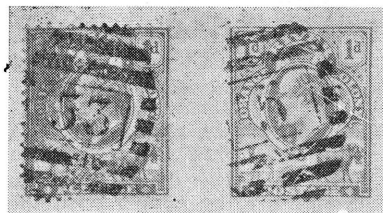


Fig. 2a and 2b.

and of this height are to be met with on Cape stamps. Judging by the standard of the numerals only, these might belong to either series. My argument is based entirely on the other seven, Nos. 23 to 100, in which the numerals are only 5 mm. high. Here is a photograph of one of them—No. 53—to show the size and character of the numerals, also for comparison, a No. 5 with numeral 6½mm. high.

With two exceptions, which will be referred to immediately, I have seen no cancellations with numerals of this size on Cape stamps. Realizing, however, that my experience of Cape numeral cancellations was a very limited one, I submitted these 5 mm. specimens to Mr. A. A. Jurgens for his opinion. It will be admitted, I think, that no authority has a fuller knowledge of them. His reply was "I have not come across a single specimen of Cape cancellation with numerals of that size."

Now, to come to the two exceptions referred to above. These are Cape Edwardians whose cancellations have numerals 5 mm. high. One is a penny stamp with No. 56 in violet, the other a halfpenny stamp with No. 63 in blue-green (I also have both of these numbers on O.R.C. stamps). Mr. Jurgens' remarks on these are illuminating: "Apart from the fact that no 5mm. numerals were used in the Cape, the coloured cancellations alone would make me attribute them to the Free State. Coloured cancellations are extremely rare in the Cape but I have seen many Edwardian Cape stamps with coloured Free State town cancellations, as purple, violet and green inks were commonly used at this period." The probability would therefore seem to be that these two specimens of Cape Edwardians were used inter-provincially in the O.F.S.

A less forceful argument, but one, I think, pointing in the same direction is that 5 out of 17 O.R.C. stamps with this type of mark are single-C.A. of the 1903-05 issues. It is not impossible of course that these might have survived to be used inter-provincially in the Cape but it would seem more probable that they were used in the O.R.C. during the time they were on issue.

That is my case and I suggest that the evidence is strongly in favour of the view that cancellations of this type were actually in use in the O.F.S. during the period it was the Orange River Colony and for some time during the period of Union.

This view was submitted to Messrs. Geldhof and Rich (but I had not then got Mr. Jurgens' opinion). They were not inclined to accept it but practically gave a verdict of "Not Proven" with a cry, which I echo, "Oh for covers to settle the question."

In a personal communication Geldhof puts forward the interesting suggestion that, if we assume these small-numeral cancellations to be really O.R.C. marks, they may prove to be the solution of what he describes (*loc. cit.*, p. 54) as "the great mystery of O.R.C. post-

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marks." This mystery is the list of sub-post offices and post office agencies quoted by De Raay in his well-known work. This refers to a series of numerical grids running from 1 to 32, said to be in use in 1904 (the list was later increased by 6). These cancellations have not so far been identified. There is nothing to indicate in De Raay's description that they might not have been of the vertical oval type here described. The only snag that I see in Geldhof's suggestion is that it would seem to be necessary to increase the list up to 100. But it would be wise, I think, to have final and conclusive proof that these marks really originate from the O.R.C. before trying to cross this next bridge. Perhaps the solution of the two questions will come with one finding of a cover with a location.

Basden, in the *South African Philatelist* (Vol. 15, Oct., 1939, p. 156), states that he has vertical oval grid cancellations of the Cape type on Republican, V.R.I., and King's head stamps, also on newspaper wrappers franking the "Bloemfontein Post." He has informed me that the numerals in his cancellations mostly run about 7mm. in height. These specimens therefore do not fall within the group which I am trying to establish as O.R.C. cancellations, but indicate that there was some even earlier use of cancellers of the Cape type in the Orange Free State.

There are certain other forms of numerical cancellations which have been noted on O.F.S. stamps, but all of them are only known from one or two specimens. They are mentioned here for the sake of completeness and in the hope that further information may be obtained.

(3) Basden reports a large figure "3" within a circle boxed in a square frame.

(4) In a personal communication from Mr. S. G. Rich about the vertical oval grids he writes: "At this stage I throw something new and different into the discussion. I have, on the Republican 1s. yellow and 1d. brown, a vertical grid, broader than the Cape grid, but similar to it although without the numeral (No. 11) boxed. Apparently a crudely cut job."



Fig. 4.

His accompanying rough sketch shows the side bars vertical and slightly curved to the line of the oval.

In Professor Smith's collection there is a similar mark on a penny stamp, of which a drawing is shown (the mark was rather too faint to photograph clearly).

Fig. 4. This mark is obviously one of what Mr. Jurgens

describes as the British type from which the Cape type was derived.

(5) Triangular cancellations. I have Nos. 3 and 31 on O.R.C. Edwardians. These marks are of the same size as the largest of the Cape triangular cancellations used on checked newspaper matter. I rather fancy they are

really examples of inter-provincial usage in the Cape, but leave open the possibility that they might have been used also in the Free State.

(To be continued).

(Concluded from page 151)

(a) 1d. red, imperf. forgery.

(6) "SPECIMEN", perforated letters, sans serif capitals, approx. 4½ mm. in height.  
(a) 3d. red, perf.; 1883.

(7) "Specimen." in black, as group (3) above. 1d. red on yellow, imperf.; forgery, with small "V.R.—Transvaal" forged overprint.

Of the subsequent issues the following authoritative "specimens" are noted:

(1) Issue of 1878, 4d. overprinted "CANCELLED" in sans serif capitals.

(2) Issue of 1892: £5 overprinted "Monster", in black.

(3) Issue of 1895: ¼d., 1d., 2d., 3d., 1s. overprinted "Monster" in black.

(4) 1s. 1895, handstamped "MONSTER" in large sans serif capitals, in violet.

(5) £5. 1892; 5s. and 10s., 1895; 2s. 6d., 1896; overprinted "V.R.1.", handstamped "SPECIMEN", in small sans serif capitals, in black.

(6) King Edward (C.A. or M.C.A.) 3d., 4d., 6d., 1s., 2s., 2s. 6d., 10s., £1, handstamped "Specimen." in small italics, in violet.

(7) King Edward, 1902-3, C.A. set, S.G. Nos. 244-259, overprinted "SPECIMEN" in sans serif capitals, in black.

(8) King Edward, 1905-9, M.C.A., Universal set, including the unissued 2d. grey, as (7).

(9) King Edward, 1905-9, M.C.A. Universal set, excluding the unissued 2d. grey, handstamped "Specimen.", in small italics, in violet.

In all probability other "specimens" of Transvaal issues from about 1890, in addition to those noted above, exist; but the list here given constitutes all those brought to the knowledge of the writer. They are here listed for general information and because it is now generally accepted that these items should be included in advanced and specialized collections.

#### ANTI-WASTE SLOGAN.

A recent slogan postmark in use in Great Britain reads: "Save Waste Paper, Metals, Bones, Rags." We have seen it on letters from Cardiff and Newport. A similar slogan might well be used by all South African Post Offices in connection with our own anti-waste campaign.



# TRANSVAAL Essays, Proofs, Colour Trials, Specimens

By A. E. BASDEN.

With one exception, the writer is not acquainted with any essays of the stamps of Transvaal. The exception is a water-colour of the King Edward 1d., in the size and colours of the issued stamp. Much material, however, must have been created, and much probably still exists in the archives of the general post office and in the records of the several official printers, and in private hands; but diligent search and enquiry have not revealed anything further.

In Pretoria in 1899 a design was prepared with President Kruger's portrait as the main feature, and prints of these were made and circulated at the time, but not officially issued. It is said that a complete set of Transvaal stamps was to have been issued in this design, printed on paper watermarked "Z.A.R." Although a period of only 40 years has elapsed, the true story of this stamp appears to have been lost, but one thing known for certain is that paper was made with the "Z.A.R." watermark, later used by a dealer in London for printing his announcements.

Proofs, likewise, are more or less unknown. Reference is made in "Transvaal Postage Stamps" (Curle and Basden) to certain Otto prints as being in the nature of proofs; and while proofs of all other issues must surely have been made, there is none recorded as far as the writer is aware. He has, however, seen a proof of the Queen Victoria 1d. 1880, but why a proof of this value should have been printed, two years after the type had been in use, is something of a mystery.

Of colour trials, also, there were probably many produced for submission to the authorities, but the writer only knows of the King Edwards, of which he has seen many varieties, mostly of 1d. denomination, but in colours subsequently selected for higher values.

But of "SPECIMENS", fortunately, there is a fair amount of material available for record. They start with the Ottos, and this being so it is perhaps desirable to recall that normally sets of "SPECIMEN" stamps are distributed to all the countries adhering to the Berne Convention. Now Transvaal did not become a member of the Convention till the early nineties, so that these Otto "Specimens" about to be recorded were not, presumably, distributed through Berne, but, it is surmised (in view of the fact that, with but few exceptions, the stamps overprinted are forgeries) that Otto, or others, sent them out as samples to prospective purchasers of Transvaal stamps *direct from the printers.*

The Otto stamps and forgeries (overprinted "SPECIMEN" in various types and colours) that are about to be described are stated to have come from the Ferrari collection; and for that reason, as well, are of considerable interest. Attempt has been made to group them according to type and colour of overprint, as follows: :

- (1) "SPECIMEN" in red, Roman capitals, approx. 23 mm. x 2½ mm.
    - (a) Otto 3d. lilac (S.G. No. 7.) *N.B.* With spur on leg of eagle.
    - (b) Otto 3d. deep lilac, imperf. *N.B.* With spur on leg of eagle.
    - (c) 6d. deep ultramarine (approximating S.G. No. 30). Genuine plate.
    - (d) 6d. ultramarine, reprints of S.G. No. 38.
    - (e) 1d. black, imperf.: 1d. black, rouletted; 1d. red, perf.; 6d. blue, rouletted; 6d. blue, perf.; 1s. green, imperf.; 1s. yellow-green, rouletted; 1s. deep green, rouletted; 1s. green, perf.; all forgeries.
  - (2) "SPECIMEN" in black, Roman capitals, size as (1).
    - (a) 3d. pale lilac. With spur on leg.
    - (b) 3d. stone. With spur on leg.
    - (c) 1d. red, imperf.; 1d. red, rouletted; 1d. red, perf.; all forgeries.
    - (d) 3d. grey-black on rose and black on rose (S.G. No. 172); and 3d. red (S.G. 173) apparently genuine.
- Note: All the items in groups 1 and 2 above exhibit the same characteristics, broken letters "E" and broken serif "M", so that it may confidently be asserted that they were overprinted by the same hand-stamp.
- (3) "Specimen." in violet, Old English capital and lower case, approx. 22 mm. (including period) x 5 mm. and 3 mm.
    - (a) 3d. ochre, rouletted, with spur.
    - (b) 3d. red, perf. 1883.
    - (c) 1d. black, imperf. 1d. black, rouletted; forgeries.
  - (4) "SPECIMEN." in purple, sans serif capitals, approx. 17 mm. (including period) x 2½ mm.
    - (a) 1d. red, rouletted, forgery.
  - (5) "Specimen." in purple, Old English capital and lower case, approx. 15½ mm. (including period) x 3½ mm. and 2 mm.
 

(Concluded on page 150)

## German East Africa

*Translated from the original article by Dr. Herbert Munk in Kohl's Handbook  
by Dr. J. H. Harvey Pirie.*

*(Continued from page 138 of Sept. issue)*

### STAMP BOOKLETS.

(For technical descriptions and general notes, see under this heading in "German Empire," Vol. I, p. 961 and onwards.)

Booklets for German East Africa were made up about a year after the issue of the first stamp booklets for Germany; the arrangement in both varieties of the first issue of booklets for the colony (A and B—the distinguishing letters being on the frontispiece of the orange-coloured cover) was the same as in Type II 1 booklets issued at the same time in Germany. The third, later, variety of booklet, marked C had a special arrangement.

Corresponding with the Type II 1 booklets of Germany, booklets A and B had each 6 leaflets; each leaflet had 5 stamps and one space (top left) the size of a stamp with a puff or advertisement of some commercial firm.

The first 4 leaflets had 4-heller stamps with the advertisements in the same shade of green; the last 2 leaflets had 7½-heller stamps and advertisements in the corresponding red. According to *Mitt. Kohl*, Vol. IV, p. 99 Booklet A was printed on October 1, 1911, and Booklet B about April 2, 1912, each of them in an edition of 5,000.

The selling price (nominal value) of a booklet was 1R 55H in the colony and 2 Mk in Germany. As each leaflet had a different advertisement and as the advertisements in booklets A and B were also in part different, the following combinations result:

A	4	4
4	4	4

#### *Leaflets 1—4*

7 different advertisements  
occur in Booklets  
A and B taken together

A	7½	7½
7½	7½	7½

#### *Leaflets 5 and 6*

4 different advertisements  
occur in Booklets  
A and B taken together

Booklet C, of the nominal value of 1R 60H was issued later. This had only 5 leaflets, the first 2 with 4-heller stamps, the last 3 with 7½-heller stamps.

Leaflet 1 had six 4-heller stamps.

Leaflets 3 and 4 had each six 7½-heller stamps.

Leaflet 2 had four 4-heller stamps.

Leaflet 5 had four 7½-heller stamps.

The two left-hand spaces in leaflets 2 and 5, the so-called "advertisement fields" had no advertisements, merely printed crosses. Booklet C therefore shows the following two new combinations:

X	4	4
X	4	4

#### *Leaflet 2 of Booklet C*

X	7½	7½
X	7½	7½

#### *Leaflet 5 of Booklet C*

The date of printing of this booklet is not definitely known, but as the 7½-heller stamps have the same metallic sheen which the sheets of this value of printing H 4596.13 have (See above), they cannot have been made up before the middle of 1913. This is noteworthy because the manufacture of booklet leaflets with crosses for Germany itself had been discontinued in April, 1913.

In all booklets there are, between the leaflets of stamps, protective leaflets to prevent them sticking together; these have advertisements printed on the back in black. In Booklets A ordinary paper was used for these protective leaflets; in Booklets B and C brownish tropical paper was employed.

### PROVISIONAL POSTAL MEASURES AND EMERGENCY FRANKINGS DURING THE GREAT WAR\*

(May, 1915—June, 1916).

*(The numbers quoted in the text refer to the Check List on p. 161 and subsequent pages).*

Although a large supply of stamps was received at the post office in Dar-es-salaam only a little while prior to the outbreak of war (*D. B. Z.*, 1921, p. 130) the stocks on hand in

*Bibliography.* R. Leriche (Naumburg), "Die Handstempel-Notbehelfe und Notausgaben und die Hilfsausgaben der Kaiserlichen Postverwaltung in Deutsch-Ostafrika während des Weltkriegs." *Phil. Mitt.* April-May, 1925. This work, supplemented by personal information from the author, forms the basis of our compilation. For a series of fundamental new observations we are indebted to "Böhllicke and Maj. Gen. Lademann, "Eine erste Aufstellung der sog. Kriegsprovisorien," published by H. E. Sieger. (See also *M. u. G.—Ztg.*, 1922, p. 82). For a consideration of the local unissued provisional stamps, see C. Lindenberg, "Die Kriegsprovisorien von Deutsch-Ostafrika." *D. B. Z.*, 1921, p. 130 and 1922. pp. 41 and 71.

the colony had melted away to such an extent by the beginning of 1915, more especially in the case of the most employed heller values, that the postal administration on the spot had to consider opportune measures for relieving the situation.

At this period postal traffic within the colony was still almost perfectly organized, and until the declaration of war by Portugal there was still the possibility of postal communication with Germany and neutral foreign countries through Mozambique on the south (a possibility which was fully taken advantage of, especially for sending newspapers and the printed war reports of the "Usambara Post" to the home country) but, on the other hand, on account of the ever closer applied blockade, the possibility of receiving fresh stocks of stamps in the colony was almost ruled out.

Therefore, in May, 1915, such post offices as had at least two German (white) officials (one receiving officer to sign and one to countersign "Postage Paid" franks—see below) were instructed no longer to use postage stamps for parcels, money orders, large packages of printed matter, nor for internal office use, but, in conformity with General Official Notice V 2 § 10, to charge cash and used checked "Postage Paid" franks. Stamps of the lower heller denominations, moreover, were only to be sold to the public in the smallest possible quantities.

The checked postage paid franks on money orders and parcel cards remained in office use and are therefore but seldom seen in collections; not so with those used on wrappers and printed matter and, later on postcards and, still later, on letters, registered letters, etc.

In the following description and in the reference lists from p. 161 on we have to deal purely with franks made in accordance with the official decree of May, 1915. This, together with the fact that they form a comparatively speaking limited, but at the same time, well defined and very popular group amongst collectors, has induced us to deal with these postage paid franks of May, 1915, and onwards, not merely in a general way (as was done, for instance, with the franks used in Germany during the inflation period) but to catalogue them fully.

Although not postage stamps, even in the wider sense, the "dies" for these Postage Paid franks were all made of one uniform pattern by the postal administration of German East Africa and then distributed to the individual Agencies. In this respect they were unlike the franks employed in Germany during the inflation period, where the "dies" were made by individual offices, although on the authority of a general decree.

All franks had, in accordance with the official notice, to be signed, in manuscript, with the monogram or initials, firstly, of the receiving (fee collecting) officer and, secondly, as a check, of the despatching official. Gen-

erally speaking this was done by the former on the left of the frank, and by the latter on the right.

Cases in which one of the two manuscript initialings is missing (generally that of the receiving officer) are extremely rare. Such cases are probably to be accounted for simply by one being overlooked in a big batch of franking to be done. In such cases the amount of cash paid for postage is usually (if not always) missing also.

At the beginning of May, 1915, there had been brought into use at the head P.O. in Dar-es-salaam, the 3-line rubber handstamp, Handstamp I.

Rp            H  
Frei lt. Einn. Nachw.  
in Daressalam

(meaning, in full, Rupees Heller Frei laut Einnahme Nachweisung, which may be translated literally as "Free in virtue of proof of receipt of Rp . . . H . . . in Dar-es-salaam." For convenience we have termed this a "Checked Postage Paid Frank," in view of the double initialing; or, more simply, just a "Post Paid" mark or frank.—*Translator.*)

With this frank only the fee paid had to be entered in manuscript and it was employed for printed matter, money orders and parcel cards, as well as for inside office use.

Handstamp I was in all probability only in use for about a fortnight, for as early as May 19 we find the 4-line Handstamp II being used on printed matter at Dar-es-salaam.

Rp            H  
Frei lt. Einn  
Nachw. in  
Daressalam

Only a few days later, viz., on May 26 another 3-line frank—Handstamp III—came into use; this differs from No. 1 in that the original top line "Rp H" (for MS entry of the fee paid) is replaced by the single printed amount "2½ H."

The 4-line Handstamp II was undoubtedly made because the lay-out of Handstamp I did not fit well with the spaces available for its impression on money orders and parcel cards (the height of these spaces being greater than their breadth).

(To be continued.)

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# NYASALAND

THE FIRST DECADE OF THE PROTECTORATE'S AIR POSTAL HISTORY.  
1931 — 1940.

By I. H. C. GODFREY.

*Being an amplification of notes read to the Philatelic Society of Johannesburg to illustrate an exhibit of Flown Covers of Nyasaland.*

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

Known the world over as *Darkest Africa in Fairest Mood* through its very apt slogan postmark, Nyasaland Protectorate in many ways still lives up to its reputation of being the "Cinderella" of the British Empire. In matters aeronautical this was particularly noticeable until a few years ago, but astonishing progress has since been made considering that the country, which is only about one-third the size of the British Isles, supports a European population of less than 1,500 and about the same number of Asiatics. In such a sparsely populated territory, a large body of philatelists is not to be expected. Nevertheless, thanks to one or two ardent Air Post collectors in the Protectorate and to a few enthusiasts outside its borders, a fairly full record of events has been kept.

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

The first Nyasaland owned aeroplane landed at Limbe on July 16, 1931. The DeHaviland Moth, which was on a delivery flight to the newly formed local Company, *Cristowitz' Air Services (Nyasaland) Ltd.*, was flown to Nyasaland from Johannesburg by Mr. H. Hollingdrake. It carried a small consignment of newspapers but, unfortunately, none of these bore any special inscription or postmark to show the method of transport.

*Cristowitz' Air Services* successfully operated passenger planes in and out of the Protectorate until February 1, 1934, when the company was absorbed by the *Rhodesian and*

*Nyasaland Airways Ltd. (RANA)*. During these two and a half years the company carried no mails.

In *DECEMBER*, 1931, Nyasaland became an airmail *Despatching* country when *Imperial Airways* undertook their experimental flight from Croydon to Cape Town and 85 letters were posted to link at Salisbury, Southern Rhodesia, with the southbound plane. In *JANUARY*, 1932, a further 530 letters were sent by the Nyasaland Post Offices to Salisbury to connect with the first Regular north and southbound services of *Imperial Airways*. All this mail was sent by rail, via Beira, and, on arrival, the Salisbury Post Office applied cachets reading "EXPERIMENTAL FLIGHT" and "FIRST OFFICIAL FLIGHT" respectively. Such items, although of Nyasaland interest, should logically be classified as First Flight covers of Southern Rhodesia.

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

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

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

*MAY 30th* 1933. On this date the five military planes left Zomba for Lilongwe, some

150 miles north-west of Blantyre, carrying 355 letters which constituted the Protectorate's first airmail despatch. All covers received a double-circle postmark before departure reading "FIRST NYD AIRMAIL. 30 MY 1933".

*JUNE 1st, 1933.* The *Imperial Airways'* liner *City of Karachi* in command of Capt. J. Sheppard, which was also attending the Air Rally, was ordered to return to Salisbury on June 1. That date happened to coincide with the regular weekly air service to and from Cape Town and the Nyasaland authorities, at very short notice, decided to avail themselves of the flight for the conveyance of a special mail. 282 items in all were sent, each bearing an additional 2d. postage over and above the listed air mail rates. The few covers which were addressed to the actual terminus of the flight, Salisbury, were backstamped the same day, but the remainder can only be identified by the date of the postmark and the extra franking. *This was the first occasion on which letters were carried by air from the Protectorate to an EXTERNAL destination,* although originally it was intended that the R.A.F. should have the distinction. The regular air link with Salisbury did not eventuate until March 8, 1934.

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

#### INTRODUCTION OF REGULAR AIRMAIL SERVICES.

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

As recently as 1908, mails to Blantyre could only be carried by steamer up the Zambesi and Shire Rivers from the coastal port of Chinde and, depending on the season, the time in transit for a letter to reach Nyasaland

from Southern Rhodesia was between three and four weeks. Since then, due to the advent of rail communications and, later to the postal use of aeroplanes, an astounding acceleration has taken place:

*Approximate Mail Transit Time: Salisbury to Blantyre.*

1908 . . . . .	4 weeks.
1928 . . . . .	4 days.
1938 . . . . .	2½ HOURS.

*(To be continued).*

(Concluded from page 156)

would naturally anti-date the pre-cancelled stamps of the United States. Johannesburg collectors want to know more about the defective "Yes."

However, will the readers who read the review which appeared in the September issue be kind enough to note the following correction of errors:

In the second paragraph the line reading "the large number of rarities of paper," should read the "large number of varieties of paper."

In the sixth paragraph the line reading "in relation to their variety," should read "in relation to their rarity."

The "Defective Yes" should read the "Defective Zes."

The line reading "a really fine pre-cancelled copy," should read "a really fine pen-cancelled copy."

The name "Enschede" should be "Enschede."

## *When Discussing Your Stamps*

with friends  
nothing cements  
the friendship  
better than  
over a pipe  
of

## WAYSIDE MIXTURE

\*As it would be a sheer impossibility to record (or for anyone to complete a collection of) the covers which could have been posted in Nyasaland so as to connect with new air routes in every Continent, this paper ignores all "Combination" First Flights.

## Review

*The Standard Catalogue of Postage Stamps of the World.* 40th Edition, 1941. Whitfield King and Co., Ipswich, England. Price 6s. 6d. (in Great Britain).

This well known work of reference has now been increased to nearly 1,000 pages (over 1,000 pages inclusive of index and advertisements). There are 7,839 illustrations, 201 more than in the last edition.

In the preface to this Edition the publishers state: "In our preface of twenty-five years ago we wrote: 'We firmly believe that when the war is over Philately will flourish more strongly than ever.' Subsequent events completely justified our optimism, for during the war of 1914-1918 and the years of uneasy peace which succeeded it, stamp collecting flourished exceedingly.

"Once more we are engaged in a titanic struggle, but in spite of, or perhaps because of, the difficulties which beset us, our hobby continues at full strength. The more determined our effort the greater the necessity for the recuperative power of recreation, mental as well as physical. Only by a judicious combination of these can we hope to sustain our maximum efficiency, and towards that result stamp collecting gives and will continue to give a valuable contribution . . ."

The catalogue lists and describes every issue of the world's postage stamps since 1840 and all data given is based on the latest available information. In spite of the fact that proper rationing has necessitated a reduction of the number printed, there has been no alteration in quality nor curtailment of the usual features. The prices of British Empire stamps (including African issues) remain firm. Some of the Silver Jubilee issues have advanced in price (e.g. Bermuda). The Commemoratives (Antigua Tercentenary, St. Helena Centenary, Sierra Leone Wilberforce

issue, etc.) are all firm. Some of the Newfoundland issues have appreciably advanced in price. The prices of Coronation stamps remain unchanged. The Southern Rhodesia 3d. small "Falls" has advanced to 2s. 6d. mint and 1s. used.

Amongst the foreign issues the principal advances are in Czecho-Slovakia, Ecuador, Greece, Japan, Korea, Manchukuo, Poland, Roumania, Turkey and Peru. The publishers, however, point out that these advances in price are due partly to the stoppage of supplies from countries cut off by war operations, and partly to exchange difficulties.

The stamps of Spain have been re-arranged in order to simplify the study of the numerous issues of the Civil War. Local issues are grouped under the headings of their respective towns or cities.

Two new stamp-issuing countries appear in this edition, namely: Ifni, a Spanish colony in the Western Sahara, and Pitcairn Islands. There are six stamps catalogued under Ifni (including two airmail Orphans Charity stamps), the six having a total catalogue value of 13 shillings. There are eight Pitcairn Island stamps listed (from 3d. to 2s. 6d. face value), to be issued on October 15, 1940, and they are not yet priced in the catalogue.

The publishers regret that they have had to raise the price of the catalogue from 5s. to 6s. 6d. to meet the increased cost of production, but it is still very excellent value for the stamp collector.

I.I.

### TRANSVAAL POSTAGE STAMPS.

By J. H. CURLE AND A. E. BASDEN.

On reading the review that I had written on Messrs. Curle and Basden's new book on Transvaal Postage Stamps, I was startled to find some of the improvements in information that had been made by the printer, and I have had quite a few requests for further details.

Our American friends would probably be very interested in reading about our pre-cancelled Transvaals, which, if they existed, (Concluded on page 155)

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## Society News

### THE PHILATELIC SOCIETY OF JOHANNESBURG.

*President*, Mr. F. E. Ingham; *Hon. Secretary*, F. Lang, P.O. Box 4967; *Meetings*: 2nd Tuesdays, 8 p.m., Sanlam Buildings.

At our September meeting, held on September 10, Mr. F. E. Ingham took the chair until our guests of the evening, the East Rand Philatelic Society, took over in the person of Mr. J. Shepherd.

The regular business was concluded in short order and was followed by the auctioning of the New Issues of Malaya, Straits Settlements and Perak, as well as contributed items for the War Fund. Proceeds for the War Fund auctioned this month amounted to £8 10s.

It was announced with gratification to all members that the Committee had decided to contribute this month £10 to the Governor-General's Fund and another £10 to the Child Guest Fund.

The club has been presented with a copy of the very excellent work on the stamps of the Transvaal, by Messrs. Basden and Curle. This work is beautifully illustrated and will undoubtedly prove of very great help to anyone interested in the stamps of the Transvaal. The club's copy will be kept by the Curator of the Society's stamp collection.

Members interested in the receipt of Exchange Packets were again requested to give the Exchange Superintendent not only their post office box addresses but their complete home and business addresses as well. This information will facilitate the speeding up of the circulation of the monthly packets by making it possible to arrange the distribution among groups of members situated close to each other.

This Society will have the great pleasure of visiting the Pretoria Society on Trafalgar Day, October 21.

A complete set of Jipex in the twenty-one settings of each value was raffled, Dr. Kaplan being the lucky winner. He immediately presented this prize back to the Society with instructions that it was to be sold by American auction, which was done, and Mrs. Redford was the lucky bidder.

Our guests of the evening brought a large quantity of excellent philatelic fare, consisting of four exhibits as follows: Mr. Johnstone an unusual gem in the form of proofs and a used copy of the stamps of Nevis. The used copy is an uncatalogued item, being the 6d. used with pre-adhesive hand-stamp cancellation providing a provisional issue.

Mr. Dickens tabled the largest exhibit of the evening comprising a very fine display of

the stamps of the Union of South Africa. This display was the more remarkable because of the fact that it had been built up over the short space of two years. When commenting on this exhibit, Dr. Kaplan said that he observed that the collection contained most of the noteworthy varieties and errors, and particularly referred to three copies of the £1 mint as well as one used, the 1s. Postage Dues, the Jubilees and the 1925 airmail issue of which there was a particularly good showing. Another item to which he referred was a beautiful block of four of the 10s. value used.

Mr. Shepherd tabled an almost limitless display of the Jubilee issue of the entire Empire in mint and used condition, including sets of singles, blocks of fours, large blocks, flagstaff varieties, etc.; in fact, this collection, if it had been completely tabled would have comprised sufficient material for one whole evening's exhibit.

Mr. Rigg also tabled a few selected pages out of his collection comprising stamps of the U.S.A., Sarawak, Canada, Ceylon, Aden and India, some of which were mounted on black sheets.

Our next monthly meeting will be held on October 8, at which Mr. Carleton-Jones will exhibit a further section of his most outstanding collection of the stamps of Canada. A large attendance is expected to view this display, which has been in the making for forty years.

H.E.B.

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### EAST RAND PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

*President*: Mr. J. Shepherd; *Hon. Sec.*: Mr. E. Rigg; *Meetings*: Hotel Regent, Benoni, 1st Wednesdays, 8 p.m.

The monthly meeting of the East Rand Philatelic Society was held last Wednesday at the Hotel Regent, Benoni. It was also the annual general meeting. The attendance was good. The minutes of the previous meetings were read and confirmed. The balance sheet showed a small credit balance. The retiring president, Mr. Sam Legator, then presented his report on the Society's progress and activities during the past year. This was followed by the election of officers for the ensuing year, which resulted in the following being elected:

*President*: Mr. Jack Shepherd.  
*Vice-President*: Mr. H. Suklje.  
*Hon. Sec.-Treas.*: Mr. E. Rigg.

Items of interest were shown by Mr. Newson—U.S.A., Swedish and Australian F.D. Covers, and Mr. Suklje—censored covers. Stamps contributed by members were then auctioned and the proceeds were donated to the G.G.N. War Fund.

During tea interval a guessing competition was held. Members had to recognise a dozen triangular stamps which were partly covered.



## COLLECTORS' WANTS AND OFFERS

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

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

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

William Redford, Box 7012, Johannesburg.

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

A. E. Basden, Box 238, Pretoria.

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

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

**Wanted.**—Imperforate issues of all countries in good condition, especially North and South America.

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

**World Collection.**—Wanted perfect condition space fillers for Elobey, Afghanistan, Spanish Guinea, La Aguera, Tamos, Albania, Tripolitania, Thrace, Orad and many other unusual countries up to 1933 issues only.

E. Hunt, P.O. Box 2437, Johannesburg.

**Wanted.**—Back numbers of "S.A. Philatelist." State Volume and Number.

S. Wareham, Box 72, Bethlehem.

Much guessing and argument resulted in Mr. Newson and Mr. Legator drawing for first prize, which was also donated to the Fund.

The exhibit for the evening was provided by Mr. Legator. This was rather a most unusual and interesting collection of stamps and postal matter connected with the Voortrekker Centenary Commemoration. There were the usual mint and used blocks and part sheets followed by proof cancellations, special post-cards, brochures, K.L.M. flight covers, colour trials of the official envelopes signed by the artist Coetzer, proof photographs of original drawings of various stamp designs, plate proofs, essays signed by the artist, and much more interesting matter which is not usually included in the average collection.

The exhibit was certainly enjoyed and appreciated by all. On behalf of the society Mr. Suklje proposed a vote of thanks to the exhibitor, after which the meeting closed.

The first Wednesday of each month having been found suitable for most members, it was agreed to keep this evening for meetings.

H.S.

### EAST LONDON PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

*President, J. Paviour; Hon. Secretary and Treasurer, S. Fowler. Meetings: Colosseum Tea Lounge, 2nd Fridays, 8 p.m.*

The monthly meeting was well attended on the 13th instant, and Mr. Paviour conducted an auction of various stamps given by the public in response to an appeal in the local press for the Lord Mayor's Red Cross Fund. Unfortunately these stamps were of no great value, and only a small amount was collected. Certain items were unsold, and it was decided to send these over to London for sale at the forthcoming auction in November.

Mr. Andrew Watson was re-elected a member of the Society amidst applause, and the Chairman said how pleased members were to know that Mr. Watson was making his home in East London, and he felt that he would be a tower of strength to our Society.

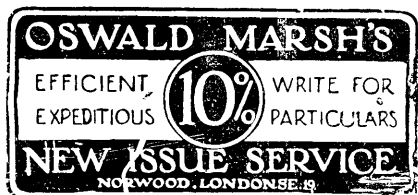
Mr. Watson then gave a display of some very interesting stamps. First we were shown some fine mint copies of the Pietersburg, Transvaal, issues, and then other South African Republic stamps, all of which were in very fine condition. Further displays followed of British Bechuanaland, Swaziland and Basutoland stamps, and also Union stamps used in these Protectorates. An enjoyable meeting closed at 10 p.m.

J.P.S.

### PRETORIA PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

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

September 2.—Mr. Warren was in the chair. Mr. Hawke read an extract dealing with the import and export of stamps in Great Britain.



Mr. Warren read a paper on the national hero and patriot, Mr. Pilsudski, whose portrait is depicted on many stamps of Poland. He described his career in detail and showed his rise to virtual dictatorship whilst still retaining a patriotic and beneficent attitude.

Mr. Obermeyer showed his fine collection of O.R.C.

September 16.—Mr. Warren was in the chair.

Five-minute papers. Mr. Rudd read a paper on the cementing of international relationships by means of stamps. Mr. Beyers read a paper on Sentiment in Stamps as shown by stamps which give rise to many interesting memories. Mr. Giovanetti described and tabled a fine lot of Reprints of old Transvaal stamps. Mr. N. L. Watson gave an account of the history and stamps of Malta.

Exhibits were tabled by Messrs. Gomm, Giovanetti, Watson and Obermeyer.

Stamps for the Red Cross Fund were donated by Messrs. Watson and Beyers and Mrs. Dyer. More donations of stamps for this fund will be welcomed.

H.A.W.

#### CAPE TOWN PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

*President*, M. Rothkugel; *Hon. Secretary*, A. A. Jurgens, 26 Woodside Road, Tamboers Kloof, Cape Town. *Meetings*: 2nd and 4th Thursdays, Medical House, 35 Wale Street, Cape Town, at 8 p.m.

The above society are holding a Stamp Exhibition in the Banqueting Hall, City Hall, Cape Town, on Monday, 28th, and Tuesday, 29th October, 1940, in aid of the Governor-General's National War Fund.

The stamps to be shown will include the Postal History of the Cape of Good Hope from the early Dutch occupation to the present day, and the Air Mail services of South Africa, together with selections of stamps from other countries, which will make the Exhibition of world-wide interest.

The Exhibition will be under the patronage of the Hon. C. E. F. Clarkson, Minister of Posts and Telegraphs, and the official opening will be by the Mayor of Cape Town, W. Brinton, Esq.

Arrangements have been made for a stall in the same building where sets of stamps, packets and albums can be purchased.

A very fine full bound morocco leather stamp Album, complete with leaves (new), will be raffled, together with the other collections of stamps in albums.

On the 30th October a Stamp Auction will be held, the auctioneer being Mr. H. C. D. Muller, and on the 31st October, the second day of this auction will be continued, conducted by Mr. Victor Jones, both of these gentlemen having very kindly offered their services free of all charge.

Both of these auction sales will be held in Ashbey's Art Galleries, 35, Church Street,

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on request, against the usual references.

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in Southern Africa Fine selec-  
tions also available of Airmails  
(no covers), Silver Jubilees,  
etc., etc.*

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Cape Town, commencing at 2.30 p.m., the proprietor, Mr. M. Robinson, having placed his rooms at the disposal of the Society free of charge.

This Stamp Auction, which will comprise over 500 lots, will no doubt be the biggest and finest stamp auction ever held in Cape Town. The stamps offered will contain several rarities, and the majority of lots offered are in fine condition.

One item to be offered for auction will be a Handley Page cover flown from Cape Town to Beaufort West. This cover is in excellent condition.

Catalogues will be available some time before the sale and anybody wishing to bid on any of the items included therein are requested to get in touch with the Secretary or Members of the Committee, when a copy of the catalogue will be posted to their address. A copy of this catalogue will also be sent to all the affiliated Societies, where they may be inspected by members.

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#### ORANGE FREE STATE AND BASUTOLAND PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

*Chairman*, Mr. C. A. Larsen; *Hon. Sec. and Treasurer*, Mr. H. G. Ulyate, P.O. Box 702, Bloemfontein; *Meetings*, 2nd Fridays, Oranje Koffiehuis, Bloemfontein, 8 p.m.

The July meeting of the above Society was held on the 12th when there was a much larger attendance than usual, including some of our country members.

There was one proposal for membership and it was pointed out that no less than nine members of the Society had gone on active service.

Mr. Levy showed some current Union 6d. to illustrate a new die described by Mr. Lichtenstein.

It was decided not to hold the usual children's exhibition in September as members did not have sufficient time at their disposal to organise the event.

The exhibition of the evening was arranged by Mr. Lewis, who showed some of his Union Pictorials. The various London and Pretoria printings were well illustrated.

An American auction was held after the exhibit and a sum of 8s. was realised, which was donated to the Governor-General's Fund.

The August meeting of the Society was poorly attended, mainly on account of the weather.

Mr. H. L. Kaplan exhibited some fine specialised Union items which were much appreciated by those present. Mr. Lewis also showed some items from his collection of Free States, from the V.R.I's onwards.

The exhibitors were given a hearty vote of thanks for the fine show.

The seventh annual general meeting of the Society was held in the Oranje Koffiehuis on Friday, the 13th September, at 8 p.m.

There was a much larger attendance than usual, and the Chairman in welcoming the members hoped that in future more members would attend the monthly meetings.

The minutes of the last annual general meeting, held on 13th October, 1939, were read and confirmed.

The Chairman, Exchange Superintendent, and the Secretary presented their reports, and it was decided to incorporate these reports in the minutes.

From the Chairman's report it was shown that eight new members were elected during the year and that ten members had gone on full-time active service.

From the Secretary's report the Society was shown to be in a sound financial position.

From the Exchange Superintendent's report it was noted that the value of packets circulated almost reached the three figure mark, and that although sales were not as good as last year they showed a good average considering conditions.

The Chairman, Exchange Superintendent and the Secretary were thanked for the time and patience they had spent in the interests of the Society.

A new committee was elected for the ensuing year and consisted of: Chairman, Mr. C. A. Larsen; Vice-Chairman, Mr. J. B. Levy; Exchange Superintendent, Mr. J. Lewis; Sec. and Treas., Mr. H. G. Ulyate; Hon. Auditor, Mr. W. Dickie Clark; Committee, Mr. T. Sacks, Mr. A. Lichtenstein, and Mr. R. G. Lyon.

It was proposed that a copy of "Transvaal Postage Stamps" be bought for the Society.

Mr. Levy exhibited some "Censor Covers" as a fillip to the evening. Quite a few interesting items were shown. Mr. Levy was thanked for his display.

Mr. Turpin, who is going on full-time active service, took farewell of the Society, and the Chairman, on behalf of members of the Society, wished him good luck and a safe return.

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#### BURMESE FORGERIES.

G. v. d. Berg, in *Stamps*, reports that faked Burma overprints are appearing in abundance from Singapore and Rangoon. The fakes are not well done, varying from the genuine overprint and being applied *over* cancellations (commonly of Indian rather than of Burmese post offices). Also the overprints are impressed more heavily than the genuine.

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#### THE BRITISH GUIANA RARITY.

According to a recent issue of "Stamps," the British Guiana 1 cent of 1856 was sold in New York in August last to a purchaser whose name was unknown. The exact sum paid for the stamp was not ascertained, but is thought to be over 40,000 dollars.

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Vol. 16.

NOVEMBER, 1940.

No. 11.

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*Proprietors and Publishers :*

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Honorary Business Manager: WILLIAM REDFORD, Broadcast House, Commissioner Street, Johannesburg.

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

Vol. 16.

NOVEMBER, 1940.

No. 11.

## Union Notes

### ARMY, CAMP AND CENSOR MARKS.

Mr. H. J. Potgieter records No. 6 and a possible No. 9, and we have seen a No. 11. Mr. A. H. Sydow reports No. 7 and also No. 11. Up to date, therefore, Nos. 1—6 inclusive and Nos. 10 and 11 have been recorded; Nos. 8 and 9 presumably are in use, but we would be glad to hear from anyone having actually seen them.

Special "Camp" postmarks in use in the Union (although they are not "Army" post offices), which have been noted, all bilingual, are Roberts Heights, Premier, Potchefstroom and Barberton. Can any reader amplify this list?

A censor mark seen on an open envelope containing advertising matter from Brazil reads: "Not opened by censor." This wording is in a box frame with "C" and "2" in the lower frame. Is this a Union censorship mark, or, if not, where has it been applied?

### NEW 1½d. STAMP.

What will have to be regarded as a new 1½d. stamp appeared on sale early in October. The design is the same, but the golden buildings no longer glitter. They are now printed with a flat ink in an "old gold" shade of brown. Doubtless this change is due to the 1½d. stamp being wanted in much greater quantity on account of the new internal postal rate.

Messrs. C. Hampson, of East London, and J. G. Richards, of Sydney-on-Vaal, report that the former constant minor varieties, such as the broken chimney and broken frameline are no longer present, so that a new cylinder has evidently also come into use recently.

### "OFFICIALS."

Mr. A. M. Strange has an interesting article on Union "Officials," or at any rate, on those up to 1931, in the August-September number of "The Stamp Lover." He gives interesting notes on the write-up of his collection, which will be of value to anyone who has not made a specialised study of these overprints.

### 6d. OFFICIAL.

The latest 6d. has now appeared with the usual "Official—Offiseel" overprint.

### AMERICA—S. AFRICAN AIR SERVICE.

In the air mail notes of the September issue of Scott's Monthly Journal we find the following note: "Undaunted by Blitzkriegs, Pan-American Airways is laying plans for service to South Africa, via Portuguese Guinea, a truly gargantuan undertaking. The exact route depends upon surveys, though preliminary plans envisage service from Puerto Rico, Brazil or the Azores, first by Clipper and later by strato-liners."

In view of the geographical vagueness expressed we need not expect the service to be inaugurated this year, but doubtless it will come.

### MOZAMBIQUE COMPANY.

There was issued on 10th October, a set of 6 stamps (40, 50, 60, 70, 80c., etc.), commemorating the 3rd century of the Restoration—1640. The design is that of a cavalier on horseback.

Mr. A. O. Crane wishes it to be known that, as from the 12th August, 1940, he has relinquished the editorship of "The Stamp Magazine, incorporating World Stamp Digest," and has ceased to be in any way connected with those journals.

*In spite of prevailing conditions we are constantly sending rare stamps and selections to all parts of the world*



Since the outbreak of war we have sent to and received hundreds of registered letters from South Africa, and have never yet lost any, though a letter once arrived marked "Damaged by Sea Water," and we found the contents were not improved! But that sort of thing happens also in times of peace.

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In any case we ourselves accept any such risks as there may be, and shall always be pleased either to submit Stamps according to Want Lists, or to send Approval Selections of any desired country or class to Collectors in South Africa.

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You may therefore make use of our services in full confidence, and without any risk to yourselves.

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WE HAVE A HUGE STOCK OF ALL COUNTRIES, FOREIGN AS WELL AS COLONIAL, FROM THE RAREST DOWNWARDS, AND FROM THE EARLIEST TO THE MOST MODERN ISSUES.

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So let us know what you collect, and ask for a Free Specimen Copy of *The Philatelic Journal of Great Britain*, the oldest Stamp Magazine in Europe,—now in its Fiftieth Year.

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*In asking for selections, let us know whether you are a medium or advanced Collector. When sending Want Lists, do not forget to state the name and DATE of the Catalogue to which the numbers refer.*

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**Sefi Pemberton & Co., Ltd.**  
Leominster, England

# The Numerical Postmarks of Southern Africa

By J. H. HARVEY PIRIE.

(Concluded from page 150 of October Issue).

## RHODESIA.

Two types of numeral postmarks have been recorded from Rhodesia (See article by W. J. Harrington, *S. Af. Phil.*, Vol. 11, 1935, p. 20).

The first is of the Cape Type 2 and it was used as an obliterator along with a date stamp. The following is a list of the numbers recorded by him, with the place of use where known: 312, 520, 608, 678 (? Gubulawayo), 679, 822, 826 (Victoria, 1896), 827 (Salisbury, 1893), 828 (Umtali, 1893), 859 (Fort Roseberry, 1897), 860 Abercorn), 869, 875, 878, 941, 951, 952, 953. No. 941, he notes, has been found as late as on a stamp of the 1913 issue.

Since then Dann (*London Philatelist*, June 1939, p. 189) has added extensively to this list. Additional numbers and place records given by him are: 210, 246, 259, 274, 277, 300 (Fort Victoria), 312 (Iron Mine Hill), 312 (thick), 390, 634, 809, 816, 818, 825 (Tuli), 826 (Salisbury), 829, 851, 852, 853, 854, 855, 856, 861, 863, 864, 865, 866, 868, 871, 872, 896, 914, 915, 919, 921, 941 (Salisbury), 942, 951 (Gwelo), 952 (Plumtree), 953 (Umtali), 954, 957, 963. He notes further that probably some were used in Nyasaland, although nearly all can be found on early B.S.A.C. stamps. Nos. 851 to 872 have been found on "B.C.A." stamps.

The second type used in Rhodesia was a barred lozenge similar to the sketch. These marks were used for parcel post in conjunction with a post office date stamp. The numbers known are from 1 to 7 inclusive. No. 1 is recorded from Umtali, 1899; the places of use of the others are not known. In the case of No. 7 there were only 12 bars as against 13 in the others, there being only 4 bars inset by the circle in place of 5.



## SWAZILAND.

Two numeral cancellations are known from Swaziland, both of the Cape type 2b. No. 718 can be identified from a dated cover of 1890 as used at Embekelweni (the first seat of the Government, situated about six miles from Bremersdorp). There was also No. 628, place of use unidentified. Both marks known in blue as well as in black, numerals 7mm. in height.

## TRANSVAAL.

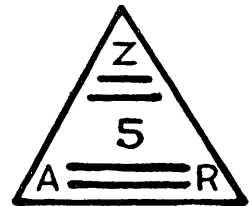
For this section I am indebted largely to "An Introduction to the Postmarks of Transvaal," by A. E. Basden, *South African Phil-*

*atelist*, Vol. XIII, 1937, pp. 148 and 174, also to personal information from Mr. Basden. Further details are available in the work by Messrs. Curle and Basden, "Transvaal Postage Stamps," chapter XIII.

(1) *Concentric Circles*. In 1874 there were obtained from Germany 36 cancellors consisting each of three concentric rings with a numeral in the centre. Basden reports having most of these, and, in addition, Nos. 38, 41, 45 and 46 of the same type. Com-

paratively few of these have been allocated to their places of usage.

(2) *Lettered Numbered Triangles*. In 1889 there came into use triangular defacers with the letters Z.A.R. in the corners and a number in the centre, as shown in the accompanying figure. The numbers run from 1



to 90. Basden records that only the following numbers are missing in his collection from the series: Nos. 19, 31, 35, 41, 46, 47, 48, 51, 53, 56, 61, 62, 63, 66, 68, 69, 72, 73, 76, 77, 80, 81, 82, 85, 87, 89, and 90. There is room, however, for much work in locating the offices of use.

(3) *Vertical Oval Grids of Cape Type 2*. The following are known from Transvaal: Nos. 226, 559, 560, 607, 620 and 621. Only No. 559 has been linked up with its place of use, viz., Koranofontein, a place in the Western Transvaal, now no longer the site of a post office.

(4) *Horizontal Oval Grids of O.F.S. Type 1*.

Two of these are known—No. 1, on stamps of the 1885 issue, and No. 2, used at Pretoria, on Edwardian stamps. In both cases the grids are of the 11-bar variety.

(5) *Solid Horizontal Oval*. I have three specimens of the mark shown herewith, all on K.E. 1d. black and carmine, but no clue as to where the mark was in use, nor, indeed, proof that it was employed in the Transvaal. But, as it does not

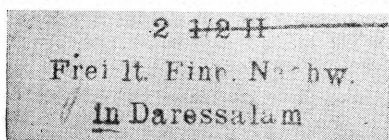


(Continued on page 176)

## German East Africa

*Translated from the original article by Dr. Herbert Munk in Kohl's Handbook  
by Dr. J. H. Harvey Pirie.*

(Continued from page 153 of October issue).



*Handstamp III. of Dar-es-salaam.*

In this way there was provided a special handstamp—II—for the varying fees chargeable on parcel cards and money orders and another—III—with the fixed printed fee of 2½H for simple printed matter.

As the above mentioned earliest date of use of the 4-line handstamp II (19-5-15, Brönne collection) occurs, exceptionally, on printed matter (not on a money order or parcel card) and as, on the other hand, the earliest date known of the 3-line handstamp III is a few days later (26-5-15), it may be inferred that immediately after the new 4-line II was issued the top line of the original 3-line I was taken to be changed from "Rp H" to "2½H" and that during the days in which this alteration was in progress the 4line II was provisionally used for simple printed matter as well as on the articles for which it was specifically intended.

The 4-line handstamp II was also employed on money orders and parcel cards even after the introduction of the box-frame Handstamp V (with which the fee had also to be written in MS.—See below), as we have seen it on parcel cards as late as the end of October, 1915.

In the early part of 1916, after "Postage Paid" franking had been introduced for every class of postal matter, the post office in Dar-es-salaam itself appears to have used Handstamp II temporarily, provisionally, and against its own instructions as a frank on matter going outside the office, because, contrary to the practice prevailing in 1915, we have seen quite a few letters with MS fee entries dated in Jan.-Feb. 1916.

No type-set franks without frame are known from Tanga as specially used for money orders

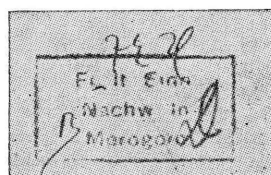


*Handstamp IV. of Tanga.*

and parcel cards but the 2-line Handstamp IV was employed on printed matter. Hitherto this has always been wrongly classified along with Handstamp III of Dar-es-salaam (used for printed matter) because it was not realised that the latter had been re-cut from the 3-line Handstamp I as far back as about May 20. The reason for the alteration was that the long 3-line Handstamp I was unsuitable for use on money order forms, etc., and had to be replaced by the short 4-line Handstamp II.

It is not definitely known when Handstamp IV came into use at Tanga, but from the earliest known date (8-8-15) it is probable that it was employed first about the end of July. In this case Tanga, unlike Dar-es-salaam, can only have brought Handstamp IV into use after its box-frame Handstamp V was already being employed (see below), for the latter is known dated in the first half and middle of July, used in combination with the specific Fee Handstamps of Tanga (V2 and V3A—see below). This Handstamp IV for printed matter was used at Tanga mainly for the war supplements of the "Usambara Post," printed in card form, and it was in continuous use up till the middle of 1916.

Meanwhile the postal authorities had had prepared, in accordance with the Official Notice of May, 1915, box-frame typeset franking stamps of the uniform pattern of Handstamp V.



*Handstamp V. of Morogoro.*

These were first issued in July to the post offices in Dar-es-salaam, Tanga and Morogoro; in the course of the following month to those in Tabora and Moschi; and, probably still a little later, to the agencies at Kigoma, Muanza and Wilhelmsthal. (The last named is peculiar in that it is not mentioned in the Official Notice of Dec. 20, 1915, and it should therefore be stated that we have only seen the box-frame franks of Wilhelmsthal on cut off pieces of parcel cards and money orders).

These box-frame franking stamps distributed from July onwards were not intended

for printed matter only but, like the unframed Handstamp I of Dar-es-salaam, were meant for the prepayment of all possible rates of fees. Therefore no type-set figure of value is included in them (not even the initial letters of the value to be filled in); the cash paid had to be specially written in at the time.

At first these franks were used mainly on printed matter (not counting their use on inside services such as parcel cards and money orders); in Tanga they were used sporadically also on postcards; later (see below) they were generally employed for postcards, ordinary letters, registered letters, etc.

At the less large establishments such as Tabora, Moschi, Kigoma, Muanza and Wilhelmsthal the postage paid in cash was added to the frank in manuscript (Type VI). This also happened at Dar-es-salaam when box-frame stamp V was used (it should be remembered that at the chief P.O. here there was still in use the special Handstamp III for printed matter). In Morogoro, on the other hand, the amount paid for the franking of printed matter was, generally speaking, put in by hand only in the early days of use; likewise in Tanga, and here, in addition, when these franks were used for postcards and, later, for letters the addition of the fee in MS was only done to a limited extent and that mostly in the early days of use.

Special 1-line type-set handstamps were preferred for adding the amount of the postage charged at Morogoro and Tanga. At the latter there was one handstamp reading "Heller" only (Type V 2); at Morogoro one handstamp with the fixed rate 2½H, and at Tanga handstamps with the fixed rates 2½, 4 and 7½H (Type V 3). A check list of these will be given next month. There are some variations in the patterns of these fee handstamps.

These small 1-line handstamps stating the sum paid for prepaying postage might be called briefly "Half-Franks." They were usually applied horizontally above the box-frame frank. "Printing errors" sometimes occur in them, e.g., a newspaper wrapper stamped first of all with "4H" in error has this struck out and replaced with a half-frank of "2½H." (For other examples see Figs. 12 and 20a in Lerche's work).

These box-frame post-paid franks were used right up to the time when such franking became unnecessary and was stopped (June 1, 1916). Prior to the introduction in Jan., 1916, of envelopes ready stamped with 7½H post paid franks they served for dealing with articles on which higher rates of postage were chargeable (overweight letters, registered letters, etc.). They also occur used along with postage stamps (e.g., the charge of 57½H on a parcel card is seen occasionally made up by a 7½H postage stamp and a post paid frank of 50H). There even exist envelopes of the so-called provisional issue (ready stamped

with 7½H post paid franks—see below) on which postage to an amount over 7½H is made up partly by postage stamps and partly by a box-frame frank with a sum added to it; the prepayment of postage on one and the same letter being charged or paid for therefore in three different ways.

In spite of the use of these checked postage paid franks the official balance of heller stamps on hand was practically completely exhausted by the end of 1915 and on Dec. 20, 1915, the Director of Posts issued an Official Notice to the effect that at the larger post offices, Dar-es-salaam, Tanga, Moschi, Morogoro, Tabora, Kigoma, and Muanza the sale of postage stamps was definitely prohibited.

Letters, which could only be accepted with postage prepaid, had to be handed in over the counter and cash paid for franking them. With this "Post Paid" franking became obligatory at the large offices for every kind of postal traffic, including individual letters and all official business outside the office.

Pre-franked envelopes were introduced by the Director of Posts in Morogoro after the introduction of compulsory franking with the object (1) of facilitating postal business for the public at the larger offices and (2) of making it possible for franked correspondence to be accepted at the smaller agencies where there was only one white official and it was therefore impossible to have the system of "checked" franks.

These officially prepared empty envelopes had printed on them in the top right-hand corner the official seal "IMPERIAL DIRECTOR OF POSTS/GERMAN EAST AFRICA" in dark violet or grey violet and, printed immediately above, the 2-line type-set frank "7½H Postage Paid" (Frankiert mit 7½H). See illustration next month. These envelopes were sold to the public, ready pre-franked for 7½H each.

Similar envelopes pre-franked with 7½H were made at the post offices in Dar-es-salaam and Tanga by printing them with the official post office seal in black or in grey and the same imprint above (See Fig. II, III next month).

As the envelopes thus pre-franked were collected from the various post offices they are to be found in very varied format and of all kinds of different paper. They were valid at any postal establishment for 7½H franking within the colony.

On January 8, 1916, the Director of Posts announced that the public could have any envelopes they liked pre-franked 7½H at a cost of 7½H each by sending them to the P.O. in Morogoro in lots of not less than ten. Here these private envelopes were each one stamped "Frankiert mit 7½H" and returned to the sender free of charge.

These postage paid private envelopes with an official seal and "Postage Paid 7½H"

(many of them with some firm's business heading or address) were done like the official envelopes, i.e., in Morogoro with the seal of the Director of Posts and in Dar-es-salaam and Tanga with the respective seals of the post offices; they also were valid for use to the amount specified on them at any postal establishment in the colony.

For overweight letters, registered letters, etc., any fee chargeable over 7½H was charged and accounted for by the additional use of checked postage paid franks as before; a few cases are also known where additional postage is covered by postage stamps, or is partly in postage stamps and partly by means of a checked frank. (It has not been definitely settled, however, whether this last case, on a registered letter from Tanga, is one of genuine need and usage, as it dates after the arrival of fresh stock of stamps by the relief ship "Marie").

Mention must be made of the occasional case in which, on account of shortage of material, these envelopes with pre-paid franks were officially turned inside out and used again (as official envelopes by the authorities).

See the Check List next month for a list of the various colours in which the 2-line "Frankiert mit 7½H" was printed.

After the relief ship, "Marie" (already referred to on p. 138) landed at Sudi Bay in March, 1916, bringing, amongst other things, a fresh supply of German East African stamps, the proclamation of Dec. 20, 1915, forbidding the sale of postage stamps and making the use of franks compulsory for general postal purposes after June 1, 1916, was repealed.

Before this, however, to some extent indeed in February, 1916 (e.g., at Bukoba), but mainly in April, another source had been tapped as a provisional measure, namely, German stamps without overprint. These were employed mainly for inside office use (on money orders, parcel cards, etc.). These German stamps were obtained partly from the "Königsberg" which had been shut up in the Rufiji delta since October 30, 1914, and on July 11, 1915 was sunk and then blown up by the crew; partly from the "Präsident" (which was overpowered and sunk in its hiding place in the R. Lukuledi at about the same time, July 20, 1915); and lastly, from the "Feld Marschall."

The stocks of these ships' posts comprised German postage stamps of the "Germania" series of the 3, 5, 10, 20, 30 and 50 pf and 1 mk values; these were reckoned as equivalents to 2½, 4, 7½, 15, 22½, 37½ and 75 heller

According to official account the nominal value of all such German stamps so obtained only amounted to a few hundred marks. They are known to have been used at the post offices of Bagamoyo, Bukoba, Dodoma, Kilwa,

Korogwe, Mohoro, Mombo, Pangani and Wilhelmsthal.

These "Germania" stamps represent a "normal" provisional issue, as against the purely accessory measures of checked and postage paid franks. They may be compared with the similar use of German stamps without overprint by the Field Post in China but are distinguished by the usage being a more serious one and by the complete absence of any "cancelling to order" or philatelic usage. They appear to have been employed only up till about the beginning of June, 1916. As they were employed almost entirely for inside office use (the few which are to be seen in collections, e.g., large blocks of 5 pf., must have been taken off parcel cards) and as little attention was paid to them by philatelists, the actual degree of rarity of these provisionals is only being slowly realised.

In contradistinction to this provisional issue of German stamps there is a local provisional issue of stamps which was made at the mission station of Wuga, near Wilhelmsthal, under the supervision of a postal official. This issue was of the denominations 2½ and 7½ heller and 1 rupee: Types 4 and 5 as illustrated on p. 82.

In consequence of the arrival of the fresh stock on the "Marie" these stamps were never issued; although they were actually quite ready for use (and in plain type, as is shown by the presence of square blocks between the letters).

The whole stock was buried in a cemented vault at Morogoro and it remained there underground for years, unsuspected by the enemy. After the declaration of peace, with the permission of the British Authorities, a German Commission went and fetched the stamps from their underground cellar and brought them back to Germany in August, 1921, along with the postal documents and account vouchers of the German Postal Administration.

The whole stock brought back was taken into the custody of the Imperial Postal Museum and although the paper and colour of the stamps had deteriorated severely through the dampness of the soil, about one quarter of the issue was still in a fit condition for collectors' purposes and was put up to auction in May, 1922.

The employment of the final delivery of stamps brought into the colony by the "Marie" in the early part of 1916 was the last chapter in the philatelic history of German East Africa. The area in which they could be employed was rapidly diminishing in extent, particularly from July, 1916, onwards, when the advance of the British troops from British East Africa, which had started in March, reached Kilimatinde on the Central Railway and from there gradually extended

(Concluded on page 176).

## Stamps and Philately in the United States

A Paper read to the Philatelic Society of Johannesburg by W. Oppenheim to illustrate an Exhibit.

Ladies and Gentlemen:

I am very glad of having the privilege this evening to exhibit again some part of my collection. This time I have chosen the U.S.A. I am very proud of this particular lot, because it can be called a genuine Junior exhibit, not solely because I collect since 1936 only, but because I have been able to accumulate my U.S.A. collection through the courtesy and friendship of a few American exchange friends. This collection has been built up, with very few exceptions, by exchange, and proves that the many exchange clubs are by no means worthless. There are no rarities in my exhibit, nor is it at all complete. Oh, I nearly forgot. There is one item of great philatelic fame, one of the great modern finds—the 24c. 1918 airmail with inverted plane. Unfortunately, it is only a very excellent reproduction, but with a bit of imagination it looks quite the same as the originals, and maybe one day I will be the owner of a genuine “topside ricksha,” as the Chinese say. This stamp had a phenomenal rise to stardom. Perhaps some of you will have read the story of the discovery of this sheet of inverted airmails. How parts were sold at 20 dollars each, how the stamp soon fetched 250 dollars, rose further and further, and realised a few weeks ago 2,100 dollars for a rather bad copy. But this is about the only special stamp I am referring to. I do not want to trouble you with further references to particular issues, but would like to mention that I saw recently a publication named “American story as told in Postage stamps,” which appears to give a magnificent account of America’s development as well as of the historical background for most of the pictorial U.S.A. stamp issues. The Rev. W. L. Chamings, who is the owner of this remarkable book, was kind enough to bring it along, and anybody interested is welcome to look at it during the exhibit. Though not referring to special stamps, I would however like to give you a few general details about American Philately, also activities and facilities for U.S.A. collectors.

Before doing so, I must mention that I had to cut down my exhibit drastically. Nearly every ordinary U.S.A. issue has been reprinted several times, by different process, with different perfs. and on different paper. Thus a great variety of colour shades occurs everywhere. Then we have this endless procession of coils, imp. by perf., and vice versa, imp. perfs. all round, straight edges, and so on. Then again there are postal canc. and pre-cancels, the latter, curiously enough, much

more sought after and more valuable. All these varieties, though a most interesting and often rare study, had to be left at home.

The American stamp fans, in collaboration with very business-minded post masters, have invented most of the additional features of modern stamp collecting. From the Americans comes the idea of Miniature sheets; originates the cover craze, notably First Day of Issue Entires; often on special envelopes with designs referring to the occasion, also first flights. Special cancellations are applied on day of issue and the stamps are sold “first day” at the Post Office referring to the design. Facilities for collectors are perfect. The Washington Philatelic Agency looks after them, supplies all issues in stock, singles, sheets, blocks, takes orders for FDC’s and serves the societies wherever possible.

We know of the spate of U.S.A. Commemorative issues and the enormous numbers sold in each case. Recently singles were easily obtainable, even some time after they were officially sold out, so the Americans have created the “Block of Four” fashion, undoubtedly a very attractive sort of showing as you will see, but of course rather expensive. It is amazing how difficult it is to obtain blocks of four even of the cheapest stamps of previous years, mint, not to mention used ones. On top of that, the Post Office has seen fit to print a whole gallery of plate numbers and signs round the sheet margins in varying colours, so we have numbers, letters, imprints, division marks, arrows, etc., all red, blue or green. Some are very rare and offered at ridiculous prices, a real racket.

Americans collect everything in stamps, and in addition they are after any Fiscals, Tax stamps, Licence and Government dues, State, War and Treasury issues; to cut it short, they collect, catalogue, buy and sell any label which has a nominal value from ½-cent upwards. I remember a recent exhibit of Egypt and the gentleman who thanked the exhibitor afterwards, referred to the pre-stamp Locals amongst laughter as “Beer bottle labels.” In America, such Wine and Beer bottle labels are a swell sideline to collectors. I saw in a recent issue of U.S.A.’s very good Stamp Magazine, “Mekeels,” an advert for such labels and one was priced for sale at 23.75 dollars. This is no joke but the awful truth. I wonder how long it would take any of us here to make up our mind and invest a fiver in an obsolete label of Castle Beers?

America is the Paradise of Philatelic Societies and exchange clubs. I myself am a mem-



## COLLECTORS' WANTS AND OFFERS

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

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

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

William Redford, Box 7012, Johannesburg.

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

A. E. Basden, Box 238, Pretoria.

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

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

Wanted.—Imperforate issues of all countries in good condition, especially North and South America.

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

Wanted.—I want "foreigns" (only) for my collection. Offers, approvals, invited. Can supply want lists particular countries.

Percy C. Bishop, 213 Colonial Mutual Buildings, Durban.

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ber of a couple of such institutions, and besides serious and much advanced collectors, I find people asking me in friendly correspondence for most amazing things, such as Porc. Elephants, Assegais or handkerchiefs with a view of Johannesburg on them.

Head of all this Society life and U.S.A. Philately in general is U.S.A. citizen No. 1, President Roosevelt. He is a keen collector, and is known to spend many an hour after strenuous work with his collection. He designs stamps himself, such as the 1938 6 cent. airmail. Remarkably enough, he has never been shown on an U.S.A. stamp, as according to tradition, no living person can be pictured on a postage stamp. (Most of you, by the way, may know that no full size reproductions of stamps are allowed either, and U.S.A.'s official catalogue No. 1, Scott, shows portions of stamps only. This special restriction has created many difficulties in the past for the importation into the U.S.A. of Gibbons' catalogue.

It is rather surprising to hear that attempts to forge U.S.A. stamps have been few. There are some known for the early issues. However, the Postal department has introduced the watermark system as late as in 1895, but discontinued this watermark paper again in 1917. Significantly a few huge forgery attempts have been made with the low 2 cent. denomination. Same is always used in huge quantities for business mail, and to get such a fake into circulation meant, as the Americans say, plenty of dough. They were mostly discovered within very little time. There was a bad mix-up in 1922. Experts thought that the lower values of the then new issue had been forged, and eventually the ½ cent. and 10 cent. values were overprinted Kansas and Nebraska to eliminate forged stamp sales in these territories. Later it was announced that a big stamp theft in Nebraska had taken place and in order to prevent putting such parcels over the counter, the overprints had been applied.

To come back once again to my exhibit, I can, as already mentioned, show only a small portion. Thus I leave out all the issues and varieties which repeat themselves, and moreover, I will not table the old issues which are a field by themselves and very difficult and expensive to tackle on a broad basis. You will therefore see: All ordinary postage issues commencing from 1890 and cut down to the minimum of pages, a representative lot of all commemorative issues starting with the Columbus issue, and of course airmails, special deliveries, and parcel post. No dues or any Tax stamps are tabled. Finally, I will show you a skeleton lot of my cover collection, containing early First Days (from 1933, when this hobby first expanded), First Flights, National events, and Navy Commission Cachets.

Altogether, this paper and exhibit give you a good glimpse of the enormous capacity of

U.S.A. production and consumption, of their never ceasing stream of ideas, energy and inventive mind. It must be a good feeling for the whole British Empire to know that such a nation is her friend and ally in the struggle which is taking place to-day.

I hope, ladies and gentlemen, that you will enjoy the exhibit which—I want to repeat—is an encouragement to those who cannot afford substantial investment and therefore have to rely mostly on exchange. Thank you.

#### “SEDANG” STAMPS.

In view of the prominence of Indo-China in the news at present, it may not be amiss to recall to memory certain stamps commonly to be seen in collections made 40 to 50 years ago, although they are little in evidence to-day and many younger collectors have probably never seen or even heard of them.

These are the stamps of the Sedangs, a tribe living on the borders of Annam and Siam. In 1889 M. de Mayreña, an ex-officer of the French army, declared himself “King of the Sedangs”; he had apparently made some sort of treaties with the chiefs of the tribe and was not wholly an imposter; moreover, he was at first given a certain amount of recognition by French missionaries and by the neighbouring French authorities.

Needing money, one method he adopted to raise it was to issue a set of stamps, seven in number, and ranging in value from  $\frac{1}{2}$  cent. to 1 dollar. The design of these was a lion on a shield topped by a large crown in the centre, DEH SEDANG in the side panels, crowns in each corner and the value in the top and bottom panels. Sets were sold abundantly on the European market, the price at first being round about 5s.

The neighbouring French authorities became dissatisfied with his regime and in retaliation the King offered to put his country under the protection, firstly of Great Britain, and secondly Germany. This put the fat in the fire and the Sedang's were officially taken under French protection as part of Indo-China and M. de Mayreña became a fugitive.

None of the stamps are known to have served any useful postal purpose and the price of sets soon fell to a few pence. They are now relegated to the limbo of bogus issues or “phantom philately.”

#### STAMP CENTENARY COMMEMORATIVES

Belated news of stamp centenary commemorative issues still continue to arrive. The latest is from Paraguay, with an issue of four stamps, 1, 5, 6 and 10 peso values. The 5p. bears the well-known portrait of Sir Rowland Hill, the other values have the lion and cap of liberty familiar on early Paraguayan issues. The special inscription, country's name and values are in panels at the top and bottom of the stamps.

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Entirely new Approval Selections are now available of :

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# NYASALAND

THE FIRST DECADE OF THE PROTECTORATE'S AIR POSTAL HISTORY.  
1931 — 1940.

By I. H. C. GODFREY.

*Being an amplification of notes read to the Philatelic Society of Johannesburg to illustrate an exhibit of Flown Covers of Nyasaland.*

(Concluded from page 155 of October issue)

## RHODESIA AND NYASALAND AIRWAYS LTD.

**MARCH 8th, 1934. BLANTYRE—SALISBURY (308 m.)** The most far reaching event in the Airmail History of the Protectorate occurred on March 8, 1934, when a "Westland Wessex" plane, owned by the newly formed *Rhodesian and Nyasaland Airways* but still bearing its original British registration letters "G-ABEG," inaugurated a REGULAR weekly service from Nyasaland to Southern Rhodesia, to connect with the trunk route of *Imperial Airways*. The plane, which was formerly the private property of H. R. H. Edward, Prince of Wales, was in charge of Capt. M. H. Phillip who had flown it out to Africa.

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

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

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

**MARCH 15th, 1934.** The opening of Nyasaland's first direct air link with the outside world was of inestimable benefit to the country as a whole, but, as only about 120 m. of railway construction had been completed by then and none of the Northern districts were served, it had little effect in accelerating mails from such places as Livingstonia and Karonga, in the Province of North Nyasa. To overcome this difficulty, special arrangements were made by the Post Office for mails to be carried from those isolated Mission

Stations by Lake Steamer and Overland by Runners to the nearest aerodrome at Mbeya, Tanganyika. Once a month airmail letters were to be collected at Chiweto (the port for Livingstonia) and Karonga by the steamer and carried to Mwaya at the northern extremity of the Lake. From there they would be carried by Native Postboys about 90 miles to meet the *Imperial Airways'* plane at Mbeya. On other occasions the mail was to be taken about 200 miles overland by Runners.

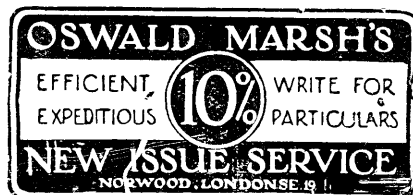
In order to commemorate this indirect air link with civilization, the Livingstonia Mission applied an elaborate cachet to letters despatched by the first service on March 15, 1934, which happened to coincide with the Lake Steamer's monthly call at Chiweto.

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

**AUGUST 5th, 1935. BLANTYRE-BEIRA, Mocambique. (295 m.)** The Mocambique Company, the administrators of the Portuguese Provinces of Manica and Sofala, granted a concession early in 1935 to the British firm, Manica Trading Co., for the operation of air services from Beira to Blantyre, and to Salisbury to connect with the London-Cape route of *Imperial Airways*: the services to be run by *R.A.N.A.*

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

Official envelopes were printed in Salisbury, in blue and gold, by the operating company to commemorate the start of the new service, the inscription reading: "SOUVENIR OF FIRST OFFICIAL AIR MAIL BETWEEN BLANTYRE (Nyasaland) and BEIRA (Portuguese East Africa)" The backs of the covers depict a De Haviland bi-plane with a



large triangle, the apices of which are inscribed "Blantyre (Nyasaland)", "Salisbury (Southern Rhodesia)", "Beira (Portuguese East Africa)". In addition, a very similar cover was also issued by R.A.N.A. for use on the first direct Salisbury-Beira flight.

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

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

**FEBRUARY, 1937.** Preparations for the commencement of the *Empire Air Mail Scheme*, whereby all first-class mail would be carried from the Protectorate by air, without surcharge and without the option of surface transport to countries participating, necessitated many alterations being made in the timetables of R.A.N.A., *Imperial Airways* and *South African Airways*. Early in 1937, *Imperial Airways* were substituting flying-boats for landplanes on their Southern African services and, during the month of February no direct air connection between Nyasaland and the Union of South Africa existed. Letters prepaid at current airmail rates of postage had, for a short time, to be forwarded by rail beyond Salisbury. A single-lined black cachet "BY AIR TO SALISBURY ONLY" was applied to such letters until the necessary adjustments in flying schedules had been made.

**JUNE 29th, 1937.** The **FIRST STAGE** of the stupendous Empire Air Mail Scheme was introduced in Nyasaland on June 29, when all first-class mail was automatically sent by air to Great Britain and certain African territories at the rate of 2d. per  $\frac{1}{2}$  oz.

**DECEMBER 10th—25th, 1937.** Following the lead of Great Britain the Postal Authorities in the Protectorate agreed to waive all surcharge on underfranked correspondence entering Nyasaland during the first Christmas season after the inauguration of the Scheme. This concession lasted for sixteen days, from December 10, and during that period special "No Tax" labels were affixed to underpaid correspondence. These interesting labels (which actually fall into the category of Postage Dues) were printed in black on white ungummed paper approximately 100 mm. by 74 mm. in size. They drew the attention of the recipients of underpaid letters to the amount which, normally, would have been payable by way of surcharge, and to the new scale of postage rates. Covers bearing

the labels and the necessary Postage Due impression seem to be extraordinarily scarce, and labels in unused condition are very hard to find.

**FEBRUARY 23rd, 1938.** The **SECOND STAGE** of the Empire Air Mail Scheme came into force from this date. Generally speaking, all Empire Territories East of Suez were included, excepting Hongkong and Australasia, and also mails would be flown to Europe without surcharge for delivery in Canada and Newfoundland. Certain other places, not part of the Empire, but having British Indian Postal Agencies, were also brought into the orbit of the Scheme, namely, French Colonial Possessions in India and certain towns in Tibet.

**MAY 23rd, 1938.** **FIRST REGULAR INTERNAL AIRMAIL SERVICE.** BLANTYRE-LILONGWE (155 m.)

The *Royal Air Force* Experimental mail flights in May and June, 1933, have already been described. Just five years later, a regular twice-weekly airmail service was inaugurated by R.A.N.A. over the identical routes. On this occasion, however, no publicity was given and, instead of letters requiring to be prepaid at 1s. per  $\frac{1}{2}$  oz., ALL first-class mail addressed to the northern parts of Nyasaland and to North-Eastern Rhodesia was carried by air as a matter of course.

The air service between Salisbury and Blantyre, which had been in regular operation since March, 1934, was extended at very short notice 235 miles further north-eastwards on May 23, 1938—to Lilongwe and Fort Jameson.

Mr. R. A. Bourlay, piloting a De Haviland Dragon Rapide, "VP-YAU" left Blantyre at 7.15 a.m. and, after calling at Zomba en route, reached Lilongwe one hour and three-quarters later. No cachets were applied to any mail carried on this flight and, as airmail labels were not used, first flight covers can only positively be identified by backstamps. Only mail addressed to the Poste Restante was so treated and the covers bear the Lilongwe backstamp "23.5.38—9.15 a.m."

**MAY 23rd, 1938.** **LILONGWE-FORT JAMESON** (80 m.). No mail appears to have been posted for the first regular flight from Nyasaland to Fort Jameson, and the only covers known to represent this flight are those posted from the South and flown through the Protectorate. Fort Jameson was reached at 11.10 a.m. on May 23, and letters addressed to the Poste Restante were backstamped there at 2 p.m.

**MAY 25th, 1938.** **RETURN FLIGHT LILONGWE-BLANTYRE.** Mr. R. A. Bourlay commenced his return flight from Fort Jameson at 2 p.m. on May 25; Lilongwe was reached at 2.45 and Blantyre at 4.55 the same day.

**NOTE:** At the beginning of January, 1939, R.A.N.A. extended their service a further 682 miles eastwards from Ft. Jameson, across Northern Rhodesia, to Mongu in Barotseland.

All new points of call are in Northern Rhodesia so that covers do not fall to be classified as Nyasaland First Flights.

*JULY 28th, 1938.* The **THIRD AND FINAL STAGE** of the Empire Air Mail Scheme, as originally conceived, was enforced in the Protectorate on July 28. This stage embraced Australia, New Zealand, British Possessions and Mandated Territories in the Pacific.

*SEPTEMBER 9th, 1939.* Four days after the declaration of war on Germany, Nyasaland followed the lead of Great Britain and **SUSPENDED** the operation of the Empire Air Mail Scheme. On September 8 the Air Postage rate was increased from 2d. to **ONE SHILLING AND THREEPENCE** to all British Territories participating in the Scheme. Immediately afterwards, however, those countries within the *African Postal Union* were excluded and the rate of 2d. per  $\frac{1}{2}$  oz. reinstated. The first airmail under the increased postage rates left Blantyre on *September 9*.

1940. After six years of excellent service and continuous progress, *Rhodesian and Nyasaland Airways* was taken over by the Southern Rhodesian Government and its title changed to **SOUTHERN RHODESIAN AIR SERVICES**. A number of services, which were in operation at the outbreak of war, were necessarily curtailed, but Nyasaland's Internal and External routes were maintained, and run on a military basis.

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who does not smoke

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IRIS  
MIXTURE ?**

And this one of  
the most selected  
and blended Tobaccos

## THE BEST OF TWO WORLDS

Messrs. H. R. Harmer & Co. are making interesting innovations to meet the present somewhat difficult situation in stamp auctions.

Their Bond Street auctions are to go on and the service will be accelerated so as to permit auction and final settlement to be made within approximately six weeks of receipt of instructions to sell. This service will handle material on which vendors desire speedy realization, or which is unsuitable for transfer to the United States.

Trans-Atlantic auctions are being started in New York, with the dual object of widening the buying competition and of creating foreign currency credits to assist the war effort. Catalogues will be prepared in London, and, in future, are to give the catalogue price or estimated value of items. Stamps will be available for viewing in London before transfer to New York, where again lots will be on view before their ultimate sale.

South African collectors will also be interested to know that they may send material for sale direct to the newly incorporated American house, H. R. Harmer Inc., New York.

## BASUTOLAND JUBILEE ISSUE

### 4th VARIETY OF EXTRA FLAGSTAFF

Three varieties of "Extra Flagstuffs" are commonly recognized as occurring on various denominations of the Jubilee issues of a number of Colonies. These are:

(1) On stamp No. 7 of the sheet (No. 1, Row 2). A short staff immediately to the left of the staff proper on the main tower of Windsor Castle.

(2) On stamp No. 11 of the sheet (No. 5, Row 2). A short staff close to the right pinnacle of St. George's Chapel (i.e. near the righthand side of the castle profile).

(3) On stamp No. 49 (No. 1, Row 9). This is the extra flagstaff which is most in evidence. It is situated slightly to the right of the main tower.

A correspondent submits a specimen of a Basutoland 6d. Jubilee with a very distinct extra flagstaff rising right in the centre of the leftmost tower of the castle. The staff is rather longer and more in evidence than Varieties 1 and 2 described above, but is not quite so long as No. 3. As the stamp is a loose one its position in the sheet cannot be determined and the point is "Is it a constant variety?"

Has any reader sheets to examine to fix its position, if present, also to see if this variety occurs on other denominations?

## Reviews

### A REALLY PRACTICAL BOOK.

*How to Arrange and Write-up a Stamp Collection.* London: Stanley Gibbons, Ltd. New and revised edition, with additional chapters and illustrations. 3s. 6d. net., postage extra .

Apart from the annual stamp catalogues, there are not many philatelic books which come into the best-seller category, but *How to Arrange and Write-up a Stamp Collection*, by Stanley Phillips and C. P. Rang, with three large reprints since 1933 and now a new and revised edition, can surely claim a place.

Looking into the new volume it is easy to find the reason for its popularity, for surely there has never been a book which covered a subject in such practical detail. If the collector wants hints on selecting an album, they are here. On the basic subject of how to hinge stamps, there are eight pages of text and illustrations, while in the chapter on The Writer's Outfit, the best types of ink, pens and all other requisites are clearly specified and, where necessary, illustrated.

The notes on lettering are perhaps the most valuable for the average reader who does not consider himself a penman, for the illustrations not only depict every letter of six different styles of alphabet, but the reader is shown by pictures how to make each stroke of each letter in all those styles.

Then come chapters on the arrangement of general, "subject" and specialized collections (with special hints on the difficulty of balancing stamps with notes) and a special section on displays and exhibits.

There are two fresh sections in this new edition, one devoted to the special problems connected with writing-up in black leaf albums and the other explaining how to make the best use of the new Stanley Gibbons Writing-

up Labels, the new accessory which makes it possible to annotate a stamp collection without using a pen at all. There are also a number of new illustrations, some of them elucidating practical difficulties, while others show page arrangements and special title pages.

*The Commonwealth Specialists' Catalogue*, Sixth Edition, 1941. Published by Orlo-Smith and Co., Howey House, 244 Collins Street, Melbourne, Australia. 3s. 6d. (Paper Covers), 6s. 6d. (Stiff Covers, interleaved).

This is a catalogue for the specialist collector of Australian (Commonwealth) stamps. All marked shades of colours, all the major varieties, and also some minor varieties are given, with a short description of the major varieties.

In the introduction the publishers apologise for omitting N.S.W., T., stamps punctured O.S., etc., but state that the price of these is roughly twice that of the normal stamp. The prices of stamps punctured O.S. are, however, given in detail for the "Kangaroo" type, and also for the George V. type.

Numerous illustrations are given showing how to distinguish different dies and plates.

The Catalogue is divided into nine sections, namely, the Kangaroo series, the Engraved stamps, the Georgian issues (Head of King George V), other ordinary issues, Special issues—commemoratives, Air stamps, Plate numbers, Controls and Postage Dues.

The prices given seem to approximate closely to the ordinary market values.

This little book of 72 pages should be very useful indeed to the Australian specialist.

I.I.

### STANLEY GIBBONS POSTAGE STAMP CATALOGUE, 1941.

The advent of the new big Gibbons catalogue has always been eagerly awaited by all stamp collectors. But this year, although the catalogue was expected, one was not sure,

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

whether war conditions would prevent the issue of the catalogue.

Messrs Gibbons are to be complimented most highly in their magnificent production in these times of stress.

Quoting from the introduction, the editor states: "Writing in the middle of June, the philatelic situation is distinctly encouraging. There was a lull in stamp business for about a fortnight at the beginning of the war, and then the black-out, the need for relaxation of strained nerves, and the general feeling that a fit man or woman is more use to the country than one who does nothing but work, brought about a revival, and, in the case of publications, even an increase, of business, while stamp prices in the open market rose in response to a general demand coupled with a notable deficiency of material on offer."

Although there have been numerous price changes, no lists have been re-written this year. There has naturally been a keen demand for stamps of the countries immediately affected by the war, or likely to be specially affected by it, and this has meant that European issues have enjoyed a greater popularity in the past few months than they have had for a long time past.

The demand for British Empire issues has been as great as ever, whilst there can be no doubt, in view of the favourable exchange, that American collectors have been buying Empire issues, on a large scale for investment purposes.

The Stamp Centenary issue of Great Britain and the Jubilee issue of Southern Rhodesia have turned public interest, especially to these two countries.

The stamps of the Union of South Africa show numerous minor increases in price.

In the Georgian issue the ½d., 1d., 2½d., 2s. 6d. and 10s. values have each risen a few pence; whilst the London printed 10s. stamp of 1926 is now priced at 25s. since it is no longer current. Both Voortrekker sets show small increases in price, although these stamps are becoming quite scarce and might have been priced much higher. I am pleased to note that the current 1d. stamp in the unusual perforation of 14 all round instead of 15 by 14 has been reduced from 6s. to 2s., which latter figure is a true expression of its value. The Rotogravure printings of the Official stamps show several small increases. The "Stop" variety of the 1d. stamp has been raised from 5s. to 12s. 6d., mint and 17s. 6d., used; whilst that of the 6d. stamp has moved from 12s. 6d. to 30s. and 40s. respectively.

These figures only apply to the Afrikaans stamps; as far as the English stamps are concerned the catalogue gives a †, which means that it does not exist.

This is obviously a printer's error as both these varieties occur on the English stamps

and are in fact only slightly rarer than the Afrikaans ones.

In the Southern Rhodesia stamps, Gibbons now quote the ½d. and 1d. stamps of the 1924 issue, imperforated between horizontally and also vertically and the ½d. vertically imperforate is priced at £10.

The 1d. imperforates have now risen from £7 to £8 for both varieties, the other values in this issue have all risen slightly.

In the 1931 issue the 2d. and 3d. values have risen to 1s. 6d. and 5s., mint, and 2s. and 6s. 6d., used. The 10d. value has also risen to 5s. Other values also show minor increases.

The notorious Coronation issue has dropped again now from 8s. 3d. to 6s. 9d. The stamps of the Cape, O.F.S., Transvaal and Bechuanaland have not altered in price. But in Natal the 1869 overprints show considerable increases in the first four types.

The rare perforation of the 3d. blue of 1874 has risen £5, and the inverted overprint of the 1d. and 6d. values of 1875 have each also risen £5.

The Pictorial stamps of Basutoland, N. Rhodesia, S.W. Africa and Swaziland have all increased in price to a small extent. Taken in all, a great number of the stamps of Southern Africa, have shown increases in prices, which must be considered highly satisfactory at the present time. There are, however, quite a number of stamps which are still priced too cheaply and are sure to rise very greatly as soon as the world settles down again.

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#### STANLEY GIBBONS SIMPLIFIED CATALOGUE, 1941.

In these days of specialisation and super specialisation it is refreshing to get down to "The Stamp is the Thing."

In this catalogue the design of the stamp is the essential criterion and minor and major varieties are omitted. The result gives one a very clear concept of the stamps which have been issued to date without burdening the collector with varieties or errors. This catalogue lists the stamps up to date with the exception of those issued by the enemy. The prices quoted are the cheapest price of any particular variety of the issue taken from the large Gibbons Catalogue. To the general collector, who does not require specialised lists of the stamps of the world, this catalogue can be highly commended as including every design of stamp issued and set out in a very straightforward manner.

A.K.



## Society News

### PHILATELIC SOCIETY OF NATAL.

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

The October meeting took place on Wednesday, the 2nd of October, and was well attended by members and visitors, there being 47 present.

The "Stamp Drive for War Funds" inaugurated by the Society is proceeding apace, and at the meeting a number of attractive lots were auctioned. Single stamps, sets, air mail items, and stamps used on the original covers formed a tempting array, and amongst the numerous lots which were sold for very satisfactory prices were Cape triangulars, Union of South Africa jubilee sets in mint condition, and used on a first day cover, stamps of Natal and other British Africans, and a number of out-of-the-way British Colonial and foreign stamps. The total realised was highly satisfactory, being considerably more than that of the two previous auctions held at meetings of the Society.

Mr. W. Percy Williams, a past president, and an hon. Life Member, exhibited, by special request, his collection of Cape of Good Hope.

This fine and comprehensive collection is particularly strong in the triangular issues. Both used and unused are collected, and singles, pairs and blocks, and entires appear therein. The exhibit began with pre-stamp covers; the stamps on deeply blued paper were a fine lot; the 1d. in a used triangular block of four, and the 4d. in a used block of six being items out of the ordinary. Following some pages showing the slightly blued emissions, the Perkins Bacon prints on white paper were much admired, a superb 6d. slate-lilac on cover, a 4d. roulette used on piece of the original, and a 4d. with red postmark, being outstanding. Amongst the woodblocks were a 1d. vermilion (this formed a pair owned by a philatelist in Maritzburg, Mr. Bendzulla, and was cut in two many years ago, Mr. Bendzulla having first pick), and the 4d. values in the different shades, particularly the deep blue, whilst an outstanding item was a superb 4d. bright blue used on the complete original. The De La Rue prints were well represented, mint and used, and these were followed by the rectangular issues, Mafeking Siege stamps, etc.

The president expressed the meeting's appreciation for the very fine display Mr. Williams had prepared and exhibited, and a vote of thanks was carried with acclamation.

H.H.H.

### EAST LONDON PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

*President*, J. Paviour; *Hon. Secretary and Treasurer*, S. Fowler. *Meetings*: Colosseum Tea Lounge, 2nd Fridays, 8 p.m.

There was a good attendance of members on the 11th inst. The chairman extended a hearty welcome to Mr. A. E. Basden from Pretoria, and hoped that his stay at the coast would benefit his health. Mr. J. Motyer was elected a member of the society.

The usual monthly auction of stamps in aid of the Lord Mayor's Red Cross Fund was held, but the offerings were small and the amount realised was disappointing.

There was a discussion about changing the meeting place, but it was decided to carry on at our present place as this is very centrally situated.

Messrs. C. H. Thornton and J. Paviour then gave displays of the stamps of U.S.A. Mr. Thornton showed some fine copies of the earlier issues, and Mr. Paviour made a very good showing of his U.S.A. stamps, particularly the modern issues.

An enjoyable meeting closed just before 10 p.m.

J.P.S.

### JOHANNESBURG JEWISH GUILD PHILATELIC SECTION.

*Chairman*: L. Buchen; *Hon. Sec.*, I. Isaacs; *Meetings*, last Wednesdays at Jewish Guild, Von Brandis Street, 8 p.m.

At the meeting of the Jewish Guild Philatelic Section on September 25, the main exhibit was one of flown covers by Mr. I. Isaacs, who also read a short paper to illustrate the exhibit entitled "Some Outstanding Events in the History of Flight."

The exhibit included a cover flown on the first official air mail—Allahabad—Naini 1911, cards of the London-Windsor Coronation Flight 1911 and the Kenilworth Muizenberg flight of the same year. There were several other covers of South African interest. There were also covers showing some of the semi-official stamps issued by different countries. The exhibit also included a few covers carried on various special flights including one carried by Alec Henshaw on his record-breaking flight from England to the Cape in 1939.

Mr. Robertson spoke on the exhibit.

Various items of interest were discussed during the evening.

### THE PHILATELIC SOCIETY OF JOHANNESBURG.

*President*, Mr. F. E. Ingham; *Hon. Secretary*, F. Lang, P.O. Box 4967; *Meetings*: 2nd Tuesdays, 8 p.m., Sanlam Buildings.

The main exhibit at the October meeting was by Mr. Carleton Jones, who showed Pence issues of Canada. Mr. Carlton Jones' collec-

tion of the stamps of Canada is probably one of the finest in the world and the exhibit of the pence issues (which is a very small portion of his collection) included some very rare items.

Mr. Carleton Jones read a few short notes on his exhibit, pointing out some of the outstanding items. One of the outstanding rarities was an example of the 12d. on laid paper.

The exhibit included several pages of essays, die proofs and specimens. The die proofs included a page of the 12d. printed with the 10 cents of the 1859 issue and a proof of the 10d. and ½d. combined.

The issued stamps were shown with great completeness and included all shades and varieties, including many re-entries. The exhibit included original pen and ink copies of the Pence Stamps drawn in Johannesburg by Mr. V. H. Symington and used for taking photostats. These were beautifully executed. There were also several entire in the exhibit, including one of the earliest known examples of a Railway Letter (dated October 1st, 1856).

Mr. Ingham, Mr. Redford and Mr. Houbert all spoke on the exhibit, which has much appreciated by all present.

#### PRETORIA PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

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

October 8.—Mr. Warren was in the chair. Mr. Hawke briefly scanned the appreciation of stamps as found in the new catalogue.

Mr. Obermeyer read a paper on different aspects of stamp collecting. He dealt with mint and used stamps and condition. His talk included advice to young collectors as to the scope of collecting, the best kinds of albums to use and a warning against the off-loading of forgeries on inexperienced collectors. Mr. Klagsbrun added to the talk by describing the incidence of the Seebeck contract for the supply of stamps, from about 1890 to 1900, to four S. American countries.

Mr. Obermeyer showed a fine lot of these stamps as well as a collection of Labuan and North Borneo.

October 21.—Mr. Warren was in the chair, but as this was the occasion of a visit from the Johannesburg Society, Mr. Isaacs, acting chairman of that society, presided.

Mr. Houbert showed his collection of early Capes and his sheets of Triangulars were exceptionally fine. Mr. Oppenheim gave a short talk on his exhibit and showed some sheets of what he called unpopular countries and some of countries popular on account of the excellence of design and workmanship. Mr. Isaacs tabled a fine and extensive collection

of Newfoundland. Mr. Redford gave a brief description of some interesting items included in his fine exhibit of the stamps of Sierra Leone.

H.A.W.

### The Numerical Postmarks of Southern Africa

(Concluded from page 163)

appear in any of the other colonies either, it is recorded here provisionally.

(6) I have several specimens of a numerical "killer" which was in use in Johannesburg, but so far I have not seen examples from any other town. This was used fixed with a circular place and date stamp. The mark is a vertical oval grid with Z.A.R. in the centre with a comparatively large "3" above, and either a "1", "2" or a "3" of smaller size below. The design suggests that there was, at any rate, a No. 1 and a No. 2 in use elsewhere.



(7) *Triangular Newspaper Cancellers*. On Edwardian stamps there occur triangles of about 25 mm. sides with a large figure "1" inside. The numeral is a much larger one than is seen on Cape Edwardian stamps, and I note it as presumptively of Transvaal origin.

In 1936 there were in use in Johannesburg small triangles (11 mm. sides) with the numbers 18, 19, 20, 21, 23 and 76, but whether the use of these dates back to pre-Union days I do not know.

### German East Africa

(Continued from page 166).

east and west until the whole of the Protectorate north of the Central Railway was occupied.

As, moreover, Belgian troops from the Belgian Congo had invaded the colony in the middle of 1916, also the British Nyasa Force in the direction of Ssongea and other British auxiliary troops from Rhodesia, so the greater part of the German Protectorate Force was withdrawn by the end of 1916 into the region of the Rufiji river and south thereof. Here, at Mahenge, the last remaining German civil P.O. to function was closed down on Sept. 3, 1917. The stamps of the consignment brought by the "Marie" still had a limited use up to about the end of September, 1917, in the Field Post Stations (e.g., on registered letters between two Field Posts) and are known postmarked at such stations and also with the postmark of Mahenge even after September 3. (See Field Post Office, p. 166).

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DECEMBER, 1940.

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## **EAST RAND PHILATELIC SOCIETY COMES OF AGE**

*(Notes of an address given by the President, Mr. P. Shepherd, at the 21st anniversary meeting, 6th November, 1940.)*

Twenty-one years ago eight stamp collectors got together at a house in Bunyan Street, Benoni, and formed the first minuted meeting of the East Rand Philatelic Society. In the minutes of that meeting reference is made to a prior meeting but no record of the earlier gathering is available. As the question of forming a draft constitution and appointing office-bearers are referred to in the minute I think we can take it that the Society had just come into being.

Mr. Barends was elected president and the members met once a month at the various members' houses. Judging by the records very enjoyable evenings were spent. At most of the early meetings some member read a paper and as far as can be judged the stamps of South Africa were just as popular then as they are now.

Interest in the Society appears to have waned in 1921 but towards the end of that year a propaganda drive was embarked upon to increase the membership. Whether as a result of the drive or by mere coincidence—I don't know which—Mrs. Wood, our oldest member, was elected to membership on September 23, 1921. Congratulations to Mrs. Wood on having this honour; may she long continue to patronise the Society. I am sorry her husband is not alive to share the honours; he was an even earlier member and the Society is heavily indebted to him for the work he did for many years in keeping the Society going.

In 1922 the Society had a difficult spell. The strike was in progress and obviously attention was focussed elsewhere. At some of the meetings only the Secretary and one member turned up! The Society nevertheless held out

and in October, 1922, at the annual general meeting ten members and five visitors were present. This was the first meeting to be held in the Transvaal Hotel, Vogelfontein—later known as Boksburg.

The meeting held on 16th May, 1923—the first attended by our old friend Mr. J. Robertson—appears to have been very important. It was reported that Mr. Larsen and Mr. Donne had attended the Johannesburg Philatelic Society's dinner and the idea of inter-club visits had been raised. I am pleased to say that as a result of that suggestion the first visit took place in October, 1923, and the inter-club idea has since been fostered so that the annual visits to and from the various clubs are eagerly looked forward to and thoroughly enjoyed. To-night we have three outside clubs visiting us and I think the prevailing spirit is what is desired.

In August, 1923, Mr. Robertson introduced our little game of guessing the names of countries from which certain stamps with only portions visible, had originated. We thought this game original when it was introduced recently, but we can now see how old-fashioned it really is!

Mr. Johnstone and Mr. Downing joined the Society towards the end of 1923 and I am pleased to say that both of these gentlemen are still active members.

In April, 1924, and again in June, 1926, Junior competitions appear to have been held. The first one was held at the residence of Mr. Donne, the President, and appears to have been a great success. The second was apparently a bid to form a Junior Philatelic Society. Mr. Johnstone was in the chair and a large number of senior and junior collectors from Johannesburg and Benoni were present. Most interesting competitions were arranged and various prizes donated. Motor cars were luxuries then and the meeting ended early as the visitors had to catch a train just after 10 o'clock.

In 1927 interest again waned and the meetings were once more held at the private resi-



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Since the outbreak of war we have sent to and received hundreds of registered letters from South Africa, and have never yet lost any, though a letter once arrived marked "Damaged by Sea Water," and we found the contents were not improved! But that sort of thing happens also in times of peace.

---

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---

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dences of members. Mr. J. Doyle was elected secretary in 1927 and he held the post until mobilised for active service a few months ago. In due course the Transvaal Hotel again became the meeting place. In 1935 the East Rand Philatelic Society was asked to hold Congress but the offer was declined as the task was considered beyond the club's capabilities.

In 1937 the Society changed its headquarters to Benoni and for a while very successful meetings were held at the Hotel Cecil. Quite recently the Hotel Regent became the centre and there seems no reason for any further alteration at the moment as this Hotel caters admirably for our requirements.

Our present membership is 24, but although, owing to the war, our meetings are not always full, we have thoroughly good times together. There is absolutely no doubt that being a stamp collector without being a member of a society gets one nowhere. The things one learns at these meetings is astonishing. I remember when I became a member a few years ago I thought I had a wonderful collection of stamps gathered over a period of about 16 years; when for the first time I saw a specialised mounted collection on loose leaves I was ashamed to mention that I was a collector at all. Still one lives and learns and I've got over that stage now—thanks to what I've learned from these meetings.

In conclusion I would like to say that my resume has of necessity been very brief but I have tried to give you a slight idea of the history of the Society. I would like to record a hearty vote of thanks and appreciation to all those good fellows who came before us—the men who started the Society going and the men who kept it up. No individual gain prompted them, it was just the interest they had in the hobby. That is the spirit of philately, and may it continue to be so. I also wish to thank you all for coming to this meeting and trust you will enjoy yourselves. I wish you all to charge your glasses and join with me in wishing the Society good luck on this, its 21st anniversary.

#### WAR FUNDS EXHIBITIONS.

Most of our societies are raising funds by sales and auctions at their ordinary meetings.

Cape Town is to be congratulated on the results of their special exhibition and auction held on October 28-31 in aid of the Governor-General's National War Fund.

There is to be an exhibition of antiques in the Main Hall of the University, Johannesburg, in aid of the S.A. Red Cross. Since May 6 stamps can come officially under the heading of antiques, and a stamp exhibition will form one section. This will be in two parts: (a) a centenary of beautiful miniatures, which is 100 stamps picked as representing the world's most beautiful stamps, and (b) selections of stamps of Southern Africa illustrating the history and geneology of the posts of that area. Date: December 9-14.

#### BUSINESS ALMOST AS USUAL.

Mr. Robson Lowe informs us that he was the first in the professional philatelic world to suffer in the battle of London. His premises at 96 Regent Street were wrecked by a bomb but none of the staff was injured, and their stocks escaped damage as the heavy safes stood up magnificently to the blast. He is now carrying on as usual at 50 Pall Mall, S.W.1.

We gather from the philatelic press that several other stamp dealers, publishers and auctioneers have suffered damage to some extent, but without any fatalities.

#### COLOUR CHANGES IN BRITISH COLONIALS.

Colour changes in the low values of British Colonials generally seem to be likely to occur, owing to alterations in postal rates. Some have already taken place. It has been officially announced that the Bermuda 2d. and 3d. are to be changed to red and blue and blue and black respectively; the Northern Rhodesia 1½d. and 2d. to orange and red respectively; and the Trinidad 3 and 4 cents, but the new colours are not yet announced.

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# German East Africa

*Translated from the original article by Dr. Herbert Munk in Kohl's Handbook  
by Dr. J. H. Harvey Pirie.*

(Concluded from page 176 of November issue)

**SUMMARY AND CHECK LIST OF  
PROVISIONAL ISSUES  
(A) "Postage Paid" Franks With Checked  
Receipts**

(Rubber Handstamps in hand-set type.)

**Handstamps I-IV, Without Frame (begin-  
ning of May, 1915, Onwards)**

**DAR-ES-SALAAM**

- I. Rp H  
Frei lt. Einn. Nachw.  
in Daressalam

3-line frank for printed matter, parcel cards and money orders; fee paid in cash is written in by hand; printed in pale violet. (Beginning of May, 1915, probably in use only till about 18 May).

Prices (in Marks)\*

On newspaper wrapper or cover of printed matter . . . . . 50  
 "On piece," money order or parcel card —

- II. Rp H  
Frei lt. Einn.  
Nachw. in  
Daressalam

4-line frank for parcel cards and money orders; from the beginning of 1916 also provisionally for letters, etc.; fee paid in cash is written in by hand; printed in violet. (Earliest known date 19-5-15).

Prices

On piece of money order or parcel card (19-5-15) . . . . . 25  
 On newspaper wrapper or cover of printed matter (19-5-15) . . . . . —  
 On letter or package (Jan., 1916, on) .. 35

- III. 2½H  
Frei lt. Einn. Nachw.  
in Daressalam

3-line frank for printed matter only; the fee paid (2½H) is also type-set. (Earliest known date, 26-5-15).

Prices

(a) In lilac-red or pink . . . . . 15  
 (b) In blue-violet or pale violet . . . . . 20

**TANGA**

- IV. 2½ Heller Frei laut  
Ein. Nachw. in Tanga  
 2-line stamp for printed matter only; the

fee paid (2½H) is also type-set. (Earliest known date 8-8-15, but was probably in actual use in July).

Price

Colour, blue-violet to pale violet . . . . . 12

**Handstamp V With Box Frame (July, 1915, Onwards).**

Fr. lt. Einn.  
Nachw. in  
Tanga

Three varieties of franking with Handstamp V may be distinguished:—

(1) The fee paid is written in entirely by hand alongside of the printed frank.

(2) The fee paid is added by means of a separately printed word "Heller," the figure of value still having to be written in by hand.

(3) The fee paid is added by a separate printed rubber stamp which has both "Heller" and a figure of value.

These franks were brought into use in July at Dar-es-salaam, Tanga and Morogoro, later on also at Tabora, Moschi, Kigoma, Muanza and Wilhelmsthal. They were used for every kind of postal business from Jan. 1, 1916, on; before the end of 1915 they were used on printed matter of two and three units of weight respectively, but they were not used for sums of 4H and 7½H on postcards and ordinary letters as a general rule. Nevertheless they may be found occasionally with the values of 4H or 7½H dated before the end of 1915.

Our prices refer to box-frame franks in violet or grey-black on entire covers, parcel cards, etc.; in blue, green or red they cost, generally speaking, about 50 per cent. more; from Morogoro they are also known in blue-black; "on Piece" they are worth from a third to a half of these prices, according to the size of the piece.

Var. 1. Fee entered entirely in MS.  
2½H

Dar-es-salaam — Tanga — Morogoro ..	20
4H, or merely "4" (without "H")	
Dar-es-salaam . . . . .	15
Tabora . . . . .	22½
Muanza . . . . .	—
Tanga . . . . .	18
Moschi . . . . .	25

\* The prices are as given in the original article. They may or may not represent present-day values, but they are a good guide as to the comparative rarity or otherwise of particular items.—Translator.

Wilhelmsthal . . . . .	?
Morogoro . . . . .	20
Kigoma . . . . .	30

The box frank of Muanza, which we only recently discovered for the first time, has not so far been seen with a 4H fee and it is improbable that Wilhelmsthal's even occurs with such a low fee.

For values of 7½H and upwards the following list of prices applies to franks of Dar-es-salaam, Tanga and Morogoro; for Tabora add 20 per cent.; for Wilhelmsthal 25 per cent.; for Moschi 30 per cent., and for Kigoma 50 per cent.; for Muanza the same or more. (The style of writing may be "7½H" or merely "7½"—similarly for other values, provided they actually occur, e.g., at Muanza and Wilhelmsthal).

7½ H .. 15	25H .. 30	50 H .. 20
15 H .. 17?	30H .. 20	57½ H .. 30
20 H .. 30	45H .. 40	100 H .. 25

Amounts over 100H .. 40

On "pieces" from parcel cards we have seen frankings of as much as over 300 heller; it is noteworthy that such are always written entirely in heller, never in rupees and heller.

Var. 2. "Heller" printed in violet.  
Figure of value in MS.

4 Heller (Tanga, mid-July) . . . . .	30
--------------------------------------	----

Only a few specimens are known with this frank (V 2); they are all from Tanga and dated in July, the period immediately following the introduction of the box-frame Handstamp V into use at Tanga.

As Var. 3 (Heller and figure of value both printed) was brought into use at Tanga at the beginning of 1916 (at the latest), Var. 2 can only have been used during 1915. As it was only used for inside office use it can scarcely occur on postcards or letters; the known specimens of "4" heller of this variety do not therefore represent a postcard fee but the fee for an overweight package of printed matter. On parcel cards, on still heavier packages of printed papers, etc., this 1-line printed "Heller" is known with higher fees written in by hand, but so far not with "4."

Var. 3. Both word and figures of the fee charged are printed.

TANGA

- A. 2½ Heller, violet; foot of the "2" curved; the letters and the figures of the fraction are tall, similar to those in the declaration of value of Handstamp IV (earliest known date 12-7-15) . . . . . 22
- B. 2½ Heller, violet; foot of the "2" straight; small fraction figures and smaller letters than in A. (Beginning of 1916 or earlier) . . . . . 12

- C. 4 Heller, violet; Figures and letters as in B. . . . . 15
- D. 7½ Heller, violet; Figures and letters as in B. . . . . 15
- E. "Frankiert mit 7½ H," in two lines. This is the frank used for the pre-franked envelopes (See below), which was used provisionally along with Tanga's Handstamp V and also sometimes as a frank by itself alone (middle of 1916) . . . . . 22

MOROGORO

- F. 2½ H, black, grey-black (about 15 Sept. or earlier) . . . . . 12
- G. Zwei ½ H (=2½H), black, grey-black (about beginning of 1916) . . . . . 16

Var. V 3 A of Tanga, like Var. V 2, was undoubtedly taken into use immediately after the introduction of the box-frame Handstamp V and probably transiently preceded the usage of Handstamp IV at Tanga for printed matter. There is no confirmation of the usage in series or in association of Handstamps IV, V 2, and V 3 at Tanga. The three stamps of uniform design, B, C and D, only came into use substantially later than A, viz., about the beginning of 1916.

The use of the 2-line frank E, which was specially made for the pre-franked envelopes, was exceptional, and it may be noted that the only two specimens known to us of Handstamp V and E used together are both dated in June, 1916, at a time when the manufacture of the pre-franked envelopes had been suspended and general franking was no longer compulsory.

(B) Envelopes Pre-Franked 7½ Heller

(Beginning of Jan.—beginning of June, 1916)  
(Printed Official Seals with, above, the 2-line typed Frank "Frankiert mit 7½ H")



I



II III

The three varieties of these ready-for-use "Postage Paid 7½H" envelopes are about equally scarce. The three varieties are:

- I. "KAISERL. POSTDIREKTOR" (Imperial Director of Posts)
- II. "POSTAMT DAR-ES-SALAM" (Post Office Dar-es-salaam)
- III. "POSTAMT TANGA" (Post Office Tanga)

As the seal of the Director of Posts (at Morogoro) is always printed in dark violet or grey-violet and as those of the post offices at Dar-es-salaam and Tanga are always in black or grey-black, no differentiation of prices can be made on a basis of the official seals, at any rate in so far as they were used at the office of origin. When the postmark shows usage in a railway travelling post office, however, 10 per cent. may be added in the prices indicated; when used at any of the smaller postal agencies, 20 to 30 per cent. may be added.

Various coloured inks were employed for the printing of the frank "Frankiert mit 7½ H" and some colours are much scarcer than others. The officially prepared envelopes are also somewhat scarcer than those with firms' headings handed in by private individuals to be pre-franked. We have therefore based the following table of prices on these lines.

**Envelopes with Official Seal  
I, II or III**

(a) "Frankiert mit 7½H" in lilac-red . . . . .	10	20	10	20
(b) "Frankiert mit 7½H" in violet . . . . .	6	15	5	12½
(c) "Frankiert mit 7½H" in black to grey-violet . . . . .	5	15	5	12½

Exceptionally the 7½ heller franking may be in reddish brown or Prussian blue (worth 15 to 30 per cent. more). A corresponding increase in value (25 per cent.) attaches to covers with additional Post Paid franks which were used when amounts greater than 7½ heller were chargeable. Such additional charges were sometimes made up by Post

Paid franks, sometimes by adhesive postage stamps.

**(C) Provisional Issue (Feb.-June, 1916)**

Postage stamps of the German Empire Nos. 83-86, 88 and 90 of the Germania pattern, Type M17, also 1 Mk. stamp No. 92; all watermarked lozenges. Used in German East Africa without overprint for inside post office use.

No.			
83	3 pf. brown		28
84	5 pf. grey-green, green		8
85	10 pf. rose		12
86	20 pf. blue		28
88	30 pf. black & orange on chamois		45
90	50 pf. black & purple on chamois		60
92	1 Mk. rose		125

The prices are for loose specimens with clearly legible postmarks; on piece from letters, parcel cards or money orders, add 100 per cent.; on entire parcel cards, etc., add 250 per cent.

**(D) Prepared But Not Issued**

M 4 and 5. Provision issue. Surface printed (Type-set). On thick unwatermarked paper, rouletted 13, without gum. The figures of value "2" and "7" in two different types (see illustration).



4



5

- II. 2½ Heller violet-grey—Type I . . 2.60  
Type II . . 3.
- III. 7½ Heller pale carmine—Type I 1.  
Type II 1.30

IV. 1 Rupee dull red . . . . . 40.

Types 1 and 11 se tenant horizontally—

2½H. . . . .	7.50
7½H. . . . .	2.50

Both heller values were printed in sheets of 10x10, the rupee value in sheets of 5x4. Two different types of "2" were used for the

figure of value in the 2½ heller denomination because of a shortage of type; type I has a straight foot, type II a curved foot; in the latter the whole figure is also smaller and more delicate. Type I occurs 60 times and Type II 40 times on a sheet, the latter being on stamps 2, 4, 6, 8 and 10 of the lower eight rows.

The same arrangement on the sheet applies to Types I and II of the 7½ heller denomination; in Type I the top stroke of the "7" is straight and is thicker than in Type II, in which the top stroke is curved and the whole figure slightly more delicate.

The original printing of this issue was 100,000 of the 2½ heller value, 300,000 of the 7½ heller and 10,000 of the 1r. Through the dampness of the soil in which the whole stock was buried the greater part was rendered useless from a collector's point of view.

In May, 1922, the following quantities were put up for official auction:—2½H, 9,919; 7½H, 18,910, and 1R, 470. It was officially stated that this represented only one quarter of the stock which remained in a condition fit for use. Specimens with the colour and the condition of the paper quite unaltered are definitely more valuable, especially in the case of the 1r value.

There appear to have been small lots, of all three values, which passed straight from the printing office into private hands, by unofficial ways. These irregularly obtained specimens, which may be unrouletted or only partially rouletted, are distinguishable also by the unaltered state of the paper and fresh colour of the printing.

On the other hand we do not believe that colour varieties, such as the 2½ H in brown, are proofs which have got out unofficially, as is suggested in the "Phil. Ber." Nos. 118 and 120. We have seen, for instance, parts of sheets of this value in which the stamps of both the two right-hand vertical rows were throughout of a uniform brown colour through colour change, whilst the whole of the remaining rows were of the normal unaltered stamp colour and there were no stamps or rows with transitional shades.

### GERMAN FIELD POST

(Later Part of 1914—End of Nov., 1917)

In addition to the Civil Post Offices we have to consider (in so far as they dealt with correspondence that had to be paid for) the special Field Post Stations which operated during the Great War with the mobile columns in the field. (Compare "Field Post in China," p. 84).

They used the current stamps of German East Africa, and, so far, at any rate as the Field Posts established after the early part of 1916 are concerned, it was the stamps of the final consignment brought by the block-

ade runner "Marie" that were employed in them.

German East African stamps with postmarks of Field Post Stations are only known in any considerable number from the Field Post Station Taveta which was in operation from 1-10-14 to 31-7-15 at the occupied border place of that name in British East Africa. Some of the Taveta cancellations were undoubtedly done with philatelic ends in view.

Postage stamps of German East Africa with the postmarks of other (later) Field Stations are very rare. These stations only started functioning at the time when the enemy was invading, or had already invaded, the colony on all sides, so that there was neither the time nor the taste for any philatelic trifling. The cancellers for the three Field Post Stations were made by a Cingalese. The postmarks of these Stations 1, 2 and 3 are only known in a few instances actually cancelling postage stamps of German East Africa; we have also seen No. 3 on a 7½H pre-franked envelope.

Herr Lercher states that Stations 1 and 2 were established probably at the beginning of 1916 or very soon thereafter, but that Station 3 was only opened considerably later, perhaps only about the beginning of 1917.

As the German Protectorate forces had to move their field of operations after about Nov., 1916, right to the S.E. corner of the colony on account of the advance of the enemy over the borders on all sides, so the Field Post Stations at this period were also all to the south of the river Rufiji. Lerche locates Station No. 1 in Nov., 1916, as being in the region somewhat to the west of Utete; No. 2 in mid-1917 was on the upper reaches of the R. Lukuledi, and No. 3 was, until about the beginning of Oct., 1917, in the neighbourhood of Liwale.

In addition to these three numbered Field Post Stations there was also set up about this period a Field Post at Nangano (situated at the point where the Massassi-Liwale road crosses the R. Mbemkuru). Postage stamps used there were pen cancelled.

Lerche also records the cancellers of certain postal agencies (civil post offices) as being used after the places were evacuated, by the field posts of certain bodies of troops. For example, the Lindi stamper was used by the Field Post on the Lindi front in July, 1917, and the stamper of Mahenge (the last civil office to close down, 3-9-17) was used at least until the end of the month by a Field Post which later, at the end of November, fell into the hands of the British on the death of Capt. Tafel.

The Field Post and the Mahenge cancellations have the year date "17" of a type brought in by the "Marie." They are at first dark blue in colour, later a light blue.

## COLLECTORS' WANTS AND OFFERS

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

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

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

William Redford, Box 7012, Johannesburg.

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

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

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

**Wanted.**—Imperforate issues of all countries in good condition, especially North and South America.

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

**Wanted.**—I want "foreigns" (only) for my collection. Offers, approvals, invited. Can supply want lists particular countries.

Percy C. Bishop, 213 Colonial Mutual Buildings, Durban.

**World Collection.**—Wanted perfect condition space fillers for Elobey, Afghanistan, Spanish Guinea, La Aguera, Tamos, Albania, Tripolitania, Thrace, Orad and many other unusual countries up to 1933 issues only.

E. Hunt, P.O. Box 2437, Johannesburg.

No German postage stamps fell into the hands of the enemy in German East Africa.<sup>1</sup> The British Indian troops which landed on the island of Mafia in March, 1915, came across a number of German East African stamps of other kinds, however; these were given various surcharges and used as postage stamps in the Field Post. When this supply was used up they employed stamps of the Indian Expeditionary Force (See Vol. I, p. 503 "Brit. Ind. Fieldpost in Weltkrieg"), with or without special overprints, on Mafia. A Check List of these occupation issues of Mafia is given under Great Britain.

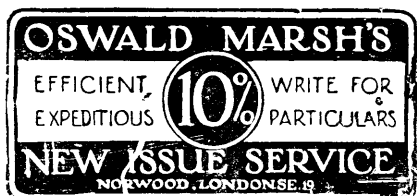
In July, 1916, the Field Post of the British Nyasaland troops operating in German East Africa brought into use special stamps made by overprinting current stamps of British Nyasaland with "N F." These are catalogued in Vol. I, p. 510.

In 1917 the British put into circulation in the parts of German East Africa occupied and administered by them stamps of the current issue of the East Africa and Uganda Protectorates overprinted G.(erman) E.(ast) A.(frica) and retained them when Great Britain obtained from the League of Nations the mandate over the former Deutsch-Ostafrika (with the exception of the north-western district of Ruanda and Urundi). In 1920 they gave their mandated territory the name "Tanganyika Territory" and, although this name itself only appeared for the first time on the stamps of the recess printed issue of 1922, the overprinted G. E. A. issue may be regarded as the first issue by the British administration in German East Africa.

After the occupation of Ruanda and Urundi the Belgians in July, 1916, likewise issued special stamps made by overprinting the current Belgian Congo issue with RUANDA and with URUNDI. Similar treatment was adopted for later issues as this territory was given in mandate to Belgium by the League of Nations, although transferred by the Belgians to the Belgian Congo for actual administration. (See "Belgische Besetzung von Deutsch Ostafrika," Vol. I pp. 294 and 1189).

Lastly, the Portuguese issued special occupational stamps in 1916 for the small triangular portion of German East Africa known as Kionga, lying south of the mouth of the R. Rovuma. These were the 100 reis stamps of Lourenco Marques surcharged KIONGA and a new value (in cents). The use of these stamps is alleged to have been forbidden after about a year because of the spelling "KIONGA" instead of "QUIONGA," but, as a

<sup>1</sup> This statement is not strictly correct. In "The Provisional Issues of the Postage Stamps of Mafia" by Charles H. Greenwood, published by D. Field, London, 1930, a list is given of a few postage stamps surcharged at Mafia as well as the better known fiscal stamps. All values of the "ship pattern" (except the 60h) are included, but there appear to have been not more than 60 sets of the heller values and 20 sets of the rupee values, at most, so treated.—Translator.





matter of fact the whole issue had been bought up by that time.

At the Portuguese Internment Camp in Macequece (Mozambique Company's territory) and in Lourenco Marques special labels were used for putting on the post free "interned post." These were of a green colour and had a simple rectangle with the inscription "EXEMPTÉ" above and "Prisonniers de Guerre" below. As these partially perforated labels were often touched by the cancellation, any one coming across them might be tempted to regard them or pass them off as postage stamps. In any case it should be noted that the so-called "Prisoners of War" who used them were exclusively interned civilians.

#### AUSTRALIA.

The recently issued set of four stamps marking the war effort of the Commonwealth consists of four values, 1d., 2d., 3d., and 6d. The design is common to them all showing three members of the fighting services, Navy, Army, and Air Force, with the head of a nursing sister above. A gum tree and a skyscraper at the sides symbolize the countryside and the cities which have rallied to the colours.

It is pointed out that this is the first occasion on which there has been a 1d. stamp as a commemorative, and this has been issued mainly for the use of the troops, the postal rate to or from them having been reduced from 2d. to 1d. per ounce.

Mr. David Brockton Browne, of 466 Filmore Street, Pasadena, California, writes:

"Compliments and best wishes in appreciation of your excellent stamp magazine which I look forward to regularly each month through the kindness of a good friend in South Africa."

Mr. Browne's card was enclosed in a first day cover of the new 3 cent. stamp issued in honour of the 75th anniversary of the Emancipation proclamation which abolished slavery in the U.S.A., in conjunction with the 13th Amendment to the Constitution. The date of issue was October 20, 1940.

Mr. A. E. Basden asks us to announce that he has no more copies of "Transvaal Postage Stamps" available for distribution. Copies may be obtained from local stamp shops or booksellers, or from the Royal Philatelic Society, 41 Devonshire Place, London, W.I.

At Canton Is., which is a halt on the new air service route between U.S.A. and New Zealand, the U.S. Government has opened a post office but so far they have not threatened us with a set of special stamps. The permanent population of this island is 12 plus numerous rats and hermit crabs.

## Union of South Africa

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FRINTON-ON-SEA - - - ESSEX,  
ENGLAND.

# Travelling Post Offices in Southern Africa

By J. H. HARVEY PIRIE.

To those who collect and study postmarks as a part of postal history there has always been rather a special fascination about the marks of T.P.O.'s and there is in Britain, I believe, a society or study circle devoted entirely to them.

In trying to analyse why there should be this special fascination I have come to the conclusion that it is partly because the T.P.O.'s form a well defined and not too unwieldy group, but partly also because there is a real flavour of romance about the name and work of a Travelling Post Office to which we can all—if we have not become hyper-civilized—respond. I shall not attempt to define further wherein the romance lies—romance, after all, is spoilt by exact definition; for me at any rate the feeling of romance is there and I shall just leave it at that.

## UNION OF SOUTH AFRICA

(and territories now incorporated in it).

My interest in the T.P.O.'s of South Africa was first aroused by noting marks of such civil offices on a number of covers of the period 1900-1902, i.e., of the Anglo-Boer war. I have not succeeded so far in obtaining many T.P.O. marks ante-dating this period but, thanks largely to information received officially from the Union Department of Posts and Telegraphs, I have been able to trace the development of this special branch of the postal service from its commencement up to the present day. Those interested will now be enabled, at any rate, to gather from this short history what material may exist and should be collected in order fully to illustrate the story of the T.P.O.'s in South Africa.

The story goes back to 1883 in which year vans fitted up as sorting offices were attached to trains carrying mails from Cape Town on the main line to the north, which, at that date, went as far as Victoria West Road (now Hutchinson Station). It was also allowed to purchase stamps and to post letters on these T.P.O.'s, the fee charged for posting being 6d. per letter additional to the ordinary postal rate. Incidentally it may be mentioned that this regulation has never been repealed, but it is not now enforced and letters are accepted to-day in the T.P.O.'s at ordinary postal rates without any additional fee. When the charging of the special fee was dropped in actual practice I do not know.

It is probable that the facility for posting letters in the T.P.O.'s was never taken advantage of to any very large extent, so that stamps (either off or on cover) showing

T.P.O. cancellations are probably very rare. As sorting offices, however, many covers may have received T.P.O. marks either as back-stamps or transit marks and such covers should be findable.

In 1885 the railway reached Kimberley and the T.P.O. ran as far as De Aar.

By 1891 the T.P.O. on the main line to the north from Cape Town ran as far as Fourteen Streams (be it remembered that at this date there was no line from there through the Transvaal to Johannesburg), and it was now officially known as the WESTERN T.P.O. At De Aar the mails for the Eastern Province of Cape Colony and those for the O.F.S. and Transvaal were transferred to the MIDLAND T.P.O. which by this time had been put into service between Port Elizabeth and De Aar; those destined for the Republics would have left the MIDLAND T.P.O. at Naauwpoort.

In 1892 rail connection was established between Springfontein and Stormberg Junction; this greatly facilitated mail conveyance between the Orange Free State and the Transvaal in the north and the midland and eastern districts of Cape Colony in the south.

In 1893 a T.P.O. was put in service between Zwartkops Junction and Uitenhage to deal with mail from the Graaff Reinet line.

In 1894 the T.P.O. service was extended from Cape Colony to the Orange Free State and Transvaal. At this period there was much transmission of heavy parcels of raw gold and of diamonds by post from the Transvaal on the weekly train which ran from Johannesburg to connect with the mail boat for Europe. This particular T.P.O. had an armed escort travelling with it all the way from Johannesburg to Cape Town.

The sections of railway over which T.P.O.'s were operating at this date may be summarised as follows:

Cape Town — De Aar  
De Aar — Port Elizabeth  
Zwartkops — Uitenhage  
Middleburg Road (Rosmead Junction) —  
Stormberg  
Naauwpoort — Norval's Pont  
Norval's Pont — Johannesburg.

In 1896 a sorting van was put on the section Alicedale — Grahamstown; this was styled the ALBANY T.P.O.

In 1897 the T.P.O. service was extended to Queenstown, but in the same year the Zwartkops — Uitenhage service and the recently in-

roduced ALBANY T.P.O. were withdrawn as there was not really sufficient work to justify their existence. The marks of these two short-lived offices should be real prizes to find.

The services running in 1897 were therefore as follows:

WESTERN: De Aar — Cape Town.  
MIDLAND: Port Elizabeth — Rosmead.  
EASTERN: Queenstown — Rosmead.  
NORTH EASTERN: Rosmead — De Aar.  
"6 UP" (Fast Mail): Norval's Pont — Cape Town.

These are all "UP" runs; the "DOWN" runs being in the reverse direction. I have not ascertained the designation of the T.P.O. running at this period over the section Norval's Pont — Johannesburg.

Early in 1899 the Transvaal withdrew from the agreement come to in 1894 and the T.P.O. ceased operating as a sorting and distributing agency between Naauwpoort and Johannesburg.

With the outbreak of the Anglo-Boer war exchange of mails between Cape Colony and the two Republics ceased on 13th October, 1899, and the EASTERN and NORTH-EASTERN T.P.O. services were suspended on 24th November of that year. This necessitated the MIDLAND T.P.O. running from Port Elizabeth as far as De Aar instead of only to Rosmead.

The Eastern T.P.O. service was resumed after about four months' suspension and the N.E. also resumed operation between Naauwpoort and De Aar. All of the T.P.O. services were liable to occasional disorganization through military operations during 1900 and 1901.

On 1st May, 1902, the EASTERN T.P.O. service was extended to East London and from that date there were running:

EASTERN T.P.O.: East London — Rosmead.

MIDLAND T.P.O.: Port Elizabeth — De Aar.

WESTERN T.P.O.: Cape Town — De Aar.

On 20th September, 1902, the O.F.S. and Transvaal T.P.O. service was recommenced from Naauwpoort to Johannesburg, and these arrangements lasted from 1902 to 1913.

In 1913 Ocean Post Offices were instituted on the mail boats to Europe and the O.F.S. and Transvaal T.P.O.'s running in connection with the weekly mail boats were discontinued.

In 1914, with the outbreak of war, ocean mail sorting was stopped and has never since been re-started. The O.F.S. and Transvaal T.P.O.'s were apparently put in commission again when this occurred but for reasons of economy the EASTERN and MIDLAND T.P.O.'s were cut out and they have not been revived.

In 1919 the ORANGE FREE STATE T.P.O. running between Bloemfontein and De Aar was discontinued but the TRANSVAAL T.P.O. (which covered this stretch) carried on. From that date until the present day there has been no essential change made in the one remaining T.P.O. service operating, viz., that between Cape Town and Johannesburg, *via* De Aar, Naauwpoort, and Bloemfontein. This is worked in two sections, the WESTERN T.P.O., from Cape Town to De Aar and the TRANSVAAL T.P.O., from De Aar to Johannesburg.

(To be continued.)

#### CAPE NUMERAL POSTMARKS ON INTER-PROVINCIALS.

On page 101 of our July issue it was noted that the use of the Cape numeral postmarks of Type 2c extended into Union time and Mr. Sydow has already recorded that some are still in use to-day. He has sent the following list of numbers on Edwardian inter-provincials: On Transvaal, 37, 426, 1016, 1079 and 1264; on O.R.C. 1396; on Cape 113, 232, 466, 511 and 1153. Further, on Union Georgians, probably used in 1914, he has Nos. 302, 434, 930, 1027, 1251 and 1317.

#### A HELIGOLAND COMMEMORATIVE.

We have no desire to chronicle enemy issues at the moment, even if we received word of them, which we don't. One item recorded in the American press is of interest, however. Germany has issued a stamp commemorating the 50th anniversary of their possession of Heligoland. The stamp, which depicts the island as seen from the sea, pays only 6 pf. postage, though it costs 100 pf.

It will be remembered that Britain, who had held Heligoland since 1814, ceded it to Germany in 1840 and withdrew all claims to Madagascar in favour of France; these two countries in return giving up all claims to Zanzibar. Aeroplanes have destroyed much of Heligoland's former strategic importance.

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## Cochrane the Dauntless

AN ALMOST FORGOTTEN NAVAL HERO.

By J. BEYERS.

*A paper read before Pretoria Philatelic Society*

Thomas Cochrane, afterwards known as the 10th Earl of Dundonald, was born at Annsfield, Lanarkshire, on December 14, 1775. Entering the Royal Navy at the age of 18 his promotion was rapid. In the year 1800 he was appointed to the command of the warship "Speedy." His capture of the Spanish frigate "El Gamo" on May 6, 1801, brought him the rank of post captain.

Cochrane was member of the House of Commons for Honiton in 1806 and for Westminster in 1807, and soon proved himself as good a legislator as he had shown himself a fighting seaman. His exploits at sea were so striking (in many ways even excelling those of the immortal Nelson) that he made his mark in the senior service despite his personal unpopularity. In the House of Commons he sat with the Radical Party and was prominent in the House as a denouncer of naval abuses (the latter were plentiful in those far off days).

In April, 1809, he served under Admiral Lord Gambier in the attack on the French squadron in the Basque Roads. Gambier's disposition and conduct in this affair were most faulty but Cochrane emerged from the operation with an enhanced reputation and with the red riband of the Order of the Bath to his credit. Cochrane made allegations against his chief which resulted in the Commander-in-Chief being court-martialled. Lord Gambier was acquitted but Cochrane fell into disfavour with the Admiralty and was not re-employed till 1813.

In the interval he speculated on the Stock Exchange. At this period a notorious fraud was perpetrated on 'Change by an uncle of Cochrane and by other persons with whom he habitually acted. Lord Cochrane and his associates were brought to trial before Lord Justice Ellenborough and all were found guilty. Cochrane was expelled from Parliament and deprived of the Order of the Bath.

In 1817 he accepted the invitation of the Chilians (who were then in revolt against Spain) to take command of their embryo navy. He remained in the Chilian Service till 1822.

What boy who has read G. A. Henty's book "Cochrane the Dauntless" has not been thrilled by the same.

Cochrane was at this period of his life an admiral and many a boarding party did he lead sword in hand. His capture of the Spanish Frigate Esmeralda (40 guns) in the harbour of Callao on November 5, 1820, was a signal achievement.

In 1823 Cochrane transferred his services to Brazil where he helped the Emperor Dom Pedro to throw off the yoke of Portugal.

By the end of 1825 he had fallen out with the Brazilians and returned to Europe.

He then entered the Greek Service and organized the navy of that country but finding no opportunity for distinguishing himself returned home.

In 1832 he was reinstated in the Royal Navy. His last command was the North America and West Indies Station from 1848 to 1851.

At different periods of his life, he occupied himself with various scientific inventions. In the year 1843 he was an advocate of the employment of steam and the screw propeller in warships.

It is said that Lord Cochrane brought an invention of his to the notice of the Admiralty which if used against a hostile fleet at sea would blow the latter off the face of the ocean. The Admiralty would have none of it on the grounds that the invention was too inhuman.

Cochrane was restored to his membership of the Order of the Bath and died in 1860. He was interred in Westminster Abbey.

He was concerned in the building up of three nations and performed deeds of naval daring (which consideration of time and space prohibit my enlarging upon in this paper) which in the words of the first Earl of Birkhead (F. E. Smith) surpasses fiction.

For most of the particulars given herein I must acknowledge my indebtedness to the Encyclopedia Britannica which, if I may say, so, I have enlarged upon.

I table two Chilian stamps showing the Admiral in the days of his youth and his historic engagement with the Esmeralda. The stamps in question are worth only a couple of pence, but that is besides the point. It is what they represent that appeals to one.

If commemorative issues have succeeded in extracting spare cash from collectors' pockets they have also succeeded in bringing the past in to the limelight and reminding us as in this case how Lord Cochrane assisted in the achieving of Chilian Independence which together with his other great deeds more than make amends for his temporary lapse from the path of virtue.

### STAMP CENTENARY COMMEMORATIVES.

And still they come! Portugal has issued a set of eight, depicting Sir Rowland Hill, of denominations 15c, 25c, 35c, 40c, 50c, 80c, 1E and 1.75E. It is announced that there are also to be 50,000 souvenir sheets of this set—face 5.20E—to be sold at 10E per sheet, but so far there is no information as to what the surplus over face is to be used for.

Cuba is reported to be issuing a 10c airmail stamp with a composite design including a portrait of Hill and reproductions of the Penny Black and early stamps of Cuña.

## Union Notes

We have received from the Controller of Propaganda, P.O. Publicity Department, the following list of printings of Union stamps between the period 23rd July to 26th October, 1940:—

### POSTAGE STAMPS.

½d. Roll stamps. 423 rolls of 500 and 778 rolls of 1,000 delivered subsequent to 9.7.40. New cylinder, 7,020 int. and 5 ext.

1d. Roll stamps. 2,151 rolls of 500 and 3,981 rolls of 1,000 delivered subsequent to 30.5.40. New cylinders, 23 int. and 24 ext.

1d. Sheets of 240. 531,500 sheets delivered between 16.5.40 and 27.8.40. New cylinders, 6 int. and 17 ext.

1½d. Sheets of 120. 344,900 sheets delivered between 27.8.40 and 15.10.40. Same cylinders, 62 int. and 15 ext.

(These cylinders were noted as new in February.—Ed.)

2d. Sheets of 120. 48,700 sheets delivered between 3.9.40 and 3.10.40. Same cylinders—29 int. and 43 ext.

### BOOKLETS.

2s. 6d. Booklets containing 24 stamps at 1d. and 12 stamps at ½d. 337,469 booklets delivered between 2.11.39 and 12.9.40; same cylinders, ½d. 8 int. and 10 ext., 1d. 6 int. and 6,930 ext. 50,400 booklets delivered subsequent to 24.9.40; same ½d. cylinders but new 1d. cylinders, 58 int. and 6,920 ext.

### S.W.A. COSTAL STATIONERY.

All supplied from P.M.G.'s stocks and over-printed S.W.A. from type on a flat-bed printing machine. Same forms used as previously. All done 17.10.40.

½d. Post cards, 2,400 dozen.

1d. Letter cards, 240 dozen.

Registered envelopes G, 600 dozen.

Registered envelopes H2, 240 dozen.

### UNION AND EAST AFRICAN CENSOR AND CAMP MARKS.

Letters from soldiers "somewhere in Africa" may have the 3 line bilingual censor mark described on p. 144 of our September issue. From several correspondents we have received numbers which these marks may bear; so far those recorded are: 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 10, 12, 17, 18, 19, 21, 23, 24, 28, 29, 31, 33, 35, 36, 45, 46, 49, 58, 83, 85 and 94. Usually the marks are in purple ink, a few are in black and No. 12 has been seen in both colours.

One cover has been noted, with the Union A.P.O. mark No. 4, which had simply "Censored" in letters nearly an inch high.

Mr. Calitz, of Mossel Bay, records specimens of covers bearing what he states are the marks of a censor at George. These marks are simply the figures 1 or 2, in red or blue pencil, on the envelopes.

Mr. E. C. Sprighton forwards an interesting cover. It is a Union Castle Line envelope, with a 1½d. stamp which has the Cape Town "Paquebot" cancellation of 5 Oct. 40. The letter has been opened and then closed again with a buff coloured strip of paper which has printed on it "Controle Postal Militaire." There is also a rubber handstamp tying this strip and the envelope which reads "Ouvert par l'authorite militaire" (i.e., opened by the military authority). Separately a small circle with, inside it, an "A" above a somewhat smaller "Z." Can any reader say if this is a Union mark or, if not, where it has been applied?

Some correspondence coming from our forces "Up North" receives other than Union A.P.O. or Censor's marks, such as a double circle postmark with A.P.S. E.A.F. (presumably Army Postal Service, East African Force).

Other marks may be a small rubber stamp with the wording, in 4 lines, O.H.M.S./No. 52/Military/Franked, in a rectangular frame. We have seen Nos. 39, 52 and 225 of this type. Associated with this, or independent of it, may be another type of Censor's mark (? East African or Imperial). This is a rectangular frame with Passed/By Military/Censor at the sides and top. The centre is occupied by a smaller rectangle with a number in it. We have seen Nos. 53 and 225 of this type. (The No. 225 and the Military Frank No. 225 were on the same cover).

With reference to the "Camp" postmarks noted in last month's issue, Mr. E. C. Sprighton records an interesting feature about the Barberton marks. The first camp postmark used there was a double circle one reading continuously round the top BARBERTON CAMP/KAMP. (Note the reversed N). This was in use from September 2—14 inclusive, when it was replaced by a single line mark with BARBERTON CAMP above and KAMP below.

### MISCELLANEOUS.

#### 1½d. NEW CYLINDER.

The new 1½d. with the flat neon-glittering old gold buildings is definitely printed from a new cylinder which does not show the old defects (broken chimney, Row 11, No. 6; broken frame line, Row 13, No. 2, and "semaphore, Row 20, No. 2).

Printings from the new cylinders so far only show one slight defect; on stamp No. 5 of the 3rd row there is an unwanted vertical  
(Concluded on page 192).

## Society News

### EAST RAND PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

*President:* Mr. J. Shepherd; *Hon. Sec.:* Mr. E. Rigg; *Meetings:* Hotel Regent, Benoni, 1st Wednesdays, 8 p.m.

It was a bumper meeting with visitors from Johannesburg, Krugersdorp, and Jewish Guild Philatelic Societies.

Mr. Jack Shepherd was in the chair, and after the previous meeting's minutes were read and confirmed, he heartily welcomed the guests from the visiting societies.

The President's address consisted of a résumé of the history of the East Rand Philatelic Society since its inception in September, 1919. It is printed elsewhere in this issue.

Some of the very early members of the society then gave a few of their impressions of the days gone by. Mr. Robertson mentioned the good quality and high standard of the exhibits of the early days. Mr. Downing recollected how the joining of the society started him in his collection of Barbados and Bermuda. Mr. Jack Doyle told of his uninterrupted period of 12 years as hon. secretary of the society until a short while ago when he left on active service.

All present then drank the toast of the "Society," wishing it more happy and prosperous years.

The first exhibit of the evening was provided by Dr. Harvey Pirie of the Johannesburg Philatelic Society. Dr. Pirie preceded this with a paper. Both dealt with "Travelling Post Offices in Southern Africa." This will appear in the "South African Philatelist."

The next exhibitor was Mr. Buchen of the Jewish Guild Philatelic Society, who showed his collection of Austria. This was a very comprehensive lot and with a very few exceptions, quite complete in so far as a straight-forward collection goes.

During the tea interval a raffle was held for some Egyptian Covers which Mr. Legator donated, and these realised £3 12s. for the Governor-General's National War Fund.

The next exhibit was provided by the Krugersdorp Philatelic Society in the person of Mr. Taylor. This was a collection of Nigeria. Before tabling the collection Mr. Powell read a paper on Nigeria. This was a very concise and elaborate history of the territory of Nigeria followed by the history of the stamps from the first issue in 1861 to the present time.

The collection, which was tastefully set out and written-up on jet-black leaves, had very few items missing. There was a great variety

of shades and colours of most of the later sets. Most of the high values were in mint condition.

The last exhibitor was Dr. Shapiro, a member of the home society. Dr. Shapiro exhibited part of his now well-known Rhodesian collection, viz., the mint double-heads. These are a marvellous lot, very hard to beat for beauty of design and colour. As regards comprehensiveness there was no shortage of strips, blocks, varieties, errors, ear-gashes, perforations, and other rarities. The collection is beautifully written-up on specially prepared pages.

The various exhibitors all associated themselves on behalf of the societies they represented in congratulating the society in obtaining its majority.

In conclusion Mr. Suklje briefly referred to the exhibits and proposed a vote of thanks to the exhibitors on behalf of the E.R.P.S.  
H.S.

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### JOHANNESBURG JEWISH GUILD PHILATELIC SECTION.

At the October meeting Mr. E. C. Sprighton tabled a fine exhibit of Modern Holland. These included nearly every stamp issued since 1890. The Charity issues were well represented and there were all varieties of perforation as well as many interrufted perforations.

Every stamp was a used copy in perfect condition and were all shown on backgrounds of black paper.

The "writing-up" was in artistic printing all done by Mr. Sprighton himself with his own printing press. The neatness and beauty of the exhibit were much admired by all present.

I.I.

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### PHILATELIC SOCIETY OF JOHANNESBURG.

At the meeting of the Philatelic Society of Johannesburg which took place on 12th November, almost the entire evening was given up to an auction on behalf of the Johannesburg Hospital. This is an annual event with the society. All stamps auctioned were donated by members and the sum of £20 was raised.

Amongst the items sold were some fine Cape pre-stamp entires, Orange Free State varieties, Union Jubilees and numerous flown covers, all of which realised good prices. There were numerous visitors from other societies taking part in the purchasing.

On the 21st October the Johannesburg Society paid a visit to the Philatelic Society of Pretoria and provided the exhibits for the evening. Mr. G. J. Houbert showed a fine collection of Capes including some excellent specimens of Triangulars. Every stamp was in perfect condition. Mr. W. Oppenheim tabled

two separate exhibits one of which he called unpopular countries and the other popular countries. He read some notes on the exhibit suggesting reasons for the popularity of some countries and the unpopularity of others. Mr. I. Isaacs showed his collection of Newfoundland including some flown covers. Mr. W. Redford read a short paper on his fine exhibit of Sierra Leone. His exhibit included several rare varieties and every copy was in perfect condition, whether mint or used, in spite of the great difficulty of obtaining good used copies of some of the stamps of this country.

On November 6 the Johannesburg Society was represented at the 21st Annual General meeting of the East Rand Philatelic Society. Most of the other Transvaal Societies were also represented and each society provided an exhibit. The Johannesburg exhibit was given by Dr. J. H. Harvey Pirie who also read a paper on it. The exhibit illustrated the history of the "Travelling Post Offices of Southern Africa," and included some rare specimens.

I.I.

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#### PORT ELIZABETH PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

*President*, G. K. Forbes; *Hon. Secretary*, C. W. Sheffield, c/o P.O. Box 88, Port Elizabeth. Meetings: First and third Tuesdays in each month in the African Room of the P.E. Public Library.

The largest number that has attended the Society's meetings for many a long day were present at the monthly meeting on the 26th November, 1940. The keen interest the Society has taken in collecting stamps for the Lord Mayor's (London) Fund, seems to have stimulated collectors to give a helping hand. The president (G. K. Forbes) mentioned that nearly half-a-million stamps had been cleaned and packed to send over. The president also gave a nice display of mint stamps of various parts of the world, and was heartily thanked for his effort. After the meeting the members adjourned to the "Metro" for a convivial chat.

J.A.P.

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#### MASHONALAND PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

Minutes of meeting held at 8 Livingstone Avenue, Salisbury, on the 1st November, 1940, at 8 p.m. Present: Messrs. Allen, Davidson, Peacock, Osborne, Hesse, and Simpson.

Formation of the Society.—It was unanimously resolved that a society be formed, and that it be called "The Mashonaland Philatelic Society."

Constitution, Etc.—Mr. Peacock stated that he had obtained a copy of the Constitution, etc., of the Pretoria Society, and this was read. After considerable discussion, various alterations were made to suit local conditions, it was proposed by Mr. Osborne, seconded by Mr. Hesse, that: "The Constitution, as amended and altered, be adopted." Carried.

Subscriptions and Entrance Fee.—It was unanimously agreed that: "The entrance fee be 5s. and that the annual subscription be 5s." Carried.

Officers.—The following were elected as officers of the Society for the year ending November, 1941: Chairman, Mr. Allen; Hon. Secretary and Treasurer and Exchange Superintendent, Mr. D. J. Peacock, P. O. Box 990, Salisbury; Librarian, Mr. Osborne; Curator, Mr. Simpson; Assistant Exchange Superintendent, Mr. Davidson.

It was unanimously agreed to ask His Excellency the Governor, Sir Herbert Stanley, G.C.M.G., to be its President, and that the Minister of Finance and Commerce, the Hon. J. H. Smit, be Vice-President.

Federation of South African Philatelic Societies.—Mr. Peacock explained the advantages of belonging to this Federation, and that he was endeavouring to obtain information on this subject, and it was agreed to leave the matter over until the next meeting.

This concluded the business of the meeting and the remainder of the evening was devoted to exhibitions of stamps by Messrs. Allen, Peacock, Davidson and Simpson, and general discussion.

A vote of thanks was passed to Mr. Allen for the use of his house for the meeting, and previous preliminary meetings, and also for supplying tea, etc.

J.P.

(We are glad to know that a new Philatelic Society has been formed in Southern Rhodesia and we wish it the best of success.—Ed. S.A.P.)

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#### PHILATELIC SOCIETY OF NATAL.

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

Twenty-ninth annual meeting of the Society, November 6. In the absence of the President, Mr. H. H. Hurst, the chair was taken by Mr. Percy C. Bishop. The election of two new members, Mr. M. Meyer and Mr. A. F. van Leuwan, was confirmed.

Reports were read by the Secretary, Treasurer, Exchange Superintendent, and also the treasurer of the Society's stamp drive for war funds, the total of which effort is expected to exceed £100.

Regretfully Mrs. Reed announced her decision to retire from the secretaryship. High tributes were paid to the work she has done for the Society in her eight years' tenure of office. Mr. Gagel also retires from the work of exchange superintendent, but will continue to assist the Society in other ways.

Mr. Hurst was re-elected President; Mr. G. Milner Palmer was elected to the secretaryship and Mr. J. Lyle to be Exchange Superintend-



ent. Other officers were re-appointed. The committee for 1940-1941 will include Mr. and Mrs. Melville and Messrs. Kettle, Schroeder and Webb in addition to the officers. The name of Mrs. Reed was added to the roll of Vice-Presidents.

A spirited and productive sale of stamps donated to the stamp drive was conducted by Mr. Maskell.

G.M.P.

#### PRETORIA PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

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

November 4.—Mr. Warren was in the chair. Mr. Hawke read some interesting philatelic extracts.

Mr. Rudd read a paper on Poland. He first gave a brief account of its turbulent history, a history bound up with wars and partitions for the last 300 years. The stamps were, however,

of great interest considering the numerous occupations of the country. Mr. Rudd described many of the issues and dealt especially with some of the peculiar overprints and surcharges. His paper was accompanied by a fine exhibit of the stamps of Poland.

Mr. Obermeyer showed a fine lot of Ceylon and Seychelles and Dr. Broom the recent issue of Famous Americans.

November 18.—Mr. Warren was in the chair.

Mr. Basden gave a talk on an old stamp catalogue of 1893. It was very small compared with the bulky ones of to-day. There was, however, the usual useful information in it. There had been some remarkable advances in price of many stamps, mostly of the better class, but it was surprising what a large number of stamps had hardly changed at all.

Mr. Wright showed a fine lot of interesting covers, Mr. Gass some high priced Australians and Mr. Baxter some new issues.

H.A.W.

### UNION NOTES

(Concluded from page 189).

line of colour near the bottom right corner. Printing with this cylinder must have started before the glittering gold was given up for the centre, as stamps from such sheets are purchaseable at some post offices. They should be good items for the Union specialist.

We tried personally to obtain some at a post office where stamps with "real gold" were still on sale, but were sadly disappointed to find that the errors were still present on these sheets.

Reference to the data received from the Government Printer through the Publicity Department of the Post Office may or may not clarify the situation. It will be seen in the list published in our September issue, p. 141, that 31,000 sheets of 1½d. stamps were delivered in February, 1940, from new cylinders, 62 int. and 15 ext.

Information just received is to the effect that 344,900 sheets were delivered between 27.8.40 and 15.10.40, all printed from the same two cylinders 62 and 15. Can it be that the February printing was in real gold from a cylinder without defects, that the August-October printing was in flat colour from the same cylinder, and that real gold stamps with defects, still on sale, come from still older printings? Alternatively, is the printing in flat ink a temporary measure? Time may show.

½d. SHADES.

Mr. Calitz draws attention to the multiplicity of shades of the ½d. at present obtainable on sale.

### VOORTREKKER CENTENARY COMMEMORATION STAMPS.

The Auditor-General's Report for the financial year 1938-39 shows that the sum of £110 was approved by the Treasury as payment to an outside artist for assisting in the preparation of the two designs for these 1d. and 1½d. stamps. (A. H. Sydow).

### PAARL HUGUENOT COMMEMORATION DATE STAMP.

This was designed by Mr. H. de Wet, of Cape Town, and engraved by Messrs. W. H. Armstrong & Co., of 122 Adderley Street, Cape Town. (A. H. Sydow).

### CHRISTMAS SEALS.

Although not postage stamps, it may be noted that Christmas Seals in aid of Tuberculosis Funds have been prepared this year as usual and are now on sale. The design this year has the standard cross with two horizontal bars in the centre background; this is flanked by two heraldic angels, and in the foreground is an arch with three candles. The stamps, unilingual, Afrikaans and English, are printed in blue and red.

Mr. J. G. Richards, of Sydney-on-Vaal (near Kimberley), points out an error in our September issue, under Union Notes. The Afrikaans version of the overprint of the Official Stamps was given as "Officieel" instead of "Offisieel." We are obliged to our correspondent for his trouble. As he points out, if there had been an overprint "Officieel" it would have been an important philatelic variation.

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