

THE SOUTH AFRICAN PHILATELIST

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“GUIDE LINES to the PENNY BLACK”

By
P. C. LITCHFIELD

THE PENNY BLACK was the first adhesive postage stamp and became available for postage on May 6th, 1840. It has become the most popular postage stamp among stamp collectors, for every schoolboy wants one, as well as those who appreciate beauty of design, for it has been rarely equalled and never bettered.

The philatelist likes to have more than one example showing the various impressions, plate varieties, coloured cancellations and all those aspects that go to make up the minutiae of the hobby.

The specialist may be one of those collectors like the author who only collects this one stamp and whose goal is to obtain one of each lettering from each of the eleven plates. This is difficult but not impossible, for the stamp is not rare, some 68,158,080 copies being printed, of which something like 10 per cent. have survived over a hundred years.

Some examples are more rare than others, for the printings from each plate were far from equal. Certain varieties are worth as much as £200 in fine condition. The commonest are worth about a pound in average condition. Poor copies can be bought for a few shillings.

In this book there is sufficient information to enable the collector with a primary knowledge of the hobby to identify and “plate” any penny black that may be in his possession. Who knows, he may have the one worth £200!

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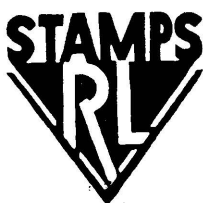
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The Editor's Corner

It is on the whole very pleasant to be back in the editor's chair, wielding the blue pencil and the scissors and paste again after a holiday from them of eight months. The only fly in the ointment is that it is rather suggestive of hard work. I often wonder if anyone who has not tried his hand at it realises just how much work there is in getting a magazine out month after month.

But I must not start off in a grumbling mood—it just isn't done. Instead, I would like to express my heartfelt thanks to Adv. I. Isaacs for so kindly and efficiently acting as editor in my absence; he was so modest about it, too, that he never even announced that he was so acting.

Thanks are also due to Mr. W. N. Sheffield, sub-editor for "Union Notes." I found that these pages are very much appreciated by collectors of Union stamps in Britain; it is a popular country there and I met quite a few enthusiasts who spoke warmly of the help given them by these notes.

Collecting in Britain:

Stamp collecting is unquestionably an increasingly popular hobby in Britain; a host of new societies is springing up and many counties or districts have their local federation of societies, in addition to the country-wide Philatelic Congress of Great Britain. The fear is expressed, indeed, that the hobby is being over-organised. Probably the majority, even the great majority, of collectors only go in for modern issues and this trend is reflected in the number of dealers there are in London and in the provinces who only handle modern issues. These people do not really know much about stamps, any more than does your iron-monger about the nails and screws he sells you. They are only interested in a quick

turn over at a reasonable small profit on each item, although some material may be salted away for future appreciation. The amount of capital sunk in stamps must be on the whole very large. One wonders whether this is going to be good for the hobby.

Many collectors seem to have similar doubts, and out of the host of new issue collectors there have developed, and are developing, philatelists who really study their stamps and collect along specialised lines of their own. Such collectors are tending to group themselves into study circles or clubs of those interested in a more or less the same group of subjects. Collecting on such lines means more hunting for material, it cannot just be ordered, but that adds hugely to the fun of it.

There are dealers to whom it is still a pleasure for this class of collector to visit, mostly old-established firms. From them one can expect a warm welcome, intelligent talk and opportunity to browse over their stocks, in which some desired items can often be found. Once a collector's special tastes are known, these dealers will keep items of interest for him to see and there is a delightful feeling of intimacy in doing business this way. So different from the impersonal un-intelligent service in other quarters

The 1950 London International Exhibition:

The success of this exhibition (May 6th to 13th) is assured, as judged by the entries which have been received and the support given by the trade.

Readers may know that I have been appointed by the Royal Philatelic Society as Commissioner for South Africa for the exhibition. As such I am expected to try to get a goodly representation of worthwhile exhibits from South Africa, i.e., exhibits which can compete with the world's best. Unfortunately it is too late now to do much in that line, as provisional entries closed on 31st December. I know, however, of six exhibits which have been entered and there may be others of which I am unaware.

I can help exhibitors in another direction, however. To save them the expense and trouble of sending over numerous volumes for the consideration of the Jury, I am empowered to report on their collections, so that they need only send one or at most two volumes (of 60 pages each). The maximum which the Jury will in any circumstances judge in London will be five frames (100 pages) and two albums (120 pages).

Exhibitors who have already entered are advised therefore to communicate with me at 23 Victoria Street, Oaklands, Johannesburg.

Anyone considering visiting the exhibition is strongly advised to book accommodation in London at the earliest possible moment. If necessary Mr. R. F. A. Riesco, F.R.P.S.L., (41 Devonshire Place, London W.1) will help you in this matter. The British Industries Fair is on at the same time and London will be crowded with visitors.

Passages should also be booked *very soon*, whether by sea or by air. The latest mail boat which will arrive in time is the one leaving Cape Town on 21st April. The latest connecting air liners from Johannesburg are the flying-boat of 30th April and the Sky-master of 4th May.

Philatelic Congress of Great Britain:

This will be held at Tunbridge Wells, Kent, on May 16-19 and attendance might well be considered along with a visit to the International. Intending visitors, whether as society delegates or as private individuals, should communicate early with the local organising Secretary, Mr. B. T. Stevenson, 12 Lonsdale Gardens, Tunbridge Wells, Kent, for reserving accommodation.

J. H. HARVEY PIRIE.

On saying *Tot Siens* to their
South African friends

Mr. and Mrs. DOUGLAS ARMSTRONG

(of Stamp Collecting Ltd).

desire to thank, most sincerely, all those whose kindness and hospitality enable them to take away the happiest memories of their visit to the Union.

The only regret is that time did not permit them to accept the many invitations received from philatelists in the Transvaal and Rhodesia.

CANADA

Five stamps with portraits of the King were originally announced for issue on 6th June. After distribution to post offices, they were called in to have the words "Postes" and "Postage" added. Some apparently leaked out, and although the amended issue (1, 2, 3, 4 and 5 cents) was released on 15th November, the original stamps are being made available to collectors.

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CEYLON

Thanks for an attractive first-day cover (10th October) with the three U.P.U. stamps (5, 15 and 25c), sent by Noor Hameems, stamp dealers, 21 Upper Chatham Street, Colombo, with the compliments of J. Hananay, stamp dealer, P.O. Box 148, Baghdad, Iraq.

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Union Notes

Voortrekker Monument Commemoratives:

The special series of 1d., 1½d. and 3d. postage stamps issued by the Department of Posts and Telegraphs to commemorate the inauguration of the Voortrekker Monument at Pretoria on the 16th December, 1949, appeared on sale at all post offices in the Union on the 1st December, 1949.

This is the third of the three special issues of commemorative stamps which the Minister stated in the Senate, in the early part of 1949, would be circulated by his Department during the course of the year, and judging by reports this last issue has undoubtedly proved a most attractive and popular set.

Designed by Mr. W. H. Coetzer, the South African artist, the three stamps—which were described in our November, 1949, issue—symbolise incidents in one of the major episodes of South African history, and to a Union collector they form a very fitting emblem for marking and commemorating a great occasion. Despite a wealth of detail in the designs, the reproduction and finish on all three denominations is of a particularly high standard and coupled with a nearly perfect freedom from printing flaws, and also the fact that each stamp bears a bi-lingual inscription, the issue has generally been acclaimed as an excellent one.

Referring to the very welcome appearance of the bi-lingual inscriptions on the stamps, a letter received from Mr. T. F. Allpass mentions that the habit of purchasing “bi-lingual pairs”—acquired through many years of collecting the Union’s stamps—by no means died a sudden death on the day of the issue of the “Voortrekkers,” for to his knowledge a considerable number of *First-day* enthusiasts continued to favour sets in pairs. With the adoption of the dual inscription on each stamp, however, the necessity of collecting in pairs completely falls away and there appears to be no point in continuing the practice with new issues when this feature is present.

Writing from Cape Town, Mr. A. H. Sydow notes that the cylinder numbers of 1d., 1½d. and 3d. stamps on sale at the Maitland Post Office were Nos. 12, 21 and 38 respectively—the same as in Johannesburg and along the Reef—and that all three denominations were printed from cylinders screened with the “irregular grained screen” as in the case of the Union U.P.U. trinity. He goes on to say that the 1d. stamp has an intriguing colour and should be compared with some of the K.G. VI stamps described by Gibbons as “magenta,” such as for instance the frame of the 1d. Pitcairn Islands; the 1c. Trinidad and Tobago and the 4d. Gold Coast. Comparison should also be made with the Union 1925 Air-mail 6d. printed by the “Cape Times” by photo-litho offset, and again with the 6d. St.

Lucia K.G. VI described by Gibbons as “claret.”

Mr. Sydow points out that in his opinion a pure “magenta” is a true “red-violet,” and a red-violet is made up of 75 per cent. spectrum red and 25 per cent. spectrum blue. The colour of the 1d. Voortrekker stamp is a secondary colour made up of red and blue and since it appears to contain more than 25 per cent. blue and further, does not contain the pure red and pure blue, but a greyish red and a greyish blue, he considers the mixture gives what he would call “Violet Lake.”



The special Voortrekkermonument date-stamp which it was arranged would be used by the Voortrekker Monument Post Office for the treatment of commemorative covers requiring an impression of the official opening date of the monument on the 16th December, is illustrated herewith. From all reports it would appear that the demand for cancellations with the Monument date-stamp has been equally as great as that for the Pretoria “First-day” postmark.

A list of the few printing flaws in the series has been submitted by Mr. I. Dekenah, of Cape Town, and a selection of the more prominent and constant of these follows the Summary of the main features given below.

Summary

- (1) Stamps—Rotogravure printed—Screened (irregular grained pattern)—Format, 37½ x 21½ mm.—Perforated 15 x 14—Watermark, multiple Springbok’s head, upright.
- (2) Colours and Cylinders—1d., Violet lake (*magenta* shade); 1½d., Green and 3d. Deep Blue (*steel* shade)—Cylinder Nos., 1d. No. 12; 1½d. No. 21, and 3d. No. 38.
- (3) Sheet Format—20 rows x 6 stamps (120)—All stamps bi-lingually inscribed “SUID-AFRIKA : SOUTH AFRICA”.
- (4) Sheet Numbers and Arrows—Four numerals in red printed twice on right hand margin—Marginal arrows on all three values of the solid type illustrated as No. 9 on page 48 of the Union Standard Catalogue.

Printing Flaws

- 1d. Denomination
 - Row 2/5 Coloured dots in top left hand corner.
 - Row 7/1 White dot in wagon.
- 1½d. Denomination
 - Row 1/4 Break in line under “F” in word AFRIKA.
 - Row 5/4 Green spot on Monument.

3d. Denomination

- Row 1/2 Blue spot on mountain at left.
- Row 18/5 Blue spot at bottom right hand edge of Bible.
- Row 19/1 Broken "S" in SUID.
- Row 19/2 White dot above "K" of AFRIKA.
- Row 19/6 Blue dot above mountain at left.
- Row 20/1 Blue dot at left of woman's skirt.

Rotogravure Overprints on S.W.A.

Voortrekker Monument Issue:

The Voortrekker Monument Commemorative stamps in use in South-West Africa during the same period as those in the Union, are of particular interest in the fact that this is the first occasion the letters "S W A" have been overprinted by the rotogravure process.

In previous issues, which includes the recent U.P.U. series, the overprint was produced on a flat bed machine and comparison with the Voortrekker commemoratives will show, in the case of the latter, a distinct irregular grained appearance of the letters "S W A" and the complete absence of any indentation on the back of the stamps.

W.N.S.

ICELAND	
50 Different	8/-
100 Different	20/-
1938 Leifr Ericsson Day	2/6
1947 Airmails, 6v. mint	7/6
1948 Volcano Hekla, 7v. mint . .	12/-
1949 Charity 5v. mint	3/-
1949 U.P.U., 4v. mint	3/-
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PHILATELIC FEDERATION OF SOUTHERN AFRICA

A meeting of the Executive was held in Johannesburg on the 29th November. The recently-formed Vereeniging Stamp Club was admitted to affiliation. It was decided not to have further copies of the Union Catalogue printed, as it was felt it was undesirable to perpetuate further the errors in it, and also because it was hoped to have a new catalogue in the not very distant future. But as the stock of 4,250 printed is almost exhausted, it was decided to ask Societies with any spare copies on hand to offer them to the Natal Society so that requests for copies could be met.

The minutes of the 11th Congress, held in Port Elizabeth on 6-8 October, 1949, were approved. Copies of these will be sent to all constituent societies. Here it need only be said that the Congress was agreed on all hands to have been very pleasant and successful and the local society is to be congratulated on their organisation. The non-competitive exhibition was most attractive

for the general public as well as for the philatelists, a feature which might well be kept in mind for the future.

Outstanding matters at Congress were:—

- (1) The adoption of a new constitution for the Federation.
- (2) Finance, as was expected, gave rise to much discussion, but it was made abundantly clear that the Federation could not carry on, and, in particular, publish the *South African Philatelist* without more funds. It was felt that the members of a number of societies do not support their magazine as they should, and these weaker brethren are urged to persuade more of their members to become subscribers to the magazine. An inclusive subscription, as several societies have, is the simplest method of achieving this object.

(3) The presence of an official of the Postal Department, in the person of Mr. M. F. Swanepoel, P.O. Publicity Officer. There is now very useful and pleasant co-operation between the Post Office and stamp collectors.

(4) A South African Expertising Committee. It was generally agreed that such a committee was desirable, although some difficulties in the way of its functioning were fairly obvious. It was practically left to the Executive to consider this item further.

(5) The Congress deplored the growing tendency among collectors to pay excessive attention to the financial aspect of the hobby and it hopes that societies will do their best to curb this tendency.

(6) A request was made to the Postal Administration to set up a Philatelic Agency. Mr. Swanepoel reported that this was already under way. (It is now actually operating—Room 636, Maritime House, or P.O. Box 1132, Pretoria.)

(7) Congress papers. Only one was submitted: "On the Imperforate Stamps of the 1st Issue of Southern Rhodesia," by Dr. A. Kaplan. This was given a Congress Award.

(8) Roll of Distinguished Philatelists. The names of Dr. A. Kaplan, Germiston, and Dr. K. Freund, Bloemfontein, were added to the Roll

(9) Skinner Cup. This was awarded to Mr. A. Hilton Sydow, of Cape Town, as having done the best work for philately during the preceding twelvemonth.

★
EIRE

Probably the correct heading under which to note stamps of this country is "Republic of Ireland." The stamps themselves say so, at any rate—in two languages.

November 21st saw two new stamps, 2½d. and 3d. values; the design of each features Leinster House, seat of the Legislature in Dublin. There are also the coats-of-arms of the four Provinces of Ireland. The inclusion of the Red Hand of Ulster is criticised in Britain, but there may be some justification of it, inasmuch as three counties of Ulster are in the Republic, the other six being in Northern Ireland.

THE IMPERFORATE STAMPS OF THE FIRST ISSUE OF SOUTHERN RHODESIA

By Dr. ALEC KAPLAN
(Paper read at the Port Elizabeth
Congress, 1949)

A fascinating field of study is provided by the imperforate errors of the first issue of Southern Rhodesia. This issue was printed and perforated by Messrs. Waterlow & Sons, Ltd., London, and was in use from 1st April, 1924, until 1931, when it was demonetised on 30th September, 1931.

During the seven years of issue, most of the values appeared with one or more perforation errors. A simple single line perforating machine gauging 14 was used. It was a foot worked treadle machine and the operator placed a number of sheets on the machine and pressed the treadle for each single line of perforation horizontally and then had to turn the sheets sideways and repeat the process for the vertical perforations. This necessitated fourteen workings horizontally and twenty workings vertically in the ½d., 1d. and 1½d. stamps and 11 and 7 workings for each of the higher values.

It can thus be realised that it would be easy for the operator to miss perforating one line on occasion. But with the careful checking by Messrs. Waterlow & Sons, this was not likely to be missed and released to the public.

A more feasible explanation is that the operator did not press equally hard on the treadle at each operation, so that the pins of the perforator did not penetrate through all the sheets.

As is well known perforating pins have sharp points. From the points the pins enlarge in size gradually, until the desired circumference is obtained, when the pins remain uniform in thickness. Thus, when the treadle is not pressed firmly enough the top sheets are properly perforated; the next few sheets show the well-known "small holes" perforation; the next few show blind perforations and the final one or two sheets are imperforated.

Thus in the checking it would be quite easy for the checker to miss the bottom sheet or two, as the batch would appear to be normal.

From an inspection of most of well-known collections in this country and from a careful study of philatelic literature, the following check list has been prepared.

In order to facilitate the description I have named the vertical rows of stamps, i.e. stamps running from the top to the bottom—ROWS. The horizontal rows of stamps, i.e. stamps running from side to

side—FILES. Therefore in sheets of 240 of the ½d., 1d. and 1½d. value there are 20 rows and 12 files, whilst in sheets of 60 of all the higher values there are 10 rows and 6 files.

The numbers given are of items, which I have been able to identify and represent a definite minimum. It is doubtful if many more of these various errors exist.

½d.

IMPERFORATES BETWEEN STAMPS

A. *Between Horizontal Pairs (i.e. Between the Rows).*

1. Between Rows 1 and 2. Two sheets. This pair also shows imperf. between the left margin and Row 1. 24 pairs.

2. Between Rows 9 and 10. One sheet. This pair usually has the central gutter attached to Row 10. 12 pairs.

3. Between Rows 19 and 20. One sheet. This pair usually has the right margin attached to Row 20. 12 pairs.

4. Between Rows 1 and 2; 2 and 3; 3 and 4; 4 and 5; 5 and 6; 6 and 7; 7 and 8; 8 and 9; 9 and 10. Also imperf. Between left margin and Row 1 and central gutter and Row 11. 60 pairs.

NOTE.—Two sheet were found and broken up. Some complete strips of 11 stamps exist. Imperforate between pairs from these sheets can be recognised by being imperforate also on the left and right sides. From each strip five (5) imperforate between pairs can be obtained. The first pair being as No. A.1, but having the right margin also imperforate. The right-hand side of the strip only yields one stamp, imperforate between Central Gutter and Row 11.

5. Position unidentified. At least two different sheets. 24 pairs.

The minimum total of ½d. imperforate between horizontal pairs is thus 132 pairs. More may exist, but have not been identified up to the present.

B. *Between Vertical Pairs (i.e. Between the Files).*

1. Between files 1 and 2. One sheet. 20 pairs.

2. Between files 11 and 12 One sheet. 20 pairs.

3. Position unidentified. Two sheets. 40 pairs.

4. Vertical strip of three, imperforate between 1st and 2nd and 2nd and 3rd stamps. Position unknown. 20 pairs.

The minimum total of ½d. imperforate between vertical pairs is thus 100 pairs.

C. *Between Panes and Gutter.*

Two perforations missing.

1. Between file 6 and gutter; and gutter and file 7. Two sheets. 40 pairs.

COMBINED MARGINAL AND GUTTER IMPERFORATES

E. *Between Top Margin and File 1.*

Between Centre Gutter and File 7.

Between Row 10 and Centre Gutter.

Between Row 20 and Right Margin.

2 Sheets, containing the following marginal Imperforates:—

1. Between top margin and file 1. 18 pieces.
2. Between centre gutter and file 7. 18 pieces.
3. Between Row 10 and centre gutter. 10 pieces.
4. Between Row 20 and right margin. 10 pieces.
5. E1 and E3 combined. 2 pieces.
6. E1 and E4. 2 pieces.
7. E2 and E3. 2 pieces.
8. E2 and E4. 2 pieces.

NOTE.—The four top right corners of each side show imperforate top and right side, i.e. Nos. E5, E6, E7 and E8. These have been deducted from E1, 2, 3 and 4.

F. Marginal Imperforates.

1. Between top margin and file 1. One sheet. 20 pieces.
2. Between file 12 and bottom margin. Two sheets. 40 pieces.
3. Between Row 20 and right margin. Two sheets. 24 pieces.
4. Between left margin and row 1. One sheet. 12 pieces.

NOTE.—This last is mentioned in the check list (1932) compiled by the Philatelic Society of Rhodesia. I have never seen or heard of this variety, and I must take leave to doubt its existence.

G. Gutter Imperforates.

1. Between file 6 and gutter; 2. Between gutter and file 7; 3. Between row 10 and gutter; 4. Between gutter and row 11. Many of each.

1d.

IMPERFORATES BETWEEN STAMPS

A. Between Horizontal Pairs (i.e. Between the Rows).

1. Between rows 1 and 2. Two sheets. 24 pairs.
 2. Between rows 5 and 6 or 15 and 16. One sheet. 12 pairs.
- This is imperforate through the centre of the imprint.
3. Between rows 18 and 19. One sheet. 12 pairs.
 4. Horizontal strip of three, imperforate between left margin and row 1, row 1 and 2, row 2 and 3. 12 pieces.
 5. Position unidentified. At least one sheet. 12 pairs.

The minimum total of 1d. imperforate between horizontal pairs is thus 72 pairs.

B. Between Vertical Pairs (i.e. Between the Files).

1. Position unidentified. One sheet. 20 pairs.
2. Vertical strip of six, imperforate between 1st and 2nd, 2nd and 3rd, 3rd and 4th, 4th and 5th, and 5th and 6th stamps, giving 3 pairs. One sheet. 60 pairs.

The top pair has an imperforate bottom, the middle pair has imperforate top and bottom, whilst the bottom pair has an imper-

forate top. Some complete strips exist, while others were broken up.

The minimum total of 1d. imperforate between vertical pairs is thus 80 pairs.

C. Between Panes and Gutter.

Two perforations missing.

1. Between row 10 and centre gutter, and gutter and row 11. One sheet. 12 pairs.

F. Marginal Imperforates.

1. Between top margin and file 1. Two sheets. 40 pieces.
3. Between row 20 and right margin. Two sheets. 24 pieces.
4. Between left margin and row 1. Three sheets. 36 pieces.

G. Gutter Imperforates.

1. Between file 6 and gutter; 2. Between gutter and file 7; 3. Between row 10 and gutter; 4. Between gutter and row 11. Many of each.

1½d.

A. Between Horizontal Pairs (i.e. Between the Rows).

1. Position unidentified. One sheet. 12 pairs.

B. Between Vertical Pairs (i.e. Between the Files).

1. Position unidentified. One sheet. 20 pairs.

The only pair known is in the writer's collection.

F. Marginal Imperforates.

1. Between top margin and file 1. Two sheets. 40 pieces

G. Gutter Imperforates.

1. Between file 6 and gutter; 2. Between gutter and file 7; 3. Between row 10 and gutter; 4. Between gutter and row 11. Many of each.

2d.

A. Between Horizontal Pairs (i.e. Between the Rows).

1. Between rows 1 and 2. Two sheets. 12 pairs.

3d.

F. Marginal Imperforates.

1. Between top margin and file 1. One sheet. 10 pieces.

6d.

A. Between Horizontal Pairs (i.e. Between the Rows).

1. Position unidentified. One sheet. 6 pairs.

n 10d.

F. Marginal Imperforates.

1. Between top margin and file 1. Three sheets. 30 pieces.

1s.

F. Marginal Imperforates.

3. Between row 10 and right margin. One sheet. 6 pieces.

1s. 6d.

A. *Between Horizontal Pairs (i.e. Between the Rows).*

1. Position unidentified. One sheet. 6 pairs.

2s.

F. *Marginal Imperforates.*

1. Between top margin and file 1. Three sheets. 30 pieces.

2s. 6d.

A. *Between Horizontal Pairs (i.e. Between the Rows).*

1. Position unidentified. One sheet. 6 pairs.

It will be noted that no particular mention has been made of blind perforations, which occur in some of the values. Blind perforations are of interest in that they show lack of pressure on the treadle of the perforating machine, but they cannot be classed with the imperforates.

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LABUAN

Robson Lowe, in "The Philatelist" for November, reports the discovery of three covers from Labuan of 1864, two of them franked with Hong Kong stamps and one with Indian stamps. These are the oldest known correspondence from the island, and they bear a circular date stamp "Labuan."

U.S.S.R.

"Stamp Collecting" reports having received 44 new stamps issued between July and October, also a U.P.U. issue in October, two stamps 40 and 50k. with a globe showing only Russia, with a fringe of ships, post-chaises, trains, etc. They have been issued both perf. and imperf.

ASCENSION

Perf. 14 stamps are being sold at rather fancy prices. Stamp papers advise collectors not to rush in for these; wait a while and the prices will drop.

NIGERIA

The Crown Agents have released the 2/6 value, which for the first time is on blued paper. This may account for the apparently deeper colour of the frame.

OBITUARY.

P. L. Pemberton:

It is with deep regret that we have to record the death a few months ago of Percy Loines Pemberton, world-famous British philatelist and dealer. His father was one of the earliest stamp collectors and dealers in England, and "P.L." or "Pem" (as he was often affectionately called) started on stamps at a very early age in Manchester. He later moved to London, but during the blitz went to Leominster, where his eldest son, Mr. A. L. Pemberton, carries on the family tradition.

He was perhaps best known for his knowledge of the stamps of Greece, but after buying the "Philatelic Journal of Great Britain" in 1899 and editing it for many years, his encyclopaedic knowledge of stamps in general appeared in print in almost every number of that journal until he had to relinquish the editorship in 1947.

He was one of the comparatively small band of professionals on the Roll of Distinguished Philatelists.

Dr. Mario de Sanctis:

We regret to have to report the death of Dr. M. de Sanctis, of San Paulo, Brazil. For quite a few years he had been most energetic in supplying philatelic magazines throughout the world (including "The South African Philatelist") with specimens of, and information about, all new Brazilian emissions. His courtesies will be greatly missed.

J. W. K. Schofield:

Philately in Johannesburg has suffered a sad loss in the death last month of Mr. J. W. K. Schofield. His association with organised philately goes back a long way, for he was President of the J.U.P.S. in 1913 and since then had served at various times on the committee of the Philatelic Society of Johannesburg. He was also a Fellow of the Royal Philatelic Society of London. His wide general knowledge of stamps led to his being chosen as Chairman of the Jury at Jipex in 1936. At one time owner of a very fine collection of Cape triangulars, in recent years he specialised more in "rarities," particularly old European imperforates. He was a Yorkshireman by birth, had worked in the West Indies for some years before coming to South Africa, where he had been for a long time general manager of the African Guarantee and Indemnity Co., Ltd.



CZECHOSLOVAKIA

Three issues in December: 1 and 2k. stamps on the 4th, honouring the Trade Union Congress; two semi-postals on the 17th, for the benefit of the Red Cross (1.50 + 0.50k. and 3 + 1k.) and on the same date two others of same values for Child Welfare.

An international exhibition is to be held in Prague on May 20th—29th.

THE AIRPOSTS OF SOUTH AFRICA

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Scarce Spanish Cols. U.P.U. (5v.), mint	0 7 6
Do., used	0 12 0
Scarce Palestine/Transjordan U.P.U. (5), mint	0 5 6
Do., used	0 7 6
<u>Complete list U.P.U., by air, 4d.</u>	
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New Issues

The Photographic Negative and Positive Plates of the U.P.U. Commemorative Stamps of the Union of South Africa

By

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

and

W. N. SHEFFIELD, A.M. (S.A.) I.E.E.

The Union issue of postage stamps which commemorated the 75th anniversary of the establishment of the Universal Postal Union in the City of Berne in Switzerland received its premiere on the 1st October, 1949.

The said issue consisted of three denominations respectively imprinted in three different hues, namely, ½d. green, 1½d. red-brown and 3d. ultramarine. Each stamp thereof depicted a portion of the globe marked latitudinally and longitudinally with meridian lines over the continent of Africa and its adjacent Gallic isle of Madagascar both *under* the mythological Roman herald and messenger of the gods yclept Mercury, in running posture carrying vertically his caduceus—a wand surmounted with two wings and entwined



Fig. 1

with two serpents. Was it not this very picture which Shakespeare prevised and which inspired him to write certain lines of words in his play "A Winter's Tale"? Did he not write:

" . . . littered *under* Mercury . . . "

in Act IV

"Ay, the most peerless piece of earth, I think
That e'er the sun shone bright on . . . "

in Act V

Mythology apprises that this same herald and messenger abandoned his Latin name whene'er in the ancient land of Greece and in lieu thereof assumed the Hellenic one of "Hermes."

The Union U.P.U. stamps were printed at the Government Printing Works in Pretoria

by the rotary photogravure or rotogravure process on paper in the web watermarked "Springbok Head multiple" made by Samuel Jones and Company, Limited, of London. Incidentally it may be mentioned that the "Springbok Head" watermark devices and dandy roller were manufactured by Wm. Green, Son and Waite, also of London. The stamps were perforated by a multiple comb machine to the gauge of 15x 14. The cell formations or ink-hollows on the peripheries of the copper-faced cylinders were produced via carbon tissue sheets by an irregular grained screen. Four cylinders were utilised, namely, Nos. 60 and 31 for the ½d., No. 1 for the 1½d. and No. 25 for the 3d. denominations. The stamps of the said three denominations were inscribed in English and in Afrikaans alternately throughout the sheet. They were issued in sheets of 120 units each arranged in 20 horizontal rows of 6. The commencing stamp printed sideways on each one of the ½d. and 3d. denominated sheets was an Afrikaans inscribed one. On each one of the 1½d. denominated sheets, however, the initial stamp was inscribed in English.

THE VIGNETTE MODELS

A statuette of Mercury/Hermes was procured by the photographic department of the Government Printing Works. It was coloured and toned in gray and then photographed under special lighting conditions. The department also procured a terrestrial globe such as used generally for the teaching of geography. The globe and its pedestal were placed in requisite position, axially manipulated to show its map of Africa and Madagascar uppermost and so photographed. The photographs of the statuette and of the globe were taken on two quarter plates and two corresponding negatives were obtained. Two enlarged glossy photographic prints were obtained in turn from the said negatives; one which pictured Mercury approximately 8 inches in height and the other the Africa portion of the globe in proportionate dimension.

THE PHOTOGRAPHIC CUT-OUTS

The figure of Mercury and that portion of the Globe required for the stamp design were respectively cut out of the said two glossy photographic prints. The cut-out of Mercury

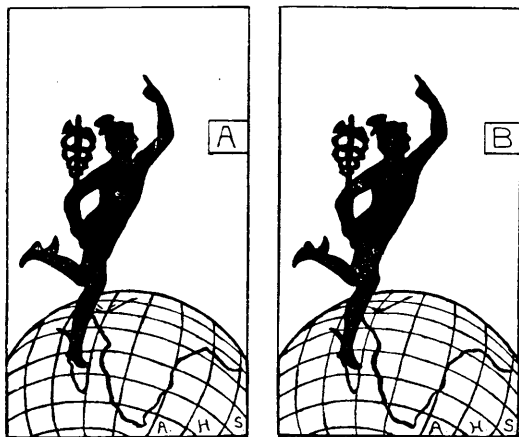


Fig. 2

was affixed to the cut-out of the Globe by means of a small quantity of colourless glue applied on the reverse side of the foot of Mercury. The two cut-outs so affixed were mounted on a sprayed black background. See Figure 1. The size of the picture in cut-out form was approximately 12 inches in height by 7 inches in width. Straight lines were drawn in white about $\frac{3}{4}$ ins. from each of the vertical and horizontal edges of the black background in order to enclose that portion of the set-up which it was intended should be included in the stamp design or vignette. The said two cut-outs were not totally pasted down on the black background but were simply held in position by means of a small quantity of glue applied to the reverse side of the bottom edge of the Globe cut-out.

Two photographs of the pictorial portion of the stamp design (ie., of the two cut-outs in glossy white prints laid on the black background as per Figure 1) were taken on two glass plates each one of which measured 3ins. x 1½ins. x 1/16ins. These two negatives formed the "Mercury and Globe" portions of the Compound 2-Set Master Negative. It is emphasised here that two separate negatives—and not positives—were prepared. See Figure 2 showing Negative "A" and Negative "B".

INSCRIPTIONS, DATES AND DENOMINATIONS

The letters and numerals which comprised the English and the Afrikaans inscriptions, the dates and the half-penny ($\frac{1}{2}$ d.) denominations were hand-drawn in black on two white cards approximately 12 inches in height by 7 inches in width, viz.:

Card No. 1

1. South Africa
2. $\frac{1}{2}$ d (without stop)
3. Postage
4. Revenue
5. Universal Postal Union
6. 1874
7. 1949

Card No. 2

8. Suid-Afrika
9. $\frac{1}{2}$ d (without stop)
10. Posseël
11. Inkomste
12. Wereldposunie
13. 1874
14. 1949

Numerals and "d" pence symbols also were drawn in black ink on two small white cards, viz.:

Card No. 3

15. $\frac{1}{2}$ d (without stop)

Card No. 4

16. 3d. (with stop)

Card No. 3, Card No. 4 and Card No. 5—a small piece of white card in the form of a narrow strip—were used to cover and to blank out the denominations " $\frac{1}{2}$ d. (2)" and " $\frac{1}{2}$ d. (9)" and the words "Revenue (4)" and "Inkomste (11)" on the basic Cards No. 1 and No. 2 ut supra when photographs were taken subsequently as described ut infra.

Three photographs were taken of the text matter on the English inscribed Card No. 1, viz.:

- (1) Card No. 1 with " $\frac{1}{2}$ d" and "Revenue" as originally drawn.
- (2) Card No. 1 with " $\frac{1}{2}$ d" blanked out by Card No. 3 ($\frac{1}{2}$ d then substituted) and "Revenue" blanked out by anonymous Card No. 5 (which left "Postage" only).
- (3) Card No. 1 with " $\frac{1}{2}$ d" blanked out by Card No. 4 (3d. then substituted) and "Revenue" blanked out by anonymous Card No. 5 (which left "Postage" only).

Three photographs were taken also of the text matter on the Afrikaans inscribed Card No. 2, viz.:

- (4) Card No. 2 with " $\frac{1}{2}$ d." and "Inkomste" as originally drawn.
- (5) Card No. 2 with " $\frac{1}{2}$ d" blanked out by Card No. 3 ($\frac{1}{2}$ d then substituted) and "Inkomste" blanked out by anonymous Card No. 5 (which left "Posseël" only).

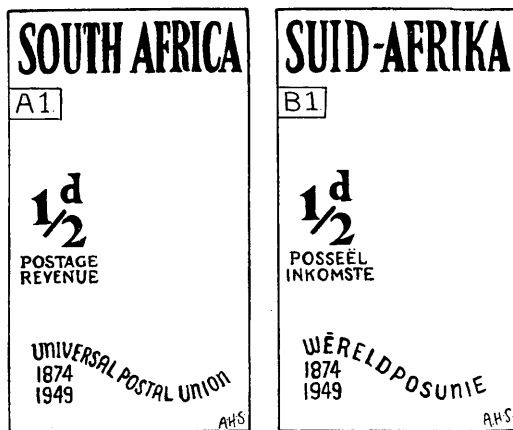


Fig. 3

(6) Card No. 2 with "1d." blanked out by Card No. 4 (3d. then substituted) and "Inkomste" blanked out by anonymous Card No. 5 (which left "Posseel" only). Thus a total of six photographs were taken, each one on a separate glass plate approximately 3ins. x 1 3/4ins. x 1/16ins. and six negatives obtained—Nos. 1 to 6.

THE LETTER AND NUMERAL POSITIVES

From Negatives Nos. 1 to 6 referred to *ut supra* six contact letter and numeral Positives Nos. 1 to 6 were produced on glass plates of similar dimensions in order to convert the white (transparent) letters and numerals on the six negatives back to the colour in which they were drawn on Cards Nos. 1 and 2, and finally to produce white letters and numerals on the coloured backgrounds of the stamps. See Figure 3. Original drawing "A1" and Original Drawing "B1."

Thus for the text matter—the English and Afrikaans inscriptions, the dates and the denominations—six positives were produced, each one on a separate glass plate of the equivalent size of each one of the negatives of the "Mercury and Globe" portion of the design or vignette, namely, 3ins. x 1 3/4ins. x 1/16ins. See *ut supra*. See also Figure 2—Negatives "A" and "B." See further Synopsis at the the end of this article.

THE COMPOUND OR COMBINATION 2-SET MASTER NEGATIVES

A glass plate with a thickness of 1/16 ins. and of a size to fit the plate holder (approximately 5ins. x 4ins.) on the "Step and Repeat" camera stand was used as a base plate for carrying four portions of the compound or combination master negative.

(A)—The 1/2d. Denomination:

The compound master negative of this denomination consisted of the following negatives and positives:

- (1) Negative "A" and (2) Negative "B" of "Mercury and Globe" as per Figure 2.
- (3) Positive "A1" and (4) Positive "B1" of the text matter as per Figure 3. It will



Fig. 5

be observed that these two positives hold the text matter of Card No. 1 and Card No. 2 *ut supra*.

The emulsion side of Negative "A" was placed against the emulsion side of Positive "B1" (reversed positive) and similarly the emulsion side of Negative "B" was placed against the emulsion side of Positive "A1" (reversed positive). See Figure 4. (This sketch shows the two pairs just before they were slid into alignment). The combined pairs "A & B1" and "B & A1" were then laid flat on the glass base plate. Perfect alignment of the Vignette pairs and the text matter pairs was assured by keeping the edges of the negatives and reversed positives in register. It must be borne in mind that the dimensions of these plates are equivalent—3ins. x 1 3/4ins. x 1/16ins. See Figure 5.

On the glass base plate the two pairs were laid down as follows: Negative "B" and Positive "A1"—Combination ("B & A1") on the left-hand side and Negative "A" and Positive "B1"—Combination ("A & B1") on the right-hand side, i.e., in a position so that the text matter can be read in normal manner when the basic and the combinative plates are reversed.

The left-hand pair was then fixed to the base plate by means of adhesive tape along the top, the left-hand and the bottom edges. Next, the right-hand pair was fixed to the base plate by means of adhesive tape along the top, the right-hand and the bottom edges. The requisite space was provided between the two sets of pairs for the perforation gutters. The said negatives and the said reversed positives thus bound together in pairs then were placed in the requisite position as a Compound Master Negative (see Figure 5) for projection of the combined images on to



Fig. 4

the diapositive plate by means of the "Step and Repeat" camera. From this diapositive two cylinders were etched via Carbon Tissue Sheets Nos. 1 and 2, namely, Cylinders Nos. 60 and 31.

(B)—The 1½d. Denomination:

After the completion of the ½d. multiple diapositive the compound master negative was dismantled. The ½d. reversed positives were removed and replaced by the 1½d. positives. The new compound master negative comprised:

- (1) Negative "A" and (2) Negative "B" of "Mercury and Globe" as per Figure 2.
- (3) Positive "A2" and (4) Positive "B2" of the Text Matter as per Figure 3 but 1½d.-1½d. in lieu of ½d.-½d., etc. It will be noted that these two positives held the text matter of Card No. 1 and Card No. 2 *ut supra* but with 1½d. denominations substituted for the ½d. denominations and the words "Revenue" and "Inkomste" deleted.

The new compound master negative was then set, bound and fixed in the plate holder as before and the 1½d. multiple diapositive prepared in similar manner as in the case of the ½d. denomination.

(C)—The 3d. Denomination:

Subsequent to the completion of the 1½d. multiple diapositive the second compound master negative was dismantled. The 1½d. reversed positives were removed and replaced by the 3d. positives. The third compound master negative was made up of:

- (1) Negative "A" and (2) Negative "B" of "Mercury and Globe" as per Figure 2.
- (3) Positive "A3" and (4) Positive "B3" of the Text Matter as per Figure 3 but 3d.-3d. in lieu of the 1½d.-1½d., etc. It will be noted that these two positives held the text matter of Card No. 1 and Card No. 2 *ut supra* but with 3d. denominations substituted for the 1½d. denominations and the words "Revenue" and "Inkomste" deleted.

The 3d. compound master negative and its concomitant multiple diapositive were prepared in similar manner as for the ½d. and 1½d. denominations described afore.

SLIGHT DIFFERENCES IN NEGATIVE AND REVERSED POSITIVE REGISTRATION

Slight differences in the registration of the pictorial negatives and the textual reversed positives were observed when the designs and text matter of the three different denominations were compared, for example, the vertical alignment of the "upper" white left coastal line of Madagascar and the "lower" vertical limb of the terminal "L" of the word "POSTAL".

SYNOPSIS

- (A) Text Matter (Inscriptions, Dates and Denominations)

- (1) Original Drawings: Text matter in

black on white backgrounds. Text matter in normal postures. (Figure 3).

- (2) Photographic Negatives: Text matter in white on black backgrounds. Text matter in reversed postures (on emulsion sides).
- (3) Contact Positives: Text matter in black on white backgrounds. Text matter in normal postures (on emulsion sides). See also *ut infra*.

(B) Pictorial Matter (Mercury and Globe)

- (1) White Statuette and Globe. (Two separate models.)
- (2) Photographic Negatives.
- (3) Original Photographic Glossy Prints: Cut-Outs in lieu of original drawings. Mercury in normal posture. Mercury in white on black background (Figure 1.).
- (4) Photographic Negatives: Mercury in reversed postures. Mercury in Black on white backgrounds (Figure 2). See also *ut infra*.

(C) Compound Master Negatives

- (3) Contact Positives—reversed: Text matter in *black* on *white* backgrounds but text matter in *reversed postures* (on emulsion sides). See A3 *ut supra*.
- (4) Photographic Negatives: Mercury in *black* on *white* backgrounds. Mercury in *reversed postures*. See B4 *ut supra*. C3 and C4—See Figures 4 and 5. The afore C3 and C4 are bound together, emulsion side to emulsion side and then reversed.

(D) Multiple Diapositives. (Via "Step and Repeat" Camera).

Text matter and mercury in reversed postures on emulsion sides.

(E) Carbon Tissue Sheets (imprinted with irregular grained screen)

Text matter and Mercury in normal postures.

(F) Etched Peripheries of Copper-faced Cylinders (Nos. 60, 31, 1, 25)

Text matter and Mercury in reversed postures.

(G) Printed Stamps — 120-set-Sheets — ½d., 1½d. and 3d. Denominations

Text matter and Mercury in normal postures. Text matter and Mercury in white on coloured backgrounds.

For the sake of convenience the word "White" has been used in the foregoing Synopsis in lieu of "Transparent" anent the photographic negatives and contact positives.

For the sake of convenience also the meridian lines and the coastal lines of the maps of Africa and Madagascar in Figures 1, 2, 4 and 5 have been drawn in black in lieu of white.

The authors wish to express their appreciation to the Government Printer and the Department of Posts and Telegraphs for their valuable assistance in the preparation of this paper and permission to publish the information in the "South African Philatelist".

Reviews

H. R. Harmer's 24th Annual Resumé.

This is the usual beautifully got up summary of the various activities of H. R. Harmer Ltd., and H. R. Harmer Inc., in London, New York and Sydney. It deals mainly with their auction sales and a list is given, with many illustrations, of the star items sold at their three sale rooms during the 1948-49 season. They state that the recent devaluation of the £ has already had an effect of increasing exports to the hard currency areas, whereas previously most of these international transactions had been on a "barter" or exchange basis. London auctions passed the 2,000th in the season, and New York sales the 500th.

Another branch of their activities, "Private Treaty Sales," totalled over £117,000 for the season. In this department, by the way, we recently noticed a set of mint Basutoland "officials" offered for £1,000.

An interesting account is given of the Bermuda Prize Court special sale on 10th and 11th March. This was of stamps seized in transit during World War II from enemy or enemy-dominated countries. It realised over £10,000, but the two days work nearly killed the auctioneers.

A Review 1948-1949. Robson Lowe, Ltd.

This booklet deals with the various activities of the Robson Lowe organisation at their headquarters, 50 Pall Mall, London, S.W.1, and at their branches in Bournemouth and Philadelphia. At the latter two places they hold monthly auction sales, those in Bournemouth being usually of a class suitable for the general collector, whilst at Philadelphia they vary from highly specialised to general collections.

Headquarters is a hive of many different activities, including specialised stamp sales several times a month, where many world-famous collections have come under the hammer; and Postal History auctions about six times a year, these are widely recognised as the market par excellence for covers, cancellations and material other than straightforward stamps.

Illustrations are given of many of the outstanding sold at these various auctions during the past year.

It also houses the Regent Stamp Co., specialising in retail sale of British Empire stamps and the Associated Exchange Clubs.

The firm is also an active publisher of philatelic books and periodicals of which mention need merely be made of The Regent Catalogue, The Encyclopaedia of Empire Postage Stamps, The Philatelist, The Overland Mail, Guide Lines to the Penny Black, etc., etc.

Finally, a word must be said in confirmation of a statement that "To many Number 50 represents a Bank-cum-Club . . . the purpose behind this curious business is not primarily the sale of stamps—it is the sale of happiness". Very true.

★

AUSTRALIA

The 1/6 mentioned in our October issue is criticised because of its colour, a grey black, and it is hoped future printings will be darker.

An 8½d. is being prepared, to pay new combined postal and registration charges.

The U.P.U. issue apparently consists of one stamp only, a 3½d., depicting delivery of letters by horseback and by plane. Blue in colour.

The Postmaster on Australia's met. station on Heard Island is Dr. R. Allison, who is also medical officer, naturalist, messing and amenities officer. As Postmaster his earliest job was to check a mail of some 4,000 letters sent to obtain the island's special postmark.

A £2 stamp, of design like the Arms 5/- and 10/-, is announced for issue on 16th January.

★

INDIA

The U.P.U. issue here consisted of four stamps—9p, 2a, 3½a and 12a, all of same design, a globe and emblem of three lines.

A new service set, 3p to R10, and four pictorials are due for issue, if they have not already appeared. Also a special set of four (2, 3½, 4 and 12a) on 20th January, for the anniversary of the inauguration of the Indian Republic.

★

ISRAEL

August 10th was the date of issue of a single 40 mils stamp honouring the 70th anniversary of Petah Tikva (the "Mother of the Colonies"). Dark green and brown in colour, it shows a picture of the first well dug in a modern settlement.

A series of six airmail stamps (5—250 mils) has recently been released.

Messrs. Whitfield King announce further sets (postage and postage due) in the coin design.

★

NEW ZEALAND

The Health stamps sales for the first two weeks of the campaign amounted to over £90,000, some £9,000 more than for the same period last year. It is expected the issue will be exhausted before the withdrawal date of 31st January.

★

NETHERLANDS

The "Voor Het Kind" charity set of five stamps was due for issue on 14th November. Designs symbolic of the seasons. Values 2 + 3c., 5 + 3c., 6 + 4c., 10 + 5c. and 20 + 7c.

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SOCIETY NEWS

EAST LONDON PHILATELIC SOCIETY

President, Mrs. R. Alabaster; *Hon. Sec.-Treas.*, Mr. E. H. Williams, P.O. Box 198, East London; *Meetings*, 2nd Fridays, Colosseum Theatre Tea Room (upstairs).

The last meeting of the year, held on the 9th December, was, as had been hoped, a record for attendance. No less than 58 collectors were present, including 26 visitors. The latter figure included several juniors, who, it is hoped, will later swell the ranks of our membership. Six new members were enrolled.

Refreshments were kindly provided by our lady members.

The display was given by a number of members, who each tabled a few of the most interesting pages from their collections. The result was a most varied display of classics and moderns in which there was something of interest to everybody.

Mr. Watson read an interesting and amusing paper on "unwanted stamps." He showed how many of the neglected stamps of to-day will certainly become the much-sought-after items of the coming generation and how the collector blessed with a flair for stamps can build up a fine collection with the minimum of outlay.

A.G.



GRAHAMSTOWN PHILATELIC SOCIETY

President, Mr. S. C. Chantler, P.O. Box 169; *Hon. Sec./Treasurer*, Mr. R. Q. Tarr, Wood House, Kingswood College; *Meetings* on second Thursdays, 8 p.m. at 120 High Street.

The December meeting was held on the 8th, preceded by a special general meeting called to approve the changing of the financial year to run from January to December, which was duly approved.

After business the President gave a short talk on the several methods of stamp printing from the early days to the present. Considering that most educational institutions had already gone on vacation, the attendance was good.

There will be no meeting in January, and the next fixture is the annual general meeting and election of officers on Thursday, February 9th.

S.C.C.



PHILATELIC SOCIETY OF JOHANNESBURG

President, Mr. J. Burrell; *Hon. Secretary*, Mr. B. Glassman; *Meetings*, 2nd Tuesdays and 4th Mondays, Johannesburg Public Library, 7.45 p.m.

November 28: Mr. J. C. G. Kupferman showed an almost complete collection of the stamps of Jugoslavia and Bosnia.

This included the earliest issues in different perforations, imperforate varieties, colour proofs and printer's proofs.

Both the Bosnia and Jugoslavia sections included newspaper stamps and Express letter stamps.

The Jugoslavia overprints in the 1918 issue included many varieties such as double and inverted overprints.

The Bosnia 1910 commemoratives were in both perforated and imperforated condition.

Mr. Kupferman read a paper on his exhibit explaining the various issues.

Mr. L. Buchen spoke on the exhibit.

December 13th: Mr. R. Duchon showed a fine collection of Union stamps.

In the King's Head issue there were both shades of the £1. The booklet issues were complete. The rare 2d., blue and violet (S.G. 44b and 58b) were in both issues. There were die-proofs and colour-proofs, and most of the plate numbers. All stamps were in mint condition.

Dr. Kaplan spoke on the exhibit.

I.I.

PORT ELIZABETH PHILATELIC SOCIETY

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

Mr. Forbes was in the chair when the meeting opened on Tuesday, November 15th. A visitor from East London received a very warm welcome.

The evening was in the hands of Mr. Harmer, who showed British Possessions. Features of his exhibit were: Only one missing in the 1d. reds of Great Britain; 1935 complete set of Antigua, used and mint; Bermuda set, mint; Bechuanaland 1886-1897 and 1888-1927 complete; one page had ten Cape Triangulars, including the 1d. red woodblock; Kenya-Uganda set of 1922-27, including the £1 used; new issue of Nyasaland, mint; St. Helena, and Northern Rhodesia, 1924 to current day.

All the stamps were neatly mounted and written up, and whilst most sets were mounted on black, the Silver Jubilees were mounted on silver. Mr. Harmer had taken keen interest in the setting up of his collection and well deserved the hearty vote of thanks he received.

Mr. Levey held the usual auction before the close of the meeting.

L.E.C.

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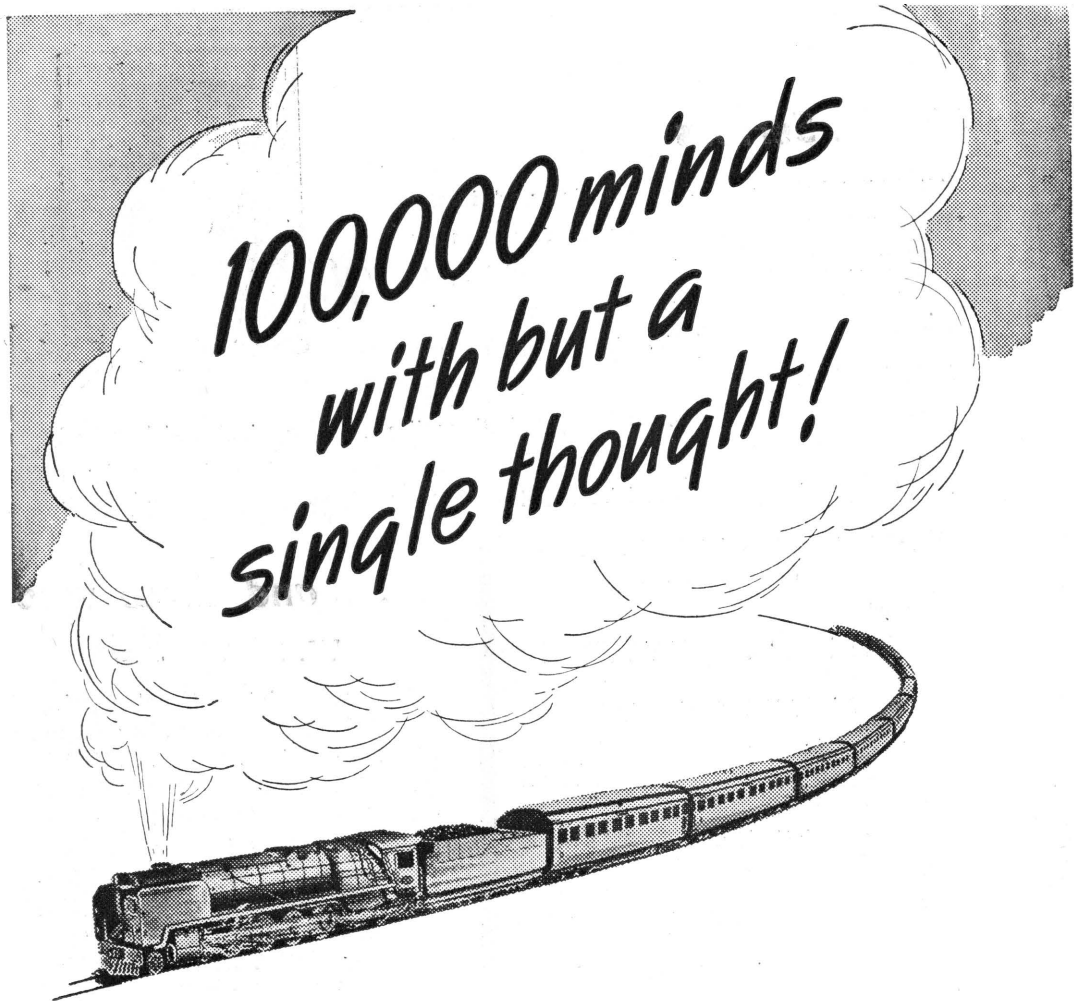
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DR. ROBERT BROOM

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LONDON 1950

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The Editor's Corner

UNION STAMPS

Several readers have written endorsing the views of "Baobab" in our December number that a "simplified" classification of Union stamps is a desideratum. Mr. G. N. Gilbert in an article elsewhere in this issue has tried, and we think successfully, to meet their wishes as regards the 1d. rotogravure issues. Perhaps some of our Union specialists will tackle other denominations similarly. Full details are necessary for a comprehensive catalogue and/or handbook, but lists such as Mr. Gilbert's might be added to such a work for the benefit of the less advanced collectors. "Baobab" might submit his listings of the 1d. and 6d. to Mr. W. N. Sheffield for consideration, if he feels too modest to send them in directly under his own name.

Actually a summary of the Union 6d. and 1s. printings was set up for this month's "Union Notes," but for lack of space is held over till next month.

PHILATELIC STAMPING OF MAIL MATTER

Mr. J. F. Keogh writes agreeing with the letter in our December number on this matter, from the Robertson Stamp Co., and states that he tries never to use a stamp on a letter or parcel that will be useless to the recipient.

We heartily agree with both writers, but when Mr. Keogh suggests an article on the subject explaining to the beginner how to go about it, that isn't so easy.

Both writers really give the gist of the matter already; it is merely an application of the Golden Rule "Do to others as you would be done by." Whenever you write to a fellow philatelist try to use stamps, current or ob-

solete (but still valid!) that will be useful to him; don't just use any old stamp you may have handy. Think what the other fellow might put on and what you would like to get if he were writing to you; then act accordingly. Can anyone better that advice at greater length "It's gey an' easy spierin," as R. L. Stevenson makes his beggar-wife say, but will the other fellow take your advice even if you do answer him?

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1950 PHILATELIC CONGRESS AND NATIONAL EXHIBITION

The eleventh Congress of the Philatelic Federation of Southern Africa will be held in Johannesburg on 23rd to 28th October. The Philatelic Society of Johannesburg, the host society on this occasion, purpose holding at the same time a large-scale National Exhibition.

Competitive entries will be limited to collectors resident in Southern Africa, but there will be classes for collections from any part of the world. This will be a worth-while exhibition on its own account, but it will be a grand opportunity for prospective entrants for the Cape Town International of 1952 to give their exhibits a trial run. So, get them ready. Fuller details will be published soon.

A Symphony Concert

Exhibit of 10 Sheets at the Philatelic Society of Johannesburg

By E. SCHALOWITZ

The idea of enabling Junior Collectors to shed their shyness and exhibit at a meeting of the Johannesburg Philatelic Society, by means of 10 sheet exhibits, was a most excellent one. The success of the evening both from the number and variety of exhibits was commented on in our November issue.

This is the story of just one of those small exhibits, which to the pleasant surprise of the exhibitor and writer of this, evoked some complimentary remarks. The idea germinated during the period in Johannesburg just ended when there was a great deal of musical activity. Being an avid concert-goer as well as a stamp collector, including stamps with a "music theme," the writer hit on the idea of trying to tell the story of a Symphony Concert by means of stamps. His mind was not unnaturally full of his two favourite hobbies and so there resulted the rather different type of exhibit, detailed below.

The method used was to tell the story of the concert and the music in words, and after each section, exhibit a sheet of stamps depicting the events and the music. To achieve some sort of continuity and clarity, it was necessary on a few occasions to resort to a play on words, for which due pardon is asked. The stamps shown are here described in somewhat greater detail than they were in the written sheets, as the close proximity of the actual stamps to the written word did away with this need. The story and exhibit follow.

SHEET 1: INTRODUCTION

At the start we are pleased to announce that once more the two Johannesburg Orchestras have combined, especially for this occasion. They are JOINED together for what we hope will be a stimulating and colourful performance.

The stamps shown on the adjoining sheets were: The set of coil stamps K.G.V. Heads, Union of South Africa, Perf. 14 x Imperf. in JOINED pairs, numbered in the Union Catalogue R.2a—R.5a inclusive, and in Gibbons 3a, 6a, 9b and 10a.

A Vertical strip of 4, S.G. No. 43 Union of South Africa, showing JOINED paper; Union Catalogue No. 38Vd.

SHEET 2: THE ORCHESTRA

The orchestra is now seated on the stage waiting for the arrival of the Conductor onto the podium. The players are tuning their instruments and doing some loosening-up work. We thus get a SPECIMEN of the sounds pro-

duced by the different instruments and of what the players can do.

The stamps shown on the adjoining sheet were six single SPECIMEN stamps, the 3d., the 1s. and the 2s. 6d. E & A of the Union of South Africa London Pictorial Set. See Union Catalogue Page 3, A.18.

SHEET 3: THE NATIONAL ANTHEMS

The Conductor has arrived, the initial applause is over and the orchestra plays the recognised National Anthems. It may be of interest to tender an explanation as to why this is done at the beginning of a concert instead at the end as at other functions. The suggested explanation is that an audience should leave the concert-hall with the strains of the concert-music in their ears!

The stamps shown on the adjoining sheet were:

Argentina—National Anthem on miniature sheet;
Bolivia—National Anthem (S.G. No. 445);
Dominica—National Anthem (S.G. No. 624);
France—Rouget de Lisle, composer of La Marseillaise (S.G. No. 547);

Brazil—Not the National Anthem but a beautiful stamp with the music of its national composer Carlos Gamez (S.G. No. 642).

SHEET 4: THE OVERTURE

The usual beginning to a Symphony Concert is an overture. This being, however, a somewhat unusual concert, we give you three overtures. The first is "Don Giovanni" by Mozart, the second is "Fingal's Cave (Hebrides)" by Felix Mendelssohn, and the third is to Wagner's opera "Tannhauser." Yes, there IS something wrong with the second work—it seems to have something of France about it instead of Mendelssohn and the Hebrides. It is regretted that this is the best stamp I could find to depict it. You see, poor Mendelssohn has never been honoured by the country of his birth, while Scotland has never issued any stamps.

The stamps shown on the adjoining sheet were: Picture of Salzburg Theatre with adjoining portion showing a few bars of Mozart's Don Giovanni music;

Picture of Mozart. These two stamps are from the set issued by the Nazis in "Bohemia and Moravia" during their occupation of Czechoslovakia, in 1941. (S.G. Nos. 68 & 70);
20F. French stamp with the picture of Cape Finisterre;

The 3 pf. value of the 1933 German Wagnerian Scenes set, showing TANNHAUSER plucking the zither? (S.G. No. 513).

SHEET 5: THE CONCERTO

Now it's the turn of the soloist. With memories of Claudio Arrau still fresh in our minds, we find some difficulty in presenting a comparable virtuoso. We may thus be pardoned if for this special occasion we bring back to life the great PADEREWSKI who performs for us the second Concerto of his countryman CHOPIN and the last of BEETHOVEN'S five piano concertos, popularly known as "The Emperor." He could even have played Brahms' Second Piano Concerto but for the lamentable fact that Brahms is nowhere to be found! We do show you the grand piano, and but for the lack of foresight on the part of the powers that be, we might even have shown you the old Wanderers Hall, Johannesburg, where the great Paderewski thrilled audiences in the days of the "inter-provincials."

The stamps shown on the adjoining sheet were:

Paderewski as President—Polish 1919 issue (S.G. No. 120);

Chopin 40 Gr. value—Polish 1927 issue (S.G. No. 261);

Chopin 3 Zlotei value—Polish 1948 issue; Beethoven—from the Austrian Musicians set 1926 (S.G. No. C. 30);

Grand Piano belonging to Bellini, Italian Composer 1935 Italian set (S.G. No. C. 209).

SHEET 6: INTERMISSION

This is the time when the critics in the audience gather in the foyer and sing the praises of Conductor, soloist and orchestra, or possibly damn with faint praise. It's also the occasion for an important OFFICIAL announcement that the artist will make his positively last appearance the following week, etc.

The stamps shown on the adjoining sheet were:

Union of South Africa OFFICIAL STAMPS: Mint and used pairs of S.G. No. 04; also a single used with a distinct F. instead of E in Offisieel (this item is not shown in the Union Catalogue);

Mint pair of 010a;

Mint block of 016 and 016a.

SHEET 7: RHAPSODY IN BLUE (Opus 2D)

The second half of the concert opens with some modern music. Gershwin, the composer of this work, may not have been honoured by his country in the same way as were SOUZA and STEPHEN COLIN FOSTER, but his music ranks in popularity with that of the two named Composers, and many of his works are not out of place on a concert platform. We have tried to show as many "blues" as we could find.

The stamps shown in the adjoining sheet were:

Union of South Africa: various 2d. values with BLUE centres;
S.G.—44b—mint block and used pair;
S.G. 58—mint block and used pair;
S.G. 015a—mint and used pairs;
S.G. 027—mint and used pairs;
Souza and Foster from the Famous Americans (Musicians) Set: (S.G. Nos. 1014-1015).

SHEET 8: (a) LULLABY; (b) IDYLL

Now there is some quiet music to follow as an antidote to the crashing and often dissonant chords of the previous work. We are first lulled to sleep by the lovely and so-well known wiengele by the unknown composer FRANK GRUBER and then we listen to the "SIEGFRIED IDYLL," by Wagner, music in great contrast to the tense drama of the Opera itself as depicted in the two scenes shown.

The stamps shown on the adjoining sheet were:

Austrian stamp issued in 1949 with pictures of Franz Gruber and Josef Mober the composer and writer of "Stille Nacht—Heilige Nacht," commemorating the 130th Anniversary of this song;

Picture of Wagner;

Scene from Siegfried—forging the sword.

These two stamps were issued in Czechoslovakia (Bohemia and Moravia) by the Nazis in 1943 in commemoration of the 130th anniversary of Wagner's birth (S.G. Nos. 109 and 110);

The 12 pf. value of the 1933 Wagner set showing Siegfried slaying the dragon (S.G. No. 518).

SHEET 9: SCHERZO

There hasn't been time to play a full symphony. The SCHERZO is usually the third movement and is sharp and incisive like PINPRICKS. There are many missing pinpricks in this movement but they are only marginal and so not of great importance.

The stamps shown on the adjoining sheet were:

Southern Rhodesia Admiral set; mint 1d. with imperf. left side margin: mint pair of the 1d. with bottom margin imperf.; mint 1½d. with top margin imperf. and showing inscription; used pair of 8d. value with right margin imperf.

SHEET 10: ALLEGRO—FINALE

This is the last movement of the Symphony, and it is most fitting that the full orchestral power should be reserved for the climax of our concert. An orchestra's power is in its BRASS and we try and show a fair amount of brass!

The stamps shown on the adjoining sheet were:

Union of South Africa: £1 value S.G. 24 and 24a used; 24 mint; South-West Africa: £1 pairs; Mint S.G. 27 and 40a, used and S.G. 15 and 27.

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U.S.A.

Recent issues here were a 3c. Edgar Allan Poe commemorative and a 6c. airmail honouring the Wright brothers. The U.P.U. emission took the form of three airmail stamps, 10, 15 and 25c. "Linn's Weekly" calls the first to appear, the 15c., a horrible, sickly pale blue that looks as if it had just come out of the wash. The 1950 spate started on 3rd January with a 3c. for the American Bankers' Association on the occasion of their 75th anniversary and the next commemorative will be a 3c honouring the late labour leader, Samuel Gompers—due to appear on 27th January.

TRISTAN DA CUNHA

The "Pequena", 180-ton motor coaster of the Tristan Exploration Company, arrived from the island on 15th December with a large cargo of frozen crawfish tails. An earlier trip this season arrived at Cape Town on 14th October, bringing penguin eggs as well as crawfish tails.

Mails came on both occasions. The former "missionary" type of postmark, with a Maltese Cross at the foot of the double circle mark, seems to have gone completely out of use. The postmark on the both mails mentioned above, and indeed also on the pre-



vious mail brought by the "Pequera" (26th April, 1949) was as shown in the accompanying illustration. This is the island's 8th type of canceller. It is interesting to note that according to Mr. A. B. Crawford, who knows the island so well, that although "Edinburgh" may be the official name of the settlement (and the children are actually so taught in school), the islanders themselves never use the name. They may say "the settlement," "the houses" or "the 'Willage'."

A mail left for the island on 25th January by H.M.S.A.S. "Natal". In the post office announcement it stated that letters and postcards would be accepted at British Commonwealth rates, and parcels at the reduced rate of 6d. a lb.

★ SOMALIA

Whitfield King & Co. report that the present series of G.B. stamps overprinted "BMA SOMALIA" were to be withdrawn on 2nd January and replaced by a similar series overprinted "BA SOMALIA". (In view of the probable return of this territory to Italian Protection, this may be a short-lived issue.—Ed.)

BELGIAN CONGO

The U.P.U. issue here was a single 4fr. stamp issued in October. It features a globe and a ship in full sail. *Stamp Collecting* has a picture of this with the heading "The Prettiest U.P.U.?", but they also remark that an o'd shellback might be critical as to the setting of the sails when the flags indicate a wind blowing from all sides at once.

There have been a 3fr. and a 6.50fr. values added to the 1947-48 series; the 2.50 fr. has been surcharged 3 fr. and the 6 fr. surcharged 6.50 fr. and also 4 fr.

UNION ½d. ROTOGRAVURE ISSUES SIMPLIFIED.

I fully sympathise with Baobab in his difficulties regarding the various Union Roto ½d. issues.

They are enough to give anyone a headache.

Although there have been several excellent articles on these stamps, as vide the Summary of Printing Changes in the ½d. in the April issue, and Mr. Sydow's various lists, etc., I think the reason for the confusion is due to the multiplicity of printings, shades, controls and flaws, which are usually set out in such lists, and also to the fact that Gibbons has changed the numbers of the re-engraved issue, so that No. 55 now becomes No. 64c. Added to this is the fact that there is an intermediate issue not listed separately, with the stamps slightly smaller and the gutters slightly wider.

So I will endeavour to give a plain and comprehensive list of the main printings, cutting out all frills, by which it should be fairly easy to see the wood for the trees.

(1) The first roto ½d. printings—listed as S.G. 42—are easily recognised. Suidafrika is unhyphenated. The shading lines are vertical top and bottom, and horizontal at the sides, and the top and bottom bars are crosshatched with white lines slanting from right to left. Perfs. 15 by 14. Width of gutter just over 1¾ mm.

(2) The first hyphenated issues, SUIDAFRIKA, S.G. 54, had similar characteristics to the first issues, except for the hyphen, and the letters of SOUTH AFRICA and SUIDAFRIKA are slightly thinner than those of the first unhyphenated issues. It is sometimes more difficult in some of these printings to see the crosshatching in the top and bottom bars owing to heavier inking. S.G. 54a is from roll sheets and is identical except for the perfs., 13¾ by 14.

(3) Now comes the main change. Design altered and all shading lines are horizontal. The top and bottom bars are crosshatched with white lines slanting now from left to right, and the bars are divided through by a fine white line. Perfs and gutters remain the same. This is S.G. 64c and d.

(4) In August, 1947, a printing appeared from cylinders 6912-7019, similar in every way to 3, but with the gutter slightly wider, 2 mm., and the stamp very slightly smaller. This is an intermediate size, and is not listed separately. It must not be confused with the later printings with the wide gutters measuring 2¼ mm. So this falls under 64c at present.

So far all the printings enumerated above have been screenless in so far as they have not had a fine dotted screen used in their printing.

(5) Then comes a printing with fine dotted screen used in the printing of the frame-plates only. There is no crosshatching in the top or bottom bars. The gutters are 2¼ mm. wide. Otherwise the design, etc., is as 3 and 4. This is S.G. 64e.

(6) Lastly come the control numbered sheets, with both frame and headplates screened. This has not so far been listed separately by Gibbons, but is mentioned in their notes at the foot of S.G. 64c, d and e. Beyond the fact of the screening of both frame and headplate the stamps are identical with 5.

I have purposely left out all mention of various intermediate printings, as these only confuse the issue. Shades are, of course, numerous throughout, one in particular being outstanding—the dark almost blue printing—which came out just after the design was altered, and which belongs to 3 in my list. I do not know if this is what S.G. lists as 64d, but it is certainly more than a blue-green.

To sum up—the things to look for in trying to decide a stamps category are (a) The design. Are the lines of shading all horizontal or are they both vertical and horizontal. Are the bars crosshatched, if so, how, and has the bar a line through the middle or not. Suidafrika or Suid-Afrika. (b) Width of gutter. (c) Screened or not.

This is a rough and ready list, but I hope that it may help Baobab and others in the same fix to decide what is what.

—G. N. GILBERT.

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MOZAMBIQUE VARIETY

Mr. J. E. Crewell reports finding a copy of the current \$3.50 (Nhanhangara Falls, olive) with the Escudo sign—\$—reversed. Applications at both Beira and Lourenco Marques failed to elicit any others.

Reviews

"*Guide Lines to the Penny Black*," by P. C. Litchfield. Robson Lowe Ltd., London. Price, 25s. nett.

The Penny Black, the first stamp of all time and still the most popular. There were nearly 70 million printed and it is reckoned that about 10 per cent. of these still survive. On the whole it is therefore not a rare stamp, but some examples are much more rare than others and market prices vary from a shilling or two to £200, according to condition and to the rarity or otherwise of the particular variety.

There were eleven different plates used for printing, the numbers from each plate varying enormously. There are two major flaws, the "ray" and the "o", recognised, numerous re-entries, double letters, extended lines, etc.

That pretty well summarises the frills of this book; the rest of it is solid business—a detailed description of each one of the 2,880 stamps which constitute the complete issue of the Penny Black. Every one can be recognised and "plated"; some are easy to place, some difficult.

Mr. Litchfield's painstaking work lists the characteristic features whereby every one can be "spotted". He does not claim that there is anything new or original in his work, but it is an amazing compilation of our knowledge of this aspect of the Penny Black. It is not a book for soothing bedtime reading or for giving to little Johnnie who has just started stamp collecting, but it will be invaluable to every advanced collector of penny blacks whose keenness perhaps exceeds his knowledge.

Stamp Collectors' Annual, published by Harris Publications, Ltd., 445 Strand, London, W.C.2. Price, 2s. 6d.

This "hardy annual", as in previous years, has a lot of valuable reference information for collectors, such as a list of the outstanding philatelic publications of the past year, a world currency guide, list of British Exchange Clubs and of Study Circles. "Who's Who in Philately" (Britain only), Active Philatelic Societies in the British Commonwealth (Denmark, curiously enough, is also included), and a world directory of philatelic magazines.

There are also a number of short articles by various authors, some of which are "Samoa Silhouette," "The U.P.U. in retrospect," "Best Designs of 1949" (the author gives his ideas as to the "ten best", and why, but admits that most people will have their

own ideas on the subject), "Finland" and "Seychelles".

Stanley Gibbons' Simplified Stamp Catalogue, 15th Edition, 1950. Retail price 15s. nett, plus postage abroad, 1s. 4d.

The Gibbons' Simplified Catalogue is, now the only World Catalogue published in a single volume, and this is made possible by the omission of differences of watermark and perforation, shades, errors and minor varieties and by the use of a number of reduced sized illustrations in the foreign lists. The result is clear simple lists which are ideal for the junior collector and for those who collect by designs.

The 1950 Edition lists 75,000 stamps and contains 1,542 pages—150 more than the previous edition, but the price remains the same. A special feature of this edition is that war-time issues of some European and Far Eastern Countries have been carefully revised and augmented and there have been an exceptional number of price alterations.

"*British Postage Stamp Varieties Illustrated*," by R. C. Alcock and C. W. Meredith. Published by R. C. Alcock, Ltd., 11 Regent Street, Cheltenham, England. Price not given.

This is a magnificent compilation of the errors, flaws and other varieties of British stamps starting with the Q.V. surface printed issues and going right up to the K.G. VI issues 1948.

The earlier line-engraved issues are not dealt with as their varieties have been well explored and the results collected in readily accessible form in various handbooks. There has been no handbook on the later varieties, however, beyond one pamphlet published in 1925.

This book therefore fills a considerable blank. The beauty of it is that every variety is pictorially shown, mostly by photographs, but with some additional drawings. Text is kept down to the briefest possible description of the variety, with the addition of such information which could not be shown by illustration but which it was considered important to give.

The printing is on one side of the leaves only, so that matter relating to any particular item could be removed for the writing-up and illustration of a collection, without sacrificing other matter.

A short section at the end (for the benefit of the tyro unfamiliar with terms peculiar to British stamps) illustrates pictorially some of the terms, e.g., "Secret dots", "Co-extensive" and "Continuous," "Jubilee lines," "Off-set" or "Set-off," K.G. V Dies "A" and "B," etc.

Altogether a work on which the authors and publishers should be congratulated by specialists on British stamps.

Correspondence

CAPE 4d. BLACK TRIANGULAR

We have received several letters anent Miss Versfeld's article in our issue of November, 1949. The first came from Messrs. L. N. and M. Williams, who write:—

In the paper by Miss B. J. Versfeld in your November, 1949, issue (Vol. 25, page 178-9) it is stated that there are five known copies of this mysterious stamp. May we point out that there are eight recorded copies, five being from Die A. The three from Die B include the unused copy in R. Roberts's collection (No. IV); this stamp no longer has any gum as it was soaked in hydrogen peroxide. The second Die B copy (No. V) was in the "A" collection purchased by Stanley Gibbons, Ltd., in 1938, and is now in an English collection. The third Die B copy (No. VIII) was in Robson Lowe's sale 607 on 26th June, 1946, when as lot 155 it realised £210, the highest recorded auction price for this stamp. The other copies are as follows:—No. I—An American collection (ex Riesco). No. II (unused)—An American collection (ex Riesco). No. III (unused)—The Royal Collection. No. VI—H. R. Harmer's New York sale 1286, lot 347 (9th April, 1941), sold for 650 dollars (£162 10s.) No. VII (unused)—Dr. E. Mosely collection in the British Museum. The Roman numbering is ours as previously published, and reflects the order in which the stamps were discovered.

The story of the stamp and biographies which we compiled of six specimens will be found in our article in "Stamp Collectors' Fortnightly," Vol. xlvii, page 9 (January 25, 1941), and the story is contained also in the chapter "Triangular Capes" in *Stamps of Fame*.

It is our opinion that the black stamps were proofs of the efficacy of the water-marked paper, and were included in a consignment of ordinary stamps shipped to the Cape by Perkins, Bacon & Co. It is by no means beyond the realms of possibility that the 4d. black was put into use during the stamp famine in 1861, shortly before the "Woodblocks" became available.

The suggestion made by Hermann Hirsch, that the stamps were a mourning issue for Albert, the Prince Consort, is, we believe, effectively exposed as pure fiction in our article in "Stamp Collectors' Fortnightly," where we show that the stamps were known to exist before the Prince Consort died! This variety was listed in Alfred Potiquet's catalogue, 1st edition, which was published on 21st December, 1861. The Prince died on 14th December, but obviously Potiquet could not have rushed this variety into print within the space of seven days. In any case, news of the Prince's death did not reach the Cape until 30th January, 1862.

Mr. Stephen G. Rich also wrote on much the same lines as above. He refers to the Williams' article and also to one by Meyer and himself in the "Essay-Proof Journal" of April, 1946, in which they say "Not even one fact adduced by anyone indicates that it is other than at best a trial colour proof, or a trial of the plate in black for some purpose not stated but presumably connected with the printer's work. The existence of what appear to be cancellations on two of the known copies has lent plausibility to several fanciful theories about this plate proof"

—oOo—

Mr. Edward M. Berry in a short note says: "There must be more than five copies in existence as a fully authenticated copy was in my possession in 1935/6 . . . It was compared with the one in the Royal collection and declared by Sir Edward Bacon to be from the same plate . . . It was eventually sold to Dr. Mosely of Johannesburg.

—oOo—

[The statement by L. N. and M. Williams that their No. IV specimen "no longer has any gum as it was soaked in hydrogen peroxide" interests me. It is the easiest thing in the world to manufacture a black triangular from a blue one by moistening it and exposing it to sulphuretted hydrogen; treat this changeling with hydrogen peroxide, however, and it returns to its pristine blue. I need not go into the chemistry of this reversible action, but would merely advise anyone offered a "black" triangular to insist on having it treated with hydrogen peroxide before buying. If it remains black, probably all is well; if it does not, draw your own conclusion!—Ed.]

—oOo—

1911 MACKAY ESSAY FOR UNION POSTAGE STAMPS

Mr. Sam Legator writes:—

Referring to Mr. A. Hilton Sydow's letter, published in the "S.A. Philatelist," December issue, I wish to state that the items which he shows missing according to his collation of colour and denominations, are complete in my collection.

I wonder whether your correspondent is definite on the colours, as the red in my collection is more of a Brick Red, and the yellow nearer dark Mustard than Yellow.

—oOo—

Mr. Lancelot A. B. Sharpe also writes (from England) to say that he is the lucky possessor of the complete set of the 4 strips of 5 Mackay Essays of 1911.

STUDY YOUR COUNTRY'S STAMPS

Union Notes

RECENT PRINTINGS

We are indebted to the Publicity Officer, G.P.O., for the following information covering the period 8/8/49 to 21/11/49. For previous listing see our October, 1949, issue, page 153.

Ordinary Pictorial Stamps

½d.—Job No. 8218 contd. The only information additional to the October listing is that the total printing from cylinders 7020A and 11B amounts to 316,356. This makes the total delivery on the job 909,356 sheets x 240.

1d.—Job 2810. On an order for 750,000 sheets x 240 there were 163,000 delivered subsequent to 16/8/49. Cylinders 6A and 6B as before.

1½d.—Job No. 8219 contd. The total delivery up to 20/9/49 from cylinders 6931A and B amounted to 547,304, bringing the total on the order up to 1,387,868 sheets x 240.

2/6.—Job No. 9601. On an order for 50,000 sheets x 120 there were 59,850 delivered between 18/8/49 and 30/8/49. Cylinders 6919 Int. and 17 Ext., both new.

Roll Stamps

½d.—Job 792 contd. Total delivery from cylinder 6045 now put at 5,160 rolls x 1,012 and 7,500 rolls x 506.

U.P.U. Stamps

½d.—Job 3266. Delivered between 15/9/49 and 4/10/49 there were 123,700 sheets x 120 from cylinder 60 and 106,571 sheets x 120 from cylinder 31 between 11/10/49 and 16/11/49.

1½d.—Job 3266. A total of 315,979 sheets x 120 delivered between 13/9/49 and 16/11/49 from cylinder No. 1.

3d.—Job 3266. A total of 60,821 sheets x 120 delivered between 20/9/49 and 16/11/49 from cylinder 25.

Voortrekker Stamps

1d.—Job 7448. On an order for 200,000 sheets x 120 the total delivered up to 21/11/49 was 53,766 sheets from cylinder 12.

1½d.—Job 7449. On an order for 290,000 sheets x 120 the total delivered up to 21/11/49 was 72,500 sheets from cylinder 21.

3d.—Job 7450. On an order for 40,000 sheets x 120 the total delivered up to 21/11/49 was 14,000 from cylinder 38.

Air Letter Cards

6d.—Job 6198. On an order for 4 million 1,588,800 were delivered subsequent to 23/8/49 from cylinder 40, new.

Pictorial Post Cards

1d.—Job 1319. There were 506,880 sheets x 32 delivered subsequent to 18/8/49, cylinders 85 (pictures) and 88 (stamps), new.

Overprinted for Use in S.W.A.

U.P.U. Stamps.—14,450 sheets of the ½d., 14,447 sheets of the 1½d. and 10,457 sheets of the 3d. drawn from the P.M.G.'s stocks and overprinted S.W.A. on a flat bed machine from new formes.

Voortrekker Stamps.—8,200 sheets of the 1d., 10,173 sheets of the 1½d. and 7,100 sheets of the 3d. drawn from the P.M.G.'s stocks and overprinted S.W.A. from new cylinder (No. 6933) on the stamp printing machine.

Special K.L.M. Voortrekker Flight from Amsterdam:

There appears to have been several varieties of special commemorative covers brought by this goodwill flight. Some (perhaps all) had a rectangular cachet with "ONTHULLING/VOORTREKKERMONUMENT" above and below a representation of the Monument, while at the left and right sides of it were respectively Pretoria/1949" and "Dingaans/Dag" with rays from the Monument towards the two upper corners.

By special request the mail was back-stamped at the Monument on 16th December.

New 1d. and 1½d. "Officials":

The appearance of "Official" overprints on sheets of the 1d. and 1½d. stamps bearing the marginal cylinder number imprints of 6A/6B and 6919A/6919B respectively was noted by Mr. J. Robertson, of the Robertson Stamp Co., during December.

In the case of the 1d., this is the first change to be recorded since the "Official" overprints appeared on the smaller sized stamps—18 x 22 mm.—and listed on page 7 of the Supplement to the Union Standard Catalogue as having been issued after the end of 1945. The overprints of the new "Officials" do not appear to be so heavily printed as on those stamps they have just superseded, but they continue to read downwards and show approximately the same variation of 11½ to 12 mm. in the spacing between "Offisiel" and "Official."

The overprints on the 1½d. stamps have been changed and now read *upwards* instead of down. There is also an increase in the spacing from the 14/14½ mm. in the previous issue to 16/16½ mm. in the new and the length of the words is slightly longer, measuring 14 to 15 mm. in "Official" and 15½ to 16½ mm. in "Offisiel." This is the third of the "Small Mine" printings to be used as a 1½d. "Official" and the information should be added to that given against Printing No. IV in the Summary published in our December, 1949, notes. The shade of the stamps used for this new overprint is very similar to the slate-blue of the previous 1½d. "Officials."

Import and Export Regulations:

The announcement made in our December issue, p. 190, in general still holds good, but a revised list of the sterling area countries has been sent us. It is: The Union of South Africa, South West Africa; any other part of the British Commonwealth except Canada and Newfoundland; any territory in respect of

which a mandate on behalf of the League of Nations is being exercised by the Government of the United Kingdom or any other Dominion and British Protectorate or protected State; Iraq, Iceland and the Faroe Islands.

Printing Flaw on Current 1d. (Van Riebeeck Ship) Stamp:

A vertical line joining the left hand ends of the two lower yard arms on the first stamp in the sheet of the current 1d. Van Riebeeck Ship issue is reported by Mr. I. Dekenah, Cape Town.

The flaw exists on the same 6A/6B printings on sale since July, 1948, but was not present a few months ago and has evidently only come into being quite recently.

As a matter of interest, a similar line exists in practically the same position on the No. 1 stamp of the Plate 10 printing (April, 1934), but in that case the line extends vertically beyond the upper yard arm and it is on an Afrikaans inscribed unit.

U.P.U. "Remainders" and Classification of the 1½d. Colours:

With the issue of the Voortrekker Monument Commemoratives on the 1st December, 1949, and the withdrawal of the U.P.U. series on the same date, a letter received from Mr. T. F. Allpass, Germistcn, mentions that the U.P.U. "remainders" were not being returned by the various post offices for destruction, but instead, were being used up on parcels, telegrams and accounting documents.

Discussing the colour of the 1½d. U.P.U. stamp, Mr. A. H. Sydow considers it would probably be more correct to describe it as "red-brown" rather than the "red" given in our November, 1949, summary of this series and subsequent examination indicates "red-brown" to be a much better classification.

Envelopes May Be Used Again:

A P.O. Bulletin of 6/1/50 states that the re-use of envelopes is being permitted as it was in war-time and for the same reason, shortage of paper. As before, previously used envelopes will not be accepted for registration.

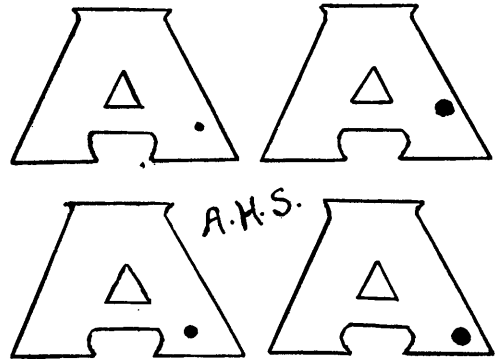
New Printings of the 6d. and 1/- Pictorial Stamps:

New issues of the 6d. (Orange Tree) and 1s. (Gnus) pictorial stamps were noted on sale at various post offices throughout the Union during the first week of January, 1950, and the sheets of both denominations appeared with their cylinder numbers inscribed in the margin at the bottom right-hand corner opposite the two bottom rows. They are printed in the same colour as the vignette, or frame, which they represent and in the case of the 6d. stamps the figure "6," in the red-orange of the frame, is opposite the bottom (20th) row and "6930" in the green colour of the orange tree is opposite the 19th row, second from the bottom. The same set-up has been adopted on the 1s. sheets and the blue frame cylinder number of "6935" is opposite the 20th row and "6926," in the brown

shade of the vignette, is in the margin adjoining the 19th row.

In his letter from Cape Town on the new printings Mr. A. H. Sydow records the 6d. on sale at the Ysterplaat and Mill Street Post Offices on the 6th January and the 1s. at the Ysterplaat and Maitland Post Offices on the 9th January. He notes that the vignettes and frames of the 6d. were produced from "cross-lined" screened cylinders—clearly shown on the lined background surrounding the orange tree—and a close study of the vignette and frame designs on the new 1s. gives the impression that the same type of screen was also used in the preparation of the cylinders for this denomination. He also mentions that the new stamps are the first screened permanent pictorials of these values issued to date and has drawn up the two lists, given herewith, summarising the different printings of these particular Unions.

Referring to the first printing of the 1s. by Bradbury, Wilkinson and Co. Ltd., Mr. Sydow



has submitted the accompanying sketch of the initial "A" of "AFRIKA" from Frame Plate I of these line-engraved stamps. The dots shown on the right-hand leg of the letters illustrate the type of coloured spots present on the first "A" of all Afrikaans inscribed stamps throughout the sheet except those in the first horizontal row of each of the two panes which comprise a sheet. There are 54 of these dots on each sheet of 60 x 2 (120) stamps but their size and position will be found to vary on different units and four examples are depicted in the sketch to assist collectors in the study of this printing and be on the look-out for other specimens. It should be noted that these "A" dots do not occur on the Afrikaans stamps of Plate II and for further particulars on this subject reference should be made to Mr. A. H. Sydow's article, "The Distinguishing Features of the Frame Plates of the Rectangular Stamps of the Union—Printed by Bradbury, Wilkinson & Co., Ltd.," in the July, 1945, issue of the "South African Philatelist."

The colours and measurements of the new 6d. and 1s. stamps are the same as those current during the last year and the main changes are the screened cylinders, the inscribed cylinder numbers on the sheets and a change in the marginal arrow designs from Type 7 to Type 9 (Union Standard Cata-

logue, page 48). In the case of the 1s., however, it is worthy of note that the colour of the marginal arrows has been altered from the vignette shade of brown in the previous issue to that of the blue in which the frames are printed.

Apart from one or two small spots, no particular varieties have been observed up to the present, but as a matter of interest it may be mentioned that the "spur" at the foot of the tree, Row 8/No. 12 on the previous 6d. issue, is no longer present. For convenience the main features of the new printings are set out below.

6d. Denomination

(1) Stamps.—Rotogravure printed; screened (cross-lined pattern); format, 18 x 22 mm.; perforated 15 x 14; watermark, multiple Springbok's Head, upright.

(2) Colours and Cylinders.—Green and red-orange; vignette cylinder No. "6930" printed in green on margin adjoining 12th stamp in 19th row; frame cylinder No. "6" printed in red-orange on margin adjoining 12th stamp in the bottom, or 20th, row.

(3) Sheet Format.—20 rows x 12 stamps (240); first stamp on sheet inscribed in Afrikaans (no change).

(4) Sheet Numbers and Arrows.—Four numerals in red printed twice on right-hand margin; marginal red-orange arrows of the solid type illustrated as No. 9 on page 48 of the Union Standard Catalogue.

1/- Denomination

(1) Stamps.—Rotogravure printed; screened (cross-lined pattern); format, 27½ x 21½ mm.; perforated 14; watermark, multiple Springbok's Head, upright.

(2) Colours and Cylinders.—Brown and chalky-blue; vignette cylinder No. "6926" printed in brown on margin adjoining the 6th stamp of the 19th row; frame cylinder No. "6935" printed in the same colour as the frame on the margin adjoining the 6th stamp of the 20th row.

(3) Sheet Format.—20 rows x 6 stamps (120); first stamp on sheet inscribed in Afrikaans (no change).

(4) Sheet Numbers and Arrows.—Four numbers in red printed twice on right-hand margin; marginal chalky-blue arrows of the solid type illustrated as No. 9 on page 48 of the Union Standard Catalogue.

Variations in Machine Cancellations

Writing on the subject of variations in machine cancellations, Mr. T. F. Allpass, of Germiston, records that from February 7th to October 31st last year the local post mark followed the normal pattern adopted by all machine cancellation offices, viz.:

NAME : HOUR : DAY/MONTH : YEAR

But at some time between 9.00 and 16.00 hours on October 31st the order became:

DATE/MONTH : YEAR : TIME

with the name Germiston, of course, remaining in the usual circular position.

Then, on some day between October 31st and November 7th, the order adopted was:

NAME : YEAR : DATE/MONTH : TIME
and this continued until some time in December when the pattern returned to normal.

The PAID/BETAALD machine cancellation in red was also noted to be going through similar changes to the other and Mr. Allpass is trying to trace the date in December when the set-up of the cancellation became normal again.

Additional "Voortrekker" Varieties

Mr. B. Chaitow, of Johannesburg, records the following constant printing flaws on the Voortrekker Monument stamps as additional to those listed in our January issue:

1d. Denomination, Row 16/No.5: A V-shaped or "eagle" mark in sky at left of wagon.

3d. Denomination, Row 3/No. 2: White spot over "SO" of SOUTH.

Voortrekker stamps of the 1d. denomination on sale at some post offices about the middle of January showed a distinct change in shade as compared with those available on the first day of issue. The bright magenta appearance of the earlier stamps is absent in the later and much duller issue, and in contrast to one another they appear even nearer to the "Violet Lake" colour described by Mr. A. H. Sydow in our notes on this subject last month.

Change in the Colour and Form of the Cyclometer Numbers on Recent ½d. Pictorials

The latest issue of the ½d. pictorial stamps printed from Cylinder Nos. 11A/11B and placed on sale at various post offices in Johannesburg and along the Reef during January show a change in the sheet numbers from red to black, and in addition they now appear as five-figure numbers instead of the more usual form of four-figures.

There has been no alteration in the position of the numbers on the sheet and they are still printed on the right hand margin, but the change in colour and form is evidently general, for Mr. A. H. Sydow mentions that the same features are present on the latest printings of the ½d. denomination from Cylinder Nos. 11A/11B now on sale in Cape Town.

It may not be generally known, but the five-figure sheet numbers in black indicate that this latest printing of the ½d. stamps has been carried out on the larger of the two printing machines in use at the Government Printing Works in Pretoria. It is a three-colour machine as compared with the two-colour type generally used for the printing of the postage stamps and is fitted with a single-comb perforator instead of the eleven-row multiple-comb equipment installed on the smaller, but faster machine. In consequence, an examina-

tion of the sheets produced on the single-comb perforating machine will show a complete absence of the "narrow row" of stamps frequently found at the centre of the sheets printed on the multiple-comb perforating machine.

An additional point of interest in this latest printing of the ½d. pictorial stamp is that the lines of the Springbok's Head on the vignette portion of the design stand out with a distinct charcoal black appearance, and in strong contrast to the frame, when the stamps are held up to a suitable position and viewed against the light.

New Air Letter Form:

A new air letter form bearing a different 6d. stamp impression and the address portion framed by an open sea-scape sketch appeared on sale at Union post offices during October.

The new form is the same size as the previous issue, but the paper is slightly stronger in texture. The design of the stamp has been improved and the whole set-up of the front presents a much more attractive appearance.

This is the fourth of this particular series of air letter forms to appear since 1944; the last one was recorded as on sale in June, 1948, and is described in the "Union Notes" of the following month. W.N.S.

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Philatelettes

By MRS. BUTLER.

Paper read before the Pretoria
Philatelic Society.

From its very beginnings, the hobby of collecting postage stamps attracted feminine followers, and to-day the ranks of stampdom's roster are generously accented by the names of women whose reputations are known and respected wherever the avocation is pursued. Some women—the daughters, sisters, and wives of philatelists—were converted to the hobby by exposure to the activities of their menfolk, others became collectors through their own initiative. Some of them have become members of the important general philatelic organisations of the world. Some others have formed clubs exclusively for women, and these groups have become prominent in their own right.

Dr. Louise D. Larrimore, now a member of the staff of the Greenwich, Connecticut, Hospital, formerly practised in New York and, during her stay in that city, was almost as eminent in philatelic as in medical circles. Besides enjoying herself Dr Larrimore did much missionary work among her friends and was instrumental in organising the Women's Philatelic Society of New York, which was the first group in the country exclusively composed of philatelettes. She might be likened to the late Charles Lathrop Pack in that, although she had the means to purchase any rarity she desired, she instead concentrated on stamps which cost her little or nothing except a fortune in time, initiative and energy.

In the United States and many foreign lands large firms regularly use so many postage stamps that huge stocks of them must be kept on hand in the outgoing mail rooms. And because unused stamps have a monetary value, not a few clerks of such firms have been tempted to purloin, for their personal use of sale, many dollars' worth of the boss's postage stamps. As a measure to prevent such potential losses, firms are given permission by the Post Office department to punch initials through the stamps. By identifying a firm's stamps "branding" them in this manner, postal inspectors may more easily track down a culprit should the firm's stamps be stolen and used by someone other than the "brand's" owner. Until Dr. Larrimore began her interest in these stamps, they were spurned by advanced collectors as being "damaged." But in them Dr. Larrimore has found an unusually interesting and exciting avocational pursuit.

She became annoyed at fellow collectors' consignment of initialed stamps to the waste-paper basket and decided that perhaps a little study might reveal some useful fact concerning these philatelic outcasts. Friends were willing and anxious to supply her with

material, she purchased cheap United States mixture lots from dealers and got all the incoming mail from several firms which received nothing but ordinary domestic letters. Hunting through stamps from these sources, Dr. Larrimore soon found several thousand different initialed stamps.

Whenever possible she obtains an entire envelope, so that the printed firm's name in the corner may identify the initials punched through the face of the stamp. When she obtains a specimen whose initials she cannot recognise, or which offers no other clue than the post mark, her hunting days really begin. With all the diligence and perseverance of a super-sleuth, Dr. Larrimore tracks down every lead. Most of the time a portion of a post-mark reveals either the name of the town or state in which the stamp was used. A check of telephone or business directories of that city usually provides a productive lead, but, failing that, she communicates with the postmaster and obtains the desired answer from him.

Quite often, though, this answer is a pitfall, for she has found innumerable instances of an initialed stamp having been used in a town other than that in which the authorised company is located. Most of the time this happens when a mail clerk pilfers a single stamp or two to use on personal letters which he mails from his home community. Sometimes it happens because although a firm may be located in one town, it may despatch its mail from an adjacent town, and that post office may happen to be closer in distance but across a boundary line. One large firm in Newark, New Jersey, for example, dispatches its mail from the Irvington post office.

The information which Dr. Larrimore has accumulated during the years of specialising in this "waste-paper basket" type of postage stamp is even more amazing than the number of specimens crammed between the binder of her twenty albums.

She has classified initialed stamps according to the types of firms which use them—factories, public utilities, publishers, supply houses, drug companies, and so on. Cross references reveal geographical locations and alphabetical listings. She can look at the initials of a stamp used by a firm which has many branches around the country and tell you not only the firm, but also which of its branches use that particular stamp.

Western Union, for example, punches all its stamps with a large "W.U." But each of its larger branches has a "key punch." Dr. Larrimore discovered this through individual study, and when she checked to confirm her deductions, she found that not even the office managers of the various offices knew that such a key existed. The initials are composed of tiny holes punched through the face of the stamp, and the size of the initials is slightly larger or smaller in the design used for the different cities. In one city the first hole in the "W" is of a different gauge, in another, the second varies, and so on. By

hunting for the off-size hole it is possible to identify the branch office which used that particular stamp.

At first Dr. Larrimore concerned herself only with United States stamps, but now she covers the earth and is as familiar with the initials on stamps from New Zealand as those from New Salem or Newfoundland. So comprehensive is her collection and so complete her file of identification records that she has already been called upon to assist postal inspectors, the Secret Service, and the Federal Bureau of Investigation in cases where initialed stamps were involved as possible clues to crime detection.

The casual chit-chat at a cocktail party was responsible for the fame of another feminine philatelist, and the accumulation of one of the more important stamp collections in the United States, if not the whole world.

Ferrars H. Tows was giving a party in honour of Giovanni Martinelli while the Italian tenor still was in his prime, and as will inevitably happen wherever a stamp collector is present, the conversation turned to the hobby. Among the guests was Mrs. Fay Jordan, widowed cousin of Mr. Tows, and she became the butt of a frivolous joke.

"It's a wonder that you, with plenty of time on your hands, wouldn't help Ferrars with his stamp collection," Martinelli ventured.

"Oh, bah," Mr. Tows scoffed. "She's much too busy with social obligations. Mah Jong and teas are more important to Fay. Besides, she wouldn't have the patience to treat and study stamps as she should."

That remark was just about all the auburn-haired socialite from Birmingham, Alabama, needed as a challenge. The next day she made a secret trip to the Scott Stamp and Coin Company, looked through the counter albums, and then and there decided that she would start clandestinely a collection of her own.

But her collection would be as individual as her nature. She was going to demonstrate that she not only had the ability to collect stamps, but also the originality to do something different. And that is how Fay Jordan's "Bunch of Violets" was conceived.

Instead of collecting in the orthodox manner of completing sets, she would collect stamps according to colour. She selected violet shades thereof. The beginning was quite simple. There were thousands of stamps printed in this colour and its hues, and the matter of filling the first two albums was child's play.

It was only after she had made more than a substantial start that Mr. Tows learned of her hobby, and the progress she made astounded even him. For violet stamps were being issued almost as often as red, blue, or green ones, and so her job was never quite finished. She found that many of the older classics were printed in this colour, and the hunt for them—some of these specimens are as elusive and rare as the Post Office Mauritius—was a challenge indeed. But to-day Mrs.

Jordan has a steel cabinet in her Riverside Drive apartment that is filled with about forty albums containing only stamps of a single colour. They are mounted on blank loose-leaf pages. Every inscription, every title, every date is hand-lettered, also in violet ink, with a pen wielded by the lady who had been told that she had not the patience to be a stamp collector.

At the National Stamp Exhibition, held at Newark, New Jersey, in August, 1945, the Bunch of Violets filled seventy-two large frames and occupied a separate room decorated in violet. The buzz of the philatelic chatter which that display started has not yet subsided.

Among the highlights included were the famous Department of Justice stamps overprinted, "Specimen" instead of the correct "Specimen," the Port Fouad stamp of Egypt, the rare Afghanistan tigerheads, and hundreds of similarly scarce and valuable gems.

Notable among the philatelles is Mrs. Catherine L. Manning, the curator of the famous Smithsonian Institution's stamp collection in Washington. Beginning her business career in the late nineteen hundreds as a clerk with the J. M. Bartels Company, Mrs. Manning soon accepted a "Temporary job" of mounting the few stamps which had been sent to the United States Government by the Universal Postal Union. Now, nearly fifty years later, Mrs. Manning still is with the institution and has complete charge of the wing of the museum in which huge cabinets of stamps, all in specially constructed display frames, are kept. At one time Mrs. Manning has been vice-president of the American Philatelic Society and has appeared as guest speaker at innumerable conclaves of philatelic students from coast to coast.

Among the other philatelles of note are Mrs. Henry Diamant, whose collection of Cape of Good Hope, early United States stamps, and Civil War and rare valentine covers are internationally famous; Miss Penn-Gaskell, whose air-mail issues are the best in Europe; Mrs. Caroline Prentice Cromwell, who owns what is said to be one of the most important collections of Newfoundland in existence; Miss Elean Wheeler, who has built the great collection of stamps from Crete and British colonies; Mrs. Dorothy McEntee, a general collector; Mrs. Edwin E. Elkins, who specialises in semi-postal stamps of the world.

Not a few women collectors have made prominent places for themselves as professional philatelles. Like ever so many men, these ladies found that the knowledge acquired during avocational pursuits could be turned commercial in time of need or inclination.

For years C. E. Severn published Mekeel's Weekly Stamp News, and although his wife assisted him in the many thankless chores which beset the producer of stamp collectors' journals, it was not until after he died that Mrs. Evelyn Severn took over the complete editorial assignment. Mrs. Severn kept that magazine going and so continually improved

its policies and contents that many students cannot decide whether it was better before or after Mrs. Severn became its editor.

Mrs. D. E. Dworak, owner and publisher of "Weekly Philatelic Gossip," is much in the same situation. Upon the death of her husband, who had founded and built the magazine into one of the best in the country, she grasped the reins and steered it right up to the ranks of the "top three" of philatelic periodicals. In addition to the magazine, Mrs. Dworak (who signs herself simply "D. E. Dworak," and thus confounds many readers who do not know that the publisher is a woman) has produced a number of permanent philatelic reference works, including reprint editions of *Album Weeds*, a copious work on the detection of counterfeits; *The Postage Stamps of the United States*, by John N. Luff, a wholesaler's guide, and several smaller handbooks.

Perhaps the best-known editor of stamp catalogues was a woman, Mrs. Hugh M. Clark, wife of the former president of Scott Publications, Inc. A philatelite of no small fame, especially for her collection of Civil War Patriotic envelopes, Mrs. Theresa, as she is more widely known, had complete control over the listing and descriptions of every postage stamp that was chronicled in the standard catalogues and albums published by the firm. To her desk came communications from every corner of the world—from famous students, from postmasters-general, from dealers, and from individuals who had discovered new varieties and believed that they should be given catalogue recognition.

Mr. Clark's own personal secretary, Jean Koor, is another philatelite who is widely known in professional circles, although she represents the reversal of the normal procedure. When she began work with the publisher she was not a collector; but through her personal contact with the hobby, and with the man who handled hundreds of thousands of stamp problems every year, Miss Koor was exposed to and bitten by the stamp collecting bug. Her personal collection consists of envelopes mailed by members of the Armed Forces all over the world during the war. Through them she has classified virtually every A.P.O. Fleet P.O. and Field P.O. marking used between 1939 and 1946, a philatelic work which soon will be published.

(Taken from: "The Romance of Stamp Collecting," by Ernest A. Kehr. 1947.)

HUNGARY

The Philatelic Agency of the Hungarian Post Office states:—

The Chain Bridge of Budapest was in its time a unique construction. It was opened to traffic on the 20th of November, 1849.

The Chain Bridge was destroyed during the war. Reconstructed it will again be reopened to traffic on the 20th November on its 100th birthday.

On this occasion, the Hungarian Post Office has issued a set of postage stamps in the

40 filler, 60 filler and 1 forint denomination and a set of air-mail stamps in the 1.60 and 2 forint values, as well as a commemorative air-mail sheet of 50 forints.

"Stamp Day," 11th December, was honoured by the issue of a special 50 fl. airmail stamp featuring a postman and various methods of postal transport. (Information from the Hungarian P.O. Philatelic Agency).

Three stamps with a portrait of Stalin were issued on the occasion of his 70th birthday, 21st December.

DENMARK

November 13 was remembered as the Day of the Postage Stamp. The event was sponsored by the Federated Danish Stamp Clubs, Denmark's Philatelist Union, which prepared a special post card and a special cover depicting the Danish Mail-Carrier and Danish Mail-Box. The card and cover carried a special cancellation from an exhibition in Holstebro.

Messrs. Whitfield King & Co. informs us that a 40 ore blue stamp is to be issued in the current King Frederick IX series.

CAPE TRIANGULAR WATERMARK VARIETY

In the October issue of the "London Philatelist," 1949, p. 174, S. G. Rich describes and illustrates a watermark variety on the white paper Perkins Bacon 4d. This has been subjected to consideration by a number of Cape specialists, and as a result of search several specimens of somewhat similar marks have been found on other fourpennies and also on other denominations of both Perkins Bacon and De La Rue stamps.

The mark consists in the presence of a rather rough gothic I to the left of the anchor and a similar S to the right of it.

All commentators are agreed that it is not a constant variety on every sheet, but if of accidental causation, say, by a piece of adhering pulp), why always of more or less the same design?

GERMANY

The 30pf. U.P.U. stamp in blue issued in the Bi-zone is an interesting one, inasmuch as it shows the Berlin G.P.O. and the building in Berne where the U.P.U. agreement was signed. Between the buildings is a "ghost" portrait of Von Stephan, the "father" of the U.P.U. A set of four semi-postals, with surtaxes in aid of various charities, was issued in December.

COMORO ARCHIPELAGO

It is stated in French philatelic papers that the islands, lying in the Mozambique Channel, may soon have their own stamps, following on their having been given administrative and financial autonomy early in 1947. Several of them, Anjouan, Mayotte, etc., had their own stamps years ago, but of recent years they have used those of Madagascar.

SHORT NOTICES

Honolulu Advertiser.

Maj. James T. de Voss, stamp editor of Hawaii's largest morning daily, announces the resumption of its stamp column, appearing as a weekly Sunday feature. A specimen shows it occupying pretty nearly a full page. Why cannot some of our newspapers run to such a feature—we surely have many more readers interested in stamps than Hawaii can have?

Balasse Magazine.

Willy Balasse, of 54 Rue du Midi, Brussels, well-known publisher of a specialised catalogue of Belgium and Belgium Congo, sends a copy of his bi-monthly magazine. There are various short articles, with many illustrations; they deal mainly, but not exclusively, with old Europeans.

Die Lupe.

A fortnightly general philatelic paper, published at Duisburg-Ruhrort, Hafenstrasse 44 (Postfach 6). Price, 60 pf. a copy.

Mr. John Bianchi.

Mr. John Bianchi, of P.O. Box 498, Zurich, sends his 1950 Wholesale List of stamps. Practically only Europeans, prices in Swiss francs.

Bull. French Phil. Soc.

This Society, of the University of Montreal, Canada, was recently founded in the interests of collectors of the stamps of France and her colonies, and already has over 300 members. The "Bulletin" has very interesting articles and notes on both modern and older stamps.

The China Stamp Society, Inc.

This Society, whose Secretary is Mr. Cecil V. Gary, 507 Hight Street, Cranford, New Jersey, has sent us a specimen copy of their magazine, "The China Clipper," published six times a year, and now in its 13th volume; also of their monthly news letter, "The Flying Goose." The latter is mainly society news; the former has extremely interesting articles—New Issues, Stamps used in China prior to the issue of Chinese stamps, Postal history of Tibet, etc.

EXCHANGES WANTED

Berry Izy, of Aleea Mavromol 4, Galatz, Roumania, wishes to exchange modern European mint sets for mint sets of British colonials.

Valeriu Plugaru, of Bd. Republicei 12, Galatz, Roumania, also wishes exchange of mint sets British colonials and first-day covers for mint sets of Roumania, Balkans, Philippines, etc.

Laurent Morrissette, 3446 Hogan Street, Montreal, Canada, wishes to exchange South Africans for Canadians.

LONDON 1950 INTERNATIONAL

A press release headed "Around the Exhibits" described what is to be the lay-out of the exhibits in some 900 frames at Grosvenor House. It is obviously going to be a very fine exhibition with imagination displayed in the grouping and arrangement—something of every aspect of every country, but not too much of any one thing. Limitations of space have perhaps imposed "quality, not quantity," on the organisers as their aim—and a very good thing, too, for all prospective visitors.

Collections and Sets

U.P.U., complete mint, 80			
British Empire countries	£10	5	0
Do., 83 low values	1	0	0
Silver Weddings, mint, low values, complete	1	5	0
Coronations, 191 mint	3	3	3
Victories, 164 used, complete	4	15	0
Bahawalpur collection, 45 mint	5	17	6
Ask for Price List for hundreds of other sets, packets, etc.			

BENONI STAMP SHOP

BOX 485, BENONI

BELGIUM

A single semi-postal, 1f. 75c., plus 75c., has been issued in remembrance of the 50th anniversary of the death of the Flemish poet, Guido Gezelle. It features his portrait. The tax will go to the museum in Bruges called after him. We are indebted to M. G. Lefebvre (who used to be our correspondent in the Belgium Congo, but is now living in Brussels) for word of a series of 9 semi-postals now on sale, the surtaxes going to the Anti-Tuberculosis Society and other philanthropic leagues. Four of the stamps feature national flora; the others show portraits of various old monarchs.

REPUBLIC OF IRELAND

December 5 saw the appearance of a 1d. green commemorating the centenary of the death of the poet, J. C. Mangan. It has a portrait showing him in a moment of inspiration with pen upraised.

KENYA, UGANDA and TANGANYIKA

From "Gibbons' Stamp Monthly" via "The Australian Stamp Monthly" we note that the 50c and 1s. values have new centre-plates "3" and "7" respectively. Both the 5s. and 10s. have reverted to comb perforation 13 x 13½. The perforation story of the 5s. over the last two years is interesting:—

July, 1947—13 x 13½ comb
Jan., 1948—14 line
Apr., 1948—13 x 13½ comb
Aug., 1948—14 line
July, 1949—13 x 13½ comb

SOCIETY NEWS

PHILATELIC SOCIETY OF JOHANNESBURG

President, Commander C. E. D. Enoch; *Hon. Sec.*, B. Glassman, P.O. Box 4967, Johannesburg; *Meetings*, 2nd Tuesday and 4th Monday, at the Johannesburg Public Library, 7.45 p.m.

The meeting of 10th January, 1950, was the annual general meeting of the Society. After reports by the Hon. Treasurer, Hon. Secretary and President had been presented, an election was held for the officers of the Society. The following were elected: President, Commander C. E. D. Enoch; Vice-President, Mr. G. M. Brown; Hon. Treasurer, Mr. M. Jecks; Hon. Secretary, Mr. B. Glassman; Hon. Publicity Officer, Mr. I. Isaacs; members of Committee, Messrs. E. Hunt, J. Shepherd, and L. Buchen, with Mr. J. Burrell, Dr. A. Kaplan, Mr. W. Redford and Dr. J. H. Harvey Pirie as ex officio members.

The retiring president, Mr. J. Burrell, gave the display for the evening. He read a paper, "A conducted tour through the Government Printing Works," illustrated with lantern slides. He showed and described how the U.P.U. Stamps and Voortrekker Stamps were printed from the artist's design to the completed sheets.

Mr. Burrell expressed his thanks to Mr. Swanepoel, of the Post Office Publicity Department, and Mr. Booyens, of the Government Printing Works, who were both present at the meeting, for their courtesy and assistance in enabling him to prepare the slides. Mr. Sheffield assisted Mr. Burrell in pointing out on the slides the essential points of interest.

It was a very fine paper and the slides made it easy to understand, and everyone present was very interested in the subject.

Mr. Swanepoel then showed sheets of coloured trials of the U.P.U. and Voortrekker Commemoratives from the records of the Post Office.

Commander Enoch expressed the thanks of the meeting to Mr. Burrell and Mr. Swanepoel.

During the evening Dr. A. Kaplan signed the Philatelic Roll of Honour to which he had been elected at the Port Elizabeth Congress.



PRETORIA PHILATELIC SOCIETY

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

7th November. Mr. Swanepoel, the Post Office Publicity Officer, gave a paper on South African commemorative issues, and further dealt with the history and work of the Postal Department.

15th November. Visit to the East Rand Philatelic Society.

21st November. Paper and exhibit by the Rev. Loxley-Chamings on "Stamps with a Story." It is expected that this will be published in the "South African Philatelist."

5th December. The Jewish Guild Philatelic Section was unfortunately unable to pay their scheduled visit. Various items were exhibited and there was a brisk auction.

19th December. President's evening, and his contribution took the form of a paper and exhibit dealing with the "Post Office on the Sea Floor of the Bahamas."



SPRINGS PHILATELIC SOCIETY

Chairman, Mr. C. J. Meeuwis; *Hon. Sec.*, Mr. Sutcliffe; *Meetings*, 2nd Mondays.

It was decided to start our financial year in January of each year. The annual general meetings will be held in January of each year, but it will be held in February this year.

A proposal was made that the Secretary should write to the Federation for an adjustment of the fees from May up to the end of December this year.

From now on the business of the exchange club will be carried on before the meetings, from 7.30 to 8 p.m., and no buying or selling of stamps will take place from 8 p.m. until the end of the meeting.

Different members have been called on to exhibit portions of their collections at the monthly meetings.



EAST LONDON PHILATELIC SOCIETY

President, Mrs. R. Alabaster; *Hon. Sec.-Treas.*, Mr. E. H. Williams, P.O. Box 198, East London; *Meetings*, 2nd Fridays, Colosseum Theatre Tea Room (upstairs) at 7.45 p.m.

The first meeting of the year was held on the 13th January, and members heard an interesting five minute talk by Mr. T. Harper on "Forgeries and their Detection," illustrated by a display of samples of the forger's art. Few of the forgeries shown would be considered dangerous by any experienced collector, but as Mr. Harper pointed out, the chief danger lies in forged overprints and surcharges and in forgeries produced by printing reproductions of rare stamps on genuinely water-marked and perforated paper from which the original designs have been removed by chemical means.

Mr. S. F. Fowler showed his collection of U.S.A. and Mr. C. H. Thornton a selection of fine European classics.



EAST RAND PHILATELIC SOCIETY

President, Mr. J. Shepherd; *Hon. Secretary*, Miss S. O. Jeffrey, P.O. Box 572, Benoni; *Meetings*, Regent Hotel, Benoni, 3rd Tuesdays, 8 p.m.

On the 20th December the above Society held their usual monthly meeting at the Regent Hotel, Benoni. The meeting was not as well attended as usual, probably due to the festive season.

The high-light of the evening was a competition arranged and presented by Mr. Sam Legator. As some of the members are very new to the mysteries of philately Mr. Legator had catered for all, and a study of the daily newspapers would have revealed quite a number of answers. The prize of the evening, a silver anniversary album presented by Mr. J. Clement, was won by Mr. H. Suklje.

Mr. J. J. Pine, the exhibitor for the evening, tabled a very fine collection of Southern Rhodesia and the Victorias.

This Society started the New Year in fine style with a visit from the Johannesburg Society under the chairmanship of Cdr. Enoch. The East Rand members were very appreciative of the fine collections which were tabled and trust that they will have many more opportunities of meeting the Johannesburg members.

The exhibits were as follows:

Mr. Duchon, Canada; Mr. Glassman, New Zealand Healths, Bermuda, St. Lucia and Sarawak; Mr. Sterne, George VI—used; Mr. Buchen, Israel provisionals and a paper presented on the same subject; Mr. Hunt, German States practically complete; Cdr. Enoch, 18th Century Dominican Republic.

Mr. Gross, a new member to the East Rand Society, proposed a vote of thanks to the first three exhibitors, and Mr. Legator to the others.

OBITUARY

It is with regret that we have received the news from Pretoria of the passing of Mr. H. N. B. Hawke, an Hon. Life Member of the Society and one of its oldest members, as he joined it in 1902. He was a keen philatelist and had served the Society in many capacities, including that of President. At the time of his demise he was Hon. Auctioneer. He was a very regular attendee at both Society and Committee meetings, and his cheerful manner and good counsel contributed materially to the Society's success; he will be much missed.

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MARCH 1950.

Whole No. 300

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Editorial Comment

FAKES

1. MODERN UNIONS

The following notes have just been received from Messrs. Sydow and Simenhoff. From them it would appear that an individual against whom collectors were warned eight years ago, is back in Cape Town once again. This time he is masquerading under a different name; but his wares are much as before:—

“If you will open a copy of the ‘South African Philatelist’ of April, 1942, you will see a half column with certain warnings from Mr. L. Simenhoff and myself in connection with certain Union fakes—Double impressions and changed colours. Well, after approximately eight years there are fakes being offered again in Cape Town, including certain “off-set” varieties. Mr. Simenhoff saw some of the 1d. Royal Visit Stamps of 1947 and other varieties; he did not recognise the offerer, but phoned me and asked me whether Mr. “X” could come to my residence to see me personally and show me these. Mr. “X” spoke to me by phone and I recognised the voice as that of Mr. “Y” of 1942. I asked him to come and see me straight away, but he did not turn up. While I spoke to him by phone he described the said varieties; certain portions of the design appear on the bottom blank margins—the stamps shown were from Row 20 of the sheet—e.g. a mint stamp from row 20 is shown with a “stamp space” from the bottom margin—on that “stamp space” a portion of the “frame design” appears—say the name tablet with the lettering not in reversed or negative form, but in normal positions and positive. This is similar to

some of the fakes of 1942 when certain of them were used on letters actually through the post and also in mint condition. e.g. the gravure oval with the Van Riebeeck Ship vignette doubly impressed, some normally upright and sideways and other obliquely—also not in reverse or negative, but normally and positive. The faker is apparently able to remove, say, the whole of the vignette design from one stamp and to transfer the same on to another stamp of the same denomination to form a double impression, or on to a blank marginal “stamp space”. Whether he does this by chemical or other means I cannot say, as I have not had an opportunity of examining the specimens. The design-positive on stamp is taken negative on some other substance and therefrom transferred positive to a printed stamp or a “blank stamp space”.

I have hurriedly sent this news and I shall be glad if you can give a warning to other collectors.”

A. H. SYDOW.

2. OLD CAPE CANCELLATIONS

In the July-August, 1949, number of ‘Philately’ Mr. Douglas Roth reports what he considers to be faked cancellations on genuine stamps and covers, mainly with either bisected triangular Cape stamps or with fiscal stamps purporting to be postally used. In many of the cases the stamps had pen-marks removed before being put on the covers.

The cancellations are all of the small triangular type with the letters “C G H”. The faking may have been done with triangles specially made for the purpose, or they may have been genuine original cancellers obtained in some way from the P.O. archives.

He has studied in detail some eighteen items with cancellations on bisects and illustrations are given of three varieties which occur again and again in the series. His

main reasons for regarding them as fakes are:—

(a) Identical triangles appear to emanate from several different places.

(b) They are all on unusual adhesives or combinations of them, with the rarer adhesives usually cleaned.

Roth then notes that none of his three varieties agree with any of the seven "types" illustrated by Mr. A. A. Jurgens on p. 56 of his book, "The Handstruck Letter Stamps of the Cape, etc.", but that they are represented by various illustrations (itemised) on later pages of that book, mainly as cancelling either bisects or fiscal stamps.

Although not saying it in so many words, this appears to be tantamount to saying that the items so illustrated by Jurgens are also fakes.

Jurgens too evidently felt this way about it and has made a reply to Roth in "Philately" of Jan.-Feb., 1950. This may be summarised as follows:—

(a) He thinks Roth's Triangle A fits into his Type 3. Roth's Triangle B he cannot check up on with no exact measurements available (Roth's illustrations are all enlargements). Roth's Triangle C does certainly not agree with any of his seven main types; he calls it a monstrosity and regards Roth's identification of it as being identical with some of those figured in his (Jurgens') book, as ludicrous.

(b) With regard to Roth's Triangles A and B he states that he has numerous specimens of rectangulars ($\frac{1}{2}$ d. to 1s.; watermarks C C, C A or Anchor) showing cancellations with all the characteristics of these two triangles. These marks have emanated from widely separated towns on the same date and/or year. He asks "Would there have been any object in a faker creating such items?"

(c) Cleaned stamps are *not* necessarily evidence of faking, though they are very often evidence of intent to defraud the Government of revenue. He refers readers to his book (*ut supra*) where he has explained at length how Cape stamps were often pen cancelled, were easily cleaned, letters were often wrongfully marked "O.H.M.S.", were additionally stamped (often with fiscal stamps), and how the bulk of such letters emanated from offices of Magistrates or Civil Commissioners.

Jurgens does not deny that the specimens (or some of them) described by Roth may have been fakes; in fact he begins his reply by thanking Mr. Roth for drawing attention to the fact that there are still fakes about. Such items were known in the past in South Africa, but it was thought that they had largely, if not entirely, disappeared. He states that there were four known fakers, three of whom had genuine triangular defacers obtained somehow from postmaster-pals; the fourth is believed to have used a cork-canceller.

On a matter really quite apart from the main issue dealt with by Roth, Jurgens has laid himself open to criticism by Mr. Robson Lowe as the chairman of the B.P.A. Expert Committee.

A footnote to Roth's original article states "The B.P.A. Expert Committee has available certain reference material which is of great use in classifying a manuscript cancellation correctly as postal or fiscal." Jurgens in his reply says "This is absolutely incorrect . . ." Lowe remarks that this is incomprehensible—as Jurgens is unaware of the reference material available, how can he say that thing is incorrect? Lowe goes on to refer to Jurgens' own excellent chapter on this subject in his own book. The presumption would seem to be that this chapter was regarded as part at least of the reference material available to the B.P.A. Expert Committee.

But this is a small matter and beside the main issue which would seem to be "Are Roth's specimens and Jurgens' specimens fakes or genuine?" Jurgens offers to make his available for inspection by an unbiassed person or persons. Could Roth do the same? It might then be possible at any rate to get an unbiassed opinion.

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New printings of Basutoland 1d., 1½d., 3d., 4d., 6d., 1s. and 5s.; and of Bechuanaland 1½d., 4d. and 6d. are reported by the Crown Agents as having gone on sale in January. This does not mean necessarily that they are yet on sale in the respective territories.

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Union Notes

"Broken Mast" Variety Not Constant Throughout the "E" Control Printings of the 1d. Rotogravure Pictorial Stamps

A letter received from Mr. G. N. Gilbert of Westminster, O.F.S., mentions that when recently going through his earlier Rotogravure albums he noticed two blocks of the 1d. pictorial issue each bearing the marginal control letter "E" and sheet serial number—printed opposite rows 5 and 6—which differed from each other in the fact that one showed the "Broken Mast" variety and the other did not.

He notes that when writing his articles on the first Rotogravure stamps for the "South African Philatelist" he stated in the August, 1934, issue that the "Broken Mast" variety had run throughout the life of both the "D" and "E" control printings, but in the case of the "B" sheets it occurred only on the second of the two printings which were produced with this control letter in the margin. From a study of the two "E" blocks in his collection

he records that it is now quite clear a new headplate was used sometime during the life of the "E" control printing, but the frame-plate remained unchanged and further, that we now have a similar occurrence to that observed with the "B" printing namely, a control block from the same position in the top half of the sheets which may or may not show the "Broken Mast" variety.

Mr. Gilbert points out that the "Broken Mast" variety on the "B" control sheets is a very elusive and scarce item when compared with the same, but much more common variety from the "D" and "E" control sheets and he would now like to establish how common, or otherwise, the "E" control sheet is *without* the "Broken Mast." He therefore asks readers who may have either the "B" control *with* the "Broken Mast" or the "E" control *without* the "Broken Mast" in their collections, to be good enough to send him a post-card to P.O. Box 15, Westminster, O.F.S., South Africa, giving the sheet serial number on the item. The latter point is important for it may assist in determining when the change took place and also in proving definitely that there were two complete printings of the "E" control. He will be very grateful for any information which may be available

SUMMARY OF THE 6d. UNION PICTORIAL PRINTINGS

(A).—Anhyphenate Series

(1) Letterpress printed by Waterlow and Sons Limited, from flat nickel-faced electrotyped plates made by the Royal Mint in London (issued May 1, 1926): (a) From Frame Plate No. 1 and Vignette Plate No. 1 (generally known as the "London Plates").

(2) Letterpress printed by the Union Government Printer from flat nickel-faced electrotyped plates made by the Royal Mint in London (issued 1927-1928): (b) From Frame Plate No. 2 and Vignette Plate No. 2 (generally known as the "Pretoria Plates").

Note.—The London Frame and Vignette Plates and the Pretoria Frame and Vignettes *ut supra* were made from a Master Frame Plate and a Master Vignette Plate respectively.

(3) Rotogravure printed by the Union Government Printer (issued May, 1931): (a) Frames from an Unnumbered and Unscreened Copper-faced Cylinder; (b) Vignettes from an Unnumbered and Unscreened Copper-faced Cylinder.

(B).—Hyphenate Series

Rotogravure printed by the Union Government Printer, from copper-faced cylinders.

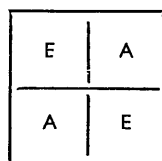
(4) Frame Die I.—("SUID-AFRIKA," 16½ mm. long (issued October, 1937): (a) Frames from Unscreened Cylinder No. 51a; (b) Vignettes from Unscreened Cylinder No. 52a.

(5) Frame Die II.—("SUID-AFRIKA," 17 mm. long) (issued June, 1938): (a) Frames from Unscreened Cylinder No. 53; (b) Vignettes from Unscreened Cylinder No. 6916.

(6) Frame Die III.—(Smaller design, 18 x 22 mm.) (issued late 1946): (a) Frames from Unscreened Cylinder No. 6935; (b) Vignettes from Unscreened Cylinder No. 9).

(7) Frame Die III.—(Smaller design, 18 x 22) (issued January, 1950): (a) Frames from Screened Cylinder No. 6; (b) Vignettes from screened Cylinder No. 6930. (Cylinder numbers printed on right-hand margin opposite rows 19 (6930) and 20 (6).

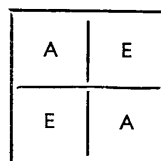
Note.—Cylinder numbers were not imprinted on the margins of the stamps of categories 4, 5, 6 *ut supra*.



Nos. 1 and 2

Row 1

Row 2



Nos. 3, 4, 5, 6 and 7

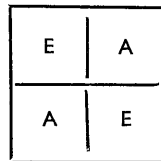
SUMMARY OF THE 1/- UNION PICTORIAL PRINTINGS

(A).—Anhyphenate Series

(1) Printed by Bradbury, Wilkinson and Co. Limited (issued March, 1927): (a) Frames from Curved Line-engraved Steel plates, Nos. 1 and 2; (b) Vignettes from Curved Line-engraved Steel Plates, Nos. 1 and 2 (For differentiation see illustrations hereunder.)

(2) Printed by the Union Government Printer (issued September, 1932): (a) Frames from Unscreened Copper-faced Cylinder No. 6927; (b) Vignettes from Unscreened Copper-faced Cylinder No. 7020. (Four large blue arrows per sheet. (Cylinder numbers not imprinted on margin.)

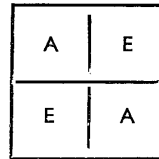
(3) Printed by the Union Government Printer (issued January, 1938): (a) Frames from Unscreened Copper-faced Cylinder No. 22; (b) Vignettes from Unscreened Copper-faced Cylinder No. 6926. (Four standard blue arrows per sheet. Cylinder numbers not imprinted on margin.)



Nos. 1 and 2

Row 1

Row 2



Nos. 3, 4, 5 and 6

(B).—Hyphenate Series

(4) Printed by the Union Government Printer (issued February, 1939): (a) Frames from Unscreened Copper-faced Cylinder No. 38; (b) Vignettes from Unscreened Copper-faced Cylinder No. 6925). (Four standard blue arrows per sheet. Cylinder numbers not imprinted on margin.)

(5) Printed by the Union Government Printer (issued June, 1948): (a) Frames from Unscreened Copper-faced Cylinder No. 6027; (b) Vignettes from Unscreened Copper-faced Cylinder No. 14. (Four brown standard blue arrows per sheet. Cylinder numbers not imprinted on margin.)

(6) Printed by the Union Government Printer (issued January, 1950): (a) Frames from Screened Copper-faced Cylinder No. 6935; (b) Vignettes from Screened Copper-faced Cylinder No. 6926. (Four large blue arrows per sheet. Cylinder numbers printed on right-hand margin opposite rows 19 (6926) and 20 (6935).)

to help him in his study of this new aspect of one of the early Rotogravure printings, but please make sure the block bearing the control letter and serial number is the one from the top half of the sheet, i.e., with the letter "B" or "E" adjoining the *English* inscribed stamp at the end of the row.

Summary of the Union 6d. and 1s. Pictorial Printings

The tabulated lists of the 6d. and 1s. pictorial printings, set out in the adjoining columns, were compiled by Mr. A. H. Sydow, of Cape Town, for inclusion in the February "Union Notes," but lack of space made it necessary to hold them over till this month. Though complete in themselves they form part of the notes on the new printings of the 6d. and 1s. stamps published on page 25 of our February issue.

Incidentally, Mr. Sydow also mentioned that the numerals 6926 and 6935 denoting the cylinder numbers used for the production of the 1s. stamps were taken, as usual, from Ludlow Tenpo masters.

Flaws in the Final Printings of the 1949 6d. Postage Stamps

Sheets of what subsequently proved to be some of the final printings of the 1949 unscreened 6d. postage stamps on sale towards

the end of last year were noted as showing signs of cylinder wear in the frame portion of the design and in addition Mr. I. Dekenah, of Cape Town, recorded numerous red spots and streaky green vertical markings on several of the stamps in the right hand portion of Nos. 7 to 10 rows. The flaws were evidently fairly constant on a number of sheets for the same defects have been noted in varying degrees of intensity on some of the stamps available at Rand post offices.

Mr. J. Burrell, Krugersdorp, also records a strong white scratch mark slanting vertically through the centres of the orange tree on several of the stamps in columns 11 and 12 of a sheet of the 6d. denomination. The defect was evidently caused by a piece of foreign matter adhering to the doctor blade and so far this flaw has not been recorded as having made its appearance on more than one sheet.

Shade Change in the Later Printings of the 1½d. Voortrekker Stamps

Following the note in our February issue recording a change of tone from magenta to violet-lake in the colour of the later printings of the 1d. Voortrekker stamps, Mr. J. Robertson, of the Robertson Stamp Co., and Mr. S. C. Chantler, of Grahamstown, advised

us that a change to a darker shade also occurred in the later issues of the 1½d. green denomination.

Examination of several specimens of the 1½d. Voortrekker stamps purchased during the two months they were on sale show quite a range of shades, but in comparison with the *normal green* of those available on the first day of issue, the darker tone referred to above stands out distinctly as one akin to *olive-green*.

Feature of the No. 11A/11B Printing of the ½d. Sheets

Writing in connection with the appearance of the black cyclometer numbers on the right hand margin of the ½d. sheets issued for sale in January this year and recorded in last month's "Notes," Mr. C. Calitz, of Mossel Bay, mentions an additional change that occurred in the setting of the type and figures used for the inscription "Cylinder No. 11A."

In the two previous issues of this denomination, the inscriptions in the margins, "Cylinder No. 7020A/Cylinder No. 7020B" and "Cylinder No. 7020A/Cylinder No. 11B," all read downwards, whereas in the case of the third printing—Cylinder No. 11A/11B—the frame inscription "Cylinder No. 11B" continued to read downwards, but that of the vignette portion of the design, "Cylinder No. 11A" was changed to read upwards.

Double Roulette Variety in the 1d. "Bantam" S.W.A. War Series

Mr. I. H. C. Godfrey, of Johannesburg, writes to say that he has in his possession the top right hand portion of a sheet of the 1d. Miniature War Effort stamps overprinted for use in S.W.A. which is different from the normal in the fact that the vertical gutter separating the 10th and 11th stamps of the six rows covered by the item is "doubly" rouletted. The doubling of the slits is also present in the same line running through the marginal slogans at the top of the strip, but the gutter between the 11th and 12th stamps and the accompanying slogans at the top, shows single rouletting only. The normal Union counterpart of the item is listed as 89 Ca.—Rose carmine (March, 1944) on page 82 of the Union Standard Catalogue.

Though the presence of the "doubly" rouletted feature between stamps of the first printings of the 1½d. Miniature War Effort issue is well known and is mentioned on page 77 of the Union Standard Catalogue as an experimental characteristic, this is the first occasion it has been recorded on any sheets of the other denominations in the series and it will be interesting to learn of any other examples which may have come to light.

Additional Flaws in the 1½d. U.P.U. Issue

Mr. I. Dekenah, Cape Town, records the two following printing flaws as constant on the 1½d. U.P.U. issue and not previously reported: Row 1/No. 14 Small flaw in the right limb of "U" in SOUTH.

Row 3/No. 8 Small mark in left limb of "U" in SOUTH. W.N.S.

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POST OFFICE FACILITIES, RAND EASTER SHOW, 1950

As a matter of information, it is advised that a post, telegraph and telephone agency will be provided at the Milner Park Showground, Johannesburg, for the forthcoming Rand Easter Show.

The agency will be accommodated in the West wing of the Government Pavilion and will be open for business during the period of the Show.

Mail matter posted at the Showgrounds will be cleared by, and postmarked at, the agency where two special date-stamps, bearing the wording "Rand Show, Randse Tentoonstelling, Johannesburg," and "Randse Tentoonstelling, Rand Show, Johannesburg," respectively, will be in use.

I should add that the date-stamps referred to are those which were used, for the first time, at the 1949 Rand Easter Show.

L. VAN ROOYEN,
Publicity Officer.

**ROLL OF HONOUR
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LEONARD ATHOL WYNDHAM

Born at Barkly East, Cape Colony, 10th February, 1899. Educated at South African College School, Cape Town, and Diocesan College, Rondebosch.

Recruited by Maj. Allister Miller as cadet in the Royal Flying Corps, 1917. Invalided from Egypt, 1918. Appointed to staff of House of Assembly, 1920. Chief Committee Clerk at time of death, 16th June, 1947.

Married, 1922, Irene, eldest daughter of Mr. H. H. Davies, M.P., and Mrs. Davies, Bulawayo. Five children.

Hobbies. Cage birds and air-mail covers. In the twenties specialised in Yorkshire



canaries and won several championships. Also officiated as a judge in this class at shows.

Became interested in aerophilately in 1931. His collection of flown covers, mainly of South African association, won the premier award (gold plaque) at the International Philatelic Exhibition held at Johannesburg in 1936.

Wrote numerous short articles on Aerophilately in the "South African Philatelist". Author of *The Air Posts of South Africa*, awarded second prize (silver plaque) in the literary section of the aforementioned Exhibition. This is the recognised standard work on the subject.

By invitation, represented South Africa at an Exhibition of air-mail covers organised by Selfridges, London, in 1938.

A detailed catalogue, in manuscript, of his collection of air-mail stamps and covers is

on record in the Aerophilatelic Library of Francis J. Field, Sutton Coldfield, England.

Elected to the Roll of Honour in 1938. He was a keen and reliable observer of wild birds, and the finder, near the Limpopo River in 1946, of the first recorded nest and eggs of Hartlaub's Babbler south of Ngamiland, that is, within the ornithological limits of South Africa as defined by the late Dr. Austin Roberts. Died in 1947 at the early age of 48.

**THE "AIR-MAIL LETTER CARDS" AND
"AIR LETTERS" OF EAST AFRICA
1941-1945**

In the October and November, 1948, issues of the "South African Philatelist" a check list was printed, giving a description of the known varieties of the above.

Mr. S. D. Barfoot, of London, has now submitted for inspection three further varieties, not hitherto recorded:

TYPE 6b—OCTOBER, 1942

Type 2 (Addis Ababa printing of August, 1941), bearing the imprinted 25 cent red meter-mark.

TYPE 11b—DECEMBER, 1944

Similar to Type 11, but printed on reverse in small type, at left, below the double line:

PO—(EA)—S-3808—12/44—100,000

TYPE 20—CROWN COLONIES ISSUE

The first General Colonies type used was a special East African issue, with "Affix/50 cent/Stamp/Here"—unframed in top right corner.

Used copies can easily be distinguished by the fact that the words AIR LETTER are in smaller type than any other Colonial issue.

I. H. C. GODFREY.

THE AIRPOSTS OF SOUTH AFRICA

By **L. A. Wyndham,**
at 15/6 post free.

I am a specialist in South African stamps—my price list is free on request. I want to buy S.A. issues and would appreciate offers of all items, please.

Collectors of S.A. resident in Great Britain are invited to join the South African Collectors' Society, which has a good membership. Full details from:

C. E. SHERWOOD, P.T.S

105 Marford Crescent, Sale, Manchester, G.B.

FIJI

Messrs. Whitfield King & Co. report that this colony is to have two health stamps, 1d.+1d. and 2d.+1d., the surtaxes going to the Anti-Tuberculosis Fund.

They also announce the probable appearance on 13th March of 1s. 6d., 10s. and £1 denominations.

THE UNION $\frac{1}{2}$ d. AND 6d. ELECTROTYPED STAMPS LETTERPRESS-PRINTED FROM THE ROYAL MINT PLATES (AND A REFERENCE TO THE 6d. MASTER PLATES)

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

The halfpenny and the sixpenny stamps of the first Union pictorial issue, each of which denomination respectively depicted a "Springbok Head" and an "Orange Tree with ripe oranges" on a lined background, were letterpress-printed originally in London by Waterlow and Sons, Limited, during 1925 and 1926 and subsequently by the Union Government Printer in Pretoria from 1927 to 1932, from en epargne electrotyped nickel plates manufactured by the Royal Mint in London.

These halfpenny and sixpenny stamps were bicoloured and were printed and issued in sheets of 240 units in one large panel of 20 rows of 12 each. The stamps were inscribed in English and Afrikaans alternately throughout the sheet. The Afrikaans version of the name "South Africa" was inscribed anhyphenate, namely, "SUIDAFRIKA." The 240-set panel of each sheet was surrounded by two sets of co-extensive jubilee lines in the frame and the vignette colours.

The stamps of these two denominations were printed from 240-set Working Vignette Plates and from 240-set Working Frame Plates. These Working Plates were made from 240-sheet wax moulds derived from Master Vignette and Master Frame Plates.

The Master Dies for the $\frac{1}{2}$ d. and 6d., and incidentally also the 1d., denominations, were engraved negative en epargne on steel by J. A. C. Harrison. From the Master Dies subsidiary steel dies were produced by means of steel transfer rollers for the respective vignettes and frames. The resultant vignette and frame designs were transferred to rectangular lead block or moulds and these were screwed and clamped 240-set in large iron formes. The iron formes and their leaden contents were then submerged in electro-depositing baths, and thin layers of electro-deposited copper were grown on the lead moulds. Thereafter these copper shells were removed from the lead moulds and were backed with thick layers of type-metal and thus became the Master Plates for the said denominations. 240-set Wax Moulds were obtained by means of impressions from the Master Plates, and on these moulds thin layers of electro-deposited nickel were grown. The resultant nickel shells were removed from the wax moulds and they were backed with thick layers of copper and thus became the Working Plates. The number of Working Plates made and their usages are as follows:

(A)— $\frac{1}{2}$ d. Denomination

(a) Vignette Plate No. 1 and Frame Plate No. 1 were used in London by Waterlow and Sons Limited during 1925 and 1926. These were sent to Pretoria and used by the Government Printer in 1927 and 1928. The Frame Plate was used again in 1931 and 1932.

(b) Vignette Plate No. 2 and Frame Plate No. 2 were used by the Government Printer in Pretoria in 1928, 1929 and 1930, and again in 1948. Vignette Plate No. 2 was used also in 1932.

The plate differentiations in respect of the $\frac{1}{2}$ d. denomination are described in my article published in the "South African Philatelist" for October, 1948, pages 178 to 181.

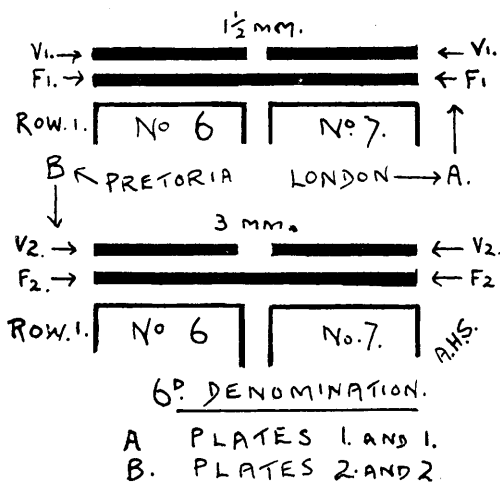
(B)—6d. Denomination

(a) Vignette Plate No. 1 and Frame Plate No. 1 were used in London by Waterlow and Sons Limited in 1926. Hitherto it has not been ascertained that these plates were sent to South Africa and used by the Union Government Printer.

(b) Vignette Plate No. 2 and Frame Plate No. 2 were used by the Government Printer in Pretoria from 1927 to 1932.

The perforate and imperforate stamps with grey black vignettes and red-brown frames described in the South African Standard Catalogue as colour trials were printed from these plates in Pretoria. In South Africa the electrotyped 6d. stamps printed from the No. 1 plates by Waterlow and Sons Limited generally are known as the "London Prints," whilst those printed in South Africa from the No. 2 plates are known as the "Pretoria Prints." A difference between the "London Prints" and the "Pretoria Prints" was found in the vignette plate jubilee lines above and below the stamps of the horizontal rows Nos. 1 and 20 respectively. On the "London Prints" from the No. 1 plates the gaps between the vignette plate jubilee lines above and below the sixth and seventh stamps of horizontal rows Nos. 1 and 20 respectively measured $1\frac{1}{2}$ mm., whilst on the "Pretoria Prints" from the No. 2 plates the gaps between the vignette jubilee lines of similar locations measured 3mm. Vide the sketch shown overleaf. Certain varieties appeared on the stamps of the "Pretoria Prints" but not on those of the "London Prints," namely:

(a) "Large Oranges" on stamp No. 2 of Row 10. This was a flaw which developed during the latter part of life of the plate.



(b) "White Ball" on the spandrel on stamp No. 12 of Row 4.

The 6d. Master Vignette Plate

The variety catalogued as the "Cloud Variety" on the vignette of Stamp No. 11 of Row No. 20 appeared on sheets from the London Prints" as well as sheets from the "Pretoria Prints." (That on the latter has not yet been included in the South African Standard Catalogue.) The so-called "Cloud Variety" was a flaw which consisted of several short horizontal background lines more prominently printed than their confreres to the left near the top of the "Orange Tree." Its genesis was a "Master Vignette Plate Flaw" which was inherited by both the No. 1 and the No. 2 Working Vignette Plates via the Wax Vignette Moulds. Another Master Plate flaw was that of an indentation at the top extremity of the vignette jubilee line adjacent to Stamp No. 1 of Row No. 11, on both the "London" and the "Pretoria" prints. The jubilee or guard lines on the Master Plates were surrounding continuous ones whose replicas were converted into co-extensive ones on the Working Plates by cutting them opposite the termini of the vertical and horizontal perforation gutters. Hitherto no Master Frame Plate flaws have been found.

The 1/2d. Booklet Stamps

The 1/2d. booklet stamps (and also the 1d. ones) were printed in sheets of 264 units each divided into two panels of 132. Each panel comprised 22 horizontal rows of 6 units each. Of the six vertical rows of each panel Nos. 1, 2 and 3 appeared in normal positions as regards design with Nos. 4, 5 and 6 in upside down positions, or in other words, Nos. 4, 5 and 6 tete-beche to Nos. 1, 2 and 3.

On each sheet the 132-set panels were separated by a vertical gutter which contained approximately 88 horizontal bars—four per stamp, and in the colour of the frames.

Vignette Plate No. 1 and Frame Plate No. 1 were used by Waterlow and Sons Limited in

London. Vignette Plate No. 2 and Frame Plate No. 2 were used in Pretoria by the Union Government Printer. These plates were derived from Master Booklet Vignette and Frame Plates via wax moulding. The 88-set barred Master Die used ament the afore-mentioned vertical gutter was the same one as that used in connection with the plates of the Great Britain Booklets which contained the 1/2d., 1d. and 1 1/2d. Postal Union Congress stamps with the profile portraits of H.M. King George V (S.G. 434-35-36) of 1929).

It was a comparison made by me some years ago of the barred marginal Union Booklet stamps with those of Great Britain housed in my collection which inspired me to believe that the makers of the plates for the Union and British Booklet stamps mentioned heretofore were one and the same concern. Our philatelic gospel, the "Stanley Gibbons" of 1949 tells us on page 25 thereof that the British Postal Union Congress stamps of the 1/2d., 1d., 1 1/2d. and 2d. denominations emanated from plates made at the Royal Mint. That the Royal Mint in London were the makers of the South African plates mentioned in this paper is confirmed by the undermentioned correspondence.

During the latter portion of 1948 I wrote to my friend in England, Mr. B. Powell, and asked him to approach the Royal Mint for certain information ament these Union stamps. Mr. Powell verry kindly did so and inter alia wrote to me:

"I sent a cutting from your letter to the Royal Mint, and enclose herewith a complete copy of their reply which I trust will be what you require."

The reply from the Royal Mint was thus:

Dear Sir,

UNION OF SOUTH AFRICA POSTAGE
STAMPS

In accordance with the request in your letter of the 19th January, I enclose particulars of the 1/2d. and 6d. plates issued by this department.

A—To Waterlows

1/2d. (240 set), 1 inset 19/10/25, 1 Frame 2/11/25.

1/2d. Book (264 set), 1 inset 17/11/25, 1 Frame 14/12/25.

6d. (240 set), 1 inset 9/2/26, 1 Frame 9/2/26.

B—To High Commissioners for South Africa

1/2d. (240 set), 1 inset 7/2/27, 1 Frame 7/2/27.

1/2d. Book (264 set), 1 inset 9/5/27, 1 Frame 9/5/27.

6d. (240 set), 1 inset 1/3/27, 1 Frame 1/3/27.

Yours faithfully,

(Sgd.).....
Superintendent,
Royal Mint, London.

B. Powell, Esq.

In the foregoing letter the word "inset" refers to "vignette" plate. I thank Mr. B. Powell for his hearty co-operation in this matter.

A PRINTER STUDIES STAMP COLLECTING

By

A. I. MACKENZIE—*Bloemfontein*

Recently I joined a philatelic society. As a beginner I was anxious to learn something about my new hobby and I learnt a lot. However, as a printer, I was struck by one aspect of philatelic activities, namely the method the average collector approached the question of colour.

Through no fault of their own, but because most collectors are naturally ignorant of how stamps are printed and how colours are manufactured and mixed, I find some of the ideas bordering on the humorous. A great many collectors seem to be fascinated by names given to colours. Names such as azure, bistre, magenta and brown have a great attraction. However, what is meant by azure, for instance? How is it classified, what are the standards required for a colour to be azure? There are no answers to these questions. Different people have different ideas. Therein lies confusion.

How does the printer deal with this problem?

In the first place printers reject the theory of light. We do not say it is necessarily wrong, but it does not work in practical printing.

Printers divide colours into three main sections. These are primary colours, red, yellow and blue; secondary colours, orange, green and violet; and tertiary colours, russet, citrine and olive. Now theoretically any colour required can be obtained by mixing primaries. In practice, however, black is generally used as well in order to obtain better results. Red, yellow and blue are called primaries because, in printing, it is impossible to break them up into any other colours. Used together it is possible to make other colours. For instance, secondary colours are made by mixing primaries. Red and yellow make orange; yellow and blue make green. and red and blue make violet. In the same way tertiary colours are made from secondary colours.

Orange and violet make russet, green and orange make citrine, and violet and green make olive.

Just looking at the above leads to a great many questions, such as: What are the primaries made of? What proportions of the primaries are used to make the secondaries?

The primaries may come from three sources—earths, vegetable matter and chemicals. Take yellow, for instance. Yellow can be derived from all three sources, but

each one will be of a different hue. So the first thing the printer has to do is to make sure that all the colours he is using have come from a common source. They must be all earth colours or all chemical colours. It is dangerous to mix, say, an earth yellow with, say, a vegetable blue.

Red and yellow make orange—but what proportion? Fifty-fifty, or sixty-forty? Both mixtures will result in an orange colour, but the two colours will differ.

What is the difference between a shade and a tint? A shade is a colour which has had black added to it, a tint is colour which has had white added to it. A shade will be light or dark depending upon the amount of black which has been added.

Colours are affected by light. A sheet of stamps printed in England, for instance, in blue, is sent to Northern Rhodesia. From there it is returned to England. The result? It will be difficult to believe that the original sheet has been returned. Heat and moisture have played strange tricks. The sheet now has a large variety of shades and hues.

Another important point. The glue or gum on the back of the stamp affects the colour of the stamp. The chemicals in the glue work through the paper and go to work on the ink. Of course, if it is a chemical ink that has been used . . . well, are you a chemist?

Perhaps enough has been said to show that it is an unwise policy to go snap on colours. Colours are misleading and names mean nothing.

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PALESTINE U.P.U. ERRORS

To have a U.P.U. set for Arab occupied Palestine, the stamps of Jordan were overprinted with the name of the country in Arabic and in English. Errors occurred, as is so often the case with overprints, and *Linn's Weekly* illustrates some of these: (a) Arabic word omitted; (b) Palestine misspelt; (c) overprint inverted.

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H. E. WINGFIELD

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Annual 2/6 Subscription

SOCIETY NEWS

EAST RAND PHILATELIC SOCIETY

President, Mr. J. Shepherd; *Hon. Secretary*, Miss S. O. Jeffrey, P.O. Box 572, Benoni; *Meetings*, Regent Hotel, Benoni, 3rd Tuesdays, 8 p.m.

On the 20th February the members of this society went further afield than usual and spent a very pleasant evening with the Pretoria Society. Our exhibitors for the evening were as follows: Mr. S. Legator, Vry Staat, New Republic and Transvaal; Mr. A. Dickens, Union Varieties; Mr. H. Suklje, George VI, mint.

Our visit coincided with the introduction of Mr. van Rooyen to the Pretoria Society. Mr. van Rooyen has been appointed to succeed Mr. Swanepoel as Publicity Agent for the Philatelic Agency in Pretoria, and members of this Society had the pleasure of meeting both Mr. van Rooyen and his assistant, Mr. Grobler.

At our usual monthly meeting held on 21st February, Mr. J. Shepherd tabled his Cape Triangulars and made a most interesting evening by describing each section as he came to them, including the defacing of the plates and Mr. Jurgens' research work on the subject.

S.O.J.



EAST LONDON PHILATELIC SOCIETY

President, Mrs. R. Alabaster; *Hon. Sec-Treas.*, Mr. E. H. Williams, P.O. Box 198, East London; *Meetings*, 2nd Fridays, Colosseum Theatre Tea Room (upstairs) at 7.45 p.m.

The meeting held on the 10th February was well attended, displays being shown by Mr. C. Kuming, who laid out a very nice collection of foreign stamps mounted on black paper. Mr. W. J. Gillespie brought a large selection of Canadian stamps with a request for constructive criticism, which was freely given! Mr. Gillespie explained how this collection was accumulated with small financial outlay, much hard work and a great deal of ingenuity. A very stout effort! We thank him for a very interesting display and for many tips on how to collect.

Mr. Hillman read a five-minute paper on "Aspects of Stamp Collecting," a well thought out and instructive talk which was enjoyed by all. A six-question quizz caused laughs and brain fag, and the prize was given to one of the junior visitors who got the most correct answers.

R.A.



JEWISH GUILD PHILATELIC SECTION

Chairman, J. M. Rich; *Hon. Secretary*, A. J. Nathanson; *Meetings* at Jewish Guild, last Thursdays, 8 p.m.

At the meeting held on 23rd February, exhibits were provided by Mr. J. M. Rich, Mr. B. Glassman and Mr. L. Buchen.

Mr. Rich showed a "Jewish Theme" collection. These were pages of stamps which had a Jewish interest. The exhibit included the U.S.A. commemorative of the heroic four chaplains, one of whom was a Jew, and stamps of the French Zone of Germany showing Heine, Karl Marx and Sambra Hart. There was also a copy of a beautiful Liberian stamp designed by the Jewish artist Arthur Szyk, and one of the Columbus commemoratives of U.S.A. The better opinion is that Christopher Columbus had been a Jew converted into a "New Christian" in Spain. There was also the Joseph Pulitzer commemorative of U.S.A.

Mr. B. Glassman showed a few sheets of U.S.A. commemoratives including the rare Kansas and Nebraska overprints, and most of the recent commemoratives.

Mr. L. Buchen showed some pages of Israeli booklet stamps. He pointed out that several different booklets had already been issued.

Mr. W. Oppenheim spoke on the exhibits.

PRETORIA RAILWAY PHILATELIC SOCIETY

Chairman, Mr. L. L. Brown; *Hon. Secretary*, Mr. W. Kriste; *Meetings*, second Wednesday each month in Room 1, Railway Recreation Club, Berea Park, at 7.30 p.m.

January. Before a meeting of 47 enthusiasts, Mr. Andrew Roy read a paper analysing the scenes and objects shown on the current South African pictorial stamps. It was evident that he had gone into the subject very thoroughly and the paper and discussion which followed was appreciated by all. Mrs. E. Newlands displayed her South African collection, which is an excellent one, having many of the known varieties and a lot of the lesser known ones, which proved intense study of South African stamps. She was thanked by Mr. J. A. Kriste.

February. Mr. Andrew Roy once again had an appreciative audience of 45 members and visitors when he gave a short talk on writing up a collection. He described various types and methods of writing and printing, and also showed how to keep the balance between the stamps and the writing. Thank you, Andrew, it was an education to the members. Mr. S. J. Slotboom exhibited his collection of Canada George VI. The two gentlemen were thanked by Dr. Reiserer and Mr. Blick. W.K.



PORT ELIZABETH PHILATELIC SOCIETY

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

The first meeting of the year was held on Tuesday, 17th January, 1950. Mr. Forbes, in the chair, presided over a large gathering.

It has been decided to hold a Quiz evening with Mr. D. H. Kirchner as question master, and members had been asked to send questions in before the evening, but owing to so few questions being received the quiz was taken from Stanley Gibbons' book "The splendid book of Postage Stamps." (Answers found at the end of the book.) Some of the questions were real "teasers" and did not deal only with the British Commonwealth but with many foreign countries. The evening was a great success and the members hope to repeat it in the near future. A quiz certainly makes one examine one's stamps more carefully so as to memorise their peculiarities. The usual auction was held with Mr. Kirchner acting as auctioneer, and over £7 worth of stamps were quickly sold, most of them of higher values.

A hearty vote of thanks was accorded to the quiz master. L.E.C.



SPRINGS PHILATELIC SOCIETY

President, Mr. C. J. Meeuwis; *Hon. Sec.*, Mr. J. C. Sutcliffe; *Meetings*, 2nd Mondays.

The annual general meeting of the above Society was held on the evening of Monday, 13th February, the following office-bearers being elected:

President, Mr. C. J. Meeuwis; *Vice-President*, Mr. E. Earnshaw; *Hon. Secretary*, Mr. J. C. Sutcliffe. The committee members elected were: Messrs. C. R. du Plessis, E. A. Bennie, F. H. W. Pocock, and Mrs. F. E. Snell.

The meeting was unusually well attended, and this brought home to us that although young, the Society is no longer in its infancy. An interesting suggestion came from the chair, in that a Philatelic Reference Library be established, but as the business of the meeting had yet to be discussed the new office-bearers were charged with the task of investigating the possibility of this. We hope to hear more of this suggestion in the near future.

After tea there was a small exhibit by Mr. Trichard, who displayed his collection of Union and South-West African stamps. It was surprising to see what Mr. Trichard had achieved in the short time since he so unfortunately lost his main collection through fire. A further feature was the careful and attractive way in which the stamps had been arranged on each sheet. Mr. Trichard is to be congratulated.

A short summarising talk from the chair followed and then, as philatelists do, most of us collected our own belongings and quietly disappeared. F.H.W.P.

PHILATELIC SOCIETY OF JOHANNESBURG

President, Commander C. E. D. Enoch; *Hon. Sec.*, B. Glassman, P.O. Box 4967, Johannesburg; *Meetings*, 2nd Tuesday and 4th Monday, at the Johannesburg Public Library, 7.45 p.m.

At the meeting held on 14th February the exhibit was provided by Mr. E. Seelig, who showed a big collection of stamps of Australia.

There were some fine items included in the exhibit, among them being £1 and £2 values in the various Kangaroo issues in fine used condition. There were numerous shades shown. The commemoratives were well represented, including three different shades of the 5s. value in the Sydney Bridge issue, all fine used. There was a very good range of imprint blocks in mint condition.

Mr. J. W. Schubart spoke on the exhibit. During the evening it was announced that Dr. J. H. Harvey Pirie had donated his fine collection of philatelic items of Southern and Eastern Africa of the Second World War to the Africana Museum. A portion of this was on exhibit in the vestibule of the library. Dr. Pirie gave a brief talk on this collection.

Mr. Gordon Brown was the exhibitor at the meeting held on 27th February. He showed a fine exhibit of Nyasaland. It was a full range of stamps from the earliest issues to the most recent. Many varieties were included, amongst them being double overprints in the "one penny" on two-pence issue of 1895, and errors in overprint in the "one-penny" on 3s. issue mint and used. There were numerous cheque stamps used as well as many other rare items. An unusual part of the exhibit was a set of Portuguese East African stamps used in Nyasaland by the British troops during the first world war.

Mr. Brown read a paper giving some interesting information on the history and geography of the territory as well as on its stamps.

Dr. J. H. Harvey Pirie spoke on the exhibit.



GRAHAMSTOWN PHILATELIC SOCIETY

President, Dr. C. G. A. Cory; *Hon. Sec./Treas.*, Mr. R. Q. Tarr, Wood House, Kingswood College; *Meetings*, 2nd Thursdays, 8 p.m., 120 High Street.

9th February saw the first meeting of the year, which took the form of the Annual General Meeting. Mr. Chantler was in the chair. Formal business having been disposed of, the proposal that Mr. W. N. Sheffield be elected to Honorary Membership of the Society was warmly carried. The purchase of a useful lettering stencil for use by the members was approved. Officers elected for 1950 were: President, Dr. C. G. A. Cory; Vice-President, Mr. M. C. Fletcher; Mr. R. Q. Tarr, Dr. Tame and Mr. T. Drury were re-elected to their offices of Secretary/Treasurer, Sales Superintendent and Librarian respectively. The evening closed with a display by Mr. Leo Holesgrove, followed by an auction.

R.Q.T.



AMERICAN NEWS LETTER

Recently two well-known philatelic figures have passed away in the United States. In New York the well-loved Dane, Paul Bluss, who for years conducted a vast philatelic literature business, died of a heart attack. On February 1 Saul Newbury died in Chicago. Winner of the Grand Award at the Centenary Philatelic Exhibition in New York in 1947, Mr. Newbury occupied an important place in American philately. Known for his superb 19th Century United States stamps, he also had notable collections of Brazil Bulls' Eyes, early Columbia Republics, Shanghai, China and early Peruvian issues.

Although no official announcement has as yet appeared, Washington, D.C. newspaper reports indicate that the proposed 3c Boy Scout stamp will be released on June 30, 1950. Issued in conjunction with the Boy Scout Jamboree at Valley Forge, Pa., the stamp will appear in khaki colour and may include

portraits of Dan Beard or James E. West, two leaders of Scouting in America.

Certain also appears September 29, 1950, as the date for release of a stamp to commemorate the final encampment of the United Confederate Veterans at Little Rock, Arkansas.

Issued on January 27, 1950, a new 3c stamp celebrates the 100th anniversary of the birth in London of Samuel Gompers, for forty-one years president of the American Federation of Labour. Purple in colour, the stamp is in the format of the Famous American series.

Rumours have it that the present stamped envelope design, in use for nearly thirty-four years, will soon be replaced.

For the two-dollar 1950 duck stamp to go into use on July 1, which Federal law requires every hunter of migratory waterfowl to purchase, cancel with his signature and carry while hunting, a picture of two trumpeter swans has been chosen. This species, now numbering only 431 as of 1949, is under protection of the Fish and Wild Life Service.

The director of this service is proposing a wild life postage series, presenting a 1c grizzly bear, a 2c bald eagle, a 3c pronghorned antelope, a 4c whooping crane, a 5c beaver and a 10c wild turkey.

Other stamps proposed for 1950 are for California statehood, for the Indiana Territory sesquicentennial, and for unification of the army, navy and air force. One Washington reporter regards as certain a stamp showing the Statue of Freedom on the dome of the capital to publicise the Freedom Fair, and a series of three stamps to celebrate the sesquicentennial of the establishment of the Federal Government in the District of Columbia.

This week's issue of an American philatelic newspaper carries the advertisement of British Overseas Airways Corporation of daily stratocruiser service to London for the International Stamp Exhibition in May. The same issue carries also a story of a special philatelic tour to the London show and to Europe, arranged by K.L.M. Royal Dutch Airlines. The tour will depart from New York on May 5 and return there on May 29. Dealers and collectors may visit the highlights of the European philatelic world and also visit world-famous scenic, historic and cultural sites on the Continent.

Early February saw the capital buzzing over the resignation of a special assistant to the Postmaster-General because of his involvement in postage stamp deals. Press releases indicate that he admitted receiving more than 300,000 dollars from would-be speculators in new issues of commemorative stamps. Early "investors" are alleged to have received substantial "profits" from the money turned in by later victims. No stamps, it is reported, were ever actually bought or sold. The scheme was pure kiting of finances, an old device of confidence men, according to the printed reports.

G. R. RANKIN (12-2-50).

Reviews

The Great Mail, by Leonard V. Huber and Clarence A. Wagner. Published by The American Philatelic Society, Inc., P.O. Box 800, State College, Pa. Price \$5.00.

This is actually a Postal History of New Orleans and the transportation of mail in the "Deep South" during the 19th Century. The mail route between Washington and New Orleans was called by the Postmasters-General during the period 1820-50 "The Great Mail", hence the title of the book.

It is practically all original work, hitherto unpublished, and its 200 pages and some 175 fine illustrations make it a magnificent postal history reference book. This is what it is primarily intended to be, but it is actually also history of an entrancing kind, for New Orleans lends itself peculiarly to this.

The story commences with the purchase of Louisiana from the French by the U.S. in 1803 and the postal link-up with Washington was actually in operation before the Territory was formally turned over to its new owners. The different routes followed are considered in detail, with illustrations of covers carried on them, also pictures demonstrating the difficult country to be traversed.

Later railway and steamer routes are considered, also the through mail to California. New Orleans postmasters, post-offices and their postmarks all have their chapters; also, of course, the provisionals and regular issues of the Confederate States during the civil war period.

Altogether a fascinating book, on which both the authors and the A.P.S. are to be congratulated. The edition is limited to 1,000 numbered copies.

Rex Priced Catalogue of K.G. VI Stamps—1950 Supplement. A. O. Crane, 18 Maple Avenue, Harrow, Middlesex, England. Price 1s. 3d. net.

To save the cost of printing a complete new edition this year, the 1949 edition is remaining on sale at 3s. 6d. This supplement gives what price changes are necessary and there are some 600 new stamps included as the 1949 output; this includes all the U.P.U. issues. A very useful catalogue for the numerous collectors of this group of stamps.

Congratulations to the Editor and Publisher on his having been given the honorary degree of Doctor of Literature by the Académie Internationale. This honour is for his works on Cosmology and Biology, not for his philatelic writings!

SOME RECENT AUCTION PRICES

H. R. Harmer

"Penfold" France. Items were fetching up to ten times what was paid for them a few years ago.

1849-50—40c bright orange, mint block of six, £460; 1 fr. Vermillon Vif fine used, £200.

1853-60 Empire Imperforates—80c pale carmine, block of four, £140; 80c rose mint horizontal tete-beche, pair £380; 1 fr. carmine marginal block of four £600.

1870 Bordeaux 2c report I reddish chestnut block of six, £110.

A Great Britain 6d. mauve 1867-80 from Plate 10 fetched £220 despite being thinned at one corner. This is only the sixth recorded copy.

Robson Lowe

Mafeking reconstructed sheet of 12, plates I, II and III, used £46.

Falkland Islands, 1933 Centenary Set mint, £36 and £42.

Gold Coast, 1921-25, £2 mint, £13 10s.

South African vertical strip of four proofs of pairs of 1d., on shamrock watermarked paper, £19.

Bechuanaland 1887 £5, mint £18.

Sierra Leone, 1933 Centenary set mint, £18 5s.

"McGowan" Great Britain 1d. black and 2d. blue cancelled on 1890 Jubilee envelope, £15 10s.

1d. black plate II block of four mint, £40; ditto plate III used, £48; 1854-57 2d. partly reconstructed sheet, £160.

Cape, mint corner block of 8, 1s. dark green, £170; pair 1s. bright emerald, huge margins, £44.

★

FUN WITH SPRINGBOKS

Mr. R. J. Sutton, in the *Philatelic Magazine* describes how with a magnifier, a keen eye and a lot of patience, he has had a lot of fine hunting with Union ½d. pictorial stamps, building up a nice series of the various issues from a mixed bag of specimens of ½d. stamps. Diagrams of the different issues are given, being a useful clue to these stamps, although not highly specialised. "Baobab" might note.

★

VATICAN CITY

The Holy Year set of eight stamps appeared rather sooner than was expected, having been issued on 21st December.

★

INDIA

The Republic of India—or should we now call it Bharat?—issued four stamps, 2, 3½, 4 and 12a., on 26th January, the day of the formal proclamation of the Republic.

AS OTHERS SEE US

"Reading your publication has increased my interest in the stamps of the Union. I was so fascinated by the July article on the Natal Settlers stamp that I purchased two sheets of each plate number, as well as several extra blocks.

The Philatelic Federation and its farsighted leadership are to be congratulated on the splendid, scholarly publication which the 'S.A. Philatelist' is. Much of their endeavour is, I know, just a labour of love."—G.R.R., Milwaukee.

The writer in "Linn's Weekly," describing the Union U.P.U. issue, must surely be an Irishman. He describes the figure on the stamps as "Mercury, a fine broth of a lad in birthday suit, apparently tickling angels."



MARION ISLAND

Since our last record of mails from Marion Island (per H.M.S.A.S. *Bloemfontein* to Port Elizabeth on 3rd September, 1948) there have been three visits to the island, mails being brought on each occasion. These were H.M.S.A.S. *Natal* in March, 1949, and again in April, 1949, also H.M.S.A.S. *Good Hope*, in October, 1949. The return in all three cases was to Durban.

What the markings were on the two lots of mail brought by the *Natal* has not been ascertained, but the mail brought by the *Good Hope* shows something new in the way of Union cancellations.

The mail, or some of it at all events, bore an official cachet in the form of a double oval with "Departement van Vervoer" at the top; "Department of Transport" at the bottom, while in the centre was "16-10-1949/Marion Island".

The P.M.G. has ruled that this official island mark is only to be applied to covers posted on the island; others have to be returned to the Postmaster, Durban, unstamped.

The Acting Postmaster, Marion Island, is not permitted to cancel postage stamps. The cancelling of these is done at Fynland Naval Base, Durban; on the only specimen we have seen, for which our thanks are due to Mr. I. H. C. Godfrey, the mark was so indistinctly impressed that all we can say about it so far is that it is a circular mark 30 mm. in diameter and that the word "Fynland" appears on it.

For most of this information we are indebted to the Meteorological Officer at the Rand Airport, Germiston, the office where the weather reports from Marion are received.



PHILIPPINES

The Bureau of Posts announces that two stamps, 2 and 4 c, were issued on 2nd December in honour of General del Pilar, killed at the battle of Tirad Pass on 2nd December, 1899. They feature the General on horseback.

PERFORATION GAUGE

Messrs. Whitfield King, Ipswich, have introduced a new perforation gauge, waistcoat pocket size. There are actually two gauges, one transparent for mounted stamps, the other opaque for loose stamps, price 4s. 3d. the pair. These gauges are on the "Instanta" principle, introduced by Gibbons some years ago; they measure quickly and easily to halves and quarters and with a little more care to tenths, if desired.



SARAWAK

A new set, 15 denominations of 1c to \$5.00 values, was put on sale on 3rd January. A very colourful pictorial set with scenes of native life, animal and plant life, etc. The King's head in a medallion now appears, of course, in place of the Rajah.



GRIQUALAND WEST

Messrs. Robson Lowe had a sale of a fine collection of these stamps on 8th February. They point out that there is still room for research in the postal history of this territory: on the use, for instance, of British and of Cape stamps in the territory prior to the issue of the Griqua overprints; also of the various combinations of stamps and the distinctive and unusual cancellations.



RHODESIA

Mr. W. G. Nodder seems to have the mantle of the late H. C. Dann descending on him. An article in the 14th January issue of *Stamp Collecting* entitled "Some Facts, Humorous and Otherwise concerning the Postal Services of Rhodesia" is in the true spirit of "The Romance of the Posts of Rhodesia" and shows that the sort of thing which happened in the old Rhodesia can still occur in its Northern and Southern descendants.

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- P.O. Box 433 - - SALISBURY
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CANADA

A new 50c green pictorial was due on 1st March, design showing Alberta Oil Fields.

CAPE TRIANGULAR "CANCELLED" STAMPS

An article in the "London Philatelist" of September, 1949, page 149, by M. F. J. Samuel, describes a large number of "Specimen" and "Cancelled" handstamps overprinted on early British colonials printed by De La Rue.

Their 1863-64 Cape Triangulars (1d., 4d., 6d. and 1s.) were overprinted "cancelled", the overprint being in block capitals 2½ mm. high, the length of the overprint being 13¾ mm. Later CC stamps in the collection reported on (1864-1880) are marked "Specimen" in a similar overprint 14½ mm. long.

It may be mentioned also that a number of the early Natal stamps (1864 to 1874-78) had the same "Cancelled" handstamp. The 1868 O.F.S. stamps and the Transvaal 1878 Q.V. issue, on the other hand were marked "Specimen".

The paper refers to an earlier description by Sir E. Bacon of Perkin's Bacon Colonial stamps handstamped "Cancelled". This appeared in the "London Philatelist", Vol. 38, 1929, p. 101, with some additions in the January, 1935 issue.

These overprints appear to fall into quite a different category, as apparently there were only six specimens made on each of the Colonial stamps being printed by the firm in August, 1861; they were made for certain favoured private collectors. The overprint in this instance is the word "Cancelled" in an oval of 4 bars above and below and one bar at each end. The length of the word is 22 mm., and the height of the block capital letters 5 mm. The whole handstamp is identical with one supplied by the firm in September, 1860 to the Government of Chili as a postal obliterater.

The Cape stamps which received this overprint were the 1d. rose-red, 4d. blue, 6d. lilac and 1s. yellow green of the 1858 issue on white paper.

The Natal 1d. and 3d. of 1859-60 are also mentioned as receiving it.

The importance of knowing about these "Cancelled" stamps, particularly the De La Rues, is to be able to distinguish between them and stamps which are marked "Cancelled" in South African Banks about the same period. In the case of the bank cancellations there is very often part of the bank's "office stamp" to be seen; but not always. Only the word "cancelled" may be visible. In any such case if the overprint does not agree in character with the specifications given above, the presumption would be that it is a bank cancellation.

★

FRANCE

L'Officiel announces the 1,000 fr. air post stamp, several times reported as about to appear, but delayed for various reasons, as having really been issued on 16th January. It features of an aerial view of Paris.

INDONESIA

Nearly a year ago stamps purporting to be issued by the Republic of Indonesia were put on sale in New York. Their validity was questioned at the time, and the Indonesian Office in London now states (according to *Stamp Collecting*) that these stamps did not constitute a genuine issue. Perhaps we will know soon when this new state really began to issue stamps. They have had a U.P.U. set, although not actually members of the Union.

The new stamps may have the title "Republik Indonesia Serikat," which is more or less equivalent to "United States of Indonesia."

★

AUSTRALIA

We learn from the High Commissioner's Office that the £2 stamp, being the Commonwealth Coat-of-Arms, was duly put on sale on 16th January. It is green, perf. 14½ x 14 and is printed in sheets of 60.

★

O.V.S. POSTCARDS WITH OVERPRINTED ADHESIVE STAMPS

Mr. Morton Morris, of New York, reports two cases of usage of these cards approximately, in each case, two months before supposed date of issue. The numbers given are those of *Grosser Ganzsachen Katalogue*.

(1) Postcard No. 6 (Type IV); supposed date of issue October, 1893. Postmarked Bethulie Aug. 7, 1893, received at Cape Town Aug. 9, 93.

(2) Postcard No. 13 (Type I); supposed date of issue June, 1894. Postmarked Villiers, April 3, 94, and received at Bloemfontein April 5, 1894.

★

AUSTRIA

On 31st December, 1949, there was issued a 1S. stamp honouring the 50th anniversary of the composer K. Milloecker. Austria is, so far as we are aware, the only country to have issued a special U.P.U. postcard; it also commemorates the 80th anniversary of the invention of the correspondence card.

★

GREAT RARITIES FOR SALE

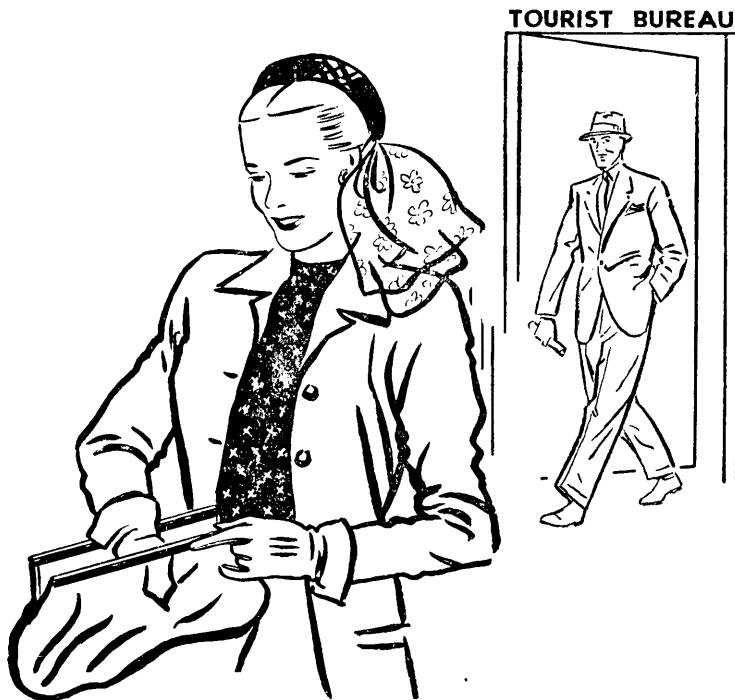
Ex-King Carol of Rumania, who has all his life been a keen collector, is disposing of a number of his rarities through Messrs. Harmer, Rooke and Co.

These include the 3s Swedish error of colour, the only known specimen of this stamp, for which he paid £5,000 some years ago; Post Office Mauritius, 1d. on cover and a used 2d.; and Spain's greatest rarity, 2r blue (S.G. 24a), which he bought at 10,500 dollars.

★

HUNGARY

The Philatelic Bureau announces the issue on 5th February of three stamps (40 pie, 60 fil. and 1 forint) honouring the centenary of the death of the poet Sandor Petofi.



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APRIL 1950.

Whole No. 301

The Cancellations of The Rhodesias and Nyasaland



By H. C. DANN.

Every collector who has studied the fascinating history of "Dominion Capricorn" will know the name of the author, the late H. C. Dann.

His earlier book on the subject is a standard work of reference. Since its publication in 1940, Dann had hundreds of letters from readers who had been in Rhodesia and Central Africa in the 'nineties and early years of this century. In consequence, much has been added to the information previously recorded, and in this volume the student will find a description of 1,335 different cancellations, including those of many places which have long since changed their names or become "ghost" towns. In addition, those date stamps of particular rarity are noted.

Current official records have been consulted, which have brought the information given complete to July, 1949, and, in the case of Southern Rhodesia, to the end of 1949, including the date-stamps of the R.A.F. Camps.

In addition to numerous plates and two maps, over 150 different cancellations are illustrated.

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BASUTOLAND:	1938	½d.—10s. complete set, S.G. 18-28	1 0 0
BERMUDA:	1918-21	£1 purple and black/red, S.G. 55	5 5 0
	1922-35	10s. green and red/emerald, S.G. 92	3 15 0
CAYMAN ISLS.:	1921-26	10s. carmine and green, S.G. 83	2 7 6
CYPRUS	1912	45P. dull purple and ultr., S.G. 93	6 0 0
	1928	£1 blue and bistre brown, S.G. 132	9 0 0
	1934	45P. green and black, S.G. 143	2 5 0
DOMINICA:	1923-27	£1 purple and black/red, S.G. 87	6 0 0
FALKLAND ISLS.:	1904-12	3s. deep green, S.G. 39	1 10 0
	1933	5s. black and yellow, S.G. 88	11 0 0
		10s. black and chestnut, S.G. 89	18 10 0
FIJI:	1906-12	5s. green and red/yellow, S.G. 203	1 15 0
	1938	2d. black and green, S.G. 252	0 2 6
GAMBIA:	1906	½d. on 2s. 6d., 1s. on 3s., S.G. 69-70	7 0 0
GIBRALTAR:	1921-27	8s. dull purple and grn., script wmk., S.G. 101	14 0 0
HONG KONG:	1885	20c.—\$1 complete set, S.G. 37-39	1 12 6
	1891	2c. Jubilee, S.G. 48	0 6 0
		2c. black 4 with first day postmark	1 12 6
		2c. Short U in Jubilee, S.G. 48b	0 14 5
MONTSERRAT:	1903	5s. black and scarlet, S.G. 23	7 10 0
	1933	½d.—5s. Tercentenary, S.G. 84-93	16 0 0
NEW ZEALAND:	1931	1d. and 2d. Laughing Boys, S.G. 546-7	8 10 0
RHODESIA:	1898-1908	2s. 6d. imperf. between vertical pairs, S.G. 85a	8 0 0
		10s. dull green, S.G. 89	0 10 0
		10s. dull green, S.G. 89 hor. pair	1 0 5
	1909	5s. orange, pair one without stop, S.G. 110a	1 10 0
	1913-22	1s. black and green, S.G. 272b	0 3 0
		2s. 6d. deep ultr. and grey-brn., S.G. 271	0 3 0
		2s. 6d. pale blue and pale bistre brn., S.G. 274a	0 16 6
		3s. red brn. and turquoise blue, S.G. 304, hor. pair	0 7 6
		£1 black and magenta, S.G. 411a	4 0 0
ST. HELENA:	1903	2s. violet and black, S.G. 60	1 10 0
ST. VINCENT	1913	£1 mauve and black, S.G. 198	6 0 0
SIERRA LEONE:	1933	2s. brown and light blue, S.G. 177	4 10 0
		5s. black and purple, S.G. 178	9 0 0
	1938	5d. olive green, S.G. 194	0 2 6
SOUTHERN RHODESIA:	1937	1s. black and greenish blue, perf. 14, S.G. 23b	3 0 0
		1s. perf. 14, horizontal pair	6 0 0
		1s. perf. 14, block of four	12 0 0
TURKS & CAICOS ISLS.:	1900	2s. purple, S.G. 108	3 10 0
ZANZIBAR:	1908-09	20R. black and yellow-green, S.G. 240	10 10 0

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APRIL, 1950.

Whole No. 301.

Union Notes

RECENT PRINTINGS

The Publicity Officer, G.P.O., has kindly supplied the following information covering the period 21/11/49 to 1/3/50. This continues the list given in our February issue, page 24:

Ordinary Pictorial Stamps

½d.—Job 5134. On an order for 1m. sheets x 240 there have been 215,950 sheets delivered since 29/11/49, printing from cylinders 11A and 11B.

1d.—Job 2810 contd. No additional deliveries.

1½d.—Job 5301. On an order for 1½m. sheets x 240 there have been 45,000 delivered since 21/2/50. Cylinders 6931A and B as before.

6d.—Job 700 contd. On an order for 100,000 sheets x 240 there have been a total of 53,028 delivered since 14/7/49. Cylinders 9 Int. and 6935 Ext. as before.

1s.—Job 5303. On an order for 150,000 sheets x 120 there have been 29,200 delivered since 30/12/49. Cylinders 6926 Int. and 6935 Ext., both old. [But not the same as used in the previous printing. See our June, 1949, issue, p. 89.—Ed.]

Voortrekker Stamps

1d.—Job 7448 contd. Total of 195,797 sheets x 120 delivered up to 30/12/49. All from Cyl. 12.

1½d.—Job 7449 contd. Total of 285,639 sheets x 120 delivered up to 10/1/50. All from Cyl. 21.

3d.—Job 7450 contd. Total of 39,378 sheets x 120 delivered up to 22/11/49. All from Cyl. 38.

Roll Stamps

½d.—Job 792 contd. The total deliveries on this job (going back to May, 1948) are now

given as 1,123 rolls x 1,012 and 1,784 rolls x 506 printed from Cyl. 39, and 5,700 rolls x 1,012 and 8,000 rolls x 506 printed from Cyl. 6045.

Post Cards

1d.—Job 1319 contd. The total number of sheets x 32 delivered is now stated at 2,327,552. Of these 59,968 sheets x 32 were drawn from stock and overprinted S.W.A. on a flat bed machine from a new forme.

Air Letter Cards.

6d.—Job 6198 contd. Total delivery now put at 2,310,000. All from Cyl. 40.

Use of Two Different Headplate Cylinders in the Production of the "E" Control 1d. Rotogravure Stamps

Further to his notes dealing with the "Broken Mast" variety in the "E" Control printing of the 1d. Rotogravure stamps, which we published last month, Mr. G. N. Gilbert, of Westminster, O.F.S., writes to say that he has had an opportunity of examining additional specimens of this printing and there can be no longer any doubt but that sometime during the life of the "E" Control sheets the headplate cylinder was changed and in consequence the "Broken Mast" variety disappeared.

He points out that the stages in the development of the flaw through the "B," "D" and "E" printings are interesting for when it first appeared on the "B" sheets there were very clear signs of retouching and that the horizontal lines added at the top of the mast were quite visible and distinct. Specimens of the flaw taken from the "D" Control sheets show a fairly similar condition, but in the case of the "E" sheets—the last of the series in which the fault appeared—the effect of wear on the cylinder etching becomes very evident and an examination of these items will show the marks of retouching almost absent and a clear white space in the area where the top of the mast is missing.

It was evidently at this stage in the production—when the “retouch” was obviously wearing thin—that arrangements were made to change the “E” headplate cylinder and thereby eliminate the flaw. And it is here that Mr. Gilbert brings to light the very interesting point that since the “E” frame cylinder had also become worn, its condition probably did not justify a new headplate cylinder at that late stage in the printing of the order, then on hand, for 1d. stamps and therefore the staff adopted the logical alternative of utilising a headplate cylinder which had previously been employed for one of the earlier printings. The one chosen, as it now turns out from his study of a number of specimens, is the same cylinder as that used for the printing of the vignettes on the “A” Control sheets and also later, the first portion of the “B” printing. The fact can be easily verified by comparing the vignettes of the “A” and first “B” printings, with those of the “E” on which the “Broken Mast” does not appear and it will be seen that the small cylinder flaws of the earlier issues are repeated in the later production.

A matter of interest in the study of the two “E” Control printings is the fact that, so far, those copies with no “Broken Mast” flaw have all shown the sheet serial number to be in the 9000 group of figures, whereas those examples without the variety have been in the 7000 group or lower. This, of course, does no more than indicate that the change of cylinders may have taken place at sometime during the period of printing the sheets numbered 7900 to 9999, but until further information comes forward there can be no proof of this and further, there is unfortunately no record of how often the numerals 0001 to 9999 were repeated in the production of the “E” sheets.

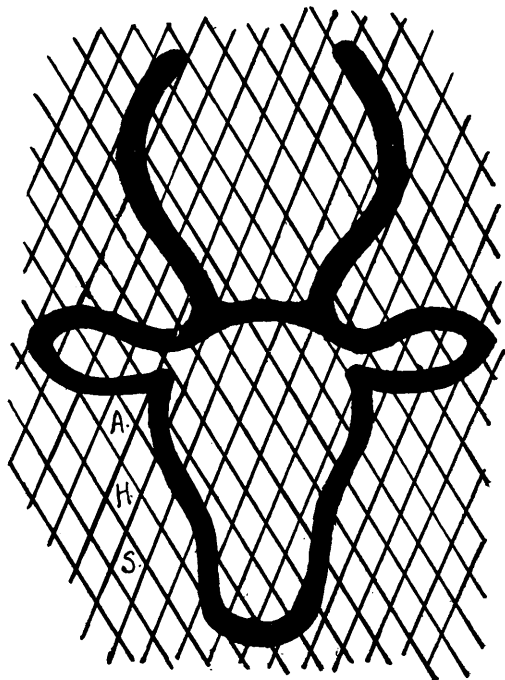
To the best of our knowledge this discovery by Mr. Gilbert of the use of two different headplate cylinders in the printing of the “E” Control stamps and in addition, the fact that the second cylinder had also been employed at an earlier date to print the vignettes on the “A” and first “B” sheets, has not been previously recorded and collectors who may have any material or information at hand will greatly assist him in his research on the subject by forwarding details to his Westminster address.

In the meantime the “E” Control printings can now be divided into “E1” and “E2” parts in a similar manner to that adopted for the “B1” and “B2” issue. It will then follow that the list of frameplates and headplates of these early issues given in the paper “The Rotogravure Stamps of the Union of South Africa” by G. N. Gilbert, tabulated on page 135 of the September, 1934, number of “The South African Philatelist” should be amended as below:

First Frameplates: “A” — “B1”.
 First Headplates: “A” — “B1” — “E2”.
 Second Frameplates: “B2” — “D” — “E1” — “E2”.
 Second Headplates: “B2” — “D” — “E1”.

Manufacture of Union Watermarked Paper

The accompanying sketch of a wire watermark bit formed to the shape of a Springbok's Head and affixed to woven wire has been drawn by Mr. A. H. Sydow to illustrate the method employed in producing the watermark on the white wove paper manufactured for the Union's postage stamps. The watermark on the paper is actually the thinning of the paper caused by its passage over the woven wire and attached watermark bits and Mr. Sydow notes that the diagonal wove effect of the wire can be clearly seen on the 1929 Electrotyped stamp margins.



He states that it is this same process that has produced the Union Springbok Head multiple watermarked paper for the following stamps:

1. Union ½d., 1d. and 6d. Electrotyped stamps printed by Waterlow and Sons, Limited, and later, the Union Government Printer, from flat plates made by the Royal Mint.
2. The Union Rotogravure issues printed from copper-faced cylinders by the Union Government Printer.

And that the Dandy Rollers—which contain the woven wire and watermark bits—were manufactured by:

1. Edward Amies and Company of London for the ½d., 1d. and 6d. Electrotyped stamps printed from flat plates.
2. W. Green, Son and Waite of London for all Rotogravure stamps, i.e., paper in the web for rotary printing.

Increase in Union Postal Rates and Fluctuations During the Last Thirty Years

A matter of interest for philatelists was mentioned by Mr. N. C. Havenga in his recent Budget speech—House of Assembly, Cape Town, 16th March, 1950—when he referred to the proposed increase in the Union inland letter rate and gave a summary of its fluctuations during the last thirty years.

Suggesting to once more raise the rate from 1½d. to 2d. on the 15th May, Mr. Havenga stated that the days of penny postage, like those of the penny newspaper, had long since departed and gave the following outline of the changes that had taken place in the cost of posting an inland letter since 1920:

- 1920: Increase to 1½d.
- 1921: Increase to 2d.
- 1926: Reverted to 1d.
- 1931: Increase to 2d.
- 1934: Reverted to 1d.
- 1940: Increase to 1½d.
- 1943: Increase to 2d.
- 1947: Reverted to 1½d.
- 1950: Proposed increase to 2d.

It is also intended to raise the rate for commercial papers, embracing accounts, receipts, invoices, etc., from ½d. to 1d. for 2 oz. and one can therefore assume that the number of ½d. stamps likely to be in circulation in the near future will show a considerable drop.

The foreign rate has been raised to 4½d. for the first ounce, as from 1st April. It is rumoured there may be a 4½d. stamp, but there is no official confirmation of this.

Colour Change in the 2d. Value

A point of interest recorded by Mr. J. Robertson has been the appearance, during the latter part of March, of the 2d. stamp in new colours and with the cylinder numbers imprinted on the sheets.

There is no change in the design, but the frame of the new printing is now a distinct plum colour, instead of the various shades of violet of the previous issue and in addition, the frame portion has for the first time been produced through a screen.

A cross-lined screen has again been employed in the preparation of the cylinder for the vignettes—it appears to be the same type and size of screen as that used for the vignettes of the preceding stamp, S.G. No. 107—but compared with that issue, the lines of the Union Buildings are beautifully sharp and clear. Further, the deep slate-blue colour of the centre design combines very suitably with the plum shade of the frame and the change can be said to have resulted in a very much more attractive stamp than its immediate predecessor.

The cylinder numbers printed on the sheets are No. 2 for the vignettes and No. 37 for the frame.

Petrol Saving Slogans on Union Postal Matter

A letter written in connection with the petrol saving slogans which made their appearance on machine cancelled envelopes and other postal matter during the early days of March, has been received from Mr. A. H. Sydow, who writes from Cape Town as follows "Much water has flowed down the Limpopo since last the Union Post Office promulgated a slogan. On the 7th March, however, the Central Post Office of Cape Town disseminated two new slogans in manner of words Lord Bacon once described as both monitory and minatory:

"(a) /PETROL IS PRECIOUS—SAVE IT/ BESPAAR PETROL—DIS KOSBAAR/ in conjunction with a circular machine postmark KAAPSTAD—CAPE TOWN and the index 'B'.

"(b) /DO YOUR DUTY—SAVE PETROL/ DOEN U PLIG—BESPAAR PETROL/ in conjunction with a circular machine postmark CAPE TOWN—KAAPSTAD and the index letter 'A'."

Similar slogans are being used in other parts of the Union and some examples sent in by Mr. B. L. Cairncross of George, C.P., and Mr. C. Calitz of Mossel Bay, with Cape Town, Johannesburg and Germiston postmarks, show that in addition to the two given above there is a third which reads:

(c) /DONT WASTE PETROL/MOENIE PETROL MORS NIE/ in conjunction with a circular postmark JOHANNESBURG and in one case the index letter "C" and in another the letter "B".

Other specimens forwarded by Mr. Calitz illustrate the setting out of the same slogans in two different forms according to the type of machine employed. Thus the model designed to produce the continuous postmarking effect, displays the English words alternating with the Afrikaans and the circular postmark (or "PAID-BETAALD" square) in between, whereas in the case of the single impression pattern, the slogan in the one language is located directly over the other and the circular postmark is on the left hand side of the words.

Port Elizabeth has the (a) and (c) types mentioned above, but in the former "Precious" is spelt "Precios".

Shade Change in the 10s. Stamp

Mr. M. M. Basson of Roodepoort records a change of shade in the frame of the 10s. stamp. The sepia tone which has been present for some considerable time has now given way to a tint which can be most nearly described as slate-grey.

Numbering of the Cylinders Used in the Production of the Union's Stamps

In answer to several enquiries regarding the method adopted of numbering the copper cylinders employed in the printing of the

Union's stamps it can be stated that at the time of manufacture, each cylinder is given a permanent number which is stamped into one end of the metal with steel figures.

This is the number used throughout the life of the cylinder for officially recording its use in the production of any particular stamp and is the number given against the various printings in the Union Standard Catalogue and also the one now appearing in either the left or right hand bottom corner of the current 2d., 6d., 1s., 2s. 6d. and 5s. sheets of postage stamps.

The method previously in force of printing only the Exterior cylinder number on the sheets and denoting the interior and exterior cylinders by the letters "A" and "B" respectively—as in the case of the current 3d., 1d., 1½d. and 3d. stamps—has now been abandoned in favour of the present practice.

Since in the course of use the images on a cylinder become worn and are then ground off in preparation of the surface for taking the etched reproduction of possibly an entirely different stamp or denomination, it will be appreciated that in the course of time the same cylinder number may show up as having been used for many different issues.

Union Silver Wedding Varieties

The Nov./Dec. and Jan./Feb. numbers of "The West-End Philatelist," sent to us by the publishers, Messrs. David Field Ltd., London, contain a two part article on the South African 3d. Silver Wedding stamp, written by Dr. K. Pennyquick.

The author points out that because of the number of small blemishes which exist on the stamps throughout the sheet, it is possible to plate every one of the 120 units and gives a detailed list of identifying flaws.

Summary of 1s. Union Printings—Correction

In the list of 1s. Union Pictorial Printings set out on page 37 of our last month's issue the word "blue" should be erased from the text in paragraph (5). The corrected sentence will then read "Four brown standard arrows per sheet."

W.N.S.

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Reviews

"Katalog Maraka Jugoslavenskih Zemalja" 1950.

This, from the numerous illustrations, appears to be a complete priced catalogue of all the stamps issued in the area now known as Yugoslavia, but we regret that we cannot review it as it is entirely in the language of the country, with the sole exception of a notice that it comes "avec les compliments de Jugofilatelija—Beograd." The address of the publishers is "Palmoticeva 2, Beograd." A specialist would probably find it useful even if he could not read it fully. Many of the stamps have what appears to be the "numbers printed" given.

Stamp Collecting for Boys and Girls, by L. N. and M. Williams. Price 5s. net. English Universities Press, Ltd., St. Paul's House, Warwick Square, London E.C. 4.

An excellent book, both as regards text and illustrations, to kindle interest and enthusiasm in juvenile collectors. It deals briefly with many of the technicalities of stamps, in language understandable by any one, and many an adult collector might have some of his rather hazy notions clarified by reading it.

But it does not deal only with technicalities, or shall we say these are explained in such a way as to bring out the fascination of collecting stamps, and the how and why of its many-sided appeal to so many different minded persons.

Hard to beat as a birthday present to a young collector.

* * *

LONDON INTERNATIONAL EXHIBITION

The Souvenir Sheet is taking the form of five stamps reproduced in original colours. Each of the continents is represented by the British Penny Black, the Sydney View 1d. of 1850, the handsome Nova Scotia 1s., the Cape Triangular of 1853 and the classic rarity of Ceylon—the 4d. rose of 1859. The sheets have no postal value and should not be placed on a cover. The retail price of these is 1s., plus 3d. for postage.

There are to be first day covers, designed by the envelope makers, John Dickinson and Co. These may be had with the souvenir sheet at 2s. sent by surface mail.

There are to be different cancellations each day at the Exhibition P.O., eight in all; they are to be of novel design incorporating modern methods with the old hand-carved Maltese Cross.

Advertisements will be appearing in the philatelic press of those members of the trade servicing covers, etc. It is understood that all stallholders at the Exhibition will be prepared to send souvenir sheets and/or covers on the terms given above.

RHODESIA

We hold a fine stock of all issues of this interesting but often neglected country. Particularly strongly represented are the issues from 1910, double heads and Admirals, among which are many of the scarcer items which often evade the search of the collector.

We shall be pleased to receive wants lists of any issues, and these will receive prompt and careful attention.

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* 1d., 6d. and 1/-	20/0	—
1909/11 ditto redrawn		
* ½d. and 2d.	3/0	—
1d. carmine	9/0	—
* 2½d. and 3d.	6/6	—
* 6d. dull purple	6/0	6/0
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1/- bistre	4/6	—
* 2/- blue and purple (Arms)	10/0	—
5/- carmine and green (Arms)	20/0	—
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1916 War Stamp (two lines)		
* 1d. red SG 124	1/0	1/6
* 1d. (one line—4 shades)	1/6	—
1921/32 Script CA		
* ½d., 1d., 1½d., 2d., 2½d., 3d., 3d. (7)	7/6	—
4d., 5d., 6d. and 1/- (4)	12/9	—
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Stamps with a Story

By

W. LOXLEY-CHAMINGS

(Notes accompanying an exhibit)

There are one or two things I want to say before I begin in case I should forget to say them after I have finished.

The first concerns the use of the word "philately." In a philatelic periodical recently a writer stated with the utmost assurance that thematic collecting, while it may afford some interest to those who like that sort of thing, was definitely not philately, and I have heard the same thing asserted more than once elsewhere. I wish most emphatically to contest this assertion, which seems to me a piece of snobbery which is calculated to do considerable damage to philately in general. It would seem that if you haunt the printing-works and glean more or less authentic details of how certain stamps are printed you are a philatelist, but if you haunt a reference library and glean details of what is printed on those stamps you are not a philatelist. Fill pages of a philatelic paper with fly-specks and their positions on a sheet and you're a philatelist; fill those pages with interesting facts about what the printed sheet says, and you're not a philatelist. It's all wrong, and goes a long way to justify what the non-collector often says about us—that we're quite barmy. If you are a collector of pictures, you should know something about the pigments the artists use and how they apply them, but what sort of lunatic would you be if you took not the slightest interest in what the picture said, but only in how it was painted? No, gentlemen, philately, as my dictionary avers, is "the study and collection of postage and revenue stamps and labels," and I claim confidently that I am just as good a philatelist in being mainly interested in what the stamp says as any of my fellow-collectors who are mainly interested in how the stamp is made. Let's have done with this invidious and snobbish distinction between one kind of collection and another.

And now a word about my own way of collecting before I turn to the stamps I shall show. I have long ago discarded albums. The stamps are mounted on cards and filed in cabinets. This gives me the utmost liberty of addition, subtraction, permutation and combination. My main collection is of Faces and Places—one stamp of each person and one stamp of each place. This keeps the collection within manageable limits, the average rate of growth being two a week. I was amused recently in noting how exact this average has been, though of course I have not always collected in the same way. Two a week is 104 a year; I have been collecting for 52 years; 104 times 52 is 5,408, and when I counted my

cards the other day the total was 5,420! I make a second card for each stamp and on this I type certain details—catalogue number, price paid, current catalogue, etc.—these last are in code, so you will not be much the wiser!—together with a brief biography of the person or description of the place. I thus have cabinets full of fascinating material ready at a moment's notice to amuse me and, I hope, entertain others.

For my show tonight, "Stamps With a Story," every one of these 5,400 odd stamps has a story to tell, but I have pulled out just 100 of them that I felt had some special feature, together with their "blurbs." I have not chosen them for their value, though where possible I have put in scarce varieties. My Foreigns are more entertaining than my British, but to hold an even balance I have pulled out 25 British and 25 Foreign People, and 25 British and 25 Foreign Places. Of these hundred I propose to mention briefly only 12 now, and leave the others on the table with their blurbs. These 12 I have chosen because they all, like many others, have a personal interest.

The first British Person is Queen Elizabeth. I am tempted to refer to the old chestnut of the schoolboy, who in his essay on Queen Elizabeth wrote: "She was known as the Virgin Queen. As a Queen she was a great success." You may be wondering what the personal connection is—it is that the handsome set of Newfoundland from which this comes commemorates Sir Humphrey Gilbert, and Gilbert was a Devon man, as I am, born close to the place where I used to live. Queen Elizabeth gave him his patents for his American venture (7c.) and a token (5c.) for his success. His half-brother, Sir Walter Raleigh, wrote him from the Court at Richmond: "I send you a token from Her Majesty, an Anchor guided by a Lady, as you see."

The second is Charles Connell, and here I am glad to do a spot of rehabilitation. The usual story about this stamp is that Charles Connell, Postmaster-General of New Brunswick, was a pompous, vain man who lost his £600-a-year post by insisting on having his ugly face on a stamp. This is quite untrue. He was of kindly, unpretentious character, and one of the best-looking men in the New Brunswick Legislature. It is almost certain that, as in the case of the Cerro stamp of Peru (also shown), a sub-official was responsible for the issue of the stamp and that the P.M.G. generously took the blame and its consequences. He was a wealthy man and the loss of salary was of no account, though he keenly felt the ridicule that was poured on him. His speedy re-election, however, showed that he had not lost public confidence. The stamp, of which this is a colour-trial in the approved shade, is of considerable value. My own connection with this stamp-wallah is that I bought him many years ago, sold him when hard up, and years after bought him back again, and I'm pretty certain it's the same copy I had before!

The third Britisher is our mutual friend, Baden-Powell, and here again a little rehabilitation seems to be indicated. Here is my blurb: "Designed by Capt. M. Greener, Chief Paymaster in Mafeking during the siege. Produced by Dr. D. Taylor, gummed and perforated by Townshend & Son. 3,036 of this printed, and 6,072 of the smaller size. B.-P. had no hand in their issue and only consented when it was pointed out that as a "local" issue it would be derogatory to the Queen to have her portrait on it. The story that she was very angry and shelved B.-P. is quite false. He writes: "The Queen wrote me a message of congratulation with her own hand on the relief of Mafeking and herself ordered my promotion to Major-General. Within four months I was given the biggest command of my life—the South African Constabulary—and after that the blue ribbon of the mounted branch, the Inspector-Generalship of Cavalry in Great Britain and Ireland and Africa. So I never knew that she was offended, or that I was ignored." Now I showed this stamp many years ago at a Boy Scout camp in England, and when I got home it had entirely disappeared. I could never believe that a Scout had pinched the Chief Scout, but it was not till years later that he suddenly dropped out of a book I was reading. By that time I had bought another copy, one of the smaller type, which I promptly sold, maybe to one of you gentlemen, and the odd thing is that this one shortly disappeared once more, and only turned up the other day when I was sorting through a mountain of papers. It just shows, a good Scout will always turn up in time!

Now for our three Foreign gentry. The first is Johan Herman Wessel of Norway, and the ordinary reference books gave me little or nothing about him, so I wrote from Coventry in England last year to the British Embassy in Stockholm, and the Information Secretary replied with these interesting details: "There is a mistake on this stamp, not discovered till too late—Hermann should be Herman. Born in the Parish of Vestby and passed his 'studentexamen' in Oslo in 1761. Later lived in Copenhagen as author, language teacher and literary translator. When the Norske Selskab was founded in Copenhagen he became its moving spirit. His magnum opus, 'Love Without Stockings,' published 1772. Some of his humorous stories appeared in 'Votre Serviteur Otiosis,' which he published himself. He kept poor by indulgence in drink." But now note the fascination of philately. He adds a P.S.: "I have just spotted your address. My mother is coming to live in your parish at 99 Evenlode Crescent at the end of September. I was born and brought up in Coventry!"

The second is Jean Henri Pestalozzi, one of the most endearing characters—utterly lacking in business sense and so failing in many of his early ventures, hopelessly untidy as the portrait shows, but with an intense love for children such as prompted him to shelter in a deserted convent a number of children made destitute and homeless by the invasion of Switzerland in 1798 and to give the rest of his life to their interests. His

theories of education, illustrated in his masterpiece, "Leonard and Gertrude," were novel at the time but have won increasing acceptance. This attractive person has a special interest for me, as I once stayed for a week at the Pestalozzi Orphanage at Intra on Lake Maggiore and got to know a few of the orphans pretty well.

The third is Henry Morton Stanley, a familiar name to all South Africans, but not all of them will realise that this was not his baptismal name. John Rowlands was born near Denbigh, placed at six in the Poor House of St. Asaph, ran away to sea and was adopted by a merchant of New Orleans whose name he took. His life was crammed with adventure, including service with the Confederate Army, with the U.S. Navy, and with King Leopold II of Belgium in a private capacity. Through maladroit negotiations the Congo was lost to Britain and fell to Belgium. Stanley became a world-famous newspaper correspondent and as such undertook his historic search for Livingstone with its successful ending in 1871.

And now the three British places. The first is the Ventine Falls, St. Lucia, one of the beauty spots of "Helen of the West Indies." It is not a waterfall in the usual sense, for it is a hot sulphurous spring that gushes out of the summit of the rock, which is situated in the Soufrière Valley below the famous volcano and about 2½ miles from the town of Soufrière, the second largest on the island. The personal interest here is that I offered this stamp, the scarce perf. 12 x 13, then listed at 40s. for a tickety on a Philatelic Society's booklet, and it came back unsold!

The Victoria Falls we all know, many of us at first hand, but of all the stamps that show what has been called the greatest river wonder of the world surely this one is the most pleasing, with the tumbling water in a cool shade of green and an excellent full-face portrait of King George V, who is shielding a timid springbok from the obvious intentions of a lion, while an elephant and a giraffe stand by to see fair play. For a personal touch how about this little yarn? One of my sons-in-law was a Padre in Italy during the late war, and one day was taking tea in Rome with two American nurses. Pretoria happened to be mentioned, and one nurse said: "Pretoria? I have not heard of that burg." "Oh, Sadie," said the other, "you surely have heard of the Pretoria Falls!"

We had a holiday once at Waterval Onder, and in the grounds of the guest-house was the little house where Paul Kruger lived for several months before his exile. We passed many times through the tunnel on the footpath to Waterval Boven, but it was not till later that I realised that this tunnel figures on the stamp issued by the second Boer Republic to mark the inauguration of penny postage in 1895. As you know, Wolmaransstad was the only British stronghold to overprint this stamp for use during the war. Later the railway was moved to the other side of the valley. This stamp was given me at Wol-

(Continued on page 61)

MACHINE POSTMARKS

With reference to your note on Germiston machine postmarks published in your February issue, the following may be of interest.

I have seen the specimens listed hereunder (all except No. 8 are in front of me as I write). None are Paid. "A" indicates that the wavy lines begin at the top of a "wave," "B" that they begin at the bottom.

1. 1946/30-IV/11.45 B.
2. 17-II/1948/13.00 B.
3. 1948/9-X/13.00 A.
4. 1948/16-X/6.00 A.
5. 14.00/13-IV/1949 A.
6. 1949/4-V/17.15 A.
7. 1949/9-V/8.00 A.
8. 6.00/13-IX/1949 A.
9. 1949/15-XI/6.00 A.
10. 1949/28-XI/16.00 A.

Nos. 1—4 are before the period covered by the letter referred to, but they might interest Mr. Allpass.

Nos. 5, 8, 9 and 10 agree with his statements but 6 and 7 do not.

With regard to the words, "the normal pattern adopted by all machine cancellation offices," I might mention that Boksburg also shows considerable variation, and that although I have handled hundreds of Kingwilliamstown specimens I have never encountered one that does not follow the pattern

DATE/MONTH : TIME : YEAR

In addition, some places—Cape Town and Port Elizabeth, for example—follow the pattern

DATE/MONTH : BLANK : YEAR

on their Paid.

I have in my possession a few covers and pieces dated March, 1945, and August-October, 1948, bearing stamps cancelled by an oval handstamp consisting of bars with the number 1047 in the centre—doubtless an old Cape postmark. (In many cases the machine postmark had missed the stamp.) These letters were originally posted at Bloemfontein, Paarl, Johannesburg and other places, but all were delivered at Cape Town, and this proves that 1047 was used at Cape Town during the period mentioned.

Finally, a short note on the "UNAC" slogans: In the case of what I term non-continuous postmarks, i.e., postmarks not designed to stretch right across the envelopes, these were in two forms throughout the Union. The first had "GIVE ONE DAY'S PAY AND SAVE A CHILD" over "STEUN DIE V.V. KINDERFONDS VANDAG," while the second read "GEE EEN DAG SE LOON EN RED 'N KIND/HELP UNAC SAVE THE WORLD'S CHILDREN."

Coming to the Cape Town ones in particular: The Cape Town "A" machine used two dies of the first-named slogan. Die II differs from Die I in that the right-hand stroke in the first "V" in the bottom line is clearly double, and there is a blob over the doubled line near the apex of the "V."

This seems too definite and constant to be due to a bit of dirt. I have recorded the following dates:

- 14.30/3-VIII/1948 Die I.
- 17.15/3-VIII/1949 Die I.
- 11.30/5-VIII/1948 Die II.
- 12.30/5-VIII/1948 Die II.
- 16.15/5-VIII/1948 Die I.

and many more with Die I up to 17.15/7-X/1948.

Sometime between this and 9.30/11-X/1948, the "A" machine reverted to wavy lines.

The "B" machine used only one die. This had Afrikaans at the top. My first recording of this is 16.15/3-VIII/1948, and my last one 9.30/8-X/1948.

Specimens of the "C" machine are always harder to find than those from the "A" or the "B," but I have recorded it with a slogan very much like Die I of the "A" machine, except that the "P" of "PAY" is fatter, on several dates between 17.15/3-VIII/1948 and 17.15/12-VIII/1948, and also 17.15/27-VIII/1948. I have not seen any postmarks from the "C" machine between these latter, but presumably it did not vary. My next recording is 17.15/31-VIII/1948; this and the next few, up to and including 9.30/3-IX/1948, have wavy lines. On various dates between 17.15/10-IX/1948 and 17.15/30-IX/1948 I have recorded this machine with an "Afrikaans over English" slogan, with letters not so high as on the die used by "B." By 9.30/1-X/1948 wavy lines were once more in use, but this time they began at the bottom of a "wave," instead of at the top, as previously.

The "D" (Paid) machine did not change during this period.

D. ALLISON.

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STAMP CENTENARIES

This year is the centenary of Spain's "Penny Black," the 6 cuartos black of 1850, a stamp that has been about as much studied, plated and written up as its British forerunner in 1840. There will be commemoratives appearing later this year.

Other famous classics now 100 years old are, of course, the "Sydney Views" of New South Wales, a series about which also volumes have been written.

POLAND

By

ROBERT A. WILSON

(Paper read before the Pretoria
Philatelic Society)

In many ways, I feel to-night like a newly elected Member of Parliament, in that I have just recently been elected to membership in this Society, and now I am on the floor making what might be termed my "Maiden Speech." As some of you know, I have spent the past two years behind the "Iron Curtain." I am therefore not going to talk about any of the numerous adjuncts of the British Empire. The country that I am going to discuss, however, has, within the past decade, been of primary concern not only to the British Empire but also to the world in general. For indeed it was over Poland that the Allies finally went to war with the Axis, and one of the biggest sources of trouble at the famous Yalta and Potsdam Conferences was the fate of Poland, to this day still unsettled.

Poland's glorious but tragic history is well illustrated in its comparatively brief Philatelic History, which is in many ways unique. Poland is, I believe, the only country in philatelic history that has a gap of fifty-five years between its first and second postal emissions. The first Polish stamp, by which she was represented in catalogues until the second decade of this century was issued in 1860, when the country was under one of its numerous dominations by Russia and/or her neighbours. This "Lone Adhesive," as it is familiarly called among students of Polish philately, is one of the world's first bi-coloured stamps, having been preceded only by the well-known India 4 anna stamp, the Swiss Cantonal stamps, and the first issue of Russia itself. Thus we have a true "Classic" for the foundation stone of a Polish collection. The colours are blue and red, with shade varieties from rose to carmine. The design portrays the coat of arms of the Congressional Kingdom of Poland, i.e., a Polish eagle against a Russian eagle placed in the centre of an oval shield, evenly surrounded by a thin ellipse. The stamp became obsolete in 1865, when the postal system was once again merged with that of Russia proper, and the stamps of Russia became current throughout the country. An innovation was the compulsory use of the Russian alphabet on the Killers. Prior to the Lone Adhesive, in the stampless cover days, the Latin alphabet had been in use.

No other stamp makes its appearance until 1915, and even then it cannot be regarded as a genuinely "Polish" issue, for it consists of the first German occupation stamp set. It should be noted at this point that Poland as we know it to-day was, prior to 1914, divided

among the three major Continental Powers—Russia, Germany, and the Austria-Hungarian Empire. Poland's three major cities were located one within each district—Warsaw in the Russian part, Krakow in the Austro-Hungarian, and Posen, or Poznan, in the German. With the rapid defeat of the Czarist armies early in the war, and the subsequent Bolshevik Insurrection, Germany occupied Warsaw for the first time, and overprinted the familiar "Germania" heads for use in the occupied zone.

We must wait another three years for the real beginning of twentieth century Polish philately. In 1918, Poland was reconstituted as an independent nation, being composed mainly of the territory previously mentioned as being occupied by the three large powers. Emergency stamps were made in all of these territories by overprinting and surcharging whatever types of stamps were at hand. Thus we have German stamps surcharged for use in the Poznan area, Austrian stamps overprinted in Krakow, and Austrian Military stamps surcharged for use in South-eastern Poland. But due to the long standing and intense hatred of Russia, Russian stamps were not overprinted, but instead, the German occupation stamps were used as well as a set of four locals. This is probably one of the only examples in history of a local becoming a national issue.

Of all these emergency stamps, the Krakow overprints have become the most valuable, and are the real classics, so to speak, of any Polish collection, especially the postage due series, of which all but three stamps may be classified as rarities. Unfortunately, there are many clever forgeries of this issue, and the genuine copies are hard to come by nowadays. It has been estimated by one of the three or four experts on this series that at least 30 per cent. of the copies examined by him have been forgeries. Many double and inverted overprints occur on all of these provisionals. One of the more common varieties on the Krakow set is the thin or narrow "Z" in the word "POCSTA".

In 1919, plates were prepared and the first stamps printed in Poland and with Polish designs were issued. It must be regretted that this and several subsequent issues are not particularly attractive. The basic designs are always farming scenes and stylized versions of the Polish Eagle. This first 1919 set is noteworthy for the fact that it was issued both perforated and imperforate, and also in two sets of colours, providing a precedent for the same technique being employed in connection with the "Famous Poles" set of 1947. The two colours were also inscribed in different currencies, those valued in Halerzy and Kronor being for use in Southern Poland and those in fenigow and marks for use in Northern Poland. Later, in 1920, the set valued in fenigow and marks was re issued in slightly different colours for use throughout the entire country.

The first Polish commemoratives were also issued in 1919, in honour of the opening of

the first sessions of the Sejm, the Polish equivalent to Parliament. This set is interesting to musical specialists because of its depiction of Paderewski, at that time President of Poland as well as the world's leading pianist. This set also contains one amusing curiosity. The 20 fenigow value in brown appears in two sizes in this set. This puzzle has been explained by the fact that after the set was prepared and placed on sale, it was felt that the small size of the design was insulting to Prime Minister Trampczynski, and accordingly, a new die in the same format but larger size was prepared. Both stamps were available at the Post Office.

In 1924 a currency change occurred, in which the older Polish monetary terms "Groszy" and "Zoty" were re-employed. A new set of stamps portraying the Polish eagle was issued at this time. These are in somewhat brighter colours than previous eagle issues, but still cannot really be called "attractive" stamps. The same is unfortunately true of the first pictorials, which were printed in dull, muddy colours on thin greyish paper.

It was not until the late 20's and early 30's that Polish stamps began to be attractive. These can be said to begin with the first stamp in honour of Chopin, a modern treatment in an attractive shade of sapphire blue. Among the most beautiful of all Poland's stamps is a large commemorative in deep blue, printed on a thick cream coloured paper. It is actually a beautifully executed miniature engraving of the famous painting now in the Vatican Gallery in Rome of Jan Sobieski, the Polish King who was primarily responsible for the defeat of the Turks at the Battle of Vienna in 1683. In 1935 a striking set of five stamps printed in grey with black borders was issued in mourning of Marshal Pilsudski, one of the founders and Presidents of modern Poland. In this same year three attractive souvenir sheets were issued in honour of the visit to Poland of King Carol of Rumania. These sheets were executed by printing a block of four current stamps in the centre of a large sheet, with the Rumanian and Polish Coats of Arms engraved in red at the top of the sheets. It was also in this year that Poland issued experimental booklets. In the period between 1935 and 1937, five booklets, in all, were issued. However, the experiment proved unsuccessful, and they were discontinued. These to-day are the most elusive of all items in a Polish collection. Two of the three booklets were available only in post offices in Silesia, and were never available in the Capital. Even the Postal Museum collection in Warsaw lacks these items. An attractive pictorial set was issued in 1935, to which four values were added in 1937.

In 1938, Poland's most attractive set was issued. Known as the "Historical Issue," it portrays on its 13 values the main events in Polish history from pre-medieval times down to 1918. The final value is a particularly striking design portraying Marshal Pilsudski

profiled against a battle scene in which the flag of the Polish Legion is seen going forward through the smoke of battle.

In this same year one of the world's most striking souvenir sheets was issued by Poland. It consists of one stamp, extremely long vertically, placed in the centre of a block measuring 77 x 124 mm. The colour of the stamp itself is deep violet, and portrays a stratosphere balloon soaring over the Tatra Mountains. It is ironical that this stamp commemorates an event that never took place. It was issued in honour of a proposed stratosphere flight. The balloon was the largest such ever constructed, and Professor Picard, the noted Belgian balloonist, planned to be present. Unfortunately, shortly before the ascent, the balloon exploded, and the project abandoned, but since the stamp had already been prepared, it was released.

In the same year, a pair of souvenir sheets were issued in honour of the Fifth Warsaw Philatelic Exhibition. Identical except for the fact that one sheet is perforated and the other imperforate, the design of an early mail coach is strongly reminiscent of the classic Austrian WIPA sheet. The most unusual feature about these blocks is the colouring. The stamps are bi-coloured, but not in the usual sense of the word. The two basic colours are blue and green, shading from one into the other from top to bottom of the stamps.

Shortly after the fiasco of the balloon sheet, Poland had another philatelic accident. In February, 1949, the International Ski Meet, known as FIS, and familiar to all Austrian collectors, met at Zakopane, the famous Polish ski resort high in the lovely Tatra Mountains on the Polish-Czech border. A set of four stamps, portraying a gorale, or local mountaineer, in picturesque native costume, preparing to ski down a slope, was issued. But for the first time for many years there was no snow in Poland that winter.

Marshal Pilsudski appears on the last stamp issued by Poland before the German invasion. Issued in the form of a souvenir sheet containing three stamps, Marshal Pilsudski appears twice, with Marshal Smigly-Ridz occupying the third stamp. The sheet commemorated the 25th anniversary of the founding of the Polish Legion in 1914. This Legion became the basis of the Polish Army. The block was issued on August 1, 1939, just four weeks before the beginning of Hitler's invasion of Poland.

The second German occupation of Poland commenced in 1939, after the fall of Warsaw in September. The seat of the occupational government was transferred from Warsaw to Krakow, the medieval capital of Poland. Krakow is still essentially a small, medieval university town, luckily undamaged by either war. Many of its beauties are portrayed on the stamps issued by the occupational Gov-

(Continued on page 61)

BRITISH COLONIAL

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EASTER SEALS

In addition to the Seals for Tuberculosis sufferers issued in many countries at Christmas time, a number of countries, including the Union of South Africa, have Easter Seals for the benefit of cripples, especially crippled children.

The Union Seals for this year are now on sale; they feature a boy joyfully waving his crutches in the air.

The American National Society for Crippled Children, founded in 1921, has been issuing seals at Easter time annually since 1934 and there are many collectors of these. This year they have sent us a booklet with particulars about the various issues and coloured reproductions of them. Back issues are still obtainable (although the 1934 stock is almost exhausted) from the Society at 11 S. La Salle Street, Chicago 3, Ill.



BECHUANALAND

In the recent printings of the 1½d., 4d. and 6d., it is reported by "Stamp Collecting" that the 6d. has less red in its magenta, the 4d. is of a deeper orange while the 1½d. is of a paler blue and is on thinner paper.



NORTHERN RHODESIA

New printings of the ½d., 1d., 2d., 3d., 6d., 5s. and 20s. values were released by the Crown Agents in January. According to "Stamp Collecting" the colour variations are slight: the ½d., 6d. and 5s. are paler; the 2d. is rose-carmine; the 3d., pale bright ultramarine, and the 20s. has the carmine-red deeper.



AUSTRALIA

We are informed by the High Commissioner for Australia that H.M. the King has been pleased to approve of a new portrait of himself, in profile, which will appear on a 2½d. stamp, in red, to be issued on 12th April. At the left of the stamp there will be a panel showing an arrangement of the leaves and flowers of the red flowering gum. Size, perforation and paper will be the same as in the current 2½d. issue.

A new portrait of H.M. the Queen has also been approved; this will replace the likeness on the current 1½d. stamp and the new design will be put on sale on 19th June.

Both these new stamps will become part of the permanent Commonwealth series.



INDONESIA

We can now say a definite good-bye to stamps of the Netherlands Indies and to those of the Republic of Indonesia with a very dubious status. The first of the United States of Indonesia (Republik Indonesia Serikat) appeared on 30th January, a 15 sen scarlet featuring the Indonesian flag, red and white bars, against a background of a volcano and palm trees.

NETHERLANDS AND INDIES

The use of the rotogravure process for printing the stamps of Holland has caused the notes concerning the current issues, and the recent commemoratives, contained in various Dutch Philatelic Magazines, to bristle with reports of dots and dashes, bringing joy, no doubt, to some and despair most likely to many others. So, for example, if you have a U.P.U. 10 cent which shows a white dot under the D of "WERELD", you will know that it is No. 81 in the sheet printed from a cylinder with etching No. 1; but it is to be doubted that you have a rarity!

The current 45c is to have its colour changed from orange to violet-grey because of confusion with the 12c orange.

From "Mijn Stokpaardje," February number, it is learnt that as from 1st January, 1950, all stamps issued prior to that date in the Indies, with the exception of the U.P.U. set, were withdrawn and demonetised. The current stamps are the numeral types with inscription INDONESIA (1 sen - 12½ sen) and architectural types in 15, 20, 25, 30, 40, 45, 50, 60 and 80 sen and 1 rupiah values. Higher values are expected later in the year. The U.P.U. set remains valid for postage until 30th June, 1950. On the 17th January of this year the first definitive stamp of the United States of Indonesia made its appearance. It is a 15 sen stamp showing the flag of the new republic against a background of a sunlit mountain.

The stamps issued by the Republic prior to the arrangement with Holland are many and varied. Some are of doubtful status but others have been legitimately used within the area controlled by the Republican Government under Soekarno. Much research is, however, required before it is known which stamps enjoyed official status. J.W.S.



STAMPS FOR UNO

"Mekeel's Weekly" has a communication from Berne, with extracts from an official Swiss post office announcement to the effect that 77 new "Official" stamps will go on sale on 1st February. These total 64 francs in value, something like £4.

Some of these are for honest to goodness Swiss Official Departments, but the majority are for various UNO offices. They are for official use only, cannot be used by the public but will be available mint or cancelled to order for philatelic purposes from the Swiss Philatelic Agency and from the Kreispost Direction at Geneva.

We poor muts of collectors!



ADEN DEPENDENCY ERROR

The Qu'aiti state of Shihr and Mukalla has provided a major error in the form of a complete sheet of 60 of the R1 on 1s. without surcharge U.P.U. issue. The complete sheet has been bought by Messrs. Stanley Gibbons who are valuing it at £9,000.

STAMPS WITH A STORY

(Continued from page 55)

maransstad by Mr. Thomas Leask, then aged 90, who was Postmaster in 1900 when the issue was made. The catalogue quotation gives little indication of the stamp's scarcity.

And here finally are the three Foreign places. The first, the ruins of the Forum in Rome, in the set celebrating the Zeppelin cruise in 1933. One has an overwhelming sense of the pathos and power of history as one wanders round the relics of the majesty that was Rome, but, accuse me of frivolity if you will, the sight that remained the most vivid in my mind was that of the cats that basked on the pedestals or chased each other through the sightless windows. I was told a little society of animal-lovers provided for their needs. Maybe they are an improvement on the Wolf of Romulus and Remus!

The second takes us to Assisi. 23 years ago, on the 700th anniversary of the death of St. Francis of Assisi, I spent several days there, and though the great cathedral, just opposite my hotel, was a wonderful building (see the 60c. in the commemorative set of 1926), the place that most drew me was the little Church of St. Damien, just outside the Porta Nuova, for it was here in 1207 that Francis, the blithest figure of the medieval Church, received the inspiration that sent him forth on his life-long mission. It became the Mother House of the Poor Clares, the companion body to the Franciscan Friars. It is just a bare stone nave without aisles, set among ancient olives and a garden of wild flowers such as Francis loved. It was tended by a handful of Observant Friars.

Lastly, we visit Ica, a rather obscure town in Peru, for whose tercentenary Peru issued a set of seven in January, 1935. My New Issue people failed to send it me, so I tried other dealers, without success. Then I advertised in the philatelic papers, but not a single reply did I get. Finally I wrote to the Postmaster-General at Lima, and back came the stamps by reply post, with an interesting letter. I was not surprised to read in the next edition of the catalogue: "This was an extremely limited issue which was sold out on the day of issue." Here again the catalogue prices are no guide to scarcity.

The rest I leave you to see for yourselves. The stamps are laid out in alphabetical order of country, and you can read or ignore the blurbs just as your fancy takes you.

(To be continued)

BASUTOLAND

In the printings released by the Crown Agents in January it is reported in "Stamp Collecting" that there are no perforation changes and only slight shade differences. The 3d. is a rather deeper bright blue, the 4d. a greenish slate, the 6d. a rather deeper orange-yellow, and the 5s. a slightly paler violet.

POLAND

(Continued from page 58)

ernment. The first occupational issue was made by surcharging the current German Hindenburg set. These became obsolete shortly thereafter, and the local Polish issues were surcharged in a manner so heavy that the basic design was virtually obliterated. The following year the beautiful pictorial set was issued. Unbiased persons admit this set to be one of the most beautiful of all Polish issues. Later on this set was withdrawn in favour of a set of Führer's heads. Occasional commemoratives and semi-postals were issued, as well as officials and postage dues. The occupational stamps are extremely well designed and executed. Errors among them are few and extremely scarce.

(To be continued)

ISRAEL

The Postal Department announces the issue in March of two stamps (40 pr., dark violet and 80 pr., carmine) commemorating the acceptance of the State into the U.P.U. The stamps feature a running stag, the insignia of the Department, with a part of the globe in the background.

The Department is making things very easy (? too easy) for collectors and have issued an illustrated list of all stamps which have been issued by them. In most cases they are still purchasable at the sales department, 2 Pinsker Street, Tel Aviv. Standing orders can be placed for new issues, first day covers, special collection sheets, positional stamps. This is collecting made easy with a vengeance!



A RIVAL TO LUNDY IS.

The owner of *Shuna*, an island in the Hebrides, has recently issued a "stamp." Mail for the island is apparently usually collected by one of the island-owner's staff, by arrangement with the post office, but it may sometimes cross by other channels. The *Shuna* "stamp" admittedly does not pay postage, it is merely attached to outgoing mail and postmarked as a guarantee that the letter has passed through normal channels. Further comment, as Messrs. Whitfield King say, is unnecessary.



PRIVATE TREATY

Messrs. Robson Lowe have issued a booklet giving short illustrated descriptions of various collections they have for sale by private treaty. There are some 30 odd of them, covering 26 different countries. Prices run from £9 to £1,575. These catalogues are obtainable at 1s. each.

STUDY YOUR COUNTRY'S STAMPS

SHORT NOTICES

Robson Lowe, Ltd., announce the appearance (possibly before this is in print) of a book on the "Cancellations of The Rhodesias and Nyasaland" by H. C. Dann. We hope to receive a copy for review very soon.

G. Landmans of Corso Vittorio Emanuele 22, Milan, is preparing a catalogue, in Italian, French, English and German of the "Sports" stamps of the world. Price will be \$5 U.S.A. Also special albums for such stamps at prices varying from \$5 to \$25 U.S.A. according to style and quality.

Messrs. Stanley Gibbons announce a new price policy, of which the two most important items are (1) a general reduction in all their prices for unused British Empire current and new issues, and (2) a new New Issue service to supply future Empire stamps at 16-2/3rds per cent. over face value.

The Commonwealth Stamp Co. commenting on letters and notes which have appeared in our magazine on simplification of listing of Union stamps, state that they are preparing check lists of all Commonwealth countries, including the Union of course and hope to have these ready by the end of this year. They hope these will be found to be clear and concise, with all main varieties included.

AIR LETTERS OF EAST AFRICA
1941-1945

A variety of the imported British Army form described as Type 12—1945 in the October, 1948, issue of the "South African Philatelist" has come to light. The item was postmarked in East Africa in November, 1944, and may be described as:
Type 12b—1944

The small inscription at bottom right has full-stops "Army Form W.3077." and a control number on the reverse 51-6818 (2).

The card described as Type 12 has no full-stops in the printing "Army Form W3077", the control number being 51,8077 (1).



K.U.T.

According to "Stamp Collecting" the current stamps of Kenya, Uganda and Tanganyika since 1st January, 1950, have been valid only for postal purposes, not for both Postage and Revenue as heretofore. Special Revenue stamps are now available for fiscal purposes.



S.W.A.F.

This is neither a South-West African Force nor Forgery. It is the short title given by W. E. Fyndhem in *Stamp Collecting* to his tips for "Stamps with a Future." These are stamps which are modestly priced now, but which he thinks will appreciate considerably and in ten years' time be worth a great deal more money than they are to-day. Among his first lot of "Swafs" are: Newfoundland, S.G. 225, Die I; Barbados, S.G. 233, 2½ blue (not ultramarine); New Zealand 2s. and 3s., S.G. 542-3; Australia 3½d U.P.U. used.

OBITUARY.

PAUL LOEWENSTEIN

One of South Africa's most enthusiastic collectors, Paul Loewenstein passed away suddenly at Ladybrand as the result of a stroke on 17th March, the day before the 59th anniversary of his birth. Born at Cottbus, on the Spree, he came to South Africa as a child and formed extensive collections of all South African countries, as well as one of the world's best collections of Greece, which ran to several volumes and was strong in many uncatalogued errors, occupation covers, proofs, essays, etc.

The collecting instinct which he possessed showed itself also in large collections of emergency money issued in Europe after the first world war, books, military insignia, etc.

He disposed of most of his stamp collections a couple of years ago but had recently formed a most interesting collection of espionage stamps of both world wars.

I and many other South African philatelists had the privilege of enjoying his hospitality and spending days and nights looking through his collections. I do not know how many volumes there were, but they filled a couple of large cupboards.

A cultured man, he wrote and spoke with authority on many subjects.

I and his many other philatelic friends will, I am sure, join me in extending sincere sympathy to his wife and family.

J. ROBERTSON.



HUNGARY

The Philatelic Agency announces for 12th March a set of 14 denominations illustrative of various aspects of the six-year plan, also a commemorative set on the occasion of the 20th anniversary of the founding of the P.O.'s philatelic museum.



BELGIUM

Mr. G. Lefebvre reports the issue on 15th March, to be on sale till 30th April and valid for use till 30th September, 1951, of three semi-postals: 8c + 20c, 2.50 fr + 50c and 4 fr + 2fr.

The surtax will be devoted to the Belgo-Britannique Union, the St. Albert de Louvain Foundation for Scientific Research and the Belgian National Committee U.N.A.C. The three values will show respectively, the Belgian and British Arms, British tanks at Hertain in 1944, and the British Memorial at Hertain.



AUSTRIA

In February a 60 gr. was added to the Famous Men series, commemorating the 150th anniversary of the death of Andreas Hofer. Three new values are to be issued in the Costumes set, according to Messrs. Whitfield King and Co. 3 gr., 1 sch. 70 gr. and 10 sch. The 30 gr. and 1 sch. are also to have their colours changed to violet and red respectively.

SOCIETY NEWS

PRETORIA PHILATELIC SOCIETY

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

January 16: A series of five-minute papers. Mr. Orkin dealt with the printing and perforation of stamps; Mr. Obermeyer commended New Issue Services; Mr. Cullen dealt with thematic collecting, showing a series of his own covering his career as a soldier; Mr. Slater-Kinghorn showed how to build up reference books by means of cuttings from newspapers and magazines.

The exhibit of the evening was "Natal" by Mr. Obermeyer.

February 6, The Society's Annual General Meeting. Various reports were given, all of them being satisfactory, except the refreshments account. Members apparently enjoyed their cups of tea and cake, but were forgetful of the nominal charge of 6d. for these refreshments. Most of the leading office-bearers were re-elected on the Executive Committee.



ORANGE FREE STATE AND BASUTOLAND PHILATELIC SOCIETY

President, Mr. C. A. Larsen; *Hon. Secretary*, Mr. E. Cattell, Box 702, Bloemfontein; *Meetings*, 3rd Fridays each month, Oranje Koffiehuis, Bloemfontein, 7.30 p.m.

For the December meeting, every member had been requested to bring one sheet of his, or her, favourite stamps along and to give a short explanation. Surprisingly, quite a number of members reacted and gave a colourful display of contrasting stamp pages. Outstanding among these pages were those belonging to Miss Haddad and to Messrs. Pienaar, Denne, Scott and Freund.

The main display of the evening was given by Mr. Ino Lewis who showed a very extensive and specialised collection of Royal Visit covers. A philatelic quiz, arranged by Dr. Freund, was enjoyed by all for its originality. Mr. A. H. Scott was the winner.

At the January meeting the usual auction sale, with Mr. Scott as auctioneer, took place, and the report on New Issues was given by Mr. A. J. Denne. Mr. J. B. Levy provided the main exhibit by tabling his well-known collection of Union varieties and errors. The large audience, which contained many visitors, was fascinated by the display, as—strange to say—there are not many well-specialised Union collections about.

At the February meeting the first preparations for the 1951 Philatelic Congress to be held in Bloemfontein were made, and a Provisional Exhibition Committee was formed.

The main item on the evening's programme was Mr. A. Lichtenstein's display of the stamps of Liechtenstein, which gave a complete record of these beautiful stamps and were a real feast for the eyes of those who were privileged to attend.



EAST LONDON PHILATELIC SOCIETY

President, Mrs. R. Alabaster; *Hon. Sec./Treas.*, Mr. E. H. Williams, P.O. Box 198, East London; *Meetings*, 2nd Fridays, Colosseum Theatre Tea Room (upstairs) at 7.45 p.m.

Although there was not the usual full attendance of members, a very pleasant evening was enjoyed by members and a number of visitors at the March meeting.

A proposal that South Africa should issue National Health Stamps on the same lines as New Zealand does, was carried unanimously. It was felt this was a very simple and effective way of collecting funds for the different causes. Mr. B. Joseph, of the Johannesburg Society, who was present, mentioned this matter had been brought up at Congress, but members were informed that the Government would not consider such a proposal. Nevertheless,

it was felt that the South African Philatelic Federation should be asked to again present this proposal to the Minister of Posts and Telegraphs, especially as it was felt that such an issue of stamps would make the public more conscious of the degree of disease in the country, as well as obtaining subscriptions from members of the public, who would not willingly purchase the ordinary Christmas stamps.

Mr. J. E. Danner gave a very enlightening five-minute talk on Swiss Charities and he showed how flourishing a philatelic business these issues had proved to be.

There were three interesting displays, a pleasing coincidence being a very fine one of New Zealand Health Stamps by Mr. Joseph, which were shown in pairs and also were exceptionally well written-up.

The Rev. Pluddemann showed a very representative selection of German War Issues and a number carried particularly fine cancellations.

Mr. Paviour showed some pages of his Newfoundland collection, from the first classic issues right up to the present day.

It was decided that the annual dinner would take place on the 29th April.

After tea was served, a simple geographical quiz closed a very pleasant evening and the prize of issues of the stamps was presented to the most successful junior visitor. U.C.S.



GRAHAMSTOWN PHILATELIC SOCIETY

President, Dr. C. G. A. Cory; *Hon. Sec./Treas.*, Mr. R. Q. Tarr, Wood House, Kingswood College; *Meetings*, 2nd Thursdays, 8 p.m., 120 High Street.

The March meeting saw our newly elected president, Dr. Cory, in the chair, to a very good turn-out of more than half the local members. The programme for the second quarter was drawn up, the feature of the April meeting to be Mr. Maurice Fletcher's South-West Africans. Mr. Eric Carr displayed his sheets of George VI Canadians, an attractively arranged collection. The demise of the packet was deplored and its revival urged. There was much criticism of the dilatoriness of those members who receive, but who forget to pass on and so defeat the purpose of the packet, and who are the chief cause of its slow progress. The evening closed with a vote of thanks to Mr. Drury for the use of his room. E.C.V.



THE PHILATELIC SOCIETY OF JOHANNESBURG

At the meeting held on 14th March the exhibit was provided by Mr. W. Oppenheim, who tabled a fine collection of Monaco, preceded by an interesting talk on the exhibit. The exhibit included many blocks mint and used, dated corner blocks, imperforate items and numerous other scarce items. The exhibit was almost complete, only four catalogued items missing.

Commander C. E. D. Enoch spoke on the exhibit. At the meeting held on 27th March, several members exhibited displays of approximately 12 sheets each. Mr. Froehlich read a paper entitled "Portions and Proportions." He illustrated this by an exhibit of "Thurn and Taxis stamps. This included both the Northern and Southern Districts issues, chiefly in fine used condition. Mr. Stern showed Cuba, including air mails and commemoratives. Mr. G. Economides showed some various items, including a set of Sudan Palms, the Columbus commemoratives and a double impression 3 cents U.S.A. of 1861. There were other fine items.

Mr. W. Redford showed S. Nigeria. As usual his exhibit consisted of perfect items. It included "specimen" stamps.

Mr. E. Hunt showed some rare Great Britain stamps, including the Victorian £5 value used, the 10s. K. Edward official, all the £1 values of Queen Victoria, King Edward and King George VI and many others.

Dr. Pirie showed Antarctic Posts consisting of covers from various places in the Antarctic Ocean. The exhibit included covers from the Scott and Byrd expeditions, from Tristan da Cunha and Gough Island and many others. Mr. Frankland showed some fine Malaya stamps, including the Silver Wedding.

Mr. Froehlich was awarded the prize by the committee. Commander Enoch expressed warm appreciation of Mr. Froehlich's paper and exhibit. Dr. Kaplan spoke on all the exhibits and expressed the thanks of the members to the exhibitors.

SPRINGS PHILATELIC SOCIETY

President, Mr. C. J. Meeuwis; *Hon. Sec.*, Mr. J. C. Sutcliffe; *Meetings*, 2nd Mondays.

At the March meeting the committee reported that the Springs Public Library had agreed to take certain Philatelic Magazines for the use of the public and philatelists in the Springs area.

It was further agreed that in future membership cards would be issued to members in place of the usual receipt for subscriptions.

It was announced that an invitation to a "Quiz" evening had been received from the Pretoria Society. Members unfortunately found that the distance was on the prohibitive side and the invitation was consequently refused. Nevertheless, many thanks, Pretoria!

Two new members were welcomed to the philatelic fold: Mr. Pellat and Mr. Gouws, this bringing our membership total to over 40.

Mr. Barnshaw, our vice-president, was unfortunately indisposed and consequently unable to exhibit. But Mr. Meeuwis came to the rescue with a fine collection of War Censored and First Day Covers. This proved very interesting to us all.

F.A.W.P.



PHILATELY AND POULTRY

My favourite pastimes are Philately and Poultry, and Shakespeare's saying "Age cannot wither nor custom stale her infinite variety" applies to both of them.

An English poultry journal recently drew attention to Philately, so why should not a South African philatelic paper refer to Poultry depicted on stamps? Here goes:

(1) The United States recently commemorated the Centennial of the American Poultry Industry, 1848 to 1948, by the issue of a 3 cent. postage stamp which portrayed a male bird of the Light Brahma breed—the ancestors of the popular Light Sussex breed of these times.

(2) The American stamp, however, is not the first one to depict portraiture of poultry on a postage stamp, for in 1938 Bulgaria issued a "Trade Propaganda" set which included portraiture of "two hens and eggs" on each of the 50s. and the 1 leva stamps in black and green respectively.

(3) Some time ago I set a broody hen on a sitting of 14 eggs. On the 10th day of incubation the hen, probably by treading unfortunately, damaged one of the partially incubated eggs, which left a circular crack and corresponding indentation in the shell thereof. I did not want to discard the damaged egg. It was late in the evening, and as all shops were closed I was unable to buy any adhesive. I had none in the house. But the American Poultry Stamp inspired me to take a Union current ½ stamp to which was attached a portion of the margin. The stamp and its margin was tongue-moistened and affixed to the egg over the said indentation and the egg replaced in the nest. It speaks well for the gum of the Union watermarked paper (made by Samuel Jones & Co. Limited of London) for the Union ½d. Springbok Head stamp and its margin adhered to the shell for a further 11 days when the chick was hatched—which chick has since grown into a lovely Brown Leghorn pullet.

A. HILTON SYDOW.

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UNION ROYAL VISIT STAMPS OFFICIALLY USED IN S.W.A.

Mr. C. A. Larsen, President of the O.F.S. and Basutoland Philatelic Society, sends the following note, dated 28th February, 1950:

"I was shown rather an interesting item this morning in the form of a registered cover sent by the Director of Posts and Telegraphs, Windhoek, to a member of our local Society. On this cover were a pair of 3d. and a pair of 2d. Royal Visit stamps overprinted S.W.A. but the 1d. pair had no overprint.

"In this instance, particularly as the envelope came from the Director of Posts and Telegraphs, Windhoek, and contained the usual official multigraphed letter, it is obvious that among the many thousands of sheets of overprinted stamps supplied by the Government Printer at Pretoria at least one sheet of 1d. Union stamps slipped through without the overprint."

One might raise the query "Should this be regarded as an example of Union stamps used abroad?" Or, seeing that the stamps had been purchased by the S.W.A. postal authorities and used by them "Should they not rather be regarded definitely S.W.A. stamps and listed as errors, without the overprint?"

Have any other readers received or seen such items?

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MAY 1950.

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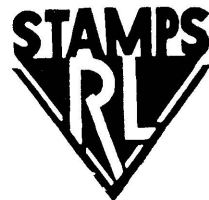
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MAY, 1950.

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Union Notes

Summary of the 2d. Union Pictorial Printings

The following summary of the 2d. pictorial printings issued for sale in the Union during the period commencing March, 1927, up to the beginning of April this year (1950) has been prepared by Mr. A. H. Sydow, of Cape Town.

In studying the list it will be observed that he has given three plates in connection with the Bradbury Wilkinson prints and full details of the discovery of this third set of plates will be found in a paper Mr. Sydow has prepared for early publication entitled "The Plates of the Union 2d. Pictorial Stamps Rotary Recessed printed by Bradbury, Wilkinson and Co."

Mr. Sydow records that the new 2d. postage stamp with plum coloured frame and the cylinder numbers "37" (Exterior) and "2" (Interior) printed on the right hand bottom corner of each sheet was placed on sale at the Mill Street Post Office, Cape Town, on the 3rd April, 1950, and both cylinders—frames and vignettes—were screened with a cross-lined screen. This is the stamp mentioned in our last issue and the appearance of a similar coloured stamp bearing the same design but printed in a smaller size is recorded in another paragraph of the present "Notes."

(A)—Anhyphenate Series—Lined Vignettes and Lined Frames

(1) Recessed-printed by Bradbury, Wilkinson and Co., Ltd. (issued March, 1927): Frames from curved line-engraved steel plates No. 1, 240-set (4 x 60 : 10 x 6) and Nos. 2 and 3, 120-set (2 x 60 : 10 x 6); Vignettes from curved line-engraved steel plates Nos. 1,

240-set (4 x 60 : 10 x 6) and Nos. 2 and 3, 120-set (2 x 60 : 10 x 6).

Note: Stamps printed from Plates Nos. 1 and 1 measured 28mm. x 22mm. Stamps printed from Plates Nos. 2 and 2 and Nos. 3 and 3 measured 27.5mm. and 22.25mm.

(2) Rotograve-printed by the Union Government Printer (issued 1931). Frames from unscreened copper-faced cylinders and Vignettes from unscreened copper-faced cylinders:

1. Frame Plate 1a, four small arrows per sheet, and Vignette Plate 1—cylinders unnumbered.
2. Frame Plate 1b, four large arrows per sheet, and Vignette Plate 1—cylinders unnumbered.
3. Frame Plate 2a, four small arrows per sheet, and Vignette Plate 2—cylinders unnumbered.
4. Frame Plate 2b, four large arrows per sheet, and Vignette Plate 2—cylinders unnumbered.

Frame Plates No. 1 and No. 2 are designated afore as Nos. 1a and 1b and 2a and 2b respectively for the reason that the large "b" categorised arrows were etched over the small "a" categorised arrows.

5. Frame Plate 3, four large arrows per sheet, and Vignette Plate 3—Frame Cylinder No. 42 and Vignette Cylinder No. 34. Cylinder numbers not imprinted on margins.

(Issue sheets from the aforementioned cylinders were 120-set, 20 x 6.)

6. Frame Plate B1 and Vignette Plate B1 for 2/6 booklets. The Vignette Cylinder and the Frame Cylinder each held 120 images, 20 x 6. Vertical rows Nos. 1, 2, 3 and 4 in normal upright positions and vertical rows 5 and 6 tete-beche to the first four. Vertical rows 1, 2, 5 and 6 were utilised for the booklets, but ver-

tical rows 3 and 4 were sold over the counter in sheets of 20, 10 x 2.

- 7. Frame Plate R1 and Vignette Plate R1 for coils or rolls. The Vignette Cylinder and the Frame Cylinder each held 132 images, 22 x 6.

(B)—Hyphenate Series—Lined Vignettes and Lined Frames

(3) Rotogravure-printed by the Union Government Printer. (a) Frames from un-screened copper-faced cylinder No. 43; (b) Vignettes from un-screened copper-faced cylinder No. 29. Four standard arrows per sheet in colour of frame. Cylinder numbers not imprinted on margins.

- (a) Frames in violet and Vignettes in grey-blue (1939).
- (b) Frames in reddish-purple and Vignette in grey (1941).

(C)—Hyphenate Series—Toned Vignettes and Lined Frames

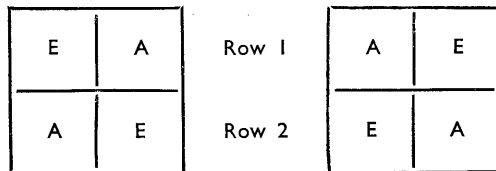
(4) Rotogravure-printed by the Union Printer (issued 1945). (a) Frames from un-screened copper-faced cylinder No. 10; (b) Vignettes from screened copper-faced cylinder No. 6913. Four arrows per sheet in colour of the frame. Cylinder numbers not imprinted on margin. Stamps printed from these cylinders were initially issued during March, 1945. I have designated these as the "Un-screened and Undotted Frame Issue"—Die "A." Vide the sketch hereunder. The top of the numeral "2" in white is not completely outlined in the value tablet. There are no top and lateral frame "dots," as in the case of the Die "B" category ut infra.

(5) (a) Rotogravure-printed by the Union Government Printer. (a) Frames from un-screened copper-faced cylinder No. 64; (b) Vignettes from screened copper-faced cylinder No. 6913. Four arrows per sheet in colour of the frame. Cylinder numbers not imprinted on margin. These stamps were issued early in 1946. I have designated these as the "Un-screened and Dotted Frame Issue"—Die "B." Vide the sketch hereunder. The top of the numeral "2" in white is completely outlined in the value tablet. Each Afrikaans inscribed stamp has two lateral dots and each English inscribed stamp has two lateral and one upper dot. In the sketch hereunder the size of these minute dots has been exaggerated.

(b) Rotogravure-printed by the Union Government Printer. (a) Frames from un-screened copper-faced cylinder No. 21; (b) Vignettes from screened copper-faced cylinder No. 8. Four arrows per sheet in the colour of the frame. Cylinder numbers not imprinted on margin. Also "Unscreened and Dotted Frame Issue"—Die "B."

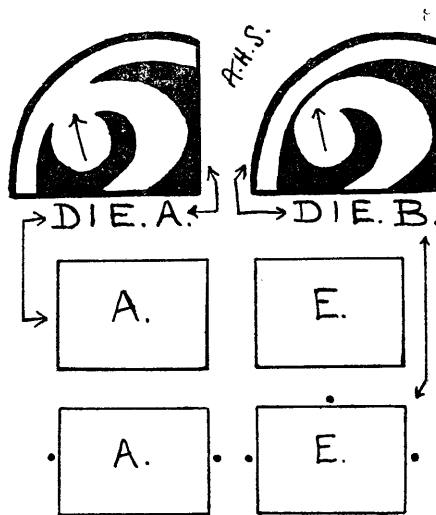
(6) Rotogravure-printed by the Union Government Printer (issued April, 1950). (a) Frames from screened copper-faced cylinder No. 37; (b) Vignettes from screened copper-faced cylinder No. 2. Four arrows per sheet in colour of frame. I have designated

these stamps as the "Screened and Dotted Frame Issue"—Die "B." Cylinder numbers 37 and 2 printed on the margin.



Nos. 1, 2 and 3.

Nos. 4, 5 and 6.



Printing Variety on the Current 5/- Issue

The three-line blemish which runs diagonally across the sky portion of the design, behind the covered wagon, on the last stamp (Row 20/No. 6) of the current 5s. sheets—an item Mr. R. Axer drew attention to in the October, 1949, number of the magazine—has proved to be a constant variety and in mentioning this point Mr. C. E. Sherwood, of Manchester, England, aptly terms it the "Driving Rain" flaw.

Rand Show Post Office Cancelling Stamps

The usual post office facilities were available to the public at this year's Rand Show—31st March to the 10th April inclusive—and we reproduce below specimens of the



special cancelling stamps used for franking letters and mail matter posted in the show grounds. (Reduced in size from originals.)

Using Up Surplus Stocks of U.P.U. Stamps

Mr. T. F. Allpass, of Germiston, notes that there has been a redistribution of U.P.U. stamps to some post offices for use on internal accounting matter such as telegrams and parcels. The stamps are not for sale to the public in the usual manner and he understands this step has been taken in order to use up stocks left on hand and thereby avoid waste.

Johannesburg Machine Cancellor—Unusual Setting for April

Some of the letters posted in Johannesburg during April show the machine canceller date with the roman figure setting of "IIII" instead of "IV," which is the form generally used for denoting the fourth month in the year.

In drawing attention to this feature, Mr. U. M. Milunsky, Johannesburg, believes that this is a new departure in the method of abbreviating the date, for he has not seen it in use during past years in Johannesburg or other towns of the Union. He asks if some other collector can elucidate on this point.

Issue of 2d. Pictorial Postage Stamp in Smaller Size

Official information to hand about the middle of April mentioned that in order to economise in the use of stamp printing paper when the increase to the 2d. inland letter post comes into force on the 15th May, it was proposed to issue a new 2d. pictorial stamp reduced in size to about the same dimensions as the current 1½d. "Small Mine" value. The latter, of course, under the new rates, will automatically give way to the 2d. denomination for general purposes.

Mr. J. Robertson, of the Robertson Stamp Co., has since shown us some of these stamps and except for their reduction in size from 27 x 21½mm. to 21½ x 17½mm. they are an exact replica of their immediate predecessors, which appeared towards the end of March this year and are classed as No. 6—Die B in Mr. A. H. Sydow's accompanying summary of the 2d. pictorial printings. The designs, colours and screening of the frames (plum) and vignettes (deep slate-blue) are unchanged but the number of stamps to the sheet has been increased from 120 to 240 and the layout altered from a vertical setting to a longitudinal one of 12 rows by 20 stamps per row, similar to that of the 1½d. "Small Mine" sheets. The change required the preparation of new glass diapositives for the frames and vignettes and judging by the unaltered appearance of the smaller stamp these were evidently made from the same master negative as that employed for the larger frame.

The cylinder numbers printed on the sheets of this new stamp are "6927" for the vignettes and "50" for the frames. They will probably be on sale at a number of post offices in the Union before the end of April.

New Issues of Union Postage Stamps

Discussing the new stamps likely to be issued in the near future, but of which there is no official confirmation, Mr. J. Robertson understands that the design on the proposed 4½d. value will show Van Riebeeck's ship and the stamp will be a bilingual one. There is a possibility that this denomination will make its appearance in May and will probably be followed about a month later by first a 1/3 stamp and then a 9d. value.

He also mentioned that there has been a new issue of 1/- "Officials" and the overprints have been made on those particular sheets bearing the brown marginal arrows, i.e., printing No. 5 in Mr. A. H. Sydow's summary of this denomination published on page 37 of our March, 1950, number.

Two Different Headplate Designs on the ½d. Rotogravure Stamps

A letter received from Mr. G. N. Gilbert, of Westminster, O.F.S., in March drew attention to an interesting point concerning a change in the headplate design of the ½d. rotogravure stamps, which came to light as a result of some observations made in a letter from an English correspondent, Mr. L. A. B. Sharpe, and may not be generally known or have been previously recorded.

He notes that in the first printings up to and including the first SUID-AFRIKA hyphen issue of the ½d. value, the horizontal background lines in the vignettes were comparatively thin, clearly defined and numbered about 42 to the oval. But when the frame design was redrawn in 1937 to show all the lines horizontal (S.G. 64c—now S.G. 55) a change was also made in the background lines of the headplate design and they became coarser and rougher and because of their greater thickness, numbered only 28 to the oval.

Incidentally, we note that Mr. S. C. Chantler mentions this vignette change in his elucidating and interesting article on the South African ½d. pictorials published in the April, 1950, issue of "Gibbons Stamps Monthly."

"E" Control 1d. Rotogravure Stamps—Correction of Misprint and First List of Sheet Numbers

Mr. G. N. Gilbert has pointed out a slight error which crept into the text dealing with his notes on the subject of the "E" Control printings published in our April issue. It is stated at the beginning of the second paragraph on page 50:

"... those copies with no "Broken Mast" have all shown the sheet serial number to be in the 9000 group of figures, whereas those examples *without* the variety have been in the 7000 group or lower.

This, of course, should read:

"... whereas those examples *with* the variety have been in the 7000 group or lower."

Several readers—including one from England—have written to Mr. Gilbert in response

to his recent enquiry for the sheet numbers on specimens of the "E" Control stamps and from the particulars given he has compiled the following list. So far, it is significant that all the blocks with no retouch are in the 9000 group, but this is only the first list, and he again begs anyone with specimens of the "E" printings to let him have particulars of the sheet number, especially if it happens to be a duplicate of any in the present lot:

"E" Controls with Broken Mast.—0327, 0328, 0939, 0940, 0942, 1910, 1584, 2148, 3717, 6336, 7074, 7912.

"E" Controls without Broken Mast.—9462, 9464, 9465, 9466, 9908, 9925. W.N.S.

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William Redford, P.O. Box 1182, Johannesburg.

Union Booklets, covers and panes with borders, mint. Urgently required. Dr. C. Murray, Kuilsriver.

Urgently wanted, collections of Union and Germany. L. White, Box 9825, Johannesburg.

Exchange. Send me 100 to 500 mixed used stamps of your country. I will send you equal quantity of U.S.A. and Canada, including pictorials and new issues.

R. B. Buse, Jr., 1175 Beverly Hills Dr., Cincinnati 26, Ohio, U.S.A.

Exchange wanted. Cyprus all issues, Egypt and Iraq modern mint and used against N. Zealand Healths 1929-1940 mint only and Br. Colon. mint. Please send a trial lot. The same countries also bought, sold.

M. Hatjidimitriou, P.O. Box 88, Famagusta, Cyprus.

AIR MAIL NOTES

SOUTHERN RHODESIA TO TANGANYIKA VIA NYASALAND

On 1st April, 1950, Central African Airways inaugurated a new direct airmail service, called the "Coastal" Viking, which provides for the first time a fast same-day air link between Johannesburg and Dar-es-Salaam.

The operating company issued a limited number of souvenir covers for the first flight, inscribed in light and dark blue "First Direct Air Mail. Johannesburg - Salisbury - Blantyre - Dar-es-Salaam - April 1950. Central African Airways in conjunction with South African Airways and East African Airways." These special covers contained greeting messages.

Some mail despatched from Johannesburg, bearing the date stamp of 1st April were back-stamped on arrival at Dar-es-Salaam the same day.

RE-INTRODUCTION OF THE EMPIRE AIR MAIL SCHEME IN AFRICA

The Empire Air Mail Scheme, providing for all first-class mail to be carried by air without surcharge, which was inaugurated in the Union of South Africa in 1937 and which was suspended shortly after the outbreak of war, was re-introduced on 1st April, 1950, to all territories which are signatories of the African Postal Union. From that date the air postage rate was reduced from 9d. per half-ounce to 2d. per ounce.

The most interesting items to mark this important development are letter-cards, or covers, carried by the first Johannesburg-Dar-es-Salaam flight by Central African Airways, which are postmarked and back-stamped 1st April, 1950.

I. H. C. GODFREY.



SOUTH AFRICA

NEW STAMP DESIGNS

The P.M.G. has announced the list of awards given in the competition for a permanent new issue of stamps for the Union. Reading between the lines of his announcement it is fairly easy to see that the results of the competition were disappointing.

The judging committee did not consider that amongst all the many designs submitted there were a sufficiency suitable for the complete series of proposed new stamps and they did not award all the prize money which had been allotted for the competition.



UNION 1d. STAMPS

Mr. R. J. Sutton recently dealt with Union 1d. stamps in the "Philatelic Magazine"; in the 3rd March issue of that paper he has similarly tackled the 1d. An interesting illustrated article, well worth study even if you do possess a Standard Catalogue.

ROLL OF HONOUR

DISTINGUISHED PHILATELISTS

WILLIAM LACEY ASHMEAD

Mr. W. L. Ashmead was born in Cape Town on the 20th August, 1869. He first became interested in Philately through a contact he made with Mr. Gilbert Allis, now deceased, who was at the time the secretary of the Cape Divisional Council. Mr. Allis was not only a keen collector and specialist in "Capes," but also ready to secure adherents to the hobby. This contact must have occurred about 50 years ago, if not earlier.

After starting with a general collection of what may be described as the "School Boy" type, Mr. Ashmead passed on to specialising, and in order to avoid countries which would



prove costly in the compilation of a really respectable collection, he chose the most unusual territories, and ultimately completed very sound specialised collections of Iceland, Jamaica, Bermudas, Bahamas, Barbadoes, Virgin Islands, and Western Australia.

The Jamaica collection won two prizes at the International Philatelic Exhibition held in Durban, one for the class in which it was entered and one for the best exhibit of the stamps of Jamaica, which latter prize was presented by the Jamaica Philatelic Society. In addition, the Western Australian collection won the prize as being the best of its class on exhibition.

With advancing years and after his retirement from active office life in 1927, Mr. Ash-

mead decided to branch out on something quite new, in that he would "specialise generally" to use a paradoxical phrase. Instead of selecting any one country, he selected subjects, and compiled three collections, one dealing with animals, one with birds, and one with ships and other vessels. The main object was to occupy his leisure hours which were much extended when he gave up active work, whilst at the same time showing to the younger philatelists that specialisation of a sort could be effective and amusing without necessarily being costly. It was always a source of regret to him that when young men specialised, they found that as their collections improved, the rarities needed to complete the work ran into money which was often beyond the purse of the collector.

The collections of Iceland, Jamaica, Bahamas, Bermudas, Barbadoes and the Virgin Islands have been sold, but the Western Australian collection—which was always his best love, is still retained, constituting as he puts it, the "major asset of his estate." That collection contains the rare Dollar error.

Mr. Ashmead was one of the earliest members of the Cape Town Philatelic Society, and he was twice President thereof. For many years he also acted as Hon. Secretary and until quite recently, when the disabilities of advancing years precluded it, he was a regular attendant at the fortnightly meetings and acted on all occasions as Auctioneer for the Society.

For the past twenty-five years he has had the distinction of being a Fellow of the Royal Philatelic Society of London.

He was elected to the Roll of South African Distinguished Philatelists at the East London Congress in January, 1948, the year in which six members were elected as there had been no appointments during the war years.

★

LARGEST U.P.U. ISSUES

Most countries have been modest in their issues of U.P.U. commemoratives, both as regards numbers and values. Up till recently Panama had the record for numbers, with eight released last September. In February, however, Venezuela topped this with a set of nine, but was well beaten by Spanish Morocco with a set of thirteen, ranging in value from 5cts. to 10 Pts.

★

ADELIE LAND

"Stamp Collecting" reports having received a cover from the French Antarctic Expedition to Adelle Land, where personnel have been landed and expect to remain for a year. The stamp is a 100f. of Madagascar overprinted "Terre Adelle Dumont D'Urville 1840" in red, postmarked "Terre Adelle" on 20th January, 1950, registered and bearing several cachets in addition.

LONDON INTERNATIONAL EXHIBITION 6-13 MAY

This exhibition has been organised jointly by the Royal Philatelic Society and the B.P.A., under the chairmanship of Sir John Wilson, Bart., President R.P.S. and Keeper of the Royal collection.

Limitations of space have prevented acceptance of many proffered loans from the archives of postal administrations, and in the competitive sections it has been found necessary to limit the allotment of frames so that there would be as little as possible overlapping of exhibits. This must inevitably have hit some exhibitors hardly, but it should have made it an almost ideal show from the public's point of view—no walking for miles to see the same thing over and over again.

The exhibition is reckoned to have over a half a million stamps on some 17,000 odd pages in 900 odd frames, with an estimated value of over £2½ million. The exhibitors number 347, of whom 180 are from the U.K., 20 from the British Empire, 76 from Europe and 66 from the rest of the world. South Africa figures pretty well in having five of the 20 from the Empire and it comes eighth in the list of twenty-seven countries with exhibitors (with, in addition, one more taking part in the *hors concours* exhibit arranged by the Postal History Society).

Some of the principal exhibits—non-competitive—are:

(a) From the Royal collections—those of King George V and of King George VI; some of the star items are ones issued or in use 100 years ago, such as: The Perot provisional of Bermuda, Unique proof of the 2d. Plate I Sydney View, Unique cover with Victoria 1d. and 3d. day of issue 10.1.1859, Mauritius Post Paid 1848 mint block of 5 with PENOE error, Mauritius Post Office 1d. and 2d., Trinidad Lady McLeod used on cover, Great Britain 10d. embossed block of 6, and 1d. red Archer perforation on cover (the first perforated stamp), St. Vincent Silver Wedding £1 purple, one of the two surviving blocks of four.

(b) The British Post Office exhibit on this occasion is not exhibiting British stamps only, although they are showing such fine items as the unique sheet of Plate I of the 1d. black with check letters and a nearly complete sheet of the 6d. K.E. VII I.R. Official, Britain's rarest standard stamp. They are showing many varieties from their collection of British Commonwealth and Foreign stamps sent them by the U.P.U., and also by various countries with whom there were private postal treaties prior to 1875. No postal official collection is believed to be as complete as the British one, and the stamps are in amazingly brilliant condition as they have never been exhibited and have hardly seen the light of day.

(c) The Royal Philatelic Society is displaying its collections of Natal, Nevis and Nyasaland, all of which are believed to be the finest

in existence. The Nevis collection was given by the late Mr. David Bernhard; in it are two specimens of the 1s. yellow-green of 1866 on laid paper, less than 20 specimens being known.

The Nyasaland collection contains numerous sheets and large blocks of the 1891-93 issues presented by the B.S.A. Company. A bomb falling on London in 1941 was responsible for the finding of these rarities.

The collection of Natal stamps is the R.P.S.'s most recent acquisition, having been presented by Mr. E. V. Mann as a memento of his having been President. It includes a special study of the "Postage" overprints and the 9d. and 1s. values of the first issue are probably the finest copies which have survived.

(d) The Postal History Society's exhibit is one of early letters from many countries, including all the Provinces now forming part of the Union of South Africa. The earliest is one from Calais when that was still an English possession in the days of Henry V. There are also three letters bearing the first handstruck penny stamps of London used during 1681-82.

★

AUSTRALIAN NATIONAL EXHIBITION

Preparations for this Exhibition, to be held in the Town Hall, Melbourne, October 4-14, 1950, are well ahead. Their poster stamp is in the form of a crown enclosing two miniatures of Australia's first two stamps (the "Sydney View" and the Victorian "Half Length") in their original colours.

Correspondence

Sir,

With reference to your comment on Old Cape Cancellations in the March number. The eighteen items to which you refer are those having *bisects* but in addition to these I have enough fakes made from these three triangles to fill an album.

I consider it incorrect to term my opinion in this matter a biased one as, previous to my investigation, I had no dealings whatsoever with any person connected with the sale or purchase of the fakes in question. My investigations were undertaken for the general benefit of the hobby and to the furtherance of the protective work done by the members of the British Philatelic Association of which I am the official representative in South Africa.

I shall be very pleased to make the material available to any competent philatelist you may care to put forward as a judge, and I shall be pleased if you will give full publicity to the result of his labours.

Yours, etc.,

DOUGLAS ROTH.

QUICK WORK

We never imagined that South African collectors would be so quick on the uptake, and to subscribe so readily to our announcement that we were now able to send by air-mail for one year our "Price List of KG VI Stamps and New Issue Notes" for 6/-, which is just half what we had to charge before we could get a reduced air-mail rate; anyhow there is, and perhaps the explanation is, as one South African collector has put it: "After all many know that we gladly paid 12/- in the past, so surely it must be good value now, and it is." Anyhow an air letter will produce a specimen copy, and as you are pretty sure to subscribe for a year (that is if you are a KG VI collector, and who isn't) maybe you'll prefer to save time and send the subscriptions at once. Then for a whole year you'll get a chance to not only buy from the most extensive stock, at lowest prices, but you'll be kept informed of all that is going on in this fascinating group.

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SHORT NOTICES

Whitfield King & Co., of Ipswich, England, have issued their 1950 price list of stamps in sets and packets. The list covers the world; most items are unused, some used, a few both. Price 6d.

A new sender of auction catalogues is *Edgar Mohrmann & Co.*, m.b.H., Hamburg 1, Speersort 6. Well illustrated, rich in German material, but also plenty from the world in general; next sale in June.

N. J. Mills, 54 Meads Street, Eastbourne, Sussex, England, is also a new name to us among auctioneers. Sales appear to be monthly; a catalogue received has only British Commonwealth, but some nice material in it.

Filatelia Peruana. We have received a copy of this new monthly, published at P.O. Box 1510, Lima, by the recently founded Philatelic Association of Peru. It is in Spanish, of course, and appears to be for specialised work on the stamps of Peru, with some general philatelic notes and information about the activities of the Association.

Heinrich Köhler, a name once very well known as that of a philatelist and dealer in Berlin, has sent us an auction catalogue from Wiesbaden, Taunusstrasse 79; it has lots of good stuff in it, from all over the world. We have an idea we saw reported the death of the original Berlin Köhler some time during the war years, but if, as in the case of Mark Twain, "the report was gravely exaggerated" we extend our best wishes for success in new quarters.

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ISRAEL

We are indebted to the "Zionist Record" for a very decorative day of issue cover, 26/3/50, with the two U.P.U. stamps.

The Society of Israel Philatelists, of 108-14 65th Road, Forest Hills, New York, has sent us a copy of their monthly bulletin, "The Israel-Palestine Philatelist," which contains a number of articles of specialist interest.

NYASALAND

Mr. C. D. Twynam gives lists in the March issue of "Gibbons' Stamp Monthly" of the plate numbers of the current set from 1945 onwards together with the dates when these were first seen in the Colony.

The Crown Agents have released new printings of the ½d., 1½d., 3d., 4d., 6d. and 1s. There are some shade changes, the most marked being in the 3d., now with its blue a very bright tint.



KENYA

The 50c. and 1s. stamps now on sale are perforated 13 x 12½; their plate numbers are respectively 2/3B and 1/7A.

Fyndem's "SWAF 21" is the K.G. VI £1 mint (S.G. 143). He considers that if you can buy it at twice catalogue you are doing well. The used stamp, on the other hand, he says, is not worth holding.



SWAZILAND

According to "Stamp Collecting," the following new printings, released in February by the Crown Agents, show slight colour changes: ½d., deep olive green from green; 1½d., turquoise blue from a deep blue; 6d., rosy mauve from bright magenta; 2s. 6d., reddish violet from deep bright violet. The 4d. and 1s. shades are as before and the perforations are unchanged.



TRANSVAAL £5 STAMPS

In an article in the March issue of the "Collectors Club Philatelist," Mr. Stephen G. Rich deals with the Transvaal £5 green and the same stamp overprinted V.R.I. Neither stamp is really rare but most people are scared of them because of the forgeries and reprints. Help is here given in determining the good from the bad, and it isn't really very difficult.



NYASALAND-N. RHODESIA FIELD FORCES, 1915-18

In the March issue of "Gibbons Stamp Monthly" Mr. W. G. Nodder deals briefly with the historical background of this campaign and with the Nyasaland stamps overprinted N.F. He describes and figures the cancellations used, adding some more detail to the information given in the "South African Philatelist," 1944, Vol. 20, pp. 21 and 116, including one type of mark not previously recorded—a small double-lined circle with merely "F.P.O." and the date. He also deals with the very little known marks of the Northern Rhodesian Force in this war.



A CORRECTION

In Mr. A. Lichtenstein's advertisement in our April issue the fourth line should read "in complete mint sheets or panes," not "in complete mint sets or panes."

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cpl. mint 3/6
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- 13 Nicaragua Sports cpl. mint . . 13/6
- 6 Swiss new landscapes Tete-
Beche (12) mint 5/6
- 6 Swiss Stamp Cent. and U.P.U.
cpl. mint 5/0
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mint 2/6
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POLAND

By

ROBERT A. WILSON

(Continued from page 61 of April issue)

Among wartime issues for Poland must be reckoned a wide variety of official and semi-official stamps. The official ones are particularly beautiful. I refer to those four sets issued by the Polish Government-in-Exile in London, for use by Polish forces abroad, primarily those stationed in England. The first two issues are pictorials. The third issue is a set of four created by overprinting one of the pictorial series. This set commemorates the now almost legendary capture of Monte Cassino by the Polish 1st Army. It is not generally known that this heroic exploit was achieved solely by Polish Forces. The last of the Exile issues is a semi-postal commemorating the Insurrection of Warsaw in 1944, when the civilian population, encouraged by radio messages from the Russian troops across the river, rose and with small arms that could be found, almost drove the Germans out of the city. After 63 days of heroic fighting, the overwhelming weight of the German Army finally crushed the empty-handed and unaided civilian population. The stamp is printed in greyish green and portrays a boy and a girl manning a machine gun in a street barricade, while in the smoke of battle behind them appears the traditional symbol of Warsaw, an armed mermaid.

During the period of this insurrection, the A.K., or Home Army, as the embattled civilians called themselves, organised a postal service, for which six stamps were printed. The service itself was a monument to the bravery of Polish children, for the letters were delivered by the Boy and Girl Scouts by crawling through the sewers under the German lines. These stamps have unfortunately been counterfeited, and few genuine copies managed to survive the burning of Warsaw by the Germans after the eventual defeat of the civilian forces.

The final group of stamps issued during the wartime period is the group of Prisoner of War issues. These appeared in two large prison camps in Germany. The designs were executed by the inmates and printed with whatever crude materials could be found. The designs were all of an apparently harmless nature, but many secret devices and symbols were employed in these stamps to convey to the recipients some information that could not have been written in the letter that the stamp was bearing on its way. These stamps were issued in two camps only, and in naturally limited numbers. The largest number of any one issue is 1,200 copies. The stamps franked letters within the camp and also prisoner mail to Poland.

The post-war stamps of Poland were resumed in 1944 when the country was still partially under German occupation. A group of politicians got together in ancient and newly-liberated Lublin and established a provisional Government of Poland. The first issue for use in the liberated portions of Poland. This set portrayed three Polish revolutionary heroes—Kosciuszki, Traugutt and Dabrowski. This was followed by several other issues, principally a red stamp bearing the white Polish Eagle, now without his traditional crown. This stamp was to be used quite often for overprints and provisionals. Finally, in the spring of 1945, all of Poland was freed of the German invaders. During this and subsequent periods, the cancellations are sometimes more interesting than the stamps themselves. During the German occupation many Polish towns and city names had been Germanified. There was a natural rush to restore old names immediately, and post offices were hard put to find enough killer devices with proper Polish spellings instead of German ones. The result was that many towns, for many months, had to rely on manuscript cancellations. Eventually, linear rubber stamps bearing the town name were procured, and finally telegraph marks were used in which the date had to be hand-written. By the spring of 1946 all towns had been supplied with regular killer devices. While these covers cannot be said to be rare in a monetary sense, they are elusive, due to the fact that no one seemed to realise that there was anything unusual about the covers. Most collectors in Poland and few dealers seemed to realise their worth, and many excellent specimens were ruined when the stamps were removed for simple philatelic purposes. Most of the examples in my own collection were culled from Embassy files. Here again I was blessed by the obedience of some unknown clerk. To prevent bulk, all envelopes were to be thrown away after the return address has been typed onto the original correspondence. Fortunately for me, among the early employees of our Legation was one lazy person, unknown to me, who simply pinned the original cover to the correspondence. Many of the provisional postmarks display ingenuity, while others are amusing for their incorrect spellings.

One of the most interesting items in post-war Polish issues is the series known as the "Ten Cities Liberation Issue." The basic stamp is the red and white eagle stamp previously mentioned. On this was overprinted the name and date of liberation of the ten principal Polish cities. The liberation series is a wonderful field for the specialist. I have accumulated more than 100 varieties within the basic group of ten stamps. The stamps were originally printed in sheets of 100, while the surcharge was in a frame of fifty. Thus it is possible to check, with entire sheets, the constancy of errors, for each constant error will appear twice in every sheet. The sixth row is a duplicate of the first, etc.

Among the most striking of the post-war stamps are the Maidanek and the Ghetto

stamps. The first is in honour of the opening of the infamous Maidanek concentration camp as a museum. The stamp is printed in a dark green, and portrays a skeleton in uniform and helmet pouring poison gas over the camp. The other is a black stamp, issued in commemoration of the Ghetto Uprising in Warsaw in 1943. The German governors of Poland gathered all Jewish persons in the Warsaw area and herded them into the Ghetto section of Warsaw. Around this was built a high wall, so that no one could go in or out. Thus faced with slow starvation, the Jewish inhabitants tunneled out at night to get arms, and started a revolt against the guards. This was, of course, doomed to failure, for the German army calmly sat by and rained artillery fire into this section of the city until every building was levelled, and more than 100,000 men, women and children had perished in the holocaust. The stamp itself portrays the half-starved typical Jewish boy and girl in the midst of the fight.

Another striking set is a series of large stamps portraying famous buildings in Warsaw before and after the war. Due to the unusual size of these stamps, they had to be issued imperforate. Many varieties of private perforations exist.

Particularly noteworthy are the issues for use outside of Poland. The primary group in this class are the stamps overprinted for use in Gdansk, or more familiarly, the port of Danzig, which was the *casus belli* in 1939. Issues for Gdansk were created by overprinting the current Polish issues with the words "Port Gdansk." The single exception to this is the last such set, a pictorial series of four portraying Polish merchants selling wheat in the 16th century in the shadow of the famous old Krantor, or Grain Tower, now unfortunately a victim of the war. The Port Gdansk issues are second only to the Krakows in scarcity. Danzig, or Gdansk, is now within Polish territory completely. Let's hope that at least the possibility of another Polish corridor is averted thereby.

Two other groups of stamps have been issued for use outside of Poland. One is a set of overprints "S.O.1920", to be used during a plebiscite held in the Teschen area, when Hitler was squeezing that country, Poland seized the opportunity and forced Czechoslovakia to cede Teschen. The other group consists of two sets overprinted "Levant," for use in the Turkish Empire. These have been widely reprinted, and originals are almost impossible to find.

There are many sidelights to a Polish collection, such as Locals, Stationery, Cancellations on stamps of other nations before the territory became Polish and vice versa, and so on. I could talk for several hours in detail on minor varieties of each issue, but I think we've had enough for now. I'll close by repeating a joke that I received in a letter to-day. The most recent series of Polish stamps consist of the portrait of the Communist President, Mr. Bierut, whose facial

similarity to Hitler has been widely remarked upon. The Warsaw populace is now going to have to recall these stamps because they are falling off the envelopes—people are spreading a rumour that the Government is spitting on the wrong side of the stamp.

★

DUTCH NEW GUINEA

The western half of the island of New Guinea, formerly part of the Dutch East Indies, did not become part of the Indonesian Republic, and its first stamp, under the name "Nieuw Guinea" has appeared. This is a 25c. with a portrait of Queen Juliana. Further values are expected shortly.

★

GERMANY

From "The American Philatelist" we cull the following note, sent our contemporary by Erich Heide:

"I send you an interesting cover, with French Zone stamps mailed from the British Zone. This was permissible only during the period 1st November to 31st December, 1949. But that is not all. French Zone pre-currency-reform stamps, obsolete since June, 1948, had the same designs as the current issues, but *other colours*. The public at large in the British and American Zones know little of this distinction—and neither do the post offices. The rumour has spread that people who *do know* now use up the pre-currency-reform French Zone stamps with which they were caught in June, 1948."

★

THE TAPLING COLLECTION

It is announced that the remounting of this collection has been completed by the Curator, Mr. H. R. Holmes. This has been a very big piece of work as the collection was formerly an accumulation rather than a well arranged collection. Much new material has been included and a lot of the former defective specimens replaced by good copies. To-day, according to G. van der Berg in "Stamps," the collection is the world's largest, best mounted and best displayed national philatelic property.

★

RYUKYU ISLANDS

This group of islands, lying to the south of Japan, and ever to be remembered by the name of one of them—Okinawa—has become a stamp issuing territory with a set of six ordinary, three air post and one special delivery. The values are in sen and yen.

★

UNION ANILINE "VICTORY"

It has only recently transpired that several sheets of the 1d. Victory stamp of 1946 were printed in an "aniline" ink, with the colour showing through to the back. This variety is also known overprinted for S.W.A., Basutoland and Swaziland, but so far as we have heard, not Bechuanaland.

Reviews

U.S. Famous Americans Series of 1940. By George C. Hahn. Published by the American Philatelic Society, P.O. Box 800, State College, Pa. Price \$2.50.

This book, of 193 pages, is a reproduction of a series of articles which has been running in "The American Philatelist" for a number of years. It deals with the 35 stamps, honouring five each of the seven following groups of famous Americans—Authors, Poets, Educators, Scientists, Composers, Artists and Inventors.

The story of this five series of stamps is aimed at the many collectors who are not in any advanced or specialist class but are just ordinary collectors, interested in U.S. commemoratives and in the story behind the stamps.

There are excellent biographies of the persons honoured on the stamps, fine illustration of the portrait sources, the various essays and the finished product on the stamps.

Technical details of production are not given, but there are lists of plate numbers, day-of-issue sales, quantities printed and dates of issue and withdrawal. The whole get-up, it need scarcely be said, is excellent.

The Cancellations of The Rhodesias and Nyasaland. By H. C. Dann. Robson Lowe, Ltd., London. Price 15/-.

Specialists are now turning more and more to the postal history of their countries. In this book the late Mr. Dann shows the result of his studies in Rhodesia, Northern and Southern Rhodesia, B.C.A. and Nyasaland. The histories of all post offices are given from their inception to their closure.

All the types of cancellations used are mentioned and illustrated, and the lists of postmarks are interspersed with short historical notes, which make fascinating reading. This book is essentially one for specialists of this particular group of countries, but any collector of Southern Africa could well do with a copy. Mr. W. G. Nodder, the Secretary of the Rhodesian Study Circle, has added the most recent amendments and has contributed two appendices on the postmarks since 1935 and the cancellations of the R.A.F. Camp Post Offices.

The book and illustrations are well produced, but one would have liked to have seen a better paper used.

Stanley Gibbons' Catalogue Part VIII. European Colonies and Post Offices Abroad, 1950 Edition.

The last of the series of the ever popular "Gibbons" is now to hand. Eagerly awaited by all collectors of European Colonies, this catalogue follows the by now well known pattern. Well printed and richly illustrated, the

catalogue provides a very useful innovation, viz., the reproduction of stamps of the mother countries to show what types of stamps were used in the colonies, thus obviating the necessity of having to refer to the Part II Catalogue (Europe).

This catalogue contains the first revision of prices since 1945, and collectors will find the many changes very interesting and well worth studying.

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Johannesburg.**

(Concluded from page 80)

The following officers were elected: President, Mr. Andrew Watson; Vice-President, Mr. John P. Shingler; Hon. Sec. and Treas., Mr. C. M. Clark; Librarian, Mr. E. E. J. Thorvaldsen; Press Correspondent, Mrs. J. P. Shingler; Executive Committee, Mrs. R. Alabaster and Messrs. L. Hellman and H. E. Williams.

The new President, in thanking the officers for their hard work during the past year, paid a special tribute to the retiring President, Mrs. R. Alabaster. Other speakers endorsed these sentiments amid acclamation.

The financial statement was read, and revealed a very satisfactory state of affairs.

The report of the Committee on Model Constitution, recommended by the S.A. Philatelic Federation, was presented to the Society, and it was decided the revised Constitution would be discussed in detail at a special meeting, which would precede the next monthly meeting.

A new member was elected, and a very satisfactory report was given by Mr. J. V. Jensen on the progress of the Junior Society, started by Mr. P. J. Urauhart.

There were two displays, a great source of interest being Mr. Lazarus' fine collection of Italian stamps, going back to the early issues in mint and used condition. Mr. J. Paviour's collection of American mint stamps, many in blocks of four, was much admired. The earlier commemorative issues were particularly attractive. His collection of American Xmas Seals, too, was a centre of attraction.

The meeting concluded after a very pleasant interlude of tea and cakes.

U.C.S.



SPRINGS PHILATELIC SOCIETY

President, Mr. C. J. Meeuwis; Hon. Sec., L. J. C. Sutcliffe, 4 High Street, Strubenvale, Springs.

17th April: Mr. Pocock, owing to his studies, is unable to continue as correspondent to the Philatelist. In the meantime the Secretary is doing the work for him. Our Society now has membership cards, and these were given to the members at the meeting.

Mr. Pocock very kindly gave us an exhibit of his collection and Mr. Meeuwis discussed it afterwards and gave him some advice about it.

BALTIMORE POSTMASTER STAMPS

Messrs. H. R. Harmer Inc. were selling last month a group of fourteen envelopes with the Buchanan Postmaster Stamps of Baltimore. These covers had all been sent to one addressee in 1845-47, and a group of so many of them is a record. It was expected they would fetch from six to seven thousand dollars.



AUSTRALIA

Direct Air Service to South Africa

The Australian Trade Commissioner announces that a direct Air Service will be started on 1st June by Qantas Empire Airways across the Indian Ocean via Cocos Islands and Mauritius. The flying time is expected to be about 40 hours, which should reduce mail time from about 10 days as it is at present via Cairo-Karachi-Singapore to about 2 days. [Later press notices say that the starting date may not be so early as 1st June.—Ed.]

Newspaper Wrappers

Recent exchanges from Australia have shown something new in newspaper wrappers. Up till recently these had 1½d. stamps printed on them, with a space alongside marked "Affix here stamp for any necessary additional postage." The latest arrivals, however, have two 1½d. stamps printed side by side on the wrapper—somewhat reminiscent of the Union Air Letter forms with two 3d. stamps.

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ALL MINT

1902/5 Arms Single C.A.	2R. 50c. on blue ..	9/6
*3, 4, 4, 5 and 8c. 4/3	10R. on green ..	50/0
5c. purple/buff ..	10R. emerald, O.B.	70/0
*12c. grey/carmine 0/9	10R. emerald, Die I	55/0
15c. on blue ..	10R. emerald, Die II	40/0
*25c. grn./on grn. 3/3	1921/5 Arms. Script C.A.	
*50c. grn./on yel. 5/3	1c. to 12c. (8) ..	4/6
1R. carm.-grey ..	15c. and 20c. . . .	5/0
2R. blk./green ..	K.G. V Script C.A.	
5R. on red ..	*5c. grey-red II ..	0/2
1904/7 Ditto, wmk. C.A.	*12c. grey (A) ..	2/6
Mult.	*12c. pale (A) ..	1/6
1, 2, 4, 6c. (4) ..	*12c. grey (B) ..	1/0
*3c. on yellow ..	*12c. carmine . . .	1/0
15c. blk./blue ..	*25c. on yellow II ..	1/3
50c. grn./yel. . . .	*50c. purple . . .	4/0
1R. carm.-grey ..	*1R. on green II ..	4/9
1910 wmk. C.A. Mult.	2R. 50c. on blue ..	10/0
1c. to 15c. (9) ..	5R. on yellow ..	20/0
25c. on yellow ..	10R. on emerald ..	37/6
50c. purple ..	1925 3c. on 4c. to	
1R. on green ..	15c. on 20c. (3)	3/3
2R. 50c. on blue ..	1926 Arms	
5R. on yellow ..	2c. to 20c. (7) ..	5/0
10R. on green ..	1926/8 K.G.V	
1913 K.G. V. Mult. C.A.	1, 2, 3, 4, 4, 6	
*5c., 12c., 25c. (3) 3/0	and 10c. . . .	2/6
*25c. white back ..	8c. and 15c. . . .	5/0
25c., Die II ..	20c. purple . . .	2/0
50c. purple ..	20c. blue Die I ..	2/6
1R. olive back ..	1935 Silver Jubilee	
1R. emerald, Die I 16/8	5, 12, 20c. and 1R.	90/0
1R. emerald, Die II 4/0		

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TRISTAN DA CUNHA AND MARION IS.

Tristan

In our February issue it was reported that the *Natal* took a mail to the island on 25th January—it also brought one back on its return. Since then the *Pequena* has brought two more mails, one arriving at Cape Town on 22nd February, the other on 20th March. The *Natal's* mail and the first of these two brought by the *Pequena* has the boxed rectangular mark illustrated in our February number; the last one has still a new type, the island's 9th. This is from a rubber stamp, a double horizontal oval approximately 48 x 30 mm., with "Tristan da Cunha" at the top, "South Atlantic Ocean" at the bottom and a Maltese Cross at either end. The date is in the centre thus, "13 MAR 1950".

Actually this mark derives from a private rubber stamp which Mr. A. B. Crawford had with him when on the island during the war years. At that time it had his initials under the date, but when he left he cut the initials out and left it with his successor. Now it has come back into service again.

The luxury liner *Corona* paid the island a visit on 31st January en route from Rio de Janeiro to Cape Town and a number of the passengers were able to go ashore. So far as we can ascertain, however, no mail was brought off.

With the *Pequena* making such frequent trips in connection with the fishery and canning factory, there will be little interest in recording every mail in the future. It was a different story when there were only one or two mails a year, or sometimes not even so frequently as that.

It is very probable, however, that Tristan will soon be of more interest from a purely philatelic point of view for we hear from Mr. Crawford that the recently appointed Administrator is recommending the issue of a set of stamps for the island, and that sketches prepared by Mr. Crawford when the island Council petitioned for stamps some three or four years ago, are likely to be the basis for designs. Mr. Crawford had one of his "Essays" printed as a sticker and this was reproduced in our issue of February, 1948, p. 28.

There can be little doubt but that, with recent developments on the island, postage stamps are both desirable and necessary.

Mr. Douglas Armstrong, for long a keen Tristan collector, before he left South Africa had an interview with Mr. Crawford and has published in "Stamp Collecting" of 18th March an article with illustrations of a number of designs for the proposed stamps as they were put forward in the petition from the Council. But of course it still remains to be seen whether the Colonial Office will agree to their Administrator's suggestion and, if it does, what designs will be adopted.

Marion

Further to the note in our March issue, there has been another trip to the island by H.M.S.A.S. *Natal*, leaving Durban with mail

and relief personnel for the meteorological station on 12th April.

A call was made first at East London to embark some local members of the Naval Reserve for training on the trip, also to take some merino sheep to try out on the island.

The *Natal* returned to East London on 24th April, bringing mail. Mr. V. M. Milunsky reports that the Department of Transport cachet on this had an error of date, viz., 17.4.49 instead of 17.4.1950. It would be interesting to know if all the mail has this error. Will others who have received covers please report?

The postmark previously referred to is a double-circle one, circles 30 mm. and 17 mm. in diameter, with simply the word "Fynnland" in block capital letters 4.5 mm. high, and the date across the centre in one line. It is rather an unusual type for Union postmarks, but the postmaster at Durban has kindly confirmed that it is the mark of the official date stamp issued to the Fynnland P.O., which is near the S.A. Naval Base of the same name.

BRUNEI, 1906, S.G. 13, 1c. black and purple, error (B.P.A. Cert.), superb used	500/0
1908/24, S.G. 39, \$25 black/red, mint	220/0
CANADA, 1852/57, S.G. 11, vertical pair on entire, cancelled 21, slightly touched at bottom	200/0
1908, S.G. 187, 50c. deep vio., mint	140/0
GRENADA, 1883, S.G. 29a, Half of 1d. orange and green, unsevered pair, used	220/0
1906, S.G. 83, 10/- green and red, mint 80/0; used	90/0
1913, S.G. 98b, 1/- on blue green, olive back, mint	60/0
1934, S.G. 135/144, 3d. 5/-, mint	40/0
HONG-KONG, 1862, S.G. 5, 24c. green, mint	80/0
S.G. 18, 96c. olive bistre, superb used	120/0
1882/83, S.G. 36a, 10c. deep blue green, mint	190/0
1903, S.G. 76, \$10 slate and orange, mint	100/0
NEW SOUTH WALES, 1850, S.G. 11, 1d. dull carmine, plate 2, large margins, superb used	250/0
S.G. 18, 2d. dull blue, superb used	160/0
ST. VINCENT, 1881, S.G. 30a, 3d. on Half of 6d., unsevered pair, superb mint	460/0
S.G. 32, 4d. on 1/- vermilion, superb used	940/0
1886/89, S.G. 53, 6d. bright green, mint	160/0
1899, S.G. 75, 5/- green and blue, mint	45/0
1911, S.G. 93a, £1 purple and black, control number, mint	240/0
1935 SILVER JUBILEE SET compl. MINT £34; USED £38.	
1937 CORONATION SET compl. MINT £3 10s.; USED £3 15s.	
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 Mint block of 4 1929 Postal Union £1, £29.
 1d. black with VR in upper errors, B.A. Unused, £37 10s.
 Cape 1s. dark green mint block of eight, £170.
 Covers with British stamps used in Ascension, 1874, £11 and £16 10s.
 Ascension ½d. to 3s., Cleft in Rock variety, mint blocks of four, £43.
 St. Helena, Centenary set ½d. to 10s. mint blocks of four, £50.
 Turks Is., 1s. lilac, £25.
 Zululand 1894-96 £5 postally used, £13 10s.
 Oil Rivers S.G. 6a, £35; pair of 7a, £90; pair of 8, £120.
 Niger Coast S.G. 41a. Used block of four, £52 10s.; 62a, used, £36.

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 Kenya £25 specimen, £2 and £100 specimen, £8 10s.
 Nyasaland 1897 £10 specimen, £2 10s.
 Set Basutoland "Officials" used, £300.
 S. Georgia 2½d. provisional, £17 10s.
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 Cape 4d. error of colour, £210.
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 Transvaal 1d. K.E. anchor wmk., £22.
 Zululand (12a) ½d. green vertical strip of three, two top wmk. opt. omitted, £24.

NETHERLANDS

An interesting fact concerning the Liberation series of 1944/46 has come to light and is described in the February number of the "Nederlandsch Maandblad van Philatelie."

Efforts have constantly been made towards finding a method of distinguishing between the stamps of this issue printed in Britain and those subsequently printed in Holland.

It will be remembered that the first printing consisted of nine values of which a second printing with six additional values was made in 1946. Research has established that the second printing may, to a certain extent, be distinguished from the first by means of dated postmarks, plate numbers and ultra violet light. D. Hille Ris Lambers of Bennekum has reported, however, that with the aid of a fairly strong lens he has discovered that the paper of the six supplementary values of 1946 contains in its outer layer a very large number of thick dark-blue fibres of varying length: very short to longish, somewhat akin in appearance to the granite papers of Switzerland. Paper used for the first printing does not contain these fibres or, if they are present, in such minute quantities that their presence appears accidental. This test applied to stamps issued in both printings and known to belong to either the first or the later printing confirms the conclusion reached.

Although the test appears conclusive, readers are requested to report any findings which may be at variance with the rule.

Numbers sold of the NIWIN stamps issued in 1949 were supplied by the Post and Telegraph propaganda service to the magazine referred to above and are stated to be as follows:

3+ 2 cents—514,517
 6+ 4 cents—755,351
 10+ 5 cents—1,196,163
 30+ 10 cents—561,791

From the same source again, it is learnt that a new 6 cent. postage due stamp is due.

An article by D. Hille Ris Lambers on stamps printed on blued paper (Netherlands and Colonies) accentuates the fact that contrary to general opinion, there is always something new to be learnt about old stamps. Study of the issues of 1876, with postmarks dated between 1876 and 1885, has brought to light that the paper used at that time was treated in the manufacturing stage with cobalt salts which are also used in the preparation of household blue. The amount of blue used varied from time to time resulting in more or less bluing of the paper and the obvious conclusion is, therefore, that in order to obtain such blued paper specimens the ordinary household could provide the necessary materials—a strong argument for the removal of stamps in this category from the catalogue. J.W.S.

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BARBADOS

Whitfield King report that stamps in dollars and cents will be released on 1st May, the remainders of the sterling currency set being withdrawn on 29th April.

SOCIETY NEWS

PORT ELIZABETH PHILATELIC SOCIETY

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

When the meeting was opened on 21st March Mr. G. Bullbring took the chair as Mr. Forbes was in Cape Town.

There was a large attendance, and a pleasant surprise for the members was when Mr. B. D. C. van Rooyen, the new publicity officer of the G.P.O. in Pretoria, honoured us with a visit. Mr. van Rooyen is not a collector, but is keenly interested in his new position. He said he would be willing to answer any questions to the best of his ability, and he was kept busy. One question asked was "When the New Issues were to be on sale." Mr. van Rooyen replied that the meeting to discuss the new designs was held last January but nothing further had transpired. He also said that one of his colleagues in the same office, Mr. Grobler, who had toured the Union and travelled extensively overseas, to visit the various Exhibitions had gained very useful information. Anyone writing to the Philatelic Section will get a speedier reply by using their Box No. in preference to their home address.

It was a very enjoyable evening, and we hope to have Mr. van Rooyen with us again shortly. A hearty vote of thanks was accorded to him. Mr. G. P. Smith tabled 25 first day covers of the Voortrekker issue which were very interesting, and later there was a small auction.

L.E.C.



PRETORIA PHILATELIC SOCIETY

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

20th February. Visit from the East Rand Society. Mr. S. Legator showed assortments of Transvaal, New Republic, O.F.S. and Natal; Mr. Suklje, recent K.G. VI issues, and Mr. Decken, part of his collection of Europe.

6th March. Mr. Obermeyer read a paper on the Vryburg issues, with specimens of the straps and also some of Bechuanaland, Stellaland and O.F.S.

20th March. In the unavoidable absence of Dr. Reiseuer an auction was held and there were also exhibits by Mr. N. L. Watson of British Empire and by Mr. Obermeyer of Dutch Colonies.

3rd April. An interesting and useful talk by Dr. Reiseuer on the cleaning, mounting, and writing-up of stamps.



PHILATELIC SOCIETY OF JOHANNESBURG

President, Commander C. E. D. Enoch; *Hon. Sec.*, B. Glassman, P.O. Box 4967, Johannesburg; *Meetings*, 2nd Tuesday and 4th Monday, at the Johannesburg Public Library, 7.45 p.m.

At the meeting held on 11th April, 1950, the exhibits were provided by members of the East Rand Philatelic Society. Mr. J. Shepherd, president of the East Rand Society, introduced the exhibitors. Mr. Diekens showed some fine Unions, including both £1 values in mint condition and a set of 1925 Air Mails in value blocks. He also showed the Kenilworth Muizenberg flown cover and some Red Cross Flight cards. There were numerous other fine items.

Mr. Clements showed Rhodesia and Southern Rhodesia. His exhibit included some fine used blocks as well as a fine range of mint items. The Southern Rhodesia included the 1½d. perf. 12 and the 1s. perf. 14.

Mr. Shepherd himself showed a fine collection of Cape Triangulars. Both the woodblock errors were

included. He showed numerous proofs and most of his copies both used and mint were in fine condition. He however showed a few poor specimens as well as forgeries under the heading of "What not to collect in Cape Triangulars."

The speakers on the exhibits were Mr. Jack Burrell (Unions), Dr. Kaplan (Rhodesia) and Mr. Hunt (Cape Triangulars).

On the 24th April Mr. H. Schwartz showed his fine collections of St. Helena and Ascension. He read an interesting paper on his exhibit before the display. The St. Helena contained many rarities, including the 15s. value in the 1922 issue in mint condition, several cleft rock items, the Centenary issue, the obsolete colours in George VI and the early issues. The Ascension was practically complete in mint from the earliest issues and there were some used on covers and otherwise. The Silver Wedding issue was present in both countries.

Mr. W. Redford spoke on the exhibit.



GRAHAMSTOWN PHILATELIC SOCIETY

President, Dr. C. G. A. Cory; *Hon. Sec./Treas.*, Mr. R. Q. Tarr, Wood House, Kingswood College; *Meetings*, 2nd Thursdays, 8 p.m., 120 High Street.

A round dozen of members attended the April meeting and voted the Stamp Packet into being once more, with Dr. Tarr as its operator. The next brochure was discussed, and it was decided to leave its production in the hands of the secretary. Mr. Chantler was thanked for his work in duplicating the last brochure. Mr. Maurice Fletcher gave a very fine display of South-West African stamps, most discussed of which was his pair of tenpenny air-mails. The evening closed with a very successful auction of stamps.

R.Q.T.



JEWISH GUILD PHILATELIC SECTION

Chairman, J. M. Rich; *Hon. Secretary*, A. J. Nathanson; *Meetings* at Jewish Guild, last Thursdays, 8 p.m.

At the meeting held on 30th March, Mr. I. Isaacs showed a Thematic collection. These were stamps illustrating quotations from the English poets from Chaucer to modern times. Mr. J. Rich spoke on the exhibit and the exhibitor was thanked by the members.



EAST RAND PHILATELIC SOCIETY

President, Mr. J. Shepherd; *Hon. Sec.*, Mr. A. Gross, P.O. Box 155, Brakpan; *Meetings*, Regent Hotel, Benoni, 3rd Tuesdays, 8 p.m.

The monthly meeting of the above Society was held on the 18th instant. There was not such a good attendance as usual. Mr. Shepherd was away on leave and Mr. S. Legator took the chair.

One of the main items of the evening was the appointment of a new Secretary as Miss S. O. Jeffrey has been transferred to Johannesburg. The matter was put to the meeting and Mr. A. Gross was unanimously elected to the position.

Mr. S. Legator was the exhibitor for the evening and he tabled a very fine collection of Zanzibar. Mr. E. N. Rigg on behalf of members proposed the vote of thanks.

S.O.J.



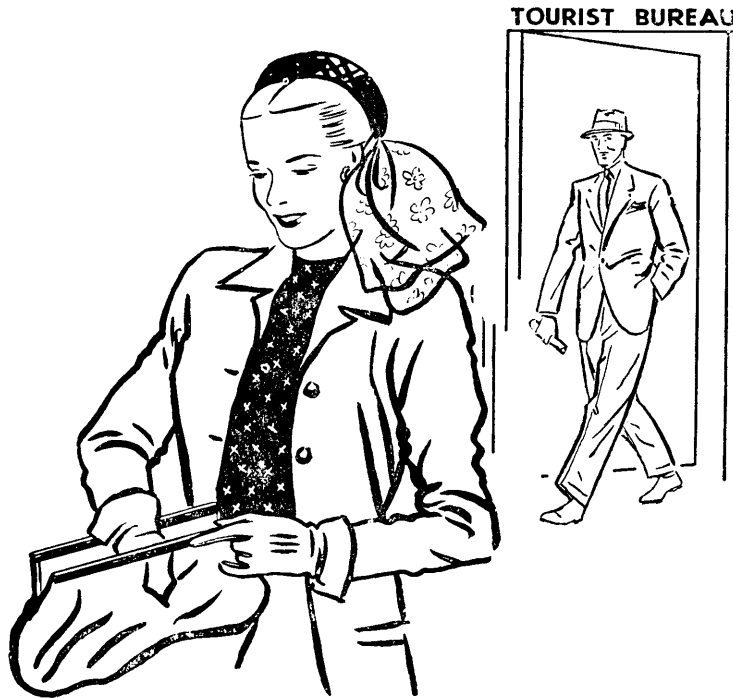
EAST LONDON PHILATELIC SOCIETY

President, Andrew Watson; *Hon. Sec.*, C. M. Clark, 8 Windsor Road, Cambridge, East London; *Meetings*, 2nd Fridays, Colosseum Theatre Tea Room (upstairs), at 7.45 p.m.

There was a very fine attendance at the annual general meeting of the above Society on Friday, 14th April.

The President's report on the year's activities was charmingly presented, and the election of new officers took place in a very happy spirit of camaraderie.

(Continued on page 76)



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JUNE, 1950.

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—Foster W. Bond.

The Buyer

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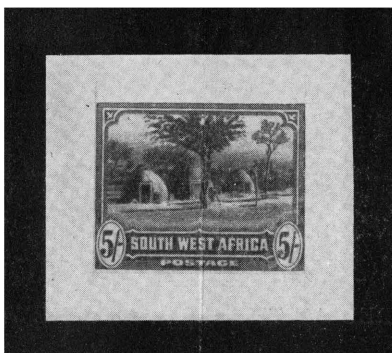
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- 1923-24: £1 setting VI, S.G. 40. A part sheet of forty-eight, one stamp without stop. Probably unique.
- 1927-30: 2d. ovp. double, one inverted. Block of four, one without stop. Exceedingly rare and possibly unique
2d. overprint double, one inverted. Corner imprint block of sixteen, believed to be the largest in existence, and as such unique.
- 1930: Air 4d. overprint inverted. Block of four.
4d., 1/- without stop, in pairs and blocks of four.
- 1931: ½d. to £1 complete set of twenty-four imperf. plate proofs. Exceedingly rare and probably unique (see photo).
- 1933: Voortrekker 1d. overprint inverted, block of four. 2d. ovp. double block of four, 2d. no stop in pair and block.
- 1944: 1/- overprint inverted, two pairs, one of greatest George VI rarities.
- Dues 1923: The rare 5d., S.G.D. 17a, two pairs. 5d. ovp. double rare. 5d. rare transposed overprint. Marginal block of four.
- 1931: ½d. to 6d., complete set of five imperf. plate proofs. Very rare.
- Officials, 1929: Complete set, blocks and pairs. Rare.

All enquiries are welcomed, and want lists will receive prompt, courteous attention.

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JUNE, 1950.

Whole No. 303.

P. O. Box 4012.

Will Advertisers, Exchange Magazines, Society Secretaries and other correspondents please note that our only address is P.O. Box 4012, Johannesburg.

Some correspondence is still being addressed to Box 7012, which has not been ours for over a year. This means delay!

CONGRESS and EXHIBITION

Congress. The Philatelic Society of Johannesburg will be host this year for the Twelfth Philatelic Congress of Southern Africa. It will be held in the Duncan Hall (Municipal Buildings) on October 25-28; business will be dealt with on the first three days, the fourth, it is hoped, will be for social functions only. Notices of the meeting should be in the hands of the constituent societies by the time they read this. Any communications should be sent to the Federation Secretary, P.O. Box 4012, Johannesburg.

Exhibition. The host society is staging a National Exhibition in connection with Congress and this will be in the Selborne Hall (Municipal Buildings) for the period October 23-28. Preliminary notices have already been circulated, but full prospectuses with classification of exhibits, rules and entry forms are now obtainable from the Hon. Sec. of the Society, P.O. Box 4967, Johannesburg. Points to be noted particularly are:

(a) Entries, together with a short description of the exhibit, must be in by 1st August. This apparently early date is necessary for the preparation of the Exhibition Catalogue and also to give the organising committee some idea of how many plaques it will be necessary to order for awards.

(b) Exhibits themselves must arrive by 5th October; exhibitors will be notified personally during August where to send them. By having them at this, again an apparently early date, the committee hope to have the judging

finished in time to have the names of winners engraved on their awards, so that the plaques may be presented at the Exhibition.

(c) The committee have adopted the procedure in force at the recent London International Exhibition, viz., exhibitors need not send their full collections (running perhaps to many volumes), but only a maximum of two albums or approximately 120 sheets. They will naturally send the cream of the collection they are entering, but with it need only send a moderately detailed description of the portion not sent. This must be certified by some reliable authority as correct, and for this purpose the various Societies in the Federation have been asked to act as "Commissioners," and, when asked, to check up on the descriptions.



CYRENAICA

Collectors and dealers alike are having headaches over where to classify the stamps of this former Italian colony. Gibbons have relegated it to the Foreign Section of their catalogue, but most dealers have included it in their new issue services for collectors of British Colonials. This would seem to be logical seeing that the stamps were issued under the authority of a British Military Government, and, we understand, are also obtainable through the Crown Agents. They would at any rate seem to be as much a British Empire issue as stamps issued in Burma by the Japanese during their occupation, which Gibbons include as British Empire stamps.

Union Notes
 Sub-Editor: Mr. N. Sheffield, Box 99,
 Cleveland, Transvaal.

The Distinguishing Headplate Flaws in the Two Printings of the "E" Control Stamps

Writing from Cape Town in connection with Mr. G. N. Gilbert's recent discovery of the employment of two different vignette cylinders in the printing of the 1d. Rotogravure "E" Control stamps (issued 1930), Mr. A. H. Sydow has submitted the following notes and accompanying sketches to illustrate the distinguishing features on the control blocks.

Figure 1 depicts Headplate No. 1 and shows the position of a small black dot (exaggerated in the sketch) which is present in the second column of dashes representing the sun's rays radiating from above Table Mountain. It will be found in the top half of the sheet on the Afrikaans inscribed stamp of Row 6/No. 12 and shown in Figure 3 as one of the block of four adjacent to the Control letter and four-figure cyclometer numbers of the printings A, B and E issued between May and September, 1930. These, for the Union philatelic purposes given on pages 49/50 of

our April number are called A, B1 and E2 respectively. The dot also appears on the B1 sheets overprinted "Offisial—Offisieel" and the A sheets overprinted S.W.A.

Figure 2 of Headplate No. 2 illustrates the famous "broken mast" flaw and black dot, marked "B" and "A" in this sketch. This flaw appeared on the English inscribed stamp of Row 5/No. 12 in the block adjoining the Control letter and four figure cyclometer numbers of the printings B, D and E, which for the reasons already given are in turn called B2, D and E1—see Figure 4.

Mr. Sydow mentions that the E2 block in his possession bears the high number of "E 8752" as depicted in Figure 3 and that he holds an E1 block—"broken mast" variety—numbered "E 9445." This is the highest cyclometer number he has in the series and the end numeral "5" is halfway below the level of the other figures printed on the sheet margin, i.e., "dropped numeral" variety. His lowest number is "0001 A" and others in his collection are numbered "0718 F" and "0323 E" (E1).

Varieties in the Large Pictorial 2d. Plum Coloured Frame Printing

There appears to be general agreement in the opinion that the change to the plum coloured frame in the production of the recent 2d. postage stamp, printed from cylinders "2" and "37," is a vast improvement on what one correspondent called the "violent violet"

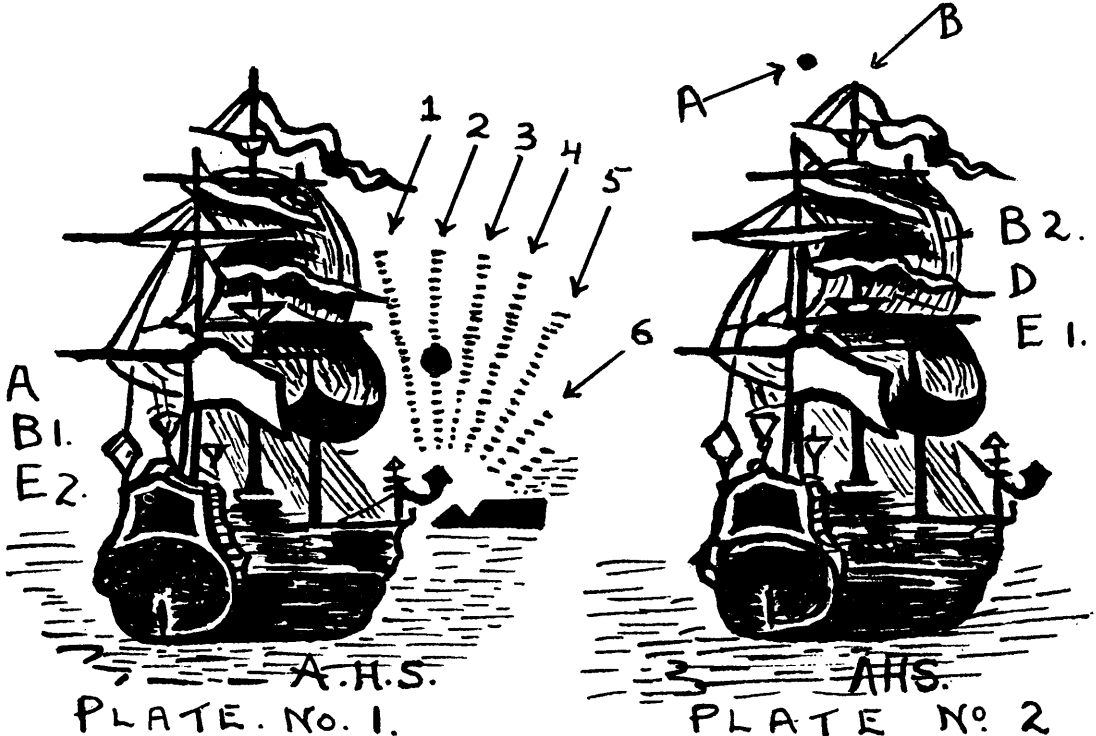


Figure 1.
 Sketch No. 1.

Figure 2.
 Sketch No. 2.

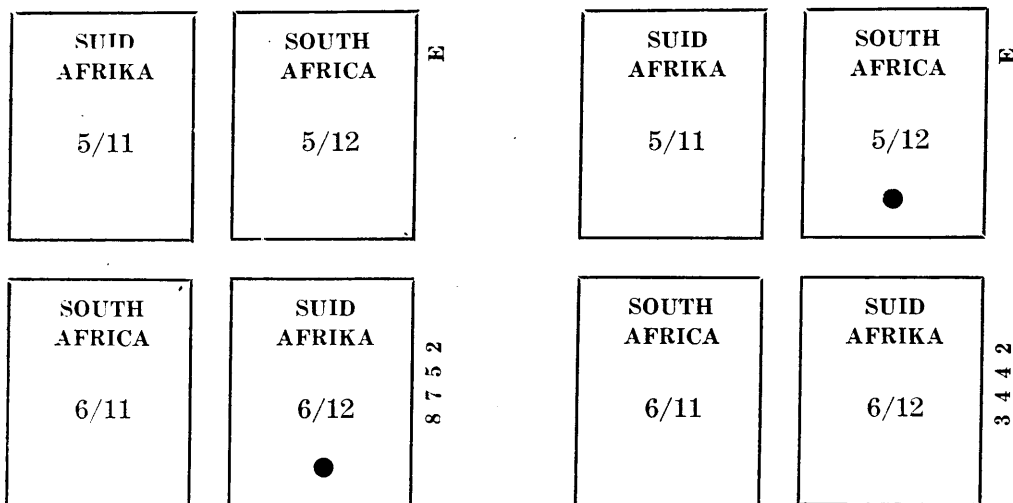


Plate No. 1.
A : B1 : E2.
Figure 3.

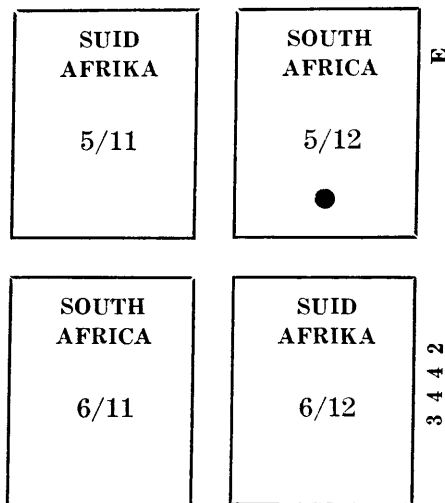


Plate No. 2.
B2 : D : E1.
Figure 4.

Sketch Plan No. 3.

of the previous issue, and apart from a few small spots dotted here and there and one or two interesting blemishes, the stamps are generally free from flaws.

Of the few varieties present, Mr. A. Lichtenstein, of Bloemfontein, mentions two collectable items, one of which takes the form of a smudge near the top left hand corner of the 1st stamp in Row 11, and the other, a "searchlight beam" at the extreme right of the 5th stamp in Row 17. These, together with the list received from Mr. I. Dekenah, Cape Town, are included in the schedule set out below:

Row 1/1: Short lines cutting top frame above "SU" of SUID-AFRIKA.

Row 1/3: Short lines cutting top frame above "KA" of SUID-AFRIKA.

Row 1/5: Cut in right hand frame lines near top corner.

Row 11/1: Smudge on left hand frame line near top corner.

Row 17/5: "Searchlight beam" right hand side of right tower.

Row 18/2: White spot top right hand corner of frame.

Row 19/2: Two dots in sky.

All-Screened Printing of the 3d. Pictorial Stamps Obsolete

A recent Bulletin issued by the Post Office Publicity Officer (Philatelic Section), Pretoria, states that sheets of the threepenny stamps (screened variety) bearing cylinder numbers 44A and 44B are no longer available. The printing of this issue has been discontinued as a large stock of the old variety, without cylinder numbers, is still held.

Cylinder Numbers of Current Postage Due Stamps

The same communication contains the information that the 1d. and 3d. postage due stamps are now printed from cylinders numbered as follows:

1d.: Exterior, 33 (new); Interior, 39 (old).
3d.: Exterior, 33 (new); Interior, 6921 (old).

Details of the New 2d. "Small" Pictorial Issue

The smaller 2d. pictorial stamp mentioned in last month's Union Notes and issued by the Department of Posts and Telegraphs as an economy measure to provide for the increased consumption of these stamps when the higher inland letter rate came into force on May 15th, is at the time of writing rapidly taking the place of its immediate predecessor—the larger production printed from cylinders "2" and "37." The latter, an announced in the Department's Bulletin, was only a temporary issue to be shortly replaced by a stamp reduced in size to that of the current 1d. postage stamp, and in consequence is likely to be obsolete by the end of May or the early part of June.

The smaller stamp, produced in sheets of 240 from cylinders numbered "6927" Internal and "50" External, is somewhat similar in shade and general appearance to the larger temporary issue, but the plum coloured frame of the small stamp has more of a purplish tone than the lilac tint in the larger size and further, the vignettes of this latest stamp are at present appearing in a darker shade of blue (mineral blue in the Stamp Collectors' Colour Chart of 1949).

A letter received from Mr. A. H. Sydow draws attention to a note in our May issue

regarding the preparation of the glass diapositives for the new stamps. He confirms that the vignettes of the large 2d. and those of the small 2d. were taken from the same master negative, but points out that this was not so in the case of the frames for different master frame negatives and master frame designs were employed. He mentions that this can be easily verified by examining, say, the bottom left hand bottom corner of a stamp from each of the two printings and it will be at once evident that the frames of the larger type are lined with horizontal lines, whereas those of the smaller size are not lined.

This latest production has all the pleasing features of the issue it is superseding and is particularly free from dots and printing flaws. The only two varieties so far noted as likely to be worthy of collecting are given under the summary of the main characteristics set out below:

(1) Stamps.—Rotogravure printed: Vignettes and frames screened (cross-lined pattern): Size $21\frac{1}{2} \times 17\frac{1}{4}$ mm.: Perforated 14 x 15: Watermark, multiple Springbok's Head, facing left (normal).

(2) Colours and Cylinders.—Plum frames and dark slate-blue centres: Vignette cylinder No. 6927 and frame No. 50, imprinted in respective colours on bottom margin of sheet directly below stamps 19 and 20 in the 12th row, i.e., right hand bottom corner with sheet held in horizontal (normal reading) position.

(3) Sheet Format.—12 rows by 20 stamps per row (240): First stamp on sheet inscribed in English.

(4) Sheet Numbers and Arrows.—Four numbers in red printed twice on bottom margin: Four marginal arrows in same colour as frame and similar to the type illustrated as No. 9 on page 48 of the Union Standard Catalogue.

(5) Varieties.—Row 1/15: Hook mark at left side of left hand tower. Row 3/6: Broken "d" in value tablet.

"Voortrekker" 1d. Value—Additional Printing Flaw

Mr. I. Dekenah, Cape Town, records a constant printing flaw on the 1d. Voortrekker Commemorative Stamps for addition to the previous lists:

Row 5/3: Broken "F" in AFRICA.

Overprint Spacings on the 1s. Brown Marginal Arrow "Officials"

We are indebted to Mr. J. Robertson, of the Robertson Stamp Co., for the opportunity of recording details of the overprint spacings on the top and bottom halves of a sheet of the 1s. "Officials" recently issued and recorded in our May number as having appeared on the sheets bearing the brown marginal arrows:

Rows	Overprint Spacings
Nos. 1 to 5	Stamps Nos. 1 to 5 .. 20 mm. Stamp No. 6 .. 19½ mm.
Nos. 6 to 10	Stamp No. 1 .. 20 mm. Stamp No. 2 .. 19 mm. Stamp No. 3 .. 19½ mm. Stamps Nos. 4 to 6 .. 20 mm.
Nos. 11 to 15	Stamps Nos. 1 to 5 .. 20 mm. Stamp No. 6 .. 19½ mm.
Nos. 16 to 20	Stamp No. 1 .. 20 mm. Stamp No. 2 .. 19 mm. Stamp No. 3 .. 19½ mm. Stamps Nos. 4 to 6 .. 20 mm.

Stamp No. 6 in the 5th row has a quad mark covering the bottom section of the right hand value tablet. The letters in a number of the overprints appear in a broken or poorly formed condition, and Mr. Robertson understands that following the sale of a portion of the issue the remainder of the sheets were destroyed. He was also given to understand that all future overprints would be produced from plates.

The Origin of the Designs on Three of the Union National Defence Stamps

Mr. A. H. Sydow, in reminiscent mood, has penned a most interesting little Union Postal History sketch of his earlier days when he attended the South African College High School, Cape Town, and was a fellow student of the well-known South African artist, Alfred Neville Lewis. He brings to light the fact that in addition to the portrait of the Airman on the 1½d. Union National Defence stamp, the design on two of the other values in this series were based on paintings by Mr. Lewis, and we have pleasure in publishing Mr. Sydow's letter on the subject.

He writes as follows:

1. The portrait of the Nurse on the conventional sized 1d. stamp and the miniature 1d. stamp—S.G. 36 and 44.

2. The portrait of the Airman on the conventional sized 1½d. stamp and the miniature 1½d. stamp (S.G. 37 and 47).

3. The portrait of the Sailor on the medium sized 2d. stamp and the miniature 2d. stamp (S.G. 38 and 46).

(The S.G. numbers above are the illustration numbers in the 1950 catalogue.)

The above were adapted from paintings by my old class-mate, Alfred Neville Lewis, the South African artist. Lewis, like myself, was born and bred in Cape Town, the city of "woodblock" fame, and educated at the South African College High School. During 1912, Lewis and I shared a desk at the old school. I vividly recollect that one day in class the late Mr. A. E. Griffiths, M.A., then vice-principal, discovered some of Lewis' exercise books which portrayed profile and full-faced pencil sketches of the Head and other masters and the Vice himself. Addressing Lewis, Mr. Griffiths said: "I see that you have adorned your scribbles with my physiognomy. Was this done in class?" Lewis, with bowed head, guiltily admitted: "Yes, sir." "As a punishment," said the Vice, "you shall draw portraits for the

School Magazine." "Yes, sir," replied Lewis as he straightened up. Lewis did so with great gusto.

This evening I turned up my old copies of the "Sacs Magazine" for the September and December quarters of 1912, which contained replicas of some of the original drawings in profile and otherwise of the Head, the Vice, the masters and some of the "Sacsonians" of those days. After leaving SACS, encouraged largely by Mr. Griffiths, Lewis proceeded overseas in pursuance of his art studies. To-day he is one of the Union's leading exponents in the art of handling the "brush" and the "palette." The motto of our "Alma Mater" is "Spectemur Agendo"—"Let Us Be Seen By Our Works." Some of the artistic works of Alfred Neville Lewis are seen on the Union's National Defence postage stamps. Was it not Shakespeare who prognosticated these "Lewis stamps"? Yes, it was. See "King Henry VI, Part III."

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Urgently wanted, collections of Union and Germany. L. White, Box 9825, Johannesburg.

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NORWAY

Messrs. Whitfield King and Co. report that 15th May was due to see the issue of three stamps (15, 25 and 45 öre) commemorating the 900th anniversary of the foundation of the city of Oslo.

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Correspondence

AN UNCATALOGUED "CAPE" ERROR
The Editor, "S.A. Philatelist"

Sir,—Can any South African philatelist confirm the position of an uncatalogued "error" in the setting of the "Four Pence on 6d." surcharge of the Cape of Good Hope (S.G. 27) of 17th November, 1868? The error consists of the second word misspelt "Penee." I came across an example in an old stuck-down collection, some years ago, but could find no reference to it in any of the standard books and articles dealing with the Cape "Rectangles." Cape specialists to whom I showed it (including Mr. R. A. F. Riesco) were sceptical and inclined to dismiss it as a "filled up" letter, probably because it was a very inferior specimen.

Recently I sent it to my friend, Mr. A. A. Jurgens, who writes me that he has been shown a second, and much more clearly printed copy by Mr. Gregory, of Cape Town. The impression of the surcharge is identical with the copy that I found, thus confirming that such an "error" did, in fact, occur.

From Mr. Jurgens I understand that in days gone by complete panes of sixty of the "Four Pence" surcharge were sold by the late Mr. Cyrus Martin, of Darling Street, Cape Town, and it seems just possible that one or more of these may have been preserved in South African collections. It seems strange that such a prominent printer's error should have failed to find its way into the catalogues, whereas the "Peuce" error has long been recognised.

DOUGLAS B. ARMSTRONG.

SHORT NOTICES

Philatelic Contact. We have received copies of this fairly recently started little quarterly magazine, issued by Arthur Blair, 26 Lancaster Grove, London N.W. 3, at 2s. 6d. post free per annum. It has short articles of general interest, adverts., Personal Pars, etc.

London Postal Cancellations. Mr. H. F. Johnson, of 44 Fleet Street, London E.C. 4, will shortly be publishing a book on the Postal Cancellations of London, 1840-1890, by H. C. Westley, at 45s. The author has had access to the records in the G.P.O., and the work is exhaustive, with a mass of new information.

German Colonial Cancellations. Collectors interested in these should make contact with E. Heide of (24a) Balje Ueber Stade, British Zone, Germany, who has several new books on the stamps and cancellations of German Colonies, Post Offices abroad, etc. Further particulars can be supplied on application.

British West Indian Philatelist. Mr. E. F. Aguilar, P.O. Box 406, Kingston, Jamaica, has sent a copy of this little magazine, which

is being published quarterly at 5s. per annum, post free. It is meant to deal mainly with first flights, postmarks, postal history and any general information or news from the islands.

Cuba. Thanks to the Philatelic Division of the Compania Comercial "Las Gallias," S.A., Box 676, Havana, for a first day cover with special stamp honouring the centenary of General Enrique Collazo. The company runs a first day cover service.

★

NETHERLANDS AND INDIES

"Mijn Stokpaardje" for April mentions that in 1952 an international exhibition is to be held in Holland, two of the main features being a philatelic exhibition and an exhibition concerning the Netherlands Telegraphs. Both of these postal activities celebrate their 100th year and the occasion will, no doubt, be commemorated by a special issue of stamps.

The Philatelic Exhibition and the Telegraphs sections will be under direction of the postal authorities in collaboration with the directorate of the Postal Museum.

The March number of the "Nederlandsch Maandblad voor Philatelie" contains a summary of stamps having currency in the Republiek Indonesia Serikat obtained from official sources which are quoted. These are:

(a) Stamps printed by the Postal Section of the Republiek Indonesia after the return of the Government to Djohjakarta (Batavia) of the value of 100 sen and 150 sen showing the national flag on a stormy ocean. These are known imperforate only.

(b) Republiek Indonesia stamps printed outside Indonesia—the notorious "Staatsdruckerei, Wien" issue.

(c) Pre-federal stamps: the numeral types, temple types and the two U.P.U. stamps.

(d) Stamps mentioned in (a), (b) and (c) above provided with an overprint—still to be issued.

(e) The new stamp of 15 sen issued on 17th January of this year, showing the Republican flag against a background of a mountain (mentioned in the previous month's news).

There are two governments functioning in the Indies—the Federal Government and that of the Republiek Indonesia, each having its own currency and issuing its own stamps.

The magazine quoted has a full description of the stamps known but it would appear that without a fair amount of study it would be unwise to acquire any of them without knowledge of their origin.

J.W.S.

★

CORRESPONDENCE AND EXCHANGE

Mr. Malcolm Barker, of 109 Lansdowne Place, Hove, Sussex, England, age 17, is specialising in South African stamps. He finds it difficult to get various stamps and details locally, and would like to correspond with someone in the Union, preferably one interested in British and British Colonial stamps generally.

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It is a fact that there has been a falling off in the sale of stamps (and, of course, other things as well) yet we can honestly affirm that our sales for 1950 are well above those of 1949. Our stock is no bigger; our prices are not lower, so it is the stamps themselves which are doing the trick, and to be quite candid, if there is a general improvement in trade we are afraid that as far as we are concerned we'll be overwhelmed, so popular are K.G. VI stamps. We know the old collector looks askance at them (they always did, we remember the same with K.G. V stamps and even King Edward issues) but the average collector of to-day, not only wants to collect stamps, but he also wants security for his outlay, and without a doubt he stands a much better chance of getting at least a substantial portion back of what he spends, if he decides to sell out, if he invests in K.G. VI stamps, than he does with any other group.

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South African T.P.O.'s Old and New

By J. H. HARVEY PIRIE.

I.—Some Old Marks

Articles on the T.P.O.s of Southern Africa were published by the writer in the "South African Philatelist," Vol. 16, 1940, p. 186 and Vol. 17, 1941, p. 32. References to these articles made in this communication will be to "my original articles."

The first T.P.O. in Cape Colony started in 1883 and operated between Cape Town and Victoria West Road, which was as far as the main line to the north reached at that date. A number of additions have been made to the old Cape marks described in my original articles, but they are all what might be called "minor varieties," i.e., with differences in index letters and such like; no new types of this period have been found. The only one deserving special mention is a T.P.O. DOWN mark dated 29th January, 1884, four years earlier than anything previously described.

The one great desideratum of the old Cape marks is that of the short-lived Uitenhage T.P.O. (1894-97), no specimen of which has yet been recorded.

There have recently come to light, however, both official information and specimens relating to the Orange Free State and Transvaal T.P.O. services of the period 1894-1900, about both of which very little was previously known.

The Union Postal Administration has recently appointed a historian on its staff, and I am indebted to him for the following information. This was dug out from the "Jaarverslag van de Postmeester-General, Z.A.R., 1894," and from certain of the "Staats-Sekretarisstukke." It is to this effect:

The Z.A.R. Travelling Post Office (Reisende Poskantoor, or R.P.K.) commenced operations on 15/11/94, concurrently with a similar service under the control of the Orange Free State Administration. The route served was between Norvalspont (Cape Colony-O.V.S. border) and Vaalrivier (now Viljoensdrift, just across the Vaal from Vereeniging-O.V.S. and Z.A.R. border), or in other words, right through the Orange Free State.

On the section Norvalspont to Bloemfontein the T.P.O. was worked by Cape Colony officials at the expense of the O.V.S. Administration, which also supplied (among other minor articles unspecified) the necessary obliterating stamps.

On the section Bloemfontein to Vaalrivier the operating of the T.P.O. was done by Z.A.R. officials at the expense of the Transvaal Administration, which also supplied the cancelling stamps.

That was the initial arrangement made in 1894, but from 1st January, 1895, the Z.A.R.

assumed control of the operating of the T.P.O. right through the Free State from Norvalspont to Johannesburg, also meeting the expense involved. On 1st January, 1899, the Z.A.R., however, gave the O.V.S. notice of its intention to close the service on 30th June, 1899.

Another point emerging from the hunt through the old records mentioned, is that the P.M.G. of the Z.A.R. had decided on 1/3/99 that the service should henceforth operate only between Kroonstad (half-way between Bloemfontein and Vaalrivier) and Johannesburg. Presumably by that time the personnel of the Johannesburg P.O. was able to cope with the sorting of the mails without the aid of the T.P.O.

The official records give no information about the wording, etc., of the actual obliterators used, but a little light can be thrown on these from one or two recently found specimens, although the story is not yet quite complete.

O.V.S., R.P.K.

("R.P.K." stands for "Reisende Pos Kantoor": Travelling Post Office.)

Only one specimen of the marks of this service has so far been recorded. See Fig. 1. This mark is a transit one on the back of a cover sent from Burghersdorp, Cape Colony (then in occupation by Free State forces) to Bloemfontein in early 1900. Whether this was the type of mark which had been in use since 1894 or not is not known. Presumably there was a "South" mark as companion to this "North" one.

O.R.C., T.P.O.

After the Anglo-Boer War civil T.P.O.s started operating again, and over the stretch of railway through the Free State the start was on 20th September, 1902. Information about this service has been, and still is, rather vague, although references have been made to an Orange Free State T.P.O. and to a Transvaal T.P.O.

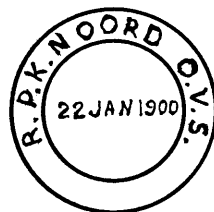


Fig. 1

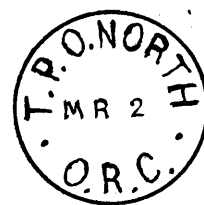


Fig. 2

So far as the Transvaal section is concerned, there can be recorded TRANSVAAL T.P.O.s UP, Nos. 1 and 3, and a TRANSVAAL T.P.O./EUROPEAN MAIL UP. These rather suggest a daily service and a special one once a week in connection with the mail boats from England. So far as the Orange Free State (or, more correctly for the period, Orange River Colony) T.P.O. was concerned, no information was then available.

Now a little light has been thrown on this by the recent recording by Mr. Norman Hill ("T.P.O.," Vol. 2, 1948, p. 66) of the mark illustrated in Fig. 2. The year of this is unfortunately illegible, but the mark is cancelling a K.E. VII O.R.C. stamp.

This Free State T.P.O. is understood to have dropped out in 1919, but the Transvaal T.P.O. continued, as it does to-day, covering the section of line from Johannesburg to De Aar.

Z.A.R., R.P.K.

There have recently come to light specimens of the Z.A.R. R.P.K. marks, all, so far, as back-stamps on postcards or envelopes.

One, shown in Fig. 3, is "R.P.K. TERUG." With Johannesburg as railway headquarters, this would be equivalent to "T.P.O. UP" (Terug : Back).

The companion to this, used in the reverse direction, i.e., from Johannesburg, or "DOWN," is "R.P.K. HEEN" (Heen : Away).



Fig. 3

I have not yet seen a complete specimen of the "Heen" mark, although I have several partial specimens, all on loose Z.A.R. stamps and sufficiently large to be sure of their nature.

Actually, the existence of this mark was recorded in 1938 by Geldhof in his "Stamps of the Orange Free State," but without his realising its significance. On p. 56 of his book he says: "An interesting item in the writer's collection is a cover bearing two penny stamps and a halfpenny of the Orange Free State postmarked 'R.P.K. Heen, Z.A.R., Jan. '98.' The initials Z.A.R., of course, show that the cover was cancelled in the South African Republic (Transvaal):

From what has been brought to light above by the Union Postal Historian it is probable that the cancellation was done in the Z.A.R. R.P.K. somewhere between Vaalrivier and Bloemfontein, the cover having been posted on the train in the O.F.S.

(To be continued)



(NO POTATOES WANTED)

Messrs. Whitfield King and Co. forward the following:

Following a press report that "stamps" had been issued in Tristan da Cunha with denominations in potatoes, we wrote to the Administration. The following reply has just been received from the Administrator of the Island: ". . . the press report that postage stamps had been issued for this island purchasable with potatoes is entirely without

foundation and believed to be a 'stunt' for the benefit of cruise tourists. I should be very grateful for anything you can do to discredit this story, which is giving much unnecessary work, as well as causing grave danger to the island by the introduction of blight in parcels of mouldy potatoes sent by thoughtless and misinformed philatelists!"



BRITISH PHILATELIC AGENCY IN AMERICA

Both dealers and collectors like things made easy for them in the U.S.A. In addition to having a philatelic bureau for their own country's stamps, they can get at face value the stamps of a number of the Latin American Republics, Monaco, Liberia and other countries.

Now Britain is opening an office in Washington where they will be able to obtain all British Colonial stamps just as dealers can obtain them from the Crown Agents in London.

No wonder used British Colonials are harder to obtain than unused, but where does the fun of collecting come in when everything is made so easy?

AUSTRALIA

Major N. Welsford forwards the following information received from Messrs. Orlo-Smith and Co., Melbourne, about certain stamps.

The 2½d. Peace Stamp has been found without watermark, about 750 copies believed to have been so issued. They are selling at £5 each.

Controversy is raging about the status of the following:

1s. small Lyre imperf. A pair recently fetched £42 at auction.

4d. Koala, 9d. Platypus and 2½d. Shortland, all imperf., have been on offer for some time. A block of four Koala was sold for £77 10s.

A 2½d. K.G. VI tete beche pair fetched £63.

It is understood that it has been officially announced that there have been thefts of such items from the printing works.



U.S.A.

There appeared at Washington D.C. on 20th April the "National Capital Sesquicentennial Commemorative." (The big word means 150 years!) A 3c blue stamp, it features the statue of Freedom which surmounts the dome of the capitol in Washington. Thanks to our correspondent, Mr. George R. Rankin, for a first day cover.

On 29th April Railroad Engineers were honoured with a 3c stamp, the central design being a portrait of "Casey" Jones superimposed on a locomotive wheel. Jones was an engine driver who sacrificed his life in the performance of his duty, and has become symbolic of the courage of engineers, immortalised in railroad annals and in song.

Notes on the Large "Photo-Vignette" 2d. Union Pictorial

By A. LICHTENSTEIN.

March is "Budget-time" in this country, and as it has become customary for the powers-that-be to link changes in postage rates with their other budget proposals, the annual State Budget is always looked forward to with particular interest by us philatelists—in the expectation of changes, for better or worse, in the current postal tariffs. It was in March, 1947, that the then Minister of Finance announced the welcome reduction in the basic letter-rate from 2d. to 1½d.—with effect from May 1, 1947, and again it was March, this year, that our present Minister of Finance saw fit to increase the same letter-rate to 2d.—with effect from May 15, 1950. On each occasion the changed rate brought in its train an understandable measure of economy, i.e., a reduction in the size of the stamps concerned, and it would appear that the decision for increased postage was taken fairly late in the day, as otherwise we would not have the surprising experience of two entirely new issues of 2d. stamps following each other at intervals of four weeks or so—vide the large 2d. plum issued mid-March, and the reduced size 2d. in mid-April. Many people must have been wondering why the increase was timed for May 15, and not, e.g., for April 1, and the explanation obviously must be looked for in the Government Printing Works—which asked for ample time to prepare and distribute the new issue. It will be remembered that printing of the previous large 2d. (violet) was discontinued on 15/9/47 (viz. *S.A. Phil.* of Nov., 1947, where it was stated that the balance of Job 10808 had been cancelled)—and that stocks then on hand of this denomination lasted well over two years. Just how big the printing of the large 2d. plum was, will no doubt become known, in due course, but it may well be that we can look on this stamp (the 2d. plum) as an interim or provisional printing. For the time being at least, the curtain has been rung down on the large "photo vignette" 2d. value, after nearly five years' currency, and an attempt will be made in the lines following to classify the various printings and plates used in its manufacture.

To start with, it does not seem to be generally known that (at least) *two different dies* were used for the exterior cylinders—at least no mention of this is made in the Supplement issued 1948 to the Union Handbook. Die One is illustrated very clearly in Gibbons *Geo. VI* catalogue, p. 132, SG type 54. Note the whole top of the figure 2 merging into the white circle surrounding the value tablet. This type is peculiar to all printings under Group "A," printed from Int. Cyl. 6913 Ext. 10,—all other groups are from Die Two, including the latest

large "plum," all of which show the head of "2" separated from the white circle by a more or less continuous line of colour.

In the listings following below I have adopted as "date of issue" the "delivery date" given by the P.O. Information Bureau—dates in brackets referring to the issue of the *S.A. Philatelist* in which the information is recorded. For the sake of brevity, I am also giving the sheet positions in brackets, thus: (1/5) meaning, Stamp No. 1, row 5, and so on. From complete sheets in my possession, and from chronicles in the *S.A. Philatelist*, I have arrived at the following six main groupings, viz.:

GROUP "A"

Int. cyl. 6913, ext. 10. *Issues*: 25225 sheets 6/3/45 (June '45), 8500 sheets 7/8/45 (Oct. '45), 11500 sheets 22/11/45 (Jan. '46). *Colours*: Purple and slate-grey, deep purple and slate-black, pale violet and pale grey. All stamps: fig. 2 merges in white circle. Minor peculiarities and flaws: *Int. Cyl.*: dot left centre of sky (1/5), dot in sky below D (2/16), tiny speck on left of right tower (5/19), small dot right of left tower (5/11), small dot right of left tower (4/20).

Ext. Cyl.: tiny dot under first S below frame (1/1), line through right scroll (2/1), dot over O above frame (3/14), dot over arrow in left margin opp. row 10, broken inner frame below K (2/20).

Arrows: with diagonal hatching as Type 7, p. 48 Union Handbook.

GROUP "B"

Int. cyl. 6913, ext. 64. *Issues*: 24953 sheets 7/5/46 (Nov. '46) 32000 sheets 7/8/46 (Nov. '46), 141500 sheets 17/10/46 (Feb. '47). *Colours*: Deep violet and deep bluish-grey, deep purple and deep iron-grey. Peculiar flaws: *Int. Cyl.*: dots (1/5, 5/19, 5/11) as in group "A." *Ext. Cyl.*: dot in upper right outer frame (1/12), tiny dot above I over frame (3/11), dent in top frame over F (3/20), value surrounded by colour, tiny dots in centres of outer vertical frames between alternating pairs. *Arrows*: hatched diagonally as Group "A." *Officials*: the first o/p in heavy type belongs to this group.

GROUP "C"

According to recordings in the *S.A. Phil.* only one set of cylinders was used for the remainder of the 2d. printings, viz., *Int. Cyl.* 8, *Ext. Cyl.* 21, and *issues* are recorded as follows, viz.: 485000 sheets on 12/11/46 (Feb. '47), 417000 sheets 18/2/47 (April '47), 213984 sheets 15/9/47 (Nov. '47)—balance of the order for 1½ million sheets being cancelled. I find, however, at least three distinct groups contained in the aforementioned total of 679484 sheets, viz.:

GROUP "C"

Flaws and characteristics: *Int. Cyl.* tiny dot left top right tower (6/20), *Ext. Cyl.* tiny dot above centre top frame over A (2/14), dot over pinnacle of right tower (2/15), broken frame below AF (6/6), dot centre right

bottom rectangle (2/2). Dot below centre of left outer frame lines (6/8). Most stamps have inner frame below FR thinned. All stamps have tiny dots in centres of outer vertical frames. *Arrows*: have horizontal and vertical cross hatching. *Colours*: pale vivid violet and deep grey, dull purple and dark grey. The "ghost Arrow" opp. No. 1 stamp belongs to this group, as also the second "Official" o/pt, with the mixed type (see tabulation of same on p. 167 of Oct. '48 S.A. *Phil.*).

GROUP "D"

Colours: deep vivid purple and dark iron-grey, deep vivid violet and deep iron-grey. *Flaws, etc.*: *Int. Cyl.* dot (6/20) as in "C." *Ext. Cyl.* tiny dots centres outer vert. frames as "C," tiny dot in frame opp. left lower inside corner (1/13), dot (6/8) as in "C." General very worn appearance. *Arrows*: as "C." The "ghost arrow" opp. stamp No. 6, as well as the third "official" opt., in even thin type, belong to this group.

GROUP "E"

Colour: deep violet and greenish-grey. *Characteristics*: thinned frame-line below TH and D-A on all stamps of first three vertical rows. Tiny dots between vertical frames on all stamps as in "C" and "D." *Flaws, etc.*: small dots (1/13 and 6/8) as in "C" and "D." The variety "dot" (6/20) of "C" and "D" appears in this printing as a faint horizontal line, and another peculiarity is to be found in the right-hand arrow, which has its lower tip broken off, and perched in the margin just over the top of the arrow. Yet another flaw, absent in all other printings is the "parachutist" at right of left tower (6/18). Recorded in May and October, 1948, in the S.A. *Philatelist*, these stamps were printed on the auxiliary machine registering *five black* numerals (sheet numbers) whereas *all* other groups have *four red* numerals. A sheet of this printing was kindly loaned to me by Mr. W. N. Sheffield, for the purposes of this article.

GROUP "F"

Int. Cyl. 2, *ext.* 37. *Issued* mid-March, 1950. *Colour*: plum and deep slate-blue. *Flaws, etc.*: *Int. Cyl.* tiny dot (6/20) as in "C" and "D." Dots top right sky (1 and 2/14), searchlight beam at right (5/17), dots top centre sky (6/16), dots top sky (1/18, 19, 20). *Cyl.* No. 2 right bottom margin. *Ext. Cyl.*: tiny dot (1/13) as in "D," dot lower left frame outside (1/10), tiny dots all centres outside frames as in "C" and "D," smudge top left outside frame (1/11). *Cyl.* No. 37 right bottom margin. *Arrows*: solid, as type 9 of Union Handbook p. 48.

Peculiarly enough, however, there exists one flaw constant in all printings (or groups) from "A" to "F," notwithstanding the fact that group "A" is from a different die, as explained above. It is a white spot over the stop in the right top corner of No. 2 row 18. The size and shape of the spot varies slightly in different printings, but it is essentially the

same flaw, present on every sheet of every printing I have examined.

In spite of the many attacks made on this stamp during its lifetime, I submit that the Government Printer has produced worse, and in view of the particularly neat and attractive appearance of the latest "reduced" 2d. stamp, we live in the confident hope that finer and better stamps will emanate from Pretoria, which will do justice and credit to our country.

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LONDON INTERNATIONAL EXHIBITION

The official award list contains the following names of South African exhibitors: Mr. A. V. Jacob, a silver-gilt medal for Rhodesia; Mr. S. Legator, a bronze medal for Unions; Dr. Harvey Pirie, a bronze medal for Antarctic Posts; Mr. W. Redford, a bronze medal for Seychelles. Earlier private notices credited Messrs. Legator and Redford with silver medals, but this proved to be incorrect. It is very creditable, however, that four of the five South Africans exhibiting should have gained awards at all.

All information is to the effect that the exhibition was very wonderful, also that competition was exceedingly keen—in most exhibitions all awards would have moved up at least one class.

A correspondent praises the non-competitive exhibit arranged by the Postal History Society of the early posts of many countries; Mr. A. A. Jurgens, by invitation, showed pre-stamp covers in this of the Cape, and also of Natal, Orange Free State and Transvaal.

Our thanks are due to Messrs. H. R. Harmer, Whitfield King & Co., H. Burkin, for special covers, souvenir sheets and reproductions of Mulready envelopes. Also to a number of others who did not put any identification on their sendings.



FALKLAND ISLANDS

It has been officially announced that in future any number of stamps on a cover will be "postmarked" even if they overpay the exact rate due. This is a complete reversal of their previous policy. This applies also to the Dependencies.

DE LA RUE COLOUR PROOFS OF THE EDWARDIAN AND GEORGIAN STAMPS OF NATAL, O.R.C., AND THE UNION OF SOUTH AFRICA.

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

The postage stamps of Natal and the Orange River Colony which depicted the small "Fuchs" profile head in effigy of King Edward VI and the postage stamps of the Union of South Africa which depicted the large "McKenna" profile head in effigy of King George V were all letterpress-printed from an epargne electrotyped plates by Thos. De La Rue and Company, Limited, of Bunhill Row, London, England.

As far as the writer has been able to judge from the material reposing in his Union collection and from those loaned to him from time to time by fellow philatelists it would appear to him that it was the practice of Thos. De La Rue and Company, Limited, to print for submission to the contracting Government a limited number of colour proofs in respect of each of certain selected denominations from governmental approved stamp design or designs in small and/or large format. After their receipt of governmental approbation and selection in respect of certain colours from the range of monocoloured and bicoloured proofs submitted Messrs. De La Rue and Company proceeded with the work of printing the contracted quantity of postage stamps of various denominations in various colours or combinations of colours. It has been stated that apart from those submitted to the contracting Government at least one set of colour proofs were lodged in the archives of the printers.

The following colour proofs were letterpress-printed by Thos. De La Rue and Company, Limited:

(A) Natal Bicoloured Edwardian in large format printed on Crown C A paper and imperforate. 5s. denomination in violet and green. The Natal £1 10s. stamp (S.G. 143) was issued in green and violet.

(B) Natal Monocoloured Edwardians in small format printed on Crown C A paper and imperforate. 2d. denomination in Carmine (the colour of the issued 1d.). 2d. denomination in blue (the colour of the issued 2½d. S.G. 131).

(C) Orange River Colony Edwardians, Monocoloured and Bicoloured, in small format printed on Crown C A paper. The under-mentioned items fall under the category of colour proofs which emanated from what is

known as the "Unissued Die." These proofs show the words "POSTAGE & REVENUE" on coloured tablets at the bottom of the design. On the issued stamps the word "POSTAGE," betwixt two colourless embellishments is shown on a coloured tablet in similar position. 1d. Blue and Blue (in the colour of the issued 2½d.). 1d. Purple and Purple (in the colour of the issued 3d.). 1d. Purple and Green. 1d. Brown and Red.

The two coloured dots to the left and to the right of the crown which surmounts the portrait on the ½d., 1d., 2d., 2½d. and 3d. issued stamps printed from single plates are not similarly shown on the colour proofs of the "Unissued Die" category. A proof of the 1d. denomination is also known in full design but with the words "POSTAGE & REVENUE" hand-painted in, in white on a coloured tablet.

(D) Union Monocoloured Georgians in conventional format printed on "Springbok Head Single" paper and imperforate. The words "Postage and Postzegel" and "Revenue and Inkomst" are shown on the tablets below the portrait. 1d. denomination in grey. 1d. denomination in brown.

(E) Union Bicoloured and Monocoloured Georgians in conventional format printed on "Springbok Head Single" paper and imperforate. The words "Postage and Postzegel" only are shown on the tablets below the portrait. 2½d. black and orange (in the colour of the issued 2d.). 2½d. black and violet (in the colour of the issued 6d.). 2½d. blue and blue (in the colour of the issued 2½d.). 2½d. purple and blue (in the colour of the issued 5s.). 2½d. purple and green (in the colour of the issued 2s. 6d.).

All Colour Proofs were pulled (printed) directly from the Master Dies and not from the 240-set (4 x 60) electrotyped printing plates anent the Edwardian and Georgian postage stamps in conventional format respectively of Natal and the Orange River Colony, and the Union of South Africa nor from the 60-set electrotyped printing plates anent the Edwardian postage stamps in large format of Natal.

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SOCIETY NEWS

PHILATELIC SOCIETY OF NATAL

President, Mr. Winston F. Owens; *Hon. Sec./Treas.*, Mr. Selwyn Smith, P.O. Box 588, Durban; *Meetings*, 1st and 3rd Wednesdays at London Assurance House, 319 Smith Street (in the rooms of the Durban Camera Club, top Floor), 7.30 p.m.

March. The March meeting was well attended and full of interest. The competition, given by Mr. N. D. Williams, was won by Mr. J. Lyle, who followed up his success by giving us "From the Magazines." The exhibit of Egypt was well up to the high standard that we now expect from Mr. R. A. Gilzean. Mr. W. H. Winde expressed the thanks of those present to the exhibitor for his interesting display.

Two important decisions were made at the meeting: (1) To increase our rental to the Durban Camera Club to £1 per meeting. (2) To instal fluorescent lighting in the club-room.

The latter decision was made, of course, in the hope that by doing so the lighting will be improved and the room kept cooler. At the April meeting it is hoped to have the new lighting installed and to be able to experiment with electric fans.

The President, Mr. Winston Owens, who has been transferred to Johannesburg for a few months, received through Mr. Winde the good wishes of those present for a successful visit and the hope of a speedy return.



EAST RAND PHILATELIC SOCIETY

President, Mr. J. Shepherd; *Hon. Sec.*, Mr. A. Gross, P.O. Box 155, Brakpan; *Meetings*, Regent Hotel, Benoni, 3rd Tuesdays, 8 p.m.

16th May. There was not a good attendance owing to the fact that on the night before members of the Society had participated in a quiz held at Pretoria between the Pretoria, Johannesburg, West Rand and East Rand Philatelic Societies. The members of our team consisted of Messrs. Legator, Suklje, Shepherd and Gross, our adjudicator being Mrs. Wood and quiz master Mr. Slomowitz. A very enjoyable evening was spent and the quiz was won by the Pretoria team.

Mr. Shepherd exhibited his collection of Gibraltar at the Society's meeting. A feature of the exhibit was a copy of S.G. 107a, being the 1925/32 orange, yellow and black which was mentioned for the first time in this year's catalogue. Mr. Legator, on behalf of the Society, proposed a vote of thanks to Mr. Shepherd.

A.G.



PHILATELIC SOCIETY OF JOHANNESBURG

President, Commander C. E. D. Enoch; *Hon. Sec.*, B. Glassman, P.O. Box 4967, Johannesburg; *Meetings*, 2nd Tuesday and 4th Monday, at the Johannesburg Public Library, 7.45 p.m.

9th May. The Society was treated to a magnificent display of the stamps and postal history of Israel by Mr. S. Legator. Beginning with covers from various meetings in Czechoslovakia and elsewhere of Jewish organisations working for the formation of a national state, he next passed on to the Palestinian stamps. Then there was a fine collection of covers of the various local issues made after the departure of the British Mandatory authorities, it being explained that the full story of these was not yet, and perhaps never will be, known. War covers of this period were also well represented and finally there were the definitive issues, with their many varieties, some possibly not sold over the counter.

Mr. L. Buchen spoke on the exhibit, giving an interesting historical account of the difficulties which had been encountered in the setting up of a postal service and the issuing of stamps.

22nd May. An official visit by members of the Springs Philatelic Society. Mr. Meeuwis, their President, introduced the exhibitors:

Mr. v. d. Walt put out a collection belonging to Mr. Pollack, of famous people. There were stamps from nearly every country in the world and apart from the beauty and interest of the stamps themselves the collection was noteworthy for its beautiful writing-up; this was a real joy to behold.

Mr. Dannhauser showed a collection of Swiss Charity stamps, a full range of the "Pro Juventute" issues, all in fine used condition.

Mr. Meeuwis himself had a fine collection of K.G. VI stamps, an almost complete lot, including many of the obsolete values and shades. He had also numerous blocks of used Union stamps in the exhibit.



SPRINGS PHILATELIC SOCIETY

President, Mr. C. J. Meeuwis; *Hon. Sec.*, L. J. C. Sutcliffe, 4 High Street, Strubenvale, Springs. *Meetings*, 2nd Monday, 7.30 p.m., in the Board Room, New Era Press.

8th May. The monthly meeting was well attended. Mr. Meeuwis on behalf of the Society expressed his deep regret at the impending departure of Mr. Randall, one of the foundation members of the Society, who has been a regular attendant at all meetings. The latest stamp news was given to us by Mr. Meeuwis, and an interesting discussion ensued.

After refreshments had been served, Mr. L. J. Mooymann exhibited his excellent collection of stamps of Holland and its Colonies. He explained that he had a better collection whilst in Europe but he had to sell it during the war, and that his present one is only a few years old. If he fills in the few vacant spaces, he certainly will have a worthwhile collection.

The chairman advised the meeting that Mr. S. Legator has kindly consented to exhibit his collection of Israel stamps at our next meeting.



PORT ELIZABETH PHILATELIC SOCIETY

President, Mr. G. Büllbring; *Hon. Secretary*, Mr. G. P. Smith, 13 Trafalgar Square, P.E.; *Meetings*, 1st and 3rd Tuesdays, in room 3, City Hall Basement, at 7.45 p.m.

The annual general meeting was held on Tuesday, the 16th May, 1950. There was a large attendance. Mr. G. K. Forbes, who has been President for 16 years, refused to take office this year. Mr. Kirschner said that the Society and members should respect his wishes and elect someone else to take the chair. Mr. Forbes was then made a Hon. Life Member, and accepted the office of Vice-President, in co-operation with Mr. Kirschner. For the 16th year Mr. MacMillan has been auditor.

Mr. G. Büllbring was duly elected President, and accepted the office. Mr. G. P. Smith and Mr. Watson were elected Joint Exchange Superintendents and Mr. Kirschner as Auctioneer. The Hon. Secretary then informed the members that only half-yearly fees were payable up to 31st December as the Society's year would in future commence on 1st January instead of 1st June.

The Yearly Syllabus was drawn up, and several ideas were put forward for the benefit of the Society to make the meeting more social. These proposals were left for the committee to go into and to report back at the next meeting.

A hearty vote of thanks was given to Mr. Forbes for the valuable services he has rendered to the society, and the meeting closed at 10 o'clock.

L.E.C.



JEWISH GUILD PHILATELIC SECTION

Chairman, J. M. Rich; *Hon. Secretary*, A. J. Nathanson; *Meetings* at Jewish Guild, last Thursdays, 8 p.m.

At the meeting held on 27th April the exhibit was provided by Dr. von Arendorff who showed "stamps rare on cover." This was a fine and very varied collection of covers, including covers with classics—German States and other rarities. There were also many commemoratives sets on cover, some Zeppelin flights, covers of German colonies and many others. Mr. I. Isaacs spoke on the exhibit.

ORANGE FREE STATE AND BASUTOLAND PHILATELIC SOCIETY

President, Mr. C. A. Larsen; *Hon. Secretary*, Mr. R. A. Brown, Box 702, Bloemfontein; *Meetings*, monthly, Free State Technical College (new meeting place; regular date of meetings still to be arranged).

March. Mr. C. A. Larsen in the chair. After the usual business, topical news and tit-bits from the philatelic press were given by Mr. J. Lewis. New Issues were reported and tabled by Mr. A. G. Denne. An auction sale, conducted by Mr. A. H. Scott, had the usual brisk bidding. The main feature of the evening was a highly interesting and well composed talk on "The technical cause of the various errors in printing," given by Mr. Mackenzie, of "The Friend" newspapers.

April. Dr. K. Freund in the chair. Reports were given about the preliminary work of the Provisional Congress Committee in connection with the 1951 Philatelic Congress and National Exhibition to be held in Bloemfontein. As funds were naturally badly needed for this great event, the chairman called for generous contributions of stamp material. The response was spontaneous, and various stamp lots were handed to the auctioneer, Mr. Scott, who succeeded in getting good realisations. Particular mention must be made of Mr. E. H. Medlin, who magnanimously not only contributed stamps, but bought them back himself, the money going of course to the Exhibition Fund. The display of the evening was given by Mr. J. Lewis, who tabled the first part (A to M) of his fine George VI collection which is practically complete and in immaculate condition.

May. Mr. Larsen in the chair. Another auction sale, partly in aid of the Exhibition Fund, took place. Mr. A. G. Denne tabled an array of the various "New Issues" (95 stamps) which had made their appearance during the last two months. Mr. M. M. Pienaar, who has been transferred to Cape Town to the society's regret, gave as an "au revoir" gesture a display and also a talk. The display consisted of an interesting straightforward collection of Union stamps, arranged and written up in Afrikaans and with particular emphasis on the Afrikaans history. His paper, which he had written after delving into the Free State Archives, was entitled: "The Orange-Free of the Union, 6d. stamp and its Orange Free State prototype." Mr. Larsen concluded the evening by showing his "Scrapbook," a collection of various stamp items which had come his way and which were arranged in a delightful style. K.F.



EAST LONDON PHILATELIC SOCIETY

President, Andrew Watson; *Hon. Sec.*, C. M. Clark, P.O. Box 450, East London; *Meetings*, 2nd Fridays, Colosseum Theatre Tea Room (upstairs), at 7.45 p.m.

In the absence of Mr. A. Watson, the Vice-President, took the chair at a special general meeting this month, at which the clauses of the new Constitution were discussed and either adopted or amended. Although there were only 20 members present, on account of welcome heavy rain, discussion on the various points of the Constitution was brisk.

Final adoption of the Constitution will be decided after receipt of certain information from the S.A. Philatelic Federation. Then followed the usual monthly meeting.

The Acting President referred briefly to the very pleasant Annual Dinner of the Society, held on 29th April at the Beach Hotel. This was attended by over 30 members and visitors, including three representatives from the Junior Society. Reference was made to the continued progress of the Society since its inception, and particularly of the new Junior Society.

Various members referred to the quantities of U.P.U. and Voortrekker issues of last year, which were available in many post offices for use on parcels and telegrams.

It was agreed that the Secretary write to the S.A. Philatelic Federation, with the request that the Government be advised of the shortsightedness of such a policy, which would have an adverse effect on the purchases of Union stamps, both at home and overseas and further, that a month was too short a period for the issue of commemorative stamps. The view was expressed that the minimum period of issue should be three months.

After the tea interval, Mr. Clark set out the stamps of Holland, sent in by Mr. S. E. Grace.

These charity and commemorative stamps are very attractive in colour, and the delightful originality of design in some sets is a source of real pleasure.

Many interested members crowded round the Quartz Lamp, kindly brought by Mr. E. D. Forshaw, and some were sadly disillusioned when their stamps of doubtful value were revealed as cinderellas (or maybe ugly sisters), but this did not detract from the pleasure of studying stamps and other articles under the Quartz Lamp.

U.C.S.



MASHONALAND PHILATELIC SOCIETY

We have not had many reports from Salisbury of recent months—a pity, because the Society appears to be flourishing, judging by a report for the past year sent us by the chairman, Mr. D. E. C. Dale. Following are some notes taken from his report:

The active membership is now 90 in good standing; the average attendance at the monthly meetings is a little over 20, quite good seeing that a high proportion of the members do not live in Salisbury.

The Government has agreed to consult the Society regarding new issues of stamps and it has been advised that there will be no commemoratives in connection with the 1950 celebrations, but a special issue will come out in 1953 during the Rhodes Centenary.

The financial position of the Society is good and the Exchange Section has improved enormously.

Notable displays during the year were those of Dr. Kaplan, Germiston, of S. Rhodesia; Mr. Frankland, Johannesburg, of Morocco Agencies; Mr. and Mrs. Mercier, of commemoratives and mint modern issues; and Madame Birsan Fuchs, of foreign issues of beauty.

Mr. I. W. Noar, who has been Secretary for some years, is no longer able to carry on the duties of that post.

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Reviews

Catalogue Thiaude 1950. Published at 120 francs by H. Thiaude, 24, rue du Quatre, Septembre, Paris.

The 34th edition of Thiaude's Catalogue of the Stamps of France and Colonies was published, as usual, in March.

The publishers of this catalogue have given effect to the changing market prices during the past 12 months and this is evidenced by the fact that out of 1,488 stamps listed under France no less than 776 have been the subject of price changes both up and down.

Two noteworthy items of interest which call for special comment are the Liberation Issues of 1944 which are listed in full and priced either singly or in complete sets. This list must be considered the most authoritative to date.

The second item is the inclusion of all "Epreuves de Luxe" issued since 1923. The great majority of these have been priced and collectors of these items will find these prices of great assistance as the majority are well below the exaggerated ideas which have prevailed in the Union in recent years. Similarly all "Epreuves de Luxe" issued by the Colonies are listed individually and the same care has been taken in compiling these lists as for those of France.

One criticism must, however, be raised under France. All stamps have been grouped together under types, e.g., Armorial bearings, Views and Monuments, Famous Men, etc. These lists are set out in order of face-value without much attention to the various dates of issue. The publishers would be well advised, in future editions, to assist collectors by adding after each stamp listed the date of issue in brackets.

Undoubtedly this catalogue, whilst not super-specialised, is a "must" for all collectors of France and Colonies.

C.E.D.E.

Stamps of the Bahamas, by Harold G. D. Gishburn. Published by Stanley Gibbons, Ltd., at 12s. 6d. nett (post. abroad 8d. extra).

A well-produced and very readable book of 144 pages on the stamps and postal history of this popular country among collectors.

Early postal pre-stamp markings are first described, going back at least as far back as 1804, then the use of British stamps in 1858-60, and then come the beautiful "Chalon" stamps of Perkins, Bacon and De La Rue. Adequate descriptions, check-lists and details about the other Victorian, Edwardian and Georgian issues follow, up as far as the Silver Wedding issue of 1948.

There are also chapters on Postal Stationery, Cancellations, Air Mails, Sea Posts (not forgetting the Under-Sea Post) and Appendices giving a list of present-day post offices

and changes in Postal Rates from 1869 to 1948.

Stamps of King Edward VIIth Reign. A priced catalogue by Harry Burgess and Co., Pembury, Kent, England. Price, post free, 1s. 8d.

This is something which has not been done before—a complete listing of British Commonwealth stamps issued during the reign of K.E. VII. There are 2,291 of them in all, listed serially, but also with S.G. numbers.

They are grouped in four sections: (a) Victorian issues appearing during the early part of the reign; (b) stamps bearing the King's head; (c) pictorial and other designs issued during the reign; (d) officials, dues, etc., of the reign.

In many cases the numbers printed are supplied and these figures have sometimes advanced the prices considerably.

An unusual item in a catalogue are a number of "Quiz" questions.

The publishers have also prepared special stamp albums, either for the complete series of stamps or for the King's head group only.

Stanley Gibbons Catalogue, Part I, British Empire Complete, 1950 Edition. Price 13s. 6d., plus postage 10d. Stanley Gibbons, Ltd., 391 Strand, London W.C. 2.

Many collectors will be glad to see a complete "Red Bible" again, instead of having to get a separate volume for the K.G. VI issues, although the publishers still intend to issue a separate catalogue of these for the many who only collect such issues.

Political changes have been recognised by the omission of the stamps of Burma, Egypt, Eire, Iraq, etc., issued after their departure from the British Commonwealth. Such issues will now be included in their Foreign Catalogue. Despite this the volume runs to 644 pages and as the paper shortage is not now so acute, the illustrations are all full-size and those which had been omitted are now restored.

Prices have been revised generally; changes are mainly upward though there are falls in the case of some stamps and issues which were the subject of war-time speculation. There is also a wholesale reduction in the selling price of mint current stamps. The latter is not included under each item but a table is given at the beginning of the volume showing how to estimate the reductions.

★

UNION—S.G. 30b AND 31a

Much ado about these in "Stamp Collecting" with reference to the price for them being quoted at £10 by South African dealer J. Mendelssohn, as against S.G. at 4s. 6d. Mr. Mendelssohn is quoted as saying he will buy any and all offered him (mint) at a reasonable discount from his selling price. This, they say, "is fair enough, if you can find them. I can't."

It is interesting to note that in the S.G. catalogue just received the prices of pairs of these stamps have been advanced to 75s. mint and 90s. used.

Stamps with a Story

By

W. LOXLEY-CHAMINGS

(Continued from page 61 of April Issue)

BLURBS OF THE REMAINING 88 STAMPS

Andorra-la-Vella, La Vall, S.G. 19 II. The Council House of the fantastic little State. A tower at one corner, a turret at another. Over the door a plaque with the Andorran arms (F49). The ground floor is a stable for the mules of Councillors. A stone stairway leads to the next floor, divided into Schoolroom, Banqueting Hall and Council Chamber. Here the archives are stored in a massive oak cabinet, which has six locks, one for each parish. This precludes any meeting till all the representatives have arrived with their keys. Off this room there is the tiny Chapel of St. Armengol. On the top floor are the sleeping quarters of the Councillors.

The Christ of the Andes, Argentina, S.G. 640. One of the world's most impressive statues, 60 feet high, on the frontier between Argentina and Chile at Uspallata Pass, close to the Transandine railway tunnel. It commemorates the pact made between the two countries after they had accepted King Edward VII's arbitration on their frontier dispute. The figure faces north along the frontier so as not to seem to turn away from either country. "A poignant serenity radiates from the face of the statue." On a bronze tablet is written: "Sooner shall these mountains crumble into dust than shall Argentinians and Chileans break the peace to which they have sworn before the feet of Christ the Redeemer."

Sydney Harbour Bridge, Australia, S.G. 143. Built in 1932 and cost £10,057,170. In the next three years it carried about 13½ million vehicles, conveying 100 million people, besides countless pedestrians. In that time 54 people lost their lives, 52 by suicide and two by accident. A baby was born in a taxi crossing the bridge. The largest ship to pass beneath was the 22,284 ton liner Strathaird on her regular run between England and Australia.

Engelbert Dollfuss, Austria, S.G. 374. The "Pocket Chancellor" (he was little in stature) who made heroic efforts to build up a new Austria after the disintegrating influences of the 1914-18 war. He was severely hampered by the terrorism and lying propaganda of National Socialism both inside and outside his country. Civil war broke out on February 12, 1934, but was broken by the troops. Later, Nazi rebels, disguised as Heimwehr, attacked the Chancellery in Vienna and on July 25 murdered the Chancellor in his own room.

Attersee, Austria, S.G. A46. A delicate photogravure of a yacht race on the largest lake in Austria, 18 square miles in area, in

the Salzkammergut. Often compared with Lake Garda for its vivid colours and mild climate. One of the loveliest parts is the small promontory on which Kammer Castle stands.

Hans Makart, Austria, S.G. C81. A good example of the fine work of R. Junk, artist, and F. Lorber, engraver, of Vienna. Makart was born at Salzburg, entered the Vienna Academy at 18, but was so unpromising a pupil that he was sent home as hopeless. An uncle came to his aid and helped him to study at Munich, and ten years later two triptychs by him, "Modern Amorina" and "Plague in Florence or the Seven Deadly Sins," created a sensation, and he returned in triumph to Vienna at the personal invitation of the Emperor Franz Josef, to occupy a splendid studio constructed for him at the nation's expense. Professor of the School of Historical Painting at the Academy and the centre of the artistic and literary life of Vienna till his sudden death at 44. A lover of brilliant colouring, he yet "used such villainous pigments and mediums that the majesty of his large paintings has already practically perished." (E.B.)

John III Sobieski, Austria, S.G. C93. Son of Jakob Sobieski, Castellan of Cracow. A gifted soldier, he was given supreme command in 1667 and defeated the Turks at Khoczim in 1673. After the death of King Michael he was chosen king as John III in 1674. Went to the help of Leopold I of Austria when the Turks laid siege to Vienna in 1683 and with Charles of Lorraine (C94) won a crushing victory and set Vienna free. Built a house, now open to the public, at Wilanow, near Warsaw, as a refuge from the cares of state, which increasingly weighed on him till his death. His granddaughter, Princess Clementine, married James Francis Stuart and became the mother of Bonnie Prince Charlie.

Orval Abbey, Cloisters and Belfry, Belgium, S.G. C255. A party of Benedictine monks, driven from Calabria, came in 1070 to a desolate valley in the Ardennes, just north of the Sedan-Montmedy Road, and through their labours transformed it into a "Golden Valley"—Orval—with an abbey which has since been more than once ruined and rebuilt. For offering shelter to the fugitive Louis VI, though he never reached it, the Revolutionary Government completely devastated it, but from 1926 onward it has been steadily rebuilt, one source of income being the periodic sets of stamps bearing a surtax, portraying the inception and progress of the undertaking, of which this stamp well illustrates the size.

Joseph de Veuster, Father Damien, Belgium, S.G. C404. Born at Tremeloo, near Louvain. Took the place of his brother (prevented by illness) as missionary to the Pacific Islands. The Hawaiian Government at that time deported lepers to Molokai Island (C405) and in 1873 he volunteered to take spiritual charge of the settlement. He also improved their water supply, dwellings and provisions, but eventually succumbed to leprosy. Some ill-considered imputations on his character from a Presbyterian minister drew from

Robert Louis Stevenson (see Samoa 198) "An Open Letter to the Rev. Doctor Hyde," 1890.

Molokai Leper Settlement, Belgium, S.G. C405. The island settlement to which the Hawaiian Government sent cases of leprosy. Of this settlement Father Damien voluntarily became religious adviser in 1873, and helped to transform a place of hopeless gloom into a cheerful and progressive community, not only by affording spiritual consolation, but by getting the lepers to work for better housing and amenities. He himself fell a victim to leprosy, but since then the disease has lost much of its terror through remedial treatment and the settlement is quite a happy place.

Hamilton, Point House, Bermuda, S.G. 103. Shows the guest-room, formerly the buttery, of an 18th century house in Warwick Parish near Hamilton, at the time the residence of Mr. Charles Stokes, of Philadelphia, as seen through the Chinese Moon-Gate, with sliding doors, leading into the garden. The owner has been careful to preserve the Bermudian character of the house and gardens, the only alien element being the gate, which yet forms a charming and veracious border for the glimpse we have of the house. The stamp even preserves the actual variety of lily (*Lilium Longiflorum Harisii*) that grows by the gate!

Reinhard Heydrich, Bohemia, S.G. 111. This macabre reproduction of the death-mask of "the Butcher of Bohemia" surely marks the nadir of the degradation of Germany, and one almost suspects mingled motives behind its production. By his Nazi brutality Heydrich became the most hated man in Bohemia, and the Czech patriots plotted to destroy him. Four parachutists, led by Josef Cabchik, seen on S.G. 401 and 409 of Czechoslovakia, were dropped secretly near Prague, succeeded in killing Heydrich on June 4, 1942, and within a few days were all killed or committed suicide to prevent their capture and torture by the Gestapo.

Kaieteur Falls, British Guiana, S.G. 287. On the Potaro River, a tributary of the Essequibo. One of the world's greatest falls, with a sheer drop of 741 feet, i.e., five times the height of Niagara and twice that of St. Paul's Cathedral. There is a project to use them as a source of power for the smelting of bauxite, which is found in the immediate vicinity.

Walter Raleigh, British Guiana, S.G. 299. The most colourful figure of Elizabeth's brilliant court. Born at Hayes in Devon. Scholar, poet, courtier, soldier, adventurer, statesman, alternately in great favour and in disgrace, as when he seduced and married Elizabeth Throckmorton, a maid of honour. In 1584 given a patent for discovery and settlement in the west, and the colonisation of Virginia followed. Imprisoned in the Tower by James I for 12 years on a charge of conspiracy and set free to lead a gold-finding expedition to British Guiana. This proving less than a success, he was again imprisoned and eventually beheaded.

Bergamo, Santa Maria Maggiore, Collectors' Cat. 17. Campione is a small Italian enclave

or commune (the town has less than 1,000 people) on the east shore of Lake Lugano. It is roughly opposite Lugano itself and is entirely surrounded to landward by Swiss territory, though the Italian frontier is very near. When Mussolini formed the Italian Social Republic in 1944 Campione remained independent and was allowed by the Italian Legation in Switzerland to issue stamps for use within the enclave and for postage to Switzerland. Letters for places beyond had to bear Swiss stamps. The first set proved so popular that in spite of two printings (the first decidedly scarce) a pictorial set was issued in September, of excellent design and execution. This Cathedral Church of Bergamo appears because it was designed by two natives of Campione, Giovanni and Ugo di Campione.

Albert, Canada, S.G. 35. Born at Rosenau, the second son of the hereditary Duke of Saxe-Coburg-Gotha. His parents separated in 1824 and he never again saw his mother, who died in 1831. Skilled in modern sciences, political economy, philosophy, music and painting. Queen Victoria announced her impending marriage to him in November, 1839, and it was celebrated on February 10, 1840. It was one of mutual affection but lasted only 21 years till his death from typhoid. Diplomatic and urbane without being a nonentity. His counsel was increasingly sought and valued, and more than once his tactful wisdom saved England from war. He had a genius for land-management, and under his care the rent-roll of the Duchy of Cornwall rose from £11,000 to £50,000.

Jacques Cartier, Canada, S.G. 42. A native of St. Malo. Even his early youth was spent on the sea. Francis I gave him command of two ships to explore Newfoundland and beyond. He touched at Cape Bonavista and sailing through the Straits of Belle Isle discovered the mainland of Canada, where he set up a wooden cross inscribed "Vive le roy de France." A second expedition took him up the St. Lawrence, where he founded Mont Royal (Montreal) and in a third he established a colony near the present Quebec. Spent the last years of his life in his native country, becoming Seigneur de Limoilon.

Quebec Bridge, Canada, S.G. 282. Two fatal miscalculations attended the building of this magnificent bridge, one of the largest cantilevers in the world, begun in 1899. The southern pier was finished in 1902, and by 1907 a 500-foot anchor-arm, stretching shorewards, was completed, the cantilever arm by then stretching 200 feet over the river. At the close of the day's work on August 29 the whole structure collapsed and 75 workmen were killed. Work began again in 1909, but in 1916 when nearly complete a second collapse took place with the loss of nine lives. "Third time lucky," and the work was finished in May, 1917.

Grand Pré, Acadian Memorial, Canada, S.G. 296. Longfellow's poem in hexameters, "Evangeline," telling a touching story of the evictions of Nova Scotians in the early 18th

century, is here recalled, for in the foreground is Evangeline's statue and in the background a building erected in 1922 as a replica of St. Charles' Church where Evangeline worshipped. It is now a museum containing a fine and growing collection of Indian and Acadian (Nova Scotians) relics. Hard by are Evangeline's Well, the camp site of Colonel Winslow's New Englanders and the Acadian Cemetery. The neighbourhood is now a national park.

Panama Canal, Canal Zone, S.G. 84. A view of the Culebra or Gaillard Cut, an impressive feature of a colossal engineering feat, carried out in face of enormous difficulties. The original plans owed much to the genius of Ferdinand de Lesseps (q.v.) and work was started in 1880, but the company went bankrupt and work was not resumed till 1895. Malaria proved another deadly enemy. In 1904 the United States Government took charge, and the canal was opened on August 15, 1914, a 12,000-mile sea-journey between the east and west coasts of North America being thus saved. Misfortunes were not over, however, for the following year serious landslides blocked the canal for three years. Today it carries as much traffic as Suez. It is about 50 miles long, with 12 locks, and at one point the level of water is 100 feet above the sea.

Jasina, Ruthenian Church, Carpatho-Ukraine. A memorial of a frustrated hope. The Carpatho-Ukrainian Diet was to have been opened at Rachov on March 2, 1939, and this stamp was prepared to be issued that day. It is of the same design as the 60 heller value of the Czechoslovak 1928 Independence issue (S.G. 281) and shows the little village of Jasina, then in Czechoslovak territory, with its wooden Ruthenian Church. But before the day came Hungary had annexed the territory, and the stamp was never issued for postage, though put on sale at the Philatelic Agency in Prague on March 12.

St. Ouen's Bay and Rocco Tower, Channel Islands, S.G. J8. Recalls a period in the history of the Channel Islands that will never be forgotten—the German occupation of 1941-5. When the stocks of British stamps in the post offices were running out it was feared that the Germans would impose their own stamps, perhaps even with Hitler's face, but they agreed to stamps being issued locally. These were first of an arms type in both Guernsey and Jersey, but later Jersey issued a set of six pictorials, designed by Edmund Blampied, engraved by H. Cortot and printed at the French Government Works in Paris. This, the highest value, shows a cart filled with vraic (seaweed for manure) being driven along the wet sands of St. Ouen's Bay, with the Rocco Tower, one of a series of Martello Forts, in the background. Mr. Blampied's two ornaments at the foot approach as near as he dared to G.R. and escaped the notice of the Germans.

Cocos Island, Costa Rica, S.G. 229. Cocos Island, as the stamp shows, lies 5 degrees 30' north by 87 degrees west, some 550 miles S.W. of Panama. It has long been associated with

treasure, especially that hid by Benito Bonito in 1820 and that raided from Lima about the same time in the Peruvian War of Independence. The map shows two bays, Wafer to the west and Chatham to the east, on the north of the island. Bonito's hoard is said to be buried in Wafer Bay and the Peruvian treasure in Chatham. Numerous attempts have been made to find them, some with the approval of the Costa Rican Government and some without, but so far without success.

Arkadi Monastery, Crete, S.G. 109. This monastery, once the richest in Crete, on the slopes of Mount Ida, seen in the background, became famous in the insurrection of 1866. It was considered a safe stronghold, and hundreds of women, children and old men took refuge there. The Greek commander, however, failed to give it adequate protection and it was surrounded by a force of 6,000 Turks, who penetrated to the courtyard. At this point the Abbot, Gabriel Manessis (see Greece, S.G. 451) proposed to the refugees a heroic measure. They agreed, and after giving them his blessing he set fire to the powder-magazine, the explosion of which buried 200 Turks as well as all the defenders grouped round the Abbot.

London, Statute of Richard I, Cyprus, S.G. 130. Richard "Coeur-de-Lion" was born at Oxford on September 8, 1157 and came to the throne in 1189. A romantic figure but an unprofitable king. Heavily taxed his people for money for the Third Crusade, which at first succeeded but later failed. Visited Cyprus on his way to Palestine, and after defeating the Emperor Isaac Comnenus seized the island for England, later selling it to raise funds for the crusade. He married Berengaria in a chapel at Limassol. While returning to England after signing a truce with Saladin he was shipwrecked and wandered over Europe in disguise. The German Emperor imprisoned him and demanded a huge ransom. He was mortally wounded at the Siege of Chalus, Normandy, and died on April 6, 1199.

Famagusta, St. Nicholas, Cyprus, S.G. 131. Famagusta is near the ruins of Salamis on the east coast of Cyprus and rose to importance in the Lusignan dynasty, of which this, the ancient Cathedral Church, built in 1300, is a relic. Famagusta continued under the Venetians to be the island's chief port as well as its strongest fortress, but in 1571, in spite of heroic resistance, it fell to the Turks, and this ancient church, like St. Sophia in Istanbul, became and has remained a mosque, and the city is but a shadow of its former self.

Thomas Garrigue Masaryk, Czechoslovakia, S.G. 499. A characteristic study, issued to commemorate the tenth anniversary of the death of the great Czech patriot. Son of a coachman of Hodonin, Moravia (S.G. 479), he did brilliantly at school, but having no money for higher education became in turn locksmith's apprentice and blacksmith's assistant. Gaining admission to the Brunn Gymnasium, he earned money for studies and keep by giving lessons, being a fine athlete as well as student. Moving to Vienna, he became lecturer in philosophy first in Vienna University

and then during the 1914-18 war in London, at which time the death sentence was passed on him by Austria for his writings. At the end of the war he returned to Prague and was elected the first President of Czechoslovakia, a position which he held with growing distinction till his death at 87.

Dominica, Boiling Lake, Dominica, S.G. 108a. Dominica, one of the loveliest of the West Indian Islands, is about 29 miles by 16, with an area of some 290 square miles. Its axis is a chain of volcanic mountains rising to 5,000 feet and over, and in the centre, at 2,000 feet, is the Boiling Lake, of unknown depth, its temperature only a few degrees below boiling point, and the volcanic gases are so strong that at times they raise the surface of the lake by several feet. It was discovered when the wind blew the sulphurous fumes to Roseau, the capital, and a certain Dr. Nicholls set out to find their source.

(To be continued)

★ ★ ★

ISRAEL

Thanks to the Philatelic Services for a special first day cover with the two stamps (20 pr. and 40 pr.) issued on the 2nd anniversary of Independence Day, 6th of Lyar 5710 (otherwise 23rd April, 1950).

Also for one of 9th May with a 100-pruta stamp dedicated to the 25th anniversary of the Hebrew University of Jerusalem.

★

KENYA

Mr. W. Tunstall writes that there has been found a retouch on the 1s., similar to that previously reported on the 10c; also that the 3s. has been found with the damage (a number of dark patches on the mountain) which was responsible for the retouching of that stamp.

With regard to the new perfs. (13½ x 12½) found recently in the Colony on the 50c and 1s., although not among the stamps sold by the Crown Agents in London, he states that they are not generally obtainable at any or every post office.

A further bit of news he sends is that the local philatelic society has been restarted under the name of "The Nairobi Stamp Club." We hope to hear more of its doings.

★

THE BEST U.P.U. STAMP

"The Stamp Magazine" reports that Swedish philatelists recently had a ballot to designate the country which issued the best U.P.U. stamps. The majority of votes went to Switzerland; runners-up were the French Colonies, Bahawalpur and South Africa.

★

STAR ITEMS

African stamps tipped by writers in British philatelic papers as the best thing of the week, month or quarter, as the case might be, include the set of three Voortrekkers optd. S.W.A. mint, and Nigeria 5s. perf. 12 (S.G. 59c) mint.

GERMANY

The May "Stamp Magazine" has an article by Mr. J. Douglas on the 1945-46 Eastern Zone issues which clarifies considerably the confusion about them. Many towns had to issue their own local stamps as no general issue was at first available or permitted.

★

ANILINE COLOUR

According to the "West-End Philatelist" this term describes a colour produced by an ink of which coal-tar is an ingredient. It is not always easily identified. The Expert Committee of the "Royal" has recently announced with reference to the G.B. penny aniline scarlet of K.G. V that "... only stamps which show an unusual translucence, unusual brilliance of tone on the surface and extreme reaction to the quartz ray lamp ..." are going to be considered of an aniline dye printing.

Presumably this dictum may apply also to other "anilines."

★

NEW ZEALAND

Messrs. Whitfield King report that the Canterbury Centennial stamps will be issued on 20th November, the opening day of the Canterbury Centennial International Philatelic Exhibition, which will have a special postmark for the occasion.

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THE EDITOR'S CORNER

Philatelic Federation

A meeting of the Executive Committee was held towards the end of June. Minutes may have reached Member Societies by the time this is in print, but reference may be made here to one or two matters considered.

Expert Committee.—Following instructions given at last Congress, an Expert Committee has been constituted and plans and regulations drawn up for its working. It hopes to be able to start functioning very soon; it will deal only with stamps of the countries of Africa south of the equator.

Union Catalogue.—A small sub-committee was set up to submit plans for the compilation of a new Catalogue and Handbook of the Stamps of the Union, these plans to be submitted to Congress in October. Stocks of the present catalogue are almost everywhere exhausted and there is a big demand for a new one.

Charity Stamps.—There is apparently strong pressure being put on the Government by welfare organisations for an issue, or a series of issues, of semi-postals, the surtaxes to be devoted to various charitable institutions. In the past the Government has not been in favour of this method of financing charities, but apparently now the state of Mother Hubbard's cupboard is such that they are inclined to give the proposal favourable consideration. However, a philatelic opinion on the matter was asked for.

The Committee unanimously expressed their strong disapproval of any such project. In so doing, they were voicing their own opinions, the opinion of a Congress meeting of two or three years back, when a proposal for anti-tuberculosis semi-postals was put forward, and, they hoped, the views of most stamp collectors in the country. The feeling was that postage stamps should be issued for postal purposes, not for revenue raising with the consequent exploitation of one section of the community, the stamp collectors.

ROLL OF HONOUR

DISTINGUISHED PHILATELISTS

SIR HOWARD GORGES, K.C.M.G.

The name of Sir Howard Gorges is probably but little known to most present-day philatelists, unless they are of the elect who delve deeply into the study of "Capes."

The following particulars of his career have been extracted from "Who Was Who."

Born in King William's Town in 1872 and educated at the South African College, Cape Town, he was in the Cape Civil Service from 1889-1901, and in that of the Transvaal from 1901-1910. On the formation of Union he was appointed Secretary of the Interior; was Chief Press and Postal Censor for the Union, 1914-15. He was then seconded on General Botha's personal staff to organise the Public Service of South West Africa, of which he became firstly Chief Secretary and then Administrator from 1915 to 1920. His knighthood was awarded him in 1919; he died in November, 1924.

His name was included in the Roll of Honour at its institution in 1932, because of his original research work on Cape stamps. He had a large collection of these, but that of itself was not sufficient to merit his ranking as a distinguished philatelist. He was a collector, however, who lived up to the slogan "Study Your Country's Stamps." His most outstanding work was on the Woodblocks and he was largely responsible about 1910-11 for sorting out and publishing the ascertainable facts about the shades of printing of these stamps and of the positions of the colour errors.



TRISTAN DA CUNHA

More detailed rumours of stamps for the island! A note in "Stamp Collecting" reports that a lady on the island has written to her brother that there is definitely to be a set of stamps; the designs have been chosen, although no date of release is given. The denominations will *not* be in potatoes, but ½d., 1d., 1½d., 2½d., 3d., 6d., 1s., 2s. and 2s. 6d.

Union Notes

Sub-Editor: Mr. W. N. Sheffield,
Box 99, Cleveland, Transvaal.

Summary of the Union Postage Due Stamps

Following the note in our June number recording the printing of 1d. and 3d. postage due stamps from a new Exterior Cylinder 33 (used for both values), Mr. A. H. Sydow, writing from Cape Town, records that with the exception of a change in the setting of the name "SUIDAFRIKA" to a hyphenated form "SUID-AFRIKA," the frame designs of the new stamps are the same as in the previous issues.

Pointing out that the change necessitated a new Master Negative and a new 240-set Diapositive for the frame cylinder No. 33, he is of the opinion that the original Master Design with "SOUTH AFRICA" at the top, "SUIDAFRIKA" at the bottom and the words "POSTAGE DUE" and "TE BETAAL" at the left and right respectively, was used for this latest issue but with a new drawn tablet of

"SUID-AFRIKA" (hyphenated) superimposed on the old unhyphenated pattern. A new Master Negative was then produced from the modified design and subsequently used in the "Step and Repeat" camera for the making of a new frame diapositive showing "SUID-AFRIKA" in its changed form.

The old Interior Cylinders—No. 39 for the 1d. and No. 6921 for the 3d.—have been used again and in consequence the few small printing flaws present on the value portion of some stamps of the previous issues, will also be found on the same stamps in the new printing. Probably the most interesting in this regard is the vertical white line running through the "D" of the value on a 3d. stamp, Row 7/No. 5—top left hand pane—which could quite aptly be termed the "Split D" variety. Incidentally, it should be noted that the cylinder numbers given for these postage due stamps do not appear on the sheets.

Mr. Sydow has compiled the accompanying table and notes setting out the different printings of the Postage Due Stamps authorised for use in the Union from the time of the Transvaal set in 1910 (listed A1) to the current 1d. and 3d. screened rotogravure stamps designated in the Table as "D9."

The significances of the letters and numerals in the foregoing diagram are as follows:

THE POSTAGE DUE LABELS OF THE UNION OF SOUTH AFRICA.

1.	2.	3.	½d.	1d.	1½d.	2d.	3d.	5d.	6d.	1/.
- -	F N	F N	F N	F N	F N	F N	F N	F N	F N	F N
A 1	. .	T T	E S	E S	. .	E S	E S	E S	E S	E S
B 2	. .	T T	E S	E S	. .	E S	E S	E S	E S	E S
B 3	. .	P P	L L	L L	L L	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .
B 4	. .	P P	L L	L L	L L	L L	L L	. .	L L	. .
C 5	. .	T T	E S	E S	. .	. .	E S	. .	E S	. .
C 5	. C	T T	. .	. .	. .	E Z	. .	. .	. .	. .
C 6	C C	I T	Ru Z	. .	. .	Ru Z	. .	. .	. .	. .
C 6	C C	I I	. .	Ru Ru	. .	Ru Rs	Ru Ru	. .	Ru Ru	. .
C 7	C	I	Rs	Rs	. .	Rs	Rs	. .	. .	. .
C 8	C C	I I	Rs Rs	Rs Rs	. .	Rs Rs	Rs Rs	. .	Rs Rs	. .
D 9	C C	I I		Rs Rs			Rs Rs			
E 1	. .	T T	. .	E S	. .	E S	. .	. .	. .	. .
F 1	C C	P P	O O	O O	. .	O O	O O	. .	O O	. .
G 1	. .	T T	. .	E S	. .	E S	. .	. .	. .	. .

Column 1

"A1": The Transvaal set printed by Thos. De La Rue & Co., Limited, authorised for use in the Union subsequent to the 31st May,

1910—S.G. 1 to 7—incribed "TRANSVAAL," "POSTAGE DUE" and "POST OFFICE."

"B.2": Set printed by Thos. De La Rue & Co., Limited—S.G. 1 to 7—incribed "UNION OF SOUTH AFRICA," "UNIE VAN ZUID

AFRIKA," "POSTAGE DUE" and "TE BETALEN."

"B3" and "B4": Sets printed by the Union Government Printer—S.G. 11 to 16—incribed "UNION OF SOUTH AFRICA," "UNIE VAN ZUID AFRIKA," "POSTAGE DUE" and "TE BETALEN."

"C5" to "C8": Sets printed by the Union Government Printer—S.G. 17 to 39—incribed "SOUTH AFRICA," "SUIDAFRIKA," "POSTAGE DUE" and "TE BETAAL."

"D9": Set printed by the Union Government Printer, inscribed "SOUTH AFRICA," "SUIDAFRIKA," "POSTAGE DUE" and "TE BETAAL."

"E1" and "G1": Sets Printed by Thos. De La Rue & Co., Limited, for Basutoland and Swaziland—S.G. 1 and 2 in each instance.

"F1": Set printed by Bradbury, Wilkinson & Co., Limited, for South West Africa—S.G. 47 to 51.

The Postage Due Labels of Basutoland, South West Afrika and Swaziland have been included in the foregoing summary in conformity with a note excerpted from an Official Post Office Guide of the Union of South Africa, to wit:

Note.—For postal and telegraph purposes, Basutoland, South West Africa and Swaziland are regarded as part of the Union of South Africa, and the inland rates of postage for all classes of mail matter apply to these territories, with the exception that the Agricultural Parcel Post is not extended to Swaziland or South West Africa (including Walvis Bay).

Column 2

"C": For Step and Repeat Camera; to show that photography has played its part in the production of plates and cylinders anent certain of the items set out in the diagram ut supra.

Column 3

The letters in this column represent the types of printing employed: "T" for typography or letterpress which is printing from a raised surface; "P" for planography, which is printing from a flat surface or in other words surface-printing; "I" for intaglio, which is printing from below the surface of a plate or cylinder, or in other words recessed printing.

Other Columns

"F" for frame plates or cylinders; "N" for numeral plates or cylinders; "E" for electrotyped plates; "S" for stereotyped plates; "L" for lithographed plates; "Z" for zincotyped plates; "Ru" for unscreened or screenless rotogravure cylinders; "Rs" for screened rotogravure cylinders; "O" for photo-litho offset plates.

Reappearance of the Unscreened 5s. Pictorial Stamp

The old unscreened 5s. pictorial stamp ("Broken Jukskei" issue) with no marginal arrows on the sheet and produced from cylinders Nos. 6929 Internal and 41 External, appears to be on general sale throughout the Union again. Enquiries indicate that stocks

of the all-screened stamps, issued in September last year with marginal arrows and the cylinder numbers "36" (Internal) and "6925" (External) printed on the bottom right hand corner of the sheet, have evidently petered out and their place taken by a supply of the earlier production. The screened stamp, which may now prove to be obsolete, was recorded in our October, 1949 issue as a new printing first observed on sale in Cape Town during the previous month.

Reversed Perforations in the Georgian Series

A letter received from Mr. R. E. Stott, of Oldham, England, mentions that he has a strip of three 2½d. King's Head stamps with the bottom margin attached and which appear to have been produced with what are generally known as "Reversed Perforations."

As explained on page 15 of the Union Standard Catalogue, the sheets of the Georgian Series were normally printed with the top margin perforated and the bottom margin imperforate, but the ½d., 1d. and 2d. values are known to exist with that arrangement reversed and hence the name to distinguish the variety from the ordinary and much more common production. There is apparently no previous record of the "reversed perforations" variety showing up on sheets of the 2½d. value and Mr. Stott would greatly appreciate confirmation of its existence or any information on the subject.

The following is an extract from H. E. Lobdell's monograph "The De La Rue Georgians of South Africa" (published by The Collectors Club, Inc.) which makes no mention of the variety being known on any of the values higher than the 2d.

"Perforations Reversed: Caused by *inversion of the sheet* when fed to the perforator, so that the comb machine worked *downward* on the sheet, thus leaving the top margin plain and the bottom perforated through. The variety is known in some sheets of the ½d. (except with controls 1 and 2), of the 1d. (except with control 5) and of the 2d. (Figs. 28 and 35)."

De La Rue Postage Due Watermark Variety

Collectors of early Union watermark varieties will be interested in a copy of the 3d. De La Rue postage due (S.G. D4), which a Johannesburg reader, Mr. S. Kassar, has in his possession.

Instead of the usual form of a Springbok's Head located near the centre of the stamp, or as it sometimes appears, with one portion at the top edge and the other part at the bottom, Mr. Kassar's specimen has evidently been printed with about the maximum possible mis-alignment and in consequence the watermark is divided into four and the parts fairly evenly distributed at all four corners.

The Diagonal White Lines on the Union Rotogravure Unscreened Stamps

A matter of constant interest to students of the Union's Rotogravure stamps is the appearance of the diagonal white lines which are

generally easily visible in the toned portions of the unscreened frame designs.

Their purpose as "Doctor Blade" rests was illustrated and explained by Mr. A. H. Sydow in our September, 1949, issue, but in answer to a question on the subject by an overseas reader it may be mentioned that these lines are incorporated by the artist in the original Master Designs. They are drawn in white ink on the black background portions of the designs of those denominations in which they appear.

In the case of the ½d. pictorial value issued in the second half of 1947 and first recorded in "Gibbons Stamp Monthly," April, 1948, as showing a "cross-hatched" setting of the lines in the two broad top and bottom horizontal bars of the frame design, it can be stated that the effect was produced by criss-crossing the diagonal white ink lines on the original Master Design.

Proposed New Edition of the Union Standard Catalogue of Postage Stamps

In view of the success and marked increase of interest created in the Union's stamps by the publication of the first edition of the "Standard Catalogue of the Postage Stamps of the Union of South Africa," it was agreed at the June meeting of the Philatelic Federation's Executive Committee to appoint a sub-committee for the purpose of preparing a revised and enlarged second edition of the catalogue.

All readers interested in the matter who wish to submit corrections or additions to the 1946 issue and 1948 Supplement, or present any information which could be considered for inclusion in the proposed new edition, are asked to write to Mr. Sam Legator, P.O. Box 333, Brakpan, Transvaal, South Africa, who has kindly offered to receive all correspondence on behalf of the Sub-Committee. Offers from specialist collectors of the Union's stamps who would like to assist in revising any classified section or sections of the catalogue would be particularly welcome.

Postage Stamp Design Competition

A Bulletin issued by the Post Office Publicity Officer (Philatelic Section) Pretoria, contains the information that the following list of awards in the competition for designs for a new series of postage stamps for the Union of South Africa has been announced by the Postmaster-General:

First Prizes, £75 Each

Mr. A. S. Konva, 195 Beckett Street, Arcadia, Pretoria (THREE).

Mr. J. K. Moll, The Lodge, Harfield Place, Claremont, Cape Town (TWO).

Mr. N. van Sandwyk, 5 Young Road, Mill Park, Port Elizabeth (ONE).

Second Prizes, £25 Each

Mr. E. Thamm, Box 8124, Johannesburg (ONE).

Mr. J. W. Bramham, 4 Ruby Street, Rosetenville Extension, Johannesburg (TWO).

Mr. J. K. Moll, The Lodge, Harfield Place, Claremont, Cape Town (ONE).

In addition to the above, one design each submitted by Mrs. D. P. Thomas, Box 16, Entebbe, Uganda, and Mr. N. van Sandwyk, 5 Young Road, Mill Park, Port Elizabeth, has been selected for purchase at £25.

"The number of suitable designs submitted was insufficient to permit of a complete series of new stamps being selected and the services of the special committee appointed to advise on questions relating to the proposed new designs are being retained for the time being to deal with the preparation of additional designs to complete the proposed series and to arrange for the adaptation of selected designs."

Printing Flaws on Small 2d. Pictorial Stamps

In addition to the two small varieties mentioned last month as present on the new small 2d. stamps, a correspondent records that the dot on the inner frame line below the "H" of SOUTH—Row 9, Stamp 7—is a constant flaw. Incidentally, the "Broken d" given in last month's list as in Row 3/Stamp 6 should be corrected to read Row 3/Stamp 16.

The variety listed as "Row 19/2—Two dots in sky" on the large 2d. pictorial (plum coloured frame) in our June issue should be corrected to read Row 19/Stamp 4.

W.N.S.

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AUSTRALIA

Under the heading "Scandal in Commonwealth," the April number of the "Australian Stamp Monthly" deals with the many reports which have been appearing in the Press into the alleged leakage of large quantities of imperforate stamps, etc., from the Commonwealth Note and Stamp Printing Branch. An official enquiry is now taking place.

They give the following list of suspect items so far as known to them:

Imperf. all round. 1½d., Queen; 2½d., K.G. VI; 4d. Koala; 6d. Kookaburra; 9d. Platypus; 1s. Lyre Bird (small type); 1s. 6d. Air Mail (old type); 2½d. Newcastle.

Tete-Beche. 2½d. K.G. VI.

Other Varieties. 2½d. Peace, perf. on no wmk. paper; 3½d. Newcastle in an extraordinary dull ultramarine shade; 5s. Robes with heavy clear offset at back; 2½d. K.G. VI on "toned" paper.

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2d. Pl. I. Nos. 1, 2, 5, 8, 10, 11, 12, 23. (Ret. 21, 22).

II. Nos. 4, 5, 7, 8, 10, 11, 13, 14, 15, 17, 21, 22, 24. (Ret. 9, 13, 18),

III. Nos. 5, 8, 9, 10, 15, 16, 19, 24.

IV. Nos. 3, 6, 12, 13, 14, 15.

V. Nos. 2, 11, 13, 16, 17, 24.

3d. Nos. 1, 3, 12, 14, 17, 18.

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Reviews

The Recent Two-Cent U.S. Envelope Dies of the Series of 1904, by L. H. Barkhausen. Published by the American Philatelic Society, P.O. Box 800, State College, Pa. Price \$2.00.

This is a masterly study of one envelope stamp. Some 200 dies were originally made for this stamp of 1903, but owing to heavy increase in usage, there was quick deterioration of them and retouching and recutting was instituted.

In the recent series of 1904 no less than 143 major and 41 sub-types are recognised as showing distinct differences in details. The major types are all illustrated.

The Persian Gulf, by Major T. L. C. Tomkins. Published by "Stamp Collecting, Ltd.," 27 Maiden Lane, Strand, London W.C. 2. Price 3/6.

This is, for the first time, a grouping of the posts of various ports in the Persian Gulf, their why and wherefore, their history and, well illustrated and in detail, their postmarks.

Some of these posts are fairly familiar by name to collectors of British or Indian stamps overprinted for use in them, others to collectors of "India used Abroad." Others, such as Dubai, Henjam, Jask and Guadur, are probably unknown even by name to most collectors.

Altogether a very fascinating story.

Stanley Gibbons Catalogue, Part III. Price 2/8 post free, and *Part VIII.* Price 5/3 post free. 391 Strand, London W.C. 2.

With the issue of these two parts the first post-war revision of their sectional catalogues is now complete.

Part III deals with the U.S.A. and U.S. possessions, having been out of print since November, 1948. There are a large number of price alterations, partly due to devaluation, partly to rising values of the early and middle issues.

Part VIII includes all independent states in Africa and Asia not covered by other catalogue sections. It also has complete lists of Burma, Egypt, Iraq and Jordan which now appear in Part I only up to the time when they ceased to form part of the British Empire.

The Triangular Stamps of the Cape of Good Hope, by D. Alan Stevenson. Published by H. R. Harmer, Ltd., 39-42, New Bond Street, London S.W. 1. Price £3 3s.

Philatelists have been presented with another "Philatelic Gem" in the shape of a most beautiful book on the Triangular Stamps of the Cape of Good Hope.

The stamps of the Cape of Good Hope have already been so extensively studied that we

all thought the last word about them had been said; the 142 pages of this splendid work prove that we were wrong.

Among the numerous illustrations, there are 21 large plates, four of which are reproduced in their natural colours.

To gather this vast amount of detailed information about the dies and re-entries much research must have been done. It is remarkable that so many new flaws and other peculiarities previously unheard of have been revealed in stamps which have been in existence for close upon one hundred years.

The typography is faultless, and the reproductions of the Perkins Bacon and the De La Rue printings as well as the Woodblock Stamps are masterpieces.

The author is to be congratulated upon his contribution to Philately. It is to be hoped that the success he has had in throwing new light on an already well discussed and studied subject will revive interest in research among philatelists in the country where the stamps originated.

It is not only collectors of the stamps of the Cape of Good Hope who will want his book but every student of philately should have a copy on his shelves.

There is only one correction I would like to make, and that is that Francis and Co. did not make the triangular defacers; they were made in Cape Town by the successors to the firm of Twentyman and Co. who had made some of the early Letter Stamps; the name of the successors I am unable to trace.

The oval date stamps were made in England by Francis and Co., but owing to delay in delivery, these were not issued to postmasters until December, 1853.

A. A. Jurgens.

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THE PHOTOGRAPHIC NEGATIVE AND POSITIVE PLATES AND THE MULTIPLE DIAPOSITIVES OF THE ROYAL SILVER WEDDING STAMPS OF THE UNION OF SOUTH AFRICA

By

W. N. SHEFFIELD, M. (S.A.) I.E.E., and A. HILTON SYDOW, A.S.A.A., C.A.(S.A.).

*"Five Years (Henry IV) and Twenty Years (Henry V) Silver'd O'er (Sonnet XII)"—
Shakespeare*

On the 26th day of April, 1948, the Government of the Union of South Africa issued certain 3d. denominated postage stamps which commemorated the twenty-fifth anniversary of the wedding of Their Majesties King George VI and Queen Elizabeth.

These postage stamps were printed at the Union Government's Pretoria Printing Works by the rotogravure or rotary photogravure process on paper in the web which was manufactured by Samuel Jones and Company, Limited, of London, and which was water-marked in multiple by "Springbok Head" devices attached to a dandy roller made by Wm. Green, Son and Waite, also of London. The stamps were perforated to the gauge of 14 all round by a multiple comb machine and were issued in sheets of 120 units each marshalled in 20 horizontal rows of 6. The stamps were inscribed in English and in Afrikaans alternately throughout the sheet—unit No. 1 of horizontal row 1 was an English inscribed one.

On the said stamps Their Majesties were portrayed in profile. Their portraits, which were adapted from photographs taken by the Court Photographer, Dorothy Wilding, were located between two sprays or branches of silvertree leaves (*Leucadendron argenteum*). The text matter in white on coloured bases consisted of the wording "Silver Wedding" and the name "South Africa" on each English inscribed unit, "Silwerbruilof" and "SUID-AFRIKA" on each Afrikaans inscribed one, and the years "1923" and "1948" together with the symbols of value "3d." and "3d." common to both inscribed languages. The words "POSSEËL" and "POSSEËL" were shown in coloured text on white arch-shaped tablets on each Afrikaans inscribed stamp and the words "POSTAGE" and "POSTAGE" similarly on each English inscribed one. Each English inscribed and each Afrikaans inscribed stamp depicted the letters "GE" in coloured script on a silvered shield or tablet.

Two 120-set (20 x 6) copper-faced cylinders were utilised for the printing of these stamps, namely, Interior Cylinder No. 48 for the shields and the silver tree leaf sprays in silver ink and Exterior Cylinder No. 6923 for the remainder of the design in dark blue ink, also called navy blue or milori blue.

*The Composite Master Design With
English Text*

With the exception of the two centrally uppermost words "Silver Wedding" the Master Design with dates, denomination and English text—"SOUTH AFRICA" and "POSTAGE" and "POSTAGE"—was composed and located on a rectangular piece of white cardboard which measured 12 inches by 10 inches.

The working surface of the said white card was first of all air-brush sprayed for the production of an almost all black background, but by variation of the sprayed background density however, a comparatively light central area between the two portraits and two darker areas respectively to the right of the Queen's portrait and to the left of the King's portrait were effected. Vide the finished postage stamps.

Two original Dorothy Wilding portraits of the King and of the Queen, each one on a separate mount and each one of which measured 5 inches by 4 inches, were obtained and the head and shoulders portion of the King's figure was cut out and affixed in the desired position on the black sprayed card. The portrait of the Queen, being on a slightly smaller scale to that of the King, was re-photographed and the reproduction of the head and shoulders enlarged to the size requisite for cutting out and fitting into position opposite the King on the Composite Master Design. (See "A" and "B" on Figure).



Figure 1.

Subsequently the following details were designated in white on the Composite Master Design:

- (1) Horizontal and vertical inner and outer frame lines marked "C" and "D" on Figure 1.
- (2) Two arch-shaped tablets, one to the left and one to right of the design, marked "E" and "F" on Figure 1.
- (3) The letters which comprised the name "SOUTH AFRICA," marked "G" on Figure 1.
- (4) The numerals, letters and stops for "3d." and "3d." marked "H" and "I" on Figure 1.
- (5) The numerals in respect of "1923" and "1948" marked "J" and "K" on Figure 1.

The encircling sprays or branches of silver tree leaves (marked "M" and "N" on Figure 1) and their connecting basic scrolls (marked "O" and "P" on Figure 1) together with the "GE" tablet or shield (marked "Q" in Figure 1) were next designated in white. Thus were completed the white painted or drawn portions on the rectangular 12ins. x 10ins. card. Finally the letters of the words "POSTAGE" and "POSTAGE" and of the initials "GE" were drawn in black on the arch-shaped tablets "E" and "F" and the shield or tablet "Q" respectively. This composite and basic Master Design with its English inscriptions *but* without the words "Silver Wedding" was then photographed and a master negative thereof obtained on a small thin glass photographic plate, called for the purpose of this article the Principal Master Negative "A".

The Composite Master Design With Afrikaans Text

A small white card was cut into oblong-shaped requisite size, brush-sprayed and a black background obtained. On this very background the letters which comprised the name "SUID-AFRIKA" were designated in white. (See "R" on Figure 2). This small oblong-shaped card—with the name "SUID-AFRIKA"—was then affixed to the composite

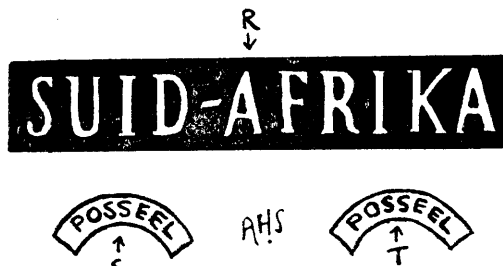


Figure 2.

Master Design in a position which entirely obscured the name "SOUTH AFRICA"—"G" on Figure 1. The letters of the words "POSSEEL" and "POSSEEL" were drawn in black respectively on two curved-shaped pieces of thin white card (marked "S" and "T" on Figure 2). These two cards also were affixed to the composite Master Design in positions which entirely obscured the words "POSTAGE" and "POSTAGE"—"E" and "F" on Figure 1. In other words the name "SUID-AFRIKA" covered the name "SOUTH AFRICA" and the words "POSSEEL" and "POSSEEL" covered the words "POSTAGE" and "POSTAGE" and accordingly metamorphosed the composite Master Design with its English inscriptions into a composite Master Design with Afrikaans inscriptions. The thus transmuted composite Master Design—*but* without the word "Silverbruilof"—was then photographed and a master negative obtained on a small thin glass photographic plate, called for the purpose of this article the Principal Master Negative "B".

The "Silver Wedding" and "Silverbruilof" Contact Positive Plates

The next step in the procedure was the incorporation of the words "Silver Wedding" and the word "Silverbruilof" in the positions in which they appeared on the respective English and Afrikaans inscribed stamps. For

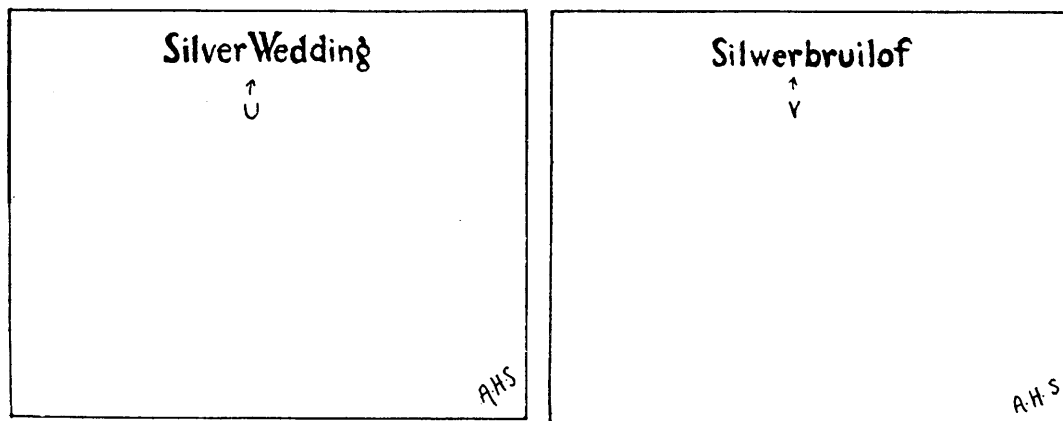


Figure 3.

this purpose two large white cards were taken. On the one card the words "Silver Wedding" were drawn in black and in normal reading posture as per "U" in Figure 3, whilst on the other card the word "Silverbruilof" was drawn in normal reading posture in black as per "V" in Figure 3. Each one of these two white cards with black inscriptions was then photographed, and two negatives thereof obtained respectively on two thin glass photographic plates called for the purpose of this article the Principal Master Negatives "C"

and "D." From these *two inscriptional Master Negatives* with their lettering in white (or actually transparent) and in reversed reading postures as per "W" and "X" in Figure 4, *two inscriptional Contact Positives* of equivalent dimensions were obtained by direct contact printing. On these two positives the lettering appeared in black and in normal reading postures as per "U" and "V" in Figure 3.

(To be continued)

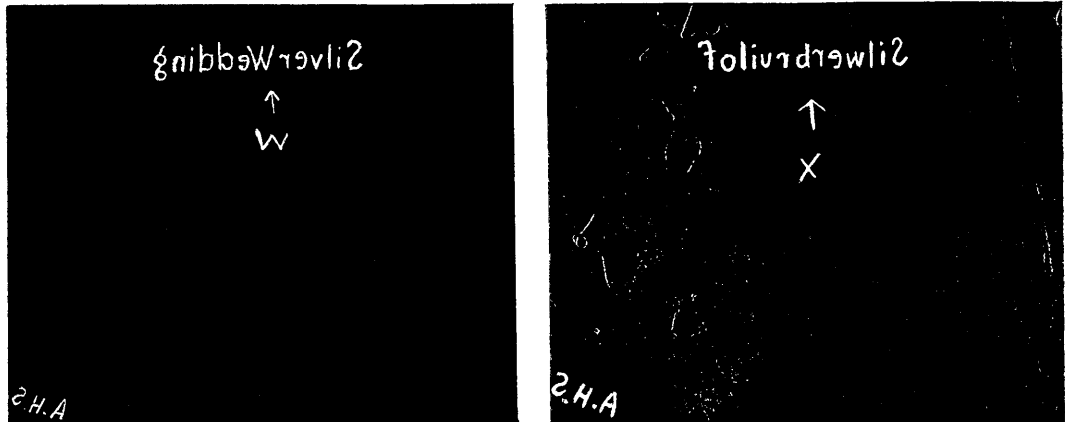


Figure 4.

Individual Sets of Silver Weddings

- „ „ „ Empire U.P.U.'s
- „ „ „ Foreign U.P.U.'s

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SOCIETY NEWS

CAPE TOWN PHILATELIC SOCIETY

President, Arthur V. Jacob; *Hon. Sec.*, F. S. L. Burns, P.O. Box 1973; *Meetings*, Mountain Club Room, 38 Strand Street, 2nd and 4th Thursdays.

At the annual meeting held on 25th May the reports submitted showed the Society to be in a very sound position, both financially and as regards philately. The total membership is 214. Mr. Arthur V. Jacob was elected President for the forthcoming year.



JEWISH GUILD PHILATELIC SECTION

Chairman, J. M. Rich; *Hon. Secretary*, A. J. Nathanson; *Meetings* at Jewish Guild, last Thursdays, 8 p.m.

At the meeting held on 25th May the exhibit was provided by Rev. W. Loxley Chamings, who called his fine exhibit "Stamps with a Story." In all there were 100 stamps shown, each on a card with the story of each on a separate card. In his address with which he introduced the exhibit Mr. Chamings explained that 50 of the stamps were from the "Red" Gibbons and 50 from the "Green" catalogue. 50 were of people and 50 were of places. The exhibit included Queen Elizabeth I (Newfoundland Gilbert issue); Baden Powell (Mafeking Siege issue); H. M. Stanley (Belgian Congo); Victoria Falls (S. Rhodesia Jubilee issue); Waterval Boven (Transvaal 1d. postage commemorative); Charles Connell (New Brunswick). All the items shown were of outstanding interest and the work put into the exhibit was tremendous.

Mr. J. Albert Davidson spoke on the exhibit and expressed the thanks of the members.



GRAHAMSTOWN PHILATELIC SOCIETY

President, Dr. C. G. A. Cory; *Hon. Sec./Treas.*, Mr. R. Q. Tarr, Wood House, Kingswood College; *Meetings*, 2nd Thursdays, 8 p.m., 120 High Street.

10th May. This meeting was held in the Kingswood College Memorial Library, for the purpose of showing the lantern slides depicting the printing of the Union's stamps in Pretoria. The projection and the accompanying lecture were much appreciated. Mr. Motyer, of East London, then displayed his Canadians among which were specimens of the recent issue which lacked the "Postes—Postage." Mr. Chantler was congratulated on his article, on the Union "halfpenny," which appeared in Stanley Gibbons' magazine.

8th June. The chief interest of the evening lay in the display by Mr. Pegler, a student at R.U.C., of his stamps showing the colour changes that have taken place in recent years. This was a display different from the usual, and the more interesting because it was different. Mr. Drury, in whose rooms these meetings are held, has had fluorescent lighting installed and we are deeply grateful to him for brightening our gatherings.

R.Q.T.



PORT ELIZABETH PHILATELIC SOCIETY

President, Mr. G. Billbring; *Hon. Secretary*, Mr. G. P. Smith, 13 Trafalgar Square, P.E.; *Meetings*, 1st and 3rd Tuesdays, in room 3, City Hall Basement, at 7.45 p.m.

Mr. G. Billbring took the chair when the meeting opened on Tuesday, 19th June, and presided over the largest gathering for some time. The main business of the meeting was the adoption of the new Constitution, which was accepted.

M. Deschamps was responsible for the display and tabled a large part of his general collection. There were four 1d., two 4d., and two 6d. mint. Two wood blocks, 22 penny reds used, and 10 1s. Cape triangular, two double surcharged inverted, British Bechuanaland. There was the 1s. Gambia

misspelt and two pages of Stellaland with a strip of three used. One British cover with a penny black dated 1840. Some very fine Newfoundland were on view and altogether a number of rare and beautiful items were displayed.

A hearty welcome was accorded Mr. S. Kaganson, a visitor from Cape Town. After tea interval, he displayed a fine collection of Olympic stamps of the world, as far back as 1896 up to the present day. Each sheet was well written up, and, as far as possible the stamp of the person who opened the games was on view. This was very interesting, and much time and thought had been spent to make up this unique collection.

Mr. Kirschner had two items of interest—one a block of stamps with the margin neatly joined, and another a book of King Edward stamps as supplied by the Post Office.

In all it was a very interesting and enjoyable evening, and a hearty vote of thanks was accorded to M. Deschamps and Mr. Kaganson. The meeting then closed at 9.45 p.m.

L.E.C.



SPRINGS PHILATELIC SOCIETY

President, Mr. C. J. Meeuwis; *Hon. Sec.*, L. J. C. Sutcliffe, 4 High Street, Strubenvale, Springs. *Meetings*, 2nd Monday, 7.30 p.m., in the Board Room, New Era Press.

On 22nd May, 1950, a few members attended a meeting of the Johannesburg Philatelic Society as guests for the evening.

Mr. Meeuwis showed his K.G. VI stamps and Mr. Dannhauser a collection of Swiss Charity stamps. Mr. van der Watt put out a collection of Famous People belonging to Mr. Pollack, who could not be present. This collection well merited the interest which was shown by those present.

Dr. J. H. Harvey Pirie spoke on it afterwards, and in praising it said he had hardly ever seen a better display and that it could be shown anywhere in the world. He particularly remarked on the excellent writing-up. Such praise coming from an eminent collector like Dr. Pirie is indeed gratifying. We congratulate Mr. Pollack and expect big things from him in future.

At our monthly meeting on 12th June, Mr. S. Legator gave us an exhibition of his wonderful Israel collection. This was preceded by an interesting paper which he read explaining this exhibit. A description of it is given in the June, 1950, issue of the magazine under the Johannesburg Society News. We were all amazed that Mr. Legator was able to make such a vast and comprehensive collection of such a new state in so short a time.

At the request of our chairman Rabbi Friedman thanked Mr. Legator.

Mr. and Mrs. Meeuwis will be away at the South Coast during July, and we all wish them a pleasant holiday.



EAST LONDON PHILATELIC SOCIETY

President, Andrew Watson; *Hon. Sec.*, C. M. Clark, P.O. Box 450, East London; *Meetings*, 2nd Fridays, Colosseum Theatre Tea Room (upstairs), at 7.45 p.m.

The attendance at the June meeting was not as high as usual, due to various indispositions of prominent members, but some lively discussion took place on matters of business.

The company present enjoyed a display of Union stamps by Mr. M. J. Rall, who had kindly come down from Kingwilliamstown with some friends for the evening. He showed a very representative collection, not only in pairs, but also in blocks and strips. A number of varieties were noticeable in the collection and altogether it provided a most interesting display.

Mr. L. Hellman set out an educational album containing loose leaves, in which there were spaces for every type of stamp. These classifications were wide and this keen member was able to show a stamp to illustrate each class and type. This set-up should prove most enlightening to beginners and also stimulating to anyone whose interest was temporarily flagging.

The meeting concluded with hearty votes of thanks to Messrs. Rall and Hellman.

U.C.S.

PHILATELIC SOCIETY OF JOHANNESBURG

President, Commander C. E. D. Enoch; *Hon. Sec.*, B. Glassman, P.O. Box 4967, Johannesburg; *Meetings*, 2nd Tuesday and 4th Monday, at the Johannesburg Public Library, 7.45 p.m.

The meeting of 13th June was the 250th meeting of the Society. There was a record attendance of about 110 members and visitors.

The exhibit was provided by about 45 different members and it was unique in that there was one sheet of each of the stamp producing countries shown. In all there were about 320 sheets. Included in the exhibit was a reconstructed sheet of the 1d. black of Great Britain, and this first stamp issued was put side by side with a sheet of the most recently issued—Barbados 1950. The Great Britain sheet was shown by Mr. E. Hunt. The Barbados by Mr. B. Glassman. It is impossible to detail all the exhibits but some of the outstanding items shown were British Guiana by Com. C. E. D. Enoch; various German States by Mr. C. Froelich and Dr. von Varendorf; German Colonies by Mr. L. Buchen; Brazil Bulls Eyes by Mr. W. Oppenheim; Cape Triangulars by Mr. J. Shepherd; Western Australia early "swans" by Mr. W. Redford; South-West Africa by Mr. E. Schaiowitz; Lydenburg and Schweizer Reineke by Dr. J. H. Harvey Pirie; New Zealand Health issues by Mr. B. Joseph; New South Wales Sydney Views by Mr. Jordaan; Southern Rhodesia imperforate varieties by Dr. A. Kaplan; Suez Canal by Mr. G. Economides; Aden by Mr. B. Glassman.

There were numerous other fine items shown. Dr. J. H. Harvey Pirie thanked the members for the joint effort.

On the 26th June the West Rand Stamp Club provided the exhibits. There were five exhibits in all. Mr. Veermaakin's exhibit was of Czechoslovakia. This was a fairly complete collection, including miniature sheets.

Mr. W. Yellaud showed a specialised collection of the Union Bantam War issue. Mr. Yellaud introduced the exhibit with a short address. His collection showed all the different printings of the issue in large blocks. The exhibit was beautifully written up.

Mr. Burnard showed an exhibit called "Art on stamps." This was a thematic collection showing sculptors, artists and painters. The exhibit included some beautiful Austrian and Lichtenstein stamps.

Mr. Sharp showed Sudan, including early issues, air mails and commemoratives in mint and used condition.

Dr. Berry showed an exhibit he called "Bits and Pieces of Unions." The exhibit included the Kenilworth Muizenberg Flown cover, two Red Cross Flights, one with the Cape Red Cross Fund sticker and one with a 1d. postage due instead of the usual 4d. stamp. In addition there was the 2d. pictorial "tete beche" and numerous essays and proofs.

The speakers on the exhibits were Mr. L. Buchen (on Czechoslovakia), Mr. W. Sheffield (on the Union Bantams), Mr. Froelich (on the Art stamps), Mr. J. Frankland (on Sudan), and Dr. Kaplan (on Dr. Berry's exhibit).



EAST RAND PHILATELIC SOCIETY

President, Mr. J. Shepherd; *Hon. Sec.*, Mr. A. Gross, P.O. Box 155, Brakpan; *Meetings*, Regent Hotel, Benoni, 3rd Tuesdays, 8 p.m.

The monthly meeting of the above Society was held on Tuesday, the 20th June, 1950.

The President of the Society, on behalf of the members, congratulated Mr. Sam Legator, a member of the Society, on attaining a bronze award at the London International Exhibition for his collection of Union stamps.

A resolution was adopted at the meeting that this Society recommend to the Federation that in future the President of the Federation preside at meetings of Congress.

Mr. E. N. Rigg displayed his collection of Austria and Mr. P. Gutsche proposed a vote of thanks to the exhibitor on behalf of the Society.

The main item of the evening was the adoption of a Constitution for the Society. The task of the members was made easier as the President, Mr. J. Shepherd, had roneoed copies of a draft for each member. Discussion took place and a Constitution was finally adopted.

A.G.

WANT LISTS

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5	340/0	240/0	180/0	120/0
5a	140/0	95/0	80/0	—
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7a	360/0	240/0	200/0	120/0
7b	180/0	180/0	100/0	50/0
7c	340/0	200/0	140/0	—
8	320/0	280/0	180/0	—
8a	320/0	250/0	160/0	80/0
18a 18b	180/0	140/0	110/0	—
19	60/0	45/0	37/6	25/0
19a	90/0	50/0	37/6	25/0
19b	600/0	400/0	280/0	100/0
19c	440/0	360/0	240/0	80/0
20	360/0	280/0	140/0	—
21	800/0	600/0	350/0	120/0

We can offer pairs and blocks of many of these, mint and used, as well as other numbers not listed above. Enquiries from collectors interested will be welcomed. References appreciated.

H. E. WINGFIELD

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RECENT AUCTION SALES

Robson Lowe.—Australia, Ross Smith on flown cover, £49; Barbados, 1918, 3s. mint, £15; Caymans, 1908, 2½d. on 4d., £32; S. Georgia, 2½d. provisional, £21; Malta, 10s. black, mint, £42; Sierra Leone, Wilberforce set, mint, £33; "Litchfield" collection of Great Britain, many high prices, too many to list.

Gambia, 1922-27, 3s. slate purple, mint, £20; St. Helena, 1856, imperf., 6d. blue with Perkins Bacon "Cancelled," £16 10s.; Cape, 1d., deep rose red with red barred cancellation, £15 10s.; Cayman, 1932 Centenary, ½d. to 10s., mint, £17 10s.

H. R. Harmer.—Set of eight Italian stamps optd. British Occupation of Italian East Africa, £11; block of four Small War 1s., marginal inscription misplaced (certificates, etc., on stamps), £6 15s.; G.B. Embossed 6d. mauve, strip of 3, £90; Bechuanaland £5, S.G. 21, mint, £20; Falkland Is. Centenary set, £44, New Republic, two 1d. stamps on cover with Natal stamp, £12.

G.B. 1d. black, complete reconstructed sheet, Plate XI, £180; G.B. 2d. blue, block of 102, believed the largest known, used, £190; G.B. 1d. red brown, Archer perf., block of 24, £300; G.B. 9d. straw, Plate 5, unused, £135; G.B. ½ brown lilac, S.G. 185, mint, £52 10s., strip of 3, used, £57 10s.; G.B. Silver Jubilee, 2½d. Prussian blue, mint, £115, ditto, used on cover, £180; G.B. K.E. Board of Education, 1s. green and carmine (S.G. 087), £210; Union ½, S.G. 24a, £8 10s.



DISTINGUISHED PHILATELISTS

At the Tunbridge Wells Congress the following eight were elected to the (British) Roll of Distinguished Philatelists:

R. W. T. Lees-Jones (G.B.), for research on Canada; H. W. Bessemer (G.B.), French stamps; W. H. C. Bromfield (W. Australia), for research on that country; J. Schmidt-Andersen (Denmark), for work on that country; Ibrahim Chafter Bey (Egypt), first and third issues of Egypt; Pierre M. d'Arleux (France), for research on that country; Stanley B. Ashbrook (U.S.A.), a great student of and writer on U.S.A. stamps; Lester G. Brookman (U.S.A.), many years editor of the "American Philatelist."



SOMALIA

The Italian Administration have issued the following stamps for use in the territory of which they are now the mandatory power:

Ordinary postage, 10 values from 1c. to 1 somali.

Air stamps, 8 values, 30c. to 1s. 50c.

Express, 40c. and 80c.

Parcel post, 9 values, from 1c. to 3s.

Postage due, 6 values, from 1c. to 1s.

In all, 35 stamps for a not very thickly populated country, which has managed to get along quite well for the past few years with less than a dozen denominations.

Aden, 1937 S.G.1/12 3a.-10r. complete mint ..	320/-
Ascension, 1938 S.G.38/47 ½d.-10/-, complete mint	70/-
Australia, 1932 S.G.141/144 Sydney Bridge m. 90/- used ..	40/-
1934 S.G.150/152 McArthur complete mint ..	15/-
1937/48 S.G.167a 3d. blue Preliminary prtng. m.	140/-
Bahamas, 1942 S.G.162/175 Landfall 2nd prtng. m.	80/-
Barbados, 1938 S.G.249 1d. scarlet mint ..	90/-
1939 S.G.257/261 Tercentenary, mint or used, either	12/6
Bermuda, 1938 S.G.211 ½d. pur. & blk./red 1st printing mint ..	150/-
Ceylon, 1938 S.G.394 50c. black & Mauve, mint	250/-
Gibraltar, 1938 S.G.125a 3d. perf. 14 mint ..	70/-
S.G.124ab perf. 13½ watermark sideways, mint	540/-
Gold Coast, 1938 S.G.120/131 ½d.-5/- Line Perfs. mint	120/-
Grenada, 1938/1947 S.G.162a 5/- p. 13½ x 12½, mint	25/-
S.G.163 10/- slate blue & carm. mint or used, either	30/-
S.G.163c 10/- perf. 12 slate blue & carmine mint	500/-
Hong-Kong, 1938 S.G.140/152 1c.-\$10 mint ..	160/-
Kenya, 1938 S.G. 143 ½d. black & red mint ..	300/-
Mauritius, 1943 S.G.252a/257a 2c.-12c. p. 15 x 14 mint or used, either	30/-
Montserrat, 1938 S.G.101/110 ½d.-5/- complete mint	42/6
Newfoundland, 1937 S.G.257/267 ex. 262 Comb. Perfs. mint	360/-
New Guinea, 1932/34 S.G.190/203 ½d.-1 AIR mint	150/-
1937 S.G.267a 5d. Re-entry mint ..	120/-
1939 S.G.212-225 Air complete mint ..	340/-
New Zealand, 1941 S.G.583b 4d. perf. 14 line mint	85/-
1940 S.G.609/621 Centenary complete mint ..	30/-
North Borneo, 1939 S.G.303/317 1c.-85, complete mint	160/-
Northern Rhodesia, 1938 S.G.27/28 1½d. & 2d. obs. mint ..	30/-
Nyasaland, 1938 S.G.141a 5/- grn. & red/pale yellow mint	40/-
St. Kitts, 1938 S.G.68/77 ½d.-5/- mint ..	60/-
Seychelles, 1938 S.G.135/149 2c.-5r. m. or u., either	240/-
Sierra Leone, 1938 S.G.190/191 1½d. & 2d. obs. mint	33/-
Southern Rhodesia, 1937 S.G.23b perf. 14, mint	220/-
Sudan, 1937 S.G.52a/57c 15m.-10pia. perf. 11½ x 12½ complete mint	90/-
1938 S.G.74/77 5m.-2½p. 5p on 10 pias, mint ..	25/-
1941, S.G.81/95 Palm tree complete mint ..	160/-

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NYASALAND

Next year sees the Diamond Jubilee of Nyasaland as a definite British Protectorate, and it is understood that the authorities have asked for an issue of commemoratives.

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SHORT NOTICES

"*Junior Stamp World*." A recently started small fortnightly magazine, published by J. F. Hirst, of 161 Wavertree Road, Liverpool 7, England, at 5d., post free. Interesting notes and short articles for juniors.

Carabela Santa Maria Y Nao Victoria. From the Department of Posts and Telegraphs, Madrid, comes this interesting little pamphlet concerning the institution of two annual prizes to be awarded to the two countries sending the two best stamps or series of stamps to the U.P.U. during the preceding twelvemonth. The prizes are named after the flagship of Columbus and that of Juan S. Eleano, first to circumnavigate the world in the Nao Victoria.

The first awards have been made to Switzerland for the 4 Pro Juventute stamps of 1948 and to the Vatican City for the mail stamps of 1949.

Japanese Postal History and Stamps. Mr. Frederick H. Gloeckner, of Philadelphia, has sent a synopsis of a paper given by him before the Reading Stamp Club, dealing with plating of the first stamps of Japan. His entire study and book will cost 10 dollars.

Atlantik Post. Edgar Mohrman and Co., of Speersort 6, Hamburg 1, Germany, stamp dealers and auctioneers, send a copy of this, which is actually a price list of stamps, etc., which they have for sale.

Spanish Postage Stamp Centenary Exhibition.

We have received a prospectus of this exhibition, being held in Madrid on 12-22 October, 1950, under official Government auspices. It promises to be something rather fine. There are no entry fees and exhibits will be returned free of charge! Unfortunately the announcement has come rather late as entries have to reach the Exhibition Committee by 1st July.



"THE JUNIOR COLLECTOR"

We have received a copy of this little magazine which is the organ of *The Junior Stamp Collectors' Exchange Club*, operating from 68 Central Road, Kimberley.

The magazine itself has quite a lot of philatelic information for the benefit of the club members, who now number over 100. Long may it and they flourish! The membership is limited to collectors under twenty.



HUNGARY

The philatelic agency have announced the issue on 4th April of a set of four stamps to celebrate the 5th anniversary of the "Liberation of Hungary by the glorious Red Army from the oppression of Fascism."

Also on 9th April of three stamps on the occasion of the world chess championship gathering; on 1st May of three stamps with designs symbolic of the world proletariat; and on 16th May three more in connection with a meeting of the World Federation of Trade Unions.

Collectors' Wants & Offers

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

Wholesaler requires regular supplies of Basutoland, Bechuanaland, Nyasaland, Swaziland in large or small quantities. Send or write by air mail.

B. Savitz, 69 Greenvale Road, London, S.E. 9, England.

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Benoni Stamp Shop, Box 485, Benoni.

Sierra Leone. Full Gibbons Catalogue prices offered for superb used copies of S.G. Numbers 49, 51 to 53, 78 to 80, 86A, 94 to 96, 123, 124, 126, 127, 146 to 147A.

William Redford, P.O. Box 1182, Johannesburg.

Union Booklets, covers and panes with borders, mint. Urgently required.

Dr. C. Murray, Kuilsriver.

Wholesalers interested in packets materials contact

Boateng and Sons, Box 3, Sekondi, Gold Coast.

Exchange: "France Libre" Colonials against British Colonials.

E. R. Loison, 3 Rue Bourg-L'Abbé, Paris 3e.

Basutoland Postal Stationery, Union and Provincial stamps used in Basutoland and good used blocks of the definitive issues wanted by

G. N. Gilbert, Grosvenor, Westminster.

Offer: South-West Africa War Effort 1941/2, War Effort 1943/4, Victory 1945, Royal Visit 1947, Royal Silver Wedding 1948, 75th Anniversary Universal Postal 1949.

C. F. Bartenstein, 6 Marmion Road, Oranjezicht, Cape Town.

Wanted: Union of South Africa, specialist items and good Union collections. Send on approval to:

Dr. S. J. Hoffman, 48 Lister Buildings, Jeppe Street, Johannesburg.

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NEW ZEALAND

The 1950 Health stamps, 1d. and ½d. and 2d. and 1d., are to be issued on 2nd October. The design will show Princess Elizabeth seated with Prince Charles on her lap.



BARBADOS

The new Barbados set of pictorial stamps, with denominations in cents and dollars, have been sent out, but they are not to go on sale until the sterling issue is exhausted. They were printed by Messrs. Bradbury, Wilkinson & Co., and except in the case of the 12c., \$1.20 and \$2.40 the designs were based on photographs.

The denominations are: 1c., 2c., 3c., 4c., 6c., 8c., 12c., 24c., 48c., 60c., \$1.20 and \$2.40.



G.S.W.A. AIRMAIL 1914

One of the most difficult airmails, if not *the* most difficult, of Southern Africa to acquire is that of the flights made in German South West Africa in connection with a Territorial Fair held in Windhoek in May, 1914.

The story of this is told in the May issue of the "Aero Field," by Dr. Eduard Ey, and, we think for the first time, the full story is here made readily available to air post collectors. Actually they appear to have been five flights, or at any rate five different types of cachets or cancellations used. But very, very few of these items have been conserved, and lucky are those who have any or can get one.

WANTED TO BUY WANTED TO BUY

Dealer wants to purchase South Africa, S.W.A. Protectorate, old Cape, T.V.L., Natal, etc., in large quantities, but not less than 100 copies per stamp. No. ½d. to 1½d. current S.A. required. Good prices offered.

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165 Cape Road, Port Elizabeth

ISRAEL

The Department of Posts announces the issue on 22nd June, in connection with a first flight from Lydda to New York, of their first series of air mail stamps. There will be six values, 5—250 pruta, all with birds taken from designs made by ancient Hebrew artists for the decoration of synagogues and tombs from 1,500 to 2,000 years ago.

STUDY YOUR COUNTRY'S STAMPS

LEEWARD ISLANDS

AN UNCATALOGUED VARIETY

Mr. J. B. Prince writes from Shabani that he has recently acquired a mint Leeward Islands stamp, S.G. No. 19, 7d. dull mauve and slate surcharged "One Penny." In this surcharge the spelling is "Peany." This is not a catalogued variety and the writer would like to know if any reader has seen a similar variety, or can give any information about it.

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U.S.A.

In connection with the national capitol 150th anniversary, another stamp appeared on 12th June, this time a 3c. featuring the south front of the White House.

On 30th June there was due to appear a 3c. brown stamp honouring the Boy Scouts of America in connection with their 2nd National Jamboree.



LONDON INTERNATIONAL EXHIBITION

From all accounts this appears to have been a magnificent success from all points of view—exhibitors, dealers and the public in general. There were over 30,000 visitors, including many from abroad. The grand prix was awarded to H. C. V. Adams for his collection of Great Britain. "Ubique," in *Stamp Collecting*, remarks that "in case anyone is ill-disposed enough to suggest that it *had* to be awarded to an Englishman from London, let it be said that the British members of the jury were solid for awarding it to Dr. Hans Leeman, of Switzerland, but were over-ruled by their overseas colleagues."

A surprise visit was made to the exhibition one evening by H.M. the King, accompanied by Princess Margaret.



SOUTHERN RHODESIA

The current 1d. and 8d. stamps have appeared on very thin paper, almost completely transparent.



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IF YOU ARE THINKING OF SELLING, no matter whether a single rarity or a twenty-volume collection, we have over 3,000 leading collectors all over the world who are regular bidders at the Bond Street Auctions. Send for free leaflet giving full particulars of Commission terms, insurance arrangements, etc.

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Proprietors and Publishers:

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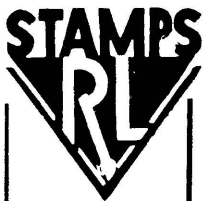
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Vol. 26. No. 8.

AUGUST, 1950.

Whole No. 305

NEW SEASON'S AUCTIONS



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Vol. 26. No. 8.

AUGUST, 1950.

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THE EDITOR'S CORNER

South African ½d. Pictorial

Although a number of articles on this subject have appeared in recent issues, we are publishing another this month by special request. This is reprinted from *Gibbons' Stamp Monthly* and we are indebted firstly to the author, Mr. S. C. Chantler, of Grahams-town, for permission to reprint and, secondly, to Messrs. Stanley Gibbons, Ltd., for the loan of the blocks illustrating the article. The illustrations add greatly to the elucidation of the varieties of this stamp. The article is as published in the "G.S.M." with a short addendum added by the author.

Society News

We are starting a new feature this month in the way of a standing list of Member Societies in our Federation, with their addresses and dates/places of meetings.

This follows a complaint made at the recent Executive Committee meeting that a philatelist visiting another town did not know where or when the local philatelic society met, because there had been no reports from that society in recent months.

In the discussion the representative of a society which has not been sending us much in the way of "Society News" lately said he didn't think their doings were of interest to other societies or individuals. He was very surprised to learn that practically everyone else at the meeting said "Society News was the first thing they read," or words to that effect. One member went so far as to say it was the only thing he read!

Will society secretaries please note? And will they kindly make any corrections needed and fill up the blank spaces which have been left in the list because of lack of information.



NIGERIA

The 1/- 3d. stamp released on 4th June is in a new perforation, 11½.

NETHERLANDS AND INDIES

The issue of the summer charity set in June with motif the rebuilding of war-damaged Holland, marked another departure from the traditional "famous Netherlanders" tradition. The stamps are recess printed and apart from the firm draughtsmanship and fine designs, illustrate the superiority of engraving over photogravure. The six values of this set (previous summer charities consisted of five values) are

2 cts + 2 cts., sepia—a builder.

4 cts. + 2 cts., green—rebuilding the dykes.

5 cts. + 3 cts., black—a large modern building.

6 cts. + 4 cts., violet—tractor drawing a reaper.

10 cts. + 5 cts., grey-green—span of bridge being placed in position.

20 cts. + 5 cts., blue—canal motor transport ship.

In order to use up quantities of the recently obsolete 7½ct. Queen Wilhelmina stamp, these were overprinted "6" (6 cents being the normal inland postage rate). A cutting received from a correspondent in Holland showed an illustration of one of a set of five stamps due for the 17th July, the surtax on which is intended for a fund in aid of a church re-building programme.

No mention of the designs other than the one illustrated was made so that it is presumed that a uniform set is contemplated. (Confirmed on receipt of 1st day cover. The stamps all depict a ruined church and the Good Samaritan assisting a stricken traveller.)

"Mijn Stokpaardje" in its issue for June mentions that the Luxemburg Government has honoured the noted Netherlands designer of stamps, S. Hartz, by awarding him a Knighthood in the Order of Adolf of Nassau for services rendered in the designing of their stamps.

From the same issue it is learnt that in the Indies, the U.P.U. stamps and miniature sheet issued by the Republic of Djocja have been "warranted" by an overprint consisting of the letters R.I.S., (Republik Indonesia Serikat).

The overprint was mentioned in an earlier contribution as contemplated for the ordinary issues and has now also been applied to the numeral stamps inscribed "Indonesia."

"Mijn Stokpaardje" also mentions that the first Repoeblik stamp, the 15 sen red of 17th January, 1950, is to be re-issued in a smaller format and also overprinted R.I.S.

Union Notes

Sub-Editor: Mr. W. N. Sheffield,
Box 99, Cleveland, Transvaal.

RECENT PRINTINGS

The Publicity Officer, G.P.O., has kindly supplied the following information covering the period 1/3/50 to 14/6/50. For the previous list see our April 1950 issue, page 49.

Ordinary Pictorial Stamps

½d.—Job No. 5134 contd. On an order for one million sheets x 240 the total delivered to date is recorded as 369,320 sheets printed from the same cylinders as before, namely, 11A and 11B.

1d.—Job No. 2810 contd. On an order for 750,000 sheets x 240 a total of 470,600 sheets have been delivered to date. Cylinders 6A and 6B as before.

1½d.—Job No. 5301 contd. On an order for 200,000 sheets x 240 (previously recorded as 1½ million) there have been 128,500 sheets delivered. Cylinders 6931A and B as before.

2d.—Job No. 5302. Order for 60,000 sheets x 120; first delivery of 10,500 sheets on 14/3/50 and final delivery of the 60,000 sheets on 21/3/50. Printed from new cylinders 2 Int. and 37 Ext.

—Job No. 12995. Order for 1 million sheets x 240; first delivery of 24,000 sheets on 18/4/50, printed from new cylinders 6927 Int. and 50 Ext. Total delivery to date, 191,250 sheets.

1s.—Job No. 5303 contd. On an order for 150,000 sheets x 120 there have been 53,950 sheets delivered to date. Cylinders 6926 Int. and 6935 Ext. as before.

Roll Stamps

½d.—Job No. 10070. Order for 6,000 rolls x 1012 stamps and 5,000 rolls x 506 stamps; first delivery on 23/5/50 and totals of 1560 and 800 rolls respectively supplied to date. Printed from one colour cylinder 6054 as before.

Postage Due Stamps

1d.—Job No. 5131. On an order for 15,000 sheets x 60, a total of 20,750 sheets were delivered during the period 9/3/50 to 14/3/50. Cylinder numbers 39 (Int. (old) and 33 Ext. (new)).

3d.—Job No. 5131. During the same period as the foregoing, a total of 20,500 sheets x 60

were delivered. Cylinder numbers 6921 Int. (old) and 33 Ext. (new). (Note: These are the new hyphenated stamps recorded on page 102 of our July issue.)

Pictorial Post Cards

1d.—Job No. 1319 contd. Total delivered, 2,916,992 from cylinders 85 (pictures) and 88 (stamps). Final delivery of order 11/5/50.

Air Letter Cards

6d.—Job No. 6198 contd. On an order for four million the following figures are given of deliveries to date:

2,351,400 from Cyl. No. 40—Period 23/8/49 to 9/3/50.

676,800 from Cyl. No. 27—Period 28/3/50 to 24/4/50.

593,400 from Cyl. No. 18—First delivery 25/5/50.

"Official" Stamps

1s. A total of 300 sheets x 120 were supplied by the Postmaster-General and overprinted OFFICIAL/OFFISIEEL on a flat bed machine from an old forme and delivered on the 25/4/50.

Overprinted for use in S.W.A.

Registered Envelopes—Stamp value 4d. A total of 14,400 were supplied by the Postmaster-General and overprinted S.W.A. on a flat bed machine from new formes. Date of delivery 28/3/50.

6d. Air Letter Cards.—On an order for 54,000 a total of 46,800 were drawn from the G.P.'s stocks and 7,200 were supplied by the on a flat bed machine from a new forme. Date of delivery 25/4/50.

* .

Plate Characteristic of the 1s. Pictorial Hyphenate Series

Enquiries from a correspondent as to the possibility of differentiating between detached copies of the first and second printings of the 1s. pictorial hyphenate series has brought to light the presence of a small but very clear plate characteristic which makes it comparatively easy to distinguish between the stamps of the two issues.

In Mr. A. H. Sydow's "Summary of the 1s. Union Pictorial Printings" published on page 37 of our March issue, the first of the hyphenate series is listed as having been issued in February, 1939, with blue (frame colour) marginal arrows on the sheets and produced from unscreened cylinders. The second of the same series was issued in June, 1948, also from unscreened cylinders, but in this case the marginal arrows were etched on the vignette cylinder and therefore appeared on the sheets in the brown colour of the headplate design. In the third printing, issued in January this year and the 1s. stamp now on sale, the marginal arrows are back again to the frame colour of blue, but because both the vignette and frame portions of the design

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2d. Pl. I. Nos. 1, 2, 5, 8, 10, 11, 12, 23. (Ret. 21, 22).

II. Nos. 4, 5, 7, 8, 10, 11, 13, 14, 15, 17, 21, 22, 24. (Ret. 9, 13, 18).

III. Nos. 5, 8, 9, 10, 15, 16, 19, 24.

IV. Nos. 3, 6, 12, 13, 14, 15.

V. Nos. 2, 11, 13, 16, 17, 24.

3d. Nos. 1, 3, 12, 14, 17, 18.

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B.P.A.

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Stamp collecting is mostly just a hobby, for some people it is just an investment. You could, however, make a fine combination of hobby and investment. How? Collect one or two countries only but try to complete these countries and go for rarities, postmarks, etc., as well. A small house but a complete one, nicely decorated, is always more useful than a large one with defects and incomplete.

If there are gaps in your collection, write to me. I would be only too pleased to send you (at my expense) those items on approval. There is no risk on your side, if you don't like them, you return them. But as my stamps are all in fine condition and the prices very reasonable, I am sure that you will become another satisfied customer.

Just to give you an idea:

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Barbados S.G.227 mint, Cat. 35/-	17 6
do. S.G.239 mint, Cat. 50/-	2 7 6
do. S.G.195 mint, Cat. 37/6	1 0 0
Canada S.G.43a used, superb, Cat. £5	2 10 0
Eire S.G.1a mint, Cat. £8	4 0 0
do. S.G.2a mint, Cat. £6	3 10 0
do. S.G.12a mint, Cat. £5	2 10 0
etc., etc.	

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have been printed from screened cylinders it is a simple enough matter, with the aid of a magnifying glass, to distinguish these stamps from those of the two unscreened printings.

When studying the two unscreened issues however, the lack of a blue or brown marginal arrow attached to a copy has up to now made it difficult to separate one from the other and

blemish it is easily located without the use of a glass. It does not appear on the stamps of the first hyphenate issue and therefore when present on an *unscreened* copy of the series, it instantly denotes the Second Printing, or Brown Marginal Arrow issue of 1948.

The stamps of the three printings can therefore now be recognised without much diffi-

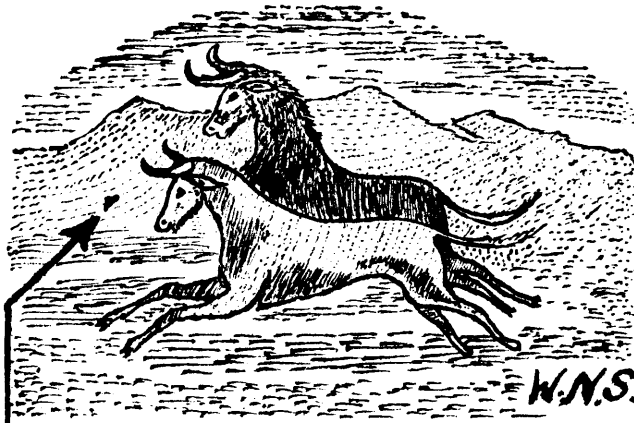


PLATE CHARACTERISTIC OF THE 1/-
HYPHENATE PICTORIAL STAMPS

we are indebted to Mr. S. J. Hagger, of Alberton, Transvaal, for drawing attention to a distinguishing mark which appears on the vignettes of the second and third printings and simplifies the whole matter. Its position immediately in front of the foremost Gnu's head is illustrated in the accompanying sketch in rather a pronounced form for the purpose of identification, and though quite a small

culty and it is of added interest to note that this little characteristic also provides a ready means of distinguishing those particular 1s. "Officials" which were just recently produced on the "brown arrow" sheets and recorded in our May and June numbers. Incidentally, as mentioned in an adjoining paragraph, these have now been replaced with a new issue of 1s. "Officials" overprinted on the current screened stamps.

Redistribution of the 3d. Pictorial Screened Stamps

As announced in our June issue, sheets of the 3d. screened stamps bearing the cylinder numbers 44A and 44B were understood to be no longer available, but a small redistribution of this issue was noted to have taken place and was on sale at some of the post offices in Johannesburg, and along the Reef, during the second week of July.

It is not yet known whether these sheets happen to have turned up as part of the old stock or whether they form part of a new printing from the same cylinders, but such copies as have been observed to date show no particular changes and are practically the same shade as those previously on sale.

Changes in "Official" Stamps

The 1½d. "Officials" listed in February as a new issue with the overprints reading upwards are reported by Mr. S. J. Hagger, of Alberton, to be no longer available and that their place has been taken by sheets on which the overprints read *downwards* again. The

spacing of the overprints and their appearance gives the impression that the same form was employed for both issues, but in one case in an upright position and the other, inverted. The sheets used for the present issue are those which were on sale prior to the appearance of 6919A/6919B cylinder number issue and listed as Printing No. III in the Summary of the 1½d. "Small Mine" stamps published in the "South African Philatelist" for December, 1949.

Mr. Hagger also notes that a new issue of the 1s. "Officials" has appeared with the overprints on the screened printing of these stamps. (Cyl. Nos. 6926/6935). The overprints read downwards as before but their spacing varies between 18mm. and 19mm. instead of the 19mm. and 20mm. recorded for those produced on the brown marginal arrow sheets.

The 1d. "Officials" recently recorded as available on sheets bearing the Cylinder Nos. 6A and 6B appear to be in short supply at the moment and only stamps of the old 1945 issue were on sale when enquiries were made in July.

New Printing Flaw on Current 1d. Stamp

Mr. I. N. Sharp, Johannesburg, records that stamp No. 4 in the 16th row of the current 1d. issue (Cyl. Nos. 6A/6B) has appeared with a defect which cuts off a portion of the furthest small boat and leaves a mark shaped like the head and shoulders of an oversized human being sitting in the prow of the nearer boat.

This defect has evidently developed quite recently for it was not present on sheets available during the earlier months of this year.

W.N.S.

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BASUTOLAND

1st Official Air Mail Service

Mr. I. H. C. Godfrey reports the following:

The British Government recently awarded a contract to the Drakensberg Air Services (Pty.), Ltd., for the regular conveyance of mails by air between Ladysmith, Natal, and Maseru, via the remote station of Mokhotlong, Basutoland.

The service was inaugurated on Friday, June 2nd, 1950, when the plane ZS-BZB (A Cessna 170) took off from Ladysmith aerodrome at 8 a.m. with 332 lbs. of mail and freight, piloted by Mr. G. de Wet. (Mr. Peter Strong, the originator of the scheme, would have piloted the plane himself had he not gone down with a touch of pneumonia.) The flight was carried out to exact schedule, the plane arriving back at Ladysmith at 1 p.m. The Berg was crossed at an altitude of 10,500 ft. above sea level.

Souvenir mails were carried in both directions and were backstamped on the day of the flight.



SILVER WEDDINGS WITH FORGED POSTMARKS

The Expert Committee of the B.P.A. reports in "Philately" that numerous stamps have been found with forged cancellations. Among the African issues the following have certainly been so ill-treated: Sierra Leone 1½d. and £1, Ascension 10s., Zanzibar 10s., Gambia 1½d., N. Rhodesia 1½d., Somaliland 5R, Bechuanaland 10s. Suspect, but not cer-

tainly forgeries, they have seen Kenya 20c, Mauritius 5c, Somaliland 1a, Basutoland 1½d., Swaziland 1½d., and Nigeria 1d. and 5s.

★
ISRAEL

Below is an illustration of the air mail set reported in our last issue, also of the etiquette used on air correspondence.



U.P.U.

The world's set of U.P.U. issues is not yet complete, but there are not many more to come.

Most of the stamps produced in 1949 were legitimate in that they were genuinely for postal purposes, but at least half of the sets which have been issued in 1950 are highly speculative. Countries where the issue was in limited numbers or there was cornering of supplies so that collectors had to pay many times face value are Cuba, Ethiopia, Persia, San Marino, Spanish Morocco and Yemen.

★
U.S.A.

Latest arrivals are the 3c Kansas City, Midwest Centenary stamp issued on 3rd June and the 3c White House stamp issued on 12th June in connection with the Washington Sesquicentennial. Thanks to Mr. George R. Rankin for first day special covers.

A 3c commemorating the sesquicentennial of Indiana territory was due for issue on 4th July.

★
JUGOSLAVIA

Five stamps, 2, 3, 5, 10 and 20 din, were issued on 2nd July in connection with the third Aeronautical meeting. The motifs, naturally, are all connected with flight. There was also a 3 D stamp issued on 1st June honouring Child Week; the design shows a child eating.

(Concluded from page 126)

foregoing information and also desire to express their appreciation of the valuable assistance given them by the officials when collecting the details for the preparation of this paper.

SOCIETY NEWS

FEDERATED SOCIETIES

NAME AND ADDRESS:	MEETINGS:
Cape Town P.S., Box 1973	2nd and 4th Thursdays, 8 p.m., Mountain Club Rooms, Yorkshire Ho., Strand St.
Copperbelt P.S., c/o No. 12 7th Ave., Nkana, N. Rhodesia	
E. London P.S., c/o Box 450	2nd Fridays, 7.45 p.m., Colosseum Theatre Tea Rooms
E. Rand P.S., c/o Box 255, Brakpan	3rd Thursdays, 8 p.m., Regent Hotel, Benoni
Grahamstown P.S., c/o H. Q. Tarr, Kingswood College	2nd Thursdays, 8 p.m., 120 High St.
Jewish Guild Phil. Section, Von Brandis St., Johannesburg	Last Thursdays, 8 p.m., Jewish Guild
Johannesburg, P.S. of, Box 4967	2nd Tuesdays and 4th Mondays, 7.45 p.m., Public Library
Maritzburg P.S., Box 256, Pietermaritzburg	
Mashonaland P.S., Box 1660, Salisbury	
Natal, P.S. of, Box 588, Durban	1st and 3rd Wednesdays, 7.30 p.m., Durban Camera Club, 319 Smith St.
N. Transvaal P.S., c/o Miss v. Niekerk, P.O. Rita . .	3rd Wednesdays, Goldfields Hotel, Pietersburg, at 8 p.m.
Nyasaland P.S., c/o Limbe Trading Co., Limbe . . .	
O.F.S. & Basutoland P.S., Box 702, Bloemfontein . .	Free State Technical College
Port Elizabeth P.S., c/o 13 Trafalgar Square	1st & 3rd Tuesdays, 7.45 p.m., Room 3, City Hall Basement
Pretoria P.S., Box 514	1st & 3rd Mondays, 8 p.m., Technical College
Pretoria Railway P.S., Railway Recreation Club, Berea Park	2nd Wednesdays, 7.30 p.m., Railway Recreation Club
Rhodesia, P.S. of, Box 803, Bulawayo	
Roodepoort Stamp Club, c/o 82 Kruger Ave., Selwyn, Florida	
Springs P.S., c/o No. 25, 5th St., New Township, Springs	2nd Mondays, 7.30 p.m., Board Room, New Era Press
Vereeniging Stamp Club, Box 196	
W. Rand Stamp Club, c/o U 184, W. Rand Consol. Mines	1st Wednesdays, 8 p.m., Royal Hotel, Krugersdorp

GRAHAMSTOWN PHILATELIC SOCIETY

July 13: Dr. Cory warmly welcomed Mr. Motyer, of East London, who, fortunately for our Society, is now to reside in Grahamstown. The members were glad to hear that Mr. Sheffield had expressed his willingness to represent the Society at Congress. The high-light of the evening was the display of Mr. Pote's African Silver Weddings, followed by his South African Coronations. Both collections were complete with all the recorded varieties, a very fine display. Mr. Pote specialises in Africans, and has probably the finest collection of these in Grahamstown. The meeting closed with votes of thanks to Mr. Pote, and to Mr. Drury for the use of his room. R.Q.T.

★

NORTHERN TRANSVAAL PHILATELIC SOCIETY

At the meeting held on June 21 Mr. R. Ridsley took the chair; six members were present.

The N. T. Society is still in its infancy, and often the meetings are poorly attended, but through the perseverance of the chairman, who is an ardent collector, an inspiring spirit always prevails, and members always leave the meeting with a feeling that they have learnt a little more about philately.

E. v. N.

★

EAST RAND PHILATELIC SOCIETY

The monthly meeting of the above Society was held on Tuesday, the 18th July, 1950.

Owing to unforeseen circumstances, the Philatelic Section of the Jewish Guild, Johannesburg, was not able to attend as arranged. Our President, Mr. J. Shepherd, exhibited his collections of Newfoundland and South-West Africa stamps. Mr. S. Legator, on behalf of the Society, proposed a vote of thanks to the exhibitor on his fine collections. A.G.

★

PHILATELIC SOCIETY OF JOHANNESBURG

July 11: The exhibits were provided by members of the Jewish Guild Philatelic Section who paid an official visit to the Society.

Mr. J. M. Rich, the chairman of the Jewish Guild Section, introduced the exhibitors and explained the exhibits.

Mr. L. Buchen showed Austrian Charities, Commemoratives and Air Mails. This was a fine exhibit including some rare items such as the 10s. Dolfuss, the Wipa sheet used on cover and many flown covers.

Mr. I. Isaacs showed Austrian Flown Covers. The exhibit included some copies of the 1918 Military Mail Service and glider flights.

Mr. B. Glassman showed his George VI collection of the Pacific Islands. These included all the rare perforations and obsolete varieties.

Messrs. B. and J. Joseph showed Swiss Pro Juventute stamps, a nearly complete collection in fine mint condition.

The speakers on the exhibits were Mr. W. Oppenheim (on Austrian stamps), Mr. J. W. Schubart (on Austrian covers), Mr. E. Stern (on the George VI

(Continued on page 132)

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THE PHOTOGRAPHIC NEGATIVE AND POSITIVE PLATES AND THE MULTIPLE DIAPOSITIVES OF THE ROYAL SILVER WEDDING STAMPS OF THE UNION OF SOUTH AFRICA

By **W. N. SHEFFIELD, M. (S.A.) I.E.E.,** and **A. HILTON SYDOW, A.S.A.A., C.A.(S.A.)**

(Continued from page 111 of our July issue)

The Principal Master Negatives and Contact Positives for Cylinder No. 6923

The stage was now reached where the four glass photographic plates required for building up the Compound Master Negative were ready for assemblage, and comprised:

- (1) The Principal Master Negative "A" of the picture set out on the 12ins. x 10ins. Composite Master Design with English inscriptions.
- (2) The Principal Master Negative "B" of the picture set out on the 12ins. x 10ins. Composite Master Design but with Afrikaans inscriptions.

Note: Both (1) and (2) had their letters and numerals in black and in reversed reading postures, i.e., from *right to left* when viewed from the *emulsion sides* of the plates.

- (3) The Contact Positive with the words "Silver Wedding" only and derived from the Principal Master Negative "C".
- (4) The Contact Positive with the word "Silwerbruilof" only and derived from the Principal Master Negative "D."

Note: Both (3) and (4) also had their letters in black but in normal reading postures, i.e., from *left to right* when viewed from the *emulsion sides* of the plates.

These four plates were paired off to form two complete units, namely, Nos (1) and (3) in English and Nos. (2) and (4) in Afrikaans. But in pairing them off the positives (3) and (4) were turned over and their emulsion sides respectively brought into direct contact with the emulsion sides of the negatives (1) and (2) so that their combined letters and numerals read in the same directions.—See for example Figure 5. (This sketch shows a pair just prior to and just after they were slid into alignment.)

One pair was then placed on a glass base plate of a size to fit into the Plate Holder of the "Step and Repeat" Camera and secured in position to the left of the centre line of the said glass base plate by means of black adhesive tape affixed along their top, their *left* and their bottom aligned edges. With the first affixed pair as a guide the second pair was placed in position to the right of the centre line and after allowing for space in respect of the vertical perforation gutters, was secured by means of black adhesive tape

affixed along their top, their *right* and their bottom aligned edges. The said negatives and the said positives in reverse thus bound together in pairs were placed together with the Plate Holder in the requisite position for

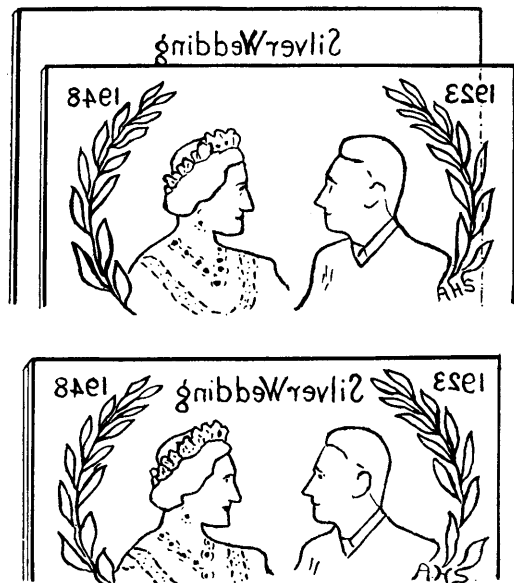


Figure 5.

projection on to the multiple diapositive plate by means of the "Step and Repeat" Camera. From the images on the said diapositive plate the Exterior Cylinder No. 6923 was etched via a Carbon Tissue sheet.

In order to effect the alternate language disposition throughout the sheet of 120 units in 20 horizontal rows of 6 each the Compound Master Negative was projected on to the Multiple Diapositive in the following manner:

- (1) Three (2-set C.M.N.) exposures per odd-numbered row the equivalent of 6 images (3 English and 3 Afrikaans) on each of the horizontal rows Nos. 1, 3, 5—15, 17, 19.
- (2) Four (2-set C.M.N.) exposures per even-numbered row the equivalent of 8 images (4 English and 4 Afrikaans) on each of the horizontal rows Nos. 2, 4, 6—16, 18, 20.

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1948 Flag, mint 9d., used	9d.
1949 Road to Jerusalem, mint 7/-, used	3/6
1949 Patha Tiqva, mint 1/-, used	1/0
1949 New Coin set, mint 4/-, used	4/0
1949 New Postage Dues, mint 4/-, used	4/0
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Niue (1 Jul.) set to 1/- (used at 4/3) 4/0
Complete to 3/- (used at 11/-) 10/0

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This procedure produced ten extraneous images on the left-hand side and ten on the right-hand side of the Multiple Diapositive, which of course were masked before the etching process and the carbon tissue printing process was initiated.

The Subsidiary Master Negatives For Cylinder No. 48.

The Union Royal Silver Wedding postage stamps which were bicoloured ones naturally necessitated printings from two copper-faced cylinders. For this dual printing process therefore a second and subsidiary Master Negative was a requisite.

The branches or sprays of silver tree leaves together with the "GE" tablet or shield were printed in silver ink from Cylinder No. 48.

Concatenation of S.T.L. Sprays printed in white from Cylinder No. 6923 with S.T.L. Sprays printed in silver from Cylinder No. 48

It must be borne in mind that the sprays of silver tree leaves and the "GE" tablet were virtually printed twice per stamp and in precise registration per stamp:

- (1) In white from Cylinder 6923 as a background for the silver printing. (See "M" and "N" on Figure 1). (From Principal Master Negatives "A" and "B").
- (2) In silver from Cylinder No. 48 on the whites from Cylinder 6923. (See the printed stamp.)
(From Subsidiary Master Negatives "A" and "B".)

Precise registration between "White" and "Silver" was a desideratum and in consequence the Composite Master Design (See Figure 1) was utilised anent the preparation of the Subsidiary Master Negatives called

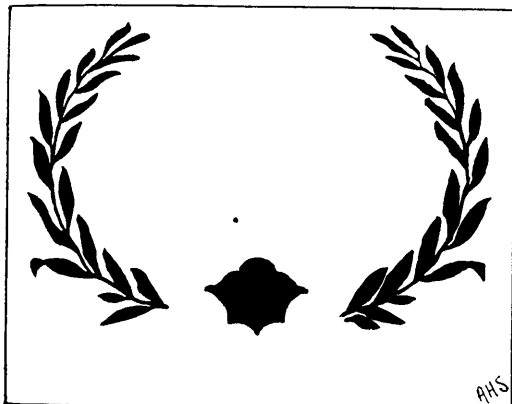


Figure 6.

for the purpose of this article "A" and "B".

From the complete Master Design an outline drawing of the silver tree leaf branches and the "GE" tablet was made on draughtsman's tracing cloth. These outlines on the said tracing cloth were filled in black as per Figure 6, and then photographed twice and two negatives obtained on two small thin glass photographic plates. These two Subsidiary Master Negatives were of the same dimen-

sions as those of the Principal Master Negatives.

The two Subsidiary Master Negatives "A" and "B"—with their silver leaf sprays and "GE" tablets shown up on their emulsion sides in white (actually transparent) as per Figure 7—were next placed side by side on a glass base plate of a size to fit into the Plate Holder

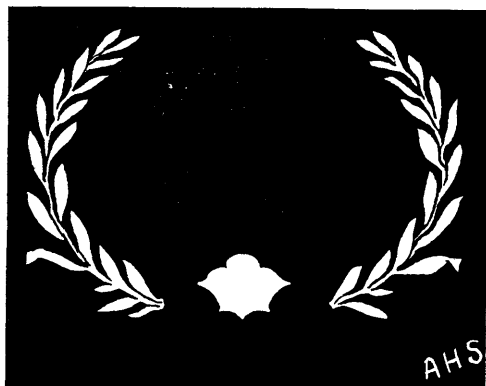


Figure 7.

of the "Step and Repeat" Camera and as in the case of the Principal Master Negatives "A" and "B" the one on the left-hand side secured in position with black adhesive tape affixed along its top, left and bottom edges. Then in order to ensure that all printings in silver ink from Cylinder No. 48 would be in precise registration with printings in "white" from the blue Cylinder No. 6923 a special photographic glass positive was made. This two-set plate named for the purpose of this article Special Positive "AB" was printed by direct contact with the two bound Principal Master Negatives "A" and "B". Special Positive "AB" was then superimposed on the two Subsidiary Master Negatives "A" and "B" and by means of its guidance the right-hand unit of the latter pair was moved into precise alignment and affixed in that position with black adhesive tape along its top, right and bottom edges.

Thus the second Compound Master Negative was ready for projection on to the second Multiple Diapositive plate by means of the "Step and Repeat" Camera. From this diapositive plate the Interior Cylinder No. 48 was etched via a Carbon Tissue sheet. As this cylinder was required solely for the printing in silver ink of the silver leaf branches and the "GE" shield or tablet—and therefore free from the process of "side-stepping" the images at every alternate horizontal row for the alternate language feature—it was etched with 120 units in 20 horizontal rows of 6, as against the 140 units in 20 horizontal rows of alternate "6's" and "8's" anent Exterior Cylinder No. 6923.

The authors are indebted to the Government Printer and the Department of Posts and Telegraphs for kind permission to publish the
(Continued on page 121)

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A SURVEY OF THE SOUTH AFRICAN ½d. PICTORIAL.
1926-1949.

By S. C. CHANTLER

(Reprinted from "Gibbons' Stamp Monthly.")

The South African ½d. "Springbok Head" stamp, like many other things, is not what it used to be; in fact, since its first appearance on January 1st, 1926, it has undergone so many changes that it is surprising that there is still some resemblance to the original issue. The ordinary user of South African stamps would, probably be very surprised if told that the stamps he had been licking for twenty-three years were not the same throughout this time, and the evolution of this denomination presents a very interesting study, well worth the effort expended.

Most collectors are aware that the principle of having two official languages of the country printed on alternate stamps was first adopted with this issue and has continued ever since. In passing, it should be mentioned

that this principle will be abandoned in the new issues, now in course of preparation, and both languages will then be printed on each stamp, thereby obviating the necessity of collecting Union stamps in pairs—this, of course, having nothing to do with the issues under review.

Group 1 (see illustrations)

The first issue of this stamp—January 1st, 1926—was typographed, in London, by Waterlow & Sons, Ltd., from flat electrotype plates which were prepared in the Royal Mint, London. The size of the design was 18.5 by 22.5 mm., and the watermarks were upright and inverted. The stamps were issued in sheets, rolls and booklets. The "R" in "AFRICA" and "SUIDAFRIKA" is curved. The thick





horizontal and vertical bars of colour are solid, the shading of the scroll clearly defined and the lettering very sharp. Later, the plates were sent to Pretoria where further printings were made (1927-1930). The Pretoria printings are duller and coarser than those of London. A small emergency printing was also made from Plate 2, in 1948, in order to use up a stock of cut paper which had been lying in the Government Printing Works for eighteen years. The paper from this printing is very brittle and the stamps are easily parted.

Group 2

The Rotary photogravure method of stamp printing was introduced into the Union in 1930 and the 1d. denomination printed by this method appeared on May 13th, 1931. This method, commonly called 'Rotogravure,' is now the only one normally used for printing Union stamps. Calling, as it does, for a bold conception of design, with graduating tones, this method has never, in the opinion of the writer, been entirely satisfactory for the stamps of this country as the somewhat elaborate designs in use were originally intended for production by the older methods. Be that as it may, the design for this denomination was similar to that of the typographic form excepting that the foot of the "R" in "AFRICA" and "SUIDAFRIKA" ends squarely on the bottom line, the shading of the scroll is not so well defined—the leaves

being almost white—and the horizontal lines of shading around the Springbok Head are, more or less, of even density. White oblique lines, running right to left, thus, //, are found in the thick horizontal and vertical bars of colour, but it should be mentioned that the latter feature is not always readily apparent. The standard multiple comb perforator perforated stamps from sheets, rolls and booklets 14½ x 14½. Three sets of cylindrical plates (henceforth referred to as cylinders) were used for this series.

Group 3

On November 12th, 1936, a new feature was introduced and the word "SUIDAFRIKA" now broken by the introduction of a hyphen and reads "SUID-AFRIKA." The other features of the design remained unchanged, but the leaves in the scroll were more fully shaded. Perforations for sheets and booklets were 15 x 14, but for rolls 13½ x 14, surplus sheet cuttings from the latter, with narrow gutter margins, were also sold in sheets and without top and bottom margins. One set of cylinders, doing duty for sheets, rolls and booklets, was used for this group.

Group 4

The design was redrawn in 1937 and the vertical lines of shading at the top and bottom of the stamps was replaced by horizontal lines. The oblique white lines found

in the thick horizontal and vertical bars of colour now run left to right, thus ||||| and are more widely spaced. The horizontal lines of shading surrounding the Springbok's head are thicker and fewer than in earlier types. Booklets and rolls were also produced in this group. The size of the design is 18.5 x 22.5 mm., as in the earlier groups.

Group 5

The basic design having become more, or less, fixed, a new feature was introduced in October, 1947 and reflects a reduction in the size of the design from 18.5 x 22.5 mm. to 18.25 x 22.25 mm., thereby allowing the gutters between stamps to be .5 mm. wider. One set of cylinders only was used with this feature. The oblique white lines in the bars of colour remain.

Group 6

November, 1947, saw a further reduction in size of the design to 18 x 22 mm. and the oblique white lines in the bars of colour are replaced by cross-hatched lines. The first stamp on the sheet was in the English language, the first on all previous emissions having been in Afrikaans. A bi-coloured roll stamp with the features of this group appeared in 1948 but was soon superseded by a return to the monocoloured type referred to later.

Group 7

In February, 1948, the cylinder for the frame was screened and the cross-hatching or oblique lines in the thick bars of colour eliminated, the whole of the frame now showing a dotted effect and the straight edges of colour being serrated. These features are visible under a strong glass. The value of this screening is that the ink is more evenly distributed and gives a cleaner overall appearance to the printing. This is achieved by a fine mesh being exposed on to the carbon tissue immediately before the image of the design is printed down on the cylinder. The 1948 issue with 120 stamps to the sheet belongs to this group. The first stamp on the sheet is again in English.

Group 8

The year 1948 also produced the first issue to have the numbers of the cylinders used printed in the margins. Up to the time of writing two sets of cylinders have been used for sheets. The screening device was now extended to the centres. Booklets were also issued in 1948 with screened centres and frames. As it is expected that the new designs for Union stamps will be available in 1950 it is highly unlikely that any new features will be introduced into the current stamp, but it is very possible that further cylinders in the present group will be made before the series becomes obsolete. In cylinder combination 7020A-7020B the first stamp on the sheet is in English and in combination 7020A-11B, produced in 1949, the first is in Afrikaans, the frame cylinder being derived from

a diapositive of 22 rows which allows the printer to alternate the language setting without the preparation of a new diapositive.

Group 9

Another group, apart from those for sheets, is formed by the Monocoloured (Green) roll issues. These first appeared in 1943 as a war-time measure and have remained in use ever since, with a short interruption in 1948. Three screened cylinders, varying in the density of the screen mesh, have been in use.

No reference has been made to errors, flaws or marginal indications as it is felt that these are a separate study and belong to the realm of plating rather than to grouping. Much in-



formation on these matters has been published, from time to time, in the South African philatelic press, and elsewhere, but it is hoped that the foregoing, and the summary which follows, will enable collectors to sort their specimens of this interesting and fascinating stamp into the main groups, and having done that, branch out, if desired, into more detailed collecting. Nor has any reference been made to the many varieties of the basic colours. They range from soft grey to deep brown for the centres, and from pale green to blue for the frames, and, as the colours frequently vary in the same printing, it is almost impossible to list them and to find adequate descriptions to convey the shade to the reader.

SUMMARY OF GROUPINGS

- Group 1. Typographed by Waterlow and Government Printer, Pretoria.
- Group 2. Rotogravure. "SUIDAFRIKA" without hyphen.
- Group 3. Rotogravure. "SUID-AFRIKA" with hyphen. Vertical lines of shading at top and bottom.
- Group 4. Rotogravure. With hyphen. Lines of shading all horizontal and thicker in Centres. White oblique lines running left to right. Size of design 18.5 x 22.5 mm.
- Group 5. Rotogravure. As group 4 but size of design 18.25 x 22.25 mm.
- Group 6. Rotogravure. Size of design 18 x 22 mm. Cross hatching.
- Group 7. Rotogravure. Size of design 18 x 22 mm. Screened frame.
- Group 8. Rotogravure. Size of design 18 x 22 mm. Screened centre and frame.
- Group 9. Rotogravure. Monocoloured (Green) Roll stamps.

ADDENDUM

I should like to add under heading "Group 1" that it was the researches made by Mr. A. Hilton Sydow, of Cape Town, which brought to light the fact that the plates for this group were prepared in the Royal Mint, London. I trust that Mr. Sydow will accept my apologies for this omission.

Under heading "Group 5" I stated that one set of cylinders only was used in this group. This statement referred to sheet stamps and Mr. Patrick Riordan has called my attention to the fact that a roll stamp with the features of this group appeared in June, 1941, and that this was the first ½d. denomination to show the reduction in size to 18.25 x 22.25 mm.

I would also like to say that a suggestion has been made that I used the summary made by Mr. G. N. Gilbert "Union ½d. Rotogravure Issues Simplified" in the *S.A. Philatelist* of February, 1950, as the basis of my article. Actually my article had been written and accepted by Messrs. Stanley Gibbons many months before the correspondence started which led to Mr. Gilbert's summary. I must therefore be absolved from any plagiarism in this respect.

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SHORT NOTICES

Messrs. H. R. Harmer, Inc., of 32 East 57th Street, New York, have moved into new premises occupying the entire thirteenth floor of the building. Their expanding business demanded more space and better facilities; the floor has been re-arranged so as to provide not only a fine auction hall, but offices, reference library, workrooms and laboratories for the staff.

H. E. Harris and Co., of 108 Massachusetts Avenue, Boston, Mass., U.S.A., send a copy of a booklet "How to Sell Stamps" to them. The main things to remember are that they are wholesalers and want stamps in quantity to sell to other dealers. Write just stating what you have to sell and give your selling price. You may make up packets of countries, or large quantities of one stamp, or "Kiloware" mixture, i.e., 200 lbs., or more, giving average number of stamps per lb., and approximate number of different varieties in the mixture.



FRANCE

The Postal Administration reports the issue on 10th July of a series of 6 semi-postals with portraits of celebrated persons during the revolutionary period of the 18th century. They are Chénier, David, Carnot, Danton, Robespierre and Hoche.

S.W.A. VARIETY

Mr. R. Jaacks, of Witbank, reports finding a 2d. Bantam on which the overprint is "EWA" instead of "SWA". He states it is not a broken "S" but a very clear "E". Has anyone seen a similar item?

Although Mr. Jaacks says it is a clear "E", we doubt very much if the print actually came from an "E" in the forme. Such an obvious error would surely have been spotted long ere this, but it may well be an interesting, although inconsistent minor printing flaw.

We will illustrate this item next month.

BELGIUM AND BELGIAN CONGO

Mons. G. Lefebvre reports the issue on 2nd May of a 1.75f. stamp in connection with the centenary of the General Fund of Savings and Retiring Pensions. It has an allegorical representation (bee-hive, figures, etc.) of the activities of the Fund and looks a little peculiar with so much white inside its frame.

The Congo has just issued four new stamps completing the so-called Masks and Native Arts set. They are of Fr. 1.20, 1.60, 2.40 and 8.00 denominations.

FINLAND

The Philatelic Section of the Postal Administration have sent notice, and specimens of stamps, of the issue of three commemoratives on 11th June in honour of the 4th centenary of the founding of Helsinki, the capital. The stamps are of 5, 9 and 15 mk. The 5mk shows a plan of Helsinki in its early days; the 9mk. has portraits of Councillor of State John Alb. Ehrenström and Architect Carl. Ludw. Engel; the 15m. features the City Hall.

AUSTRALIA

The High Commissioner reports that an 8½d. stamp will be issued on 14th August. This denomination is intended primarily to pay combined postage and registration charges, and will become one of the regular current series.

The design features the head of a male Central Australian aborigine and will be of a rich brown colour, perf. 15 x 14.



SUDAN

Specimens of the new air set which went on sale on 1st July have arrived. They are bi-coloured pictorials and very beautifully produced by de la Rue using the intaglio process. The denominations are 2, 2½, 3, 3½, 4, 4½, 6 and 20 piastres, all different designs.



S. RHODESIA

After all there is to be philatelic commemoration of the country's Diamond Jubilee—a single 2d. stamp with portraits of Queen Victoria and King George VI. It is to be issued on 12th September. Sets are being held in abeyance till 1953 when there will be commemoration of the centenary of Rhodes' birth and the 60th anniversary of the annexation of Matabeleland.

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(Concluded from page 122)

collection) and the Rev. W. Loxley Chamings (on the Swiss).

July 24: The exhibit was provided by Mr. E. Hunt who showed some fine "Asia" portions of his world collection. There were some very rare items such as pages of Afghanistan, China, Japan and many others, including Philippine Islands, Persia, Hedjaz, Netherlands Indies and Hawaii. Highlights of the exhibit were Hawaiian Missionary stamps, China Air Mails, Syrian Air Mails, Formosa local stamps and the earliest issues of Japan.

Commander Enoch spoke on the exhibit and pointed out the rare items. I.I.



MAURITIUS

What a change from the old "key-plate" issues to the new pictorial issue. Thirteen values 3c to 2.50R full of colour, putting even the early Labuan and North Borneo in the shade. Worth getting if only for the Dodo on the 12c!

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THE PHILATELIC FEDERATION OF SOUTHERN AFRICA

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REGISTERED AT THE G.P.O. AS A NEWSPAPER.

Price 9d.

Vol. 26. No. 9.

SEPTEMBER, 1950.

Whole No. 306

SEPTEMBER



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SEPTEMBER, 1950.

Whole No. 306

S.W.A. VARIETY

Last month we mentioned a variety reported by Mr. R. Jaacks of Windhoek. We now illustrate this from a photograph supplied by him. Our interpretation of this is that the "S" of a normal S.W.A. overprint broke in



the middle and that the lower part rotated on its own axis about a quarter of a circle, clockwise. This has brought what was originally the lower end of the "S" almost into contact with the lower end of the broken upper half, thus producing what looks like a reversed 3. This would make the specimen an interesting minor printing variety, but not a major one.

★

EIRE

Eire has apparently finally decided not to have a U.P.U. issue, but will probably have one this year sometime to commemorate Holy Year.

★

RAILWAY PARCELS STAMPS

Mr. A. Hilton Sydow reports that there has been a new issue of Railway Parcels stamps and has supplied a lot of details about them. Sometime we will find room to publish these; even if they are not everybody's meat they can form an interesting adjunct to a Union collection.

Correspondence

The Editor, "S.A. Philatelist"

"S. RHODESIAN IMPERFORATES"

Sir,—I have read with great interest Dr. Kaplan's paper on "The imperforate stamps of Southern Africa" which appeared in the January number of your excellent publication.

I cannot allow one of his statements to go unchallenged, however, because of its importance.

Dr. Kaplan states: "As is well known, perforating pins have sharp points." He then goes on to say how the imperforate stamps were obtained.

I beg to differ. Perforating pins do not have sharp points. The ends of the pins are flat and the pins are the same thickness throughout their length, i.e., they do not taper. If they were sharp-pointed it would be impossible to obtain from them what is known as "blind" perforations.

I define "blind" perforations as "light yet complete impressions of the ends of the perforating pins which have dented but not penetrated the surface of the paper." All examples of "blind" perforations I have seen, and they are legion, bear out this description.

I agree with Dr. Kaplan's explanation of how some sheets missed being perforated, but the margin between an imperforate stamp and one having "blind" perforations is so small—in some cases only the thickness of the stamp paper—that to say they cannot be classed with imperforates is rather absurd: they are, on his own showing, merely one place removed.

I have a horizontal pair of the 1d. value which has very faint and irregular "blind" perforations between. I could, if I so wished, iron out these very light marks and obtain what to all intents and purposes would be an imperforate between pair. I might add the pin marks are so faint that the gum is undisturbed, neither are they visible when the

(Continued on next page)

HISTORIC-PHILATELIC LINK WITH THE OLD O.F.S. REPUBLICAN DAYS

By M. PIENAAR

(Communicated before the O.F.S. and
Basutoland Philatelic Society)

The design of the present day 6d. postage stamp of the Union of South Africa is to some extent similar to the design of the old stamps of the Republic of the Orange Free State.

The current design may, therefore, be considered as a descendant of the design of the old republican stamps.

In order to establish this relationship it was necessary to delve into the history of the republican stamps.

In the course of a search in the archives department of the Orange Free State at Bloemfontein, the following historical facts were found, in the letter book of the State President.

On the 4th October, 1865, the Volksraad (Parliament) of the Orange Free State Republic resolved that the Republic should have its own stamps printed. President Brandt then submitted the design of three stamps to the Consul-General of the Republic in London for consideration by Messrs. Thomas de La Rue & Co. The design was described by President Brandt as a "tree with three horns."

Messrs. de La Rue & Co. agreed to print the stamps as designed, on the condition that the Republic was to pay for the manufacture of the dies and blocks required to print the stamps. This was agreed to and the cost of the dies and blocks was as follows:

(1) Original master die	£65 0 0
(2) Dies and plates of the three duties £90 each	270 0 0
	£335 0 0

The three duties of the series were:

- 1d. (Een penny)
- 6d. (Zespence)
- 1/- (Een shilling)

An order for the following stamps was sent on the 22nd October, 1866:

180,000 Stamps of Eenpenny denomination
105,000 Stamps of Zespence denomination
30,000 Stamps of Een shilling denomination
The cost of these stamps was:

1/- (One shilling) per 1,000, and this price included paper, printing, gumming and perforation.

Samples of the first printing were received in Bloemfontein on 3rd July, 1867, and towards the end of the year 1867 the stamps arrived at Bloemfontein.

It was then discovered that the design was

not strictly according to the order. The tree was in triangular form but the branches had on them objects which purported to be "oranges." The printers probably added the oranges as they connected this type of fruit with the name of the state, which in their first letters they described as the "Orange State" instead of the Orange Free State.

In order to rectify this mistake it would have been necessary to have had the dies and plates re-made. This would have resulted in a loss of £335 to the state. Such a loss could not be afforded because the Republic was then experiencing an acute economic depression. Furthermore, it was then also involved in a war with the Basutos.

Under the circumstances and as the design was not of major importance, it was decided to leave the design unchanged.

The "orange tree" design, therefore, remained in use from that time until the end of the republican days.

In 1926 the Union Postal authorities decided to make a change in the design of their stamps and to replace the 1913 issue (Georgian Series).

Three denominations were issued in 1926, viz.:

½d., 1d., and 6d.

It is the 6d. stamp of this series that forms the link with the old Orange Free State design.

The designer must have had the Orange Free State design in mind when he designed an orange tree on an orange coloured stamp. Thus has the old Orange Free State design been revived and used up to the present time.

It is to be hoped that when the Postmaster-General adopts the contemplated change of design of all the Union stamps in the very near future, that the orange tree will be one of the new denominations.

(Concluded from previous page)

stamps are placed face downwards. I have, and have seen, many examples of the ½d. and 1d. values with gutter margin between which could be similarly treated.

Examples of most values of this issue can be found with double perforations, one of which is "blind." Sheets of such stamps were obviously rejected by the checker and were passed through the perforating machine the second time.

I trust Dr. Kaplan will not object to my pointing out this discrepancy in his otherwise interesting article. I am sure he would be the first to agree that it is essential to have our facts correct.

Yours, etc.,

W. G. NODDER,
Rhodesian Study Circle.

★

GIBRALTAR

Four stamps were due for issue on 1st August to commemorate the inauguration of the Legislative Council; the current 2d., 3d., 6d. and 1s. to be overprinted "New Constitution 1950."

IN PREPARATION —

U.P.U. CATALOGUE

1949/50

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I have been appointed by Miss Hodson as Sole Agent to handle the above for the AFRICAN MARKET. Of course, this is only to come, as there are about 10—12 sets still to be issued. The price is not yet definitely fixed, but I expect it will be in the region of 3/- Retail. Please send your Orders direct to me NOW, so that I can see how many copies will be required.

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Union Notes

Sub-Editor: Mr. W. N. Sheffield,
Box 99, Cleveland, Transvaal.

Head Plate Characteristics of the 1d. Plate 9 and Plate 10 Rotogravure Printings

The accompanying sketch of the Van Riebeeck's Ship design on the 1d. Rotogravure stamps has been drawn by Mr. A. H. Sydow, Cape Town, to illustrate the approximate positions of the vignette characteristics found on the two printings which have become generally known as "Plate 9" and "Plate 10."

In the study of these two plates, Mr. Sydow points out it is often overlooked that the Head Plate (or Vignette Plate) of the "Plate 9"

production was used in conjunction with two different frame plates, namely:

(1) With Frame Plate 9 bearing the inscriptions "SOUTH AFRICA" and "SUIDAFRIKA"—the latter, of course, being Die II as distinct from Die I of the earlier plates.

(2) With Frame Plate 10 bearing the inscriptions "SOUTH AFRICA" and "SUIDAFRIKA"—the latter hyphenate.

Therefore, strictly speaking, the two printings should really be referred to as having been produced from (a) Frame Plate 9 and Head Plate 9 and (b) Frame Plate 10 and Head Plate 9, respectively, because it was only the frame plate cylinder which was renewed in order to bring about the change over from the anhyphenate series—Plates 1 to 9—to the hyphenate issues adopted with Plate No. 10. Hence the vignette flaws of the Plate 9 printing are also present on the same stamps of the Plate 10 production and as depicted in his sketch, Mr. Sydow lists them as follows.

HEAD PLATE 9 CHARACTERISTICS

Row 2/No. 8: Dot in sea below Table Mountain.

Row 4/1: Dot to left of ropes between yardarms.

Row 5/5: Dot between two lanterns.

Row 6/1: Dot below pennant.

Row 7/2: Dot in sky to left of ship.

Row 8/5: Large dot in curved sail right of ship.

Row 8/6: Dot above yardarm.

Row 9/1: Dot level with yardarm.

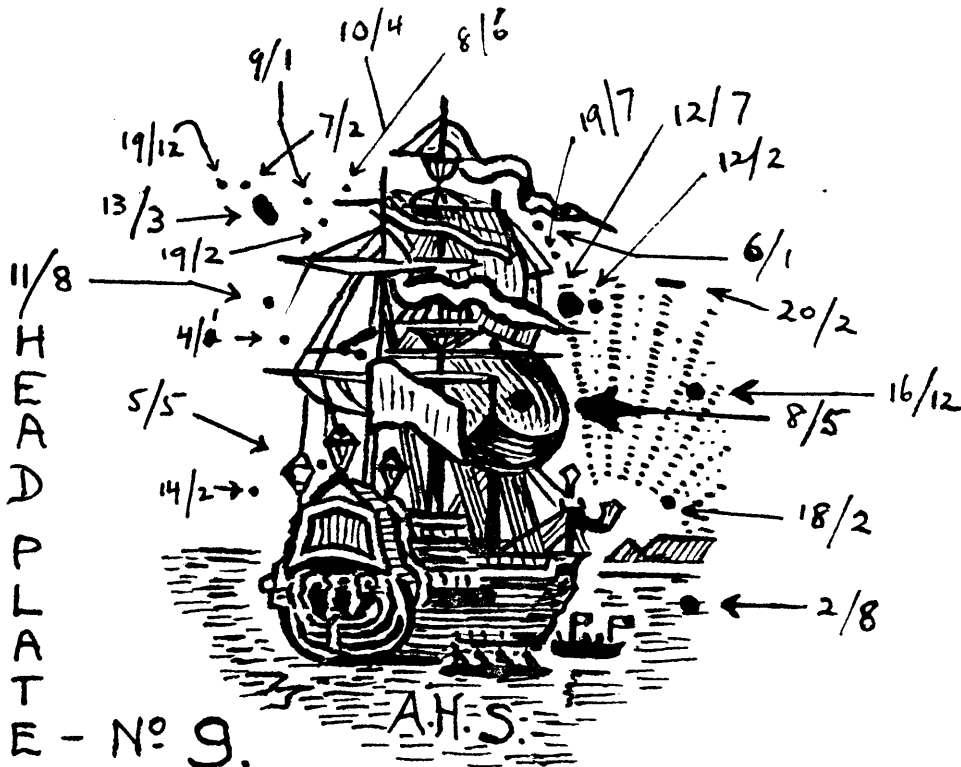
Row 10/4: Dash above yardarm.

Row 11/8: Dot midway between yardarms.

Row 12/2: Dot between 1st and 2nd columns of sun rays.

Row 12/7: Dot above 1st column of sun rays.

Row 13/3: Prominent dot level with yardarm.



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Somaliland, per set	10/-
Swaziland, per set	19/6
Zanzibar, per set	13/-

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Row 14/2: Dot to left of left lantern.

Row 16/12: Dot between 4th and 5th columns of sun rays.

Row 18/2: Dot on edge of sun above mountain.

Row 19/2: Dot between midway yardarms.

Row 19/12: Dot in sky left of 1st yardarm.

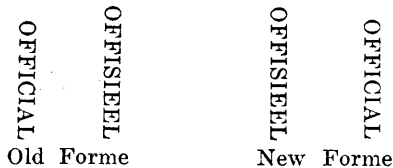
Row 19/7: Dot above 1st column of sun rays below pennant.

Row 20/2: Thickened line in sky above 3rd column of rays.

Change in 10s. "Officials"

A new 10s. "Official" was reported by Mr. J. Robertson of the Robertson Stamp Co. as having made its appearance on correspondence during the early part of August and the Post Office Publicity Section (Philatelic Agency) confirms that a new issue of the 10s. denomination is now in use.

The new stamp differs from its predecessor—S.G. O-31—in the fact that the position of the English and Afrikaans overprints has been reversed and "Official" is now on the right hand side of the stamp and "Offisieel" is on the left hand side.



The overprints read downwards as before and the size of the fount appears to be the same, but copies examined show spacings of both 19 mm. and 19½ mm. instead of the constant 19 mm. recorded as present on the previous issue.

The frame colour of the basic stamp has a similar sepia tone to the normal 10s. stamps which appeared in September, 1949 (Johannesburg) and were recorded in our October "Notes" as distinctive in showing a white or "cloudless" sky on the vignette portion of those stamps situated in the bottom rows of the sheet. It would appear that a batch of sheets from the same sepia-frame printing has been used for these new "Officials," for the vignettes on some of the stamps show a similar lack of colouring in the sky portion of the design and their general appearance is unmistakably different to that of the light slate-grey frame issue, recorded in April this year as the current printing of the ordinary 10s. stamps.

New Printing Flaw on Current 2d. Stamp

A small but distinctive printing flaw has recently made an appearance in the top right hand corner block of the current small 2d. pictorial sheets produced from cylinders 6927 Interior and 50 Exterior. It can be found on the end stamp (No. 20) of the 2nd row and takes the form of a curved plum coloured line shooting upwards from the top of the chimney on the left hand side of the Union Buildings. It was not present on the early sheets issued from these cylinders.

Union Standard Catalogue

An excellent response has been received from collectors in all parts of the Union offering to assist in compiling a new edition of the Standard Catalogue and at a recent meeting of the sub-committee appointed by the Philatelic Federation Executive Committee the various proposals and suggestions which have so far come to hand were discussed.

Mr. Sam Legator, Hon. Secretary of the sub-committee, P.O. Box 333, Brakpan, Transvaal, will keep in touch with those who have kindly offered their services and any other collectors, including those overseas, who would like to assist in the good work are asked to write to him as early as convenient. Any information considered as likely to be of value to either general or specialist collectors of the Union of South Africa issues and offers to assist in revising any particular section of the present edition of the Standard Catalogue will be welcomed.

Screened 5s. Pictorial Issue Flaws

Mr. G. N. Gilbert of Westminster, O.F.S., records a rather good variety on one of the screened 5s. pictorial stamps which he states looks like a thunderbolt striking the top of the wagon. It occurs on stamp No. 3 in Row 8 of the issue printed from cylinders 36 Interior and 6925 Exterior.

Two other prominent flaws on these stamps which may be mentioned are lengthy scratch marks, slightly canted from the vertical, passing through the "R" of SUID-AFRIKA on stamps No. 3, Row 1, and No. 4, Row 2.

Incidentally, an inspection of the cylinder numbers "36" and "6925" imprinted on the margin opposite the right hand bottom corner block of stamps on the sheet will show the faint outlines of the small pieces of transparent film which carry the photographic reproductions of the numbers and are affixed to the glass multi-positive plates—vignette and frame—prior to making the contact prints on carbon tissue and then transferring the designs to the two copper cylinders. The marginal arrows, also reproduced on small pieces of film, are affixed to one or the other of the multi-coloured plates—usually the frame plate—in a similar manner to that adopted for the cylinder numbers.

Cancelling Machine "Fourth Month" Date Setting for April, 1950

A letter received from Mr. D. Allison, Cape Town, mentions that the use of the roman figures "IIII" instead of "IV" in a Johannesburg cancelling machine during April this year (see May "S.A.P.") was also observed for the first time on postal matter from three other Union towns, namely, Caledon, Kokstad and Mafeking. He further notes that in each case the machines showing this feature have been of the type producing cancellations which run right across the envelope.

His previous letter, dealing with "Machine Postmarks" and published in our April, 1950, issue, refers to covers in his possession dated 1945 and 1948 and bearing stamps cancelled by an oval handstamp consisting of bars with

MINT FRENCH COLONIES1942—1945 SETS PRINTED IN LONDON
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1942 Phoenix	
5c to 20F (14) S.G. 112/125	6/0
ditto surcharged (8) S.G. 134/141 . .	3/6
Air set 1F to 100F S.G. 126/132 . .	27/6

French Somali Coast:

1943 Railway Engine	
5c to 20F (14) S.G. 210/223	5/0
ditto surcharged (8) S.G. 234/41 . .	3/6
Air set 1F to 100F S.G. 224/30 . .	18/6

New Caledonia:

1942 Kagu Bird	
5c to 20F (14) S.G. 290/303	6/6
ditto surcharged (8) S.G. 314/21 . .	4/0
Air set 1F to 100F S.G. 304/10 . .	25/0

Oceanic Settlements:

1942 Polynesian Canoe	
5c to 20F (14) S.G. 147/160	6/6
ditto surcharged (8) S.G. 172/9 . .	4/0
Air set 1F to 100F S.G. 161/7 . .	27/6

Wallis and Futuna Is.:

1944 Native Head	
5c to 20F (14) S.G. 102/115	6/6
ditto surcharged (8) S.G. 117/24 . .	4/0

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the number "1047" in the centre. Since compiling his notes on the subject he has had an opportunity of seeing the record published in the December, 1948, issue of the magazine reporting that during the period 1941-47 Mr. A. H. Sydow had also found a number of Large and Small War Effort stamps, Union pictorials, Victory and Royal Visit issues, which had escaped cancellation by the old continuous type of machine canceller and been handstamped in Cape Town with an old Cape style barred oval mark with the number "1047" in a rectangle in the centre of the oval. An illustration of this particular "1047" postmark will be found in an article by Dr. J. H. Harvey Pirie, "The Numerical Postmarks of Southern Africa," which was published in the July, 1940, issue of the "South African Philatelist."

Union Cancelling Machine Notes

Mr. A. H. Sydow records that the Union cancelling machines with a single date and town cylinder, such as those with the "A," "B" and "C" indices at present in use at Cape Town, were manufactured by The Universal Postal Frankers Limited, of 1-7 Canonbury Street, London. The older two-cylinder date and town type described in his article, "The Machine Postmarks of the Union of South Africa, 1910-1942," and published in our April

to September, 1946, issues, were manufactured by the Norwegian firm of Krag Maskin Fabrikk A/S of Oslo, and it is noteworthy that at the time the article was written one of those early machines had then been in use for 30 years.

The "Essay" illustrated herewith is an item which should prove of interest to Union slogan collectors and was sent in by Mr. Sydow. He mentions that it was drawn by Mr. Geo. W. Hockey of Cape Town and submitted to the Union Postal authorities in 1940 in connection with the Cape Town Municipal Centenary, which owing to World War II was not commemorated.

New Stamps

Numerous statements "from information" received from reliable sources" have appeared in overseas philatelic papers, mainly to the effect that the 4½d., 9d. and 1s. 3d. values would be the first to be issued, many of the statements giving July as the date of their appearance. They did not appear in July.

We are now in a position to state, from official information, that these three values will be the first of the new series to appear, as they are needed for new basic postal and telegraphic rates. It is not yet possible to say when they will be issued, however, as the allocation of new designs to the various values has not yet been officially approved.



(Concluded from page 146)

showed some unaccepted designs entered for competition of our Union stamps by himself.

Dr. Kaplan showed the S. Rhodesia 2d. Matabeleland commemorative trials and official photographs.

Mr. W. Redford showed some sheets of fine Seychelles, including some beautifully used. He also showed a specimen of Mauritius used in Seychelles. There were specimen stamps and also several inverted overprints.

Mr. B. Glassman showed George VI issues of British Africans. These were in fine mint condition showing all the obsolete and current issues.

Dr. Pirie showed Madagascar from pre-stamp covers to covers of the second world war. The exhibit included some fine specimens "Postal Packets" and British Consular issues.

Mr. Seelig showed French colonies in Africa including Free French issues.

Dr. Pirie was awarded first place by the judges, Mr. Redford second, and Mr. Kupferman third place.

Commander C. E. D. Enoch thanked the exhibitors.



EAST RAND PHILATELIC SOCIETY

On Tuesday, August 15, members of the Pretoria Railway Philatelic Society visited us.

* The first three exhibits by the visitors were thematic collections depicting three forms of transport, namely, railways, ships and aeroplanes, shown

respectively by Messrs. McLaughlin, Walker and D. Brown. The next exhibit, presented by Mr. Christie, was a complete collection of Netherlands Charity stamps.

A very enjoyable evening ended with an unusual exhibit by Mr. S. T. Crellin, which he named "Personal Collection of Personal Recollections." The stamps illustrated important events in Mr. Crellin's life until his release from a prisoner-of-war camp in Germany in 1945.

Messrs. S. Legator, Suklje and Slomowitz proposed votes of thanks to the visitors on behalf of the Society for their interesting exhibits.

J.A.G.



SPRINGS PHILATELIC SOCIETY

July 10.—During the absence on leave of Mr. Meeuwis, the chair was taken by Mr. Renshaw. After discussing a few matters of interest, we had a stamp quiz. Many of us realised again what a lot we still have to learn about stamps.

August 14.—Mr. Meeuwis, our chairman, is back with us again looking fit after his leave. He brought with him a good collection of Great Britain stamps which he exhibited. Members were particularly interested in S.G. 44 of which only a few plate numbers were missing.

After tea our old friend Mr. Randell bade us farewell. He has retired and made us very envious when he told us how many hours a day he will in future devote to his stamps.

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Set of 4, mint at 2/3, used at 2/6.
- Tonga:** Queen's 50th Birthday commem. Set of 3, mint
at 1/8, used at 2/6.
- Malta:** Princess Elizabeth commem. Set of 3, mint at
1/7, used at 1/9.
- St. Kitts:** Tercentenary of British Settlement. Set of 6,
mint at 2/7, used at 3/-.

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Other Important New Issues

(Issue date stated in brackets)

- Sudan:** (1 July) new Air Mails. 2 to 6 pias (7) 7/6
20 pias additional value to complete set . . . 6/0
With 'S.G.' opt. Supplied at same prices.
- Turks & Caicos Is.:** (2 Aug.) New pictorials.
3d. to 1/- (9) at 3/3; complete to 10/- . . . 25/0
- Mauritius:** (1 Jul.) Set of 12 to 1 R . . . 4/10
Complete to 10 Rs . . . 25/6
USED to 1 R at 5/9; complete . . . 40/6
- North Borneo:** (1 Jul.) 1 to 50c (used at 5/-) . . . 4/3
Complete to \$10 (used at 60/9) . . . 54/0
- Niue** (1 Jul.) set to 1/- (used at 4/3) . . . 4/0
Complete to 3/- (used at 11/-) . . . 10/0
- Cook Is.:** 1949. Values & prices as for Niue.
- Nigeria:** new perf. 12x 11½, 1/3 (14 June) . . . 1/6
do. ½d., 1d., 2d. & 1/- (15 Feb.) . . . 2/0
- Sierra Leone:** 2/- black & sepia shade (7 June) . . . 2/6
- All Mint except as stated. Postages extra please.

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stamp . . . £17 10s.

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C.G.H. in black £15
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green S.G. a good
copy close at bottom
right corner otherwise
fine margins . . . £15
- 1858 1/- yellow-green
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Reviews

Stamps Day by Day, by L. N. and M. Williams. Blandford Press, Ltd., 16 West Central Street, London W.C. 1. Price 12/6 net.

Almost every day of the year is an anniversary of some event of philatelic interest. The authors have compiled a calendar of these, and have picked out some five or six from each month's list and written up their stories.

Modern specialisation tends to one set of individuals knowing more and more about less and less, whilst the others know less and less about more and more. The middle course is to know much about many things, and this collection of philatelic lore can be recommended to every philatelist. It will prevent the specialists from becoming narrow-minded and interested in nothing but their own very little corner of the hobby, and will stimulate the more general collector to know more about his subject. Excellent bed-time stories, even for non-collectors.

Standard Catalogue, Part 1. British Empire. Whitfield King & Co., Ipswich, England. Price 7/6.

An old favourite with the general collector who does not wish to be bothered with minute differences of perforations and shades, which, in their ever increasing complexity, are apt to be burdensome for anyone but a specialist collector. Such details are excluded although all necessary information is given about watermarks, as many varieties which are otherwise identical, can only be identified by these.

Prices given are those at which the publishers sell, provided of course, they have them in stock. It may be noted that they have reduced all prices of current Empire stamps above 1/- to a lower rate of commission.

A supplement gives all issues of Burma, Egypt, Iraq, Ireland, Jordan, Nepal and Palestine. The total number of standard varieties listed is 19,253.

Approaches to Philately. Compiled by G. B. Erskine. Blandford Press, Ltd., 16 West Central Street, London W.C. 1. Price 12/6 net.

This is another *Olla Podrida*, a hotch-potch of twenty-six articles by (mostly) well known philatelists or writers, on various aspects of philately.

Most of the articles have been specially written for this book; a few, including several by deceased writers, have been taken from previously published articles. The idea seems to be a good one, but somehow or other the collection is not very appealing and there is a lack of any connection or plan behind the assemblage.

The book is stated not to be for the specialist or advanced collector, but to interest ordinary collectors and non-collectors alike. We consider it would bore non-collectors stiff, and much of it is even beyond the interests of ordinary collectors. On the whole it can only be said to contain material appealing to advanced collectors.

Handbook of German Colonial Stamps and Cancellations, Section 1. Edited by Dr. Eduard Ey. Published by E. Haide, 24a Balje ueber Stade, British Zone, Germany.

German Colonials have quite a few collectors in this country and to them it will be interesting news that the first of the five sections of this Handbook is now available. Some added interest will attach to the fact that for the first time, a German philatelic publication is offered with an English version of the text. The use of a good quality art paper ensures a very clear print and a clean reproduction of stamps, overprints and cancellations. The first section is very richly illustrated and we understand that this will also be the case in the subsequent four instalments.

The editor has had the co-operation of a number of the foremost students and experts of German colonial stamps, several of whom were close collaborators of the late Friedemann, whose authoritative work the new book intends to continue.

The first section contains information of a general nature which applies to all German colonies. Rather new is the system of fixing prices and Dr. Ey's solution of the problem of expressing the value of each stamp or cancellation in a manner compatible with the permanent character a work of the kind should have, is to use a scale of 23 values, based on the relative scarcity of each item. This system is independent of market fluctuations or changes in currency relations and the conversion table supplied with the first section furnishes quite easily values in terms of money.

The greater part of the first section is taken up by the German Post Offices in Turkey including their forerunners, special postal services such as the German Military Mission's, naval ships posts and German Field Post. Posts offices are listed showing types of cancellers used and their period of use.

Turkey is followed by West Africa, meaning German Postal services along the coast of equatorial West Africa in which area the German colonies of Togo and Cameroons were later established. The first section closes with the introductory chapter on the German Post Offices in Morocco.

The price of Dr. Ey's handbook is 10/6 per section of 24 pages. The book is being published on the subscription plan with a limited number of spare copies and advance bookings for the subsequent sections are therefore suggested. The English version will be available shortly at 17/6 per section (payable in England).

Catalogue des Timbres de la Poste Aérienne.

Jean Silombra, Paris, 11 Rue de Provence. Price not given.

A very excellent catalogue of the world's air stamps, with prices given at which the publishers are prepared to sell, if the stamps are in stock. It is limited to official adhesive stamps for air post or issued in commemoration of aviation or aerial post, plus stamps issued by private companies with government authority (e.g., the Barrier Pigeon Post in New Zealand).

Correspondents are warned not to send postage stamps in payment of orders without previously communicating with the house; such stamps will be stopped by the customs.

I want to buy Union issues from Inter-provincials to date, mint and used, including booklets, Boer War covers, etc., and should be pleased to receive offers with full details of price, condition, quantities, etc.

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RECENT AUCTION SALES

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Cape.—1893, 1d. on 2d., double surcharge, £9 9s.

Kenya.—50R. (S.G. 16), £17 10s.

Australia.—Complete set B.C.O.F. imprint blocks of four, £47 10s.

Cape.—Pre-stamp cover with VOC mark, £16. Deeply blued 1d., rare chocolate shade, £24. 4d. De La Rue, slate blue, £19.

Kenya.—500R. (S.G. 61), £210.

Natal.—1902 Telegraph 3d. on 4d., used block of 15 showing the four types of surcharge, £7 10s.

Great Britain.—1935 2½d. Prussian blue, used on piece, £110.

The season's sales ended on 18th July, the turnover for the season being just over a quarter-million pounds.

Robson Lowe

B.E.A.—1897 50R., used, £26.

Cape.—1d. deep brick red, 1853, on deeply blued paper, used block of four, £56.

Falkland Islands.—1898 2s. 6d. and 5s. die proofs in issued colours, £52 10s.

Rhodesia.—Matabeleland, 1894, Reuter's Telegraph 10s., pen cancelled, £11 10s.

Mafia.—German Colonial issues with various handstamps, double, inverted, etc. All fetched high prices.

Netherlands.—1851, 5c., Plate III, used block of four, £57 10s.

Great Britain.—1840 2d. bisect on cover, £220; 1935, 2½d. prussian blue, mint, £70.

Collectors' Wants & Offers

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GERMANY

On the 14th June four semi-postals were issued in commemoration of the bicentenary of the composer John Sebastian Bach. One has a Bach portrait, the other three have musical designs.

★

S.W.A.

Messrs. Whitfield King and Co. report that the 1d. has now been overprinted "Official Offisieel" in type with serifs similar to the current ½d., 1½d. and 6d.

SOCIETY NEWS

FEDERATED SOCIETIES

NAME AND ADDRESS:	MEETINGS:
Cape Town P.S., Box 1973	2nd and 4th Thursdays, 8 p.m., Mountain Club Rooms, Yorkshire Ho., Strand St.
Copperbelt P.S., c/o No. 12 7th Ave., Nkana, N. Rhodesia	
E. London P.S., c/o Box 450	2nd Fridays, 7.45 p.m., Colosseum Theatre Tea Rooms
E. Rand P.S., c/o Box 155, Brakpan	3rd Tuesdays, 8 p.m., Regent Hotel, Benoni.
Grahamstown P.S., c/o H. Q. Tarr, Kingswood College	2nd Thursdays, 8 p.m., 120 High St.
Jewish Guild Phil. Section, Von Brandis St., Johannesburg	Last Thursdays, 8 p.m., Jewish Guild
Johannesburg, P.S. of, Box 4967	2nd Tuesdays and 4th Mondays, 7.45 p.m., Public Library
Maritzburg P.S., Box 256, Pietermaritzburg	
Mashonaland P.S., Box 1660, Salisbury	1st and 3rd Wednesdays, 7.30 p.m., Durban Camera Club, 319 Smith St.
Natal, P.S. of, Box 588, Durban	3rd Wednesdays, Goldfields Hotel, Pietersburg, at 8 p.m.
N. Transvaal P.S., c/o Miss v. Niekerk, P.O. Rita . .	
Nyasaland P.S., c/o Limbe Trading Co., Limbe . . .	Free State Technical College, 7.30 p.m., 4th Fridays
O.F.S. & Basutoland P.S., Box 702, Bloemfontein . .	1st & 3rd Tuesdays, 7.45 p.m., Room 3, City Hall Basement
Port Elizabeth P.S., c/o 13 Trafalgar Square	1st & 3rd Mondays, 8 p.m., Technical College
Pretoria P.S., Box 514	2nd Wednesdays, 7.30 p.m., Railway Recreation Club
Pretoria Railway P.S., Railway Recreation Club, Berea Park	
Rhodesia, P.S. of, Box 803, Bulawayo	3rd Thursday of every month, 8 p.m., Savoy Hotel, Roodepoort
Roodepoort Stamp Club, c/o 82 Kruger Ave., Selwyn, Florida	2nd Mondays, 7.30 p.m., Board Room, New Era Press
Springs P.S., c/o No. 25, 5th St., New Township, Springs	1st Wednesdays, 8 p.m., Royal Hotel, Krugersdorp
Vereeniging Stamp Club, Box 196	
W. Rand Stamp Club, c/o U 184, W. Rand Consol. Mines	

EAST LONDON PHILATELIC SOCIETY

The adjourned special meeting of the Society was held in July, for the purpose of confirming and finally adopting the Constitution. The model Constitution of the S.A. Federation was adopted with a few alterations.

After the usual routine business was completed, the members adjourned to the "Hobbies Exhibition," where the Society staged a large exhibition of stamps, of both the senior and junior sections of the Society. Due to the school holidays, the juniors did not show as many stamps as they might have, but senior members provided a tremendously interesting variety of stamps.

Favourable comment was made in the local Press and it is hoped that the Society will gain a few new members. Altogether, the Hobbies Exhibition was such a success, it is felt that this will now become an annual affair and it is hoped the Society will always be able to provide increasingly interesting displays. J.P.S.

As many as a dozen visitors added greatly to the pleasure of our August meeting and with over twenty members present, an enjoyable evening was spent. Mr. S. D. McCallum was elected a new member, and spoke of his impressions of the International Philatelic Exhibition in London. Mr. McCallum said he was most impressed by the Post Office exhibit, not only of British Colonial stamps, but also of foreign issues.

The President welcomed back Mr. C. P. Durkin from his visit to England. Mr. Durkin gave his impressions of the Exhibition and also of visits to

auctions. Mr. Durkin said he thought members would get the idea of the extent of the exhibition from the wonderful catalogue.

Members were advised of the National Philatelic Congress to be held in Johannesburg in October, and the question of delegates was discussed. The President said that a panel of senior members would be happy to view any local collections on behalf of the Exhibition Committee, in terms of the arrangements proposed by the Federation.

A sub-committee was appointed to forward suggestions in regard to the revision of the Union catalogue.

Displays were given by Mr. James Paviour and Mr. Andrew Watson. Mr. Paviour showed Australia and the States, the old Queens' Heads being much admired. The Belgian Congo display by Mr. Watson was almost complete in mint and used condition and proved most interesting.

U.C.S.

★

PORT ELIZABETH PHILATELIC SOCIETY

The first meeting in July was a Quiz evening, comprising two teams, Mr. D. H. Kirschner was Quizmaster, and a very enjoyable, well attended evening was spent.

Mr. G. Bülbring was in the chair when the business meeting opened on the 18th July, and Mr. G. K. Forbes was responsible. He tabled about 80 pages of Switzerland. This was one of the finest displays of that country ever seen in Port Elizabeth. The issues were from 1845 to the present day.

CLASSICS, OLD COLONIALS

(No George VI. No War Issues)

Stamp collecting is mostly just a hobby, for some people it is just an investment. You could, however, make a fine combination of hobby and investment. How? Collect one or two countries only but try to complete these countries and go for rarities, postmarks, etc., as well. A small house but a complete one, nicely decorated, is always more useful than a large one with defects and incomplete.

If there are gaps in your collection, write to me. I would be only too pleased to send you (at my expense) those items on approval. There is no risk on your side, if you don't like them, you return them. But as my stamps are all in fine condition and the prices very reasonable, I am sure that you will become another satisfied customer.

Just to give you an idea:

Great Britain S.G. 129 £1 brown lilac, fine Cat. £25	£13 10 0
Hamburg S.G.4, used, Cat. 50/-	1 10 0
Hanover S.G. 31. 10gr. olive, 3 large margins, close on top, very fine colour Cat. £20	6 10 0
Switzerland S.G. LB 26 Cat. 50/-	1 10 0
Belgium S.G. 25 mint, o.g. Cat. 85/-	2 0 0
Canada S.G. 43a used, superb Cat. £5	3 0 0
Tasmania S.G. 35a double print Cat. £5	2 10 0
Egypt S.G. 59c mint, o.g. Cat. £2 10s.	1 5 0

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MINIATURE SHEETS

JAPAN: Geese (5) at 3/6; Geisha (5) at 7/6.

Do., Horse Race (30) at 12/6.

AFGHANISTAN: 1931 2P., red (25) at 5/6.

CHILE: Zoo and Flora (25), all different, at 7/6.

LIECHTENSTEIN: Air 40, 5or., 1 and 2 Frs.
(4 x 9), at £4/10/-.

Do., 1949 Phil. Exhibition at 6/6.

JUGOSLAVIA: 1937 Phil. Exhibition (4) at 7/6.

COSTA RICA: 1937 Phil. Exhibition (4) at 1/6.

DANZIG: Pair Daposta sheets at 8/6.

BELGIUM: Pair Music Chapel at 7/6.

NETHERLANDS: 1942 Legion pair (14) at 12/6.

RUMANIA: 1945 Sports, 10 sheets(90) at £2/10/-.
Do., 1946 Youth, 5 sheets (20) at 5/6.

GERMANY: 1936 Brown Riband at 3/6.

Do., 1946 Strausberg at 10/6.

Do., 1949 Hanover Fair (3) at 3/6.

EGYPT: 1949 Agric. Exhibition, pair sheets
at 8/6.

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the early Cantons, different Leagues, Red Cross, Health, Flower and Airmail were well represented; it would take too long to mention all the interesting items. Mr. Forbes also gave two talks, one on the country and one on "Paper," and had brought stamps of the different types of paper used, to show members how to distinguish one from the other. He told us how paper was first introduced, the colours, textures, etc. Mr. Forbes expressed his willingness to help members and to answer any questions he could.

Mr. Kirchner thanked Mr. Forbes and said the talks clearly showed how far advanced he was in his knowledge of philately, and realised how much time and care had been spent on his subject.

One member asked if it was possible to have the notes typed, to be available to anyone who wished to study them, as they were so full of interest.

It was one of the most interesting and enjoyable evenings the Society has had, and Mr. Forbes well deserved the hearty vote of thanks accorded to him.

Mr. G. Bülbring took the chair when members met on Tuesday, August 15. Mr. D. H. Kirchner was responsible and tabled about 80 pages of Australia. The main interest of the display was of dies and plates. Each page contained the number of the die, the printer's name, and notable features of the issue. The Kangaroo issue was well represented, and the Kings heads, also the 1913-1914 issue with no watermark, 1927 opening of first parliament in Canberra, and September 1929 the re-entry of the "T and Swan Neck."

Mr. Kirchner gave an interesting talk; he explained the difference in the dies, etc., where one left off and another began. This was the first time this subject had been the keynote of the evening, and I am sure all present added something to their knowledge of philately.

Mr. Ingham brought three interesting items, two specimens and one forgery, the first was the 500 Rupee of Kenya, Uganda, and Tanganyika, S.G. No. 61 (British Empire Cat.). The forgery was a Bechuanaland five shilling.

A warm welcome was given to Miss M. Wersby, of Somerset East; two new members were admitted and three more proposed.

Delegates were then chosen to attend the Johannesburg Congress, namely, Mr. G. Bülbring and Mr. G. K. Forbes as principals, with Mr. D. Burt and Dr. Harris as alternates. After a hearty vote of thanks had been accorded to Mr. Kirchner, a very pleasant evening came to a close.

L.E.C.



GRAHAMSTOWN PHILATELIC SOCIETY

The August meeting was well attended. Once again Mr. Pegler, of Rhodes University, enthralled us with a display of stamps different from the usual, this time a dozen or more sheets of stamps with unusual perforations. To complete the collection of these lines, said Mr. Pegler, would cost thousands of pounds and several years of intensive work. Dr. Cory warmly thanked Mr. Pegler for his instructive display.

The programme for the last quarter of the year was then drawn up:

12th October, Mr. Motyer: "Great Britain."

9th November, Dr. Tame: "Indian States."

7th December, Mr. E. Carr: "Barbados."

Please note that the December meeting is to be held on the first Thursday, instead of the second, so as to fall in the school term. There will be no meeting in January.

R.Q.T.



ORANGE FREE STATE AND BASUTOLAND PHILATELIC SOCIETY

The June meeting was held for the first time at the Free State Technical College, but as the proper meeting hall was not available yet, in a class room, and members were "back at school again." The initiation display was given by Dr. K. Freund who showed "Recent acquisitions of Mafeking stamps," another one of his "incredible" exhibits as one member put it. There were various Mafeking specialties, acquired some months ago from the famous

"A. H. West" Cape collection auctioned in London, two items from the Carlton-Jones collection, etc. Of particular interest were: 13 Mafeking entires with various frankings, intermediate cancellations and checking marks, mint stamps, some unpriced in catalogues, a complete sheet of Baden-Powell stamps in mint condition, and a faked cover with a forged Bicycle stamp addressed to the "Field Hospital, Mafeking," which is a bogus address, as the siege hospital was only known as the "Victoria Hospital." The chairman, Mr. Larsen, congratulated the exhibitor on the display.

The July meeting was held in the Lecture Hall of the Technical College which will be the future venue for meetings. It turned out to be an ideal meeting place with pleasant seating accommodation, a suitable outside-table for displays and very bright fluorescent lights. After the formal business, the usual auction was held, Mr. A. G. Denne reported the "new Issues of the month and Mr. J. Lewis gave his "Tit-Bits from the philatelic press." Mr. J. Smith tabled an attractive display of "South-West African Pictorials" in blocks of four, each block accompanied by a photograph of the actual scene pictured on the stamps. Most of the photos had been taken in loco by Mr. Smith himself. Dr. Freund showed two attractive thematic collections: One, entitled "Flowers on stamps," was a beautiful show of Flower-sets of the world, most of the pages being adorned with artistic flower drawings. His other exhibit consisted of a fairly extensive collection of "Dancing on stamps," giving an instructive and well-sectioned survey of this art. Classical dancing, Native, Tribal and Folk Dancers, National character dancing, and even more modern styles of dancing were shown in an unexpected array of colourful postage stamps.

On 2nd August the Society was the entertaining hostess of a meeting at the Cathedral Hall of the Adult Education Council to which various clubs, institutions, churches and organisations are affiliated in Bloemfontein. The Council gives an opportunity to each one of its member groups, in rotation, to present and propagate its particular activities of educational value. More than a hundred Bloemfontein men and women, of all walks of life, were present, keen to learn something about our hobby. After the business of the general committee of the Adult Education Council had been dispensed with, Mr. Larsen was called to the chair to inaugurate the evening's philatelic entertainment. Mr. Larsen gave an able and humorous introductory talk about our hobby. Thereafter the crowd was released to inspect large rows of tables on which various collections were on display under glass. The type and character of the display was purposely confined to collections of more popular appeal or in lighter vein, considering that mostly non-collectors, some slightly biased, had to be catered for. This was some of the material displayed: "Aeroplanes on stamps" (Mr. Gus Smith); "South-West African Pictorials" and some "Orange Free States" (Mr. J. Smith); "Union Freaks" (Mr. C. A. Larsen); "Free State Entires" (Mr. J. Lewis); "Odd Items" (Mr. J. B. Levy). The major part of the display belonged to Dr. Freund with the following thematic collections: "A brief history of Music," "Horse-racing on stamps," "Flowers on stamps," "Dancing on stamps," "Motoring on stamps." The next item of the programme was a lantern lecture "The printing process of the Union stamps," illustrated with a set of lantern slides. The technical arrangement of this lecture was in the hands of Mr. A. H. Scott, and the talk was read by Mr. R. A. Brown. The highly successful evening was concluded with the serving of refreshments.



PHILATELIC SOCIETY OF JOHANNESBURG

August 8. The programme for this evening was exhibits by the three local winners of awards at the recent London International, Messrs. Legator, Pirie and Redford. There was only time, however, for the first two, Mr. S. Legator's Unions and Dr. Harvey Pirie's Antarctic Posts.

August 28. This was a 10-sheet exhibit of Africans by all members. Mr. J. Kupferman showed some interesting covers, including philatelic exhibition covers, Imperial air mail flights and army covers. He also showed some American covers including a fine example of early British Guiana and a cover recovered from the "Titanic." He also

(Continued on page 140)

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KENYA

Messrs. Whitfield King report that in printings released on 14th June the 5c, 10c and 3s. are all in a new perforation, viz., 13 x 12½. The 50c and 1s. values in this perforation went on sale in the territories some months ago.

Mr. W. Tunstall writes that Kenya is to have a new general issue in 1952, but no details are as yet available.

HUNGARY

The P.O. Stamp Supplies Department report the issue of a set of five stamps on 17th June on the occasion of a Congress of the Working Youth of Budapest. They are of 20, 30, 40 and 60 filler and 1.70 forint denominations, featuring workers of various kinds, either at working or marching and fighting for peace under the Komsomol banner.

MALTA

Malta is to have an issue of three stamps (1d., 3d. and 1s.) commemorating the recent visit of H.R.H. Princess Elizabeth. They will show her portrait and will also incorporate the Royal Cypher and the George Cross.

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Latest arrivals are the 3c. issued on 30th June honouring the Boy Scouts of America and the Indiana Territory Sesquicentennial 3c. issued on 4th July. Thanks to Mr. George R. Rankin for first-day covers.

BRITISH COLONIALS

At the Philatelic Congress of Great Britain, held on May 16th -19th at Tunbridge Wells, one of the subjects discussed was the status of errors and varieties supplied by the Crown Agents to dealers, such stamps never having seen the Colony of their supposed origin.

A large majority supported the contention that the status of such stamps should be "prepared for use, but not issued." Theoretically, this sounds perfectly all right, but we doubt very much if practically the distinction will work.

SWAZILAND

Air Letter Cards.—Towards the end of July Union 6d. Air Letter Cards appeared on sale with a new type of overprint "Swaziland." The new one is still block capitals but from a different fount from last year's overprint, letters a trifle taller and the whole slightly shorter.

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"WRITING UP"

At their meeting on 5th July the Philatelic Society of Natal had a discussion on this subject, with some advocating very full writing up, others that it should be minimal. It ended in the almost inevitable conclusion that as this was a hobby, every collector was entitled to follow his personal inclinations in the matter.

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"Woodblock" ERRORS include both shades of the 1d. and two copies of the 4d. vermilion; also another 4d. in a block of four and two copies of the 4d. carmine. There are also four examples of the "retouch."

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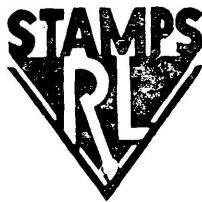
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The Editor's Corner

Judging at Philatelic Exhibitions

At a recent meeting of the Executive Committee of the Philatelic Federation a member gave notice that he intended to raise this matter at the forthcoming Congress. The matter was not really considered at the Committee Meeting, but as we feel it will have the support of most collectors in Southern Africa, attention is drawn to it here, with special reference to an editorial appearing in the May issue of the "Collectors Club Philatelist" under the heading "Broaden the Scope of Exhibitions."

The "C.C.P." is the organ of the Collectors Club of New York; it is a magazine devoted to Philatelic Study and Research, and anything appearing in it must be taken very seriously. We content ourselves for the moment with just quoting a few statements from the article without further comment.

"The function of National and International Exhibitions is the presentation of stamp collecting to the public. They are failing of their purpose if they do not present the whole panorama of Philately."

"There is a strong, traditional tendency among philatelists to concentrate on the stamp itself as an object of study, to subordinate the design to the method of production and to the usage. There are other groups to whom the design is the ultimate reason for collecting. Each is examining only a portion of the whole."

"It is remarkable that certain groups of countries whose stamps, even if studied (in the traditional manner, J.H.H.P.) down to the last fly-speck, have never yet won a top award in an International Exhibition. The reason being given that the stamps themselves are not 'worthy.' If Philately is to progress, this approach must be abandoned. All traditional studies must be judged on the basis of completeness, knowledge and research."

"More important must be a recognition of the differing aspects of collecting. The Postal History collection must cease being a step-child. The topical or thematic collection must be given recognition. A step in the right direction would be the establishment of **Multiple Grand Awards**, one each for

traditional study in both the 19th and 20th centuries, one for Postal History and one for Topical collections."

"The issues of the 20th century must gain their rightful place. It may be that they cannot compete with the old classics, but certainly, they should not be treated as not 'real Philately.'"

"Topical collections cannot be judged by the same set of standards as collections of postal history or research collections. The approach is totally different. The criterion for judging them must be set up and promulgated. In our opinion these should be: 1st, completeness; 2nd, depth of knowledge shown; 3rd, development of the topic; 4th, presentation. It goes without saying that the most basic of all requirements, that of condition, must be considered."

DON'T FORGET

THE PHILATELIC EXHIBITION
OCT. 23 to 28
and THE PHILATELIC CONGRESS
OCT. 25 to 27

WEST INDIES

All the British stamp issuing territories, 14 of them, around the Caribbean are to have an issue of two stamps each commemorating the inauguration of the University College of the West Indies. They will be of 3c. and either 6c., 10c. or 12c. values (1½d. and 6d. in the case of Jamaica). Date of issue not yet announced.

BELGIUM

A set of five semi-postals was issued on 1st July in connection with the European Athletic Championships; also an air mail stamp (7 + 3 fr.) on 7th August in connection with the opening of a helicopter circuit.

ANGOLA

A set of 24 stamps is shortly to be issued, featuring indigenous birds. The value of the set will be about £3. This should be very popular!

KENYA

"Stamp Collecting" of 26 Aug. has a table of the various printings of K.U.T. stamps from 1938 to 1950 which should interest specialists in this country in correlating the shades and various perforations. One or two wrong S.G. numbers seem to have slipped into the 5c. and 10c. listing, however.

The "Kuruman Besieged" Stamps

By W. NEWLANDS.

The Anglo-Boer War of 1899-1902 has given collectors and students of South African issues many items of interest and many of great rarity and this article is designed to draw attention to an issue that is neglected, but is of historical interest. Very little information can be gleaned from catalogues, but the whole series of Kuruman stamps was described in 1901 by one or two of the London philatelic journals.

The Kuruman stamps are described in a publication (1) issued in 1949 but unfortunately the information is not correct in every respect. I will therefore deal briefly with the historic aspect first, then describe the stamps.

Kuruman was besieged by the Boer Forces as from November 12th. 1899 and capitulated on January 1st. 1900 at about sundown after heavy shelling. This little episode is reported in the "Mafeking Mail" of April 23rd. 1900 and A. Conan Doyle in his book on the Boer War states that this capitulation was of importance as only at Kuruman was a British Garrison forced to surrender. Later the tide turned and the Boers left the area to defend their own territory and by the end of 1900 the war entered its last phase. In late 1900 Boer Commandos entered British Bechuanaland between Vryburg and Fourteen Streams and attacked at many points with a view to disrupting communications and it was during one of these attacks that Kuruman was once more isolated from the Cape. However, communications were soon restored and the second siege as such lifted.

The Kuruman stamps were brought into being during the second siege. No doubt the popularity of the Mafeking stamps prompted the issue and it is against this background that one must view the Kuruman issue. The bona-fides of the Colonel in charge of Kuruman are not doubted but I feel that some philatelically minded person on his staff thought that here was another siege issue that should do well. From the "A.H. West" auction I was successful in obtaining the original affidavit made by Col. Cavaye which reads as follows:—

I, William Frederik Cavaye, Colonel, Commandant of Kuruman, duly sworn state that on 27th December 1900 I purchased from the Postmaster Kuruman postage and revenue stamps to the value of ten pounds (£10) for the purpose of using these for despatch riders for the benefit of the public of Kuruman—This had to be done as the enemy cut off all communications both postal and telegraphic. The Postmasters stock being very limited these stamps, which were of various denominations were surcharged by my order to meet the probable requirements—These however were not used and have been sent to the Postmaster of Kuruman for disposal.

W. F. CAVAYE COLONEL

Sworn before me this 7th day of March 1901
at Kuruman

WITNESS: E. C. Middleuret J.P.

SG/K252 F. Ebrosbie (?)
H. D. Sock (?)

Although the London philatelic press of 1901 describes 3 types of surcharge, I find that there are actually 4 types of overprint.

TYPE 1. Kuruman Besieged 2d. 1900-1901.

TYPE 2. Kuruman Besieged 3d. 1900-1.

TYPE 3. Kuruman Besieged Postage 6d. 1900-1.

TYPE 4. Kuruman Besieged Postage 6d. 1900-1901.

The stamps surcharged are as follows:—

Type 1 surcharge: 2d. on ½d. Cape (Hope Standing) (Fig. 1.)

Type 2 surcharge: 3d. on ½d. Cape (ditto)

3d. on 1d. Cape (ditto)

1/- on 1d. Cape (ditto)

Type 3 surcharge: 6d. on 3d. Cape Red on Yellow Fiscal.

Type 4 surcharge: 6d. on 1d. Cape Green on Yellow Fiscal.

1/- on 6d. Cape Purple on Yellow Fiscal.

In addition to the above types I have the following group which are of a different standing:

Type 2 surcharge: 3d. on ½d. Cape (Hope standing). (Fig. 2).

Type 3 surcharge: 1/- on 6d. Cape Purple on Yellow Fiscal with printer's "pull" attached. (Fig. 3).

Type 3 surcharge: 5/- on 1/- Cape Purple on White Fiscal.

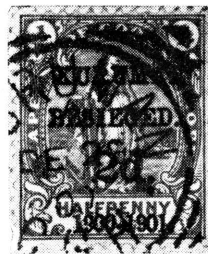


Fig. 1.



Fig. 2.

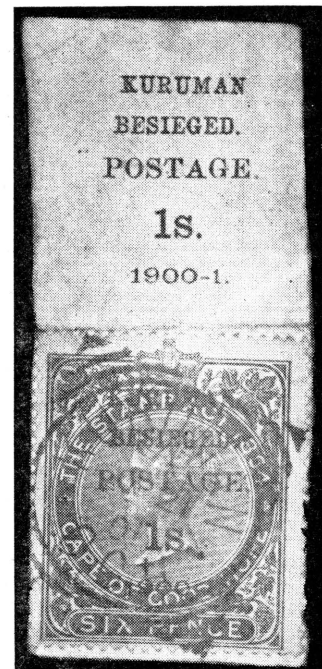


Fig. 3.

The first group of 7 stamps were those that accompanied the affidavit and are all postmarked "Kuruman C.G.H.-A-DE.2.00". This group is to my mind from the lot prepared for use but not issued. The date supports this view, and it is possible, that as the Postmaster would naturally

not take the unofficial overprints back into stock, that most were destroyed and a few kept as souvenirs of the siege. This group deserves recognition as stamps prepared for use but not issued and should be included in all collections of the Boer War period that claim to be representative.

The second group of three stamps are of a totally different standing. These came into my possession through a London firm, who in turn received them from a person who had been at Kuruman in the forces at the time. This lot of stamps are all "on piece" and were overprinted **after having been stuck on the piece.** All these stamps show printing signs on the back of the paper to which the stamps have been attached. The postmarks on these three stamps are 'Jan 20-01.' These stamps are therefore reprints as the spacing, type and other details of the surcharge are identical with the original lot, although the 5/- on 1/- is a new value. This 5/- on 1/- was reported in 1901 so might exist as an original, but as the "West" collection did not have a copy with the affidavit, it would appear that this value was not in the original lot.

One of the stamps from the first group of seven has an interesting printing variety due to folds in the stamp and the surcharge reads:—

KURUMAN
BESIEGED.
1 POSTAGE
1s.
1900-1 901

My conclusions about this issue are that there was one printing of four types—two used on the postage stamps and two on the fiscal stamps—and a later reprinting which included the 5/- on 1/- stamp. The reprinted issue might have been ordered to prevent a scandal developing due to the leakage of the first lot but at this late date there does not appear to be much hope of substantiating this. The reprinted issue does however seem to substantiate the statement made in Robson Lowe's "Africa" (1) to the effect that the issue was cancelled and distributed as souvenirs.

I am indebted to Dr. H. Reisener for the accompanying photographs.

(1) The Encyclopaedia of British Empire Postage Stamps—Vol II—Africa. Robson Lowe Ltd.

I want to buy Union issues from Inter-provincials to date, mint and used, including booklets, Boer War covers, etc., and should be pleased to receive offers with full details of price, condition, quantities, etc.

C. E. SHERWOOD, P.T.S.

105 Marford Crescent, Sale, Manchester
Great Britain.

U.S.A.

A 3c commemorative issued on 2 August, features the Supreme Court Buildings in Washington, as representing the judicial side of the Government.

On 9 September there appeared, in a golden

colour, a 3c commemorative of the centenary of California's statehood.

Mr. Paul A. Dorn of Los Angeles sends us a warning notice that the Post Office is no longer giving "Directory Service" on insufficiently addressed mail from abroad. Addresses must be absolutely complete (particularly as regards Postal Zone Numbers in cities), otherwise such mail is promptly returned to the senders.

He also warns us to have postal packets and parcels very strongly wrapped with stout paper and string; they take a brutal beating in transit and the degree of damage suffered seems to be proportional to the size of the package. Therefore send several smaller and lighter parcels rather than one large heavy one.

RHODESIA — NIGERIA

We have a fine stock of both the above, and shall be glad to send a selection to any collector interested.

Please say what are your particular interests, and whether you collect both mint and used. Fine copies only are mounted, and you will find our prices reasonable.

Will collectors not known to us be good enough to send us bank or business reference.

H. A. L. HUGHES & CO.,
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England.

EXHIBITIONS

Canada.—An international philatelic exhibition is to be held at Toronto in September, 1951. A first prospectus has been issued and can be obtained from 70 Bloor Street West, Toronto 5.

A set of special stamps will be released at the exhibition commemorating the centenary of the transfer of postal services from the British Government to those of British North America.

Luxemburg.—Is also having an "International" in 1952, the centenary of their first postage stamps.

Australia.—In connection with the National Exhibition in Melbourne, October, 1950, there will be two stamps issued, both of 2½d. value, one showing a "Sydney View", the other the first "Queen" type of Victoria. It is understood these stamps will be printed on the same sheet, alternately so that pairs will show both stamps whether they be vertical or horizontal.

New Zealand.—Has an International this year, opening on the 20th November, in connection with the centennial of Canterbury.

Sheets to be issued in connection with this, show a number of Essays of the 1939 pictorial stamps.

Denmark.—The three leading philatelic associations are sponsoring a stamp centenary exhibition in May 1951. Open to entrants of any country, but limited to stamps of Denmark, Danish West Indies, Greenland, Iceland, Schleswig and Holstein.

FLEET MAIL OFFICE—SIMONSTOWN

The postmark of the (British) Naval Post Office at Simonstown is no longer identifiable merely by a number ("29"), as the reasons for secrecy are, for the moment at any rate, gone. It now reads "Fleet Mail Office/Simonstown."

Mistakes in Stamps

By
A. I. MACKENZIE.

Stamp collectors are a peculiar breed of people! They have different moods, ideas and fancies. What one collector raves over the next will ignore. Their likes and dislikes are unpredictable, until one subject is raised, viz., mistakes in stamps. Then they all think alike. To acquire a stamp with a mistake in it is the all-time high-water mark of the collector. When one stops to consider how many millions of stamps are printed every year, the comparative absence of mistakes is really a very fine compliment to the efficiency of the artisans concerned with stamp printing.

But let us take a look at these mistakes and see how they come about.

Perhaps the most common of all mistakes is the "spot." This is generally caused by paper fluff settling on the plate. This paper fluff is caused by the perforating blades piercing the paper. After a while the sharp edges of the blade are blunted (nothing blunts steel quicker than paper), then, instead of piercing the paper, the knife breaks through, thus causing paper fluff. The printer knows all about this and tries to remove the fluff by means of suction pumps, but it is not possible to remove all of it and when some settles on the plate the result is a spot.

Another way of stopping the trouble is to replace the blades and clean the plates.

Broken letters are another cause of errors. This may be caused by a genuine broken letter, but, as most stamp printing to-day is done by the intaglio process, that is, the image is etched into the plate, most so-called broken letters to-day are caused by ink clogging up the letter on the plate. The remedy is to clean or even change the plate.

Smudges

There are two types of smudges. The one is caused by the printing plate working loose, and the second is caused by the paper slipping. To cure the first-mentioned trouble the plates should be re-tightened; to cure the second trouble the fault is in the reel and that has to be tightened. This type of mistake occurs only once in a while, not often.

"Inverted Watermark"

This is an incorrect term. In paper-making the watermark is incorporated in the paper during manufacture. The watermark may be run with the wove or across the wove. In printing, the sheets are always fed into the machine with long fibres of the paper running in the same direction as the machine. That is, the paper is fed with the wove. If the watermark is across the wove, well, it is just too bad. The printer does not worry about that.

The reason why paper is fed with the wove is to minimise trouble caused by static electricity which might cause trouble with register.

Register

This is the art of ensuring that adjacent colours

are in their proper place. This is a fine art and takes years to learn. Register can be affected in a variety of ways: by change of temperature in the printing room; by the vibration of the machine, or by static electricity. However, modern printing engineers to-day have this trouble firmly under control and the result is that it is very seldom encountered.

Of course, there are such obvious mistakes as the use of wrong colours or a design or portion of a design being printed upside-down, but these mistakes are almost invariably found long before the first hundred stamps have been run off and the fault rectified.

Spelling mistakes sometimes occur but not very often. Generally speaking, the stamp collector has to put in some very hard work in order to find a mistake in a modern stamp. The reason is that the stamps are examined and checked so often during their manufacture that mistakes don't have much chance of slipping through.

KOREA

With Korea so much in the news to-day and South Africa sending an Air Force contingent there, a few notes on its postal history may not be out of place. We are indebted to an article by Mr. Ernest Kehr in the "New York Herald Tribune" for the basic facts.

A Department of Posts was first set up in 1884 and two stamps, 5 mon and 10 mon, obtained from Tokyo; but the very day they were put on sale a revolution broke out and the P.O. building looted and razed. Genuinely used specimens of these two stamps are increasingly rare, less than a dozen of each being known, but unused specimens which were looted and subsequently reached the stamp market, are readily come by. The Department went out of business and for ten years mail could only be sent out via the Imperial Chinese Customs Postal Agency in Seoul.

In 1894 Japan went to war with China for control of Korea and, having won it, set up a nominally independent postal service with a set of distinctive Korean stamps.

In 1905 these distinctive stamps were declared obsolete and regular Japanese issues came into use. Korea was formally annexed by Japan in 1910 and retained control till they were defeated by U.S.A. in 1945.

In 1945-46 overprinted Japanese stamps were used, but since 1 May 1946 independent Korean stamps have been issued in S. Korea and within two years no less than 38 stamps have appeared, all of poor design and crudely printed.

There were also stamps issued in N. Korea, all with designs giving the impression that Korea had been liberated solely by Soviet operations; these have not been given official recognition outside the iron curtain.

South African readers may be interested to know that its air contingent going to Korea is not going to have its own postal section. Mail will presumably come through American Army P.O.s, although that remains to be seen.

S.W.A.

Union Air Letter sheets have been given a new type of S.W.A. overprint for use in the territory. They have been on sale since about the end of August.

CLASSIC, OLD COLONIALS

[No George IV. No War Issues]

Stamp collecting is mostly just a hobby, for some people it is just an investment. You could, however, make a fine combination of hobby and investment. How? **Collect one or two countries only** but try to complete these countries and go for rarities, postmarks, etc., as well. A small house but a complete one, nicely decorated, is always more useful than a large one with defects and incomplete.

If there are gaps in your collection, write to me. I would be only too pleased to send you (at my expense) those items on approval. There is no risk on your side, if you don't like them, you return them. But as my stamps are all in fine condition and the prices very reasonable, I am sure that you will become another satisfied customer.

Just to give you an idea:

Danzig S.G.86 without network	20/-
Do. S.G.99 without network	20/-
Ceylon S.G.90 used	30/-
Switzerland S.G. LB.26 used	30/-
Austro-Italy S.G.11 used	20/-
Cape of Good Hope S.G.7c used, nice margins	
2 large light postmarks	£8
Do. S.G. 18 used, nice margins 2 large	£5
South Australia S.G.10 used, very fine	£5
New South Wales S.G.10 used, very fine	£12

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POPULAR COLONIAL NEW ISSUES.

Australia: the new Centenary commm. 2½d. in two designs supplied in se tenant pairs mint or used (blocks pro rata), 6d.
 Do., in imprint blocks of 4 stamps, 1/9.
 New Zealand: the 1½d. provl. Still available m. or u., each, 3d.
 S. Rhodesia: 1950 2d. Silver Jubilee. M. or u. blocks pro rata), 3d.
 Gibraltar: Constitution commm. set of 4 used at 2/6 mint, 2/3.
 Sudan: 1950 Air Mail set to 6 pias at 7/6. Comp. 12/6 Do, with 'S.G.' opt. Similar prices.
 Cayman Is.: new pictorials, ½d. to 1/- (10), 3/9. Complete to 10/- at 23/6: Booking used at 4/3 and 27/6 resply.
 Turks Is.: new pictorials, ½d. to 1/- (9) used at 3/9; mint, 3/4.
 Complete to 10/- at 25/-; used (in stock) 30/-
BOOKING for the following Colonials set expected shortly.
 New Zealand: Canterbury set, m. or u. 2/6
 1940 Healths, the Prince Charles issue, m. or u., 6d.
 West Indies: University College common. 28 stamps for 13 Cols., supplied in single lot, m., 9/4; u., 11/6
 Tonga: Birthday set of 3, mint, 1/8; used 2/6
 Malta: Princess set of 3, mint, 1/7; used 1/9
 St. Kitts: Anguilla (6), mint, 2/7; used 3/-
 New Booking Lists now open.
 Virgin Is.: Legislative Council, 6, 12 and 24c. 1.20 mint 3/-
 Do., but used 9/-
 Nyasaland: Diamond Jubilee, 1½d., 3d., 6d. and 5/-, mint 7/-
 Do., but used 3/-
 Seychelles: the recently announced new pictorial set. 2 to 50c. at 4/3. Complete to 10 Rs. 38/9
 Transjordan: Air Com., set of 7 8/4
 B. Honduras: the scarce newly discovered variety, 2c.p.11.8x.11.8 on thick creamy paper. Price now 2/- All Stamps mint except as stated. Postage extra please.

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Union Notes

SUB-EDITOR: Mr. W. N. Sheffield,
Box 99, Cleveland, Transvaal.

"All-Screened" Issue of the 1d. Pictorial

A note received from Mr. T. F. Allpass of Germiston, dated 7th September 1950, recorded the appearance in the post offices of the 1d. **all-screened** pictorial stamp printed from new cylinders numbered 76 Internal and 14 External.

The new issue takes the place of the non-screened 6A/6B printing which has been on sale since July 1948 and except for the diapositive "smoke trail" smudge across the sky on the vignette of the 5th stamp in Row No. 2, all the old varieties have disappeared.

The numbers "76" and "14", denoting the cylinders employed for the new production, are printed on the margin at the bottom right hand corner of the sheet and bear the same colours as the vignettes and frames respectively. The old style setting of the cylinder number imprints, as found on the 6A/6B sheets, has been dropped for the more recent and acceptable practice of showing the two numbers adjoining one another in one corner of the sheet only.

This new 1d. stamp is the 9th of the all-screened series of pictorials to appear to date and only the 4d. and 10/- values now remain unaltered or without cylinder number imprints on the sheets. The 1d. is also the 6th of the series to have the cylinder numbers—vignette and frame—printed next to one another and for the convenience of collectors these screened printings have been tabulated and set out in the accompanying Summary.

The marginal arrows have been changed and the pair in the side margins are now different from those at the top and bottom of the sheet. The perforation (15 x 14), watermark (multiple Springbok's Head) and red sheet numbers of four numerals, are all the same as in previous printings, but the grey-black centres usually found on these stamps have appeared in the new issue with a distinctly sepia tone. Apart from the diapositive flaw already mentioned and one or two minute blemishes, the sheets are particularly free from varieties.

UNION PICTORIAL SERIES

Summary of the All-Screened Rotogravure Printings With Cylinder Number Imprints

$\frac{1}{2}$ d. Interior, "Cylinder No. 7020A", left hand margin; Exterior, "Cylinder No. 7020B", right hand margin January 1949.

$\frac{1}{2}$ d. Interior, "Cylinder No. 7020A", left hand margin; Exterior, "Cylinder No. 11B", right hand margin April 1949.

$\frac{1}{2}$ d. Interior, "Cylinder No. 11A", left hand margin; Exterior, "Cylinder No. 11B", right hand margin August 1949.

$\frac{1}{2}$ d. Interior, "Cylinder No. 11A", left hand margin Exterior, "Cylinder No. 11B", right hand margin December 1949.

Issued with five-figure sheet numbers in **black** instead of the usual colour of red. Because of a peculiarity in the ink used for the printing of the vignettes in this issue, the Springbok's Head stands out in strong contrast to the frame portion of the

design when viewed against the light. (See Union Notes, February 1950).

$\frac{1}{2}$ d. Interior, "Cylinder No. 11A", left hand margin; Exterior, "Cylinder No. 11B", right hand margin February 1950.

Return to four-figure sheet numbers in red and printing similar in all respects to the August 1949 issue.

1d. Interior cylinder "76", Right hand margin, Row 19; Exterior cylinder "14", Right hand margin, Row 20 September 1950.

$\frac{1}{2}$ d. Interior, "Cylinder No. 6919A", bottom margin; Exterior, "Cylinder No. 6919B", top margin July 1948.

$\frac{1}{2}$ d. Interior, "Cylinder No. 6931A", bottom margin; Exterior, "Cylinder No. 6931B", top margin February 1949.

2d. Interior cylinder "6927", Bottom margin, Stamp 19; Exterior cylinder "50", Bottom margin, Stamp 20 April 1950.

3d. Interior, "Cylinder No. 44A", left hand margin; Exterior, "Cylinder No. 44B", right hand margin April 1949.

6d. Interior cylinder "6930", right hand margin, Row 19; Exterior cylinder "6", right hand margin, Row 20 January 1950.

1/- Interior cylinder "6926", right hand margin, Row 19; Exterior cylinder "6935", right hand margin, Row 20 January 1950.

2/6 Interior cylinder "6919", left hand margin, Row 19; Exterior cylinder "17", left hand margin, Row 20 August 1949.

5/- Interior cylinder "36", right hand margin, Row 19 Exterior cylinder "6925", right hand margin, Row 20 September 1949.

Note. The imprints are situated opposite the bottom rows of stamps except in the case of the $\frac{1}{2}$ d. and 2d. values where they are placed at the right hand end of the sheets.

New Issue of the 1d. and 2d. "Officials."

The 1d. "Officials" recorded in February this year as having been produced on sheets bearing the cylinder numbers 6A/6B were apparently sold out fairly quickly and for a few months the old 1945 "Officials"—on sheets without cylinder numbers—were the only 1d. copies on sale at the Philatelic Agency in Pretoria.

A new issue has now appeared, also on sheets of the 6A/6B printing, and Mr. E. Schaiowitz of Johannesburg reported the stamps as being first available on the 24th August. The overprints read downwards, as before, but the font used is entirely different to any previously noted on Union "Officials" and is distinct in the fact that the letters are slightly larger and have a much thinner and clearer outline than those usually found forming the overprints.

The English overprint is on the right hand side of the stamp again and the Afrikaans on the left, but the spacing between the two is reduced from the $11\frac{1}{2}$ mm. of the previous issue to 10 mm. on the new and the shade of the frame portion of the stamp is rose-carmine instead of the more reddish tone of the previous issue. Sheets of the rose-carmine printing were noted on sale as normals during May, June and July this year.

At about the same time as the appearance of the 1d. "Officials", Mr. Schaiowitz records that sheets of the small size 2d. stamps bearing cylinder numbers 6927/50 and overprinted "Offisiel—Offisieel," were also available at the Pretoria Agency. The font used for the overprints is the

same as that on the 1d. issue, but the spacing is of course wider for the different layout of the design and is set at $14\frac{1}{2}$ mm. The position of "Official" on the right and "Offisieleel" on the left, both reading downwards, is unaltered, but as a matter of interest, the sheets used for this issue are evidently part of the batch printed prior to the development of the curved line shooting upwards from the left hand chimney on the Union Buildings and now present on Stamp 20, Row No. 2 of the normal 2d. issue.

Regarding the use of "Official" stamps by the public some notes in the August issue of the Philatelic Bulletin by the Publicity Officer of the Department of Posts and Telegraphs read as follows:—

- (c) "Ordinary postage stamps of the Union of South Africa overprinted "Official—Offisieleel" were originally intended for the exclusive use of Government Departments on correspondence to countries to which the franking privileges do not apply."
"The use of these stamps was subsequently extended to the public and they may be used in payment of postage on all classes of mail matter whether addressed to inland or overseas destinations."
- (b) " "Official" stamps for use by the public are obtainable only from the Post Office Philatelic Agency, P.O. Box 1132, Pretoria."

Exhibition Cancellations

(a) Industrial Exhibition, Pretoria. A post office was provided at this Exhibition from the 11th to the 17th September with a date stamp of the same design as the one figured below, but with the wording "NYWERHEIDSTENTOONSTELLING / INDUSTRIAL EXHIBITION" and the date and PRETORIA in the centre. We received an excellent copy of the opening day cancellation from Mr. H. Endemann, Pretoria.



(b) National Philatelic Exhibition, Johannesburg. A post office will be functioning in the Selborne Hall from the 23rd to the 28th of October and the design and wording on the special cancelling stamp will be as here illustrated.

BOYCOTTED

The International Philatelic Federation, following up resolutions taken at its recent Congress, has published the following advice to collectors:—

- (1) Philatelists are willing to support issues with a surcharge for charity, etc., provided that
(a) the country does not have more than two such issues per year
(b) the values are low
(c) the surcharge does not exceed 50% of the face value of the series. Possible exceptions for miniature sheets or special stamps for philatelic exhibitions.
- (2) Commemorative stamps with no surtax. The large numbers of these being issued is harmful to philately and postal authorities are

asked to reduce radically such issues; if these cannot be avoided will they only issue one stamp instead of a whole series?

- (3) The following issues are abusive or harmful to philately:—
(a) issues sold only to subscribers
(b) issues sold in bulk to an individual or a group
(c) issues not sold at postal counters
(d) issues with limited editions
(e) issues only obtainable in proportion to the purchase of other stamps.
- (4) Stamp collectors are advised not to purchase such issues. These stamps are excluded from philatelic exhibitions; they may not be traded at bourses organised by philatelic societies, circulate in exchange packets or be supplied in new-issue services. Catalogue editors are requested not to list them and album editors not to provide a place for them in such albums as provide marked spaces for stamps.
- (5) First List of Stamps black-listed as "abusive"
Belgian (1) 1946/48, Damien Vandervelde and Boverse stamps perf. "Imaba" (Private speculation) (2) 1947, Five Anti-Tuberculosis stamps (surtax over 50%)
(3) & (4) 1948, Eight stamps for Abbeys of Achel and Chevremont (Surtax over 50%)
(5) & (6) 1948 Four stamps and miniature sheet honouring E. Anseele (Surtax over 50%)
(7) & (8) 1948 Monuments of Liberation at Antwerp and Liege (Surtax over 50%)
(9) 1949 Miniature sheets Jordeans and v. d. Weyden (Surtax over 50%)
(10) 1950 Three Holy Year stamps (Surtax over 50%)

Sarre

(11), (12) & (13) Five stamps and Miniature Sheet for Flood Relief (Surtax over 50%)

France

(14) 1949 U. Nations Miniature Sheet (Not sold over P.O. counter)

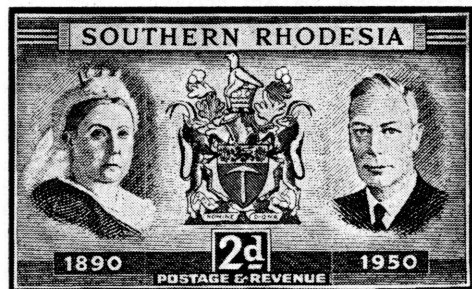
French Morocco

- (15) 1948 Miniature Sheet 'Solidarity' (Surtax over 50%)
(16) 1950 General Leclere stamp (Surtax over 50%)
(17) 1950 'Stamp Day' stamp (Surtax over 50%)
(18) 1950 'Solidarity' stamp (Surtax over 50%)

SOUTHERN RHODESIA

September 12th saw the issue of a 2d. stamp in commemoration of the country's Diamond Jubilee. The heads of Queen Victoria and of King George VI. are in green, the remainder of the stamp being of a dark brownish colour.

Thanks to Mr. Cawood of Salisbury for a first-day cover.



Portions & Proportions

By
F. G. FROELICH.

(Paper accompanying a display of the stamps of Thurn and Taxis. This exhibit was entered in a competition for short exhibits and, awarded first place by vote of the meeting of the Philatelic Society of Johannesburg.)

My paper deals with general developments which have influenced Philately from its beginnings and I have chosen the stamps of Thurn and Taxis to illustrate what I wish to review.

The postage stamps of Thurn and Taxis are catalogued amongst those of the German States. Here their position is unique in as far as Thurn and Taxis was not a State at all, but an institution established by Imperial Decree, which, although given into private ownership, was the first Reichspost. For about 350 years it provided the courts and later also the public with postal services. It was the earliest one in modern History which worked according to regular timetables.

But the Thurn and Taxis post was not the one and only post throughout the Reich; the Electors, Princes and Free Towns in many cases operated separate posts, often denying Thurn and Taxis their rights or at best condescending to their activities. To have overcome constantly the difficulties arising out of the political and economic situations is proof of the efficiency of the Thurn and Taxis post. It introduced its first postage stamps in 1852 after similar difficulties had not only delayed but even discouraged the introduction of postage stamps, as for instance was the case in Austria where at an early date LAURENCE KOSIR had originally proposed the use of postage stamps.

In Germany, a country one third the size of the Union of South Africa, there were at this period 39 sovereign States including 4 Free Towns, three of which and 11 of the States issued their own postage stamps. Prussia alone had during the thirties of the last Century 71 coins in circulation with an additional 48 for her two Provinces of Pommerania and Posen. Therefore it is not by accident that stamps were introduced first by Great Britain where the advantage of having one Queen and one Pound only helped the Government considerably to avail itself of an innovation which, especially for England with her expanding trade and industry, cheapened and simplified the handling of Mail.

For reasons mentioned earlier Thurn and Taxis provided postal services mainly for the smaller States, 2 dozen in all, and had to issue for them stamps in two currencies; Groschen for the North and Kreuzer for the South. As each State was a Sovereign one or a Free Town Thurn and Taxis had to refrain from using their Coat of Arms for the design of the postage stamps; this was based on enlarged Numerals.

To compare the circumstances prevailing in Great Britain and her Empire with those in Germany and to notice the contrast is important because many trends in Philately have to be seen against such a background to be properly understood.

What made people collect stamps at all was the fact that they came from foreign countries, the

further away the more romantic and the more desirable. The slogan "Study your country's stamps" was not a battlecry of the early collectors who were above to-day's obsession whereby collectors touch only what is hoped to be sold quickly and with profit. The fact that collectors of the 19th Century were unguided in technical matters was only regretted by later Philatelists who, always mindful of demands surely to be made when parting with their stamps, think more of how to preserve and less of how to enjoy their possessions.

The pioneers, completely disregarding Posterity, approached their stamps with the aid of scissors and a type of glue which stuck and not with a brand which peels. Each stamp had to rest permanently in the album. Tonight I show some of my stamps mounted on sheets such as were in fashion during the twenties. The earlier albums of course were not loose leaf, they were fully illustrated and provided spaces even for imprinted stamps which were cut out from postal stationery to fit the allocated spaces. Interesting entire were destroyed and valuable pairs and strips of the imperforates separated. This explains, even if it may not excuse, the fact that a few of my stamps are not in first class condition, but are just as they were left to me by my predecessors.

I hope by admitting this I will not cause too big a shock to you; some of you must be acquainted with damaged stamps, otherwise, I do not know how so many get into our exchange packets! By damaged I refer, so far as my exhibit is concerned, to torn or thinned stamps. Copies with narrow margins are perfectly normal because the setup of the Thurn and Taxis sheets was an utility arrangement. From pairs and strips you can see that no enormous margins are possible, except in the case of the fifth and final issue when concessions to stamp collectors' wishes for broader margins were made. Most of the perfect specimens surviving mishandling by early philatelists were such as had been affixed to business or legal correspondence, filed for reference purposes or came from domestic letters kept for sentimental reasons.

Unused stamps were rarely included in collections as very few people believed in wasting money by paying for and putting away stamps which could still serve their primary purpose. Unused stamps of the old German states came into collections, not as Mint items, but as discarded Government stationery, sold as such by the Treasuries to stamp dealers. Substantial quantities of remainders were sold and no premium was asked because such stamps had by then become obsolete. High prices were only paid some forty years later when Philately was more advanced. One occasion for instance, at an auction held in 1910 a great number of Hannover stamps were offered. Ten values out of a total of 30 had been found, all in complete sheets, for which bidding was very brisk in spite of the fact that none of them were in absolutely mint condition. Neither was the sheet of the red 3Pfennig Saxony, a topranking rarity even when single; this had been used as a base when wall-papering a ballroom and was only discovered 50 years later during redecorating work. In those cases the rarity of the stamps commanded the high prices, the complete absence of any gum did not stop people from buying those stamps.

The fact that various States had to reprint their stamps on later occasions for displays at exhibitions as no original sheets had been kept for reference purposes, added to the unpopularity of unused stamps. In Germany the collectors' preference for used postage stamps was by now established and therefore unused stamps were often "improved" by forged cancellations. Only such mint items as had had no remainders dumped on the market or which had escaped official destruction; and some of the reprints became what is now termed "elusive."

Quite different were the circumstances under which Philately developed throughout the British Empire where stamps were issued also for sparsely populated colonies or possessions. It was most unlikely for any collector to receive much mail from such places and it was hardly possible to complete one's collection by the method of stamp exchange even though those early issues were short sets and were for years in use. Therefore collectors of British Empire stamps often began to buy unused stamps direct from the Postmasters. The uniformity of language and currency made such undertakings easy, whilst the stability of the Pound gave the collectors an assurance that money spent on unused stamps was not wasted.

This confidence was not shaken even when Great Britain decided, at a much later date, to abandon the gold standard or when recently she devalued her Pound. But on the Continent several Inflation and Devaluations reduced the face-value of thousands of unused stamps to nothing. Germany's highest denomination ever, a 5 milliards stamp, had to be paid during December 1923 for the postage of a letter to be delivered in town; two such stamps were necessary to cover the postage for an inland letter. In other words a figure followed by 10 noughts was equal to a halfpenny.

The "Penny Postage" of Great Britain never rose above twopence halfpenny. Only a constant face value encouraged people to spend money on unused stamps when used ones could not be obtained for less than face value or without any payment at all. In order to complete their sets collectors mixed used and unused stamps in their collections. The unused stamp, originally a substitute, became more and more popular especially with the better-off collector. The trade could supply him most efficiently. No philatelic effort was necessary to complete most new issues and no time had to be wasted on such tiresome undertakings as building up a set of used stamps piece by piece. As collecting became easier the collector's demands went higher. The unused stamp became a mint stamp and finally a super-mint, unhinged, the craze of our time. Dealers are expected to supply it, well centred, fully gummed and in complete sets with the lowest possible commission on face value, of course. The collector then earns the admiration of all and is assured of recognition as a great authority. In order to be even more convincing he prefers to show blocks of four or complete sheets.

But I think we should agree with Einstein, when he says: "I am absolutely convinced that no wealth in the world can help humanity forward, the example of great and fine personalities is the only thing that can lead us to fine and noble ideals."

For us such an ideal is to become "Keepers of the stamps." and not for Philately's sake alone but for a very rational reason; however early it might be in the day, those who want to brighten the evenings of their lives have to remember that they must bring their own lamps with them. Unfortunately mint stamps encourage stamp speculating, which can be entered into without the collectors love for stamps and without the dealers experience and responsibilities. It is stimulated by most helpful Governments, expecting you to pay as they print.

Meanwhile that great quality, Patience, is lost. I admit that unused items allow for a better appreciation when stamps shall be viewed as pieces of art. But then they have to be judged by such standards as apply to the graphic art. It is a mistake to value what is beautiful as art and that what is pretty as still greater art. Those who do so are confusing the terms as much as the landlady did, when a boarder registered with her as a Bachelor of Arts and she found out later that he was married and had three children.

If we search for what is behind the stamp, I feel it is too easy and too cheap to find just gum, which is such unimportant matter. In our century, called sometimes the age of science, when it becomes easier and easier by the advance in mechanical methods to forge the stamp itself it is the easiest thing in the world to apply any wanted gum. And legally, when the printing of stamps is a Right exercised by proper quarters, whilst the use of stamps for paying postage remains restricted within a country's borders; when here in South Africa you even need a licence to sell stamps for postage or Revenue purposes, you are perfectly entitled to regum any stamp anywhere.

But ours is not only the Century of Technique, spiritually it is the Century of Doubt, which Bertrand Russell, one of its critics, describes mildly by saying: "The fundamental cause of trouble in the world to-day is that the stupid are cock-sure while the intelligent are full of doubt."

In our distinguished society, of course, we do not find the former group of people and the latter deserve better advice than I could give.

But for myself I might be permitted to an entirely personal opinion gained by observation during some 30 years of stamp collecting, namely, that whatever the advances, it remains true that in Philately as everywhere else in life

Nothing Stands In ISOLATION!

(Concluded from page 158.)

PHILATELIC SOCIETY OF JOHANNESBURG.

12th September. At this meeting the bill of fare was a dozen sheets of any country outside Africa. Very nice displays were given by Messrs. Schubert and Kupperman of Netherlands, by Mr. Redford of early Australian colonies, by Cdr. Enoch of 20th Century Dominica Republic, by Mr. Frankland of Australian Commonwealth and by Mr. Oppenheim of Miscellaneous items.

25th September. The exhibit was provided by Mr. E. Hunt who showed the first issues of all countries which issued stamps before 1860 except those of German and Italian States. Mr. Redford tabled the collection in Mr. Hunt's absence and first read a few notes prepared by Mr. Hunt on his exhibit, which included some 40 odd sheets, each of a different country.

All the stamps shown were in fine condition. Some were used and some were mint. There were some very rare items among them. Commander C. E. D. Enoch spoke on the exhibit which was very much appreciated.

SOCIETY NEWS

FEDERATED SOCIETIES

NAME AND ADDRESS:	MEETINGS:
Cape Town P.S., Box 1973	2nd and 4th Thursdays, 8 p.m., Mountain Club Rooms, Yorkshire Ho., Strand St.
Copperbelt P.S., c/o No. 12 7th Ave., Nkana, N. Rhodesia	2nd Fridays, 7.45 p.m., Colosseum Theatre Tea Rooms
E. London P.S., c/o Box 450	3rd Tuesdays, 8 p.m., Regent Hotel, Benoni.
E. Rand P.S., c/o Box 155, Brakpan	2nd Thursdays, 8 p.m., 120 Hight Street.
Grahamstown P.S., c/o H. Q., Tarr, Kingswood Col.	Last Thursdays, 8 p.m., Jewish Guild.
Jewish Guild Phil. Section, Von Brandis Street, Johannesburg	2nd Tuesdays and 4th Mondays, 7.45 p.m., Public Library.
Johannesburg P.S. of, Box 4967	1st and 3rd Wednesdays, 7.30 p.m., Durban Camera Club, 319 Smith Street.
Maritzburg, P.S. of, Box 256, Pietermaritzburg	3rd Wednesdays, Goldfields Hotel, Pietersburg, at 8 p.m.
Mashonaland P.S., Box 1660, Salisbury	Free State Technical College, 7.30 p.m., 4th Fridays.
Natal, P.S. of, Box 588, Durban	1st & 3rd Tuesdays, 7.45 p.m., Room 3, City Hall Basement.
N. Transvaal P.S., c/o Miss v. Niekerk, P.O. Rita	1st & 3rd Mondays, 8 p.m., Technical College.
Nyasaland P.S., c/o Limbe Trading Co., Limbe	2nd Wednesdays, 7.30 p.m., Railway Recreation Club
O.F.S. & Basutoland P.S., Box 702, Bloemfontein	3rd Thursday of every month, 8 p.m., Savoy Hotel, Roodepoort.
Port Elizabeth P.S., c/o 13 Trafalgar Square	2nd Mondays, 7.30 p.m., Board Room, New Era Press
Pretoria P.S., Box 514	1st Wednesdays, 8 p.m., Royal Hotel, Krugersdorp.
Pretoria Railway P.S., Railway Recreation Club, Berea Park	
Rhodesia, P.S. of, Box 803, Bulawayo	
Rooдеpoort Stamp Club, c/o 82 Kruger Ave., Selwyn, Florida	
Springs P.S., c/o No. 25, 5th St., New Township, Springs	
Vereeniging Stamp Club, Box 196	
W. Rand Stamp Club, c/o U 184, W. Rand Consol. Mines	

PHILATELIC SOCIETY OF NATAL.

Those members, if any, who still think that the stamps of the British Commonwealth are the only ones worth collecting, must have had another severe shock when Mr. Lionel Bevis exhibited his fine collection of French Colonies.

Original designs, full of interest from the point of view of both philately and art, excellent condition and careful write-up, combined to make a most delightful exhibit.

Mr. L. O. Bosse, in proposing the vote of thanks, was quick to emphasise these points.

Semi-postal issues — "to be or not to be" — brought forth a lively discussion, under the guidance of the chairman — Mr. W. H. Winde, with the result that the following motion was forwarded to the Federation for inclusion in the agenda of the forthcoming Congress in Johannesburg:

"That the members of the Philatelic Society of Natal support the proposal that not more than one issue of semi-postal stamps of low value be made annually."

During the evening the Chairman performed the pleasing task of presenting to Mr. Lionel Bevis on the occasion of his wedding, fish-servers and fish knives and forks from the committee and members respectively.

EAST LONDON PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

Due to inclement weather and the influenza epidemic, the attendance at the September Meeting was small.

The President welcomed Mrs. A. Wynder after her return from overseas. Mrs. Wynder was re-elected a member of the Society. Greetings from the Rev. Pluddemann, who was overseas on holiday, were read to the meeting.

Members unanimously decided to make a donation to the Johannesburg National Philatelic Exhibition. In this connection, it was decided to ask Mr. Joseph, who had visited the Society and kindly given a display last year, to attend the Executive Meeting of the S.A. Philatelic Federation at the end of this month and further, to attend Congress as a representative of this Society, as it did not appear likely that any local members would be able to attend these functions, nor the Exhibition.

The Chairman of the Sub-Committee reported that a Meeting had been held and a list of suggestions had been prepared in connection with the revision of the Union Catalogue. A copy of the report would be read at the next meeting, when

it was hoped there would be the usual good attendance.

The problem of the disposal of the Society's periodicals was discussed and it was agreed that interested members should have the right to purchase these and that unsold copies should be handed over to the Junior Society, free of charge.

There were two displays, one being a nice variety of War Time Covers by Mrs. R. Alabaster and the artistic pages prepared by Mr. J. V. Jensen, entitled "My 1950 Pages". Mr. Jensen was absent, owing to indisposition, but we can see how our energetic ex-President is keeping as busy as ever and becoming more of an artist. We only hope he will not desert us for the local Arts Society!

EAST RAND PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

At the meeting on Tuesday, the 18th September, the sole exhibitor was Mr. S. T. Crellin of Pretoria, who tabled a small but interesting collection depicting stamps which have some connection with the letters "S.O.S." There were Stamps on Stamps, Stories On Stamps, Sports On Stamps, Sayings On Stamps, Saints On Stamps and others.

Mr. Shepherd, in proposing a vote of thanks to the exhibitor on behalf of the Society, stated that although the collection was not large, it was an extremely interesting and unusual one.

Mr. Shepherd was elected a delegate for the Society at the forthcoming Congress in Johannesburg.

PORT ELIZABETH PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

Mr. G. Bulbring was in the chair when the Meeting opened on Tuesday the 19th, and presided over a large attendance. Mr. D. Watson was responsible for an exhibit of Sierra Leone, which was a splendid effort. One of the items was the 1938 Issue complete to the £1 with current and obsolete colours in blocks of 4 used. There was also the obsolete 1½d. and 2d. mint in blocks of 4. The chief item was a block of 12 of the 5d. value used. Mr. Watson then gave a very interesting talk on this display and explained several interesting features. Mr. Bulbring reminded members of the Lantern Slides to be shown at the Technical College on Friday the 22nd in the evening "How Stamps are Produced." There is a correction on the September write-up, where it was stated that Mr. G. K. Forbes and Mr. Bulbring were delegates for the Congress with Mr. Burt and Dr. Harris as alternates. This should read Mr. G. Forbes alternate Mr. Berg. Mr. Bulbring alternate Mr. D. H. Kirchner. L.F.C.

(Concluded on page 157)

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ENGLAND.

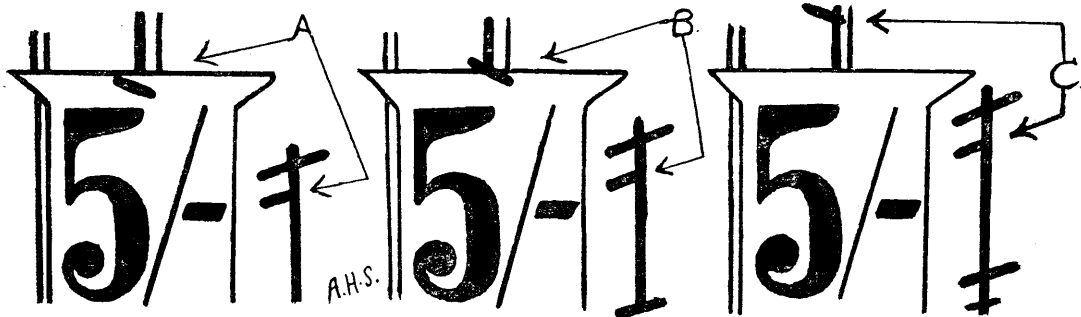
GELATINE SHIFTS PORTRAYED ON CERTAIN ROTOGRAVURE STAMPS OF THE UNION OF SOUTH AFRICA AND SOUTHERN RHODESIA.

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

In connection with the process of photo-mechanical etching of stamp design images in recess and negative on highly polished surfaces of copper-faced cylinders the Carbon Tissue sheets utilised consist of thin films of soluble gelatine affixed to paper bases. Such reddish pigment specifically included for the purpose of rendering visible their stamp design images after development and for the actual progress of the subsequent etching of these images on the peripheries of copper-faced cylinders.

Prints of the stamp design images are transferred on to the sensitised Carbon Tissue sheets by means of exposure to extremely brilliant light

The latter is the Afrikaans term for yoke-pin." It is found on English inscribed stamps printed from Plates 1 and 1 (Interior Cylinder 6929 and Exterior Cylinder 41) in the position of Row 18 No. 5. Both the said cylinders were etched screenless. In all instances where the frame and vignette were printed more or less in register the broken portion of the yoke-pin which is a "gelatine shift" is found located in the left-hand value tablet immediately above numeral "5" of 5/- as exemplified in the sketch and marked "A." In several instances where the frames and vignettes were printed out of register the broken portions of the yoke-pin are found located partly on the above and



Sketch No. 1.—Union 5/- denomination of the Hyphenated series.

emitted by powerful arc lamps through glass positives or diapositives holding the correlative stamp design images initially derived from reversed negatives via "Step and Repeat" Camera from Master Original Drawings of the requisite designs either as Line Subjects or Tone Subjects.

After the procedure of transferring or "squeezing" the prepared Carbon Tissue sheets with their gelatine-held stamp design images to the surfaces of the copper-faced cylinders the paper bases are stripped from the said gelatine image resists adhering to the said copper surfaces.

It sometimes happens that during the procedure of stripping paper bases from gelatine resists certain portions of stamp design images in the gelatine are dislodged from the copper surfaces and inadvertently removed, displaced and etched some distance away from their desired and correct locations anent the design. For the purpose of this cause they are termed "Gelatine Shifts."

The sketches *ut infra* exemplify "Gelatine Shifts" as portrayed on certain postage stamps printed by Screenless and Screened Rotogravure or rotary Photogravure by the Union Government Printer of Pretoria for the Union of South Africa and for the Dominion of Southern Rhodesia.

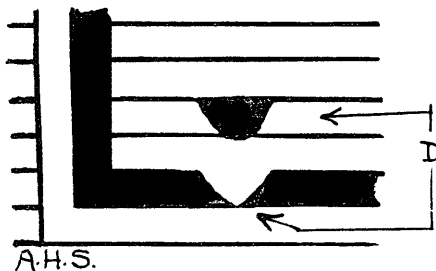
Sketch No. 1.

This sketch depicts the variety catalogued by Simenhoff as the "Broken yoke-pin" or "Jukeskei."

wholly above the said value tablet. Items in my collection are depicted in this sketch and marked "B" and "C." These are examples of Vignette "gelatine shifts" on Frame Designs whose positions are variable, depending upon the degree of registration of vignette and frame. The Vignette shows the Ox-wagon outspanned.

Sketch No. 2.

This sketch shows a misplaced portion of, and its hiatus in, the thick horizontal frame line in the vicinity of the bottom left-hand corner of an English inscribed stamp located in Row 17 No. 3 of

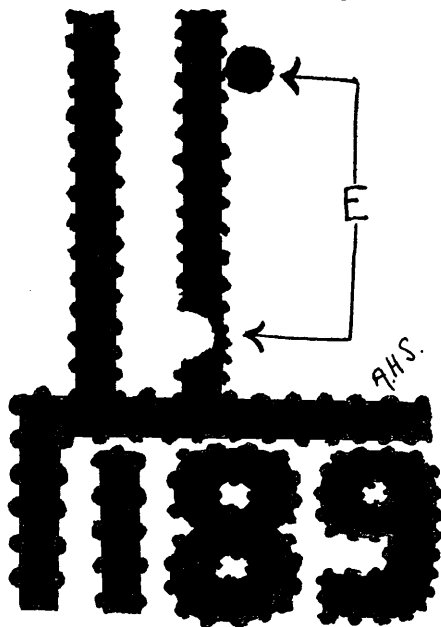


Sketch No. 2.—Union 2d. denominations of the Anhyphenate Series.

the first 2d. cylinders (Plates 1 and 1) with fine purple arrows. In this sketch the "gelatine shift" is marked "D." Both of the said cylinders were etched screenless. It is an example of a Frame "gelatine shift" on a Vignette. The Vignette shows the Union Buildings. Simenhoff has catalogued this in the first supplement to the Standard Catalogue.

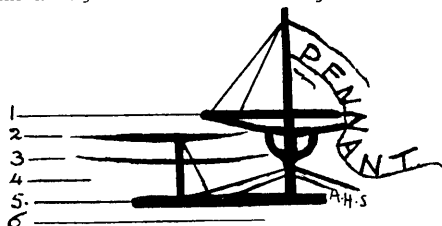
Sketch No. 3.

This sketch depicts a "gelatine shift" in the form of a large dot and its gap in the vertical frame line immediately above the numeral "8" of the date 1893." The frame and vignette cylinders were etched from screened carbon tissue. In this sketch it is marked "E" and the portion of the



Sketch No. 3.—2d. Matabeleland Anniversary stamp of Southern Rhodesia. Row 1 No. 1 2nd or B. Panel.

frame design shown is drawn to show the serrulated edge effect of screening. In sketches 1, 2 and 4 the subjects are drawn to show the sharply defined edges of unscreened designs.



Sketch No. 4.—Union 1d. denomination of the Anhyphenate Series.

Sketch No. 4 depicts two "gelatine shifts" on the vignette of a 1d. stamp printed from Plates 7 and 7 and located in Row 18 No. 1. The cylinders were etched screenless. The shifts are those of two horizontal sky lines Nos. 3 and 4 shifted upwards on the sky lines Nos. 2 and 3 as shown in the sketch marked "F." The gap in No. 4 is obvious. These are examples of Frame "gelatine shifts" which do not impinge on the Vignette. The Vignette shows Van Riebeeck's Ship.

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GREECE

Messrs Whitfield King & Co. report the early appearance of a number of new values in the Dodecanese commemorative set, following on increases in postal rates.

Stamps with a Story

By W. LOXLEY-CHAMINGS

(Continued from page 100 of June issue)

Simon Bolivar, Ecuador S.G. 484. The supreme figure of South America's struggle for independence. Though his strong, aristocratic face figures on the stamps of many of the lands he helped to free, it is Ecuador's stamp that shows it to best advantage. But 47 when he died, his life was shadowed and doubtless shortened first by the early death of his lovely Spanish wife and then by the suspicions and slanders of his colleagues. Yet he held on his way and became unquestioned dictator of Colombia, Peru and Bolivia, whose independence he won, and though in unlimited control of the revenues of these lands he not only threw in nine-tenths of his own vast wealth but died without a shilling of public money in his possession. His name and fame grow with the years.

Rameses II, Egypt S.G. 141. Perhaps the Pharaoh of the Israelitish captivity, and certainly the Biblical account chimes with his undoubted pride and boastfulness. Grandson of Rameses I, founder of the 19th Dynasty. In a reign of 67 years he showed much personal bravery in his many wars, and one instance, in the Hittite War, frequently figures in the sculptures of his temples, for in peaceful intervals he was constantly building, being responsible for the great colonnaded Hall of Karnak (S.G. 125), the Rock Temple of Abu Simbel (127), the Colossi at Thebes (124), all of which are statues of himself and others. This stamp shows one of the many statues of himself he had erected in the Temple of Luxor.

Nefertiti, Egypt S.G. 368. A striking representation of an amazing sculpture found in 1914 in the ruins of the sculptor's workshop on the site of the ancient Akhetaten, near the modern El-Armarnah. The soft original colours still persist almost unblemished after 33 centuries. Wife of the Pharaoh Akhnaten who revolted from the established priesthood of Amun to a belief in a universal Vital Force and became a religious fanatic, founding Akhetaten to glorify the new faith, Nefertiti actively encouraged the new art that flourished in the brilliant court, gathering round her a number of cultured people. She had no sons but several daughters, one of whom married Tutankhamen (S.G. 369).

Ibrahim Pasha, Egypt S.G. 393. A most effective use of modern printing, the portrait in a lovely green standing out against the delicate shades of the naval battle in the background. The putative son of Mohammed Ali, Ibrahim proved a successful naval and military leader against the Turks in Palestine and Syria, but he and his father (who were long co-rulers and died within a few months of each other) were twice robbed of the fruits of victory by the intervention of the European powers. After Syria had thus been returned to Turkey he retired to his estates in the Plain of Heliopolis, growing cotton and olives.

Saint Patrick, Eire S.G. 104. Son of a Roman father and a British mother, he combined the best qualities of each. As a boy he was captured by raiders and carried off to Ireland, but came to love the land of his captivity and returned in later life to be its premier evangelist and patron saint.

He was also a gifted poet, the best known of his poems being the "St. Patrick's Breastsplate" that figures in many collections of hymns and poems.

Theobald Mathew, Eire S.G. 1077. Ordained Roman Catholic Priest in 1814 and joined the Capuchin Order. Seeing the appalling ravages of intemperance in Ireland, he established the Total Abstinence Association in 1838, and enormous numbers joined in all parts of the country—20,000 at Nenagh, 100,000 in Galway, 70,000 in Dublin, and so on, with the result that drunkenness in Ireland almost disappeared. In 1844 he visited Liverpool, Manchester, and London, where the movement won almost equal success. Something like it is certainly needed in South Africa. The stamp was designed by Sean Keating, the Dublin artist. The Erse inscription above reads: "Here goes in the Name of God," the words used by Father Mathew as he inscribed his name as the total abstainer, and the legend at the foot stands for: "Father Mathew, Order of Mendicant Capuchins."

Elias Lönnrot, Finland S.G. 285. By profession a physician, Lönnrot devoted his leisure to the collection of the songs, legends and folklore of his country. His *magnum opus*, "Kalevala," embodying the fruit of his work, was first published in 1835, but subsequent editions contained much additional matter. Professor of Finnish Language and Literature at Helsingfors 1853-62. His researches were a revelation of the hidden wealth of Finnish lore.

Pont du Gard, France S.G. 475a. Near Nismes, the ancient Nemensus, straddling the valley of the R. Gardon. Built in the time of Augustus. Unrivaled by any other Roman relic of its kind for lightness and yet boldness of design. Of the lowest row of six arches one has a span of 75 feet and the rest 60. The second row of 12 arches has likewise one of 75 feet and the rest 60. The third row, which actually carries the water, has 36 arches. The three printings of this stamp are distinguished chiefly by the perforation—14 x 13½, 11 and 13 respectively.

Paris, La Cité, France S.G. 1002. A splendid picture that will recall pleasant memories for many, showing the "Cradle of Paris," the Isle de la Cité in the River Seine. Issued for the 12th Congress of the Universal Postal Union in Paris, 1947. In the foreground, the Pont Neuf, built by Henry IV: in the middle distance the first houses of the Place Dauphine (Louis XIII) where Madame Roland lived; in the background, the Conciergerie and the towers of Notre Dame, the Parthenon of Gothic art. The Palais de Justice is also hard by.

Jean Dagnaux, France S.G. 1025. A portrait that tells its own story of cool and mature heroism, with a background that admirably suggests the scenes of many of his exploits. Jean Dagnaux was old enough to qualify as an air-pilot in the first world war and young enough (on his own instant appeal) to play an even more hazardous part in the second, by which he had reached the rank of Colonel, leading several hundred reconnaissance raids. Wounded by anti-aircraft fire, he was killed as a bomb exploded when his plane crashed.

Wartburg Castle, Germany S.G. 267. Issued May, 1923, as Germany was slipping down the abyss of deflation. The Wartburg, near Eisenach, is one of the finest of the early medieval castles, built in the 11th century by Count Louis the Leaper,

the adversary of Henry IV. It was the seat of the Thuringian Landgraves till 1440. In 1207 it was the scene of the Minstrels' Contest immortalised by Wagner in *Tannhäuser*. Here Luther, under the name of Junker Jorg, was given refuge by Frederick of Saxony, and finished his famous New Testament translation later published by Erasmus. Many Luther relics are preserved in the Castle, which was recently restored by the Grandduke Charles Alexander of Saxe-Weimtr.

Gibraltar, Europa Point, Gibraltar S.G. 125. The name Gibraltar is a corruption of *Gebel Tariq*, or Hill of Tariq, who was a Berber of Ceuta who crossed the strait on a plundering expedition, sent by the African Viceroy of the Caliph of Damascus in 711. Landing at what is now Algeciras across the Bay of Gibraltar, Tariq set up a fortress. Europa Point is the southernmost tip of Gibraltar, only 11½ miles from Africa. Note the lighthouse on the extremity. The peninsula has often been besieged, most notably in 1779-83, when it was heroically and successfully defended by Sir George Elliot, afterwards Lord Heathfield. See the Elliot Monument in the 2s. of 1938.

Victoria, Great Britain S.G. 2h. The penny black, taken from Wyon's famous medallion, ranks very high in the world's stamp designs. As boys very freely for the more gaudy items but the demand has remained large enough to force the price up. Queen Victoria's reign of 64 years, the longest in English history, was also one of the most eventful and progressive. The same kind of profile was in use throughout, in Britain and the Colonies, though other portraits here and there appeared from time to time. The most impressive portrait of the Queen in her last years appears, not on a postage stamp, but on a dead Letter Office seal of Canada, as shown.

St. George, Great Britain S.G. 438. Perhaps this hardly merits a place among portrait stamps, but the gallant St. George can hardly be omitted, and no authentic portrait of him exists. This is perhaps the supreme example of stamp-design in the chivalrous style of which the late Sir Bernard Partridge was the greatest modern exemplar. George was born in Cappadocia of noble Christian parents who gave him the best of training. Under Diocletian he rose to high military rank. He sought a personal interview with the Emperor on the outbreak of hostility against the Christians and for his bold profession of faith was arrested, tortured and martyred at Nicomedia.

Athos, Simon Peter Monastery, Greece S.G. 545. The most westerly of the three peninsulas that jut out far into the sea in Macedonia S.W. of Salonica is Mount Athos, and some twenty monasteries have been established here, all inhabited by Greek monks. The one shown is one of the largest and most impressive. The whole community is officially named "The Holy Community of the Sacred Mountain," and in 1916 prepared for use some stamps—the Victory issue of 1913 and some Postage Dues, overprinted with the community's name and in a few cases surcharged. They were never officially issued, but a few are known used. The regulations in these monasteries are incredibly severe, for "not only are no women allowed to enter the peninsula . . . but nothing female, even cat or hen, may be kept by the monks!"

Guatemala, Guatemala S.G. 405. On October 1, 1936, Guatemala issued a stamp showing the map of the territory. The boundaries were cor-

rectly shown—reading counter-clock-wise, Mexico, Pacific, Salvador, Atlantic and British Honduras, which however it calls "Belice." Three years later, however, the same stamp was re-issued, but this time with a significant change in the map—British Honduras has been calmly annexed, even the word "Belice" has disappeared, and the only indication of its existence is a thin line on the map which appropriately enough, appears to be made up of exclamation marks. This tweaking of the lion's tail, though provoking questions, was deemed unworthy of international action, but Guatemala's subsequent provocative conduct made it necessary to send units of the British fleet to protect the territory of British Honduras.

Taj Mahal, Agra, India S.G. 244. Perhaps the most nearly perfect work of art in the world. Built by Shah Jehan in the 17th century as a memorial and mausoleum for his wife Mumtaz Mahal, it has been aptly described as "a tear-drop of love." It is entirely of white marble, with a minaret at each corner. The tomb, in an inner chamber, is over 300 feet square and on a platform 18 feet high. Light is tempered by being admitted only through marble trellis-work of exquisite design. All the spandrels, angles, and important architectural details are inlaid with precious stones, agates, bloodstones, jaspers, etc. 20,000 workmen were employed on it for 22 years.

Mohandas Karamchand Gandhi, India S.G. 308. The most influential man of modern India. Repelled from Christianity by unworthy representatives thereof he yet embodied many Christian ideals in his plan for India, and however open to criticism many of his acts and pronouncements might be, no one could accuse him of self-seeking or vainglory, for he lived a severely simple and abstemious life, often suffering for his beliefs, and was assassinated by a fanatic.

Ctesiphon, Arch of Chosroes, Iraq S.G. 21. Ctesiphon lies on the left bank of the Tigris about 25 miles S.E. of Baghdad. Founded by Varanes the Parthian, it was the winter residence of the Parthian kings and became their capital. The Roman Emperor Severus captured it and took 100,000 prisoners in 232, and the Arab general Sa'ad seized and sacked it in 637, since when it has been an utter ruin, the only building surviving being the one shown, a part of the magnificent hall once 450 by 180 by 150 feet, which had a portico of 12 huge marble pillars. This arch, the Tak-i-Khesra (Arch of Chosroes), has a span of over 85 feet unsupported. Among the spoil taken by Sa'ad was a carpet 105 feet by 90.

Giuseppe Garibaldi, Italy S.G. A37. The most romantic figure of the Italian Risorgimento. A simple sailor of Nice who was fired by reading the writings of Mazzini. Condemned to death for his part in the Genoa insurrection of 1834, he escaped to South America and fought for Brazilian independence. Eloped with and married the lovely Anita de Silva, who shared in his hardships and successes till her death in 1849, leaving three small children, Anita, Ricciotti and Menotti. Back in Italy, Garibaldi headed a band of volunteers against Austria but was again forced into exile, returning in 1854. Hurling himself again into the struggle in 1859 with varying success, but lived to see Italy largely free. Retired to the Island of Caprera of which he became owner.

Llandoverly Falls, Jamaica S.G. 32. On paper wmk. Crown CC as no other paper would suit

the size of stamp. From a photo by Dr. James Johnston, it provoked a storm of criticism, one newspaper remarking that at any rate no forger could copy such a monstrosity. The Falls are among the pastures and pimento groves of St. Ann's Parish. Like many other falls it has its legend—of a Spanish don and an Arawak maiden who to escape his pursuit threw herself into the waters. He leaped after her and then both were overwhelmed and drowned by a sudden spate. The Indian legend goes on to say that the queer-shaped rock (seen above RY of "Llandoverly") is the remains of the Spanish lover.

Echternach, Dancing Procession. The amazing Dancing Procession which proceeds every Whit-Tuesday through the streets of Echternach, from the river to the church and up the 60 steps of the church to the church doors. At the riverside the Prussian Archbishop of Trier and his German followers are met by the Luxemburg procession and Archbishop. The dancers parade through the streets and finally dance up the church steps, two steps forwards, one step back. To take part in the procession is said to be a cure for many ills (strangely enough St. Vitus' Dance is one of them!) but it is such a strenuous undertaking that doubts must arise. While dancing, the Luxemburgois sing St. Willibrord's hymn, and the Germans an old German hymn.

Mnaidra, Phoenician Temple, Malta S.G. 208. Malta has a kaleidoscope history and in the 15th century before Christ was in the hands of the Phoenicians. Remains of their temples and other buildings have been found all over the island. This ruined temple was discovered near Urendi in the south. To-day it is a favourite spot for excursions. After the Phoenician period the island passed to Carthage and then to Rome.

St. Paul, Malta S.G. 231. Paul traveller, Roman citizen, Christian statesman and the greatest theologian of the Church. Involved in a legal action by his persecutors in Palestine, he became so disgusted with the long-delayed justice of the courts that he appealed to Caesar and was sent to Rome. Luke's description of his sea-journey and its perils and adventures in Acts 27 and 28 is one of the classic stories of literature. Paul's ship was wrecked and destroyed off the coast of Malta, but all escaped with their lives, coming ashore at the spot now named St. Paul's Bay, and a small island hard by is called St. Paul's Island. Here the statue of the heroic apostle, here seen, has been erected. The snake and fire refer to a thrilling incident related in Acts 28:1-6.

Amsterdam, Nieuwe Kerk, Netherlands S.G. 669. Commenced 1408. Many of the rulers of the Netherlands have been crowned here, including Wilhelmina in 1898, and her daughter Juliana, exactly 50 years later. It contains a fine carved pulpit and monuments to Admiral De Ruyter and Netherland's greatest poet, Vondel, whose statue stands in the park near by that bears his name. The World Council of Churches held their first gathering here in 1948, the greatest ever in the Christian Church of recent centuries.

(To be continued)

CANADA

A 10c. was due on 2 October representative of the fur industry, showing an Indian woman hanging up beaver skins.

Recent Arrivals & New Issues:

1 Angola Phil. Exhibition Sheet	4/6
8 Barbados Pictorial, 1c.-24c.	3/9
5 Do., obsolete, ½d. to 3d.	1/6
14 Belgium 1945 Railways, 10c.-20frs., used	2/6
7 Canada Reconstruction, 7c.-1 dollar, used	3/9
6 Canada Do., latest commemos., used	1/6
13 Comores Archipelago, cpl.	14/6
3 Brazil 1950 Football, cpl.	3/6
6 France 1950, Danton, Robespierre, etc., cpl.	3/9
1 Greece 1950, Hippocrates	1/-
4 Germany East, Bach cpl. m. or u.	1/6
10 Germany East, Academy, cpl., m. or u.	1/6
4 Germany East, Pres. Pieck, cpl., m. or u.	1/9
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6 Italy 1947 Radio, cpl., used	2/6
4 Italy, Holy Year, cpl.	3/-
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5 Netherlands 1950 Reconstruction, cpl.	2/6
5 Netherlands 1950 "Churches in War," cpl.	2/6
5 Nicaragua Sports	1/-
8 Nice 1950 Pictorial to 1/-	4/9
2 Norway 1950 Polio, cpl.	1/9
4 Philippines Roosevelt, cpl sheet	8/6
1 Saar Ottweiler, m. or u.	1/-
12 San Marino 1947 Reconstruction, cpl.	2/-
11 Serbia 1942 Monasteries, cpl.	1/9
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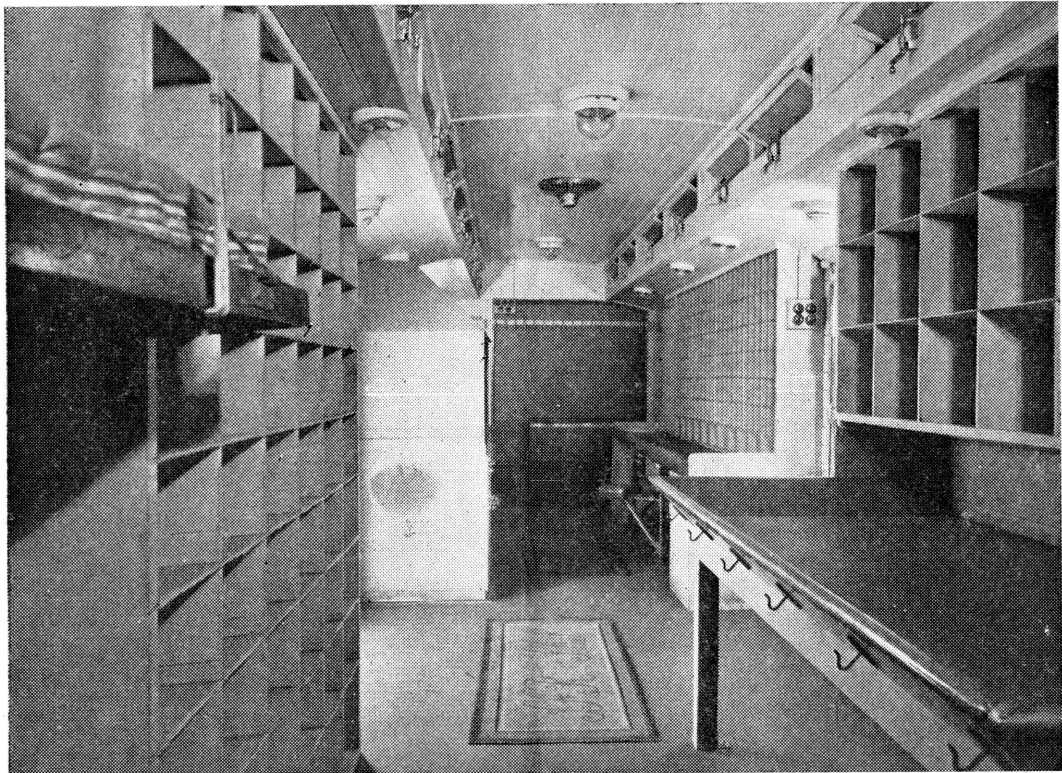
South African T.P.O.'s Old and New

By J. H. HARVEY PIRIE.

(Continued from page 89 of June issue)

T.P.O.s AS AT END OF 1948

Since 1919 there have only been two services operating and they are actually separately named halves of one continuous run from Cape Town to Johannesburg and vice versa via De Aar, Naaupoort and Bloemfontein.



From Cape Town to De Aar, a distance of 501 miles, the service is termed the Western T.P.O and is operated by two clerks and a mail porter. From Cape Town to De Aar is called "Down," this being railway, not geographical terminology. The reverse direction is "Up."

The Transvaal T.P.O. operates from De Aar to Johannesburg, a distance of 537 miles and is worked by three clerks and a mail porter. From De Aar to Johannesburg the terminology of the T.P.O. is "North," in the opposite direction it is called "South."

The frequency of both services is six times per week.

The offices are accommodated in articulated units of the South African Railways, built to speci-

fications supplied by the Post Office. Each office measures 91 feet in length by 9 ft. 3 in. in width. Each is divided into a sorting office and storage section and for the accompanying illustration of the former I am indebted to the South African Railways for a photograph. An accompanying photograph of the stowage section is not reproduced as it is practically just an empty van.

It may be asked what useful purpose do these T.P.O.s serve and why do they not travel by the more direct route between Cape Town and Johannesburg, i.e., via Kimberley and Fourteen Streams? The answer is twofold: (1) They relieve the sorting staff at the head offices in Cape Town and Johannesburg of quite a lot of work in sorting mail for the different districts of these two cities and for

the areas surrounding them; (2) quite a lot of mail is picked up en route and sorted, especially on the "Transvaal" section, and that is why an extra clerk is employed on that section. There would not be nearly so much intermediate mail picked up if the run were via Kimberley.

POSTMARKS OF THE WESTERN T.P.O

The cancellers used by the six teams working this section are numbered 1 to 6, but there are several different types of marks. All are double circle marks of 29-30 mm. diameter with the date in one line across the centre, cutting the inner circle in the case of Nos. 1 and 6 but not in the others. Nos. 1-4 and No. 6 are bilingual with one of the language versions upside down vis-a-vis the date line. All are different from those des-

cribed as in use in 1940 in my original article.

The UP and DOWN runs are distinguished by there being "UP" or "DN" at the end of the date line.

No. 1, "WESTERN T.P.O./1" on top, "WESTELIKE R.P.K./1" below. Letters about 1.75 mm. in height (see Fig. 4).

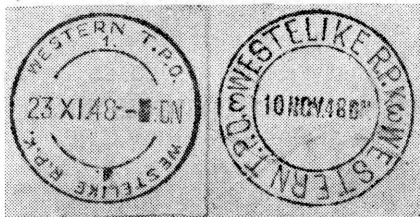


Fig. 4.

Fig. 5.

No. 2, "WESTERN T.P.O./WESTELIKE R.P.K." in letters 3 mm. high; "2" between the upper and lower lettering, opposite the ends of the date line.

No. 3, Letters 4 mm. high. Wording as in No. 2 but "WESTELIKE R. P. K." is at the top vis-a-vis the date, although the "3s" are upside down relative to the date (see Fig 5).

No. 4, Arrangement as in No. 3 but letters only 3 mm. high.

No. 5, Unilingual "WESTERN/T.P.O. 5," with stars between the upper and the lower lettering.

No. 6, Like No. 1, with "6" in place of "1."

POSTMARKS OF THE TRANSVAAL T.P.O.

These are an even more heterogeneous lot than those of the Western section. They are given in what are probably, but not certainly, the pairs held by the six teams operating this service. They are all unilingual marks, in English, and all are double circle marks with the date in one line across the centre.

1 (a) 32 mm. diam. "T.P.O. SOUTH/1" with heavy, long, curved bars between upper and lower lettering. "SOUTH/AFRICA" in centre above and below date; (b), 26 mm. diam. "T.P.O. NORTH" (no number).

2 (a), 26 mm. diam. "T.P.O. SOUTH/2," with light short, curved bars between upper and lower lettering. (This mark is lopsided. It looks as if there should be something between the end of "South" and the bar to the right of "2"; but there isn't.) (b), 26 mm. diam. "T.P.O. NORTH/2" (no bars). (This mark is quite symmetrical.)

3 (a), 26 mm. diam. "T.P.O. South/3"; (b), 26 mm. diam. "T.P.O./NORTH/3."

4 (a), 33.4 mm. diam. "TRANSVAAL/T.P.O. SOUTH.4." Medium length, heavy, curved bars opposite ends of date line, which cuts inner circle. (b), 33.4 mm. diam. "TRANSVAAL/T.P.O. NORTH 5." with similar bars and broken inner circle.

5 (a), 29 mm. diam. "TRANSVAAL T.P.O. SOUTH/7"; (b) 29 mm. diam. "TRANSVAAL T.P.O. NORTH/7."

6 (a), 26 mm. diam. "TVL. T.P.O. SOUTH" (no number); (b), 31.2 mm. diam. "TRANSVAAL T.P.O. NORTH/9."

Nos. 1 (a), 3 (a), 5 (a) and (b) were in use in 1940, but not the others, although there were Nos. 1 and 2 of type 4 (b) and a No. 6 of type 4 (a).

There appear, however, to have been other

changes between 1940 and 1948, for Mr. Norman Hill recently sent me tracings of several marks obtained in that period and not occurring either in my original list or in the above. These are:

(a) A 26 mm. mark like 5 (a) but with number "9."

(b) A 33 mm. mark like 4 (a) but with number "5" (4 (b) is the corresponding NORTH 5 mark).

(c) A 26 mm. mark with "TRANSVAAL/T.P.O. NORTH 10" and dots between upper and lower lettering.

(d) A Bilingual mark of 32 mm. diam. inner circle broken by the date line, with "TRANSVAAL T.P.O. NORTH-R.P.K. NOORD."

And now, with the regrets proper to the passing of old friends, I must put FINIS to South African T.P.O.s. I little thought when I started this article that it would end up as an epitaph, but so it is.

Apparently, although they have been serving a useful purpose, the postal authorities consider they are too expensive, especially since the railways have indicated that their charges for running the T.P.O. vans would have to be increased.

Be that as it may, the Western T.P.O. came off the road at the end of May, 1950, and the Transvaal T.P.O. at the end of June.

REVIEWS

Stanley Gibbons priced catalogue of K.G.VI stamps.

1951 edition, price 3/6d., postage 3d.

391 Strand, London W.C. 2.

These stamps have been re-instated in their Part 1 (British Empire) catalogue, but this separate issue is to be continued for the convenience of the many collectors who limit themselves to stamps of the present reign. It contains also some stamps issued in the previous reign, but which continued for a considerable period into the present one; such items are starred and it is up to individual collectors to decide whether or not they wish to include them in their scope.

It does not pretend to be a specialised catalogue, merely a guide for the ordinary collector. There are numerous price alterations since the edition of ten months earlier; many obsolete stamps are up, but there are a considerable number of reductions in current issues.

Over 600 items have been added.

Thiaude's Catalogue of the stamps of France.

French Colonies, Andorra, Monaco, Sarre.

1951 Editor; H. Thiaude, 24 Rue de 4 Septembre, Paris 2c. Price 120 fr.

This catalogue might well be regarded as the Bible for all collectors specialising in the countries covered by it. That it is in French should be no obstacle, as the many little bits of information which are not obtainable, in any catalogue published in English, are easily followed and should be most useful to any moderately advanced collector. The prices reflect those obtaining in France, many are from 10% to 20% down on the last edition, although the rarer items maintain their price levels or even are somewhat higher.

SEYCHELLES

Whitfield King & Co. report that a new issue has been announced. The Coco de-mer, Tortoise and Pirogue designs are to be retained, with two new designs added, Sail-fish and Map.

EIRE

Three stamps, 2½d., 3d. and 9d. were scheduled for issue on 11th September to commemorate Holy Year. Main feature of design is a statue of St. Peter.

O.V.S. "ORANGE TREE"

Ap[ro]pos of Mr. Pienaar's article last month, proving from documentary evidence that the orange tree on the stamps of the Orange Free State was **not** meant to be an orange tree, but just "a tree" we have studied an illustration of the Great Seal of the Orange Free State. It is quite clear here that the tree shows no sign of oranges, but is just "a tree". The sheep are emblematic of patience (Geduld) and the very fierce looking lion of courage (Moed).

NORTHERN RHODESIA

Mobile Post Office

A mobile P.O., whose inception seems to have escaped notice till now when it has been recorded in the *Philatelic Adviser* by Mr. Norman Hill. The service started on 28 June, 1948, is based on Fort Jameson and gives a daily service of almost full post office facilities in the rural areas around Fort Jameson. The special date stamp is a double-circle mark of 26 mm. diameter with "Mobile Post Office No. 1" at the top and "Northern Rhodesia" in much smaller type at the bottom.

ISRAEL

We omitted to state in our last issues that first-day covers with the Air Mail and New Year stamps had been received from the Philatelic Services of the Dept. of Posts and Telegraphs.

An 80 pruta stamp depicting a Sprinter is to be issued during the period of the Maccabiah, 27 September—10 October.

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NETHERLANDS

It is announced that stamps are to be issued for use on correspondence from the International Court of Justice in the "Van Krimpen" design, value 2 and 4 cents. They will be inscribed (**not** overprinted) "Cour Internationale de Justice" at the foot and will **not** be available in unused condition to the general public (an uproar may be expected from collectors over this prohibition. Ed.).

All Queen Wilhelmina stamps have been demonetised, but such stocks as remain will be on sale at philatelic centres until October, 1951.

The SOUTH AFRICAN PHILATELIST

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HON. EDITOR: J. H. Harvey Pirie, P.O. Box 4012, Johannesburg.
BUSINESS MANAGER: L. Buchen, P.O. Box 4012, Johannesburg.

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The following functions have been arranged in connection with the Exhibition. As the number of persons for each function will be limited those wishing to attend should send in their names to the Hon. Secretary immediately.

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 24th: Morning visit to the Government Printing Works, Pretoria.

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 25th: Evening visit to the Africana Museum to view the Cunle Collection of Transvaal. Tea will be served.

TUESDAY AND THURSDAY, OCTOBER 24th and 26th: Morning tour of the Johannesburg Post Office, in parties of 25.

MONDAY TO FRIDAY, OCTOBER 23rd to 27th: Visit to the Star Offices to see the printing of the "Star."

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 28th: Congress and Exhibition Banquet at the Carlton Hotel at 7.30 p.m. Admission 30/- per head. Dress Optional.

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DE LA RUES are represented by large blocks. The famous Collection of "Re-entries and Constant Marks" (which was awarded a silver-gilt medal at the recent London Exhibition) is offered as one lot.

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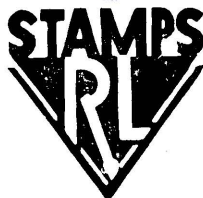
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NOVEMBER, 1950.

Whole No. 308.

Union Notes

SUB-EDITOR: Mr. W. N. Sheffield,
Box 99, Cleveland, Transvaal.

RECENT PRINTINGS.

The Publicity Officer of the Department of Posts and Telegraphs has kindly supplied the following information covering the period from the 14/6/50 to the 26/9/50. For the previous list see our August 1950 issue, page 118.

Ordinary Pictorial Stamps.

1d.—Job No. 5134 contd. No additions to the information given in the August list

1d.—Job No. 2810 contd. On an order for 750,000 sheets x 240, deliveries to date amount to 584,850 sheets printed from cylinders 6A and 6B; and 179,500 sheets from the new (all-screened) cylinders 76 Interior and 14 Exterior. Date of first delivery of the new printing—5/9/50.

1½d.—Job No. 5301 contd. On an order for 200,000 sheets x 240 the delivery to date amounts to 128,658 sheets. Cylinders 6931A and 6931B as before.

2d.—Job No. 12995 contd. Order for 1,000,000 sheets x 240. A total of 433,340 sheets delivered to date from same cylinders as before — No. 6927 Interior and No. 50 Exterior. Date of first delivery 18/4/50.

4d.—Job No. 1888. Order for 100,000 sheets x 120. A total of 97,750 sheets delivered during the period 4/7/50 to 13/7/50. Old cylinder No. 19.

6d.—Job No. 700 contd. The information given on page 49 of our April issue should be amended to read as follows:—

(a) On an order for 100,000 sheets x 240, the number supplied since the 14/7/49 amounted to 15,750 sheets. Cylinders No. 9 Interior and No. 6935 Exterior as before.

(b) On the same order, 37,278 sheets have been delivered since the 15/12/49 from new cylinders (all-screened) Nos. 6930 Interior and 6 Exterior. Total supplied on Order No. 700 up to the 1/3/50=53,028 sheets.

6d.—Job No. 700 contd. Number of sheets supplied from the new (all-screened) cylinders Nos. 6930 Interior and 6 Exterior during the period 15/12/49 to 31/8/50 amounted to 85,278. Total deliveries on this order as at the 26/9/50 = 101,028 sheets.

1/—Job No. 5303 contd. A total of 153,560 sheets x 120 delivered since the 30/12/49 on an

order for 150,000 sheets from the same cylinders Nos. 6926 Interior and 6935 Exterior.

Roll Stamps.

1½d.—Job No. 10070 contd. On orders for (a) 6,000 rolls x 1012 stamps and (b) 5,000 rolls x 506 stamps, the numbers supplied to date since the 23/5/50 amount to (a) 3,780 rolls and (b) 3,900 rolls. Printed from a one colour cylinder No. 6045 as before.

1d.—Job No. 1885. On orders for (a) 6,000 rolls x 1012 stamps and (b) 6,000 rolls x 506 stamps, the numbers delivered to date amount to (a) 1,380 rolls and (b) 1,600 rolls. Printed from one colour cylinder No. 24 as before. First deliveries 17/8/50.

Postage Due Stamps.

1d.—Job No. 2755. Order for 15,000 sheets x 60. First delivery 1/8/50 and 20,400 x 60 supplied up to 3/8/50. Cylinders 39 Interior and 33 Exterior as before.

Air Letter Cards.

6d.—Job No. 6198 contd. Further to the information given in the August list, the number supplied from cylinder No. 18 now amounts to 1,421,400 sheets of 4 letter cards and on the order for four million, the total deliveries from the three cylinders Nos. 40, 27 and 18 is given as 4,449,600 sheets of 4 cards per sheet.

"Official" Stamps.

The following quantities, supplied by the Postmaster-General, were overprinted OFFICIAL/OFFISIEEL on a flat bed machine from NEW PROCESS BLOCKS and delivered on the 29/6/50, in the case of the 1d., and on the 4/7/50 for all the other values.

1d.—499 sheets x 240; 2d.—499 sheets x 240;
6d.—299 sheets x 240; 1/—299 sheets x 120;
2/6—299 sheets x 60; 10/—99 sheets x 60.

Union Standard Catalogue.

Work on the new edition of the Union Standard Catalogue has commenced and with the able assistance of the many enthusiasts who have kindly offered their services there is every indication of the new printing appearing early in 1952. Any items of information considered by readers as likely to be worthy of inclusion in the revised catalogue should be addressed to the Hon. Secretary of the sub-committee, Mr. Sam Legator, P.O. Box 333, Brakpan, Transvaal, South Africa.

Now that the National Exhibition is over, will all who have offered to write the various sections make an effort to get their articles ready and let Mr. Legator have same as soon as possible.

Further Notes on the 1d. All-screened Pictorial Stamp.

Recording the appearance of the new all-screened 1d. pictorial stamp at the Cape Town Central Post Office, and also the Maitland Post Office, on the 3rd of October 1950, Mr. A. H. Sydow notes that the new cylinders numbered "14" and "76" were etched from carbon tissues printed from the same diapositives as the previous cylinders numbered "6A" and "6B". Therefore the prominent "Sky flaw" — Row 2 No. 5 — also appears on the vignettes of cylinder "76", but with the difference, of course, that in the case of the "6A" printing the flaw appears **unscreened** whereas on cylinder "76" it is **screened**.

He adds that the new cylinders are screened with cross-lines and that the numerals "76" and "14", denoting the vignette and frame cylinders respectively, emanate from Ludlow Tempo Type. The number "76", printed in the same colour as the vignettes, is opposite the 12th stamp of row 19 and the "14" — in the same colour as the frame — is opposite the 12th stamp of row 20.

Change in the Union Air Mail "Etiquettes".

Mr. L. Buchen of Johannesburg has drawn our attention to a new air mail "Etiquette" which made its appearance sometime in September. The design has been changed and the "Speedbird" of the previous issue has given way to the "Flying Springbok" depicted on the stamp portion of the current 6d. Air Letter.

The inscriptions on the new label are in French, English and Afrikaans as before and the colours of white and blue are unchanged.

Machine Cancellation in Purple Ink.

A letter from Potgietersrust dated 16.VIII.50 has been noted by Mr. S. J. Hagger of Alberton as bearing the slogan "POST EARLY FOR QUICK DELIVERY/POS VROEG VIR VROEE AFLEWERING" in purple ink instead of the more usual colour of black.

The "Third" Rotogravure Printing of the 1d. Roll Stamps—Die II with SUIDAFRIKA Anhyphenate.

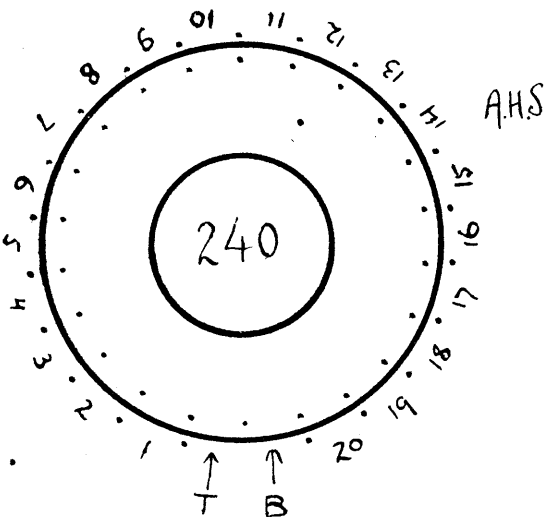
Writing in connection with these 1d. roll stamps, Mr. A. H. Sydow of Cape Town points out that up until now there has been no mention of their existence in either the "South African Philatelist" or the Union Standard Catalogue and he gives the following notes and sketches dealing with this particular printing.

Prior to the "Third" issue, the First and Second printings appeared with the Die I frame plate design and unhyphenated SUIDAFRIKA from Master Negatives Nos. 1 and 2 respectively and further particulars of these will be found in Mr. Sydow's paper entitled "Some Master Negative and Diapositive Indications of the First Union Rotogravure Stamps—Die I," which was published in our October 1940 number.

The roll stamps from Die II were issued sometime towards the end of 1933 or the beginning of 1934 — about the same time as the sheets of the first 1d. hyphenated stamps appeared — and as it happened the colours of the Die II roll stamps were the same as those of the first hyphenated issue namely pale-grey and carmine. They differed however in the fact

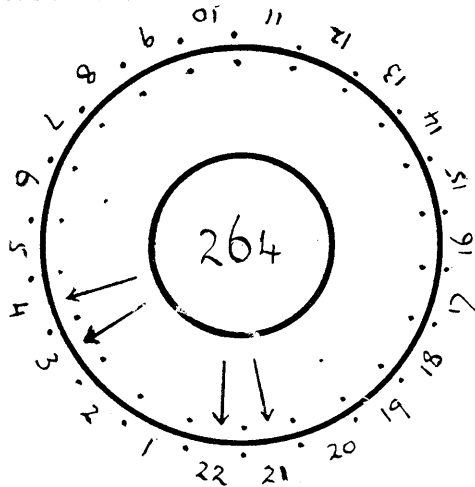
that the roll stamps emanated from the same diapositive as the sheet stamps of Plates Nos. 8 and 8 which, of course, had the setting of SUIDAFRIKA in its unhyphenated form.

The Plate No. 8 sheets were produced from a 240-set diapositive—20 rows by 12—and therefore the use of the latter for all stamps made it necessary to add two extra rows of images to the cylinder in order to print twenty-two rows at each revolution.



Sketch B1.

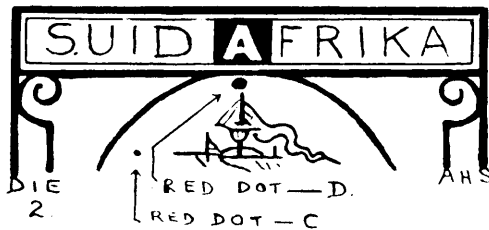
Sketch B1 shows section of the Plate No. 8 frame cylinder with the normal twenty horizontal rows of images separated by the space (equal to two rows of images) for the top and bottom margins — indicated by "T" and "B". One revolution of the cylinder printed two hundred and forty images in twenty horizontal rows of twelve.



Sketch B2.

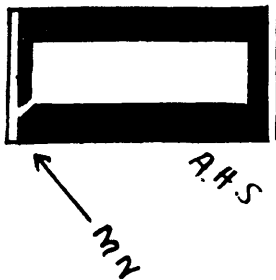
Sketch B2 represents a section of the roll stamp cylinder with the space previously separating the 1st and 20th rows now filled with two rows of images so that one revolution of the cylinder will print two hundred and sixty-four images. The operation of adding the two extra rows was carried out by first of all transferring the two hundred and forty images from the diapositive to the cylinder in the usual manner by means of the carbon tissue and acid etching process and then, also by the same process, transferring another two rows from the glass plate to the cylinder in order to fill the space originally intended for the top and bottom margins. And the two rows selected for this purpose have since been found to have emanated from Rows 3 and 4 of the diapositive so that we have Rows 22 and 21 of the printed sheet of stamps being the same as Rows 3 and 4 respectively.

This fact is borne out by a diapositive flaw which occurs twice on each 264-set sheet of roll stamps — once as a result of the imprints from Rows 3 and 4 and again from Rows 22 and 21. The position of the flaw and also that of a separate cylinder flaw, is described below and illustrated in Sketch A.



Sketch A.

1. A flaw in the shape of a prominent red dot marked "D" — for Diapositive Flaw. This occurs on the sheets in the position Row 4 No. 12, and on the roll, in the positions Row 4 No. 12 and also Row 22 No. 12. The flaw is under the initial "A" of AFRIKA and above the top of the main mast.

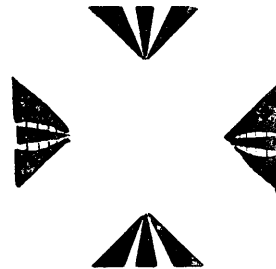


Sketch C.

2. A flaw in the shape of a tiny red spot marked "C" — for Cylinder Flaw. This exists on the roll cylinder only and occurs on the stamp in the position Row 3 No. 12, but **not** on the item in Row 21 No. 12.

Sketch C shows a Master Negative Flaw in the form of a short white line at the foot of "I" of AFRICA which occurs on every fourth English inscribed stamp throughout the sheets of both the ordinary stamps and the Die II roll stamps. It is marked MN in the sketch.

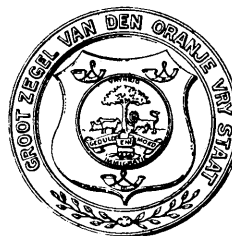
Marginal Arrows, "all-screened" Id.



Last month it was mentioned that the marginal arrows on the sheets of the recently issued all-screened Id. had been changed. The illustration shows the difference between the side ones and those at the top and bottom of the sheets.

O.V.S. "ORANGE TREE."

In our October issue we referred to the tree as depicted on the Great Seal of the O.V.S.



The accompanying illustration shows that it is just "a tree", not an orange tree.

INDONESIA.

New stamps may be expected from here very soon. On 17th August the name of Indonesia was officially changed from "Republik Indonesia Serikat" (United States of Indonesia) back to its earlier name of simply "Republik Indonesia."

It has been announced, however, that the small stock of Serikat stamps on hand will be used up.

Stamps with a Story

By W. LOXLEY-CHAMINGS.

(Cont. from page 164 of October issue.)

66. Henry VII of England Newfoundland S.G.79. The highest denomination up to that time, and in very little demand, for in three months only 45,000 of a total printing of 100,000 had been sold. 300 copies were overprinted for the Pinedo flight in 1927. Henry VII, first of the Tudor line, gave a charter for a voyage of discovery to the West to John Cabot, who, setting sail from Bristol in May 1497, reached Newfoundland, as this set witnesses. There being no available portrait of John Cabot, the 2c shows his son Sebastian. The avaricious king was not generous in his reward of John Cabot, for he gave only £10 from the Privy Purse and a pension of £20 a year to be paid out of the Customs revenue of the Port of Bristol.

Francis Bacon, Newfoundland S.G.111. "Lord Bacon" is an error, for he was Sir Francis Bacon in 1610 (date on stamp), created Baron Verulam and Viscount St. Albans 1621. Youngest son of Sir Nicholas Bacon, lawyer and statesman, he was Attorney-General to Elizabeth and Lord Chancellor under James I. As a politician some of his acts were questionable but as a philosopher he was a profound thinker and brilliant writer. His sagacity was never more manifest than in his counsel in the various colonising schemes characteristic of the day, and the stamp well acclaims him as "the guiding spirit in colonization scheme." The first lithographic printing has an odd misprint—colonization.

Prince John, Newfoundland S.G.124. A stamp of charm and pathos. The engraver contrived to give the little boy's face an air of wistful delicacy which was only too prophetic, for the young prince was only 13½ when he died. A very attractive gallery of child-portraits on stamps can be shown, but none of greater appeal than this.

George, Duke of Kent, Newfoundland 123. This Coronation portrait shows the late Duke at 8 years of age, the only stamp on which he figures. This portrait also has its pathos, for the Duke did not live to see his 40th birthday. His marriage to Princess Marina took place in 1934, and they have two children.

Atlantic Air Routes, Newfoundland S.G.194. A clever representation of pioneer Atlantic flights. These are, in chronological order:

1. Hawker's unsuccessful attempt 1919
2. Alcock's flight, St. John's to Ireland 1919
3. U.S. Navy Seaplanes, Trepassey to Azores 1919
4. Lindberg, New York to Paris 1927
5. Di Pinedo, Trepassey to Azores 1927
6. Koehl, Ireland to Greenly Island 1928
7. Kingsford Smith, Ireland to Harbour Grace 1930

Note the four swastikas!

Humphrey Gilbert, Newfoundland S.G.236. A Devon man, half-brother to Walter Raleigh. The little house at Greenaway where he was born has disappeared, but the family seat at Copton (2c) still stands, and is still owned by

a Gilbert. After education at Eton (4c) and Oxford he entered on a military career, serving in France and Ireland, where he did so well that he was made Governor of Munster in 1569 and a year later was knighted. Always adventurous, he was given a charter (7c) by Elizabeth (24c) in 1578 for colonising Newfoundland (20c). Not till 1583 was all ready to sail from Plymouth (8c) and his small fleet sailed into St. John's Harbour (9c) on August 3. Many of his riff-raff company wished to return home, and he lost his life in attempting to re-cross the Atlantic in his little craft Squirrel (see coat of arms 3c) of 10 tons. His last words were: "We are as near to heaven by sea as we are by land." (15c.).

Truro Cathedral, Gilbert Statue, Newfoundland S.G.249. "One of the most important ecclesiastical buildings in England — a fine example of early English at its best period." Designer, Mr. Pearson, R.A. The South Aisle of the previous building has been ingeniously incorporated. Sir Humphrey holds a sextant, symbolic of his adventurous seafaring life. Truro is a manufacturing city near Falmouth, Cornwall.

Wilfred Thomason Grenfell, Newfoundland S.G.275. Of a famous Devon family, he qualified as a doctor, and devoted his life to the welfare of the fisherfolk of Labrador, establishing missions, hospitals and clinics, linking up the isolated fishing-stations by sea and air, and providing remunerative employment for the idle winter months. Shown on the bridge of his ship Strathcona II, and on the right the hospital-ship Maravel. Superintendent of the International Grenfell Association 1911-40. Lord Rector of St. Andrews University 1929-31. A most fascinating writer and speaker.

Wau Goldfield, New Guinea, New Guinea S.G.204. The chief exports of New Guinea today are gold and postage stamps. One of the richest goldfields in the world, it is also about the most difficult, for the country is extremely mountainous, as the stamp shows, and the climate most trying. Natives would take at least a week to carry gold from this spot to the coast, so that the cost of transport is enormous, and recently almost all transport of both gold and mail has been by air. A gold brick weighs 750 ozs. and this means about £11 a brick by registered airmail at 3½d. an oz. to Australia. The issue of high-value airmails therefore is a commercial necessity rather than a philatelic imposition. Note, on the stamp, a Spanish galleon, a reminder of the early search of gold, a prospector panning for gold, while a native watches, spear in hand. "My fortune's almost made," thinks one, and the other, "Ah, long pig for supper!"

(To be continued.)

AUSTRIA.

Three semi-postals were issued on 6th October in commemoration of the Carinthia plebiscite thirty years ago.

U.S.A.

Messrs. Whitfield King & Co. report that the fourth and last, stamp commemorating the National Capital Sesquicentennial will appear on 22nd November. This will feature the Capitol building.

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STAMP COLLECTING

(A radio talk given by Cdr. Enoch, President of the Philatelic Society of Johannesburg over the S.A.B.C., a few days before the opening of the Exhibition)

You have just been hearing about collecting old books — what about collecting old **stamps**? And I mean **old** stamps! The very first postage stamp was issued in England as long ago as May 6th, 1840, so already there are a great many centenarians among the stamps of the world.

Many people think of stamp collecting as just a childish amusement for the very young. It keeps the kiddies quiet and they will grow out of it as they grow older just as they grow out of their clothes.

True, many children give up stamp collecting before they leave school and all that remains to them is perhaps an enhanced knowledge of geography.

But there are probably quite as many adult enthusiasts for this hobby as there are children. Philately has been recognised for over half a century as the Hobby of Kings: His late Majesty King George V; His Majesty King George VI; the Princess Elizabeth; Ex King Carol of Rumania and Franklin D. Roosevelt are among the famous who have owned magnificent collections.

The British Museum in London houses one of the most famous collections in the world. This is the Tapling Collection which contains stamps of every issue from every country in the world up to the year 1890 when the owner died and many valuable additions have been made to the Tapling Collection since that date.

Here in Johannesburg is another world-famous collection, the Curle Collection of the **Stamps** of the **Transvaal**, and if you are interested in the early stamps of our Province, these may be seen, by arrangement, in the Africana Museum at the Johannesburg Public Library.

Big international philatelic exhibitions are held every year in various centres. For example, one is being organised to be held in Cape Town in 1952 as part of the van Riebeeck Tercentenary celebrations.

National Philatelic exhibitions are also held annually and **this** year there is to be one in **Johannesburg**. Selections from some of the finest collections in South Africa will be on show all next week in the Selborne Hall. The total value of the stamps on show will be about a quarter of a million pounds; here, for everybody to see, are the treasures of South African collectors of all ages. A schoolgirl of 11 has sent her stamps; while the oldest contributor is a man of over 70.

Some are what we call straight collections; that is a full range of stamps from one or more countries; others are specialised collections; where the collector has specialised perhaps in the stamps of just one country, or even, in stamps from one issue of a country; yet others are the so-called thematic collections; that means the stamps are selected to

illustrate a theme, such as music or animals, and the value or scarcity of the stamps themselves is merely incidental. So you see stamp collecting is definitely a hobby for young and old, rich or poor, and there is no need to be a millionaire to make an interesting collection.

Stamp collectors are an international brotherhood of enthusiasts, men **and** women. Collectors all over the world find this hobby constructive, instructive, fascinating and — above all — great fun!

MARION ISLAND.

A mail left Durban for the island on 12 October by H.M.S.A.S. **Transvaal**. Mail arrived back at Capetown on 22 October, receiving there a Paquebot cancellation. Included in this were some nice souvenir covers prepared by Mr. C. O. Spence, to whom we are much indebted for a specimen. These special covers show a map of the Indian ocean, with the location of Marion Island relative to S. Africa, also an outline map of the island itself.

ANGOLA AND MOZAMBIQUE.

Messrs. Whitfield King & Co. report that Angola is shortly to have a new set featuring flowers of 24 values and Mozambique a set with animals, probably running to 28 denominations with a total face value of 265 escudos. That's the way to become popular with collectors!!

GREAT BRITAIN.

The postal authorities have sprung a surprise recently by announcing that with effect from 24th August, overprinted stamps of K.G.V and K.G.VI reigns whose original values had not been altered, would be available for use in Britain itself. This rules out stamps whose values have been altered to francs, pesetas, etc., so that those available will be mainly those of Morocco Agencies and stamps overprinted M.E.F. and E.A.F.

On account of changes in postal rates, and to fit in with U.P.U. recommendations (for about the first time, incidentally), the low value stamps are to be changed in colour. The ½d. to be orange, 1d. blue, 1½d. green, 2d. brown, and 2½d. red; the 4d. was changed to light blue on 2nd October.

It is announced that a Second Edition of the "Stamps of Great Britain" Part I (The Line Engraved Issues 1840-1853) by J. B. Seymour, will be published during November 1950.

The text of this work was completely revised by Mr. Seymour shortly before his death and it contains many additional illustrations from his drawings. The bibliography has been brought up to date and a completely new and more comprehensive Index prepared.

The price will be £1 (Post free) and a special edition limited to 100 copies — bound in half vellum — will be available to subscribers, price £2 2s. od. Only **one** copy of the latter can be allotted to each applicant.

A subscription list has been opened and applications accompanied by a remittance should be made to the: Publications Committee, The Royal Philatelic Society, 41 Devonshire Place, London, W.1.

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As our many customers already know, we have been working hard, and for a long time compiling a K.G.VI Catalogue and at last we are glad to be able to report that our copy is now coming off the presses and will soon be in the hands of the binders. Binders did we say? Yes we are having our catalogue bound in full cloth.

For years, as most of you know, we have been dealing exclusively in K.G. VI stamps, and all the time we have had the idea of producing a catalogue sometime, at the back of our minds, so we were careful to keep our large reference collection well notated. Two years ago we decided to start the work proper, and from that date we have thought of little else. Holidays etc. almost had to go by the board, so interested did we get in the task, and whilst it may be true that we were glad when we got the copy off our hands, at the same time, quite a gap was left, if you can understand us, for really we put all we could into this real labour of love. One thing is certain, the Commonwealth Postal Administrations, the stamp printers and the Crown Agents would not be sorry, for we had pestered them for official details, but most of them entered into the task with enthusiasm — one supplied us with five foolscap pages of data, dates of issue, etc. — and we are grateful, not just on our own behalf, but on the behalf of K.G. VI collectors

as well, for we will be able to publish much new data, which might have been lost for good, without their help.

Of course pricing was a very important part of our plan, and some of our prices will be quite a surprise, but as time goes on, the sceptics of today will be those who will say tomorrow "How right the Commonwealth were." We cannot help but know prices and values of K.G. VI stamps, dealing in them as we do, month after month, year after year, and we have applied that knowledge honestly. We have put all our cards on the table, and kept no secrets back, which makes our catalogue well worth the attention of any K.G. VI collector.

You'll find all those shades and varieties which you have always felt were worthy of recognition, but we have taken such great care to make out lists clear and concise, that you'll find your way about in our catalogue, as easily as if it was compiled in a simplified form.

We expect our catalogue to be ready early December and the edition is strictly limited. We will accept prepaid orders at 6/6 a copy plus 6d. for postage, but please apply by airmail otherwise you may be too late. We believe you are in for a treat, if you get a copy.

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MY MOUTH STILL WATERS (2d. BANTAMS UNROULETTED).

My friend Mr. W. Pavitt carried out his promise and on Monday the 25th September, 1950 brought me a block of 34 of the 2d. Small War Issues — a top row of four stamps and the next five rows of six stamps each from the right hand bottom corner of the sheet showing the right marginal bottom slogans appertaining to that portion of the sheet.

He came, I saw, I looked, I conquered that feeling of envy which we all have, although we won't often admit it. I applied myself to the business of examining the stamps thoroughly to ascertain under which printing the stamps should be classified.

The block was unrouletted!



The stamps are from the printing of Stamp Cylinder No. 39 and Slogan Cylinder No. 2. Stamp 8 Row No. 18 shows the coloured diagonal line extending from the sailor's head towards the margin of Stamp No. 9 of the same row.

I asked my friend to tell me the story and nothing loath he related that towards the end of 1943 or the beginning of 1944 he walked into the Post Office at Kimberley during the lunch hour and in the normal course of every day activity asked for a shilling's worth of 2d. stamps. He wanted to post some letters, even stamp collectors do at times post letters and are not always in Post Offices looking for fly spots.

This was his lucky day!

The Postal Clerk on duty, when serving Mr. Pavitt with the required number of stamps remarked "I don't know what's wrong with these xxx&&&!!!! stamps, they keep on tearing." You remember it was the lunch hour and there was no one else in the Post Office and you know what it is between men.

Mr. Pavitt looked at the stamps handed him and lo' they were unrouletted. Immediately he asked the obliging clerk how many of the sheet were left. There were 60, so promptly and jubilantly he purchased the lot. Wouldn't you? Like a hound on the scent he enquired as to who had purchased the rest of the sheet but was informed that these stamps had been sold in bits and pieces and not to any one particular person so the faint hope of tracing the remainder of the sheet disappeared. It is, therefore, more than likely that the rest of the sheet was used in the ordinary course of postage and that the stamps eventually landed into waste paper baskets.

The 40 stamps are illustrated here. Mr. Pavitt gave me a block of four in exchange and I was fortunate in prying from him the top strip of four. I think I'll sell insurance when I retire.

D. H. KIRCHNEK.

12th PHILATELIC CONGRESS.

The 12th Congress has come and gone. Full reports will be available soon for the constituent Societies and further notes of doings will appear in our next issue.

Meanwhile it may be reported that Messrs. Emil Tamsen and Harvey Pirie were elected Honorary Life Presidents of the Philatelic Federation, and Mr. C. A. Larsen of Bloemfontein, President of the Federation till next Congress, which will be held at Bloemfontein in May, 1951.

Mr. W. N. Sheffield was awarded the Skinner Cup for the most meritorious work done for philately in South Africa during the past twelve-month.

"GELATINE SHIFTS"

By A. HILTON SYDOW.

(October Issue—Corrections.)

Owing to the local rush in connection with the Congress and Exhibition last month, the proof correcting of our October issue was hurriedly, and badly done. Our apologies are due to Mr. Sydow. The following corrections should be made to his article:—

(1) "Such reddish pigment . . . (Page 160, line 6) should read: Such Carbon Tissue sheets also contain certain reddish pigment specifically included for the purpose . . ."

(2) "Screened Rotogravurde . . . (Page 160, six lines from bottom of column one) should of course read Screened Rotogravure. . ."

(3) "portions of the yoke-pin are found located partly on **the above** (Page 160, line just above Sketch No. 1, column 2) delete "the above."

(4) "These are examples of Frame "gelatine" shifts which do not impinge on the Vignette . . . (Page 161, last three lines of the article). Change to "These are examples of Vignette 'gelatine' shifts which do not impinge on the Frame."

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MEETINGS:

2nd and 4th Thursdays, 8 p.m., Mountain Club Rooms, Yorkshire Ho., Strand St.

2nd Fridays, 7.45 p.m., Colosseum Theatre Tea Rooms

3rd Tuesdays, 8 p.m., Regent Hotel, Benoni.

2nd Thursdays, 8 p.m., 120 Hight Street.

Last Thursdays, 8 p.m., Jewish Guild.

2nd Tuesdays and 4th Mondays, 7.45 p.m., Public Library.

1st and 3rd Wednesdays, 7.30 p.m., Durban Camera Club, 319 Smith Street.

3rd Wednesdays, Goldfields Hotel, Pietersburg, at 8 p.m.

Free State Technical College, 7.30 p.m., 4th Fridays.

1st & 3rd Tuesdays, 7.45 p.m., Room 3, City Hall Basement.

1st & 3rd Mondays, 8 p.m., Technical College.

2nd Wednesdays, 7.30 p.m., Railway Recreation Club

3rd Thursday of every month, 8 p.m., Savoy Hotel, Roodepoort.

2nd Mondays, 7.30 p.m., Board Room, New Era Press

1st Wednesdays, 8 p.m., Technical College.

1st Wednesdays, 8 p.m., Royal Hotel, Krugersdorp.

PHILATELIC SOCIETY OF NATAL.

The October meeting was not so well attended as usual owing, no doubt, to the prevailing influenza epidemic which has been ruthlessly and impartially on the attack for some time. However, the meeting was successful and members were well entertained in various ways. To begin with Mr. Joe Lyle set about us with one of his formidable and much feared competitions, and although he had promised an easier one we found it worse than the last. The winner was Mr. Appleby who makes a habit of carrying off the competition prizes but, even so, he did not reach half marks.

Mr. Lyle also read interesting articles from the stamp magazines and out of this reading arose a discussion on the collecting of George VI issues to the exclusion of other groups and classes. Arguments for and against were advanced and, as may be imagined, there was no sign of anything approaching unanimity ever being reached on this old and thorny question of what is, after all, a matter of predilection or personal choice.

It was argued that one of the attractions of stamp collecting was the freedom it offered to the individual to collect just what and how he pleased: it was a flexible hobby offering scope for individuality and originality and there could be no sustained and general interest were it compulsory to follow definite rules that dictated an exact line of choice and procedure. The matter of the collection of mint v. used also had a share in the discussion and, here again, there were champions for both sides and it was again necessary to agree to differ.

Reference was also made to various "rackets" that disturbed the minds of philatelists from time to time: many of these were gentle ones and the result of the demand for stamps, both used and mint, of certain countries which had to be satisfied. Yet no-one suggested that the stamps of some of the smaller colonies should be limited to the issue of just sufficient to cover domestic use. Philatelists could, if they chose, avoid the rackets — or rather — the fraudulent ones.

A welcome visitor to the meeting was Mr. J. E. Creewel of the Rhodesian Philatelic Society, Bulawayo, who joined in the discussions and offered helpful information when the proposed changing of the method of judging and marking display competitions was before the meeting. His display of the Vatican City issues was greatly admired and of interest to all present — George VI enthusiasts

included. The beauty of design and printing was something to cause South Africans to make comparisons! As a candidate for the Percy Bishop cup Mr. K. I. Bevis put on display his Empire in the Pacific issues which earned much favourable comment.

Illness kept our secretary, Mr. C. Selwyn Smith, from the meeting and it was hoped that he would soon be about and with us again. V.F.M.

EAST LONDON PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

October 13th: There was a very pleasing attendance of over 30 members and visitors at the October Meeting.

After the welcome to visitors it was announced that Mr. S. A. McCallum as well as Mr. B. Joseph of Johannesburg, would represent the Society at the Congress of the S.A. Phil. Federation.

A very interesting social programme had been drawn up and was anticipated as eagerly as the visit to the Exhibition itself.

There was a lengthy and lively discussion on the various resolutions put forward for Congress and various decisions were made for the guidance of our delegates.

Amongst items of philatelic interest passed round, was an envelope bearing the recently issued twin stamps of Australia.

The Executive Committee was instructed to investigate the possibility of moving to the New Museum as a meeting place, and to report back to the Society.

A particularly fine display of St. Helena and Malta by Mr. C. P. Durkin was much admired, and Mr. W. J. Gillespie enjoyed the pleasurable task of thanking him. U.C.S.

PRETORIA RAILWAY PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

September 13th. The Annual General Meeting was held and all reports submitted showed that the Society is forging ahead. Membership increased by 30 during the year, the Society now having 122 fully paid-up members. The Office Bearers for 1950-51 were elected as follows:

President: Mr. L. B. McLachlan; Vice-President: Mr. C. J. Powell; Hon. Secretary: Mr. W. Kriste; Hon. Treasurer: Mr. W. Howie; Exchange Superintendent: Mr. C. Iles; Stamp Superintendent: Mr. E. Walker; Asst. Hon. Secretary and Librarian: Mr. A. Winterbottom; Asst. Exchange Superintendent: Mr. V. Jewell.

(Continued on page 182)

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REVIEWS

Collecting Postage Stamps. By L. N. and M. Williams. Oxford University Press, Amen House, Warwick Square, London E.C.4. Price 6/- net.

This is one of the Oxford University Press "Compass books" for Children and Young People. The writers are well known as philatelic journalists and book producers, but in this instance we consider they have touched high-water mark. This book is well got-up, sufficiently illustrated, and written in a most attractive style. It should appeal to any young collector; and not only to them, but to others not so young — their memories will be refreshed on many points. Higher praise we cannot give.

New South Wales Philatelic Annual 1950. Phil. Soc. of New South Wales, Box 601, G.P.O. Sydney. Price 2/- post free.

This booklet is, of course, in part only of local interest, but it has a number of short articles of general interest:—

N.S.W. Stamps used Abroad; The Jeffreyes Forgery of the Sydney 1d. View, Victoria 1850, The Romance of Pacific Islands' Stamps, "Pre-Oval" postmarks of N.S.W., Stamps of Papua, The Imperf. Helvetia issue of Switzerland 1854-62. Well worth anybody's two shillings for these alone.

Philatelic Association of the Philippines, 179 Avilas, Manila.

A booklet issued by the "Asociacion Filatelica de Filipinas" on the occasion of the 25th Anniversary of its foundation. Dealing mainly with their domestic affairs, which appear to be flourishing, but containing also several interesting articles on Philippine philately. Chiefly written in English, a little only in Spanish.

Scots Local Cancellations, by C. W. Meredith. R. C. Alcock, 11 Regent Street, Cheltenham.

A listed and illustrated description of "matched pairs," i.e. two different types of postmarks used at various places in Scotland during the period 1854-60. Indispensable for collectors of such items.

(Concluded from page 180.)

The retiring President, Mr. L. R. Brown was accorded a very hearty vote of thanks for all the good work that he has put in to the Society since its inception. We would wish him long life and happiness in his retirement when he leaves the service early next year. Good luck "Pop." W.K.

GRAHAMSTOWN PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

September 14th: Dr. Cory, our President, gave an interesting account of his visit to Cape Town where he had had the privilege and pleasure of attending a meeting of the Cape Town Philatelic Society.

Mr. Drury's display of 'Rhodesians' was the main feature of the evening's entertainment. His sheets were well set out and there were surprisingly few gaps.

October 12th: Dr. Tame, our Exchange Superintendent, imparted the welcome news that the second exchange packet had started on its rounds. The members then turned with interest, not unmixed with awe, to the examination of Mr. Motyer's 'Victorians'. A small sprinkling of very precious penny blacks and twopenny blues was followed by sheet after sheet of stamps such as very few in Grahamstown have been privileged to see. At the close of the meeting Dr. Cory expressed the hope that Mr. Motyer would show us more of his treasures in the near future. R.Q.T.

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Particulars: W. B. Ross, 15 Balliol Road, Wyken, Coventry, England.

SEYCHELLES.

Collectors interested in the postmarks of this group of islands will find an interesting article on them in "Stamp Collecting" of 2 September.

Obituary

W. J. GIOVANETTI.

We have to record with much regret the passing away of this old stalwart of the Pretoria Philatelic Society. Best known to collectors in general for his Union and South West Africa stamps, he had entered these for the Johannesburg Exhibition, but alas it was not to be.

W. J. PLOWS

The Philatelic Society of Natal reports the death of this member. He was an occasional contribution to our magazine. R.I.P.

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LIST OF AWARDS.**

GOLD.

Sam Legator	Israel
Alec Kaplan	Southern Rhodesia.
J. H. Harvey Pirie	Swaziland.
C. G. Mummery	.....	Falkland Islands.

SILVER GILT.

A. A. Jurgens	.....	Cape
Jack Shepherd	.....	Cape
E. Hunt	.....	Transvaal
Gordon M. Brown	.....	Nyasaland
William Redford	.....	Seychelles
A. A. Jurgens	.....	Cape (Pre Stamp Covers)

L. Buchen	.....	Israel
W. Newlands	.....	O.F.S.
A. A. Jurgens	.....	Bechuanaland
William Redford	.....	Sierra Leone
Hervey W. Jones	.....	Nova Scotia
I. Greenbaum	.....	African Air Mails
C. E. D. Enoch	.....	British Guiana
W. Newlands	.....	Burma (Jap. Occ.)
N. Welsford	.....	Australia
E. Hunt	.....	Brazil
J. Michelson	.....	Latvia
L. H. Rivers	.....	Tibet
B. Glassman	.....	Geo. VI.

SILVER.

W. N. Sheffield	.....	S.A. Commemoratives
G. N. Gilbert	.....	Basutoland
L. Buchen	.....	German S.W.A.
J. H. Harvey Pirie	.....	Locals
L. Buchen	.....	Austria
D. C. D. Castle	.....	Sarawak
B. L. R. Fox	.....	Southern Rhodesia
Gordon M. Brown	.....	Burma
Sam Legator	.....	Egypt
Dr. and Mrs. J. Chait	.....	Thematic (Animals)
Capt. J. A. B. van Wyk	.....	South West Africa.
William Redford	.....	Gold Coast
A. V. Jacob	.....	Southern Rhodesia
W. G. Combrink	.....	Nyasaland
I. H. C. Godfrey	.....	S.R. Air Mails
A. C. Mullen	.....	Jaipur
W. G. Combrink	.....	G.B. Postcards.
C. E. D. Enoch	.....	Dominican Rep.
E. Hunt	.....	The World

BRONZE.

William Redford	.....	S. Nigeria
W. Newlands	.....	Mafeking
J. H. Harvey Pirie	.....	African T.P.O.'s
J. T. Burrell	.....	Kenya
W. F. Oppenheim	.....	Monaco
D. H. Kirchner	.....	S.A. Commemoratives
D. W. Rossouw	.....	S.A. Stationery
Dr. K. Pennycook	.....	South Africa
D. Lamont Smith	.....	S.W.A.
Mrs. G. H. Hunt	.....	Gambia
Wilfred Kark	.....	Israel
J. E. Frankland	.....	Morocco Agencies
A. Bernhard	.....	Germany
W. Mann	.....	Italy
I. E. Crewell	.....	Denmark
B. Seelig	.....	Switzerland
W. Lambert	.....	Air Mails
E. L. Stern	.....	Geo. VI.
D. W. Sutcliffe	.....	Geo. VI.
R. A. Gilzean	.....	Thematic (Fam. People)
E. F. A. Huth	.....	Thematic (Voortrek's.)
I. Isaacs	Thematic (Quotations)
E. Schaiowitz	Thematic (Music)

CERTIFICATE OF MERIT.

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Dr. T. B. Berry	S.A. Essays, Etc.
S. J. Hagger	South Africa
H. Schwartz	Ascension
H. Schwartz	St. Helena
G. K. Forbes	.....	Newfoundland
Gordon M. Brown	.....	Trinidad & Tobago
Miss D. M. Newlands	.....	Netherlands
I. Isaacs	.....	Air Mail Labels
A. T. Blick	.....	Geo. VI.
E. A. Church	.....	Geo. VI.
J. V. Jensen	.....	Thematic (Art.)
F. W. Barnard	.....	Thematic (Sport)
F. S. L. Burns	.....	Thematic (Olympic)
J. Solomon	.....	Junior (U.S.A.)
G. N. Gilbert	.....	S.A. Bantams.

NYASALAND

Diamond Jubilee Issue—15 May 1951.

Mr. T. McMicking, P.O. Cholo, Nyasaland sends us the following information, at the request of the Diamond Jubilee Committee:—

The issue will definitely be released on the 15th May, 1951, comprising 4 values, similar in size to the current values, 1½d., 3d., 6d., 5/- . The design, common to all values, features the present arms of the Protectorate and the original arms of British Central Africa and it incorporates a portrait of H.M. the King surmounted by the Royal Crown. The colours will be the same as for corresponding denominations in the current issue, as follows, but with the arms in BLACK. 1½d. GREY/BLACK; 3d. BLUE/BLACK; 6d. VIOLET/BLACK; 5/- DARK BLUE/BLACK. BRADBURY, WILKINSON will be the Printers. The sheets are being set up at this moment in London, and have been ordered to come to the Colony by second class Air Freight. Duration of issue not yet settled, but possibly 3 months. It is hoped to have a special Cancellation machine in operation on May 15th under European Supervision at the BLANTYRE POST OFFICE ONLY, for the servicing of First Day Covers. Orders for F.D.C.'s should now be sent to me, to enable me to inform the Committee of approximate numbers required on the First Day. A special Souvenir Cover will be printed, and quotations for same are open to Printers in the Union, and should be sent direct to me as soon as possible, together with Sample of Cover. A special Cancellation Stamp will be available for the Issue.

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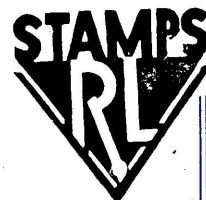
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Vol. 26. No. 12.

DECEMBER, 1950.

Whole No. 309.

MERRY CHRISTMAS
to our readers and advertisers
and Good Hunting in 1951,



EDITORIAL

"Research".

In the October issue of the *American Philatelist* Mr. Wardwell says he has long been puzzled at the alarm with which the great majority of stamp collectors shy away from the word "Research." It is "not for me" they say, and yet there is no collector between the ages of nine and ninety who does not indulge in research to a greater or lesser extent.

First of all, of course, it is a good thing to define one's terms of reference. What is Research? Many think it necessarily involves, *inter alia*—

- (a) Delving into official records and archives.
- (b) Writing to or interviewing stamp printers.
- (c) Making a critical summary of everything that has been written on the subject being researched.
- (d) Studying as many as possible of the stamps being dealt with.

Well, it may involve all these factors, but it need not necessarily do so.

Many definitions of "Research" are to be found in various dictionaries, etc. Mr. Wardwell accepts a simple one — "Diligent Enquiry". Let us take that one and see where it leads us in the subject of Philately.

Every child who begins stamp collecting is a researcher, although probably at first in an unorganised and disorderly fashion. When he advances, or when an adult begins, his research is more disciplined, as when he studies his catalogue, measures perforations, looks for watermarks, etc.

The stage usually comes when he has to research into the question as to what limits he shall put on his collecting activities. He becomes a specialist and willy-nilly indulges in more research.

The reason for this is simple. He no longer finds that the ordinary catalogue meets his needs. Catalogues must be financially profitable and must therefore have a wide appeal. To have this wide appeal they must compress as much information as possible into one book; this compression necessitates their touching only on the high points about any one stamp.

The specialist collector therefore turns to other sources for information — talk and comparison of stamps with fellow collectors, books and magazines, etc.

He may ultimately find himself looking at his stamps with a view to finding out something which the other fellow hasn't discovered. From this it is only a short step to publishing what he finds out and so sharing his knowledge with fellow collectors.

We commend this view of "Research" to our readers. Don't be scared off it as something far too highbrow for you. A lot can be discovered by simple diligent enquiry; even if you may find it leading you into difficult tangles, you can get a lot of fun out of it.

In his final paragraph Mr. Wardwell says "One cynic has defined plagiarism as copying the work of another and research as copying the work of two or more others." We trust he will forgive us if we have been a little guilty of plagiarism in writing this editorial; we would plead that we have at least had the decency to acknowledge the source of our remarks.

THE STEVENSON "CAPES".

The highlight of last month's auctions in London was the sale by Messrs. H. H. Harmer of the Cape triangular collection belonging to Mr. D. Alan Stevenson.

A set of 40 Colour Proofs fetched £320. The study collection of re-entries and constant marks, which was awarded a silver-gilt medal at the recent London International, was sold for £1,550.

Amongst the "Woodblocks" a superlative 4d. deep bright blue went to £300. A 1d. pale blue error made £460, while the famous block of four, three 1d. vermilion with the error 4d., fetched £1,450, the highest price obtained for a single piece at a London auction for many years.

The total realisation was £16,800, the maximum ever reached for a Cape collection.

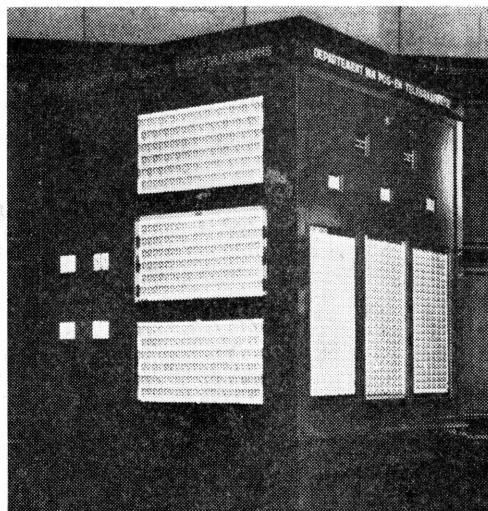
Union Notes

SUB-EDITOR: Mr. W. N. Sheffield,
Box 99, Cleveland, Transvaal.

The Department of Posts and Telegraphs Display at the Johannesburg National Exhibition.

Of all the attractive exhibits on view at the National Philatelic Exhibition held in Johannesburg from the 23rd to 28th October, 1950., there is no doubt but that one of the most interesting to collectors in general, and Union enthusiasts in particular, was the excellent display by the Publicity Section of the Department of Posts and Telegraphs.

Selected to illustrate some of the principal stages in the preparation of the Union's stamps, the items were divided into two parts. The first contained in a specially constructed cabinet designed to allow for conveniently viewing the actual Master Negatives and Multipositives as used by the Government Printing Department in the production of the 1949 Universal Postal Union set and the Voortrekker Monument Commemorative set. The accompanying photograph taken by Mr. F. G. Froelich of Johannesburg,



Photo

F. G. Froelich.

illustrates the cabinet as it appeared in the Exhibition hall and shows the glass plates so illuminated that everyone had an opportunity of seeing just what the Master Negatives and Multipositives (or Diapositives, as they are frequently called) looked like in their original state.

The second part, arranged in glass frames, showed in addition to the three original designs for the Voortrekker Monument Commemorative issue, drawn by the South African artist, Mr. W. H. Coetzer, twenty-eight full sheets of the colour trials which had been prepared by the Government Printer for the U.P.U. and Voortrekker Monument sets of 1949. Admirably

mounted on toned cards and each covered with a protective sheet of clear cellophane, the various colours and shades of the stamps could be easily observed and allowed for an interesting comparison with the final colours of the two commemorative issues as selected by the authorities for use on postal matter.

The fact that four of the sheets of the 1½d. Voortrekker Monument trial series had been printed in two colours — Green and Gold, etc. — and also showed two cylinder number imprints on the margins, made it evident that at one stage in the preparations, consideration had been given to printing this particular stamp, depicting the Monument, from both an interior and an exterior cylinder, instead of the single unit subsequently adopted.

There was no official designation of any of the colours on the trial sheets and therefore any listing can only be of a general nature, but for those who would like to have some idea of the range of shades in the different denominations, the following classification, compiled with the assistance of Mr. D. H. Kirchner of Port Elizabeth, will serve as a basis.

Universal Postal Union Issue.

½d. Denomination

- (1) Green—Accepted colour.
- (2) Apple green.
- (3) Pale emerald green.
- (4) Blue green.

1d. Denomination.

- (1) Red—Accepted colour.
- (2) Dark chocolate brown.
- (3) Chestnut (similar to the 1½d. K.H. issue).
- (4) Vermilion orange (similar to 6d. Large War)

3d. Denomination.

- (1) Ultramarine (Reckitt's Blue)—Accepted colour.
- (2) Greenish blue.
- (3) Prussian blue.
- (4) Sea blue.

Voortrekker Monument Commemorative Issue.

1d. Denomination.

- (1) Violet lake—Accepted colour.
- (2) Vermilion lake.
- (3) Brownish red.
- (4) Orange vermilion.

1½d. Denomination.

- (1) Green—Accepted colour.
- (2) Green and Gold.
- (3) Blue green and gold.
- (4) Pale blue green and Gold
- (5) Bronze green and Gold
Two cylinder printing Centre in Gold.
- (6) Blue
- (7) Dark green.
- (8) Bronze green.

3d. Denomination.

- (1) Dark blue—Accepted colour.
- (2) Light ultramarine (Light Reckitt's blue).
- (3) Light sky blue.
- (4) Milky blue.

It is understood to be the intention of the Department of Posts and Telegraphs to maintain the exhibit as a permanent feature and it will therefore be available again for exhibition purposes in other towns of the Union. As a most interesting and unique display it cannot fail to prove an attraction to every collector of stamps and we are very much indebted to the

Postmaster-General and his staff for their kind co-operation in making such an excellent exhibit possible. Also, before closing this paragraph, a word of thanks and appreciation to the obliging officials who worked so cheerfully to cater for the thousands of enthusiasts who used the Exhibition Post Office to such good advantage during the Exhibition week. From 10.0 a.m. to 10.0 p.m. they gave service with a smile and their untiring efforts to assist both young and old went a long way to making the Exhibition an outstanding success.

Misplaced Overprints on 2d. "Officials".

The accompanying illustration shows a portion of a sheet of 2d. "Officials" with misplaced overprints recently seen in Johannesburg. The sheet is one from that particular issue of the 2d. "Officials" which appeared after the "mixed fount" printing recorded in the March 1949 Union Notes. The photograph gives an excellent idea of the extent of the misplaced overprints and will enable any future owner of mint copies to determine the particular position they came from. The items missing from the lower part of the sheet were inadvertently used for postage.



Broken "O" Variety in Current 2d. "Official."

An interesting item which came to light during Exhibition week was the broken "O" variety in the overprint on one of the 2d. "Official" stamps.

It occurs on the English inscribed stamp No. 17 in the 7th Row and shows the top portion of the "O" in OFFISIEEL missing to the extent that the word takes on the form of "UFFISIEEL."

Change in the Overprint Fount on the 1/- "Officials".

Following on the new issue of 1d. and 2d. "Officials" with the larger overprint, mentioned in our October Notes, Mr. S. J. Hagger of Alberton records the appearance of a new 1/- "Official" bearing a similar type of overprint.

There is no change in the basic stamp and the all-screened printing with Cylinder Nos. 6926 and 6935 is the same as that employed for the previous issue (See August 1950 Union Notes), but the fount is of the larger type and the spacing is constant at 19 mm.

The overprints read downwards as before and the setting of "Offisieel" on the left and "Official" on the right hand side of the stamp has not been altered.

1950 Christmas Stamps.

The 22nd issue of Christmas stamps, for use as letter seals, appeared at post offices throughout the Union on November 6th and will remain on sale until the 24th December. They are sold at 1d. each in sheet and booklet form for the prevention of tuberculosis funds and have no postal value, but despite this factor have been steadily gaining the interest of collectors since they first came into being in the Union in 1929.

This year's issue (see illustration on page 185) depicts "A Sunshine Home" and the stamps have been printed on paper watermarked with Multiple Springbok's Head. The booklets, containing one or more panes of six stamps, are priced at 6d., 1/-, 2/6, 5/- and 10/-, and the sheets of 120 stamps (6 rows x 20), at 10/-. The latter are in the usual form of three rows set tête-bêche to the other three, but there are no slogans on the margins.

A BOGUS ISSUE.

Mr. Lancelot A. B. Sharpe submits a Natal Q.V. 1d. overprinted "Z.A.R./Enn Penny". Even without the error "Enn" for "Een" we take it to be bogus, an Album weed or phantom philately, in other words.

ARGENTINE INTERNATIONAL EXHIBITION.

We learn from "Stamp Collecting" that this exhibition has been postponed owing to trouble between various Ministries of the Government over the admission of stamps from outside the country. Perhaps they expected all the exhibits to come from the Falkland Islands, whose stamps are always tabooed in the Argentine.

PHILIPPINES.

The Bureau of Posts announces the issue of 2 semi-postals issued on 30th November. One features a war widow and children, the other a disabled veteran,

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A CHANNEL ISLAND LOCAL.

The sub-office on Herm Island, a small island three miles from Guernsey, closed down in Nov. 1948. There is a considerable mail in the summer months as many visitors go to a famous "shell beach." The mail had to be taken to Guernsey by the lessee of the island and with the permission of the P.M.G. he issued a set of 5 stamps, ½d., 1d., 2d., 6d. and 1/- to cover cost of conveying mail to Guernsey, whence of course British stamps had to be used for further transmission.

FRANCE AND COLONIES.

Study of the stamps of these territories seems to be increasingly popular across the Atlantic. The French Philatelic Society of America, located in Montreal, has been advertising in our columns for some months back. Now we are informed of a study group meeting at the Collectors' Club in New York. Anyone interested in this should communicate with Mrs. Helen A. Stringham, 34 Minerva Avenue, Manasquan, New Jersey, U.S.A.

EXCHANGE WANTED.

Mr. Harry Jeffery, of Flat 3, 55 Mansfield Avenue, Christchurch, New Zealand, who specialises in mint New Zealand and Pacific Islands, wishes to correspond and exchange with a specialist South African collector. Basis to be mutually arranged; is prepared to send magazines and all the latest news from his area. (If anyone takes on this exchange will he please pass on hot news to the "S.A. Philatelist.")

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Please say what are your particular interests, and whether you collect both mint and used. Fine copies only are mounted, and you will find our prices reasonable.

Will collectors not known to us be good enough to send a bank or business reference.

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S.A. PHILATELIC EXCHANGE CLUB.**SPECIAL NOTICE.**

We wish to inform all members that as from the 1st January, 1951

MR. ARNOLD C. GERARD,
18 Strand Street, Port Elizabeth

will operate this Postal Exchange Club. I know Mr. Gerard will have the interests of members at heart and I trust all will co-operate with him as they have done with us during the five and a half years we have run this Club.

MR. and MRS. JOHN P. SHINGLER,
8 Windsor Road, Vincent, East London, C.P.
December, 1950

APPROVAL SELECTIONS . . .

We now have ready a fine range of approval books of

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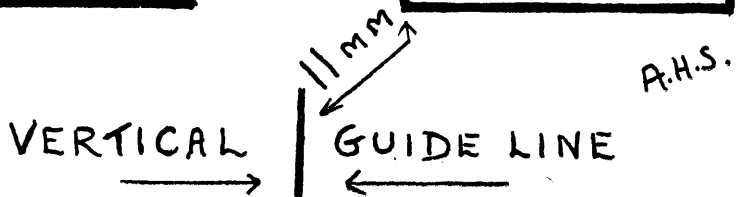
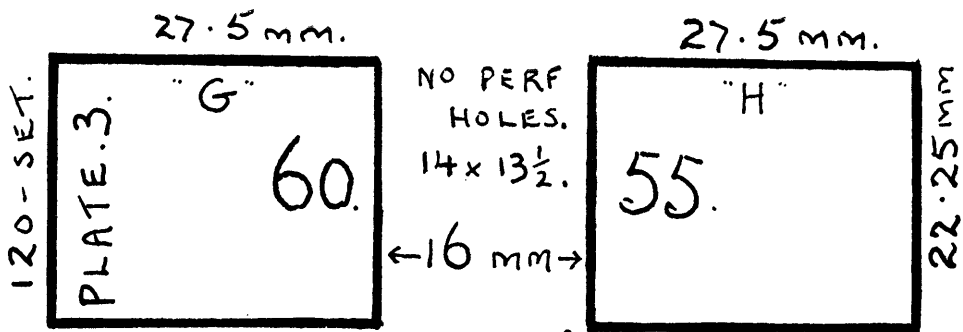
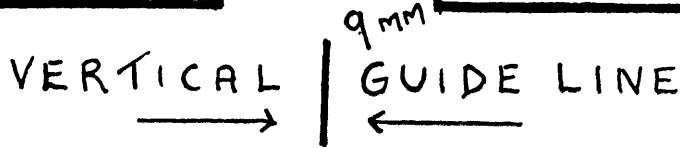
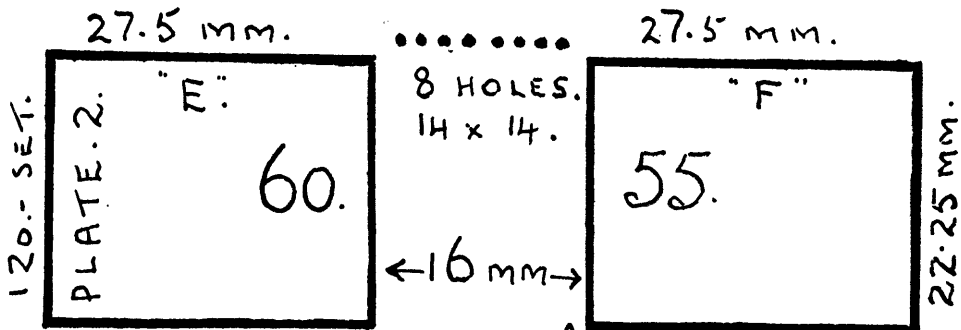
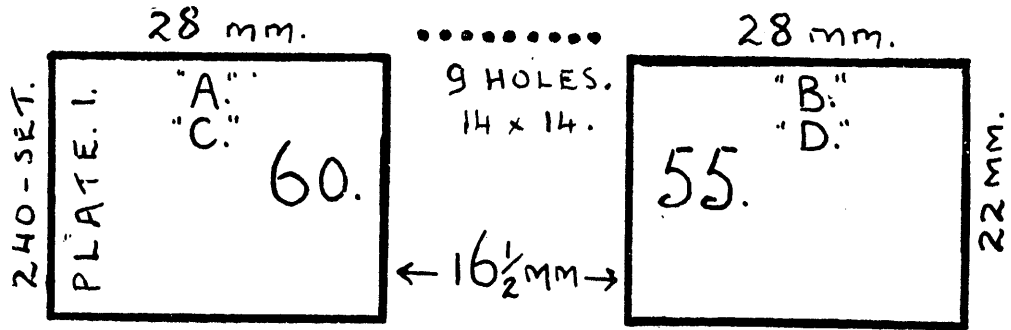
stamps, numbered according to Gibbons' catalogue. The books are made up by countries and contain only fine copies. Keen and discerning collectors will find these books of great use in filling in gaps, adding new shades and unusual postmarks, etc., and each book usually contains some interesting uncatalogued material.

First-class references required from collectors who are not already known to us.

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Sketch No. 2.

throughout of the said gutter measured 1mm. from stamp to stamp as depicted in Sketch No. 2 and lettered "E" and "F".

These 120-set stamps likewise were perforated to the gauge of 14×14 by a comb machine which worked across a sheet from left to right as depicted in Sketch No. 1 by a row of combs marked "L.R.", or from right to left as depicted by a row of combs marked "R.L." The central vertical gutters were perforated horizontally with rows of 8 perf. holes as drawn in Sketch No. 2. See also the horizontal row of perf. holes in the illustration over the name "Groot Schuur" on page 25 of the Standard Catalogue of South African Postage Stamps issued by the Philatelic Federation of Southern Africa. The variety catalogued as the oval or egg-shaped perfs. is to be found also on Sheets printed from the No. 2 plates. The oval perf. variety from the No. 2 plates is distinguished from that from the No. 1 plates by the size of the stamps.

Two dots, one about $8\frac{1}{2}$ mm. vertically above the other, in the colour of the frame appeared at the top of the vertical gutter and a **vertical guide line** in the frame colour below its base. **The distance from the top extremity of the said guide line to the bottom left apex or corner of Stamp No. 55 of the right-hand panel measured 9 millimetres.** Vide Sketch No. 2.

Each 120-set sheet exhibited two imprints represented in the No. 1 Sketch by thick horizontal lines and prefixed V and VI in the locations below the third and the fourth vertical rows of stamps of panels "E" and "F".

The frames of the stamps which comprised the 120-set sheets measured $27\frac{1}{2}$ mm. by $22\frac{1}{2}$ mm.

The 2d. pictorial stamps printed on paper with inverted watermarks emanated from the No. 2 plates.

(C). Frame Plate No. 3 and Vignette Plate No. 3.

The stamps which were derived from the No. 3 plates were likewise printed in 120-set sheets as drafted in Sketch No. 1 in 2 panels of 60 each and lettered "G" and "H". The width throughout of the dividing vertical gutter measured 16mm. from stamp to stamp as shown in Sketch No. 2 and lettered "G" and "H".

These 120-set sheets were perforated to the gauge of $14 \times 13\frac{1}{2}$ by a comb machine which operated across a sheet from top to bottom as depicted in Sketch No. 1 by a row of combs marked "T.B.", or from bottom to top as depicted by a row of combs marked "B.T."

The central vertical gutters were **not** perforated horizontally. Vide Sketch No. 2. Also see the illustration above the words "Native Hut" on page 25 and at the one of the pair of twopenny stamps on page 26 of the Standard Catalogue. Note the absence of horizontal rows of perf. holes on the central gutter.

A dot in the colour of the frame appeared at the top of the vertical gutter and a **vertical guide line** in the frame colour below its base.

The distance from the top extremity of the said guide line to the bottom left apex or corner of Stamp No. 55 of the right-hand panel measured 11 millimetres. Vide Sketch No. 2.

Each 120-set sheet exhibited two imprints represented in Sketch No. 1 by thick horizontal lines and prefixed VII and VIII in the positions below the third and the fourth vertical rows of stamps of panels "G" and "H".

The frame measurements of the stamps derived from the No. 3 plates were similar to those from the No. 2 plate.

The variety known as the split "d" emanated from the right-hand panel of Frame Plate No. 3, stamp No. 44.

(D). The Vignette Plates.

The vignettes of the 240-set plates differed from those of the 120-set plates in respect of dimension. For the purpose of this article the basis of measurement taken was the distance from the extremity of the pinnacles on the left-hand tower to the extremity of the one on the right-hand tower of the Union Building. The measurements were as follows:—

- (a) Vignette Plate No. 1 (240-set)—15mm.
- (b) Vignette Plate No. 2 (120-set)— $14\frac{1}{2}$ mm.
- (c) Vignette Plate No. 3 (120-set)— $14\frac{1}{2}$ mm.

Although the dimensions of the frame casements and of the vignettes differed to the extent mentioned, their geneses, nevertheless, were one set of Master Dies, namely, the Master Vignette Die, the Master Afrikaans Frame Die and the Master English Frame Die. Some years ago I compared the designs of the 2d. pictorials of the said different dimensions line by line and dot by dot and I consequently was convinced that they did not derive from Master Dies of different dimensions. In order to dispel all doubt I wrote to the printers and their reply to me was as follows:—

"We engraved the original dies in 1925 and the first order for these stamps was printed in that year from plates containing 240 stamps (four panes of 60). Subsequently because we had a certain amount of trouble in registering the two colours we reduced the number of stamps to 120 to a plate and all orders except the original one were printed from plates of this size. Only one die (i.e. one for each of the frames and one for the vignette) was engraved and therefore I can only imagine that the difference in size which you found has been caused by the paper stretching or shrinking. In no case were these stamps printed from flat plates and it is many years since we have produced the stamps by this method. Our plates are prepared by the transfer process, that is to say, a replica of the original die is rolled into the steel printing-plate by a steel roller under great pressure. These plates are then curved to fit our rotary plate printing machines. Even when we printed these stamps from 240 set plates the sheets were cut in half before being perforated. The perforation was by a comb perforator, but we have no record as to how the sheets were fed into this machine."

CONGRESS and EXHIBITION

CONGRESS. This was well attended by about forty delegates and representatives of a big proportion of the Federated Societies. It was officially opened by His Worship the Mayor of Johannesburg, Councillor J. Mincer and later in the day he entertained the company to a civic luncheon.

The work of Congress spread over three days, but was not unduly rushed. The report of the Executive Committee showed that the Federation was active, but the cost of running it, particularly on the side of the "South African Philatelist" with printing costs soaring, made it clear that there was no possibility of subscriptions being lowered.

It was also made clear that if more of the Societies included a subscription to the Federation's magazine as part of their annual dues, there would not be the permanently recurring worry over finance. An increase in subscribers would very likely also permit of an increase in size and more variety in fare. More variety, however, is contingent on South African collectors supplying it, there is at present no difficulty in getting articles on Union stamps, but there is a paucity of writers on other aspects of philately.

Congress again pledged its support for the Cape Town International Exhibition in 1952 and the Committee for the new edition of the Union Handbook intimated that publication might be expected in time for that great event.

The report on the formation of an Expert Committee, to deal only with Southern African stamps, was accepted and it now remains only for the Executive to set this going.

Mr. D. Slater-Kinghorn read an interesting paper on "Philatelic Libraries — Their Aims and Functions." This was given a Congress Award and will in due course be published.

It was decided that in future the President of the Federation should preside over Congress meetings, not, as in the past, the President of the Host Society.

The design of the Certificates to be given to those whose names were inscribed on the Roll of Honour of Distinguished Philatelists, was approved. Be it said that no names were added to the Roll this year.

Mr. L. Buchen, who has been for some time Secretary of the Federation and Business Manager of the "South African Philatelist", intimated that owing to pressure of business, he was unable to carry on these duties. He was thanked very warmly for the efficient manner in which he had filled the dual post. It was decided to split the duties; Mr. J. E. Frankland was appointed Secretary to the Federation and Mr. A. J. Nathanson to be Business Manager of the S.A. Philatelist.

Congress entertainments included visits to the Government Printing Works, the Johannesburg G.P.O., *The Star*, and the Africana Museum where the Curle Collection and a selection of the Philatelic Library books and magazines were on show. At the final Congress and Exhibition banquet the exhibition awards were given to winners present, by Mrs. L. C. Burke, wife of the Postmaster-General.

A private party given by Mr. and Mrs. E. Hunt at their residence was very much enjoyed.

EXHIBITION. In the view of the organising committee this was a success. The quantity and quality of the exhibits both exceeded expectations and an attendance of about 4,500 persons spoke well for the popularity of the show. The Jury had a long and difficult task in their adjudications. They were of opinion that the scheme of classification of exhibits and the scale of allotting marks was not very satisfactory, but as it had been published they felt it had to be adhered to; this may account for what may appear to have been anomalies in some of the awards.

The Exhibition Committee gratefully acknowledges gifts in cash or kind (stamps, philatelic literature, etc.) towards the cost of the Exhibition, from the following donors. These gifts were received too late to be acknowledged in the Exhibition Catalogue, in which an earlier list was published:—

Philatelic Societies or Clubs: Copperbelt, East London, East Rand, Grahamstown, Jewish Guild Johannesburg, Pretoria Railway, Rhodesia, Springs, Vereeniging.

Dr. Berry, J. Burnister, E. A. Church, Dr. Faerber, E. Falk, F. R. Fryer, C. G. Howell, A. A. Jurgens, C. F. Long, C. F. Louw, H. Markowitz, J. Milligan, U. Milunsky, Robertson Stamp Co., B. Seelig.

Special thanks are due to Mr. P. Kaplan, of the Express Glass Works for the loan of the glass for the frames.

EXHIBITION RETROSPECT

By An Overseas Observer.

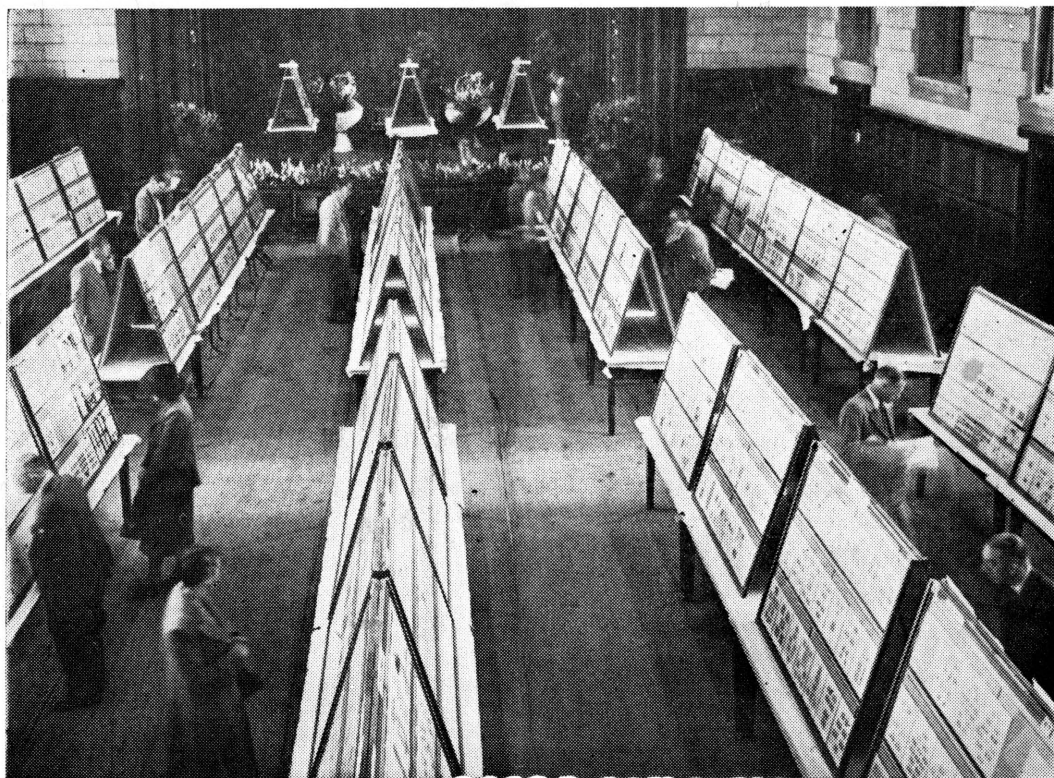
Some sort of a display of stamps has come to be regarded as a desirable, if not indeed an essential adjunct to any Philatelic Convention. Johannesburg's contribution this year was on a more ambitious scale than usual. Dignified by the title "National", it partook also of a competitive character. Entries, in consequence, were drawn from all parts of the Union, Rhodesia and Kenya, making them both more numerous and more varied than if they had depended entirely upon members of the organizing society, which is commonly the case. They numbered 110 in all, of which no fewer than eighty received awards of one kind or another. Whether this was due to the uniform excellence of the exhibits, or to the indulgence of the Jury it is hard to say. Prejudging, and the marking of each exhibit with the award it had received was an admirable innovation, since it enabled the unenlightened visitor to form some opinion as to the relative merits of the collections on view. It was difficult, however, to reconcile the conference of a Bronze Medal upon a really outstanding collection of the beautiful "Cameo" series of Gambia, all in first class condition and including some exceedingly rare blocks, with a Silver Medal award for a small, and not very attractive display of British Post-cards. (N.B. The plaque was actually inscribed "British Postmarks"). Obviously the Jury had found considerable difficulty in arriving at their decisions. To the observer from Overseas the Johannesburg National Philatelic Exhibition of 1950 appeared to present a fair cross-section of South African Philately, and as such it presented many interesting features. Appropriately the accent was on "Africa", and it was the more surprising therefore to find among the Gold Medal awards

one for a particularly fine array of stamps of the Falkland Islands, strong in proofs and essays (ex- the Dr. Dudley Stone and other famous collections of the past) entered by Mr. C. G. Mummery of Cape Town. The "progress proofs" of the Whale and Penguin issue were especially noteworthy.

Of the two collections of Cape Triangulars on view that of Mr. A. A. Jurgens was the most extensive, though the wisdom of including some of the debatable "bisects" was doubtful whilst Mr. Jack Shepherd's exhibit contained, among others, one superb used example of the id. "Woodblock" (normal). Inevitably the conditions of the "Woodblock errors" did not attain the same high standard. Nevertheless they were first rate exhibits and well deserved the Silver Medals with which they were rewarded. Union stamps as might be expected were much

Chait) four Bronze and three Certificates of Merit. Not a bad show for the first modern branch of Philately.

It is quite impossible to describe, or even to enumerate all of the many fascinating frames that went to the making of this so excellent exhibition. But some reference must be made to the Court of Honour, where there were displayed "not for competition" two collections that had already gained for their owners the highest awards at previous exhibitions, either in South Africa or Abroad. So famous are they in their respective fields that little new can be said about them to-day. Dr. K. Freund's "Mafekings" stand alone as the most comprehensive and highly documented that has ever been brought together. The Rhodesian rarities, proofs, essays and "Specimen" stamps shown by Mr. A. V. Jacob, of Cape Town, were a sheer joy



Photo

F. G. Froelich.

in evidence, and it is surprising that none of the thirteen entries was deemed worthy of more than a Bronze award. In this group Dr. T. B. Berry's Essays, Proofs, Colour Trials and Specimens seemed to be outstanding, although it received only a Certificate of Merit.

Much popular interest was evinced in the selection from the 50,000 whole world collection belonging to Mr. Ernest Hunt, of Johannesburg, including as it did examples of such philatelic rarities as the "Austrian 'Mercury', Double Geneva", and the rarest British stamp, 10/- Edward VII overprinted "I.R. OFFICIAL", mint. This remarkable exhibit received a Silver Medal.

Thematic collections made up an imposing section and gained for their exhibitors a Silver Medal for "Animal Stamps" (Dr. and Mrs.

to behold and must have led to much breaking of the Tenth Commandment among his less fortunate confreres.

As for the setting, the Selborne Hall proved adequate to the occasion. Daylighting was good, though the same cannot be said of the night illumination, particularly on the platform, but there were few complaints that the stamps could not be properly examined and this is more than can be said of many more pretentious stamp exhibitions that the writer has attended.

By and large, the hard working Committee and Jury are to be congratulated on the success attending their efforts, as well as upon the attendance resulting from the splendid publicity accorded to the event by the Johannesburg press. It is indeed a happy augury for Cape Town in 1952.

D.B.A.

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Tonga: 50th Anniversary, ½d. to 1/- (6), m., 2/6; Used 3/-
Also booking for:
West Indies: University College commems, 28 stamps for 14 Cols. Mint, 9/6; Used 11/6
Tonga: Queen's Birthday (3), Mint, 1/8; Used 2/6
Malta: Princess Elizabeth (3), Mint, 1/7; Used 1/9
St. Kitts: Anguilla (6), Mint, 2/7; Used 3/-

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Australia: Centenary 2½d. pairs, Mint, 6d.; Used 6d.
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 Revised design, set of 5 1/4
 Do., coils, 1, 2, 3 and 4c. 1/-
 New 10c. at 1/-; new 50c. 5/6
Cayman Is.: new pictorials, ½d. to 1/- (u, 4/3) 3/9
 Complete set to 10/- (used 27/3) 23/9
Gibraltar: Constitution commem. (4) 2/3
Ireland: 1950. Holy Year (3) m. or u. 1/6
Mauritius: new pictorials, set to 1 R (u. 5/9) 5/-
 Complete set to 10 Rs. (used 40/9) 35/9
Niue: 1950 picts. ½d. to 1/- (used 4/3) 4/-
 Complete set to 3/- (used 11/-) 10/-
N. Borneo: 1950 picts. 1 to 50c. (11) (u. 5/-) 4/3
 Complete set to 10 dol. (used 60/-) 55/3
Turks Is.: 1950 set to 1/- (used 3/9) 3/4
 Complete set to 10/- (used 28/9) 25/-
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 1903/9 S.G.31/40 ½d.-5/- comp. mint £6
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6	5/-	45	4/6	82	3/-	115	2/-
9	1/3	47	10/-	85	4/3	116	3/9
10	1/3	48	10/-	87	6/3	118	9/-
11	2/6	53	3d.	89	2d.	119	9/-
13	2/6	54	6d.	90	4d.	120	22/6
15	1/-	55	1/-	92	1/3	121	2d.
16	2/3	56	3/-	94	1/3	122	4d.
25	9d.	57	3/-	95	2/-	122a	3/3
26	1/9	58	6/3	96	2/6	123	4d.
27	4/3	60	6/3	97	2/6	123a	1/-
29	6/3	64	3/9	98	3/6	124	1/-
30	7/6	66	5/-	100	3/9	125	1/6
32	9d.	67	6d.	100a	3/9	127	2/3
33	1/3	68	10d.	105	2d.	128	
34	6/3	72	3/6	106	4d.	to	10/6
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SOCIETY NEWS

ORANGE FREE STATE & BASUTOLAND PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

At the August meeting, Mr. G. N. Gilbert gave a preview of his fine collection of Basutoland stamps, which he had entered for the Johannesburg National Exhibition. The collection was particularly strong in the "pre-stamp" section dealing with the various periods before Basutoland issued her own stamps in 1933. Some research work was shown with regard to cancellations of the pre-Union period. The Union period, i.e. the time when only South African stamps were in usage in Basutoland, was represented with a practically complete array of the stamps of the Union cancelled at various places in Basutoland. Values up to the Georgian £1 and the pictorial 10/- and complete sets of the air mail and commemorative issues were shown cancelled in Basutoland. Many members present remarked with envy that they would be quite happy to have all these Union items with ordinary cancellations in their collection. Mr. Gilbert's collection received a Silver award at the Johannesburg Exhibition.

In September, the Annual General meeting was held and the following committee was elected for the ensuing year: President: Mr. C. A. Larsen; Vice-President: Dr. K. Freund; Hon. Secretary-Treasurer: Mr. H. A. Scott; Exchange Superintendent: Mr. A. G. Denne; Committee members: Messrs. R. A. Brown, J. Lewis and R. G. Lyon; Publicity Officer: Dr. Freund; Hon. Auditor: Mr. Lyon.

In October, Mr. Larsen and Dr. Freund represented the society as delegates at the Johannesburg Congress. Mr. Larsen received the distinction of being elected President of the Philatelic Federation up to and including the next Congress which is to be held in Bloemfontein in May 1951. Dr. Freund's Mafeking collection, excerpts of which were shown by invitation in the Court of Honour, received much attention. The "Cape Times" brought a long column about it on the front page, and the "African Mirror" newsreel featured it in its issue No. 592. Preparations for the Bloemfontein Congress in May next year are well in hand, and delegates, exhibitors and visitors will be assured of a grand time in Bloemfontein, philatelically and otherwise.

PHILATELIC SOCIETY OF JOHANNESBURG.

At the meeting held on Nov. 14th, Mr. Seelig exhibited Switzerland. This was a representative collection from early issues to the modern. It included several fine used copies. The pro-juvenile issues were complete and there were numerous other commemoratives. The exhibit included tete beche and se-tenant varieties, and several mint blocks. There were also the League overprints for various departments, official overprints and postage dues. Mr. Seelig gave a talk on his exhibit previous to showing it.

Mr. Buchen spoke on the exhibit and proposed the vote of thanks.

At the meeting held on Nov. 27th, 1950, Mr. Buchen showed stamps of Canada from 1897 issues to the moderns. All the stamps were in fine mint condition. Outstanding items were a complete set of the Diamond Jubilee, the 1915 New Tax, all the air mails and commemoratives, the imperforate varieties and booklet panes. There were also several flower covers. Mr. Redford spoke on the exhibit.

I.I.

THE PHILATELIC SOCIETY OF RHODESIA.

The November Meeting was attended by 22 members. The Vice-Chairman, Mr. J. E. Creewel was in the chair as Mr. Norman was indisposed. Mr. Creewel and Mr. Fox gave members a detailed account of Congress and the Exhibition which they had attended as Official delegates of this Society. It was pleasing to see that both these gentlemen won awards in their class at the Exhibition. Mr. Joe Lazarus exhibited a selection of British Empire stamps from his collection, all stamps were neatly mounted and written up. Mr. Lazarus held a quiz before the close of the meeting. The quiz was won by Mr. Prentice, a new member of our Society.

G. C. W.

PORT CHARLETT PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

Mr. G. Pulbring was in the chair when the meeting opened on Tuesday the 21st Nov., 1950.

A warm welcome was given to Mr. A. V. Jacobs from Cape Town. Mr. Jacobs told the meeting that a Congress was to be held in Cape Town in 1952. This congress was not only for Cape Town, but for the whole Union, and it was hoped that members from P.E. and other centres would attend and send in their exhibits.

The evening was in the hands of Dr. J. W. Harris who tabled, what he called "Medical Philately of S.A." or Stamps and cancellation of Medical significance, including S.W.A. and the Rhodesias. One of the items was a photograph of Dr. Hayes and his nursing staff. Dr. Hayes is the only medical man who has designed a stamp. He drew a sketch and it was the first stamp to be photographed.

At the Geneva Convention, it was decided that all prisoners of war should be allowed to send letters post free.

In July and August, 1948 all countries agreed to have a slogan on the franking to help children all over the world.

Dr. Harris also explained in his talk, the difference between straight franking and cross franking. He went on to explain the links from design on stamps of medical significance — such as the Aloe on the Royal Tour issue, and the Goggles on the 6d. war issue, to protect the eyes. The slogan to "Eat more fruit" for health's sake, etc. It was a most interesting evening; Dr. Harris has studied his subject thoroughly and induced members to see the small items on some stamps which have been overlooked. All members hope that Dr. Harris will display again in the near future.

The hearty vote of thanks accorded by Capt. Graham on behalf of the meeting was well deserved. There was the usual auction when Capt. Graham officiated as auctioneer, after which the meeting closed at 9.45 p.m.

L.E.C.

THE EAST LONDON PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

Meeting held in the Colosseum Lounge on Friday the 10th November, 1950.

There was a moderate attendance at this meeting and visitors were cordially welcomed.

Mr. J. V. Jensen was the only East London exhibitor at the Exhibition in Pretoria and won an award. He agreed to show this collection at the Christmas month meeting.

Covers by Mr. S. A. McCallum, showing "Official" Stamps to the value of 10/- with Exhibition post mark, were neat and interesting. From these arose the question as to why South African Stamps were overprinted "Official". It was explained that they should be used abroad by Government Officials only, but some years ago this restriction was lifted and the stamps were made available at the General Post Offices in the leading Cities.

Mr. Watson mentioned that the British overprinted stamps "M.E.F." and "Morocco Agencies" were usable in Great Britain — a Cover illustrating this fact was shown.

Mr. B. Joseph's report on Congress was then read and proved most informative. A hearty vote of thanks was passed and it was agreed to ask Mr. Joseph to represent this Society at the Executive meetings of the S.A. Philatelic Federation.

After various reports had been heard covering the pros and cons of moving the meeting place of the Society — it was decided almost unanimously to remain in the Colosseum building. It was most easily accessible and convenient, and a popular rendezvous for visitors.

Mr. McCallum gave his impressions of the Exhibition and he rendered a candid and often amusing account of his own reactions towards the many and interesting displays which he inspected. He caused many a laugh by his wistful desire for neatness and tidiness, even in regard to historic covers which, as Mr. Watson explained, were letters which had been smuggled out in boots from Mafeking.

The Junior Society was to be commended and encouraged for the interest and enthusiasm they have displayed at their own meetings. They are holding a competition in stamp designing, the best of which are to be shown at the Senior Society.

The Displays for the evening were by Mr. C. H. Thornton and Mr. J. Sparkman.

Mr. Sparkman showed a modern collection of Southern Rhodesian stamps. These were very neatly "printed" up by the unique method of cutouts from an old catalogue. Very effective it was and he was thanked by Mr. Danner.

Mr. Thornton's magnificent display of early St. Vincent, St. Lucia, Varieties, Bisects and N.S.W. Australian States, left us speechless with admiration. The colours, design and details of these early Queen's Heads were so exquisite as to "make one's

hair curl" according to one enchanted admirer and the page of Varieties and Errors stimulated the imagination into wondering where such treasures could be sought. Mr. W. J. Gillespie suitably thanked Mr. Thornton for such a philatelic treat.

A pleasant meeting closed after refreshments at 10 p.m. U.C.S.

CAPE TOWN PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

"Ladies' Night", on Nov. 9th, proved a most successful innovation. Six feminine philatelists provided the programme. "Gambia," including a choice lot of Cameo heads was shown by Mrs. L. Johnston of Paarl, who also displayed some rare Rhodesian "imperfis." Her daughter, Miss I. Johnston contributed an advanced collection of Nyasaland, with values up to £10, whilst Commonwealth issues of Australia were the selection of Mrs. L. Grout. "Things of Beauty" in stamp designs were the theme of Mrs. J. Clement and a varied array of stamps on covers came from Mrs. H. G. Hermann. A specialised collection of Iceland and a post-card sent by Raol Amundsen, from the Arctic regions that travelled round the world for eight years before being finally delivered in Cape Town was entered by Miss C. Ellefsen. During the evening Mr. L. Simenhoff announced that he had donated a silver cup for the best display given by a lady member each year.

Mr. Douglas Roth chose an unusual and highly instructive subject for his display on Nov. 23rd. This took the form of "Reprints" from a number of countries and was greatly appreciated by a large audience. In the course of a most lucid dissertation on the why and wherefore of stamp "Reprints" Mr. Roth made it clear that there is no royal road to recognition of them, but a sound knowledge of the essential features of the originals can be a great help. His exhibit ranged from the "Royal Reprint" of the Penny Black, through the 1833 Reprints of the Cape "Woodblocks" to the middle issues of New South Wales overprinted "Reprint" for sale in sets to collectors, some of which were in fact not Reprints at all, but the genuine article. On the Chairman's table at this meeting were displayed the "Arthur V. Jacob" Trophy for the best display of the year; the "A. A. Jurgens" Cup for Philatelic Research; the "S. Kaganson" Cup for Thematic Collections; and the "L. Simenhoff" Cup for the best exhibit by a Lady member.

SPRINGS PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

October: Mr. Jack Shepherd provided the exhibit for the evening. It is well known what wonderful stamps he has and he treated us to some of his South West Africa gems. It certainly made our mouths water to see whole sheets of rare stamps.

November: Mr. Meeuwis gave a short talk on what happened at Congress and the Exhibition in Johannesburg.

Members were asked each to show a few sheets of their favourite stamps. Mr. Mooyman showed some very interesting stamps of Brazil, Mr. Meeuwis displayed Seychelles, Mr. Bennie some of his S.W.A. collection, Mr. Earnshaw showed some George VI and Mr. van der Watt a few sheets of U.S.A.

It is expected that Mr. Merricks will provide the Exhibit for December.

PHILATELIC SOCIETY OF NATAL.

There was a fair attendance at our meeting on November 1 and interest was maintained till the end. Efforts are made to make the meetings of general and popular interest and those responsible feel well rewarded if good attendances result. This subject, in fact, came up for discussion and some members voiced the opinion that beginners and collectors in a modest way were overawed and naturally reluctant to join stamp clubs with high-sounding titles: they felt that the words "Philatelic Society" would convey to some a body of advanced collectors and experts who would be unsympathetic with and intolerant of the young collector and the average man who collected stamps for pleasure. It was our duty to correct this misapprehension. More members meant bigger attendances.

Others felt that, in spite of this, better attendances at the meetings was expected of our present membership and different suggestions were made as to how the meetings could be better advertised. The monthly letter was a valuable means of contact with the membership: it served so well that it was possible members thought attendance unnecessary in the circumstances.

Bro. Goudot exhibited his collection of France which was well received and admired. At the social meeting on November 15, Mr. W. N. Sheffield dis-

played his massive collection of the large and ban-tam War Effort stamps of the Union. In addition to being a collection it represents a reference library of the issues concerned. A good attendance took it to their hearts and that it caused a sensation is to put the case mildly. Mr. Sheffield was cordially thanked for having given us the privilege of seeing this complete history of the "War Efforts".

We congratulate Mr. A. E. Church and Mr. R. A. Gilzean who won awards at Johannesburg in Congress week. V.F.M.

Collectors' Wants & Offers

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

Collections and rarities especially Unions wanted for cash. Kindly contact

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War-time air mail letter sheets and cards wanted; also Aerial Propaganda leaflets.—Robbs, Grendon, Northampton, England.

Wholesale exchange with dealers and collectors wanted. We need commemoratives, Charity- and Airmail-Stamps in quantity. If requested, we reciprocate with merchandise, like tools, Nylons, etc. Exchange propositions and first sendings promptly answered. — "World" Stamp Circuit, P.O. Box 989, San Francisco 1, California, U.S.A. z z z

A THREE CORNERED (CAPE) CONTEST

A Championship Class for "Three-cornered Capes" is to be an outstanding feature of a South African Tercentenary (International) Stamp Exhibition, to be held in Cape Town at the time of the "Van Riebeeck Festival", in April 1952. For the occasion it is proposed to bring together the world's finest collections of the early stamps of the Cape of Good Hope in the land of their origin, upon the Centenary of their conception. Another notable exhibit will illustrate the Postal History of South Africa over three hundred years.

Whilst special prominence will be given, appropriately, to the Philately of Southern Africa (i.e. below the Line), and of the parent nations, Holland, Britain, France and Germany, the exhibition will be international in scope with entries in the competitive Classes open to Philatelists the world over.

A special issue of stamps is foreshadowed in connection with the Tercentenary celebrations, and this may possibly carry a surtax in favour of the South African Olympic Games, taking place at the same time.

Sponsored by the Cape Town Philatelic Society, under the auspices of the Philatelic Federation of Southern Africa and the Cape Town Committee of the "Van Riebeeck" Festival of 1952, the Stamp Exhibition will form an integral part of the national commemoration.

Further particulars may be had from the Organising Secretary, W. G. Combrink, P.O. Box 558, Cape Town, South Africa.

With the Compliments of

DOUGLAS B. ARMSTRONG

Director of Publicity and Publications,
South African Tercentenary (International) Stamp Exhibition 1952.

U.S.A.

The fourth and last stamp of the Washington Sesquicentennial series appeared on 22nd November. Unless the P.O. slips in another one, this will also be the last of the programme of commemoratives for 1950 — there have been eleven of them.

SWISS PRO JUVENTUTE

"Stamp Collecting" observes that Switzerland has exhausted its Alpine Flowers for these stamps, much to the regret of thematic collectors. They have risen to the occasion, however, by issuing on 1st December a set with butterflies and bees. They do know how to please collectors (except when they issue those — overprinted stamps!)

STAMPS OF ISRAEL.

At the "Israel Cavalcade" held at Milner Park, Johannesburg 14-19 October, 1950, there was an exhibition of the stamps of Israel, many of which appeared also at the National Exhibition 23-28 October.

A 10-page pamphlet "The Story of the Stamps of Israel," well illustrated, was prepared. It gives brief but concise description of the temporary makeshifts in the way of stamps, etc. from the time of the end of the Mandate, through the war with Arab states, up to the definitive issues.

MAURITIUS.

Mr. W. H. Winde in the Natal Society's monthly letter draws attention to an error of design in the recently issued 12c. stamp with the map and the Dodo. The latitude and longitude of the island are incorrectly given. Wasn't it Fiji which had a similar sort of error in 1938? It is pretty sure to be corrected in the next printing.

TRISTAN DA CUNHA.

A mail went to the island on 10th October and one from the island arrived at Cape Town on 13th November. The Tristan mark on this was the oval one described in our May issue.

T.P.O.—NATAL.

It has always been a matter of some wonderment to collectors of T.P.O. marks that there was no evidence of any such office operating in Natal. So much so, in fact, that it had been concluded there never were any T.P.O.'s in Natal.

Mr. G. D. B. Williams, however, has brought to light a specimen proving beyond all doubt that at one period, at any rate, there was a Travelling Post Office in Natal.



The mark is a backstamp on a registered letter from Standerton to Durban. It is a double-circle mark of 27 mm. diameter with the wording "T.P.O./NATAL" with two maltese crosses between the upper and lower lettering. The date is in two lines in the centre "27 DEC. /06".

Will collectors keep a lookout for further specimens so that the period over which this office operated, and the length of its run may be determined? Meanwhile the historian of the Postal Administration has become interested and is searching through official records for information.

NATIONAL MEMORIAL HEALTH FOUNDATION.

We do not often refer in our pages to appeals other than philatelic, but feel that an exception may be made in the case of the million-pound appeal just launched by Lt.-General G. E. Brink. The Foundation has already quietly done a lot of good work, now it wishes to put its living war memorial on a firm basis so that a million for better health may mean health for the million. Send your token of remembrance and thanksgiving for the South Africans who gave their lives in World War II to P.O. Box 8446, Johannesburg or to any of the Foundation's regional centres.

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S.G. 109 at 6d.; 110 at 7/6; 111 at 2/-; 112 at 2/-; 114 at 3/3; 115 at 4/3; 116 at 4/6; 118 at 1/6; 119 at 4/-; 122 at 2d.; 123 at 6d.; 124 at 3d.; 125 at 4d.; 126 at 5d.; 127 at 1/3; 128 at 1/-; 129 at 1/6; 130 at 3/6; 131 at 3/-; 132 at 5/-; 133 at 4/3; 134 at 4/-; 135 at 6/3; 136 at 7/6; 137 at 8/9; 138 at 16/3; 140 at 15/-; 141 at 22/6; 143 at 4d.; 144 at 1/6; 145 at 2/6; 146 at 4/3.

138 at 16/3; 140 at 15/-; 141 at 22/6; 143 at 4d.; 144 at 1/6; 145 at 2/6; 146 at 4/3.

GOLD COAST (MINT ONLY)

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S.G. 79c at 5/3; 81a at 20/-; 82d at 30/-; 86 at 3d.; 87 at 4d.; 88 at 9d.; 89 at 1/-; 90 at 1/-; 91 at 1/-; 94 at 2/3; 95 at 4/-; 96 at 6/3; 97 at 10/-; 98 at 17/6; 100a at 70/-; 113 at 3d.; 114 at 3/-; 115 at 6/3; 116 at 7/6.

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