

THE SOUTH AFRICAN PHILATELIST

PROPRIETORS AND PUBLISHERS :

The Philatelic Federation of Southern Africa

Honorary Editor: Dr. J. H. HARVEY PIRIE }
Business Manager: Mr. J. NATHANSON } P.O. Box 375, Johannesburg.

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EDITORIAL

At the last meeting of the Executive Committee of the Federation, the "South African Philatelist" Sub-Committee reported that (as they had been given powers to do, if necessary) they had regretfully decided that the advertising rates were to be raised as from the beginning of 1952. This step was necessary because of the ever rising costs of paper and of printing, so that the magazine was running at a loss every month.

The policy adopted earlier in the year of increasing the regular size from 16 to 20 pages, and of including more non-South African articles, had been a success, as the circulation had gone up by approximately 20 per cent. Advertisers are therefore getting a bigger clientele for the extra they are being asked to pay.

We are only doing what practically every philatelic magazine has been forced to do; we only hope that this step will make ends meet and that we will not have to follow others in raising the price per issue.

It is regretted that our December issue was so late in distribution. As mentioned in the supplementary page, it was deliberately held up for several days in order to get that page in with the description of the forthcoming issue of the Van Riebeeck stamps.

Alas for our good intentions! This brought the distribution just into the period when the post office was so overwhelmed with Xmas mail that they could not handle magazines and such like 'bulk mail' for days and days. Hence the great delay.

EMIL TAMSEN

Congratulations to the doyen stamp collector of South Africa, who celebrates his 90th birthday this month. Mr. and Mrs. E. Hunt and the Editor visited him at his home in Nylstroom recently and found both him and Mrs. Tamsen in the best of spirits. He is finished with stamps now, however, his only regret being that none of his family have any wish to follow in his footsteps.

Union Notes

Sub-Editor: Mr. W. N. SHEFFIELD,
Box 99, Cleveland, Transvaal.

New Printing of ½d. Postage Stamps from Cylinders 31 Interior and 70 Exterior

A new printing of the ½d. pictorial postage stamps from cylinders 31 Interior and 70 Exterior appeared on the post office counters early in December.

The new issue shows a change in the language setting and the first stamp on the sheet is now inscribed in English instead of Afrikaans as in the 11A/11B printing. The same glass multopositives used for the ½d. stamps since they were reduced in size to 18 x 22 mm. in 1947, have been employed again, but the reappearance of the vertical black line in between the horns of the Springbok on the third stamp of the top row indicates that the images for cylinder 31 have been taken from one row higher up on the glass plate than was the case in the 11A/11B printing. In addition, the movement of the green flaw in the top right hand corner of the frame design, from Stamp No. 12 in the 8th row of the 11A/11B issue to the same position in the 9th row of this latest printing, shows that the same procedure has been adopted for the transference of the frame images on to cylinder 70 and these factors, together with the language change, brings the setting of the stamps on the sheet back to the same position as that of the 7020A/7020B printing, issued in February 1949.

Mr. A. Lichtenstein of Bloemfontein has submitted the following information regarding the new issue.

Colour. A deeper if duller and more bluish-green frame and a distinct olive-grey centre, compared with the last printing of the 11A/11B Plate, which came in a more vivid deep green and charcoal black centres.

Cylinder Numbers. Numerals only, 31 and 70, printed in right lower margin opposite the 19th and 20th rows respectively. Usual red sheet numbers on right hand margin.

Arrows. Change as below.

- 11A/11B
 Top. Solid, with two horizontal bars.
 Right. Criss-cross with one vertical bar.
 31/70
 Solid, no bars, longer limbs of prongs.
 Solid, no bars.
 11A/11B
 Bottom. Solid, with two horizontal bars.
 Left. Solid with two vertical bars.
 31/70
 Solid, no bars, quite short limbs of prongs.
 Same arrow as 11A/11B left hand side.

Minor Varieties — Cylinders 31/70.

- Row 1/3-A. Vertical line between horns.
 7/7-E. White flaw on top right square.
 9/4-A. White line in bottom bar below "OS."
 9/12-A. Flaw in top right square.
 12/3-A. Short mark between horns.
 20/2-E. White "crack" across right vertical bar.
 20/4-E. Weak shading between horns.
 20/9-A. Dot above right side bar.

As a comparison with the foregoing, Mr. Lichtenstein gives the following list of varieties found on the 11A/11B printing and notes that in both issues none of the flaws are above "Fly-mark" grade ("E" indicates an English and "A" an Afrikaans inscribed stamp).

Varieties — Cylinders 11A/11B.

- Row 2/4-A. "Bushtick" removed.
 8/12-A. Flaw on top right square.
 13/1-A. Flaw at bottom of left side bar.
 16/10-A. Spot above "I" of SUID.
 20/3-E. Black dot at lower right side bar.

TWO TYPES OF 1951 CHRISTMAS STAMPS

A 1/- Christmas Stamp Booklet (1951) shown to us by Miss B. J. Versfeld of Pretoria during December was notable for the fact that on one of the 2 panes of 6 showed each stamp with the figure of value "1d." printed on the left hand side of the World — to which the child in the picture is looking — whereas on the other pane of six, the stamps were all **minus the value**.

From subsequent enquiries it would appear that the 1951 Christmas Stamps appeared in two forms, one without the value and the other bearing the numeral "1," with its accompanying pence symbol, in the usual manner. So far, no stamps in their full sheet form of 6 Rows X 20, have been recorded as having been on sale minus the figure of value, but booklets have been seen containing either one or the other of the two types and a number of the 1/- booklets have been issued with one pane bearing the value and the other with no value on the stamps.

"MONKEY IN TREE" VARIETY ON CURRENT 4d. STAMP

Writing in connection with the varieties on the current 4d. stamps, recorded in our June

issue, Mr. O. L. Harvey of Silver Springs, U.S.A. mentions that he has two copies of the "Monkey in Tree" flaw which are both on Afrikaans inscribed stamps (Row 2/2), but in addition he has a similar though smaller variety, which also resembles a monkey in the tree, on an English inscribed stamp.

This is probably the brown spot on top of the tree reported by Mr. I. N. Sharp of Johannesburg in July this year, and inadvertently not recorder in the "Notes" of that month, as a flaw resembling a "monkey sitting on top of the tree." It occurs on Row 2/1—E, at the top of the tree directly under "UT" of SOUTH.

Mr. Harvey also enquires about the position of the brown spot on the rafter of the Native hut on stamp Row 19 No. 4. It is fairly large mark on the upper rafter, easily seen without the aid of a glass and situated 3½ mm. from the lower extremity. It occurs on an English inscribed stamp and following Mr. Harvey's suggestion concerning the listing of varieties they will be tabulated in future with an "E" or an "A" after the row and stamp number to indicate if they are present on an English or Afrikaans inscribed copy. (Row 19/4—E).

ROAD SAFETY CAMPAIGN SLOGANS

Mr. B. L. Cairncross of George, Cape Province, reports that another Road Safety Slogan has made its appearance and is being used in Durban. The earliest date he has seen is 24.x.51 and it reads as follows: PRACTISE ROAD SAFETY DAILY — BEOEFEN PAID-VEILIGHEID DAELIKS.

Further to the foregoing, Mr. C. Calitz of Mossel Bay has sent us a Durban cover bearing the above slogan and Mr. David Allison of Mowbray, Cape, writes as follows:

"Two more Road Safety Slogans have come my way namely:

Bloemfontein. (Continuous round datestamp). PRACTISE ROAD SAFETY EVERY DAY.

(Introduced between the 31.x.51-D and 8. xl. 51-D).

Durban. (Continuous oblong datestamp) — PRACTISE ROAD SAFETY DAILY. (Introduced between 15 or 16.x.51-7:00 and 23.x.51-17:30).

"The Johannesburg road safety slogan has been used not only with an oblong datestamp, but also with round ones lettered "A" and "E" and a dateless round one (JH in triangle inscribed in circle) used on printed matter.

"I am also able to give narrower limits in the dates than some I quoted before (Nov. S.A.P.). The last dates seen with wavy lines should be changed to 12.00. 14-VII.1951 and 18.00. 11-VII. 1951 in the cases of East London and Port Elizabeth respectively, while the Pretoria road safety slogan was introduced between 17.30. 10-VII. 1951 and 14.00. 11-VII. 1951.

"With reference to the interrupted wavy lines in use at Pietermaritzburg (July 1951, S.A.P.) I have now obtained a PAID postmark with these wavy lines and PAID/BETAALD in two lines, sideways, replacing the middle part of the wavy lines, so that the purpose of the break is the same as in the case of Great Britain."

Mr. Allison also notes that since writing the above the Port Elizabeth road safety slogan has turned up on the "B" machine,

"SECOND CLASS" AIR MAIL MATTER FROM ENGLAND

Mr. C. Calitz of Mossel Bay, Cape, has forwarded a cover received per air mail from London, England, which had contained trade catalogues and was marked "2nd CLASS MAIL." On arrival in Johannesburg the face of the cover was marked with a rubber stamp, two inches square, bearing the words in violet ink:

BY SURFACE
PER LANDPOST
FROM
VANAF
JOHANNESBURG

which Mr. Calitz notes is a new one to him.

The probable explanation is that "2nd Class Mail" — presumably of the Trade Catalogue type — is carried by air mail from England to Johannesburg at a rate lower than that payable for letters in sealed envelopes and the method of transmission is changed on arrival in the Union.

HYPHENATED ISSUE OF 6d. POSTAGE DUE STAMP

We understand from the Philatelic Agency of the G.P.O. Publicity Section that a new issue of the 6d. Postage Due has been printed and the new stamp now has SUID-AFRIKA set out in the hyphenated form.

Further details will be published in due course.

REVIEWS

Commonwealth Catalogue of K.G. VI Stamps. 1952 Edition. Published by The Commonwealth Stamp Coy., 7 Leather Lane, Liverpool, 2. Price not given, but understood to be 7/6, plus postage.

This is an excellently produced work, considered just as a book, and must be regarded as an essential for anyone specialising in K.G. VI stamps.

There is a wealth of detail not to be found in other catalogues, but of course this is to be expected in a specialised catalogue as compared with a general one.

Prices reflect current market values, and a good indication of this is given by the fact that quite a few are down from last year's edition, although others, of course, have gone up.

Numbers printed are given in many instances. All lists have been carefully revised and the shade varieties given may be taken as now practically fixed. There is an increase in the number of illustrations, particularly of those showing printing varieties.

The South African lists have been very much revised and it will be interesting to see how they compare with the catalogue in preparation here.

Stanley Gibbons' Simplified Catalogue. 17th edition 1952. Published by Stanley Gibbons Ltd., 391 Strand, London W.C.2. Price 18/6, postage 1/4.

This edition is actually smaller than last year's one, although a whole year's new issues have been added. This has been accomplished by introducing three-quarter size illustrations for all foreign issues and a closing up of type. This does not materially affect the usefulness of the volume; it is still adequate for the beginner or medium collector, who has little or no hope of acquiring the early expensive stamps of his country or countries of choice.

As it is the catalogue lists some 80,000 stamps, and has over 10,000 illustrations. Fully half of the total show price alterations from the previous edition.

There is obviously quite a big demand for a catalogue of this type, for the greater part of the first printing has been sold and a reprint ordered.

As has been mentioned in previous notices, stamps with different perforations or different watermarks are not listed separately and prices are those of the commonest variety. Colour and shade varieties are also not given and such colours as scarlet, vermilion, carmine, for example, are usually all called simply "red."

Postwar Bridging the Atlantic, 1945-1950. By N. C. Baldwin. Published by Francis J. Field, Ltd., Sutton Coldfield, England. Price 7/6, postage 3d.

This is really a supplement to the publisher's "Bridging the Atlantic," which dealt fully with trans-Atlantic flights up to September, 1930. From then on till 1945 there was practically no commercial flying over the Atlantic, but the story is here taken up and brought up-to-date with a fully illustrated and priced list of all flights.

As its predecessor the volume is well illustrated with charts, photographs of covers, cachets, postmarks,

Collectors' Wants & Offers

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

Collections and rarities especially Unions wanted for cash. Kindly contact—JOHN MENDELSSOHN, P.O. Box 1607, Johannesburg.

Wanted: German South West Africa Special Items, Specimens, Covers, etc.—L. BUCHEN, P.O. Box 4012, Johannesburg.

WANTED: Latvia any out of the way items, proofs, colour trials, forgeries, varieties, also collections and kiloware.—J. MICHELSON, Box 9314, Johannesburg.

APPROVALS: British Colonials and World for all collectors.—BENONI STAMP SHOP, Benoni.

50% over Gibbons Catalogue price offered for a superb Mint and Used copy of Seychelles, S.G. 52A.—WILLIAM REDFORD, P.O. Box 1182, Johannesburg.

WANTED: Booklets, Post Cards, Registered Envelopes and Airletter Cards, unused and used of Union only.—Dr. MURRAY, Kuilsriver.

German South West Africa and ex-Colonies, Approvals, Wants Lists filled.—B. CHALLEN, P.O. Box 2, Wilderness, C.P.

"A.P.O.—U—M.P.K. No. 34". Wanted two copies of this South African Army P.O., one for collection in the Africana Museum, one for my private collection.—EDITOR.

I EXCHANGE: U.S. Merchandise, Dollars, or Commemoratives, for S.A. Commemoratives, High Values. Also Common Basutoland, Bechuanaland, Nyasaland, Swaziland, S.W. Africa.—HENRY ATTEN, 81 Gladstone, Detroit 2, Mich. U.S.A.

STAMPS.—Want lists invited for any country; specialtiss Union, S.W.A., British Africa.—LACY'S, 211 Long Street, Capetown.

KOREA

Referring to the note in our November issue about a South African Special Air Letter form coming through without postmark, it would appear from an article by Mr. E. Jagger in "Stamp Collecting" that the only forces with their own Army P.O.'s are those of U.S.A., Great Britain, Australia, New Zealand, Canada, France, Belgium, Greece and Siam.

RECENT AUCTION PRICES**Robson Lowe.**

Great Britain, Block of 33 Penny Blacks, believed to be the largest in existence, £810.

Greece. Block of 4 1861 Paris print 5l £100.
Do. 20l £240.

Block provisional 20l deep blue, no figure on back, one of 3 known on cover, £210.

Ionian Is. Collection £1,848.

H. R. Harmer.

Bechuanaland £1 (S.G. 20), £4/4/-.

Cape 6d. slate lilac, unused, £18.

Do. Vertical strip of "3" on 3d., top and bottom stamps showing two types of overprint and middle one with overprint missing, £31.

Do. 5/- (S.G. 47), fine but not superb, £20.

Superb deep light blue 4d. Woodblock, £65.

Gambia 4d. (S.G.5), £13/10/-.

6d. (S.G.2), £8.

Gibraltar 10c. error value omitted, £210.

Kenya 1935-6 1/- perf. 13 x 11½, unused, £40.

Nyasaland £10 (S.G. 30), unused, £32.

Rhodesia. 5d. error of colour (S.G. 142), £4.

Zanzibar 200 R. (S.G. 245), £75.

Zululand £5 (S.G. 29), £27.

AUSTRALIA — SOUTH AFRICA**Direct Air Service**

It has been announced that Australia will commence operating a direct air service to South Africa about the middle of 1952.

There will be at least one step-over en route, viz. at the Cocos-Keeling atoll, where an air strip was built by the R.A.F. during the last war. This atoll, formerly under management from Singapore, has been transferred to Australia. The island, or, rather group of small islands, lies about midway between Australia and Ceylon, and some 600 miles south-west of the southern end of Sumatra.

FINLAND

Two semi-postals were issued on 16 Nov. for the benefit of the 1952 Olympic Games Funds. The stamps are a 12 plus 2 mk. and a 20 plus 3 mk. They can be obtained from the Philatelic Section of the Postal Bureau in Helsinki.

UNION HANDBOOK CATALOGUE**(A Correction)**

In the Advertisement on page 218 of our December issue, there was some confusion of ideas between the De Luxe and the ordinary editions.

Actually the De Luxe Edition is now practically entirely sold out in advance and the description should have applied only to the ordinary edition. Intending buyers please note:—

(a) There will be approximately 250 pages, as in the De Luxe edition, not 200 as stated.

(b) The binding will be in Rexine, not Leather.

(c) There will be no list of subscribers; this applies only to the De Luxe edition.

SOUTHERN RHODESIA

Five stamps, of ½d., 1d., 2d., 4½d. and 1/- values are to be issued in connection with the Rhodes Centenary celebrations in 1953. Designs are open to public competition.

WHO ARE THE MUGS?

According to "Stamp Collecting" a question was asked in the Australian Parliament regarding the cost of special commemorative stamps for the forthcoming Royal Visit. The approximate cost was given, together with the gratuitous information: "These costs will be borne by Stamp Collectors."

FRANCE

On 11th November there was issued a 15 fr. stamp bearing the head of Georges Clemenceau. It was really due in 1918, for history shows that Clemenceau was for France in World War I what Churchill was for Britain in World War II.

Two stamps, 18 fr. and 30 fr. were issued to commemorate the opening of the 6th session of the United Nations.

Three stamps have been issued featuring Symbolists, 8 fr., Baudilaire; 12 fr. Verlaine; and 15 fr. Rimbaud.

NORTHERN RHODESIA

We understand that the ½d. and 1d. in new colours were issued on 15th November and the 2d. and 3d. on 1st December.

KENYA

Mr. W. Tunstall reports that special Christmas Air Letter forms have again been issued, having gone on sale on 15th November.

A new Stamp Booklet has also appeared, containing two blocks (4 each) of 10c stamps and one block of four 5c stamps; it sells at 1/-.

LANCELOT A. B. SHARPE

We regret to see Mr. Sharpe's death announced in the British philatelic press. He was a not infrequent contributor of short notes to the "S.A. Philatelist," mainly on matters of postal historical interest. The postal history of Southern Africa was his main hobby; he had a collection running almost into a score of volumes and it is understood that this is not being dispersed but is to be presented to some institution.

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(estab. 1875)

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 1d. Pretoria Flat Plate, block of 4 7/6
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Rotary 1d. Cyl. II A/B, Blocks	2/6	3/6
Rotary 1d. Cyl. 1949 ptg. Blocks	5/6	7/6
Rotary 1d. Cyl. 70/14, Blocks	3/6	4/6
Rotary, 1d. Cyl. 6925/36, Blocks	2/6	2/6
Rotary Bantam 1 1/2d., Blocks	5/6	5/6
Photo Vignette, large 2d. Die I Pairs	10/6	10/6
" " Die II Pairs	7/6	7/6
" " Plum Blocks	7/6	7/6
" " small 2d. first shade, blocks	7/6	7/6
Rotary 3d. Cyl. 44 A/B, Blocks	10/6	12/6
Rotary 4d. red-brown, Pairs	7/6	7/6
Rotary 4d. purple-brown, Pairs	5/6	5/6
Rotary 6d. Cyl. 6930/6 orange. Blocks	12/6	12/6
Rotary 6d. Cyl. 6930/6 br-orange do.	16/6	16/6
Rotary 6d. Cyl. 6930/6 Chestn. Blocks	18/6	18/6
Rotary 1/- Cyl. Imprint. Pairs	12/6	12/6

Many other kinds in stock — too numerous to list — and selections are gladly sent on approval, at reasonable prices, to interested collectors.

A. Lichtenstein

B.P.A.

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G. J. de SWARDT

P.O. Box 281, Pretoria.

A BOER WAR PROBLEM SOLVED

On covers originating in or passing through the Orange River Colony, one frequently encounters stamped initials such as "P.B.C., N.P.R. H.P.Y." etc. and their significance has long been a puzzle. It has generally been supposed that they were Censor's marks, and that "P.B.C." might be "Passed by Censor."

Mr. N. Snowden, of Manchester has solved at least one of these marks, by finding in "Ewen's Weekly Stamp News" of 14 Sept. 1901 a statement that the initials "H.P.Y." are those of Major H. P. Young, who was chief Censor in the Orange River Colony.

In the circumstances it would seem probable that the other initials are those of other censors.

POLAND

The issue of two double-head stamps about 15th Nov. has been announced from Warsaw. The designs of the two, 45 g. and 90 g. will be the same, featuring the two famous musicians F. Chopin and S. Moniuseko.

No less than five commemorative sets are announced:

- (1) Two with Stalin's portrait, 45 and 90 g., about 30 Oct.
- (2) Mine's Day, 90 gr. and 1.20 z., about 4 Dec.
- (3) Building of Dwelling Houses, 30 gr. and 1.15 z., about 10 Dec.
- (4) Electrification of Countryside, 30 gr. and 45 gr., about 15 Dec.
- (5) Philatelic Congress, 4 imperf. stamps of 45 gr., 75 gr., 1.15 z. and 1.20 z. arranged in a miniature sheet, about 17 November.

U.S.S.R.

Stamps from here have not been chronicled much of late, as it is impossible to consider enlarging the magazine from 20 to 24 pages. But the spate still continues. Messrs. Whitfield King's latest list notes — (a) 3 commemorating Kalinin; (b) 2 on the twentieth anniversary of the death of Dzerzhinsky; (c) 2 featuring composers; (d) 16 in honour of various Soviet scientists.

AN APPROVAL BOOK

at regular intervals (say monthly or fortnightly) is much appreciated by many of our customers.

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H. A. L. HUGHES & CO.

28 NELSON HOUSE, DARK RD.,
PETERBOROUGH, ENGLAND.

FINLAND

Three semi-postal stamps were being issued on 26 October, the surcharge being in aid of anti-tuberculosis funds. The values are 7 plus 2 mk., 12 plus 3 mk., and 20 plus 5 mk. The designs are very beautiful ones of birds. Thematic collectors take special note.

E.A., A.P.O. AND CENSOR MARKS

With reference to the reconstructed mark figured in our November 1951 issue, Mr. I. H. C. Godfrey has produced a complete mark.

It is on an Airgraph form sent from Mogadishu on 24 Nov. 1942, although the date on the mark itself is not clear. Otherwise the mark agrees closely with our reconstruction, with one difference: "E.A. Forces" is wrong, it should be "E.A. Force."

The date is, of course, much later than anything previously reported for such "temporary" cancellers. Mr. Godfrey also records a new Censor mark from Addis Abbaba — a small single-circle mark with "Passed by/Passato Per Censura" round the periphery, in the centre "O.E.T.A./1/Censor." O.E.T.A. stands for Occupied Enemy Territory Administration.

AUCTION

I shall be conducting another postal Auction, on March 15th, 1952, of **Union of South Africa** items only.

CATALOGUE 1/- POST FREE.

C. E. SHERWOOD, P.T.S.,
105, Marford Crescent, Sale, Manchester, G.E.

PHILIPPINES

On 10 December there were put on sale three stamps, commemorative of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights. They are of 5c, 6c and 15c denominations, and depict the story of man's struggle for freedom since time immemorial — men of all races steadily marching towards liberty.

SAINT PATRICKS DAY COVERS DIRECT FROM IRELAND

Here is something really worth having. Superb St. Patricks Day Covers, with bilingual printed pictorial cachet, franked with handsome Irish stamps, postmarked March 17th. Covers will be addressed in Gaelic and English, each one containing a sprig of shamrock, and bilingual St. Patricks Day Greeting Card.

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CHARLES F. BOURKE

67 QUAY, WATERFORD CITY, IRELAND.

NATAL

The October "London Philatelist" records what is apparently a complete series of the die-proofs of the surface printed stamps of Natal, from the 1864-68 issue to that of 1904-8. Coming from Messrs. De La Rue they have been in a collection stored in a bank vault for over 30 years and are now being dispersed by Mr. Ritchie Bodily.

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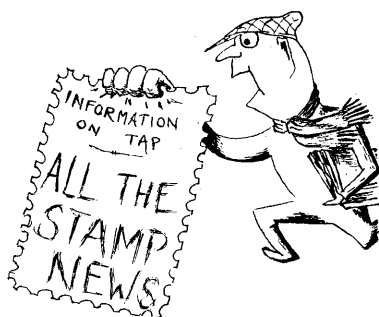
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R. C. ALCOCK LTD.,

11 Regent Street, Cheltenham Spa, England.

FORGERIES

By T. A. HARPER

(Notes accompanying a display before the East London Philatelic Society)

Mr. President, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I am asked to speak on and exhibit some of the forgeries etc., which have come into my possession but, as time is limited and it is only possible to touch very lightly on the subject, I will mention just a few of the various types of forgeries which have been made either to defraud the revenue or, which is considerably more serious, the poor philatelist. To point out the differences between the genuine and the forgery, one would have to show both and, as the originals are in most instances of considerable rarity, few are in my possession.

The early imitations were mainly lithographic copies of engraved stamps and in addition to being crudely executed, their flat appearance gives them away immediately. If used imitations were made, the forger usually did not trouble to copy the genuine postmark, but merely defaced his production with a cancellation of bars and dots which was seldom like the cancellations in use in the particular country. The watermark was ignored and, in the case of watermarked stamps, is usually a good test.

There are others, however, in which a genuine stamp has been taken and the whole design, completely discharged by means of chemicals, leaving a piece of plain paper, perforated and watermarked. On this a forgery of a much rarer stamp of the same watermark and perforation is printed and, as such a stamp could be very deceptive, a close examination would be necessary to discover the fraud. I believe certain valuable surface printed stamps of Great Britain and the K.E. £5 Transvaal have been forged by this method and probably others.

Another method of faking is that in which some portion of the design or inscription is painted out or altered to make an imitation of a stamp of greater rarity. I may instance the 80c and 1F of France 1853, which were almost identical in colour. The faker has taken the 80c, catalogued at a few shillings and altered the lower value tablet to read 1F, thus transposing it into a stamp worth from £15 to £20. This is a very dangerous fake, one of which was circulated in a packet of the S.A. Philatelic Association a few years ago by a leading philatelist as genuine. It was not.

Also to be noted are emissions that are entirely bogus, such as the "SEDANG" set, which is occasionally seen still in old collections, two finely engraved specimens of "GUATEMALA" which never saw that country and a "BRUNEL" set, about which there seems to be a little doubt, however, though it was never officially issued.

As far as South African issues are concerned, the most difficult forgeries to detect are those of the Transvaal, but these, together with the numerous reprints, have been dealt with by Messrs. Curle and Basden in their book. A good many forgeries of the "G" overprint for Griqualand also exist, as these only necessi-

tated the printing of one letter on the stamp. Most of them, however, are on stamps with the "Anchor" watermark and therefore, should not deceive any collector.

Forgeries of surcharges, such as this, are sometimes very difficult to distinguish, especially when printed on the genuine stamps, as the types used for these are usually in every day use in any printing establishment. I remember a master printer attending one of our meetings and remarking that he could reproduce any overprint and surcharge in the catalogue.

It is not only the older and rarer stamps that have been forged. In fact, I noticed in a recent publication that a very good forgery of a George VI high-value Malacca, I think, had just been discovered, so evidently the faker is still with us, looking for easy money.

Hong Kong is one country in which the counterfeiter has defaced his productions with a fair imitation of the correct postmark "B 62" in an oval of bars, but the forgeries themselves would not be likely to deceive any collector who had handled the genuine stamps, being very crude lithographs.

I would recommend members holding any early or middle issues which, though doubtful, might be of some value, to check them up by means of "Album Weeds," the two volumes of which are in our library, I believe, and contain much useful information and detailed descriptions of the points of difference between genuine and forged stamps.

When purchasing valuable stamps, unless coming from a very reliable source and accompanied by a guarantee of genuineness, it is advisable to submit them to either the Royal or the B.P.A. for expert opinion.

To my mind it will be a long time before a body of experts can be got together in South Africa having sufficient general knowledge to expertise the stamps of the world, although it could doubtless be done in respect of the stamps of our own portion of Africa.

The discovery of forgeries made to defraud the revenue has frequently been due to the studies of philately, as minute examinations are practically impossible on the part of Government officials. The classic example of this is the Great Britain 1/- known as the "Stock Exchange Forgery," as most of those found bear that cancellation. This was unknown for years until noticed by collectors and must have cost the British Government quite a large sum.

I notice that a forgery of a low value French stamp has also been reported recently. This is of a value used almost entirely for local postage, so probably few of them will turn up abroad.

UP AND COMING

This is how "Pinperf" in the market commentary of the "Philatelic Trader" describes South Africa. Amongst other things he says our "Officials" are much under priced, even if they be not everyone's meat. Take S.G. O 15a as an extreme example. (This is the scarce S.G. 44b 2d. overprinted) in the old catalogue it was marked 4/- a pair; now it has gone up to 12/6, but try to find it. If you do and get it for thrice that amount you will be lucky.

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Those So-Called Cape Triangular Remainders Again

With reference to the letter by Mr. E. W. Mann which appeared in the London Philatelist of September, 1951, page 138, Vol. LX., I hesitated about replying because after all Mr. Mann was only expressing his opinion and I knew that Mr. Alan Stevenson intended dealing with the matter.

Now, however, our worthy Editor again opens this question which I thought had been most exhaustively dealt with and settled. He suggests that available information be collected and examined so that apparently in his opinion, and in that of Mr. Mann, the matter still appears to be questioned.

Mr. Chas. J. Philips, writing in Stanley Gibbons Monthly for January gives a very comprehensive account of the various finds of the remainders, stamps actually found by Mr. Bacon in 1887, whilst clearing out some rooms in the premises of Messrs. Perkins Bacon & Co., the printers of these stamps, as also the known Cape triangular remainders which were printed by Messrs De La Rue & Co.

In the South African Philatelist for October, 1941, page 114, Vol. 17, I mentioned the large number of mint triangulars held by Mr. Cyrus Martin of Cape Town, and gave a full account of how he became possessed of these stamps, apart from the fact that at the time they were in use he was a bookseller in Darling Street, Cape Town, and a licensed vendor for the sale of postage stamps for the post office.

The result of the disposal of this large batch of mint triangulars by Mr. Martin, about half to the late Louis B. Smuts and the remainder to a firm of dealers in London (the half purchased by Mr. Smuts also found their way into a London dealers hands) was to bring on to the market large quantities of mint stamps, mostly of the De La Rue printing, in pairs and blocks of various sizes and writers on the subject, not knowing of the origin of these stamps immediately labelled them "remainders."

There has been found sufficient evidence in the depleted official records of the Cape Colony to prove without question that in so far as the Colonial Treasury and the Colonial Post Office were concerned that there were **no remainders whatsoever**.

Had it not been for the shortage of 4d. stamps in 1868, then there certainly would have been remainders of the fourpence triangular, which in 1865, were refused by the banks and business houses for use on Promissory Notes under the Stamp Act of 1864.

When the shortage of 4d. stamps (rectangulars) became acute in 1868, the Colonial Treasury supplied the post office at Cape Town with all the fourpence triangular stamps which were still deposited in their vaults and the P.M.G. lost no time in sending supplies of these stamps to all post offices which had asked for them.

The new stocks of 4d. stamps which had been ordered from De La Rue & Co., still failed to arrive and the overprinting of the redundant 6d. stamps held by the Treasury were then over-

printed with the words "Four Pence."

A further proof that there were **no remainders** of the triangular stamps held by either the Treasury or the Post Office is shown by the fact that in 1881 the Postmaster-General was unable to obtain a single specimen of the triangular issue to provide the various Postal Administrations throughout the world with specimens of postage stamps previously in use in the Colony for inclusion in the various official reference collections. It was then decided to have reprints made from the woodblock plates which were still, undefaced, in the possession of the Treasury and these reprints were made by Saul Solomon in March, 1883.

A quantity, more than what was required at the time, was made of these reprints and it was generally believed (and that may still be the opinion), that the post office are still in possession of the surplus printing of these 1883 reprints; that matter has been thoroughly investigated by me and I have been in communication with the heads of both the Treasury and the Post Office and have also interviewed them personally without a single specimen coming to light.

It is a great pity that those who write about these matters in philatelic journals do not first make every effort to discover the true facts instead of placing any large find of triangulars whether in pairs, strips or large blocks in the category of "remainders."

If by any chance someone discovers a few sheets of mint Cape triangulars, whether they be of the Perkins Bacon or the De La Rue printing, these cannot be classed as remainders because they might have been purchased over the Post Office counter in the ordinary way and besides who is there who can definitely say whether they **are** remainders or otherwise. Remainders are only such stamps which are held by the Post Office, the Treasury or by the actual printers and which have never been sold through the proper channels, the Post Office.

A. A. JURGENS.

BASUTOLAND POST OFFICES

With reference to the list of post offices given in our November issue, p. 204, Mr. G. N. Gilbert writes:

(1) The last line (before the actual list of offices) is a little ambiguous. It should read: "... the balance being post and telephone or post and telegraph offices."

(2) He has been informed by the Postmaster, Maseru, that the office at Lejones is **not** being closed.

(3) His list only includes such offices or agencies that actually cancel mail. Offices that merely collect mail but do not cancel it (and which may be also Telegraph and/or Telephone offices) are not included. An example of this, which he did not list is Van Rooyen's Gate, which he thinks is not actually in Basutoland, although it is listed in the supplement to the P.O. Guide as being in Basutoland.

(A similar anomaly has occurred with one or two Swaziland offices and it might be mentioned that in that territory such offices do occasionally cancel stamps with their office stampers. The same might well happen at times in Basutoland. — Ed.)

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CORRESPONDENCE

ERRORS — REAL AND IMAGINARY

Sir, — I appear to have put my foot in it properly this time and have been thoroughly torn off — a strip for my pains.

I am afraid I must have expressed myself badly in my original letter as I am most certainly not against shades as such — in fact I collect all I can get myself—nor was my letter written in any mood of "cattishness" or intolerance, as our friend Mr. Metcalfe has kindly suggested — what I am trying to get at is the apparent present trend of listing innumerable very slight differences in shades, some of which are almost impossible for the ordinary B.F. of a collector like myself to differentiate between.

I will give a few examples of what I mean, and I may also add here that the inconsistency of the naming of many shades in S. Gibbons makes it still more difficult.

Take for instance Bermuda 110. This is listed as black and rose red price 20/-. No. 110a is listed as black and dull red — price 2d. There is a faint difference, but if 110 is rose red, and, according to S. Gibbons No. 114 is also rose red, then all I can say is that someone is colour blind, and according to my oculist I am not. To my eye, No. 110a is far nearer the No. 114 shade.

And note you — there is a difference of 19/10d. between the two id. shades. Again Nigeria 58 and 58a, 58ab and 58b, according to S.G. 58, 58a and 58b are all black and blue, while 58ab is black and dark blue. The shade of No. 58 is definitely different to 58a, 58ab or 58b, and to tell the difference between some copies of 58a and 58ab requires an expert, while to my eye, 58b is almost the same as 58ab. There are many more, but space does not permit enumerating all of them.

Regarding some of these shades I have mentioned, I was getting my new issues from a well-known dealer in London, who did not usually send slight differences in shades or perforations, so when 58ab of Nigeria was listed, I wrote to another dealer in England for a copy and when this arrived I could see absolutely no difference to the one I had, so I sent for a third. Still — to my eye — almost the same so I did not know for quite a long time whether I had three 58ab's or none, so I sent some of these, plus others to another well-known dealer friend of mine, and asked him if he would oblige me by "vetting" the specimens, and telling me what was what.

He wrote back saying he would be some time returning the stamps as an expert friend of his was out of town.

I must say I smiled — if my friend the dealer, who I consider an expert on stamps — had to call in another expert to tell me whether or not I had the correct items.

I mentioned the weathering of certain Colonial stamps in my original letter. I myself have several specimens of the £1 values of Bermuda, Leewards, etc.

I have one which is very dark, with the gum almost a dark brown while another, which I presume was probably got from the Crown

Agents has only a faint streak shading to the gum, and the shades of the two stamps, to my eye, differ, caused I think by this darkened gum. The difference in price, if one is not the "big noise" is only £21/10/-.

I think I have said enough to show what I am getting at now, and I will add that I have no wish to tread on anyone's corns, nor to presume to dictate what others should collect — I merely want to express what I personally feel is not a good trend for the good of the hobby as a whole, and I happen to know that I am not alone in this view.

Let us by all means collect shades, but why list every slight variation and by so doing force up prices for items which take an "expert" to determine. And I am not talking about the old classics such as Capes, etc., but about the modern pictorial issues. This is a far cry from the title of Mr. MacKenzie's paper, and I think I should have headed this letter "Shades, real or imaginary."

I would like to add that when I wrote my original letter, I had no idea or wish to tear up Mr. MacKenzie for his interesting paper, but to point out that some of his imaginary errors were of use — philatelically, and that he might, with his knowledge of printing and inks — perhaps have made a bit more of this shade craze. May I be forgiven.

Yours, etc.,

G. N. GILBERT.

(This correspondence is now closed.—Ed.)

SHORT NOTICES

The British Philatelist. Congratulations to our contemporary on having reached its 500th number. Started in 1908 by Mr. Chas. Nissen, it had a short period of interruption after his death, but leapt to life again with renewed vigour in 1946. Like many other magazines they are now being compelled to raise their price from 3/- to 6/- per annum.

British West Indian Philatelist. The September issue is mainly filled by a check list of K.G. VI B.W.I. stamps, but there is an article by the editor, Mr. E. F. Aguilar, on that bugbear of stamp collectors in the tropics, "Rust." He quotes extensively from the article published in the "S.A. Philatelist" of March, 1942.

The Royal Philatelic Collection. For those who cannot afford to buy a copy of this superb work we would recommend that they try to obtain a Prospectus. Coloured plates in this show the volume as it will appear, bound in Niger Morocco Leather, and another has various stamps such as the Nova Scotia 1/- in cold lilac, a pair of reddish rd. Post Paid Mauritius, original sketch for the N.S.W. 5/-, the British Guiana 4c. carmine-rose and the first 4a of India. There is also a monochrome plate with a large variety of rarities on it.

Reinatex. Mr. Tom Morgan, Editor of the "Philatelic Magazine," and Publicity Officer for this Stamp Exhibition, to be held in Monaco, April 2 to May 4, reports that the premier award is to be a statue in gold of Hercules. This is but one of the various new notes which will be a feature of this "Queen of Exhibitions." --

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**ANAGRAPH OF UNION "SPIFS"
(Stamps Perforated with Initials of Firms)**

By A. HILTON SYDOW

The splendid causerie entitled "ON SPIFS" written and published by Mr. E. Bulger in the "South African Philatelist" for October 1949 resuscitated my dormant interest in Union "Spifs" and impelled me to refer again after a lapse of time to the pages of my —

- (a) latest Union Post Office Guide,
- (b) Thesaurus of Union Philatelic "side-lines."

From the former I excerpted the following paragraph:

"PERFORMANCE OF POSTAGE STAMPS.
—With a view to protection from dishonesty, firms may perforate with their initials the postage stamps, post cards, newspaper wrappers, and embossed envelopes purchased by them, provided that the permission of the Postmaster-General is first obtained. The perforation of stamps, whether revenue or postage, renders such stamps invalid for purposes of stamp duty.

From the latter I prepared the following anagraph.—

- (1) **With Cape Town Postmarks:**
BL/Co. — Brown, Lawrence & Co., Ltd.
BW/& Co. — Burroughs, Wellcome & Co. (S.A.) Ltd.
CLTD T — Cape Times Limited.
C/CT — Corporation of the City of Cape Town.
WD/& S — Wm. Dawson & Sons (S.A.) Ltd.
JD & Co. — John Dickinson & Co. (Africa) Ltd.
DR/C — Dunlop Rubber Co. (S.A.) Ltd.
J.G. — John Garlick (Garlick Ltd.)
H & C — Hermann & Canard Ltd.
JWJ/&Co. — J. W. Jagger & Co.
LL — Lennon Limited.
L.R. — L. Raphaely.
SB/SA — Standard Bank of S.A. Ltd.
RWS/&Co. — R. Wilson, Son & Co.
RM — R. Muller.
D.S. — Darter & Sons.
U.C. — Union-Castle Mail Steamship Co., Ltd.
- (2) **With Oudtshoorn and Mossel Bay Postmarks:**
PV/&Co. — Prince, Vincent & Co. (Oudt.)
C.S./&Co. — C. Searle & Co. (M.B.)
- (3) **With East London and King Williams' Town Postmarks:**
B B — Baker, Baker & Co. (KWT.)
B K — Baker, King & Co. (E.L.)
- (4) **With Bloemfontein Postmark:**
C.W.C. — C. W. Champion.

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- (5) **With Durban Postmarks:**
S.B.S./Ld. — S. Butcher & Sons, Ltd.
D.C. — Borough of Durban (Durban Council).
E.A./C — East Asiatic Company.
IHC — International Harvester Company.
WFJ&Co — W. F. Johnstone & Co. Ltd.
TB — T. Burman.
D/&Co — W. Dunn & Co.
- (6) **With Rondebosch and Langa Postmarks (Cape Peninsula):**
P/Ld — Pegram Limited (Rbh).
C/CT — Corporation of the City of Cape Town (Langa).
- (7) **With Port Elizabeth Postmarks:**
C.E.G./& Co./Ltd. — C. E. Gardner & Co., Ltd.
J.W.J./&Co. — J. W. Jagger & Co.
U—C/Co. — Union-Castle Mail Steamship Co., Ltd.
DR/Co. — Dunlop Rubber Co. (S.A.) Ltd.
SF/&Co. — Stephen, Fraser and Company.
- (8) **With Johannesburg Postmarks:**
JWJ/JHB — J. W. Jagger & Co.
U.T.C./Ld — United Tobacco Cos. (North) Ltd.
- (9) **Unidentified "SPIFS":**
TC/&S and JDCo. with Johannesburg Postmarks.
M.Ltd. with Durban Postmarks.
T.C.H. without Town Name in Postmark.

The foregoing anagraph exemplifies 17 single-lined and 22 double-lined "spifs" and 1 treble-lined "spif"; for instance "B K" is a single-lined "spif" with the letter "B" perforated in horizontal alignment and adjacent to the letter "K" whilst S B/S A is a double-lined "spif" with the letters "S and B" and the letters "S and A" similarly and respectively perforated as the letters "B and K" but with "S and B" vertically and respectively above "S and A." In the case of the one treble-lined "spif" the perforated letters "C.E.G." were perforated immediately above the "& Co.," and the latter immediately above "Ltd."

My collection of Union "SPIFS" covers the period 1910 to 1949. It includes for a sentimental reason several British stamps perforated with the letters "DLR" for Thos. De La Rue and Company Limited, the printers of the Edwardian stamps of the Cape of Good Hope, Natal, Orange River Colony and the Transvaal, and the Georgians of the Union of South Africa; also British stamps perforated "W & S" for Waterlow & Sons, Limited, the printers of the first Union pictorial stamps.

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SOCIETY NEWS

FEDERATED SOCIETIES

NAME AND ADDRESS:

Cape Town P.S., Box 1973
 Copperbelt P.S., c/o No. 12 7th Ave., Nkana, N. Rhodesia
 E. London P.S., c/o Box 450
 E. Rand P.S., c/o Box 155, Brakpan
 Grahamstown P.S., c/o R. Q. Tarr, Kingswood Col. Jewish Guild Phil. Section, Von Brandis Street, Johannesburg
 Johannesburg P.S. of, Box 4967
 Mashonaland, P.S., Box 74, Salisbury
 Natal, P.S. of, Box 588, Durban
 N. Transvaal P.S., c/o Miss v. Niekerk, P.O. Rita
 Nyasaland P.S., c/o Limbe Trading Co., Limbe
 O.F.S. & Basutoland P.S., Box 702, Bloemfontein
 Port Elizabeth P.S., c/o 13 Trafalgar Square
 Pretoria P.S., Box 514
 Pretoria Railway P.S., Railway Recreation Club, Berea Park
 Rhodesia, P.S. of, Box 803, Bulawayo
 Roodepoort Stamp Club, c/o 82 Kruger Ave., Selwyn, Florida
 Springs P.S., P.O. Box 688, Springs
 University of Cape Town P.S., c/o. University of Cape Town, Rondebosch, Cape
 Vereeniging Stamp Club, Box 48
 W. Rand Stamp Club, c/o. 55, 4th Street, District Township, Krugersdorp

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., 1 Thompson Street.
 Last Thursdays, 8 p.m., Jewish Guild.
 2nd Tuesdays and 4th Mondays, 7.45 p.m., Public Library.
 2nd. Wednesday, Room 4, Polytechnic, 5th Street.
 1st and 3rd Wednesdays, 7.30 p.m., Durban Camera Club, 319 Smith Street.
 3rd Mondays, 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
 1st Weds., Presbyterian Hall, 5th Ave., Bulawayo.
 3rd Thursday of every month, 8 p.m., Savoy Hotel, Roodepoort.
 2nd Mondays, 7.30 p.m., Board Room, New Era Press
 At times announced during term-time.
 2nd Wednesdays, 8 p.m., Technical College.
 1st Wednesdays, 8 p.m., Royal Hotel, Krugersdorp.

CAPE TOWN PHILATELIC SOCIETY

November 22nd.—The President initiated a drive for new members, stating that the Society's Membership had not increased for some time and that every effort should be made to encourage more philatelists to join. He mentioned possible ways of making meetings more interesting and varied and stated that next year it was hoped to arrange for lectures on such subjects as printing, watermarks, etc.

Mr. Combrink exhibited samples of the Souvenir First Day Cover which had been designed for the International Exhibition, and also Christmas Cards.

The display for the evening was provided by Mr. R. Putz who showed a comprehensive collection of "Modern Belgium," and gave a short talk about his exhibit.

December 13.—Mr. Combrink gave details recently released by the Post Office of the stamps to be issued next year at the time of the Tercentenary Celebrations and of the special overprints for the International Philatelic Exhibition. He also announced that details of the Royal exhibit had been finalised and that His Excellency the Governor-General had consented to open the Exhibition.

Mr. Vallance exhibited a display called "100 Years of Brazil" which included a very fine selection of stamps commencing with the first issue in 1843, and in his talk Mr. Vallance stressed that Brazil was the second country to Great Britain to issue stamps. He also showed

his collection of Persian stamps.

A vote of thanks was proposed by Mr. Simenhoff and seconded by Mr. Blum.

A Bourse was then conducted which had been organised by Mr. Blum and Mr. Schonevegal, the latter acting as Honorary Auctioneer. Twenty-five per cent of the takings were donated to Exhibition Funds. Tea was served immediately before the Bourse, and the evening was concluded with an Auction.

ROODEPOORT STAMP CLUB

Thursday, 15 November. — Twelve members and one visitor present. Apologies from Mr. Sharpe and Master Crocker. The December meeting to consist of a Swap and Quiz evening. The January exhibit would be presented by Harry Daniel, the side line for his meeting would be decided at the December meeting.

In the absence of a Quiz Mr. Burrell took over and explained the Union Officials to us. It had been noticed that various low values of the OFFICIALS were appearing at local Post Offices on the West Rand.

Mr. Bloomfield exhibited his Canadian collection and Mr. Burrell, who is a Canadian collector of some note, replied appropriately and expressed the hope that Mr. Bloomfield's collection would expand by leaps and bounds in the coming year.

Mr. Keet displayed sideline Z, Zoological Animals. It was a very fine show indeed.

The meeting closed at 9.50 p.m. — H.D.

PHILATELIC SOCIETY OF NATAL

What was probably the first exhibition of purely Thematic Stamp collections in South Africa, and certainly the first in Natal, was organised by The Philatelic Society of Natal and was held in the City Art Gallery, Durban, from 26th November till 2nd December. It created a tremendous amount of interest, between seven and eight hundred people visiting the exhibition room during the 5½ days it was open — it was not open any day after 5 p.m. — and most of the visitors spent a considerable amount of time viewing the exhibits and reading the interesting descriptions that accompanied many of the stamps.

The exhibition was opened on Monday, 26th November at 1.15 p.m. by Councillor Mrs. A. M. G. Maytom, M.P.C., chairman of the City Council's Parks and Recreation Committee before a gathering of between 40 and 50 people.

A total of 572 sheets were displayed but these by no means represented the total number of sheets sent in — space prevented more being laid out. The Society was greatly indebted to Dr. K. Freund of Bloemfontein for the loan of four of his thematic collections — Pin-up girls, Flowers, Dancing and Horse Racing; to the Rev. Loxley Chamings of Teakworth, Transvaal for an exhibit of Waterfalls on stamps; and to Mr. G. Petroulis and Mr. K. Cameron of the Thematic Stamp Club, Cape Town, for the loan of their collections of Biographies and Mountains respectively. The balance of the exhibition was contributed by the following local members of the P.S.N.: J. Lyle (Classified Pictorials and Miniature Sheets); G. Leak (Princess Elizabeth); C. Selwyn Smith (Music and Mountains, Waterfalls and Lakes); J. H. Chamberlain (Red Cross and Ships); A. S. Maskell (Philatelic Zoo); Margaret B. Cuthbertson (Mrs. L. Bevis), (The Gospel Story on Stamps and Saints and Martyrs) and L. Bevis (Botany on Stamps). In addition a small display case contained a selection of some of the literature dealing with this aspect of stamp collecting, prominent amongst which was The Thematic Magazine issued by the Thematic Stamp Club, and **Topical Time**, the official organ of the American Topical Association.

— L.B.

The authenticity of the following two stories is vouched for by one of the Vice-Presidents of the P.S.N.

Small Boy: "I'll swap you some of my stamps if you like."

Mother: "Well, thanks very much, but I'm only collecting one country."

Small Boy: "Only one country? But you'll never learn any geography if you only collect one country."

Small Boy: "These United States stamps are very rude."

Mother: "Why are they rude?"

Small Boy: "Well they've all got GENTS (Cents) on them and that means lavatory."

— V.F.M.

JEWISH GUILD PHILATELIC SECTION

At the meeting held on November 29th the Philatelic Society of Johannesburg paid an official visit to the Section and provided the exhibits.

Mr. W. Oppenheim showed Austria early covers, including the first issues, some pre-stamp covers were included. Mr. I. Isaacs spoke on the issue.

Mr. Assinocopolous showed early Greece. The "Hermes" were chiefly in fine used condition. Some of the later issues were shown both mint and used.

Mr. G. Economides spoke on the exhibit. Mr. M. Jecks showed "Literary Quotations." A fine thematic collection illustrating English Literature. Mr. B. Joseph spoke on the exhibit. Mr. H. Schwartz showed St. Helena. The 15/- value was in both mint and used condition and there were several other fine items.

Mr. G. Glassman spoke on this exhibit.

WEST RAND STAMP CLUB

Once again a pleasant evening was spent by those stalwarts of the above Club. Our business disposed of, we settled down to the exhibit of the evening. This was modern Nyasaland, shown by Mr. Edwards.

Dr. T. E. Berry congratulated Mr. Edwards and pointed out that the set-up showed personal interest. Mr. J. Burrell said he agreed with Dr. Berry and thanked Mr. Edwards, who, he insisted, had not been collecting for very long.

There were two visitors and nine members present. By the time these notes appear in print, we will be speeding on into the New Year. The Club joins me in wishing the staff of the S.A.P., readers and collectors all the good things of the season and happy hunting in the New Year.

At the next meeting, January 9th, Mr. J. B. Gradwell will show France and at the February meeting (1st Wednesday of that month) Mr. Keet will show Holland. — N.B.E.

PHILATELIC SOCIETY OF JOHANNESBURG

At the meeting held on December 11th Mr. D. Sheffield showed Union Stamps — the 25 different plates of the 1d. Rotogravure issue. He read a few notes on the different issues. Several complete sheets were shown.

The exhibit was well written up showing the differences of the various printings.

During the evening a successful auction was held in aid of the International Exhibition to be held in Cape Town.

Mr. J. Burrell acted as auctioneer. He also spoke on Mr. Sheffield's exhibit, proposing the vote of thanks.

ZULULAND

Mr. Paul A. Dorn of Los Angeles puts up a plea in "The Philatelist" for help in finding a "Registered" cancellation of Zululand. He has hunted for one for years in vain. Did they exist? There certainly was registration of letters, but was there ever such a thing as a "Registered" cancellation?

U.S.A.

Last year was a quiet one for commemorative issues but there are signs of another spate. The following are announced or have already appeared:

- 10 December — 175th anniversary of the Battle of Brooklyn, an outstanding event in the War for Independence.
 - 1 January — Betsy Ross, 200th anniversary of the birth of this lady, said to be the originator of the U.S. flag upon suggestions made by Gen. Washington.
 - 15 January — 50th anniversary of the 4-H Clubs which are agricultural organisations.
 - 28 February — 125th anniversary of the founding of the Baltimore and Ohio railway.
 - 4 March — 40th anniversary of the Automobile Association's Accident Prevention programme.
- Date not yet fixed — 175th anniversary of the arrival in the U.S. of Marquis de Lafayette. "Meekeel's Weekly" understands that twelve new stamps are planned for 1952 and commends the decision.

BRITISH COLONIALS

Messrs. Whitfield King's latest press notes report inter alia:

AUSTRALIA: A 3½d. issued on 28 November.
BRITISH SOLOMON IS. A design competition is announced for a new set of 15 denominations.

FALKLAND IS. The new set of ½d. to £1 are to be released on 2 January.

KENYA. Another design competition inaugurated for a new pictorial set.

NEW ZEALAND. The Royal visit by the Princess Elizabeth and the Duke of Edinburgh will be commemorated by an issue of five stamps, 2d. 3d., 5d., 6d. and 1/3.

SEYCHELLES. It is rumoured that the new set will be put on sale this month.

TRISTAN DA CUNHA. The overprinted St. Helena set will be issued on 1st January.

ZANZIBAR. A new definite issue has been ordered.

WINDWARD ISLANDS

New Constitution overprints on stamps of Grenada, St. Vincent, St. Lucia and Dominica have been released locally on varying dates, 21st Sept., for the first two islands mentioned, 25th Sept. for St. Lucia and 15th October for Dominica.

ST. KITTS AND NEVIS

A new series of 12 stamps for these islands has had the designs approved. Incidentally the correct name of the group is now St. Christopher, Nevis and Anguilla.

BELGIUM

Dr. Gabriel Lefebvre reports the issue on 24 September of a set of 5 semipostals, the surtax going to Queen Elisabeth's Medical Foundation. The stamps are of large upright format with a portrait of the Queen; values, 90c. plus 10c., 1.75 fr. plus 25c., 3 fr. plus 1 fr., 4 fr. plus 2 fr., and 8 fr. plus 4 fr.

CANADA WAS THERE**(Anglo-Boer War 1899-1902)**

The September 14th issue of "Stamp Collecting" is a special number in honour of Capex. Most, but not all, of the articles deal with one or other aspect of Canadian philately.

One by Mr. W. Freshwater deals with a bunch of covers sent by a soldier in the Canadian contingent to a lady in Belgium. Some of the types of covers used and most of the Army postmarks have already been chronicled by S. G. Rich, but some of the covers are fresh records, as are some of the localities for the postmarks.

The covers date from the time the contingent was at sea en route for South Africa (Nov., 1899) till the sender was invalidated back in July, 1900.

CLASSICS, OLD COLONIALS**RARE ELUSIVE ITEMS.**

I supply fine Europeans and rare Colonials on approval, but I have to know where the gaps in your collection are. "Send your want list."

G.B. S.G. 128 v. fine	£12
Egypt S.G. 8a mint, Imperf.	£6
Egypt S.G. 9 mint	£8
Natal S.G. 11 mint	£3
Etc., etc.	

O. CORNFIELD P.T.S.

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EARLY TRISTAN ENVELOPE

For some years I have been trying to find an early envelope to preface my Tristan da Cunha collection, which up till recently commenced with an envelope addressed to England with the Shackleton/Rowett Antarctic Expedition and Tristan-da-Cunha postmarks of 1922.

I have now been fortunate in securing one posted over half-a-century ago. The envelope is franked with the one penny Cape of Good Hope ("Hope" seated) rose-red stamp, clearly postmarked "Simons Town, 10 DE 94." It is addressed:—

Peter Green, Esq.,
 Governor of Tristan D'Acunha,
 via St. Helena.

H.M.S. "Raleigh,"

Simonstown.

I believe the "Raleigh" was on the Cape of Good Hope Station in the 1890's and made two trips to Tristan. But according to my list of ships calling there and the date of the postmark I think the letter may have been despatched by H.M.S. "Widgeon." I shall be pleased to hear of any other early correspondence either to or from the island if anyone cares to write to me, c/o the Editor.

CHARLES DREWE,
 Cheltenham, England.

THE SOUTH AFRICAN PHILATELIST

PROPRIETORS AND PUBLISHERS :

The Philatelic Federation of Southern Africa

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SOUTH AFRICAN INTERNATIONAL STAMP EXHIBITION

The Royal Exhibit.

As is now well known one of the major attractions at the International Stamp Exhibition at Capetown (26-3-52 to 5-4-52) will be a display of portions of the collection of His Majesty, the King.

It is now possible to give some indication of the nature and extent of the exhibit which will be brought to South Africa by Sir John Wilson.

Capes will probably consist of 18 sheets of Perkins Bacon triangulars, 7 pages of "wood blocks" and 10 pages of De La Rue prints plus 5 sheets of rare items of the surface printed stamps.

Natal will be represented by no less than fourteen pages of the rare embossed stamps including the reprints, and 26 sheets of other scarce and interesting items.

Sir John will also bring with him some material of the Union of South Africa including die and plate proofs. This exhibit will include essays, and nine sheets of colour trials of the 1913 permanent issue, and also some most interesting historical covers.

This exhibit is certain to be the centre of attraction of all visitors to the exhibition.

Capetown Exhibition Awards.

The premier award at the Capetown Stamp Exhibition is the Championship for "Capes" and this will consist of a magnificent oil painting from the brush of Gabriel de Jongh valued at over one hundred guineas and presented by Mrs. Ernest Hunt.

The award for Unions will in all probability be a book case in stinkwood specially designed to hold stamp albums.

In considering the form which the awards should take in other classes the Exhibition Committee have been influenced by a desire to break away from the traditional plaque or medal. The "gold" award will however consist of a set of Jan van Riebeeck Tercentenary Medal Sets in a specially inscribed leatherette case. The lesser awards will consist of stinkwood articles of suitable design and appropriately inscribed silver plates.

SATISE and SADIPU Overprints.

Special arrangements are being made to cope with the large number of collectors who will wish to acquire 1d. and 2d. Van Riebeeck stamps, overprinted SATISE and SADIPU. The Post Office have announced that these stamps will be on sale at the Exhibition only and that any remainders after the close of the Exhibition will be available from the Philatelic Section of the Post Office, Pretoria, but as the quantity to be overprinted is limited it is not thought that many will remain unsold from the Exhibition. A line to the Cover Committee, Box 558, Capetown will bring a circular giving full details of the arrangements for the sale of stamps and covers. A stamped addressed envelope should accompany all inquiries.

Special Stamps and Envelopes.

1. Official Festival Envelopes and Stamps. As already announced the Exhibition authorities are the agents for these. They are sold at 2/6 each complete with the full set of 5 commemorative stamps and the "Cover Committee" is prepared to do full servicing for you. They state:

"By courtesy of the Postal Authorities we will commence stamping envelopes well in advance of issue date to ensure prompt delivery of "OFFICIAL" Covers which are ensured of careful servicing, light postmarking and timeous registered despatch — provided your order is received EARLY! (Note the G.P.O. Bulletin says in respect of "Unofficial" Covers "delay in treatment will be unavoidable. The Public is requested to delay enquiries relating to their orders until June 1952"!)

"Take advantage of our service — enclosures may be sent for inclusion in Covers and in addition to addressing envelopes we are prepared to put your name on the back of Covers addressed to friends."

WRITE LEGIBLY on your Order Form. You must also state with regard to each cover ordered whether it falls into category A, B, C or D. "A" English cover to be posted First Day, 14-3-52.

"B" English cover to receive special commemorative postmark 6-4-52.

"C" Afrikaans cover to be posted on First Day, 14-3-52.

"D" Afrikaans cover to receive special commemorative postmark 6-4-52.

Payment to be made payable to **Van Riebeeck Cover Committee**. (Country cheques must include exchange).

2. International Exhibition Special Stamps and Covers.

Here is the Cover Committee's announcement about these:—

"Owing to the quantity of 1d. and 2d. Van Riebeeck Stamps overprinted respectively SATISE and SADIPIU being limited, and as these will only be obtainable at the Satise Post Office in the International Exhibition Hall, it becomes necessary for us to adopt a definite procedure in dealing with orders for these Covers and Stamps.

"It has been decided that requisitions will be executed in the following order of precedence and receipt:—

- (1) "E." Special PICTORIAL EXHIBITION COVERS stamped with both overprinted Stamps and postmarked FIRST DAY 26.3.52 of EXHIBITION POSTMARK, 9d. each.
- "F." Special PICTORIAL EXHIBITION COVERS stamped with both overprinted Stamps and postmarked with PICTORIAL TRICENTENARY POSTMARK of 6th April, 1952. 9d. each.
- (2) "G." Collectors Units, i.e. 8 Covers (specify "E" and/or "F"), 6/-.
Blocks of 24 sets of overprinted Stamps, 6/-.
Postage (overprinted Stamps) and packing, 6d. (Registration 4d. extra).
- (3) Orders for Stamps only. These will only be executed at the close of the Exhibition from any stocks remaining.

No charge will be made for placing Stamps on "Exhibition Covers" but a charge of 2d. per Cover will be made for placing Stamps on and servicing and posting Non-Official Covers sent in by the Public."

Payments as in the case of the Festival covers.

TRISTAN DA CUNHA.

After months, if not years, of rumour, stamps for the island have really materialized. They may quite likely be only a provisional set, being the full current set of St. Helena (12 stamps, ½d. to 10/-) overprinted in two lines in black "Tristan/da Cunha".



They were released by the Crown Agents in London on 1st January, so presumably that will be regarded as the date of issue. They are to be sold on St. Helena as well as at Tristan (like those of St. Helena's other dependency, Ascension) for the convenience of visitors!

Up to the time of going to press covers with the new stamps and (presumably) an official postmark, have not arrived.

BRITISH COLONIALS.

Falkland Is. The new pictorial set was issued on 2nd January. It comprises 14 values, ½d. to £1.

British Solomon Is. A new series of 15 is under consideration and £25 is offered for each design accepted.

Ceylon. Two special stamps, 5c. and 15c., will be issued in February in connection with an Exhibition being held then.

Zanzibar. A new set has been ordered, the lower values to have a new portrait of the Sultan and the higher ones featuring the Seyyid Khalifa schools.

Barbados. Four values are to be issued to commemorate the centenary of the issue of stamps in the island. The designers, according to Whitfield King & Co., will feature a replica of one of the four values of the 1852 issue, in its original colour.

Kenya. Two stamps are to be issued on the occasion of the Royal Visit there en route for Australia. The 10c. and 1/- in their present colours are to have "Royal Visit 1952" incorporated (not overprinted) in their borders.

They are only to be on sale from 1st to 9th inst.

Jamaica is to issue two stamps, 2d. and 6d. honouring the Scout Jamboree to be held this year.

Collectors' Wants & Offers

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

EXCHANGE. I send France and Colonies in exchange for 100-500 different of your country. Also by weight.—B. MURET, Monteils-Rimeize, Lozere, France.

FREE: 1897 Rhodesia 8d. used (Catalogued 5/-) given free to anyone sending self addressed envelope and 6d. stamps for postage and handling.—M. PON, Kliptown, Johannesburg.

JOIN THE S.W.A. STAMP EXCHANGE CLUB. No entrance fee or subscription. Rules and membership forms from Secretary, P.O. Box 887, Windhoek.

WHAT OFFER: South West Africa 2/3000 f War Efforts 1941-1944 mint. C. F. BARTENSTEIN, 6 Marmoin Road, Oranjezicht, Capetown.

AUCTION

I shall be conducting another postal Auction, on March 15th, 1952, of **Union of South Africa** items only.

CATALOGUE 1/- POST FREE.

C. E. SHERWOOD, P.T.S.,
105, Marford Crescent, Sale, Manchester, G.B.

I have an office —

AND I LOOK FORWARD TO A CALL FROM YOU IN DUE COURSE. YOU WILL FIND ME AT ROOM 37, WROXHAM HOUSE, 212 JEPPE STREET (opposite The Medical Centre), JOHANNESBURG.

There has, as yet, been no time to compile a Price List. Indeed, I do not propose to issue regular Lists but the pages of "The South African Philatelist" will always carry my announcements and offers.

The following are offered subject to being unsold. They are also subject to your approval on receipt.

MINT SINGLES

Great Britain £1 brown S.G. 478b	25/-	Postage is extra on orders value less than 20/-.
Australia 1½d. marone, S.G. 166	1/3	
Ceylon 1942 50c. Perf. 14, S.G. 394c	25/-	
Channel Is. 1d. S.G.J2a (chalky)	10/-	
Gambia 3/- slate-purple, S.G. 139	£28	Registration or insurance is extra on orders value less than 40/-.
Gibraltar K.G. VI £1, S.G. 131	22/6	
Hong Kong 1938 \$2, S.G. 150, cat. 85/-	45/-	Bank charges must be added to country cheques and crossed Postal Orders.
Kenya 1903 50r., S.G. 16 "Specimen"	£6	
Kenya 1912, 20r., S.G. 58	£7	
St. Helena £1, S.G. 96	110/-	
Sierra Leone 1893, ½ d. on 1½d., CA wmk. error "PFNNY". Cat. 90/-	50/-	
Transvaal K.E. 2d. grey "Specimen"	£5	
Sierra Leone 1933, £1, S.G. 180	£25	

COMPLETE MINT SETS.

Nothing here you want? Then ask me to quote for what you need. I have a few K.G. VI sets but not many recent or current issues.	Northern Rhodesia, S.G. 25-37 (16 stamps)	75/-
	Niue 1944-46 ½d.—3/-, S.G. 113-122	9/9
	Niue 1950 ½d.—3/-, S.G. 113-122	9/9
	Pakistan 1947, 3p.-25r., S.G. 1-19	£5
	Palestine 1922 1m.—20p., S.G. 71-84, Cat. 134/- without "a" numbers (14 stamps)	87/6
	Palestine 1922 5p.—20p., S.G. 86-89	37/6
	Swaziland K.G. V set, S.G. 11-20	80/-
	Turks. & Caicos, ¼d.—10/-, S.G. 194-205	32/6

R. T. LILLEY

37 WROXHAM HOUSE, 212 JEPPE STREET, JOHANNESBURG.

Telephone: promised. Office hours 10.00 a.m.—4.30 p.m. and by appointment.

Union Notes

Sub-Editor: Mr. W. N. SHEFFIELD,
Box 99, Cleveland, Transvaal.

Publication Date of the HANDBOOK/CATALOGUE of the Union of South Africa Postage Stamps.

At about the time these Notes appear in print the Van Riebeeck Tercentenary edition of the new Union catalogue of postage stamps will be in the printers' hands and everything set for publishing on the same day the International Stamp Exhibition opens in Cape Town on the 26th March, 1952.

And we, "who says it as shouldn't", have not the slightest hesitation in assuring readers that they are going to find the book Good, or, more correctly, and with all due modesty — VERY GOOD. It is far and above anything that has previously been attempted in the way of a publication on the Union stamps and will undoubtedly prove a big step forward in meeting the needs of the every increasing number of enthusiasts who find pleasure in collecting the stamps of this country. Printed on super quality enamel faced heavy art paper and well bound in green Rexine it covers thirty-two sections of postage stamps, stationery, parcel labels and the Christmas seals issued through the post offices of the Union to the public since Union Day in 1910. Four of the most important sections, comprising the Georgian or "King's Head" series; the London and Pretoria typographed stamps, the Union rotogravure issues and the "Officials", have been dealt with in a detailed and comprehensive manner which it is believed will go a long way to assisting both general and specialist collectors in their study of the Union's stamps. The same can be said of the opening section dealing with the Philatelic History of the Union, the Inter-provincials, the sixteen chapters on the Commemoratives, the Airmails, Booklets, Roll Stamps Postage Dues and lastly, but not least, the very interesting series of Christmas Stamps which are becoming more and more popular and have been included at the request of many enthusiast collectors.

The book is profusely and really beautifully illustrated with photographs and black and white drawings which show up the various items to the greatest advantage and there is no doubt at all but that the masterly manner in which these have been reproduced will greatly enhance the philatelic value of this new catalogue and ensure its success.

The price of 22/6 has unfortunately had to be fixed at a much higher figure than was ever contemplated when the book was first considered. But both paper and printing costs have increased considerably during the last twelve months and it was only by taking advantage of the fact that the price of paper was bound to rise before publication date, and making a very favourable purchase for the catalogue early in 1951, that enabled the Federation to publish the book at this price.

One thing is very certain, that the same high quality paper employed for the first printing is not likely to be available again at the same price for the requirements of any second edition and since the number of pages in the book has been considerably increased, and the number of copies which will be offered for sale, correspondingly reduced, every collector who is the slightest bit interested in the Union's stamps should order a copy without any delay. The De Luxe edition of 300 copies was sold out to subscribers at three guineas each, two months before publication day, and knowing the mass of information which the new catalogue contains there is every prospect of the first edition of the ordinary copies being snapped up in very much less time than it ever took to put the text together.

In other words — YOU HAVE BEEN WARNED.

Colours of the Van Riebeeck Stamps.

We are advised by the Publicity Officer of the Post Office Publicity Section in Pretoria that the colours of the forthcoming issue of the Van Riebeeck postage stamps will be as follows:

- ½d. Denomination: Two colours — Exterior: Olive Brown, Interior: Claret.
- 1d. Denomination: Monocolour — Dark Green.
- 2d. Denomination: Monocolour—Dark violet.
- 4½d. Denomination: Monocolour—Dark blue.
- 1s. Denomination: Monocolour—Sepia-brown.

New Issue of 1d. "Officials".

The "Redrawn" printing of the 1d. postage stamp — Cylinders 6925 and 36 — has been overprinted for Official use and appeared on sale at the Philatelic Agency in Pretoria during the third week of January.

The overprints are of the large stereotyped form now in general use for all Union "Officials", with OFFICIAL on the right and OFFICIAL on the left and both reading in a similar manner to the 1d. "Officials" on the printings 6A/6B, 76/14 and 70/14.

Change in Shade of the Current 1/- Postage Stamp.

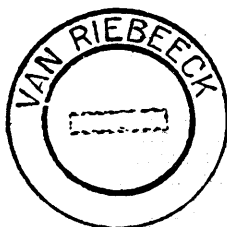
We note a distinct change to a very much lighter shade in the 1/- stamps which appeared on sale at some of the Reef post offices in January.

The cylinder numbers on the sheets are the same — 6926 and 6935 — but the darkish brown centres and blue frames present on the stamps during 1951 have given way to a pale brown tone in the centre and a pronounced chalky blue for the frames.

Van Riebeeck Celebration Cancellers.

The accompanying illustrations reproduced from prints supplied by the Publicity Officer of the Post Office Publicity Section, Pretoria, show the types of cancellers it is proposed to use during the Van Riebeeck Tercentenary Celebrations.

A special Post Office, to be known as "VAN RIEBEECK" and situated in the Exhibition Hall of the Van Riebeeck Festival Fair, Cape Town, will be open to the public on weekdays during the period Friday the 14th March, 1952 to Saturday the 5th April, 1952, and all mail matter posted there will be postmarked with a date-stamp bearing the name VAN RIEBEECK.



In addition there will be a special date-stamp with its symbolic design and fixed date "6.4.52" to commemorate the date of the actual landing of Van Riebeeck.

Ordinary mail matter to be postmarked with this date-stamp must be posted not later than 4 p.m. on the 5th April, 1952, in the special posting box which will be provided at the Van Riebeeck Post Office. Any article for registration will also be accepted over the counter at the same post office up until 4 p.m. on the same date.

Aniline Printing of the 1d. Pretoria Typographed Stamp.

Mr. A. Lichtenstein of Bloemfontein has shown us some used copies of the Pretoria 1d. typographed stamp with the frame evidently printed with an aniline ink, for the colour shows through to a marked degree on the back of the stamps.

According to the cancellations on the items this particular printing was in use during August and September 1929 at least and in places as far apart as Cape Town and Durban. The variety does not appear to have been previously recorded.

Double Print Variety on 1½d. Gold Mine Stamps of 1948.

Writing in connection with the double print variety on the frame of the 6d. King's Head Stamp, details of which were given in our March 1951 issue, Mr. J. Joseph of East London records that he has come across something very similar on a 1½d. Gold Mine Stamp purchased in 1948. The item in his possession is one of that block of four containing the variety of a dot in front of the numeral "2" of the figure of value and the doubling of the frame can be clearly seen, especially in the value tablet. The displacement is stated to be about a ¼ mm. to the right of the value and is cut into by the divisional line of the ½d.

Mr. Joseph mentions that other collectors in that area are also in possession of a similar variety.

BASUTOLAND AND SWAZILAND.

The "Stamp Magazine" reports the release of a new printing of the Postage Due stamps for these two territories. These will have to be catalogued as new varieties, because they are printed on chalky paper, which causes the shade to be very noticeably different.

Mr. G. N. Gilbert reports the opening of a new Postal Agency, which has its own canceller. This is **Mazenod Institute**, situated in the Maseru area, Basutoland.

CANADA.

Two new stamps are to be issued soon, a 4c. featuring the head of a Rocky Mountain sheep, and a 20c. emblematic of forestry products.

SHORT NOTICES.

Spain. We have to acknowledge receipt from "El Alcalde" de Poble de Segur a special, very well designed, cover issued on 13-11-51 in connection (so far as our Spanish goes) with the opening of a railway line between that town and Lerida, in the north of Spain. According to the map on the cover the line follows the valley of a river with several lakes, but with a number of tunnels en route. There is also a special postmark for the occasion.

Tanganyika. Some people in the territory apparently would like to have their own stamps. Mr. M. Habib recently wrote to the United Nations Advisory Council for Trust Territories asking why such Territories should not have their own stamps. The gist of the reply he received was as follows:

Some Trust Territories like Ruanda-Urundi and Somaliland under Italian administration have such stamps; Somaliland has even recently issued stamps bearing the United Nations and the Italian flags in commemoration of the establishment of the Territorial Council. This question of issuing stamps for Trust Territories is one that has to be decided by the respective Administering Authorities.

Robson Lowe's "Review" 1950-1951.

The usual beautifully produced summary of the organization's activities during the 1950-1951 season. The firm has specialised stamp sales and postal history auctions at headquarters in London; auctions at Bournemouth, mostly of material appealing more to the general collector; and by their American Agent C. Pelander in New York. Sales are also made by private treaty and associated enterprises are the Regent Stamp Coy., specialising in British Empire stamps; also the Associated Exchange Clubs.

Highlights of the year were parts of the Sugden, McGowan and Seymour collections of Great Britain; a number of items from these — and also from other specialised sales — are illustrated, including several very fine ones in colour.

Mention must also be made of another well-known activity of the firm, publishing, both of books and periodicals.

Some Activities in the U.S.A.

Mr. Harold D. Bearce has sent us a whole bunch of publicity releases dealing with typical groups of collectors — Youth Organizations, Korea, Biology, and Luxembourg. If specially interested in any of these lines, communicate with him at 8242 Flora, Kansas City 5, Mo., U.S.A.

EXCITING NEWS FOR SWISS COLLECTORS!

We have great pleasure in announcing that, after several years of careful collation and research we are now able to offer collectors a **comprehensive and Specialist Catalogue of Swiss Stamps** fully tabulated and illustrated, for the attractive price of 2/9 (post free 3/-). 60 pages octavo, 380 illustrations, stiff covers.

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All Swiss Wants Lists filled by return of post!

WORLD'S RAREST STAMP

At the recent International Exhibition held in Toronto — CAPEX — one of the many gems on view was the world's rarest stamp, the British Guiana 1c, black on magenta of 1856, sometimes rightly or wrongly called an error; only one copy of it is known. The main facts of its story are, briefly, that it was found in 1873 by a schoolboy, L. Vernon Vaughan of Demerara on a cover in a lot of old family letters. He soaked it off and put it in his album, but it was not there for long. He thought it was a poor-looking specimen and wanted nicer looking stamps. A clever dealer gave him 6/- for it, pointing out that he thought he was giving him too much. Passing through several hands it found its way into the great Ferrari collection about 1873 and remained there for forty-four years. When this collection was broken up in 1922 it was bought by Arthur Hind for 32,500 dollars plus 15 per cent. French Government Auction tax.

On Hind's death it passed to his widow, who sold it in 1940 to the present owner, who wishes to remain anonymous, for approximately 45,000 dollars.

COMING EVENTS

In a recent number of the "Stamp Collector's Fortnightly" new issues of Sudan were placed in the "Foreign" section. The Editor explained in the next issue that this was not a case of coming events casting their shadows before them; the trouble was due to Pixies getting into the printing works. This brand of Pixie is sometimes known as a Printer's Devil.

FRENCH SOUTHERN TERRITORIES

France's possessions in the Antarctic and sub-Antarctic (Kerguelen, Adelie Land, St. Paul and Amsterdam Is.) are to be grouped together and to have a small issue of stamps on the lines of that of the Comoro Is. The name of this new "colony" will be "Terres Australes Francaises."

JOHANNESBURG (Z.A.R.) POSTMARK

Mr. Slater-Kinghorn has found an interesting cover on which the stamp is cancelled by a double circle mark in almost solid black. But there is, in white, the wording "Johannesburg/Z.A.R." between the circles with small crosses between upper and lower lettering; also a Posthorn in the centre. There are actually two such marks and, curiously enough, there is also on the front of the cover the ordinary double-circle mark of the period, date 1 OCT 95. The heavy black marks practically certainly have come from the seal used for impressing the wax on the tie-up of mail bags.

COLLECTING THE WORLD

If you want to do this, you can now do so in a single album. America has produced the "Master Global Stamp Album" with 1250 pages, 9½ x 11½ inches and with a 4-inch looseleaf binder. There are spaces for 55,951 stamps and over 24,000 illustrations.

About 50 per cent of major varieties are provided for, but 19th century issues are pruned drastically so that most stamps which few collectors can ever hope to obtain are eliminated. The book sells for 15 dollars.

THE WORLD'S UGLIEST STAMPS.

Every year one sees reports in philatelic magazines as to what are considered the most beautiful issues of the past twelvemonth. Mr. George P. Cutress has struck out in the opposite direction, however, and in "Stamp Collecting" describes a collection of what, according to his ideas, are the world's ugliest stamps. So far he knows of no one else who has hit on this "theme".

In British Empire issues he considers that Postage Dues take first place, the locally made issue of St. Lucia in 1931 being the worst of all.

In Europe he regards the stamps issued at Chimara in Epirus by the provisional government, as the world's most hideous.

Afghanistan is guilty of producing the ugliest in Asia. There are a few falling into the ugly class in Africa and many in the Americas, although he does not grade them.

ANGLO-BOER WAR.

Last month we noted the solving by Mr. N. Snowden the letters HPY on covers posted in or traversing the Orange River Colony. In a personal note he now reports that through the help of Mr. J. A. V. Peters of Cardiff a cover has been seen with the initials N.P.R. and against them a pencil note "N. P. Richards". He further gives good reasons for believing that P.B.C. simply stands for "Passed by Censor."

In "Stamp Collecting" he goes into the vexed question as to whether any Indian F.P.O. accompanied the Indian troops who served mainly in remount depots. After much painstaking research he comes to the conclusion that there were some Indian postal officials for the benefit of their compatriots, but no actual Indian Field Post Office.

ST. KILDA MAIL

Mr. James A. R. Dryden has an interesting article in "Linn's Weekly" on mails from St. Kilda, a small island about 100 miles west of the Scottish mainland.

In its palmy days it had a population of nearly 200 persons but by 1930 they had dropped to 30 and were all evacuated.

Prior to the evacuation a steamer called there four times in the summertime and they had visits occasionally from passing trawlers.

Otherwise they were dependent on sending mail inside a hollow piece of wood and entrusting it to the waves and currents. They marked it "St. Kilda. Please Open." It said that such mail was found in about four cases out of 6, but it might take anything up to five years to arrive, either on the coast of Scotland or that of Norway.

SOUTH AFRICA IN BRITAIN

South African stamps and their study are certainly popular in Britain at the present time. There has been a South African Collector's Society going strong under the auspices of Mr. C. E. Sherwood and with over 80 members. Now a South African Study Circle is being organised by Mr. E. G. Ardouin, the Secretary of the Middlesex Federation of Philatelic Societies.

Mr. Sherwood's address is: 105 Marford Cres., Sale, Manchester; Mr. Ardouin's is 120, Beverley Drive, Queensbury, Middlesex.

J. ROBERTSON

Proprietor of

Robertson Stamp Co. (Pty.) Ltd.,

P.O. Box 5826 ————— JOHANNESBURG,

WILL BE IN CAPETOWN

From 26th March to 6th April.



Address will be

Hotel Barbizon-Plaza, Green Point.



He will be glad to meet old friends and make new ones. If possible, please write (giving telephone number) to P.O. Box 5826, Johannesburg, before 18th March, with a view to making an appointment after arrival in Capetown.

FOR THE LIBRARY:

"VARIETIES TO LOOK FOR" (Crane). Price 2/6
 "HAVE YOU NOTICED?" (Crane). Price 2/6
 "STAMP CAVALCADE" (Crane). Price 4/-
 „POSSEELVERSAMELING" (Reeks Stokperd-
 jje). Prys 5/6
 FIELD'S AIRMAIL CATALOGUE, 1932. Price 7/6
 "POSTAGE STAMPS OF THE UNITED STATES"
 by the G.P.O. Washington. A complete and
 and exhaustive record of U.S. Philately, 1847-
 1950. 200 pages, well illustrated. Price 7/6
 "AIRPOSTS OF SOUTH AFRICA" (Wyndham
 1936), the standard work on S.A. Aerophi-
 lately. Price 10/6

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A. Lichtenstein

B.P.A.

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PHILATELISTS INTERESTED

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 forthcoming International Exhibition
 in Cape Town are invited to write to

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B.P.A.

Fairways, Mona Crescent,
 Newlands, C.P.

THE FIRST NETHERLANDS POSTAGE STAMPS

(Reprinted from Bulletin 4 of ITEP, the magazine of the Utrecht International Exhibition, 28 June, 1952, in honour of the Centenary of Netherlands postage stamps.)

The man who designed and engraved the first Netherlands postage stamps was Mr. J. W. Kaiser. It may sound rather incredible, but this fact was established only in 1931. Until then Mr. Jacques Wiener, a Belgian, was thought to be the artist who dealt with our first emission, and we have to thank Mr. P. G. Korteweg and Mr. J. D. Tresling, then Director of the Netherlands Postal Museum, for clarifying this matter through their extensive research.

Kaiser's original engraving, which is an interesting piece of historical importance, is now owned by the said Museum and will be exhibited at the ITEP. Philatelists soon started collecting the first Netherlands postage stamps, at first only contenting themselves with the numerous differences of shade, but in the course of years (especially in Great Britain) paying more and more attention to plate flaws and retouches. About 1907 noted philatelists like Mr. R. W. Wilkinson, Mr. A. J. Warren (1847—1930), Mr. W. T. Wilson, and Mr. H. Wade, individually took already a great interest in "Early Holland".

Finally the "4 W's" met in Leeds. It is not known to us whether the game of golf which Warren played there with Wade for a rare Netherlands stamp of 1872 gave them the idea of co-operation or whether this idea existed already before and was only crystallized on that occasion. Anyhow the four hobbyists decided to make a combined effort to reconstruct plate III of the 5 cents stamps of 1852. They started to arrange letters and cancelled postage stamps chronologically, to collect specimens showing margins, and strips, while moreover they compared the latter with separate stamps.

Enormous quantities of material were required. Cancellations, colours, plate flaws, retouches, and types of paper were studied and compared. Thus they came to the conclusion that there must have existed 6 printing plates of the 5 cents, 10 of the 10 cents, and 1 plate of the 15 cents postage stamps. Netherlands philatelists had, however, not been idle either. In November 1910 Captain J. G. Haas published some results of his research concerning the 1852 emission in "Het Nederlandsch Tijdschrift voor Postzegelkunde" (Netherlands Philatelic Magazine). In a lecture held in London in 1914 Mr. Warren spoke with appreciation of important information which he had obtained from his Netherlands colleague pioneer.

Now it was known that each stamp must have its own characteristics, but it was necessary to buy more material for comparison. Warren himself sold other collections, which were also dear to him, in order to be able to buy more stamps of the first Netherlands emission. Thus Warren gradually composed his collection with its 17 plate reconstruction.

This collection which is the property of the Netherlands Postal Museum will be on show at the ITEP, and philatelists will no doubt be interested in the various sheets which are important documents of philatelic history.

The principal characteristics by which the stamps are to be distinguished from each other are shown by the 1852 collection arranged by the Netherlands Postal Museum itself. This collection, which beside the stamps of the various plates contains drawings showing the most characteristic retouches and plate flaws, will also be exhibited at the ITEP. Moreover there will be many proof blocks and strips, while a special attraction will be formed by the proof sheets of the three values in the chosen colours, which will enable collectors interested to study the typical composition of the sheets of our first emission most accurately.

NYASALAND.

The December number of the Journal of the Rhodesian study circle is even fuller than usual with information about stamps, cancellations, censor marks, etc., of the Rhodesias and Nyasaland.

We will only extract one item mentioned, which is a postcard with the cancellation "Port Herald B.C.A." and also "852" in barred oval. This seems to add one more to the list of this Cape type of mark used in Nyasaland.

KOREA.

Free Forces Mail.

Referring to the Union 1½d. letter card overprinted for the use of the S.A. Air Force in Korea (chronicled in our November issue, p. 186) the "Aero-Field" states "it is reported that there are two varieties of the overprint, one with three, and the other with four horizontal bars". Can any of our readers confirm this definitely? We have only seen one specimen, which had four bars.

Union Stamps Cancelled in an Australian A.P.O.

We have received two covers, each bearing a Royal Visit stamp, cancelled with the postmark "AUST ARMY P.O./214." The date is not very clear, but looks like "17 NO 51". The covers were sent by Mr. E. Jagger, addressed to himself in England. Can this be regarded as a new example of "Unions used Abroad"?

THE OLDEST PRECANCEL.

The latest number of the Collectors' Club Philatelist has an article by the N.Y. Precancel Stamp Club dealing with precancels before 1880. Actually they go back to before the issue of the regular U.S. adhesives, being known on the 1844 locals. They are then known on various stamps and envelopes of 1847 onwards. Most people think of precancels as something modern (if they think about them at all!), but the list given here shows that they are far from that.

COSTA RICA.

A commemorative set of 5 stamps was issued in November in honour of the 5th centenary of the birth of Isabella the Catholic.

JORDAN.

A new set featuring a map of Jordan has been ordered to commemorate the union of Arab Palestine with the Kingdom of Jordan.

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GREYTOWN, NATAL.

THE TWO CYLINDERS OF THE MINIATURE NATIONAL DEFENCE 1½d. STAMPS OF THE UNION OF SOUTH AFRICA

By

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

The 1½d. National Defence Postage Stamps in miniature vertical format were issued to the public some time immediately prior to the 15th August, 1942.

These postage stamps were printed at the Printing Works of the Union Government in Pretoria by the rotary photogravure or roto-gravure process on paper in the web water-marked "Springbok Head" multiple.

They were issued in sheets of 240 units each arrayed in 20 horizontal rows of 12. They were inscribed in English and in Afrikaans alternately throughout the sheet. No. 1 unit of No. 1 horizontal row was an English inscribed one.

The slogans "Buy Union Loan Certificates" and "Koop Unie-leningsertifikate" were printed in large text both on the left-hand and on the right-hand lateral margins; the slogans "Dra Nasionale Veiligheid op u Hart, Koop Unie-leningsertifikate" and "Make National Security Your Own. Buy Union Loan Certificates" were printed in small text alternately and in line vertically with each pair of stamps on the top and on the bottom margins of each sheet.

The stamps were printed in monocolour from screened Cylinder No. 7019 and also from screened Cylinder No. 43. The circumjacent marginal slogans were printed in the same colour as for the stamps, namely, red-brown. A cross-lined screen was utilised anent both the Cylinders; under a magnifier the resultant serrated-edge effect can be clearly seen on the fraction-bars of the tablets of value. The slogans were printed from a separate cross-line screened cylinder.

The following information anent the quantities of 1½d. miniatures printed and the different cylinders utilised was excerpted from the Official Intimations published in the "South African Philatelist" at various times:—

S.A.P.—August 1924.—A.

1½d.—Job No. 1614. 32,500 Sheets of 240 delivered on 7-7-42. Cylinder No. 7019, new. This order is for 200,000 sheets.

S.A.P.—November 1942.—B.

1½d.—Job No. 1614. Delivery of 223,400 sheets of 240 completed 4-8-42. Cylinder No. 7019 as before.

1½d.—Job No. 2135. On an order for 200,000 sheets there were delivered 4,500 sheets on 6-8-42. Cylinder 7019 as before.

S.A.P.—March 1943.—C.

1½d.—Job No. 2135. A total of 107,500 x 240 have been delivered on this order since 6-8-42. Cylinders used, 7019 as before and 43 new.

S.A.P.—May 1943.—D.

1½d.—Job No. 2135. A total of 159,940 sheets delivered on this order up to 26-1-43.

(Only the old original Cylinder No. 7019 mentioned in this communication.—Editor).

(1½d.—Job No. 33204. 5,000 sheets x 240 over-printed S.W.A. on a flat bed machine from a new forme).

It will be noted from the foregoing data that no mention was made of the actual quantity of 1½d. miniatures printed from Cylinder 43. It will also be noted that as and from an unspecified date no further printings were made from this Cylinder. (Vide especially intimations "C" and "D" ut supra).

The following Tables disclose the common and the distinctive characteristics anent Cylinder 7019 and Cylinder 43.—

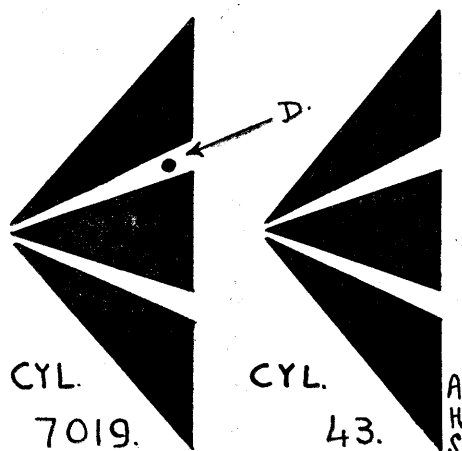
Table "A"—Diapositive Characteristics Common to Both Cylinders.

- 2/4 White dot almost on edge of design about 1¼ mm. obliquely above the terminal "a" of "Africa".
(NOTE: On 2/4 from sheets printed from Cylinder 43 there is another white dot about 2mm. above the one mentioned afore. In other words 2/4 on a sheet printed from Cylinder 7019 depicts **one** white dot which is a Diapositive flaw whilst 2/4 on a sheet printed from Cylinder 43 depicts **two** white dots one of which is a Diapositive flaw and t'other a Cylinder flaw.)
- 2/7 Brown dot 1mm. below value tablet.
- 12/4 Large brown smudge on edge of the design 2½mm. below the "1" of 1½d.
- 17/3 Two white dots ¼mm. diagonally apart immediately below the "1" and the "3" respectively, of 1½d.
(NOTE: On 17/3 from sheets printed from Cylinder 7019 an additional flaw in the shape of a brown dot is depicted between the two white dots. In other words 17/3 on a sheet printed from Cylinder 43 depicts **two** white dots both Diapositive flaws (**but without** a brown Cylinder flaw) whilst 17/3 on a sheet printed from Cylinder 7019 depicts **two** white dots both Diapositive flaws **but together with** a brown Cylinder flaw.)
- 18/1 Brown dot in vertical left-hand margin adjacent to top apex of the design.
- Table "B"—Cylinder Characteristics of Cylinder 43.**
- 1/2 Brown dot 1¼mm. obliquely downward from bottom apex of "POSSEEL" tablet.
- 1/5 Brown dot immediately below "E" of "POSTAGE".

- 1/6 GROUP OF MINUTE BROWN DOTS ON WHITE PATCH TO THE RIGHT OF AIRMAN'S HEAD. (Designated by Mr. A. Lichtenstein as a "Swarm of Bees")
- 1/7 Large white dash on edge of value tablet near "D" of 1½d.
- 1/10 White dot above the hyphen of "Suid-Africa".
- 2/5 PROMINENT LARGE WHITE DOT 7 mm. BELOW "1½." of 1½d.—left of Airman's left arm.
- 2/10 White dot between the tops of "S" and "T" of POSTAGE. MINUTE BROWN DOTS ON WHITE PATCH ABOVE AIRMAN'S HEAD.
- 4/1 Large Brown smudge near edge of design opposite left arm of Airman.
- 4/11 Minute brown dot above the second "S" of "POSSEEL."
- 5/3 Brown dot in vertical perf. gutter opposite the "i" of 1½d.
- 6/6 Brown dot in horizontal perf. gutter above "o" of "POSTAGE".
- 7/11 Large oblique white dash on left breast pocket of Airman.
- 9/4 GROUP OF MINUTE BROWN DOTS ON WHITE PATCH IMMEDIATELY OVER RIGHT SHOULDER OF AIRMAN (smaller "Swarm of Bees").
- 10/12 Brown dot on right breast pocket of Airman.
- 14/11 White dot on left breast pocket of Airman.
- 14/12 Brown dot near bottom apex of name tablet — "South Africa."
- 15/4 Minute dot on edge of design above first "E" of "POSSEEL."
- 17/8 Brown dot in vertical perf. gutter near top right corner of design.
- 18/7 Minute brown dot in horizontal perf. gutter above first "S" of "POSSEEL."
- 18/12 Light brown dot in vertical perf. gutter near edge of design about 2mm. below the value tablet.
- 19/9 Oblique light brown dash on edge of design above "T" of "POSTAGE." Brown dot in vertical perf. gutter near edge of design opposite the Airman's head — on right-hand side.
- 20/4 Brown dot on left limb of "D" of 1½d. Faint and oblique brown dash below "P" of "POSTAGE".
- 20/12 Minute light brown dot 1½mm. to the right of "POSTAGE" tablet.
- 3/11 1mm. vertical white dash 1½mm. below value tablet.
- 5/3 White dot 4½mm. below the "1½" of 1½d.
- 5/6 Minute brown dot in vertical perf. gutter opposite left arm of Airman.
- 5/9 Oblique brown hairline on edge of design almost above "E" of "POSTAGE."
- 7/7 Two minute brown dots 3mm. obliquely opposite terminal "a" of "Africa."
- 7/9 Large light brown smudge in vertical perf. gutter adjacent to "i" of 1½d.
- 8/1 White dot on edge of design 2mm. above right shoulder of Airman.
- 9/9 Light brown smudge in vertical perf. gutter opposite right arm of Airman.
- 10/1 Minute brown dot in vertical perf. gutter 2mm. obliquely above final "a" of "Afrika."
- 10/3 Brown dot in vertical perf. gutter to right of Airman's head.
- 11/12 Brown dash to the left of left shoulder of Airman.
- 13/3 Brown dash to left of Airman's face.
- 14/6 Brown dot below "S" of "POSTAGE."
- 17/1 Two white dots almost 3mm. apart opposite left shoulder of Airman.
- 17/7 Minute brown dot to right of "POSTAGE" tablet.
- 17/8 White dot to right of "POSSEEL" tablet.
- 17/10 WHITE PROJECTION TO TOP CURVE OF THE "S" OF "SUID" WHICH CAUSED IT TO RESEMBLE A "5".
- 17/2 Minute brown dot in horizontal perf. gutter below "ka" of "Afrika."
- 18/9 Brown dot in horizontal perf. gutter below "a" of "Afrika." Brown dot 2mm. below tablet horizontally opposite the Airman's mouth. Light brown smudge in vertical perf. gutter adjacent to the "i" of "1½d."
- 19/11 Brown dot in vertical perf. gutter opposite final "a" of "Africa."
- 20/1 Slight projection to "S" of "Suid" which caused it to resemble a "5".
- 20/2 White dot about 1mm. above right shoulder of Airman.

Table "C"—Cylinder Characteristics of Cylinder 7019.

- 1/3 White dot 4mm. below the "1" of 1½d. The "fr" of "Africa" joined.
- 1/5 White dot 5½mm. below the "1½" of 1½d.
- 1/7 Brown dot in vertical perf. gutter opposite terminal "a" of "Africa."
- 1/8 Minute brown dot below "L" of "POSSEEL".
- 1/9 PROMINENT LARGE WHITE DOT ABOVE THE "c" of "Africa".
- 1/12 Minute brown dot in horizontal perf. gutter near top right corner of design.
- 3/1 PROMINENT BROWN DOT ½mm. below value tablet (immediately below "D" and "STOP" of 1½d.
- 3/6 Minute brown dot in horizontal perf. gutter above "PO" of "POSSEEL."



- 20/9 White dot right of Airman's head.
White dot on left breast pocket of Airman.
Light brown smudge to right of Airman's right arm near shoulder.
- 20/11 Two white dots (faint) 1½mm. obliquely apart below value tablet.
Faint white dot on edge of design 2½mm. above "S" of "Suid."

Right Lateral Arrows.

From the Sketch herewith it will be observed that the right lateral arrow of Cylinder 7019 shows a dot (arrowed and marked "D") between its top and its central prongs. This is a constant characteristic which differentiates it from Cylinder 43.

CRAWFORD MEDAL.

Messrs. H. R. Harmer, Ltd., publishers of Mr. Alan Stevenson's "Triangular Stamps of the Cape of Good Hope", inform us that the author has been awarded the Crawford Medal by the Royal Philatelic Society, London. Our heartiest congratulations.

The publishers still have a few copies of the work available at the pre-subscription price of 63/- post free.

NETHERLANDS VAN RIEBEECK STAMPS AND COVERS.

The Trade group of Netherlands Stamp Dealers announce that they have been entrusted with first-day cover servicing for this issue.

The exact day of issue does not appear to have been definitely settled yet, but it will be some time in March-April and there will probably be 4 stamps amounting to about 65 cents.

They have sent a sample of a very nicely designed special cover featuring Van Riebeeck, his ship "Dromedaris", the town-hall of his birthplace, Culembourg, and the Voortrekker Monument, Pretoria.

Envelope with complete set of stamps will be posted "first-day" for 1 florin (about 1/10½d.) Send to the Secretary of the Group, Mr. J. H. Toorens, P.O. Box 111, The Hague.

NEW ZEALAND DISCOVERY.

Mr. E. Blum of Cape Town reports in "Stamp Collecting" the finding of a part pair of the 2½d. Mt. Cook pictorial imperf. all round. The item is cancelled with a British F.P.O. mark, so was probably used by a New Zealand soldier in the Middle East. There most probably have been at least a sheet of 60 of them — so keep your eyes open.

EXCHANGES WANTED.

Mrs. M. Bryant, of 1317 Nyssa, McAllen, Texas, U.S.A., who describes herself a new stamp collector, wishes to correspond with some collector in South Africa.

Mr. J. C. Smits, of Laakkade 80, Den Haag, Netherlands, has been trying for a long time to find a philatelist in South Africa prepared to exchange stamps with him. Any offers?

LUXEMBOURG.

"Linn's Weekly" of 26 November was a special Luxembourg number and collectors of that country will find a lot of interesting notes on the history and stamps of that country in the issue.

CORRESPONDENCE

Sir,
UNION ½D. HYPHENATED REDRAWN SERIES.

In a letter under the above heading printed in your October number Mr. G. F. Faerber asks if any Union collector can help identify the ½d. printed from cylinders 48/6933, listed in the Tabulated Summaries of the Union Pictorial Series, 1926-1950, published by the South African Collectors' Society, Great Britain. Since I was responsible for this summary I have since checked back on the various sources of information from which it was originally prepared, and also, with the aid of Mr. C. E. Sherwood, Secretary of the Society, on more recently published notes, and now reply as under.

That a printing from these Cylinders was in fact made is established from the Official Printings bulletins which are printed in the S.A. Philatelist from time to time (see that which appears in the March, 1948 number). I do now, however, believe some amendment to be necessary, and any reader possessing a copy of the Summaries please note the undermentioned:—

- (a) Cylinders 6912/7019 — amend width to 18½ mm., which thus becomes the first printing in reduced size.
- (b) Cylinders 48/6933 — should be listed under the heading "Frames Screened."

Mr. Faerber also mentions differences between the list of printings in 1947 in the Summaries already mentioned compared with those shown in the Summary of Printing Changes, 1941-49, which appeared in the S.A. Philatelist for April, 1949. It is only as a result of his letter that I have now seen a copy of this latter list and, though it contains more detailed information and fills in some spaces deliberately left blank in my list, the actual differences are mainly confined to the dates of issue. These are consistently some months later in the S.A.P. list, and, since they are vouched for as being based on actual recorded dates on which the particular issues were on sale, must be accepted as correct.

Should your correspondent have any further queries I shall be only too pleased to discuss them with him. I am not an advanced collector, and the Summaries about which he writes were originally prepared in an attempt to sift the published information on these issues, and to form a guide for my own future collecting. They were circulated in order to attract criticism and thereby arrive at a more accurate listing, and this I hope may yet be achieved.

Yours, etc.,

P. D. HAIGH.

H. A. WAGER.

It is with regret that we learn from the Pretoria Philatelic Society's monthly circular of Prof. H. A. Wager's death last August at the ripe age of 78. For many years a member of the Society, and for quite a while he had served as its Hon. Secretary. There are not many left now of the old stalwarts of the earlier days of the Society.

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MIDLAND T.P.O., GERMAN EAST AFRICA:

by

DR. K. PENNYCUICK.

This brief article summarises our present knowledge with regard to the T.P.O. service on what is now the Tanganyika Central Line. A fuller account has been given by the writer in the "West-End Philatelist" (No. 529 et seq.)

The German Administration planned a railway line from Dar-es-Salaam to Lake Tanganyika as long ago as 1894. The route to be followed was roughly the old slave and missionary route (although in earlier days this started at Bagamoyo or even Sadani).

Work was started in 1904 and the railway reached Morogoro in 1907, Tabora in 1912, and Kigoma in 1914. T.P.O.'s were introduced in November, 1912 on the stretch Dar-es-Salaam—Tabora. The service was reorganised in July, 1914, on the extension of the line to Kigoma.

It ceased in 1916 (about August) on the capture of the line by Allied Forces.

Following is a Check List of all cancellations so far recorded, with the dates of known usage. The dates of use are, except as noted, from material in the writer's possession.



The canceller is of the standard oval type, inscribed "Mittel-landbahn (Deutsch Ostafrika)" around the top and sides, with a check letter at the bottom; in the centre, in three lines, is "Bahnpost/Zug (with, usually, a number)/Date."

Train No.	Check Letters	Dates of Use.
No number	b, c	Nov. '12 — Jan. '13.
2	a, b, b*, c	Mar. '13 — June '14.
3	c*	Doubtful ? 13 1913
4	c*	N S
5	a, a*, b c*	Aug. '14 — June '16.
6	c*	N S
7	a, b, c	Feb. '13 — June '14.
8	a, a*, b, b*	Sep. '14 — Aug. '15
9		Doubtful
12	a, a*, b, b*, c*	Aug '14 — Jan. '16
13	c*	N S
14	a, b, c, c*	May '13 — June '14
15	a, a*, b, c	1913—1914
20	a, b, c, c*	Jul. '14 — Sep. '15
21	a, a*, b, b*	1915—1916
24	a, b, c	Jan. '13 — Mar. '14
31	a, b, c	? 1913—1914
34	a, b, c	May, '13 — June '14
No number	a, b, c	Jul. '14 — Jul. '16.

"N S" means "Not seen by the writer."

An asterisk after a check letter indicates small numeral or numerals of the train number. The normal numerals are of the same height (4½ mm.) as the letters of "ZUG"; the small numerals are 3¾ mm.

It is interesting to note that after the initial "No Number" period Nos. 2, 3(?), 7, 14, 15, 24, 31 and 34 were in use during the phase when the T.P.O.'s operated only as far as Tabora; when they ran as far as Kigoma a fresh set of numbers — 5, 8, 12 and 20 — came into use. Attempts at allocating numbers to trains have not so far been very successful owing to lack of covers and dated material. It is clear, however, that odd numbers were used on up-country trains and even numbers on trains to the coast. This numbering habit persists to-day.

The writer would be glad to learn of any number, letter and date which would further his efforts at allocation. Progress so far has been slight. (See his article in the "West-End Philatelist").

Various varieties have been noted in these cancellations. As might be expected misplaced stop varieties occur such as . 8 9 13 for 8. 9. 13 and .19 9.13 for 19.9.13 (Zug 7). Raised stop varieties have also been seen.

Beyond these, one 'No number' mark has been seen with the month number inserted in pencil (15.3.15). Two other strikes, 20. 15 (month omitted, presumably March) have been noted.

In the writer's experience the following Zug numbers are fairly plentiful (a relative term — all are difficult): No number, 2, 5, 7, 8, 12, 20 and 34. Of each of these the writer has ten or more dated copies. Two numbers, 14 and 24, are not too difficult; the rest are very difficult indeed.

A more detailed survey based on the Ey handbook and the writer's collection is given in the "West-End Philatelist" articles.

A. Friedmann, Die Postwertzeichen und Entwerthungen der Deutschen Postanstalten in den Schutzgebieten und im Ausland, Leipzig, 1921.

E. Ey, Handbuch, Berichte für Kolonialbriefmarken Sammler. (3) Augsburg, 1950.

K. Pennycuick, G.E.A. Midland T.P.O. West-End Philatelist, No. 529 et seq.

J. H. Harvey Pirie, Translation of "Kohl Handbuch" German East Africa, S.A. Philatelist, Nov. 1939—Dec., 1940. German East Africa, T.P.O.'s, S.A. Philatelist, Feb., 1941.

THE KILO MIXTURE MARKET

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SOCIETY NEWS

EAST LONDON PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

9 November.

A rather poorly attended meeting. Greetings were received from the Pretoria, Capetown and Cape-town Thematic Societies. The following items of interest were shown: Marion Island cover by Mr. Thornton, Wings over Id. P.O. S.A. by Mr. Joseph, Royal Tour of Canada with the Royal Train pmk. by Mr. Hellman, S.A.T.I.S.E Magazine and Souvenir Sheets, Cutting from English paper re King George V by Mr. Thornton.

Mr. Shingler reported that the C.E.P.B. congress had moved that an issue of Charity Stamps be recommended.

In the absence of the Rev. Mr. Pludderman Mr. Shingler read his paper on the S.W.A. 10/- issue showing the Wellwitsia plant. The paper was much appreciated by all. Mr. Hellman gave a talk on the American Machine cancellations as compared with S.A. and mentioned that there was a minor variety of an aeroplane appearing on our current 3d. issue.

Mr. Shingler set a 10 question quiz. Mr. Harper and Mr. Hellman tied with 4½ points each.

Mr. Paviour displayed some of his lovely Canada collection both mint and used. Also some sheets of Nova Scotia, New Brunswick, and Prince Edward Island. Mr. Sparkman thanked Mr. Paviour for his very fine display.

14 December.

Mr. Shingler presided over a very well attended meeting including plenty of the feminine sex. First on the agenda were items of Philatelic interest. Stamps on cover from the Soviet zone of Germany. Cover from Northern Rhodesia showing the new colours, U.S.A. Christmas Labels, Canada King George VI and Princess Elizabeth and the Duke of Edinburgh, Wrapper with stamp imprinted on it and a prepaid Post Card for reply from Denmark.

Mr. Durkin gave an interesting story of how he came to acquire an albino 1d. South African stamp catalogued at £10. We passed the stamp round (one albino and one normal) and also an enlarged photograph.

Mr. Urquart kindly attended the meeting in order to give all details of the issue of the Van Riebeeck stamps before they appeared in the press.

A quiz of ten questions was put by Mr. Shingler and won by Mr. Attwell with 6 points. Second place was tied by Mr. Thornton and Mr. Attwell.

Each member showed six sheets of his favourite stamps and there was a very varied and interesting display in consequence. Mr. Shingler thanked the members on behalf of the society for their contributions to the display. Cakes were provided by some of the wives of members and a jolly evening was had by all. R.A.

PHILATELIC SOCIETY OF JOHANNESBURG.

8 Jan. The Society made history and opened the New Year well, by having for the first time an exhibit by a lady member. Mrs. W. Redford shewed a collection of Barbados. In her short explanatory remarks before laying it out she explained how she had for a number of years assisted her husband in fixing up his numerous collections and she had gradually become so interested that now she had become a collector herself.

It was obvious that she had absorbed her husband's methods and teaching admirably, for no one could wish to see a finer display — not one outstandingly large, but superb in quality. Most noteworthy perhaps was the A1 condition of every stamp, they were all beautifully centered and the used specimens nicely marked, especially, those with dated cancellations. These are two qualities not easily obtainable in Barbados stamps.

23 Jan. An evening when any member was invited to bring along ten sheets of his own choice. The following took part:—

G. Economides, U.S.A.; B. Glassman, Specimens KG VI and some new issues; S. J. Haggart, Union officials; W. Lambert, Guatemala; H. Markowitz, Germany and Austria; W. Oppenheim, "The Printer Gets Busy"; J. H. Pirie, Tristan da Cunha; W. Redford, O.F.S., uncatalogued items; B. Seelig, Australia; J. Schubart, Netherlands; W. N. Sheffield, Union.

THE CAPE TOWN PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

Jan 10, 1952.

The President announced with much regret the passing away of Mr. Rivers, the Society's Honorary Treasurer, and a philatelist of long standing. He also announced the death of a lady member, Mrs. Pitt.

Mr. Hall was elected Honorary Treasurer, and Messrs. Savage and Wheeler were elected Honorary Auditors.

As Mr. Grey was unable to exhibit his collection of "Tasmania", Mr. Combrink stepped into the breach at very short notice and showed part of his collection of "English Postal Stationery". This is a branch of philately which tends to be neglected and it was of interest to learn what can be made of this section of the hobby.

A vote of thanks was proposed by Mr. Kaganson and seconded by Mr. Nathan.

The Meeting closed at 9.45 p.m. after tea had been served. A.J.N.

EAST RAND PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

Tuesday, 15th January, 1952.

Annual General Meeting for the year 1952. The new office-bearers are as follows: President: Mr. I. Slomowitz; Vice-President: Mr. H. Suklje; Federation Delegate: Mr. J. Shepherd; Delegate to Congress: Mr. H. Suklje; Secretary-Treasurer: Mr. E. N. Rigg, 103 Kensington Avenue, Benoni. Committee to consist of President, Vice-President, Secretary, Mr. J. Shepherd, Mr. S. Legator and Mr. Clement.

The evening's exhibit was supplied by Mr. Legator who tabled portion of his Israel Collection, and explained why the various stamps were used. A very interesting evening was spent. The Chairman spoke on the exhibit and thanked Mr. Legator for providing the evening's exhibit. E.N.R.

PORT ELIZABETH PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

Tuesday, 15th January.

Mr. Bulbring was in the chair.

This was the only meeting this month on account of the holidays. All interested please note the Annual General Meeting will be held on February 15th, and all members who are able are asked to attend. The Port Elizabeth society will start its 40th year. It was first started in 1912.

There was no arranged programme for the evening, but Mr. Bulbring and Mr. G. K. Forbes came forward. Mr. Forbes tabled a mixed collection. Pages of Cayman Isles, Western Samoa, St. Lucia and Cyprus, mostly mint. One page consisted of three triangular stamps of the Pigeon Post, another of Belgian Congo, with the overprint 75c inverted. One page of interest was of New South Wales, three large stamps, 1/- and 2/6 value sold for a Consumptive Home in 1897.

Mr. Bulbring displayed Belgium, one set of Air-mails, which was only on sale for two days in 1930, the flight being from Belgium to Belgian Congo.

The set of 1929-32 was of interest as the lower values were more expensive than the higher.

There was the U.P.U. set and many items of great interest to members, in fact, too numerous to mention.

After a vote of thanks, the evening closed at 10 p.m. L.E.C.

SOME RECENT AUCTION PRICES.

H. R. Harmer.

Cape Woodblock, 1d. brick-red, used, £150.
Falkland Is. S. Georgia provisional, used, £24.
Kenya 1912-20. "Specimens" 50, 100 and 500 R., £5 10s.

Natal 1902-03 'Specimens' £10 and £20, £8 10s.
New Republic. A collection of 241 stamps, £52 10s.

Robson Lowe.

Barbados 1909, 2½d. M.C.A. mint, £33.
Gold Coast 1921-25 £2, mint, £13.
Malta 1919 10/- black, mint £39.
Transvaal, 1903, £5 C.A., used, £21.
U.S.A. 1869 90c., £23.

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- (2) On date of issue Windhoek, S.W.A., overprints.
- (3) On tercentenary landing date, Van Riebeeck Post Office (special date stamp).
- (4) From Drill Hall Post Office, where International Postal Exhibition will be held. (Special date Stamp).

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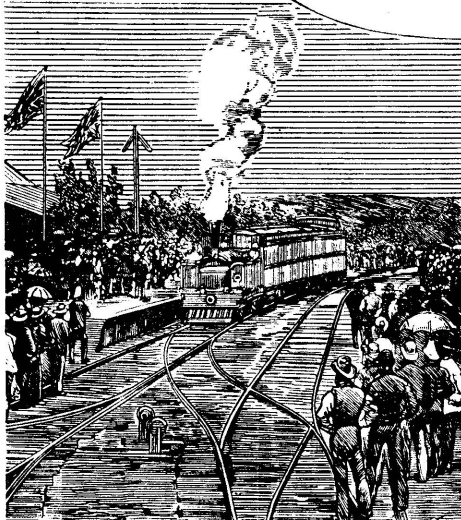
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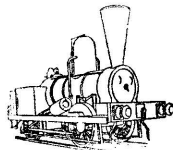
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GALA AT PIETERMARITZBURG



THE Capital City of Natal was in full fete on December 1st, 1880—and with reason. For on that day the railway link with Durban and the world beyond was forged, when Kitson Engine No. 12, driven by Harry Hayes, drew a five-carriage train into the new station. The Natal Government Railways pushed ahead. Estcourt was reached in 1885 and Ladysmith the following year. Then on to Newcastle in 1890 and Charles-town, on the Transvaal border, in 1891. When South African Railways was formed in 1910, the Natal Government handed over more than 1,000 miles of track—a valuable contribution to the Union's railway services.



LEFT: The "Natal," first locomotive to operate in South Africa—on the Point-Durban line which opened 26th June, 1860. It was landed in parts and assembled at the Durban terminus by its driver, Mr. Henry Jacobs.

One of a Series of Advertisements Sponsored by the South African Railways Administration in the Tercentenary Year, 1952

SAR. 1N

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REVIEWS

British Army Field Post Offices 1939-1950. Locations and Assignments. By Col. G. R. Crouch and Norman Hill. Published by Lava, 520 Audubon Avenue, New York 33, N.Y. Price \$2.75.

A 100-page booklet representing an enormous labour in getting together the details of where nearly a thousand Army P.O.'s operated and with which force they were serving, British or Allied. It is well illustrated with drawings of the postmarks and of other postal markings employed.

It should be emphasized that only those P.O.'s operated by the Postal Section of the Royal Engineers are dealt with. The postmarks of the R.A.F. and those of Allied Forces in Great Britain are not included.

The work carries on to the T.P.O.'s of the British Army on the Rhine.

An altogether indispensable reference book for all collectors of Army Post Office marks.

Stamp Collectors' Annual, 1952. Edited by Tom Morgan. Published by Harris Publications Ltd., 445 Strand, London, W.C.2. Price 2/6.

This year's Annual, as usual, contains an interesting medley of articles and information for collectors, although we fail to see why the Editor should start with "Pity the patient stamp collector" when he immediately points out that although the countries of the world try to drown them in a flood of postal paper, they go their own ways and keep their heads above water all right. His main grievance seems to be that even Empire collectors have to tackle as many new stamps as does the collector of Hungary or Roumania, the crowning blow of all being the announcement of stamps for Tristan da Cunha! Well, perhaps we will even survive that.

Some of the articles are The French 'Sowers'; Best designs of 1951 (The author puts the Dvorak stamp of Czechoslovakia as the 2nd best with the Berlin Freedom Bell stamp as probably No. 1); the simple joy of owning a stamp; a currency guide of the world; Art in the Stamp Album; Posts of S. Rhodesia; U.S.A. Highway P.O.'s; Directories of Philatelic Literature, Active Philatelic Societies, and Exchange Clubs.

Good for bed-time reading — it will neither keep you awake too long nor give you nightmares.

Stanley Gibbons priced Catalogue of K.G. VI Stamps, 1952 Ed. Price 4/-, postage 3d. Stanley Gibbons Ltd., 391 Strand, London, W.C.2.

This is five months more up-to-date than the publishers' recently issued complete British Empire catalogue. It is **not** a highly specialised catalogue with a multiplicity of minor shades, printings and varieties of only ephemeral interest, but a straightforward yet full guide for the ordinary collector. It has 188 pages, listing some 6,570 stamps with 1,523 full-size illustrations. Prices have been carefully revised since the 3rd edition; the demand for obsolete issues is still increasing and, naturally, the prices of such stamps are still on the up-grade.

Standard Catalogue, Part I, British Empire. Whitfield King & Co., Ipswich, 1952. Price 8/6.

A handy little book of some 280 pages about 7in. x 4in. Such compression is only possible by the illustrations, of which there are 2,104, being $\frac{1}{2}$ original size. Almost 20,000 stamps are listed altogether. This might be called a simple-life catalogue as it does not go into a multitude of varieties, but it is eminently suitable for the general collector. The prices quoted are the publishers' selling prices and they appear to be reasonable.

Zoology in Postage Stamps. By W. Dennis Way and O. D. Standen. Harvey & Blythe, 212 Shaftesbury Ave., London, W.C.2. Price 18/- net.

Various philatelic themes are now acquiring their handbooks; this one — animals on stamps — will be hard to beat. The standing of the two authors in their respective spheres of stamps and zoology vouches for its accuracy. It is very well printed and bound and there are 32 plates with illustrations of nearly 300 stamps with animals. These range from the Apes down to the corals; the descriptive material about each is admirable, both philatelically and zoologically and if animals are your choice as a philatelic theme this will be your bible for a long time.

O.F.S. ODDS AND ENDS

Mr. M. Morris of New York sends the following list of items in his collection, all with some point of interest. The numbers are those in Gibbons' Catalogue.

- 4 6d. pale rose, 1868 Double circle cancellation—Bethlehem, O.V.Staat, 1883, Sep. 9. The 3 is inverted and reversed.
- 68 1d. purple Sep. 1894 single circle Rouxville Au 7 1894. This is an early cancel as the stamp was supposed to have been issued Sept. 1894.
- 69 $\frac{1}{2}$ d. on 3d. ultra. single circle Winburg Oct. 10, 1896.
- 71 $\frac{1}{2}$ d. on 3d. ultra. single circle Trondheim, Oct. 10, 1896.
- 72 $\frac{1}{2}$ d. on 3d. ultra. single circle Bloemfontein Oct. 10, 1894.
- 75 $\frac{1}{2}$ d. on 3d. ultra. single circle Winburg Oct. 5, 1894.
- 75 $\frac{1}{2}$ d. on 3d. ultra. double circle ———— Oct. 9, 1894.

These stamps were supposed to have been issued in Nov. 1894 but the above data seems to establish clearly that they were issued in Oct. and possibly earlier.

101 3d. on 3d. ultra (first printing) numeral cancel 18.

215 1d. on 1d. purple (thick "V") numeral cancel 17.

I understand that the old numeral cancels on the V.R.I. surcharges are rather scarce, so I have included these in this list.

FRANCE.

Two "tourist" stamps appeared on 22 December. A 40 fr. one featured the Pic du Midi at Bigorre in the central Pyrenees, and a 50 fr. the Abbaye aux Hommes at Caen in Normandy.

THE SOUTH AFRICAN PHILATELIST

PROPRIETORS AND PUBLISHERS :

The Philatelic Federation of Southern Africa

Honorary Editor: Dr. J. H. HARVEY PIRIE } P.O. Box 375, Johannesburg.
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Vol. 28. No. 3.

March, 1952.

Whole No. 324.

KING GEORGE VI.

We deeply mourn the death of H.M. King George VI. As a man and as a King he had endeared himself not only to his subjects but to many others throughout the world, as few monarchs have ever done before. He was the **beau ideal** constitutional ruler in putting duty before self and he carried out the onerous tasks of his reign in a manner which made his peoples feel he was their friend and their servant as well as their ruler. Our sincerest sympathy goes out to his consort, Queen Elizabeth and to his daughter who is now Queen Elizabeth II and has to assume the heavy cares of State. Remembering how she dedicated herself in her speech on the occasion of her 21st birthday in South Africa five years ago, we have no doubt but that she will be a worthy successor to a worthy father.

As a philatelist he had a special appeal to us as the owner of the unrivalled British Empire collection started by his father King George V but kept up to date by him.

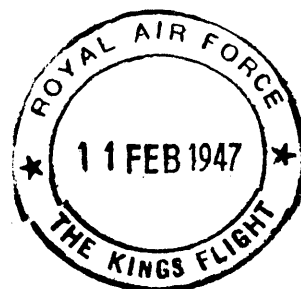
At a meeting of the Executive Committee of the Philatelic Federation of Southern Africa held on 8 Feb. a letter expressing their deep regret and sympathy was drafted for sending to H.E. the Governor-General with the request that it be forwarded to Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth.

THE KING'S FLIGHT — 1947.

A postmark in use in South Africa during the Royal Visit in 1947 was the R.A.F. one of the King's Flight. An illustration of this mark was given in our issue of June, 1947, p. 88, which has the date 27th February, 1947. The mark is a double circle one, outer circle double lined and of 42 mm. diameter. Wording between the circles, "The King's Flight" above and "Royal Air Force" below; date in one line in centre.

Mr. A. W. Cousins, who was in the King's Flight at that time has sent for inspection two covers with this mark, the dates being 6 Mar., and 7 May, 1947. He gives the interesting information that "We were allowed to send all letter mail free, provided the King's Flight mark was used, but we used stamps on larger packets and I have a few blocks cancelled with this mark."

His most interesting sending, however, is a cover with a somewhat different type of mark. It is a double circle one, outer one not double lined and only 38 mm. in diameter. The wording



in this case is "Royal Air Force" at the top and "The King's Flight" at the bottom, with 5-pointed stars between. Date, 11 Feb. 1947 in one line in the centre.

Mr. Cousins says this is the only known copy of this mark and its history is unknown. We are much indebted to him for allowing us to see and illustrate it.

THE FUN OF BEING AN EDITOR.

In a recent comment Tom Morgan remarks "It's great fun running a paper like the "Philatelic Magazine." I sit here like an Aunt Sally and in they come from all directions. A letter arrives saying what a wonderful paper it is; I throw out my chest and stride around the office ordering everybody about. Then comes another letter tearing the paper to pieces; my face goes red and I creep about afraid to talk to anybody."

He then goes on to give examples of one person damning a feature which someone else praises to the skies; then remarks "Trouble is of course, the old story of trying to please everybody — it's impossible."

We can parallel this experience here, probably most editors can do likewise.

Let me just quote extracts from two letters recently received from overseas subscribers — both of them renewing subscriptions (which was, of course, a good thing).

First, the ice:—

"I've been considering whether to renew, owing to the tendency of the journal to get too highbrow for me. I specialize in many countries, but not in the Union; still it takes a lot of different opinions to make up a philatelic world and I have no doubt those who only collect Union of South Africa appreciate the specialized articles. However, there is other interesting reading, especially on the postal history side: this is worth the subscription even if the dot and dash philately is not interesting."

Then, the cream:

"May I say that I find your publication very informative and more interesting than any other stamp magazine. Having been a subscriber for but twelve months I must have missed a lot; if volumes 25 and 26 are available I shall like to purchase them."

"THE INTERNATIONAL"

Arrangements for the above are well in hand and indications are that there will be a most successful function in Cape Town March/April.

The Exhibition will be opened at 10.30 a.m. on the 26th by His Excellency the Governor-General, who will also unveil the exhibit from the collection of His late Majesty King George VIth.

The entries which have been received from overseas include some world famous collections, and visitors to the Exhibition will have an opportunity to viewing stamps which have never before been seen in South Africa.

Mr. Jurgens has been entrusted with the task of preparing an exhibit of the Postal History of the Cape, and South African philatelists who have seen some of Mr. Jurgens' work will appreciate that they are in for a treat.

The Awards Committee have decided on the nature of the Awards, and these will be Stinkwood articles suitably inscribed and it is felt that these being appropriate to South Africa will be greatly esteemed by any overseas Exhibitor to whom they might be awarded.

Something very special has been designed for the Union and Cape Championships. These will be stinkwood caskets similar to that which was presented to Princess Margaret on her recent visit to South Africa.

The painting by Gabriel de Jongh presented by Mrs. C. E. Hunt will be awarded as the Grand Prix, not for the "Cape" Championship to which it was originally allocated.

The Exhibition Committee has been disappointed as regards overseas philatelists to serve on the Jury, but a large number of prominent South African philatelists have been enrolled and under the direction of Sir John Wilson, who is Chairman of the Jury, it is felt that this aspect of the work of the Exhibition is in very good hands.

A number of overseas dealers have taken Stalls, including Messrs. H. R. Harmer and Robson Lowe. South African dealers have also secured Stands and will be glad to meet old friends.

Visitors can be assured of a very fine show; remember the date 26 March—5 April. There will be plenty to see and do in Capetown during that period, and before it for that matter, at the Van Riebeeck Festival — all South Africa will be there celebrating the Building of a Nation and its progress in the 300 years of its existence. But this has been so much publicised in the Press that we need not go into detail of what you can see and do, beyond saying that if you see everything that will be there you will be clever indeed and probably very tired.

SATISE and SADIPU Overprinted Stamps.

Supplementary to the information given in our February issue about the sale of these stamps at the exhibition the following has been published in a Post Office Bulletin:—

The 1d. and 2d. denominations of the Van Riebeeck Tercentenary Commemorative stamps have been overprinted "SATISE" and "SADI-PU" respectively for sale at the International Stamp Exhibition Post Office, Cape Town, which will be open for the period 26th March to 5th April, 1952. These overprinted stamps will not be on sale at any other post office, but dealers and collectors who require quantities of the stamps in mint condition and who are unable to attend the Exhibition, may forward their orders to the Philatelic Agency, Publicity Section, G.P.O., Pretoria.

It is desired to emphasize that mint stamps will be available to dealers, in sheets only, at the Philatelic Agency, Pretoria, and as stocks are not very large it will not be practicable to supply quantities of selected portions of sheets to individual applicants. Persons or dealers who are not desirous of availing themselves of the offer by the Organizers of the International Stamp Exhibition to supply and service the official commemorative covers, but who require their own privately printed or plain covers to be serviced may address their requests to the Post Office Publicity Officer, c/o. **Postmaster, Cape Town.**

PHILATELIC CONGRESS.

The Philatelic Federation of Southern Africa will hold its 14th Congress during the period of the Exhibition on March 27th—28th and, if need be, 29th under the Presidency of Mr. Arthur V. Jacob. It is not expected that the business part will be unduly protracted on this occasion, the debateable parts of the Constitution being now pretty well smoothed out. It is understood that one or two interesting papers have been promised.

The host society, Cape Town Philatelic Society, had in mind a number of entertainments for delegates but in view of the multiplicity of things to be seen and done at the Festival, they appear to be unnecessary and will probably mostly, if not entirely, be cut out. z

Mr. H. R. Harmer. One distinguished visitor from overseas to the Exhibition will be Mr. H. R. Harmer. He has been in the centre of the philatelic world of London for many years and he has an unrivalled knowledge of both stamps and stamp collectors.

It is understood that while in Cape Town he will be giving a talk to philatelists — probably something in the nature of reminiscences, and they should be extremely interesting.

Even more kindly he is going to break his homeward flight at Johannesburg and give a talk there to which all philatelists on the Witwatersrand and Pretoria will be welcome. Further particulars about these two addresses by Mr. Harmer will be made through the Philatelic Societies later.

EGYPT.

All current ordinary postage and postage due stamps have been overprinted in Arabic "King of Egypt and Sudan." It is expected that the Air Mail and official stamps will be similarly overprinted in due course.

EXCHANGES WANTED.

British Empire. Mr. R. C. Mackenzie of General Delivery, Dauphin, Manitoba, Canada, would like to exchange.

U.S.A. Pictorials. Mr. E. D. Peterson of 1265 North Harvard Bldg., Los Angeles, California, U.S.A. wishes to exchange. He has sent us 50 used stamps of estimated value 1.50 dollars, which we will send to anyone undertaking to send equivalent value of used South Africans.

SHORT NOTICES.

Handbooks of German, Austrian and Air Field Posts. A series of small handbooks (in German) dealing with German and Austrian Field Posts. Published by Alfred Clement Graz/Ost, Heinrichstr. 27/1.

Junior Stamp Collectors. We have received two excellent publications from the J.S.C. Exchange Club (68 Central Road, Beaconsfield, Kimberley). (a) Their Year Book, and (b) The Jan. issue of "The Junior Collector."

There is much excellent information in these and the Club can be warmly recommended to Junior Collectors. Membership fee is only 3/6 per annum and the magazine will put them in touch with collectors all over the world.

A move is on foot in Great Britain to form a World Association of Young Stamp Collectors. Membership will be of two kinds (a) Junior Clubs as units; (b) Individual Collectors. If interested, write to Hon. Secretary, c/o "The Stamp Collectors' Fortnightly", 44 Bedford Row, London, W.C.1.

KOREA

Through the kindness of a Defence Force officer we have seen two covers from the S.A.A.F. in Korea. One, a private letter, is marked "By Air Mail—Forces Mail"; it is franked with a British 2½d. stamp which is cancelled with the same Aust. Army P.O., No. 214 mentioned in the note in our February issue.

The other is an official cover with no stamps. It has passed through an American P.O. and its mark has a quaint error. It reads "Army Air Force Portal Service", obviously a mistake for "Postal". Its number is 925.

L. A. B. SHARPE'S COLLECTION.

We see from the "London Philatelist" that the South African collection of the late Mr. Lancelot Sharpe, whose death was noted in our January issue, has been left to the Royal Philatelic Society. This is noteworthy because Mr. Sharpe was not even a member thereof. There are 48 folio volumes, very fully written up, ranging from pre-stamp days to recent times; it was valued at £2,000 for probate purpose.

Some items from it are coming to SATISE for inclusion in the Court of Honour.

JAMAICA.

There are to be special 2d. and 6d. stamps in connection with the 1st Caribbean Scout Jamboree to be held on 5-17 March.

WHEN ARE "IMPERFS. BETWEEN" NOT "IMPERF. BETWEEN"?

The Expert Committee had an interesting problem put to it recently, in the shape of a pair of stamps of Southern Rhodesia purporting to be S.G. No. 2a i.e. 1d. of 1924-1929 issue, horizontal pair, imperf. between, with the query "Are they really S.G. 2a"? Now there was no question of fact involved here, but there very definitely was, or might have been, a question of definition. The two stamps were actually imperforate between, but there were faint, although quite definite marks of the perforating pins, although the pins had not actually pierced the paper. They should have been perforated, but the process had been defective.

The Committee understands that stamps in this condition are sold by dealers as "imperf. between" and that they would be given certificates as being such by the B.P.A.

When stamps are supposed to be supplied perforated, but the process has been defective, through the pins being blunt, not enough pressure been applied, or for any other reason, it is possible to get a whole range of happenings:

- (a) No perforations and no marks of the perforating pins.
- (b) No actual perforations, but marks of the pins shewing "blind perforations."
- (c) Slight tearing of the paper but no piece anything like completely punched out.
- (d) Pieces largely cut away, but still hanging on by more or less paper, i.e. holes still not completely punched out.
- (e) Some pieces completely punched through, leaving definite holes, but not all of the line in this condition; some of it still like (d) or perhaps even (c).

The question is, at which stage does the description "Imperf. between" cease to apply? (a) can be definitely accepted as Imperf. between. (b) is commonly accepted as such; (e) would not seem to be admissible to the category; (c) and (d) present the difficulties as to classification.

It might seem reasonable to include (c), but we could imagine the uproar if (d) were included. You buy a piece in this condition as "imperf. between"; through handling or being blown on one piece becomes detached, a real hole forms and the specimen immediately falls into group (e) and can no longer be called "imperf. between."

The Expert Committee would be glad to receive from societies or individuals, forgeries or literature dealing with forgeries, to form a permanent reference collection for their use. Only material from, or dealing with, Africa south of the Equator is desired. The Committee members already have a considerable amount of material available to them, but could do with more and would like to have it as the Committee's own property.

HER MAJESTY'S COLLECTION.

Word has arrived from Sir John Wilson that he has received Her Majesty's command confirming that the exhibit from the Royal Collection is to be sent to Cape Town as arranged and that for the purpose of the Exhibition Catalogue it should be described as part of **Her Majesty's Collection.**

**THE HARRISON PHOTOGRAVURE
ENVELOPE STAMPS OF
THE UNION OF SOUTH AFRICA**

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

The embossed envelope stamps in oval format of the Union of South Africa printed by Thos. De La Rue and Company Limited, of Bunhill Row, London., and in usage during the years 1920 to 1934, were succeeded by those in vertical rectangular format printed by Harrison and Sons Limited of Hayes, Middlesex, England, by the crossline screened photogravure process on paper manufactured by John Dickinson and Company Limited, the makers of the Croxley writing paper so well-known to South Africans and so universally sloganized as "The Path of a Million Pens."

Each of the said photogravure produced envelope stamps depicted a "Van Riebeeck's Ship" leisurely riding the South Atlantic at sunset several knots from a distant Devil's Peak and the Devil's and Van Hunk's Table Mountain all on a vignette encompassed by an elliptic colourless riband bilingually inscribed in coloured text with the names "UNION OF SOUTH AFRICA" reading upward and "UNIE VAN SUID-AFRIKA" reading downward. Three coloured dots, one of larger size, were featured on the riband in a position immediately above the main mast of the ship. A circular value tablet in colour with its uncoloured figure of denomination was located immediately below the ship. The word "POSTAGE" was shown in white text on a coloured background at the top of the design whilst the word "POSSEEL" similarly was shown at the bottom thereof.



I examined a fairly large quantity of the said Harrison photogravure printed envelope stamps in used condition but in no one instance did I discover any one of the characteristics usually associated with stamps printed by the photogravure process from copper-faced cylinders or curved copper-faced plates. I thus venture to opine that these Harrison envelope stamps were printed from flat copper-faced plates.

The issue consisted of:—

- (1) 1d. denomination in shades of carmine on cream wove paper envelopes which measured (a) with rounded flaps — 120 x 94 mm. (b) with pointed flaps — 146 x 90 mm. (Years of usage 1934-1939).
- (2) 1d. denomination in shades of carmine on greyish-white paper envelopes with deep blue interiors which measured (a) with

rounded flaps — 120 x 94 mm. (b) with pointed flaps — 146 x 90 mm. (Years of usage 1939-1942).

My Union collection in addition to mint copies includes the following dated copies:—

- (A)—1d. Inland Rate. Harrison Stamps printed in cream wove paper, Singularly used — 1934, 1935, 1936, 1937, 1938, 1939.
- (B)—1d. Inland Rate. Harrison Stamps printed on greyish-white wove paper. Singularly used — 1939, 1940.
- (C)—1½d. Inland Rate. Harrison Stamps printed on greyish-white wove paper used in combination with ½d. Springbok Head adhesive and hyphenate unscreened rotogravure printed postage stamps of the Union Government Printing Works.
 - (a) 1940 — with ½d. adhesives (Interior Cylinder 25 and Exterior Cylinder 7019).
 - (b) 1941 — with ½d. adhesives (Interior Cylinder 21 and Exterior Cylinder 60). 1941—with ½d. adhesives (Interior Cylinder 60 and Exterior Cylinder 49).
 - (c) 1942—with ½d. National Defence Stamps (Cylinder 7).

Collectors' Wants & Offers

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

Collections and rarities especially Unions wanted for cash. Kindly contact—**JOHN MENDELSSOHN, P.O. Box 1607, Johannesburg.**

WANTED. Orange Free State adhesive stamped postcards, particularly V.R.I. overprints.—**Dr. K. PENNYCUICK, Langton Lodge, Godalming, Surrey.**

WANTED: Persia: wedding issue. One complete set mint or on cover. Apply to: **P. EICHLER, Okahandja, S.W.A.**

WANTED: CAPE TRIANGULARS. In good condition. Also Forgeries. Submit with prices to: **JACK SHEPHERD, Box 97, Brakpan.**

AUSTRIA: Collector wanting exchange. Postamt: 49, Fach 27, Vienna, Austria.

BRITISH AFRICANS: Continually breaking up collections of these. Your wants sent on approval.—**L. WHITE, Box 9825, Johannesburg.**

GEORGE VI CORONATION, special album, with victory, silver wedding and U.P.U., all mint and complete, £90.—**H. NOCKLER, 18 Kapteyn Street, Hillbrow, Johannesburg.**

FOR SALE: Fine O.F.S., mint unless stated. S.G. numbers, those with an asterisk in pair with normals. At third catalogue, 102 block 4 used; 193*: 194* (two); 209; 222*: 226; 234*; 241* (two); 242b*: also Z.A.R. 212a used.—**M. KARP, 46 Thomas Road, Walmer, C.P.**

WANTED: Booklets, Post Cards, Registered Envelopes and Airletter Cards, unused and used of Union only.—**Dr. MURRAY, Kullisriver.**

APPROVALS: British Colonials and World for all collectors.—**BENONI STAMP SHOP, Benoni.**

50% over Gibbons Catalogue price offered for a superb Mint and Used copy of Seychelles, S.G. 52A.—**WILLIAM REDFORD, P.O. Box 1182, Johannesburg.**

APOLOGY
SYDNEY JACOBS

apologises to all those who replied to his previous adverts., and to whom prompt answers were not sent.

We are still in the market to buy any quantity of current S.A. stamps, 3d. to 10/-, pictorial issues, more in particular the U.P.U. and Voortrekkers, S.W.A. current issues, and will want in any quantities the VAN RIEBEECK pictorials about to be issued.

Kindly contact us at Box 1819, Johannesburg, which is our temporary address. All letters must be accompanied by lists in duplicate of stamps for sale, giving quantities available. All stamps must be clean, taken off paper, and counted in 100's.

BRITISH COLONIALS

If you are a collector of these popular stamps, may we have the pleasure of adding your name to our many satisfied customers in the Union.

NEW ISSUE SERVICE

for both mint and used with regular monthly distributions (by airmail). Any or all Colonies can be taken — Postage Dues and Officials are optional. Details gladly sent upon request.

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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 11.10.1951 to the 11.1.1952. For the previous list see our December 1951 issue.

Ordinary Pictorial Stamps.

$\frac{1}{2}$ d.—Job No. 5134 contd. Commencing on the 13.11.51 a total of 105,371 sheets x 240 have been delivered to date from cylinders 31 (Int.) and 70 (Ext.)—both new.

1d.—Job No. 474 contd. On an order for 1,000,000 sheets, 407,680 x 240 have been delivered to date from the same cylinders as before, 6925 (Int.) and 36 (Ext.).

2d.—Job No. 475 contd. An additional 89,650 sheets x 240 have been delivered since the last bulletin bringing the total on this Job No. up to 568,137 sheets. Same cylinders as before — 6927 (Int.) and 50 (Ext.).

6d.—Job No. 9375. On an order for 240,000 sheets, 14,694 x 240 have been delivered to date. Same cylinders as before—6930 (Int.) and 6 (Ext.) First delivery 18.12.51.

1/—Job No. 4899. On an order for 24,000 sheets x 120 19,900 were delivered on the 23.10.51 from the same cylinders as before — 6926 (Int.) and 6935 (Ext.).

1/—Job No. 9376. On an order for 36,000 sheets, 30,310 sheets x 120 were delivered between the 11.12.51 and 13.12.51. Cylinders the same as before—6926 (Int.) and 6935 (Ext.).

Roll Stamps. No addition to previous list.

Air Letter Cards.

6d.—Job No. 3911 contd. An additional 800,400 cards from the same cylinder — No. 18 — have been delivered since the last list, bringing the total up to 1,707,600.

Pictorial Post Cards.

1d.—Job No. 3912. On an order for 2,720,000 cards, 1,140,160 have been delivered to date. Same printing on Chambon Machine. First day of delivery, 13.11.51.

Postage Due Stamps.

1d.—Job No. 7255. On an order 50,000 panes x 60 stamps, 49,500 x 60 were delivered on the 27.11.51. Cylinders same as before. Nos. 39 Interior and 33 Exterior.

6d.—Job No. 7256. On an order for 15,000 panes x 60 stamps, 19,648 x 60 were delivered on the 4.12.51. New Interior Cylinder No. 56 and old Exterior Cylinder No. 33 (This is the Hyphenated issue mentioned in our January number and illustrated herewith.

"Official" Stamps.

Job Nos. 7400 and 7401. The following quantities were supplied by the P.M.G. and overprinted OFFICIAL-OFFISIEEL from the same process blocks.

$\frac{1}{2}$ d.—500 sheets x 240 — 13.11.51: 1d.—500 sheets x 240 1.11.51.

Overprinted for Use in S.W.A.

The following quantities were supplied by

the P.M.G. and overprinted S.W.A. on a flat bed machine from old formes.

Registered Envelopes — 1,200 dozen. 8.11.51. (Job No. 32321).

Post Cards—57,600. 6.11.51. (Job No. 32320).

Flaw in Name Tablet of Current 1d. Postage Stamp.

A diagonal white line across the name tablet, between the letters "I" and "K" of AFRIKA (SUID-AFRIKA), has been recorded by Mr. A. Assimacopoulo of Johannesburg as present on the 9th stamp of row 12 in the current 1d. issue.

The flaw, which is constant, takes the form of a "crack" across the tablet and is visible without the aid of a glass.

Rotogravure 6d. Postage Due Stamps.

The accompanying illustration shows the three different types of Postage Due stamps issued in the Union since 1933.

The first, with the small "d" pence symbol, appeared in the colours of blackish green and brown-orange in 1933 and then in green and bright orange in 1938. Its place was taken by the second type with the capital "D" pence symbol, and heavier figure of value, in the colours of deep slate-green and bright orange, around about December 1949; and the third, with a similar numeral and pence symbol, but with SUID-AFRIKA in its hyphenated form, appearing in December 1951 in a slightly duller shade of orange.



The cylinder numbers for the latest issue are given in this month's Recent Printings information as 56 Interior and 33 Exterior, and it will be noted that the latter is the same as that employed for the frames of the other current hyphenated postage dues — the 1d., 2d., and 3d. values. The cylinder numbered 56, used for the numerals of the 6d. hyphenated, appears to be similar to that of the 1949 issue, the cylinder numbers of which, are unfortunately, not on record.

"By Surface from Johannesburg."

Writing in connection with the note on page 3 of our January issue — "Second Class Air Mail Matter from England" — Mr. David Allison of Mowbray, Cape, mentions that there are at least two rubber stamps in use bearing the words "By Surface From Johannesburg" in English and Afrikaans, in the manner shown in the note. He adds that one has a frame with the words in lower case letters (except the first letter of each word) and the fourth line reading "Vanaf". The other, without a frame, has all capital letters and the word "VAN" instead of "Vanaf." The practice of using such stamps goes back to at least 1949.

Mobile Post Offices.

Mr. Allison records that the latest issue of the Post Office Guide Supplement (April 1950) lists seven Mobile Post Offices numbered 1 to 7, but since its publication the following have been put into operation:—

- No. 10—CAPE TOWN.
- No. 11—BLOEMFONTEIN.
- No. 13—EAST LONDON.
- No. 14—PIETERMARITZBURG.

"White Flower" Variety on ½d. Stamp.

A cover bearing four ½d. Springbok Head stamps, which Mr. A. Lichtenstein of Bloemfontein recently received from Cape Town, shows a prominent white mark in the top left hand corner of an Afrikaans inscribed stamp which is not unlike a "white flower" in formation. Enquiries from the sender of the letter, Dr. T. B. Davie of Cape Town brought to light the fact that the flaw was constant on the 8th stamp of Row 5 in the "frame screened" issue of 1948 — Cylinder Nos. 48 Interior and 6933 Exterior — and not previously recorded.

This is the printing which immediately followed the "cross-hatched" issue and was the first of these ½d. pictorials to appear with the frames screened. It has been designated in the new Union catalogue as PLATE XVI.

Cross-lined (Mesh) Screening on New ½d. Stamps from Cylinders 31/70.

Discussing the information on the new ½d. postage stamps printed from cylinders 37/70, which we published in our January issue, Dr. T. B. Davie, Cape Town, draws attention to the omission of an important point namely that in

the case of the new stamps, both the frame and centre designs are cross-lined, or mesh screened, whereas the 11A/11B stamps were produced from irregular, or mosaic screened cylinders. He further mentions that since 7020A/7020B stamps were also printed from mesh screened cylinders, some difficulty may arise in distinguishing isolated copies of these issues which have so much in common and suggests a record of all possible points of difference between the two for future reference.

We hope to be able to publish some additional notes on the matter in an early issue.

WHAT IS A MINOR VARIETY?

This point is raised in a short editorial in "Philately from Australia." Size of the flaw has nothing to do with it; some flaws are large and hit the eye immediately, but, not being constant, have little or no philatelic significance. On the other hand, there are some plate flaws which are quite tiny, but are of the utmost importance in tracing the history of the plate in question.

That a flaw does or does not achieve catalogue rank is not always a reliable guide; nor is even the opinion of an experienced philatelist. A student of a particular group has always to guard against over-emphasizing the importance of his discoveries, whereas the expert in another field may dismiss with scant respect a variety which, though small in appearance, has considerable philatelic interest.

The real criterion of importance is whether a flaw and its development tell a philatelic story. If it does not, then it is a minor variety.

POSTAGE STAMPS FOR COLLECTORS

British Colonials

WANT LISTS EXECUTED.

I have one of the finest stocks of British Empire stamps of all periods. Want Lists will receive prompt attention and selections of fine stamps at reasonable prices gladly sent on approval. As well as the medium priced stamps I can offer a very fine selection of the rarer items including the scarce "a" numbers and blocks of four.

FOR THE SPECIALIST.

I can offer a wonderful lot of out-of-the-way items, Errors and Varieties, Proofs, Specimen Stamps, etc. Please let me know if you specialise, as I keep a Specialist's Index, and even if I am unable to offer anything at the moment, I will inform you as soon as I have anything interesting in stock.

REFERENCES WILL BE APPRECIATED FROM NEW CUSTOMERS.

WANTED FOR CASH:

COLLECTIONS (General or Specialised).
PROOFS, ESSAYS, SPECIMEN STAMPS, ETC.
SINGLE INTERESTING ITEMS.

HARRY NISSEN

65, VICTORIA ST., LONDON, S.W.1., ENGLAND.

B R A Z I L

by
E. HUNT.

(Notes accompanying a display before the
Philatelic Society of Johannesburg.)

Before I became interested in the stamps of Brazil my knowledge of this vast country was most fragmentary and nebulous, it could almost be covered by the quip in "Charley's Aunt" — "the place where the nuts come from" or bringing this cliché up-to-date "the place where the nuts used to come from" as I don't think many of us have seen a Brazil nut for years.

Well, I was started philatelically on this country's stamps a few years back through the acquisition of the collection formed by our late fellow-philatelist A. E. Basden so well-known to, and highly esteemed by many here this evening. I personally am proud to have had the privilege of his friendship for a short time before he left for another realm. Then I became aware for the first time, and much to my surprise, that Brazil actually followed Great Britain in the issue of adhesive stamps for full postal purposes. This knowledge whetted my appetite and stimulated my interest in the early issues of Brazil and has been responsible for my rather spasmodic efforts to increase our mutual friend Basden's collection and it has also caused me to delve, though only lightly, into the history and geographical features of Brazil.

At the risk of boring you I will summarise the highlights regarding Brazil which have been gleaned from various authorities:

Brazil is the second largest nation in the Western Hemisphere comprising three-sevenths of South America. It is seven times as large as the Union of South Africa.

The entire population is approximately 50,000,000 or four times that of the Union, but if we exclude their Indians and our natives they have sixteen times as many potential users of postage stamps as we can be said to have.

Brazil is a country of wealth and extreme poverty. The official language is Portuguese.

There is no colour bar, to quote from a recent issue of the Contemporary Review, "everybody does his work and lives unhampered by prejudice and hostility. The Brazilians are proud of their achievements and their commonwealth of races."

The capital, Rio de Janeiro, has a population approximating two million. Only recently in this beautiful city, the biggest Soccer ground in the world was opened.

Brazil has the largest forests in the world and the longest river, the Amazon, with a length of 3,505 miles. Incidentally it is interesting and even astonishing to note that the actual source of the Amazon River was only discovered last year by a young English farmer, Mr. Sebastian Snow, who, although only 23 has an impressive record of exploratory feats to his credit. The Amazon's source was found by Mr. Snow to be Lake Ninococha on the Mahanon Glacier plateau 15,000 feet up in the Andes mountains.

Previous to this discovery most books of reference gave the length of the Amazon as approximately 4,000 miles.

It seems superfluous to say that much of the hinterland of Brazil is still unknown, unexplored, and inhabited sparsely by ferocious Indians. Twenty-six years ago the British explorer, Col. Percy Fawcett with his 20 year-old son and a young student went into the Brazilian jungle to discover a lost city and they never returned. Just recently reports have been published in the press of the finding of a grave in the Matto Grosso (Great Forest) which, it was hoped would solve this mystery, the hope, however, was not fulfilled. You may have noticed in our papers that a Johannesburg man, Mr. Adrian Bellairs claims to be, probably, the last European to see Col. Fawcett alive before he and his companions ventured into the jungle of Matto Grosso.

In 1843, when Brazil issued its first stamps, the country was under the rule of Pedro de Alcantara, the second emperor of Brazil, known as Dom Pedro II. He reigned for practically half a century and the country enjoyed peace and prosperity. The prestige and progress of the nation during that period were due to the enlightened statesmanship of its ruler. Parliamentary life was on such a high level that the highest officials in the state generally left office poorer than when they entered it.

The unit of currency at that time was the reis; 90 reis being equal then to approximately 4d. The postage rate for letters weighing not more than 15 grammes was 60 reis by land and 120 reis by sea.

The stamps I am showing you this evening are some of the first three issues only, known as "Bulls' Eyes", "Goats' Eyes" and "Cats' Eyes", and of these the most famous are the bulls' eyes, now becoming quite rare. I don't remember ever seeing a bulls' eye offered over the past ten years in any of our Club books. The opportunity to improve my collection of these stamps in this country is practically nil.

As previously mentioned Brazil followed Great Britain in the issue of adhesive stamps for postal purposes. It is true that following Britain's lead in 1840 with the classic "Id. Black" two stamps were produced in 1842, one by the Zurich Canton and the other by the "New York City Dispatch" but both of these issues were local in use therefore the full honour of being the second country in the world to issue postage stamps without question is due to Brazil.

Postage stamps were authorised by decrees dated Nov. 29, 1842. The actual date of issue of the bulls' eyes is still in dispute, it is generally stated that the stamps were issued on July 1st, 1843 but the Brazilian Government records seem to indicate that the first authorised date of use was August 1st, 1843.

Originally it was believed that these clever engravings were produced and printed either in New York or London and it was not until comparatively recently that the philatelic world has accepted as being proved beyond any doubt that the bulls' eyes were engraved at the mint, Rio de Janeiro and printed by the Apolices

Press. Yet, right back in 1867 the eminent Belgian philatelist J. B. Moens had stated that the stamps were engraved in the mint by Carlos Custodio de Azecedo and Quintino Jose de Faria and printed at the Apolices Press by Clementino Geraldo de Gouves and Florentino Rodrigues Prado. After nearly 60 years of intensive research old Moens was proved to be right.

Bulls' eyes were practically ignored by the world's philatelists for nearly seventy years and it was really not until Capt. (later Lt.-Col.) G. S. F. Napier wrote his first articles on them in the "London Philatelist" in 1911 that serious attention was paid to these intriguing issues. As a result of this stimulated interest catalogue prices began to approach real market values.

Christian Mann of Leipzig quoted the 90 reis bulls' eye in his 1865 catalogue at 90 Neugroschen which I believe would be approximately 7/6. Stanley Gibbons' price in 1897 was 45/- and to-day for an unused copy it is from £60 to £85. Mann also mentions that there are imitations of these stamps.

The first printings of the bulls' eyes were from two composite plates consisting of 18 of each of the 30, 60 and 90 reis denominations, a total of 54 stamps to each plate, in two rows of nine each value therefore it would be possible to get vertical pairs of the 30 and 60 reis and also of the 60 and 90 reis. Actually only two or three pairs of the 30 and 60 reis in combination are known and, so far, no se-tenant pair of the 60 and 90 reis has been reported.

Three different kinds of paper were used: thick, soft white wove; white wove of medium thickness, with a slight surface; and thin, bluish-white, hard paper. The first two are generally described as yellowish paper and the other as a greyish paper.

Due to the greater demand for the two lower values further printings were made from one plate of 54 stamps of the 30 reis, one of 60 stamps of the 30 reis, and two plates of 60 stamps each of the 60 reis. No 90 reis stamps were printed except from the original composite plates. A third composite plate is mentioned in the official records as being ordered but in Napier's opinion no such composite plate was ever used, it may have been converted into a plate of 54 for the 30 reis denomination.

Many of the 60 stamp plates single demonimations have been reconstructed by specialists, and I am showing you this evening one of these re-constructed plates of the 60 reis which is from the collection of the late Col. Napier.

Curiously no one has succeeded in re-constructing the 54 stamp plate of the 30 reis — this is a problem still to be solved and some experts query whether such a plate ever existed. According to the best available information the quantities of bulls' eyes believed to have been produced were—

30 reis	.....	1,148,994
60 reis	.....	1,502,142
90 reis	.....	349,182

On March 30, 1846 the remainders, recorded as 466,711 copies, were intentionally destroyed by fire in the courtyard of the Brazilian mint. This means that the total of the three values

issued was only a little over 2½ million as compared with 68,158,080 copies printed of the penny black.

On these figures you hardly need to be a philatelic expert to understand why "bulls' eyes" are really scarce today and particularly why the 90 reis with a total issue of less than 350,000 one hundred and eight years ago should now be one of the world's philatelic rarities. So please gaze reverently at the few examples I am showing you to-night.

Another reason for the scarcity of bulls' eyes is that these stamps could be affixed to either the front or the back of the envelope and, in consequence, it was the common practice to use stamps on the back of the envelope to assist in sealing; therefore many stamps and fine pieces were destroyed when the envelope was opened.

Cancelling of the stamps was ordered at either the office of origin or office of delivery and the cancellation to be part on the stamp and part on the cover and cancellations should bear the name of locality, day, month and year.

Paulo Ayres, the Brazilian expert, had identified 133 cancellations or postmarks on these first issues up to July 1939 and according to Dr. Emerson 135 had been discovered up to April 1943. Unfortunately my collection is far too meagre for me to give you any display of these original postmarks.

The Rev. R. B. Earee in his *magnus opus*, "Album Weeds" published in 1905 describes 15 different forgeries of the bulls' eyes. In my showing here this evening are 12 forgeries not mentioned by Earee and, no doubt, there are others that have not yet come my way.

Forgeries of all the first three issues are really not difficult to distinguish as they are mostly typographed or lithographed, whereas the genuines are all engraved. I have one type only of the bulls' eye forgery that is engraved and it is easily identified, providing, of course, you have the genuine for comparison.

Bulls' eyes were supplanted by the slanting figure of "goats' eyes" issue on the 1st July 1844 less than a year after their introduction.

The high values of the goats' eyes issue, the 180, 300 and 600 reis, are all great rarities, although this issue remained for 5½ years. They are now catalogued by Gibbons at from £35 to £70 each.

As my time is now more than up, all I can do about the goats' eyes and the cats' eyes together with their forgeries is to let my exhibits speak for themselves. Thank you!

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The Union Christmas Seals

NOTES ON SECTION 33 OF THE NEW
UNION HANDBOOK.

By
DR. K. FREUND.

This article is intended to give a **comment** and some supplementary details regarding the Section 33 — Christmas Seals — of the New Handbook. An advance printing of the section appeared in the December number of this magazine.

In compiling the section, one had to consider the requirements of a Handbook, bringing all the relevant details and data without making the subject an over-specialised one. It is the first effort at a complete record, as only a few brief reports had appeared in print so far. As it is, the section turned out to be well-detailed, but here in this magazine we may give a few further comments and explanations, as far as necessary.

The compilation of all the data was rather complicated by the fact that the records at the Head Office of the "Christmas Stamp Fund" were not complete and not always reliable. Thus, the complete list of designers or of the first days of issue, for instance, had to be culled from other sources, like old newspaper files and the like. In fact, we gave some data by request to the Durban Head Office to complete its records there.

So far, when referring to a particular issue, it had been the general practice, of members of the Fund Committee and of philatelists alike, to give the rather nondescript quotation of its year of issue. In the Handbook, we have given each issue for the first time a concise **descriptive name** for quick and clear reference.

Details of the 1951 issue were not given in the advance printing in the December number but will appear in the Handbook. The 1951 issue is the first one to show in its design the **registration number of the Fund**, as is prescribed by law.

The following **review** will round off the picture of 23 years of Union Christmas Seals.

1. Why the Seals were included in a Handbook on "Postage Stamps."

The Union Christmas "**Stamps**", as they are called by the general public, have been strictly termed "**Seals**" in the Handbook, making it at once clear that they are not valid for prepayment of postage. Why then have they been included? In a Foreword to the Section, we have enumerated 4 reasons which may be briefly examined here:

(a) The usual idea of the public is that the Seals are Stamps "of the Christmas Stamp Fund", issued, controlled and sold by it, the latter with the assistance of the Post Office, in other words are of an entirely private nature. However, rather the opposite is the case, as from the day of their manufacture until their

disposal (by sale or by incineration) **they belong to, and are under constant control of, the Union Postal authorities.** In this regard they are distinctly different from their so-called "counterparts", the "Easter Stamps", which are issued yearly in aid of Crippled Children and which are entirely private emissions and therefore not listed in the New Handbook. Here are the various phases in the handling of the Christmas Seals, which are generally not known, but which are of great interest to appreciate their background and status:

After the Committee of the Christmas Stamp Fund has decided on the design, the Government Printer in Pretoria takes over, and from now on until the last phase the issue is under official control. On completion of the manufacturing process, the sheets are handed over to the Controller of Postal Stores who distributes stocks to the various Post Offices in the country. The local postmasters undertake in principle the sale of the seals, but pass part of the stocks on to local branches of the Christmas Stamp Fund which are naturally keen to assist in the selling. It is most interesting to know however that the local secretary of the Fund cannot send the money he (or she) has realized through sales, to the Durban Head Office, but **is responsible for the stocks, or the equivalent in money, to the local postmaster.** When the sales period ends, all cash and unsold seals have to be handed to the postmaster. After all "remainders" have been returned to Pretoria and all accounting work has been completed by the postal authorities, a very nominal commission is charged to the Christmas Stamp Fund by the authorities for their expenditure and all their work, which includes the printing of the seals. Deducting this small amount, the authorities then hand over the balance of the money to the Hon. Treasurer of the Fund who is usually the City Treasurer of Durban.

An important fact is also that the "remainders" of the seals are treated in the same manner as remainders of Union postage stamps, i.e. they are destroyed in the incinerator of the Printing Works. Only a limited quantity is kept **with official permission** by the Head Office of the Fund.

This detailed account shows that as far as the Seals themselves are concerned, they are an **authoritative issue, officially controlled at every phase.**

(b) and (c). The next two reasons why the Christmas Seals have found a place in the Union Handbook (see Foreword of Section 33), may be taken together. They concern briefly the fact that the Seals have been printed for the last twenty years by the same printing process as the postage stamps, frequently even on watermarked postage stamp paper. The inference from this is that they not only can be regarded as a sort of philatelic "cousins" of the postage stamps, but that they also provide **important additional material for the study** — by comparison — of the printings of **Union postage stamps** in general.

The identical printing machinery of the rotary photogravure process is employed. Sheet characteristics and sheet markings, like arrows and sheet numbers, are of the same type as they appear in the postage stamp issues. Some issues

of Union postage stamps were even printed in exactly the same sheet arrangement, the best example being the Coronation issue of 1937 which not only shows the 6 x 20 set-up of subjects of perpendicular format, but also the full vertical margins rows of stamp-sized spaces at left and at right, just as they appear in the Christmas issues.

This similarity in process and set-up gives the possibility of analogical conclusions when studying the printing of a Union postage stamp. Even the Gum of the Christmas Seals has been regarded as an important clue in trying to solve a philatelic problem (see "The South African Philatelist," 1938, p. 167 and 181).

In several instances, the Christmas seals have also served as a sort of "guinea pigs" in the **experimental try-out** of new methods of processing to be applied later in the printing of postage stamps. A good case in point is the "**scrneened**" rotogravure process which was first employed in printing the Christmas issues, several years **before** it was accepted also for printing the Union postage stamps. The introduction of so-called "**Slogan-Tablets**" with their own design of full, large stamp sizes may perhaps also be mentioned in this connection (see chapter 8). In particular we would like to mention also the new process of so-called "**superimposing**", used in the printing of the 1950 Christmas issue. This interesting method can be regarded as so successful that it will most likely be employed in the printing of future postage stamp issues. Briefly, it consists in making two "**partially superimposed**" impressions from two screened cylinders, thus creating a large variety of new colours and intermediate shades, although only two cylinders need be employed as usual.

All these points show that the Christmas Seals can be considered **useful philatelic items worthy of recognition, even if they are not postage stamps.**

(d) The fourth reason for their inclusion in the Union Handbook is the prospect that they are "**possible antecedents of a future semi-postal issue.**" Appeals are frequently made from various quarters to follow the example of other countries and make the Christmas issue available for postage too, one part of the value to cover the postage and a percentage to go to the Christmas Stamp Fund. By converting the issue to the status of proper postage stamps, an increased interest and sale of stamps is expected which would benefit the Fund to a still greater extent. The authorities who are already doing great noble work in aid of the Fund, as shown above, may one of these days lend a willing ear to these appeals, especially if it be considered that **practically all the work this would entail is being done by them anyway when handling the yearly issue of the Seals.**

2. Origin of the Designs.

When glancing through the names of the designers listed for every issue, the prevalence of **female** artists must surprise one. The surprise may be still bigger if one learns that many of these artists were of rather youthful age, in fact mere **schoolgirls** who were lucky enough to carry off the prize in the yearly competition

for Christmas stamp designs. The result is that the designs were not in every instance as satisfactory as hoped for, many lacking in originality, others in good artistic presentation. In some years, the entries were so disappointing that no prizes were awarded and designs were obtained from other sources.

Some doubt exists about the origin of the first design — "Christmas Landscape" — employed in the 1929 and 1930 issues. Some Committee members of the Fund gave the information that the design was adapted from a Danish Christmas stamp which was submitted by Mrs. M. Christiansen when introducing the Christmas stamp idea into South Africa. However, enquiries from a Danish specialist in Christmas issues brought no such Danish, or other Nordic, Christmas stamp forward with a design resembling the one of our first issue. Such a stamp, incidentally, would have represented a splendid "essay" for a collection of Union Christmas Seals. We then learned from the Secretary of the Fund that "as far as can be ascertained", the design was supplied by the printers of the 1929 issue themselves, Messrs. John Singleton-Williams Ltd., Durban, who happened to have such a picture in stock. As no other information contradicting this statement was obtainable, it has been accepted as correct and entered in the section of the New Handbook.

For the 1935 issue, no design obtained by competition was used. This was the year Mrs. Christiansen left South Africa for her homeland, and it was considered appropriate to show in the year's design the first successful results of her great work. The design presents a bird's-eye view of the Preventorium, Pietermaritzburg, reproduced from a plan in the possession of the Executive Committee of the Fund.

Miss Edith K. Burgess' "Two Angels" of the 1940 issue show a marked resemblance to the two angels which formed the centre design of the 1933 "Holy Year issue" (postage stamps) of Ireland. No plagiarism is alleged, but the appearance and position of the two angels, turned to each other in prayer, is practically the same. Even the formation of the wings, lifted high above the two figures in an ornamental semi-circular design, is surprisingly similar in both issues.

The design of the 1943 issue ("Couple gazing at Cross") was worked out in so-called "photomontage" technique, the artist making use of the cutting of a portrait photograph. Its "naive sentimentality" has made this design one of the least satisfactory ones from an artistic view-point. It came as a surprise, therefore, when the same motif of a couple gazing skywards was adopted for the Union 3d. Victory stamp of 1945. The couple of the latter issue received a more "glamourized" make-up, but both versions remind one of the "happy end" scene of a Hollywood film.

The 1948 motif of a "Girl running into outstretched arms" cannot be called very original either, in fact it had appeared in previous years on quite a number of postage stamps. Here are some stamp issues which showed the same idea: Cuba, Anti-Tuberculosis issue 1938, 1 ct.; Monaco, Anti-Tuberculosis Fund 1946; Finland, Anti-Tuberculosis issue 1947, 6 mk. and 1.50.

The designer of the 1949 Seal went "on safe ground" and re-used the motif of "dancing children" which had brought success to another competitor in 1945. While the 1945 design showed 5 children dancing, the artist of 1949 went one better and added another child into his dancing group. He was successful, not so much for this reason as for the fact that the Christmas Stamp Committee thought that owing to the lack of a better design a repetition of the charming motif of dancing children could do no harm.

In 1950, not one design entered for competition was considered suitable, and the Executive Committee made use of a photograph which had been taken earlier in the year of the Entrance to the Preventorium in Pietermaritzburg. The design shows the Matron of the Preventorium, Miss Mitchell, extending her arms to two babes crawling up the stairs.

In 1951, an ambitious effort was made to obtain, for once, a design of true artistic merit. One of South Africa's foremost artists, Miss Nerine Desmond, of the S.A. Association of Arts, Cape Town, was entrusted with the design. The famous artist succeeded admirably to express in a style of slightly modern trend the touching helplessness of a destitute little girl, standing on top of the globe. The artistic equilibrium of her original design was later somewhat spoiled by the addition, in later printings, of a large white "id." value in the design. This addition gives the impression that every available space on the seal has been covered with lettering and spoils the original simplicity of the artist's drawing. Anyhow, if one looked for a novel and original seal motif as such, the 1951 design is unfortunately also rather disappointing, as it reminds one of the numerous postage stamps of various countries which have sported figures of all types and shapes on top of our satellite. The most recent example, a 5 lek value from Albania also shows a little girl on top of the globe, though in brighter mood.

All these criticisms with regard to some of the issues are from an artistic viewpoint only and do not concern the merit of the seals otherwise. It must be admitted that a really perfect stamp design is in general not a frequent occurrence. The details concerning the designs are given to complete the picture of the background of the seals from every angle; they should certainly not deter us from realizing that the Christmas Seals are after all a **very interesting and colourful lot, presenting an important link in the story of our stamps.**

(To be continued).

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REVIEWS

How to arrange and write-up a Collection. By Stanley Phillips and C. P. Rang. 3rd Ed., published by Stanley Gibbons Ltd., 391 Strand, London, W.C.2. Price 6/6 plus postage 4d.

Two previous editions and five reprints have established the popularity and usefulness of a book of this kind, helping a collector to make the best possible display of his stamps. There is no hard and fast rule saying it must be this way or that way, numerous alternative methods are given and there are many illustrations.

There is plenty of scope for individuality being expressed in the methods chosen for following.

There is a completely new chapter on pen stencils, which can be most useful for writing-up.

A most useful book for all collectors, and if used intelligently it should materially diminish the number of fine collections one sees marred by their poor arrangement or writing-up.

The Postage Stamp of Nepal, by E. A. Smythies, L. E. Dawson and H. D. S. Haverbeck. Published by the Collectors' Club, 22 East 35th Street, New York 1, N.Y., U.S.A. Reprint from the "Collectors' Club Philatelist", no price given.

A scholarly piece of work dealing in detail with the stamps of Nepal from the first issue in 1881 to the pictorial issue of 1949. Well illustrated.

There are chapters on Forgeries and Cancellations, Postal Stationery and the British Indian P.O. in Kathmandu. Also various Appendices — Check Lists of stamps, perforation varieties, inverted clichés and P.O.'s in Nepal.

Postage Stamps. By L. N. and M. Williams. Published by Penguin Books Ltd., Harmondsworth, Middlesex. Price 2/-.

A small booklet which is a 2nd edition, the first having had the phenomenal sale of 50,000 copies. It has 15 pages of illustrations in natural colours and 17 in black and white. The text is comparatively limited in amount.

Although obviously aimed at attracting the younger generation to the ranks of Stamp Collecting, there is information which would appeal to their seniors.

SOUTHERN RHODESIA.

Mrs. M. Cawood of Salisbury writes sending the following information and queries.

Spifs.

Mr. Sydow's comments on Union "SPIFS" in your January issue prompts me to ask what is known of the SPIFS of Southern Rhodesia.

At the present moment I only know of one in use — U M for Umtali Municipality. I have however, on 1924 issue H & S — presumably Haddon & Sly (Bulawayo); and on 1931 issue L. L. — unknown. Perhaps other philatelists know of more.

Postage Due Stamps and possible changes in others.

Your November 1951 issue stated that postage due "labels" were issued on or about 1st October without notice. This is not correct. On 24th September a news item appeared in both the "Rhodesia Herald" and "Bulawayo Chronicle"

headed "Postage Due Labels", stating that they were to be issued on October 1st.

As by chance I had seen the issue two weeks before this, I immediately challenged the description "labels", in a letter to the Rhodesia Herald (29th September) and got the following official reply: "An official of the Postmaster General's office stated that before the introduction of postage due stamps, the balance payable on insufficient postage was notified to the recipient by a label stuck on the letter (this is incorrect — no label was ever applied, only a pencilled T-d. — my comment). Postage due stamps will replace this system. The postage due stamp is a bona-fide postage stamp of a special issue."

In the same letter I commented on a statement in "Stamp Collecting" (London) which said "No change in the size of the current 2d. stamp is likely to occur until the general question of a new issue of stamps, now under consideration, is decided"; and also as to the reason why a 4½d. stamp was to be included in the 1953 set, whereas there was no current demonination of this value. To this section I received the following official reply: "The Minister is considering the whole matter of a new issue but it is not known whether or not this will include a 4½d. stamp to be issued before the 1953 set. No decision has been reached, either, in the change of the size of the present 2d. stamp."

Since then (21st January) I have again received a letter from the Postmaster General saying "A final decision has not yet been reached."

In this later letter I again queried a statement in "Stamp Collecting" (London) that the postage due stamps were of a temporary nature only. He replied as follows: "There is no present intention of changing the Postage Due Labels (!). When present stocks are exhausted, the matter will receive further consideration."

He further kindly explained that the ½d. postage due served a purpose in the case of re-addressed mail.

Quantities used in 1950.

Stamp	No. Sold	Revenue
½d.	14,938,560	£31,122
1d.	16,524,480	£68,852
1½d.	760,960	£4,756
2d.	13,187,280	£109,894
3d.	654,080	£8,176
4d.	703,080	£11,718
6d.	1,357,600	£33,940
8d.	333,900	£11,130
9d.	635,960	£23,848
10d.	162,420	£6,767
1/-	1,250,220	£62,511
1/6	249,060	£18,679
2/-	385,680	£38,568
2/6	275,760	£34,470
5/-	322,720	£64,545

Although I do not see eye to eye in everything with the Postmaster General, I have pleasure in stating that he has always been most helpful in answering any queries I have raised.

3d. Imperforate.

Finally, I note in the SATISE Magazine that a sheet of the 3d. S.R. imperf. has been found. Can any of your readers confirm this? Was it sold by auction, perhaps?

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S. RHODESIA

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Vert. pair with gutter margin which is imperf.
at top and bottom, only 40 exist £6
A vert. pair right margin imperf. Only 24
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SOCIETY NEWS

ROODEPOORT STAMP CLUB.

December. We put our December meeting forward to the second week in December, but even this was too close to Christmas for some of our members and only 5 members and 1 visitor were present. Mr. Henderson took the Chair for the last time for some six months; he goes on long leave in January. In the absence of Mr. Brey Vermaak on annual leave Mr. Daniel took over the Secretary's duties. After the normal business we turned to the main business, i.e. swopping. When we closed at 9.30 everyone we hope went home with something new to add to their collections.

January.

The 4th Annual General Meeting was held in the Savoy Hotel, Roodepoort, at 8 p.m. on Thursday, 17th January, 1952.

Present: 9 members and 1 visitor. Apologies: Mrs. Liebenberg, Messrs. Henderson and Bloomfield.

Mr. Oliver acted in place of Mr. Henderson on leave.

In the Sec./Treasurer's report we came out on the right side with our Balance Sheet and our net gain in members was three senior members and one junior.

The new office-bearers for the coming year are as follows:

Chairman: Mr. Brey Vermaak.
Sec./Treasurer: Mr. James Keet.
Vice-Chairman: Mr. Bert Vroon.
Delegate to Congress: Mr. H. Henderson.
Committee to consist of the four above plus Mr. Burrell and Mr. Daniel.

The sideline exhibit it was decided should not exceed 10, and the main exhibit 60 pages.

It was agreed also that in the new year the Club should invite outside clubs and individuals to exhibit at our meetings.

The main exhibit was Mr. Daniel's Thematic collections of which the main three were Book Titles on Stamps, Roosevelt and Stamps on Stamps. Mr. Burrell when called upon to say a few words thanked the exhibitor for an unusual display and hoped that he would enlarge his collection of Book Titles on Stamps.

A final Quiz which was won by Mr. Bob Oliver. H.D.

February.

Mr. Vermaak, the Chairman, presided over a very pleasant evening. The annual Semmens Prize for the best exhibit of 1951 was won by Mr. J. Burrell for his wonderful display of Great Britain. Mr. Keet tabled the main Exhibit of Holland followed by a sideline by Mr. Laubscher presenting 10 sheets of Stamps of the Late King George VI, written up in a very appropriate manner for the sad occasion.

Mr. Vermaak thanked both Exhibitors for their fine display.

J. KEET.

PRETORIA RAILWAY PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

January.

The usual monthly meeting was held on the 9th inst., and was very well attended. We were very pleased to see two of our members in attendance again after their recent indispositions. They were Mr. Jock Howie and Mr. Henry Bond, and both of these gentlemen received a hearty welcome from the members. The exhibitor for the evening was Mr. W. Newlands, and he gave the members a very fine show indeed. Although not having prepared a paper, Mr. Newlands had all the members interested in his talk on the various postmarks and cancellations of the Orange Free State and Transvaal. These dealt with covers which included I. M. Railway; Army Post Offices, N.M.F. Provisionals, the Ladysmith Siege, Vryburg and Lydenburg. The ground covered by Mr. Newlands was entirely new to quite a few of the members, and was thoroughly appreciated. After the interval Mr. Newlands exhibited his collection of these covers, and I think one of them bearing the postmark "Pretoria Cantonment" must be unique. Mr. Peter Smits and Dr. Reiserer thanked the exhibitor for his stout effort, and I think that all the members fully endorsed their remarks.

EAST LONDON PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

January.

A small meeting owing to the weather.

Mr. Durkin gave a short address voicing his, as well as others, appreciation of Captain Kurt Carlsen's courage and resource when his ship "The Flying Enterprise" sank in the English Channel after a thirteen day battle to get his ship, crippled and listing, into port. Mr. Jensen, the Danish Consul, suitably replied.

Material of philatelic interest shown: A new postmark from Johannesburg. New Australian 'Founder of the Commonwealth' stamp. Covers for the Festival and designs of the new stamp shown in the South African Philatelist. Stamp dealers and trade details of Van Riebeck's covers from Holland as they are issuing a special stamp for the occasion of the Festival at Cape Town.

A new Czechoslovakian cover with three stamps of different designs.

A warning was given not to buy the brown obsolete G.B. fl stamp with the jagged 13½ irregular perf.

The 1d. South African stamp (the third stamp in each top row of a sheet) has a grey shade line. The South African 3d. stamp is of a different shade and is slightly smaller.

Mr. Watson read a paper on his philatelic experiences throughout the years and explained how it happened that being a stamp collector altered the whole course of his life. The President, Mr. Shingler, thanked him for his interesting talk.

Mr. Jensen said that he had been told that another Hobbies Exhibition would be held this year and that it had been suggested that monies accruing should be given to existing hobby societies.

Junior collectors were being invited to our July meeting and will be asked to bring displays for prizes.

As the International Philatelic Exhibition is being held in March in Capetown delegates were asked to attend Congress there. Mr. Shingler, Mr. Jensen and Mr. Hellman were nominated.

There was a quiz of ten questions given by Mr. Shingler (very hard!). Not many members obtained more than one mark. (Very bad!).

Mr. Jensen showed a very comprehensive collection of Denmark and was thanked by Mr. Pluderman and Mr. Paviour showed a beautiful collection of New Zealand. We are always sure of a treat when these two philatelists consent to display one of their collections. Mr. Joseph thanked Mr. Paviour. R.A.

WEST RAND STAMP CLUB.

February.

This meeting being the Annual General meeting we had rather more business to deal with than usual. The first major item to be disposed of was the election of a new chairman and, after this position had been refused by the outgoing chairman, Mr. Bill Yelland was unanimously elected.

The other officials were quickly elected and the yearly report and financial statement having been dealt with the meeting settled down to philatelic matters; after some discussion on stamp news for the month. Mr. Keet showed us his exhibit of Holland.

Mr. C. F. Louw commented on the exhibit. He pointed out that although his personal knowledge of Holland was limited. Mr. Keet had a very nice looking lot, beautifully written up and that it was a pleasure for anyone to examine such an exhibit.

There were only ten members present at the meeting and proceedings were saddened on this evening by receipt of the news of the death of the late King George VI on that day.

CAPE TOWN PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

January 24th.

Mr. Combrink exhibited a plan of the Old Drill Hall showing the arrangements of stands, etc., for the International Stamp exhibition. He stated that the demands for Commemorative Covers was very great and asked members to place their orders early. The display for the evening was provided by Mr. H. R. Savage who showed the finest collection of

"King George VI" that the Society has been privileged to see. The stamps were all most perfect used copies and the collection was almost complete in shades, printings and perforation varieties.

February 14th.

Judging took place for the Jacob Cup, when Mr. A. M. Jones exhibited his collection of "Sawarak", Mr. Douglas Roth showed "France, 1669-1862", and Mr. H. Savage showed a portion of his "King George VI" collection, these exhibits having been chosen by the Committee as the best of the year in respect of general interest, presentation, choice of specimens and writing up. By popular vote Mr. Savage was declared the winner, and Mrs. A. V. Jacob presented the Cup.

PHILATELIC SOCIETY OF JOHANNESBURG.

The Annual General Meeting of the Society was held on February 12th. Reports presented by the President, Hon. Treasurer, Hon. Secretary and the Hon. Exchange Superintendents showed that the Society had had a successful year. Elections for the Executive Committee resulted in the following members taking office: President: Mr. W. Sheffield; Vice-President, Mr. E. Schaiowitz; Hon. Secretary, Mr. J. E. Frankland; Hon. Treasurer, Mr. K. Lydall; Hon. Exchange Superintendents: Messrs. E. Joseph and L. Strong; Publicity Officer, Mr. I. Isaacs; Members of Committee, Messrs. Buchen, Economides, Froelich, Lilley and Dr. Kaplan.

On the 25th February Mr. L. Buchen showed his fine collection of German South West Africa. Mr. Buchen gave a short talk on his exhibit. The exhibit included some fine specimens of German stamps used in South West Africa. There were some fine examples of the different cancellations on the South West stamps, and the exhibit illustrated the postal history of this Territory. The exhibit included some fine covers in the Territory, including the various rebellion field posts. There was the card carried on the rare flight from Karibib to Windhoek in 1914, in connection with the Windhoek exhibition. There was a fine selection of mint and used stamps and booklet panes. The exhibit contained cards, etc. used during the first World War by Union forces and covers with Union stamps used in the Territory. Dr. Von Varendorff spoke on the exhibit.

PRETORIA PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

The Society held its Annual General Meeting on the 4th February, 1952, reports from the various office-bearers and the usual formalities occupying most of the evening.

Mr. F. C. Ferguson was re-elected as President — unanimously and with acclamation. Mr. G. P. Gain (Vice-President), Mr. H. Endemann (Secretary), Mr. Gouws (Treasurer), Mr. W. Impey (Exchange Superintendent), Dr. H. Reisener (Curator and Auctioneer), Mr. D. Slater-Kinghorn (Librarian), were some of the elections for office in 1952. It was generally agreed that the year 1951 had been one of gratifying progress in several directions.

The second meeting in February took place on the 18th. The main feature was an excellent paper contributed by Mr. W. H. Bottomley, entitled "The Cliffs of Dover". It was built up round the fact that one of the first Great Britain pictorial stamps (5/-, 1951) depicted these cliffs, and Mr. Bottomley gave many of the good reasons why the choice of this view was particularly apt. Much of Britain's history flowed from events centered by these cliffs, their strategic position and their famous fortification—Dover Castle. Mr. Bottomley's historical references began with the fact that when Julius Caesar attempted to land at Dover in B.C. 55 he found it too well defended to succeed at that spot; there followed data on the Castle, which played its defensive part down the ages, even to World War II. Early local postal arrangements dating from 1667, the first steam packet used in the Dover Passage to the Continent from 1820; the famous personalities who have served as Lord Wardens of the Castle, and many other interesting facts were recalled in the paper.

It was an excellent survey of a fascinating subject and Mr. Bottomley was thanked for the considerable research work he had undertaken to prepare it. His fine display of modern stamps of France which followed the paper was also enjoyed — it provided a good lesson on stamp design, colour and production, and on good writing up of a collection. B.V.V.

PORT ELIZABETH PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

The first meeting of the month was held on Feb. 5th; our old friend Mr. C. W. Sheffield was responsible and tabled his collection of Eire. This was of great interest to the members. The second meeting was the 40th Annual General Meeting, held on Feb. 17 and there was a large attendance. The P.E. Society was founded in April 1912, and Mr. G. K. Forbes was the only foundation member present. He gave a small talk, and recalled items of interest that had occurred during the years. It is a rule of the Society that a President can only serve for two consecutive years, so Mr. G. Bulbring was unable to be re-elected. We thank Mr. Bulbring for his unflinching interest and hard work which he had done to promote the Society and perhaps in the future he will again be able to serve as President. The result of the voting was:

President: Mr. G. K. Forbes; Vice-Presidents, Mr. G. Bulbring, Dr. Harris; Hon. Secretary, Mr. A. P. Favitt; Treasurer, Mr. H. Youngelson, Auctioneer, Mr. D. Watson; Auditor, Mr. Van Duyker; Librarian, Mr. Winsley.

Mr. Forbes has been chosen to act as judge at the Festival and we wish him a pleasant trip. The meeting closed at 10.15 p.m. L.E.C.

ORANGE FREE STATE AND BASUTOLAND PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

At the November meeting, Mr. C. E. Kachelhoffer provided the display of the evening. The pages he tabled were from the "Postage Dues" section of his fine collection of Union Stamps. A number of interesting varieties and plate flaws were shown some of them not yet recorded. An auction sale of stamp lots and Mr. A. G. Denne's feature "New Issues of the Month" rounded off an interesting evening.

In December, the society was in recess. In January, the Annual General Meeting was held, and the following committee was elected for this year: President, Mr. C. A. Larsen; Vice-President, Dr. K. Freund; Hon. Secretary-Treasurer, Mr. A. H. Scott; Exchange Superintendent, Mr. A. G. Denne; Committee members, Mr. C. E. Kachelhoffer, Mr. R. G. Lyon, Mr. J. Lewis, Miss B. Haddad; Press Correspondent, Dr. Freund; Hon. Auditor, Mr. Lyon. K.F.

AUSTRALIA.

The latest stamp of the series with the new portrait of H.M. the King, issued on 30 Nov., is the 3½d. It is recorded in recent numbers of "Stamp Collecting" that several sheets of the just obsolete 3½d. have been found on very thin paper which can almost be described as pelure. The 2/- Aboriginal Art has also been found on similar paper.

Messrs. Whitfield King & Co. report that the issue of the 4½d. and 6½d. stamps due last November, was postponed till 20th February. Both stamps identical in design to the recently issued 3½d.

SOME RECENT AUCTION PRICES.

Robson Lowe.

Greece 1l. 1861 Paris print, block of 4 m. £150.
40l. 1861 Paris print, block of 4, mint, £70.
80l. 1861 Paris print, block of 4, mint, £60.
1d. 1927-35 centre inverted, £65.
Nigeria 1914-26 10/- olive back, mint, £12.
Bermuda, Boer P.O.W. cover £7 10s.

H. R. Harmer.

Barbados 1d. S.G. 249, block of 4 mint £33.
Natal, 1857 6d. green, £18.
Dutch Indies, 1928 Airs, set of 4 imperf. £145.
Nyasaland, 1891-95, 2d. bisected on part cover, £7 10s. od.
St. Helena 1922-27, 15/- mint, £20.
Kenya "Specimen", 500 r. 1912-22, £9.
Kenya "Specimen", 1922 1 c. to £50, £13.
G.B. Cover with local Bury St. Edmunds Postage Due Handstamp, £55.

UNION PENNY WITH CENTRE MISSING

I have been requested by The East London Philatelic Society to bring to your notice that a rare Union penny stamp has been found without the ship in the central oval. This is certainly not the first copy to come to light by any means as it is quoted in the Union Specialised catalogue at £10, but it is rare enough to cause a stir when it is seen.

Mr. Durkin of our Society was lucky enough to rout this copy out while at Idutya and kind enough to have an enlarged photograph made of it to show us. He also produced the original which he managed to obtain from a child's album, very much the worse for wear as will be seen in the photograph. A corner is off and some of the perforations missing. The story runs as



follows: In 1943 the Postmaster at Idutya sold to a customer a whole sheet of penny stamps. This customer, who was secretary to a businessman, took the sheet back to her employer preparatory to using them for receipts. On finding one row in the centre of the sheet completely devoid of ships she said to her employer "Look at this, isn't it funny?" The employer looked, then replied "Well, these are no good, better throw them into the waste paper basket." Believe it or not, this was duly done, with the exception of one pair of stamps (as per photograph). This pair was put into his pocket book

and produced as a curiosity many times (to philatelically ignorant people of course!) and eventually found its way into his daughter's stamp album.

Collectors will hardly believe that such sacrilege could be committed, but with a heavy heart, we are forced to forgive the unwitting ignorance of the layman!

It is interesting to note that in the specimen depicted there is a half moon of white in the stamp below, showing that in the printing one row was completely missed and the next row slightly out of true although the actual ship does not seem to be any lower than is normal. Probably an expert on printing can give us the solution.

R. ALABASTER.

(The following explanation of how such a printing occurs is given by Mr. W. N. Sheffield.—Ed.).

This variety can occur over a few rows of a sheet of stamps when the printing machine is suddenly stopped by switching off the electric motor and then starting it again a minute or two later.

During the short period the machine is standing, the ink lying in the etched design on that portion of the copper cylinder between the "Doctor Blade" and the line of contact with the roll of paper, may dry out and consequently when started up again, the first few inches travel of the cylinder surface makes no printed impression on the paper. Sheets with defects of this nature very seldom escape the scrutiny of the checking staff in the Government Printing Works and in all but the rarest instances such sheets are officially destroyed as waste paper.

A sketch showing how the "Doctor Blade" functions in its action of scraping the copper cylinder during the process of printing the stamps appeared in the October 1949 issue of the "South African Philatelist."

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NETHERLANDS.

We understand the set of 4 stamps to be issued in connection with the Van Riebeeck Tercentenary will all bear the portrait of Van Riebeeck and that they will be semi-postals, the premium to go as a contribution towards the erection of a Van Riebeeck monument in Cape Town.

In our last issue there were particulars given about special commemorative envelopes and servicing thereof.

THE SOUTH AFRICAN PHILATELIST

PROPRIETORS AND PUBLISHERS :

The Philatelic Federation of Southern Africa

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APRIL, 1952.

Whole No. 325.

SOUTH AFRICAN TRICENTENARY STAMP EXHIBITION AWARDS

The Minister of Posts and Telegraphs, Mr. J. F. T. Naude, was guest of honour at a banquet in Muizenberg on Saturday, 29th March, at which the awards in the South African Tercentenary International Stamp Exhibition were announced.

The judging was on each exhibitor's entire collection, and not on the small number on show.

The Grand Trophy and Championship for the triangular issues of the Cape of Good Hope (1853-63) was awarded to Capt. C. Emerson Huston of the United Kingdom.

Other awards included:

Championship for the Union of South Africa (specialized), S. Legator, Royal Philatelic Society's medal (for first issue of Holland), D. J. Klink. Special prize for the world collection, E. Hunt.

Gold awards of honour were: T. E. Hall (Capes), A. V. Jacobs (Rhodesia); H. V. Farmer (Seychelles); D. J. Klink (first issue of Holland); H. C. Baldus (Prussia); L. E. Dawson (India); Col. A. E. Stewart (India); H. W. Hurlock (Barbados and Trinidad); J. H. Sinton (St. Vincent).

Gold medals were awarded to: E. Hunt (Transvaal); J. H. Sinton (Rhodesia); W. Newlands (Free State); R. Leslie (Sierra Leone); G. L. Pilkington (Niger Coast); C. G. Mummery (Falkland Islands and dependencies); C. Hornal (Aden); P. A. Wilde (Kong Kong); J. Shepherd (Capes).

In the junior section a special silver award was made to Miss Delphine Newlands (Holland and Belgium).

In addition, 18 silver gilt awards, 25 silver awards and 25 bronze awards were made.

These will be given in our next issue.

NORTHERN RHODESIA.

There have been new printings of various denominations but no differences in shade of any importance.

The postage dues, however (both the 1d. and the 3d.) are on chalky paper and will have to be catalogued as their appearance is quite different.

H.M. THE QUEEN.

The following letter, dated 28th Feb., 1952, has been received from Buckingham Palace by the President of the Philatelic Federation of Southern Africa. It is in reply to the message sent at the time of the Executive Committee's meeting on 8th February.

"Dear Sir,

I am commanded by The Queen to express to you and to all those on whose behalf you wrote her sincere thanks for your kind message of sympathy in her great loss.

Her Majesty greatly appreciates their thought of her and her family at this time.

Yours truly,

"THE JUNIOR COLLECTOR"

"The Junior Stamp Collectors' Exchange Club" is a South African organisation with members in 12 countries, catering exclusively for the interests of Junior Philatelists (under the age of 21) in its official publication, "The Junior Collector".

"The Junior Collector", published quarterly, contains articles intended to be of use to members in the formation of their collections, and also other articles of general philatelic interest. A supplement to the Magazine, besides "The Year Book", contains the names, addresses and interests of all members, and thus Junior Philatelists with the same interests, can correspond with one another, and exchange stamps, and so promote the aims of the Club.

A Philatelic Library, providing another benefit of membership, has been started and plans for its operation are at present being drafted.

Membership is only 3/6, or its equivalent in other currencies per annum. Competitions organised and published in the magazine, can earn for you free extension of membership.

Details of membership will be sent free of charge to any interested philatelists, while specimen copies of the magazine can be obtained at 4d. each, post free.

Details of advertising in "The Junior Collector" are also available, for any interested stamp-dealers.

Write for details to: The Hon. Secretary-Treasurer, The Junior Collectors' Exchange Club, 68 Central Road, Kimberley, C.P.

NEW AIR SERVICES.

B.O.A.C. announce the start early in May of the first commercial jet service over an inter-continental route, viz., a "Comet" jet-liner service from London to Johannesburg via Rome, Cairo, Entebbe and Livingstone. They are advertising the servicing of commemorative covers from any one point to any other on both south-bound and northbound initial flights. These will cost 5/- each, covering addressing, stamping, posting, collecting and returning to sender. Flight time will be about 19 hours.

The direct Sydney N.S.W. and Johannesburg service is announced on starting in the first week of July. This comes via Cocos Islands and Mauritius, the distance on that lap, 2,650 miles, being the longest scheduled route in the world. Travelling time between Sydney and Johannesburg, at present about seven days, will be cut to three.

CAPE TRIANGULARS — "REMAINDERS"

Mr. E. W. Mann, in the September "London Philatelist" suggested that all available information should be assembled and studied in order to see how many 'remainders' there had been.

In our January issue Mr. A. A. Jurgens gave as his opinion, and adduced strong evidence, to prove that there never were any remainders.

Mr. D. A. Stevenson takes up the matter in the February number of the "London Philatelist." His conclusion is practically the same as Mr. Jurgens'; at any rate he says that none of the people who have come across complete sheets have proved their case that these were remainders and it is up to them to do so before we begin to worry as to how many of them there were.

UNIONS USED IN G.E.A. WORLD WAR I.

I had occasion recently to comment on the extreme rarity of covers from members of the South African forces operating in German East Africa during World War I although thousands of such covers must have been sent back to the Union. I had in fact never seen a single one.

Mr. L. E. Orkin of Pretoria has now remedied this situation partly by routing out one Active Service cover from there, which has an Indian Army F.P.O. mark No. 338 with date 18 Feb., 17. It also has a British Censor's stamp.

I call the situation partly remedied only because this cover has no stamps on it. It is very unlikely that many covers with Union stamps will ever be found, even if such exist. Postage was, of course, free to serving soldiers and if stamps had to be used, say on registered letters or parcels, it would only be by the merest chance that they could have been Union stamps.

There were Union Postal Officials sent up with the Union forces, but they were attached to the Indian Army Postal Department and had no Union cancellers nor apparently, any stock of Union stamps.

Mr. E. C. Wright, of Pretoria, takes the matter another step forward, however, by reporting an Indian Field Service Postcard, sent without postage stamps, but bearing an oval mark from a rubber stamp reading "South African Base Post Office" with the date in the centre, 9 Aug. 1916. At the foot of the mark is, in manuscript, "Ki-

J. H. HARVEY PIRIE.

ISRAEL.

The Postal Department announces the appearance of a 1,000 pruta denominated stamp in February. It depicts the emblems of the twelve tribes with the candelabrum of the Second Temple in the centre.

Owing to changes in the postal rates there are also to be new values issued gradually during February and March — 20, 35, 40, 45, 60 and 85 pruta of the coinage design also 15 and 40 postage dues.

POLAND.

The Polish Company for Foreign Trade, Varimex, reports the following issues as appearing in the first quarter of 1952:

1. Three stamps with portraits of working class leaders on the tenth anniversary of the Workers' Party.
2. Two honouring the International Women's Day.
3. Two featuring Gen. Swierczewski, for the 5th anniversary of his death.
4. A set of 4 airmail stamps.

BRITAIN'S RAREST STAMP.

The rarest normal stamp of Great Britain — the 1902 King Edward VII 6d. overprint "I.R. Official" — has been acquired by Robson Lowe Ltd., of 50 Pall Mall, and is being offered for sale in London on 26 March.

Other than a mint pair and a single as well as a used single in the Royal Collection, no genuine mint copies are known to exist in private hands. This copy, which is a brilliant mint example, was probably a presentation copy for a block of four which was presented by King Edward VII, is in the Dublin Museum. The stamp was found in a fabulous collection formed by a Spaniard and which was purchased by a Swiss soon after the end of the war.



The new owner cast the stamp aside, believing it to be a forgery, but a Canadian philatelist, Robert Lyman of Toronto, who was visiting Switzerland, suggested that it was worth sending the stamp to the Expert Committee of the Royal Philatelic Society. The latter issued a certificate of genuineness and Mr. Lyman quickly disposed of this rarity to a London philatelist, who in turn passed it over to Messrs. Robson Lowe for inclusion in their March 26th sale.

APOLOGY
SYDNEY JACOBS

apologises to all those who replied to his previous adverts., and to whom prompt answers were not sent.

We are still in the market to buy any quantity of current S.A. stamps, 3d. to 10/- pictorial issues, more in particular the U.P.U. and Voortrekkers, S.W.A. current issues, and will want in any quantities the VAN RIEBEECK pictorials recently issued.

Kindly contact us at Box 1819, Johannesburg, which is our temporary address. All letters must be accompanied by lists in duplicate of stamps for sale, giving quantities available. All stamps must be clean, taken off paper, and counted in 100's.

BRITISH COLONIALS

If you are a collector of these popular stamps, may we have the pleasure of adding your name to our many satisfied customers in the Union.

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Union Notes

Sub-Editor: Mr. W. N. SHEFFIELD,
Box 99, Cleveland, Transvaal.

Van Riebeeck Tercentenary Commemorative Stamps.

The special series of postage stamps, which we illustrated in our December number, and which the Postal Authorities announced would be issued on the 14th March 1952 to commemorate the Tercentenary of the landing of Jan van Riebeeck at the Cape, duly appeared on sale, at all post offices in the Union, on that date.

The new series, which is the seventeenth of the commemoratives to be issued by the Department of Posts and Telegraphs since the Union came into being on the 31st May 1910, is a most attractive and colourful set of five stamps in the denominations of $\frac{1}{2}$ d., 1d., 2d., $4\frac{1}{2}$ d. and 1/-; and because it marks a memorable occasion in the history of the country, will undoubtedly prove of the greatest importance to all South Africans and in addition have a distinct appeal to stamp collectors throughout the world.

The well balanced designs, colours and excellent finish of the stamps have set a new high standard in Rotogravure production at the Government Printing Works in Pretoria and the Government Printer and his staff can be congratulated on a very fine piece of work.

The 1d. and $4\frac{1}{2}$ d. designs have an upright setting measuring $21 \times 37\frac{1}{2}$ mm. and the other three values, a horizontal setting of $37\frac{1}{2} \times 21$ mm. All five denominations have been produced with bilingual inscriptions and in sheets of 120 stamps divided into two panes of 60 stamps each by a centre gutter one stamp wide, which incidentally serves as a guide for breaking a sheet into two separate panes. There are, therefore, no arrows printed on the two margins at the ends of the gutter, but they are present in their usual position at the centres of the other two margins on each sheet.

The perforating has been carried out by what might be termed a "closed comb" or "grid" type of apparatus which appears to perforate a complete pane of 60 stamps in one beat and is so adjusted in its action as to leave the margins and centre gutter imperforated. Therefore, those perforated pieces of blank marginal paper, the size of stamps, which one normally finds on the sheets of the ordinary pictorial issues, are not present on the sheets of the Van Riebeeck series.

Mesh screened cylinders were used throughout and their numbers have been printed twice on each sheet in a position adjacent to each pane. They are in the same colour (or colours, in the case of the $\frac{1}{2}$ d.) as the stamps and are located on the right hand margin of the $\frac{1}{2}$ d., 2d. and 1/- values (20 rows x 6), and on the bottom margin of the 1d. and $4\frac{1}{2}$ d. denominations which have a setting of 6 rows x 20. The four-figure red serial numbers appear twice on the same margins as the cylinder numbers.

The watermark is the usual multiple Springbok's Head lying in an upright position on the

$\frac{1}{2}$ d., 2d. and 1/- stamps and facing left on the 1d. and 40d. values.

The most notable printing flaw is probably that which appears on the $\frac{1}{2}$ d. stamps and is a mark which one collector considers has a strong resemblance to a "cloven hoof". Whether or not any such devilish agency, indicated by this particular type of foot-print, was busy during the printing process we really have no idea, but whatever the cause those interested will find it in the left hand vertical column of the sheet and plainly visible in the gutters between the top fifteen stamps. It is most prominent in the centre gutter between the two panes.

A few small flaws exist on all the values and a list of those contributed by Mr. J. B. Levy of Bloemfontein and Mr. R. B. Cronwright of Germiston are tabulated after the following Summary.

$\frac{1}{2}$ d.—Postage and Revenue. Horizontal format—
 $37\frac{1}{2} \times 21$ mm.

Design. Official Seal as used by Van Riebeeck at the Cape and (b) V.O.C. Monogram of the Dutch East India Company.

Colours.—Claret and olive-brown. Perforated 15×14 .

Printed in sheets of 120 stamps (20 rows x 6) in two panes of 60 stamps each. Imperforate gutter between 10th and 11th rows. Mesh-screened cylinders—Nos. 7018 (Int.) and 6923 (Ext.) located opposite Rows 8 and 9 (top pane) and Rows 18 and 19 of the bottom pane on right margin.

Four-figure red serial numbers printed twice on right margin.

1d.—Postage and Revenue. Upright format —
 $21 \times 37\frac{1}{2}$ mm.

Design. — Maria de la Quellerie, first wife of Jan van Riebeeck.

Monocolour — Dark green. Perforated 14×15 .

Printed in sheets of 120 stamps (6 rows x 20) in two panes of 60 stamps each. Imperforate gutter between the stamps in the vertical columns 10 and 11.

Mesh-screened cylinder — No. 30 located on bottom margin under 2nd and 12th stamps. Four-figure red serial numbers printed twice on same margin.

2d.—Postage only. Horizontal format — $37\frac{1}{2} \times 21$ mm.

Design — Historical depiction of the arrival of Van Riebeeck's ships at the Cape with Table Mountain in the background.

Monocolour — Dark violet. Perforated 15×14 .

Printed in sheets of 120 stamps (20 rows x 6) in two panes of 60 stamps each. Imperforate gutter between 10th and 11th rows.

Mesh-screened cylinder—No. 36 located on right hand margin opposite rows 9 and 19. Four-figure red serial numbers printed twice on same margin.

$4\frac{1}{2}$ d.—Postage only. Upright format — $21 \times 37\frac{1}{2}$ mm.

Design—Jan van Riebeeck. Drawing based on the portrait by Dirck Craey which is at present held in the Ryksmuseum, Amsterdam.

Monocolour—Dark blue. Perforated 14×15 . Printed in sheets of 120 stamps (6 rows x 20) in two panes of 60 stamps each. Imperfo-

rate gutter between the 10th and 11th vertical columns.

Mesh-screened cylinder — No. 44 located on bottom margin under the 2nd and also the 12th stamp. Four-figure red serial numbers printed twice on same margin.

1/- — Postage only. Horizontal format — 37½ x 21 mm.

Design—The landing of Van Riebeeck at the Cape. Based on the painting by Charles Bell and reproduced by permission of the Board of Trustees, South African Public Library, Cape Town.

Monocolour — Sepia-Brown. Perforated 15 x 14.

Printed in sheets of 10 stamps (20 rows x 6) in two panes of 60 stamps each. Imperforate gutter between 10th and 11th rows.

Mesh-screened cylinder — No. 27 located on right hand margin opposite row 9 and also row 19. Four-figure red serial numbers printed twice on same margin.

Varieties.

- ½d.—Row 1/1 Dot between "F" and "R" of AFRIKA.
- 19/6 Break in bottom frame line between "F" and "R" of AFRIKA.
 - 20/5 Black and white marks on "O" of the Monogram.
 - 1 to 15/1 Olive-brown marks on gutters between stamps.
- 1d.—Row 1/14 White mark touching leg of "A" in AFRIKA.
- 2/3 Green stroke between "A" and "E" of AFRICA and "hyphen" in front of AFRICA.
 - 2/14 Wrinkle on forehead.
 - 2/18 Dark green bleb near middle of left frame line.
 - 2/20 White dot between "R" and "I" of AFRIKA.
 - 3/10 Dark green bleb near middle of left frame line.
 - 5/9 White "mushroom" mark on left frame, upper half.
 - 6/3 Spots on left cheek.
 - 6/6 White mark at top of first "A" in AFRICA.
- 2d.—Row 6/3 "Moon" to the left of ship below "R" of AFRIKA.
- 9/6 Black spot above Table Mountain.
 - 11/2 Long vertical line through sails of ship on left.
 - 12/2 Short vertical line above sails of ship on left.
 - 13/4 "Smoke" above mountain.
 - 14/3 "Smoke" above mountain.
 - 16/6 White dot under "A" of AFRIKA.
 - Bottom margin. Dark violet stroke about ¼ in. long and ½ in. below the 6th stamp in the bottom row.
- 4½d.—Row 1/1 White dot under RIEBEECK.
- 1/7 Oblique line of colour above Van Riebeeck's head and dot above right eyebrow.
 - 2/10 Blue dot in gutter below "A" of AFRIKA.
 - 3/13 White mark on end of hyphen.

— 4/2 White dot inside first "A" of AFRIKA.

— 4/20 White dot on shoulder above value.

— 5/5 Blue mark near forehead.

— 5/13 Blue spot between RIEBEECK and 1952.

— 5/19 White dot after 1952.

1/- —Row 1/2 Number of brown spots in front of Natives and around landing party. Brown mark ("Bird") on barrel of gun.

— 19/4 White spot behind Native's leg, at right.

— 20/2 Oblique brown line behind right Native's head.

Comparison of the ½d. Printings of Cylinders 7020 A/B and 31/70.

Further to the notes dealing with the ½d. stamps, published on page 43 of our March issue, Dr. T. B. Davie of Cape Town has now had an opportunity of studying the two printings — 7020A/B and 31/70 — in their sheet form and has compiled the following notes of an interesting subject. Here are his notes:—

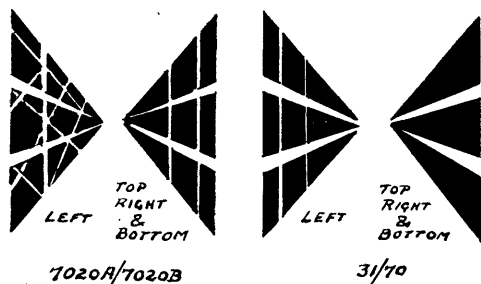
"Since both of these printings are diagonal-cross-line screened, both as to vignette and frame, and since, furthermore, the same diapositive has been used for both printings, it will in course of time be extremely difficult to distinguish them from each other except when small varieties and flaws on individual stamps indicate the cylinders of origin. For this reason it is desirable that all the constant features of similarity and of difference should be recorded now for the guidance of the specialist of the future.

Differences of colour are of doubtful value in the absence of knowledge of the variations in shade of all the printings from each pair of cylinders. This is obviously impossible until the present printings from cylinders 31/70 are terminated. All that can be said now is that, in the sheets and stamps examined, the colour of the frame from 7020 A/B can best be described as green while in 31/70 it is definitely blue green. The brownish-black of the vignette is much the same in both.

Date of issue: Future specialist collectors should pay particular attention to the dates of issue. Any ½d. stamp showing diagonal cross-line screening of both centre and frame, and bearing a post-mark or other proof of use or purchase prior to the beginning of December 1951 must be from Cylinders 7020 A/7020 B. Any stamp with date subsequent to 1st December 1951 may, of course, be from either printing, though it is more likely to be from 31/70 than from 7020 A/B. Incidentally, the earliest postmark date I have on the new 31/70 stamp is 13th December 1951, but as I only became aware of the change of cylinder (from the 11A/11B) on 12th December 1951, it is possible that I missed earlier postmarks. For this reason I have suggested that the critical date for postmarks should be taken as 1st December 1951 until more exact knowledge becomes available from the G.P.O. or elsewhere.

Marginal arrows. Any stamp, block or sheet showing even half of any one four marginal arrows will immediately be identifiable as either 7020 A/B or 31/70. In both cases the arrows are in green and of the usual three-pronged

variety. In each case the Top, Right and Bottom arrows are identical, though differing in the two printings. The Left arrow in each printing differs sharply from the other three arrows of its sheet. Thus the Left arrow on 7020 A/B is bisected vertically by a broad cut and diagonally by a criss-cross of thin cuts, three in each direction, nearly at right angles to each other. The Left arrow of 31/70, on the other hand, is identical with the Top, Right and Bottom arrows of 7020 A/B and shows the breaking up of each of the prongs into three portions by two cuts parallel to the base of the arrow. The Top, Right and Bottom arrows of 31/70 are solid, i.e. show neither the broad parallel cuts nor the diagonal criss-cross cuts. The three types of arrow are depicted below.



Errors and flaws. In "Union Notes" of the January number of the S.A. Philatelist a comparison was made of the minor flaws and varieties in the new printing, 31/70, with those of the printing it supplanted, 11A/11B. In those notes, however, the main difference between these two printings was not mentioned, viz. that in 11A/11B both frame and head are screened through the irregular or mosaic type of screen, whereas in the new printing, 31/70, both frame and head are cross-line screened. The use of a fairly high-powered lens, therefore, immediately dispose of any confusion between these two printings. There is, therefore, no point in comparing the corner arrows or the flaws, errors and varieties in these two printings.

In those same notes, however, attention was drawn to the fact that stamps 1/3E and 9/12A of 31/70 showed the same minor errors as the similarly placed stamps in 7020A/7020B and since, as indicated previously, these two printings are both cross-line screened, head and frame, it is obviously desirable that all distinguishing errors of a constant quality should be noted and recorded. The list below includes most of the errors in 31/70 noted by Mr. A. Lichtenstein and recorded in the Union Notes referred to above; those noted in addition were found as constant varieties in two sheets bought at the same post office (but different from Mr. Lichtenstein's) at about six weeks interval between the purchases. The varieties in 7020A/7020B are taken from a single full sheet of this printing lent me by Mr. Lichtenstein. There is thus no evidence that these are constant and many now recorded will fall away when other sheets of 7020A/B are examined and similarly recorded.

Cylinders 31/70.

1/3E. Black down-stroke from left horn.

- 2/4E. Scattered fine green dots above A of AFRI., below top bar.
- 2/10E. Green spot to left of L end of bottom bar.
- 6/2E. Green dot above T of SOUTH below top bar.
- 6/9A. Green dot above K of ..IKA outside circle
- 7/7E. White flaw to right of and below Right end of top bar.
- 9/4A. White scratch across bottom bar on left side.
- 9/12A. Green flaw to right of top bar.
- 11/9E. Black spot outer border ear on Left side.
- 12/3A. Black stroke downwards between horns on right side.
- 20/2E. Thin white line across lower part of Right bar.
- 20/9A. Green dot above top of Right bar.

Cylinders 7020A/7020B.

- 1/3E. Black down-stroke from left horn (same as in 31/70).
- 1/12A. White face of Springbok.
- 2/1A. Green dot top left of Left corner panel.
- 2/6E. White smudge on scroll at right centre of border to vignette.
- 2/12E. White mark on lower black stripe on bok's neck.
- 3/3E. White streak in shading on left in front of bok's face.
- 3/4A. Black dot on bok's nose.
- Black dot inner border near top of horn on left.
- 4/3A. Green smudge left side of Left bar.
- 4/12E. White flaw above OU of SOUTH, outside circle.
- 7/6A. Dark band in shading below top bar and above FR of AFRIKA.
- 9/12A. Green flaw to right of top bar (same as in 31/70).
- 12/9A. Defect in second E of POSSEEL viz. E
- 12/12E. Green dot above top of Left bar.
- 13/8A. White dot below right end of top bar.
- 14/1A. Step at bottom of Left bar.
- 15/2A. Black dot to right of bok's head near circle.
- 15/3E. White scratch above O of SOUTH, outside circle.
- 16/9A. White smudge in leaves to right of and adjoining value tablet.
- 18/6E. Black smudge top of left bar.
- 18/10E. White spot left of middle or right bar.
- 20/5A. Smudge of green on top of Left bar.
- 20/9A. Curved black line on bok's cheek.

The errors (1/3E. and 9/12A.) previously noted by A. Lichtenstein as common to 31/70 and 11A/11B, though displaced by one horizontal row in each case are, as shown above, common also to 7020A/B, and occur in the same position as in 31/70. These two printings are therefore identical in almost every particular: the distinguishing minor varieties listed being apparently, and in most cases obviously, the outcome of dust, dirt and minor injuries affecting the gelatin at etching or the printing surface subsequently. Marginal cylinder number blocks, arrow blocks and clearly dated postal cancellations will, therefore, in future provide by far the best indications of the cylinders of origin of "ha'penny Springbok's head diagonal-cross-line screened (head and frame) rotogravure stamps of the Union."

Distinguishing features on Certain ½d. and 3d. Pictorial Stamps.

Mr. I. N. Sharp of Johannesburg has submitted the following notes on the ½d. stamps printed from cylinders 7020 and 11 in order to assist in distinguishing between the two issues.

Cylinder 7020. Examination under a strong magnifying glass will show the cross-hatching (under the screening) on the top and bottom bars and the lines running through the bars are well shaped. The leaves on either side of the value tablet are lightly shaded. The screen dots outside the ring enclosing the Springbok Head are clear.

Cylinder 11. These stamps show no cross-hatching under the screening and the lines dividing the bars are indistinct. The leaves on either side of the value tablet are heavily shaded and the dots outside the ring enclosing the Springbok Head are not clear.

Mr. Sharp also gives the following distinguishing features present on three printings of the 3d. stamps, S.G. 59, 117 and 117a.

S.G. 59. Has lines in the scroll above the value tablets. The lines between the value tablets and the word POSTAGE are not well shaped: they are irregular. The top outer frame lines are also not well shaped and when compared with S.G. 117 stamps, the colour of No. 59 is a paler blue.

S.G. 117 (Previously S.G. 60). The scroll above the value tablets is not lined and the lines between the value tablets and the word POSTAGE are much better shaped than in the case of S.G. 59. The top outer frame lines are also well shaped and though the colour is light blue it is not as pale as S.G. 59.

S.G. 117a. (Current). The scroll above the value tablets is similar to that of No. 117, i.e. no lines. The lines between the value tablets and the word POSTAGE are well shaped and so are the top outer frame lines. The screen dots are quite clear and regular and the colour is deep blue.

Arrow Mark on Current 4d. Stamp.

A Cape Town reader, "I. T. Rhenius", has shown us some used copies of the current 4d. stamp, inscribed in Afrikaans, with a prominent brown mark lying diagonally across the top right hand corner of each. The mark is part of the top marginal arrow which cuts into the top right hand corner of the Afrikaans inscribed stamp No. 3 of the top row of the sheet and also into the top left corner of the English inscribed stamp No. 4.

A similar condition occurs in Row 20 where the bottom marginal arrow lies across the bottom right hand corner of the English inscribed stamp No. 3 and the bottom left corner of the Afrikaans stamp No. 4.

Foliage Flaw on Current 6d. Stamp.

Mr. I. N. Sharp, Johannesburg, records a white stroke, sloping vertically, in the foliage of the tree on the stamp Row 17, No. 6 of the current d. sheets. It is easily visible and occurs on an English inscribed unit.

THE "PHILATELIC ADVISER"

is a high-class monthly Magazine specialising in stamps and postmarks of Great Britain, but catering in addition for the General Collector. All articles fully illustrated and printed on good quality paper. It occasionally has authoritative articles on Tristan da Cunha and other South African news, and should be read by all philatelists. Price 1/3 per issue, 15/- per year. A specimen copy will be gladly sent to any serious philatelist.

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STUDY YOUR COUNTRY'S STAMPS

A CONTRIBUTION ON THE NUMERAL POSTMARKS OF THE ORANGE FREE STATE

By
P. SMITS.

Less is probably known about the postal history of the Orange Free State than about any of the other territories that now form the Union of South Africa.

Like many other collectors I based my collecting aims on the Stanley Gibbons Catalogue. The descriptions, however, did not always appear adequate or the prices a true reflection of the worth or scarcity of items. I started enquiries but found that the main interest taken in these stamps was their advent into the interprovincial period of the Union.

My next source was the extensive library of the Pretoria Philatelic Society but this, too, showed that very little had been done to explain a short but interesting period of postal history. One of the most neglected sections was that of the numeral post-marks. Fortunately I found another collector who was also interested in this and together we started compiling a list of the known information.

The already published lists of numbers with their place names were soon gathered and added to and in Annexure "A" I list this information. To clarify, this list consists of published data which has been verified and information which is definite and examples actually seen. Reports or examples which appeared at all doubtful have been discarded or disregarded. It must not be taken as complete but only what we ourselves have verified.

An examination of the numeral cancellations immediately reveals an interesting point, viz., that they consist of two types:—

- (i) the 16 bar oval for numbers from 1 to 19.
- (ii) the 11 bar oval for numerals 1, 8, 20 to 31. and various scattered numbers above that with No. 60 the highest known. It will be noted that numbers 1 and 8 occur in both the 16 bar and 11 bar ovals.

Of these numerals over 20 have been placed. Information on the place locations of the other numerals will be most welcome.

This list, while it fills many gaps, poses many problems:

- (a) When were the 16 bar numerals introduced?
- (b) When were the 11 bar numerals introduced?
- (c) At what places were the unidentified numbers used?
- (d) Were 16 bar numerals of numbers higher than No. 19 introduced?
- (e) Were 11 bar numerals of lower numbers than No. 20 (excluding Nos. 1 and 8) used?
- (f) Were the unrecorded numerals between Nos. 31 and 60 used and if so where?

This is a large list, but I am sure, by no means insurmountable.

In an endeavour to trace some of the answers I recently spent some time searching through

the Orange Free State Archives in Bloemfontein. I gathered a fair amount of information which I will now set forth. This information is far from complete but will, I hope, form a basis on which further research can be built.

The earliest date found with a numeral cancellation is 1884 for number 10 used at Phillipolis but as this is some 16 years after the Orange Free State first issued stamps (1st January, 1868) and as many stamps issued before that date (1884) bear cancellation marks I began my search amongst the records for the year 1865. The search was uneventful until I came upon the following letter in file "G.S. 1634 Buitelandse Correspondensie 20/12/62—31/3/73 page 599 letter No. 310" which I quote:—

Government Office,
Bloemfontein,
12 September, 1872.

Messrs. Blyth & Co.,
17 Grace Church Street,
LONDON.

Sir,

As our Office Seals are nearly worn out it has become necessary to order new ones. We also require dating stamps and seals for our different Post Offices.

I shall therefore feel much obliged by your having seals and stamps made for account of this Government as described in the annexed memorandum. I enclose a copy of our Coat-of-Arms as a guide of the engravers. The words upon the several seals to be in Dutch.

I am in receipt of your several letters advising the shipment of

The state of the President's health is causing much anxiety.

I have the honour to be,

Sirs,

Your Obedient Servant,
(Sgd.) F. K. HOHNE,
Government Secretary and Acting
President.

The Annexure mentioned could not be traced or at least no copy of it had been kept in the letter register. However, this appears to be the first request for dating stamps.

These seals and stamps were despatched early in the new year as is evidenced by the following letter found in the file: "G.S. 1354 pages 1 and 3 dated -4/1/73":—

4 Grace Church Street,
London.
14 January, 1873.

To:
The Government Secretary
of the Orange Free State,
BLOEMFONTEIN.

Sir,
We have now the pleasure to forward you enclosed impressions of the stamps and seals for your Government which we are shipping per "Walmer Castle" S.S. at Natal and which we trust will be found correct.

We shall wait upon you with Invoice of these goods by the next Mail.

We have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your most Obedient Servants,
BLYTH & CO.,
by Command.

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The impressions of the Stamps and Seals which were stated to have been enclosed were not found and had apparently been removed. At this point let me say that many items had been removed from all records. It was believed that this was done by the occupation forces in 1900. We are thus left completely in the dark as to what was sent. The invoice was found in file "G.S. 1354 (1873) page 209."

Reference No.
L139

INVOICE

42 A. Chester Square and
58 Elizabeth Street,
Pimlico, S.W.
January 11th. 1873.

Messrs. Blythe and Co.
Bought of LARNER AND BLACKBURN,
Stationers, Booksellers, Bible, Prayer Book and
Leather Goods Warehouse.
Illuminating, Stamping and Die Sinking in all
its Branches.
Agents for Messrs. De La Rue and Co., Manu-
facturers.

B Natal	25 Endorsement Seals engd. as Sketch No. 1 and fitted to handles	24/6	30-12-6	
	42 Endorsement Seals engd. as Sketch No. 2 and fitted to handles	25/-	52-10-0	
	21 D a t i n g Stamps with movable dates fitted on han- dles and in boxes Sketch No. 3	33/	34-13-0	
	Tin lined pack- ing case		8-6	
				£118- 4-0

Again no sketches were attached but the forwarding letter was found in the same file "G.S. 1354 pages 7 and 11" dated 22/1/73 as well as a shipping invoice (2 copies) pages 5 and 353, a portion of which is reproduced.

B Natal	1 Case contain- ing seals and stamps as per Invoice of Messrs. Larnar and Co.			118- 4-0
	CHARGES			
	Freight in full insurance on £150 and duty p.p.a.	1- 5-0		
	Postage, letters, etc.	1- 6-3		
		5-6		2-16-9
	Commission 5%			121- 0-9
				6- 1-0
				£127- 1-9

Still dealing with this same set of Seals and Dating stamps I next came upon the following two letters.

(a) "G.S. 1635 page 2":

Government Office,
Bloemfontein.
4/4/73.

Messrs. Blythe and Co.,
17 Gracechurch Street,
LONDON.

Gentlemen,
I have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of yours of the 22nd January concerning invoices of a case shipped by you per "Walmer Castle", the case has not yet come to hand so that I am not able to report on its contents, from the specimens

of the stamps however I fear that some mistake has arisen for what we require are seals for wax and not stamps. Those for the different offices we may be able to use but those for the post offices will I fear prove useless. I will however be better able to judge when the case arrives . . .

I have, etc.,

(Sgd.) F. H. HOHNE,
Govt. Sec.

This makes me believe that the Post Office Seals required were either for sealing (with wax) official packages or for sealing the post bags.

The letter in question was sent on to Messrs. Larnar and Co., who replied as follows: (G.S. 1354 page 79 (1873)).

LONDON, May 13th, 1873.
42a Chester Square.

Gentlemen,

With reference to the extract of the letter from the Orange Free State Government relating to the seals we executed for you. We are sorry that there should have been any mistakes in the matter but the Seals we sent are those now chiefly used by the Government (of Great Britain) and other public bodies and we considered that these were the stamps required.

We may also mention that Wax not being stated and the drawings on the order decidedly gave us this impression.

Again regretting that this should have occurred as we took particular care in the execution of this order.

We are, Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servants,

LARNER AND BLACKBURN.

Messrs. Blythe and Co. in turn referred to this in their letter of 14th May, 1873 (G.S. 1354 page 75) and asked the Government Secretary to report further on receipt of the case.

No further correspondence could be traced and we can only surmise that the stamp cancellers (seals as they called them) were not put to use as they apparently contained the Coat-of-Arms and there is no record of such cancellers having been used. They may however have been the Numeral Cancellers but only well dated covers can tell us this.

Further correspondence developed as a result of a letter from the Government Secretary to Blythe and Co. on 4th August, 1874. (G.S. 1635 page 60) asking them to order further date stamps for various places specified on an annexure not found, also ink pads and ink. These were sent out in April 1875.

On page 152 of File G.S. 1635 a letter to Blythe and Co. was found asking them "to report on methods of cancelling stamps" as they state "hitherto our stamps have been cancelled by the official writing upon them." Whether this referred to Revenue Stamps only or Revenue and Postal stamps was not clear as the earlier part of the letter contained thanks to Blythe and Co. for obtaining Revenue stamps for the Orange Free State which were "similar to the English type (in shape and colour)".

Previously the "embossed seal" type of Revenue stamp had been used.

Once again correspondence on Dating Stamps or Stamp cancellers seems to fade from the records until the year 1882. It was in the Treasurer General's accounts ledger for that year, that I came across the most interesting item of all, namely an Invoice from Felix F. Daus of Commercial Chambers, Port Elizabeth, dated 2nd June, 1882 and made out to Mr. H. P. Kingsmill, Assistant Post Master, Bloemfontein for 92 cancellers as follows (T.G. 480).

(To be continued.)

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SHORT NOTICES.

Israel Philatelic Services have sent us a copy of their latest list of stamps and the services offered by the Department. Collectors can get it free of charge from the Philatelic Services, G.P.O. Building, Jerusalem.

Commonwealth K.G. VI Catalogue. Referring to the review of this catalogue in our January issue where it was called a "Specialized" catalogue, the publishers demur at the description. They say it is not, nor is it their aim to make it, such. They point out that with the exception of a very few varieties the scope barely extends beyond the listings which Gibbons give of Victorian stamps.

Well, they are probably strictly correct and we can admit that a fully specialized catalogue of K.G. VI stamps would run to much greater length. But with all deference we would still say it is the nearest approach to a specialized listing of all K.G. VI stamps that is available.

They add that it is their intention to bring out yearly editions and these will include all stamps to be issued in the new reign.

Mr. R. T. Lilley, who is now in business as a stamp dealer at 37 Wroxham House, 212 Jeppe Street, Johannesburg, has issued a brochure giving some prices and details of service available to those interested in the buying and selling of British Empire stamps.

Serbian Philatelists. The Union of Serbian Philatelists has a monthly magazine "Filatelista" published at P.O. Box 702, Belgrade. It is all in Serbian, but a specimen copy can be sent to anyone interested.

Literatur-Nachrichten. Published by the Bund Deutscher Philatelisten, at (13b) München 27, Possartstr. 15, Bavaria. Gives long lists of recently published books, lists of philatelic subjects, articles listed by countries and subjects, etc. World wide in its contents, but all in German.

Philippine Philatelic Association. Their 1951 Year Book, partly in Spanish, partly in English, has a number of interesting articles especially, perhaps, those listing American A.P.O.'s and the postal slogans of the G.I.'s waiting repatriation after V-J day.

B.W.I. Philatelist. Good notes as usual, including a list of P.O.'s in Trinidad and Tobago and a check list of recent Bermuda issues.

Robson Lowe Ltd. The 5th part of the J. B. Seymour collection of Great Britain is being auctioned on 30th April. This includes the remainder of the Penny Black collection, nearly 600 of the 1841 penny red, largely in plated blocks, and a number of elusive cancellations on various imperf. line-engraved stamps. The last section of the collection will not come up till 29 October.

They announce the establishment of an Agency in South Africa under the charge of the well-known professional Mr. E. Blum of P.O. Box 1669, Cape Town.

Stanley Gibbons report that they will be publishing their K.G. VI Catalogue as usual this year, about November.

"Stamp Lover's" Literature Index. The "Stamp Lover", magazine of the Junior Philatelic Society (which, incidentally, is "Junior" only in name) is now entering its third year of publishing each month its Index to Current Philatelic Literature, giving the titles of all articles considered to be of importance published in over 60 periodicals printed in the English language. They are grouped under the heading 'Countries' and 'Miscellaneous' and the compilation should be of great value to English speaking philatelists the world over.

NO MORE NICARAGUA SEEBECKS.

It will be remembered that about 1889 Nicholas Seebeck contracted with the governments of Nicaragua, Ecuador, Guatemala and Salvador to supply them free with new sets of stamps every year on the understanding that at the end of every year each series would be demonetized and the plates turned over to him.

He made reprints from these and floods were put on the market at cheap prices; they were gaudy and most attractive to juveniles. No fraud was committed because they were sold as reprints without representing them to be originals.

The Nicaraguan dies lodged with a Philatelic Engraving Co. have now been destroyed at the request of the Nicaraguan government. No requests for similar destruction have come so far from the other three countries mentioned.

LIBYA.

The inauguration of this new state has led to a number of provisional issues to be in use till a definitive set can be prepared. These provisionals are overprints on the previous stamps of Cyrenaica and Tripolitania.

E.A. CENSOR MARK.

Although some 37 different types of Censor marks of the East African campaign have been recorded in our pages (July 1945, p. 26 and April 1947, p. 52) Mr. I. H. C. Godfrey has routed out another unrecorded one. It is a postcard with an Abyssinian stamp, sent from Dire Dawa to Nairobi in May, 1944, the mark probably having been applied at Dire Dawa. It is a single circle mark of 33 mm. diameter, in violet with the wording "Deputy Chief Field Censor" and a small 5-pointed star at the bottom.

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Dominican Rep. M201.	Roumania,
France:—	6ccn Austria, M12.
Castellosso M33.	Rio de Oro, M55, 64.
Guatemala, Officials,	Span. Guinea,
M17, 19, 33.	M144, 145.
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THE UNION CHRISTMAS SEALS
NOTES ON SECTION 32 OF THE NEW
UNION HANDBOOK
 By
DR. K. FREUND.
 (Continued from page 48 of March issue)

3. THE WATERMARK.

The issues of 1933, 1948, 1950 and 1951 were printed on watermarked postage stamp paper. Why as early as in 1933 watermarked paper was brought into use and then left off again for 14 years, cannot be ascertained. It is possible that at the time of printing in 1933, rolls of the usual plain paper were not on hand. Another theory is that **faulty** watermarked paper, unsuitable for postage stamp issues, was used up for the Christmas issue, where principles in this regard were not so strict. The faultiness is said to have consisted of faint or missing impressions of the watermark images in the web, thus accounting for the reported "unwatermarked" specimens of the 1933 issue.

Owing to the vertical format of the Seals, the watermark "Multiple Springbok's Head" runs from side to side. In order to print sheets of 120 subjects, the set-up of the vertical seal images on the printing cylinder had to be sideways, so that the seals could be accommodated to the width of the paper roll.

The normal position of the watermark is "right", i.e. the Springbok's chin points to the right and its horns to the left. "Reversed" watermarks (watermark "left") have also appeared in the issues of 1948 and 1950. The reversed position was caused by the fact that one horizontal half of the sheets was in tête-bêche set-up to the other half.

4. PERFORATION JUNCTURES.

The periphery of a Rotary cylinder of the photogravure issues consisted of 22 ("horizontal") rows of 6 subjects each. In consequence, complete sheets of the Seals had actually altogether 22 rows ("vertically", with the exception of the 1935 issue). Of these 22 rows however, only 20 rows showed the seal images, while the vertical outside row at left and the one at right remained either blank or were turned into slogan tablets about which we shall remark later.

The perforation of these sheets of 22 rows was done with a "Harrow" machine (multiple comb), — Gauge 14 — , capable of striking **eleven** rows at one operation. This means that the perforating machine had to strike at least twice, but not more than three times, to complete the perforation of a sheet. The perforations thus passed through both side margins, producing stamp-sized blank spaces there.

The top and bottom margins remained imperforate as the pin arrangement of the "Harrow" machine affected exactly 6 rows horizontally at one action. Only single perforation holes appear in these margins, caused by an extra pin above and below each vertical row of pins.

At those points where two consecutive strikes meet, the "juncture" is in most cases clearly

evident. This perforation juncture, i.e. the little space caused by the interval between two consecutive strikes, is irregular and rarely corresponds to the general gauge 14. Owing to various technical peculiarities of the travelling paper band and to vibrations of the huge unit of the printing machine in general, it is practically impossible to adjust the perforator so precisely as to cause perfectly aligned and perfectly timed "junctures" fitting in with the general gauge 14. In most cases therefore we find at such junctures the corner perforation hole of one strike immediately neighboured or partially overlapped by the first hole of the next strike. Consequently, seals affected by such perforation junctures are more or less narrower in overall width than the other seals in the sheet, originating "small-sized" varieties of the seals.

The irregularity of a perforation juncture is particularly noticeable when it appears in the plane of a booklet, where its perforation alignment is in visible contrast to the alignment of the other pane or panes of the same booklet.

In some printings, the perforation juncture appears in the centre of the sheet of seals. With exactly eleven vertical rows of seals to the left and eleven rows to the right (including the vertical margin rows), no other junctures appear on a sheet in such cases. The following issues show such junctures in the centre (in the majority of sheets): 1935, 1938, 1940, 1946, 1948 and 1950.

The issues of other years show mostly **two** junctures, the positions of which vary owing to frequent adjustments of the perforating machine during printings.

5. THE "UNILINGUAL STRIPS" OF THE 1945 ISSUE.

All those issues which are not bilingual, but consist of sheets which show English inscribed Seals alternating with Afrikaans inscribed Seals, show this alternate arrangement **horizontally** as well as **vertically**, the same as we know it also in the case of the Union postage stamps.

The 1945 Christmas issue however turned out to be one exception from this general principle. When setting up the multopositives, the alternate position was observed only horizontally, while vertically it was overlooked in error. Thus, we find the following lay-out in the sheets of the 1945 issue:

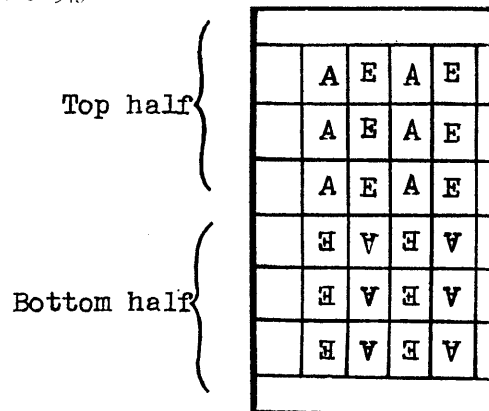


Fig. 1.

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The diagram presents the left quarter of a sheet, the balance of which continues in the same manner. The letter "A" denotes Afrikaans inscribed seals, the letter "E" English inscribed ones.

As the diagram indicates, the top half of the sheet shows 3 Afrikaans seals **vertically se-tenant**, then the neighbouring strip shows 3 English seals se-tenant, the next vertical strip of three is again Afrikaans inscribed throughout, and so on. The bottom half of the sheet is in tête-bêche position to the top half, and here again we find vertical strips of three, English inscribed, alternating with vertical strips of three, Afrikaans inscribed.

Afrikaans inscribed strips of the top half however are in juxta-position to the inverted English inscribed strips of the bottom half, and vice versa (see diagram). To this extent therefore, an "alternate" arrangement has been observed vertically.

Owing to an oversight, this set-up of unilinear vertical strips appearing constantly in the sheets and booklet panes of the 1945 issue, has not been reported in the New Handbook.

6. THE ERROR "SUID AFRIKA" WITHOUT HYPHEN.

A surprising, constant error characterizes the 1944 and 1945 issues: The Afrikaans name of our country is spelled in these issues "SUID AFRIKA", i.e. in two words without hyphen between. This is not the generally accepted version of spelling. The early way of spelling, "SUIDAFRIKA" in one word, appeared on the 1930 and 1932 Seals, in conformity with the contemporary postage stamp issues. But in 1933 the Christmas seals were actually among the first issues (together with the 1933 Voortrekker stamps and the 5/- Pictorial postage stamp) to show the corrected and generally accepted version of "SUID-AFRIKA" hyphenated. For eleven years until 1943, and from 1946 again, the hyphenated "SUID-AFRIKA" appeared regularly on the yearly Christmas seals.

Whether the artists of the 1944 and 1945 designs omitted the hyphen in error, or whether the dark colouring of the background "ran" and obliterated the hyphen in the artist's drawing when still wet, is not known. It is interesting to note that although the artists for the two issues were different, the style of lettering is practically the same in both issues. One might presume therefore that the artist of the 1945 design most probably took the previous issue of 1944 as a model and copied the lettering with its error "SUID AFRIKA" without hyphen. The remarkable thing is that the error was accepted for two consecutive years without anybody drawing attention to it.

(To be continued.)

NYASALAND.

It is reported in "Stamp Collecting" that a complete new printing was released in February, but that the only marked difference in shade is in the 5/- value, in which the vignette and frame have both been printed in deeper red, so that this stamp has now less red in the centre and less slate in the frame.

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WANTED: Booklets, Post Cards, Registered Envelopes and Airlittercards, unused and used of Union only.—DR. MURRAY, Kuils River.

PORTUGAL and PORTUG. COLONIES. New and Recent issues. Closing of Holy year of 8 Colonies. Angola, Birds-Mocambique, Fishs. Mint or used sets.—ALFREDO DIAS, P.O. Box 16, L. Marques.

JUNIOR PHILATELIC EXCHANGE, Mtunzini, Zululand, S. Africa. Buying and selling stamps for beginners and medium collectors. Descriptive leaflet free on application.

STAMPS.—Want lists invited for any country; specialities Union, S.W.A., British Africa.—LACY'S, 211 Long Street, Capetown.


SOUTHERN RHODESIA.

(a) "Stamp Collecting" reports a note from a collector who has tried nearly every dealer in Britain for copies of the 1924/29 K.G. V 1d. perf. 12½ used (S.G. 2c) and the 1931 K.G. V 1/ perf. 11½, used (S.G. 24a). Although these stamps are catalogued at only 3/- and 12/6 respectively, he still has not got them. Another example of stamps catalogued cheaply but most elusive.

(b) Mr. van Rensburg, Zastron records a 1d. of the 1937 Coronation issue with a dot almost the size of a perforation hole, just to the left of the foot of the 1 of 1d.

(c) Mr. A. W. Cousins, England submits a 2d. Matabeleland stamp (1943) with the top left quadrant covered by a meshwork of what looks at first sight rather like a fingerprint in green covering it. Closer examination shows that the lines have not the pattern of finger-print lines, however.

The Government Printing Office in Pretoria, to whom it has been submitted, say it could not have occurred during the printing process but must have been applied later. But what is it?

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NEW GUINEA 1939 "BULOLO GOLDFIELDS" £1 Air, S.G. 225, Cat. £10, unused	105/-
GRENADA 1934 K.G. V S.G. 135-44 complete, Cat. 74/5, unused	50/-
SOUTH AFRICA 1925 Airs, S.G. 26-29 com- plete. Cat. 82/-, unused	55/-
SOUTH AFRICA 1929 Airs 4d. and 1/- com- plete. Cat. 21/6, unused	13/6
ABYSSINIA 1919 Animals, Pictorials and Por- traits, 15 unused, complete. Cat. 53/10 (1931 Printings)	4/-
LIBERIA 1938 Airs, 8 GIANT pictorials and 2 triangulars, complete. Cat. 23/8, used	6/-
PORTUGAL 1924 Poet Camoens 31 unused, complete	11/-
SPAIN 1930 Goya NUDES, 18 unused complete	8/6

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SOCIETY NEWS

ROODEPOORT STAMP CLUB.

The usual monthly meeting was held on the 20th March, and was attended by eight members and two visitors.

The main exhibit of the evening was tabled by Mr. Laubscher. It consisted of a Thematic Collection, Cities and Towns written up in Afrikaans, followed by the sideline of United States of America Commemoratives put on by our Junior Member Master Crocker. On behalf of the Club, Mr. Henderson thanked Mr. Laubscher for his interesting exhibit, and also remarked on the manner in which it was written up. Mr. Vermaak passed a vote of thanks to Master Crocker for his sideline. J.K.

SPRINGS PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

At the January meeting Mr. Williams was elected Chairman, Mr. Gillings Vice-Chairman, and Mr. Savage Secretary and Treasurer. It was decided that all future meetings will be held in the Lion Hotel in the centre of Springs.

During February Mr. Merricks gave a very interesting display of Princess Elizabeth stamps. A number of orders were given for the new handbook and various matters concerning the Van Riebeeck stamps were discussed. Altogether a very pleasant evening.

There is a tremendous future in philately on the Far East Rand, and some very fine exhibits will be seen by our specialist collectors. Our Society is definitely on the increase. T.G.E.

PRETORIA RAILWAY PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

February.

The usual monthly meeting of the Society was held in the Berea Hall on the 13th, when yet another most entertaining and successful evening eventuated. There was a satisfactory muster of members, and the highlight of the evening was a lantern lecture by Dr. Reisener. For his subject Dr. Reisener chose some of the earlier of the South African stamps mainly rotograph, and showed slides of the various recess, lithograph and rotogravure methods of printing. The lecturer explained that he had shown as far as he had completed his slides, but that he hoped to show the later printings in the near future. Mr. E. Walker, Mr. A. Roy and Mr. Kennard spoke on the exhibit and a very interesting discussion followed in which these three gentlemen and Dr. Reisener explained to members how the errors that occurred were the fault of the printers, whereas the different varieties usually developed later, and were caused by the cylinders becoming worn, or fluff coming off the paper and being picked up by the cylinder while printing was in progress, or other various reasons. When questioned as to why the printings performed overseas compared so favourably in comparison to those done in South Africa, it was explained, that the conditions overseas were practically perfect. Their printing rooms were air-conditioned to eliminate heat and visitors were even gone over with a vacuum cleaner to ensure that dust was almost non-existent. Compare this with our own Government Printing Works where no provision is made for counteracting any of these faults. Our many shades of colour also are attributed to not enough care being given to ensure that the colours match in that particular printing, and also owing to the ink being thinned down owing to the quantity being affected by evaporation. Dr. Reisener is to be congratulated on his stout effort, and we look forward to the occasion when he will display the latter printings. F.J.V.L.

EAST RAND PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

At our last monthly meeting the Society's members turned out in force, the attraction being the official visit from the Pretoria Society. As usual they brought over some very fine exhibits, something that we had not seen before.

Mr. Ferguson first read a paper on "Philatelic Odds and Ends", then his exhibit was stamps from the various places mentioned in the paper.

Mr. Wright was unable to attend, but kindly sent over his collection of Sudan.

Mrs. Butler brought over her collection of first day covers.

A very pleasant evening was spent and Mr. S. Legator and Mr. Feinstein thanked the exhibitors for the evening's entertainment which was greatly appreciated.

UNIVERSITY OF CAPE TOWN PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

Tuesday, March 11th:

We were glad to welcome several newcomers to the University and trust that they will take an active part in the doings of the Society. Two of them are due to display at the next meeting.

The evening's display was provided by Miss Ganz, who treated us to some really beautiful Swiss issues which captured everybody's admiration.

A discussion on "Mint v. Used" had been planned to follow. The discussion proved interesting and was really enjoyed, but the intended subject was hardly thought of. "I have a cover with . . . was the predominant note and the predominant question was "Are those stamps used?" (In the Secretary's humble opinion, members were a bit apt to classify as used, stamps which should not have been thus classified, but it's just as well perhaps that our opinions do differ on matters like this — the discussion would have been a flop, if we'd all been in perfect agreement!). D.A.

EAST LONDON PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

Friday, February 8th.

The President, Mr. Shingler, welcomed the visitors. A silence was observed and all members stood in respect for the late King, His Majesty George VI. Reference was made to his growing interest in stamps during the period of his ill-health towards the latter part of his life. A silence was also observed for Mr. Thorwaldson, who resigned from our society and who recently died.

Matters of Philatelic interest shown:

Mr. Paviour—U.S.A. 4H club block of 4.

Mr. Gillespie—Canadian official cover franking.

Mr. Sparkman — Chicago cover with embossed stamp.

Mr. Hellman spoke on Mr. Lester G. Brookman's book on U.S.A. issues. Mr. Thornton read an amusing letter on the first Post Offices in the Cape and was thanked by Mr. Shingler. He in turn referred to the National Health issue proposals and the support of the C.E.P.B. Congress.

Mr. President then had the pleasant duty of issuing the Silver Gilt Medal awards competed for by members during 1951. The results were as follows:

Best display of the year (senior), Mr. Durkin — Rhodesias.

Best display of the year (junior), Mr. M. Kruger — King George VI.

Best paper of the year, Mrs. R. Alabaster — "The Penny Black and its history."

Mr. Hellman read a paper on "The Most Beautiful U.S.A. Commemorative" and produced adequate illustrations for display on the table and all showed their appreciation of his fine effort.

It was suggested that Mr. A. Watson's name be submitted for inclusion on the Roll of Distinguished Philatelists.

A club exchange packet was agreed to, with the help of Messrs. Harper, Joseph and Sparkman.

Our Society has been honoured by the appointment of Mr. Harper and Mr. Thornton as Judges at The Cape Town International Exhibition.

Mr. Jensen gave a magnificent display of his usual artistic items which was a joy to behold and Mr. T. Harper displayed his collection of Hong Kong and Treaty Ports from 1862 to date — all in perfect condition and with fine postmarks. A lovely collection which must have taken many years to accumulate. R.A.

WEST RAND STAMP CLUB

Our March meeting again proved a very pleasant evening. Our usual meeting place being not available the meeting was held at Mr. Burrell's residence.

After the usual business Mr. C. Louw exhibited his collection of Union of South Africa, a simplified collection starting with King George V heads right through to postage dues. The outstanding item being a specimen of ½d. coil with three joined stamps of one language.

Mr. Van Zyl congratulated Mr. Louw on his exhibit remarking that he considered it possible for anyone to have a similar type of collection well written up and mounted with a little care and trouble.

At the next meeting Mr. E. J. Sharpe will exhibit his collection of Samoa. This meeting is to be held at Mr. Burrell's residence in April 2nd.

The meeting ended at 10 p.m. with a hearty vote of thanks to Mrs. Burrell for the tea supplied.

JAL COOPER.

British philatelic papers recently announced the death of Jal Cooper, well-known dealer and real philatelist of Bombay. This was done on the strength of a cable to Robson Lowe.

Next week came the news from Jal Cooper, that, as in the case of Mark Twain, the report was "much exaggerated" and that he was alive and well.

The only apparent reason for the fraudulent cable was to prevent the completion of a business deal in London — at any rate it had that effect.

NEWMAN OF REUTERS MATABELELAND TELEGRAPH STAMPS.

In the "American Philatelist" of February is chapter 5 of "Pioneers of the Posts" by E. F. Hunt, dealing with the postal service operating between Bulawayo and the advancing head of the telegraph line from Tati by Capt. C. L. Newman during March-June, 1894.

He had arranged a runner service to carry his own telegraphic messages to the line ahead, and being asked by Bulawayo inhabitants to take their messages he prepared stamps to facilitate prepayment and accounting, also to lower his own costs.

These stamps were made on a cyclostyle, were of three denominations, 2/6, 5/- and 10/-. They were printed in sheets of 18 — three rows of 6, one row of each value. (A photograph of a sheet is reproduced). The total number printed was 300 of each value, of which 72 of the 10/-, 135 of the 5/- and 161 of the 2/6 were used. They were never sold to the public directly, being attached by Capt. Newman to the messages and cancelled with his initials and date. Duplicate copies of the messages on telegraph forms were sent off by his runner. The stamps are real rarities to-day.

A melancholy interest is attached to the article as word has just appeared in philatelic journals of Mr. Hurt's death in England. In him is lost a great authority on local posts and other items of postal history.

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The Postal Administration announce a 12 fr. plus 3 fr. semi-postal stamp as appearing on "The Day of the Stamp" (8 March). It features a mail coach of the 19th century.

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TRANSVAAL PHILATELIC BOWLERS.

The Bowling Tournament held last year at Germiston between teams from Witwatersrand and Pretoria Societies, also Postal Officials, was such a success that it is being repeated this year in Pretoria on the holiday, Thursday, 22 May.

SOME RECENT AUCTION SALES.**H. R. Harmer.**

Bermuda 2/-, 2/6, 5/- and 10/- 1938-50 line perf. 14, £26.

Egypt, 1938 £1, S.G. 295, £6 15s.

Gibraltar, 2d. grey wmk.-sideways (S.G. 124 ab), £22.

Grenada 10/- (S.G. 163c), £24.

Kenya £1 (S.G. 143), £10.

Silver Wedding set complete, £54.

Great Britain Silver Jubilee 2½d., Prussian Blue, £95.

French Zanzibar (S.G. 246), £10 10s.

Robson Lowe.

Barbados 2d. greyish slate bisect on cover, 1854, £18.

Cape. Block of 4 1853 1d. brick red on deeply blued, £41.

Grenada 10/- (S.G. 163c), £23.

Newfoundland 6d. orange vermilion 1860, £80.
1897 provisional (S.G. 82b), no gum, £94 10s.

St. Kitts-Nevis 1923 Tercentenary set, mint, £42.

Silver Wedding set complete, £47.

Bermuda 2/6 1940 perf. 14½ line, mint, corner pair with scroll flaw, £35.

5/- ditto, block of four, £39.

Malta 10/- M.C.A., black, mint, £31 10s.

TRISTAN DA CUNHA.

J. Lister Ltd., report in "Stamp Collecting" that the overprint on the 8d. St. Helena occurs on both shades of that stamp. This suggests that stocks of the earlier printing were returned from St. Helena to be overprinted, unless they had been held in reserve by the Crown Agents for this special purpose.

Mail from the island with the new stamps has at long last arrived in South Africa. Covers were delivered in Johannesburg on March 18th, presumably a day or two earlier in Cape Town.

The postmark is a single-circle one of 23 mm. diameter, with "Tristan Da Cunha" round the top, but there are two variations of the inside arrangements.



In what may presumably be termed First Day Covers one finds sometimes "I/JA52" in two lines, sometimes an asterisk above "I JA/52" the illustration of 4 FE/1952). Incidentally, this latter arrived by the same post as covers of 1 Jan.

Mr. I. H. C. Godfrey sends the following information about Tristan Air Letter sheets:—

Air Letter sheets obtainable on the Island require a 6d. adhesive Tristan da Cunha stamp to be affixed.

The forms are of the first "British Colonial" type, printed in dark gray on gray overlaid paper, with the enclosure instructions in 3 lines, and bear the Control number 51-5829 in the corner beneath the words "First fold here." Identical forms have been used in Northern Rhodesia and Somaliland Protectorate, but do not appear to have been used elsewhere. (?)

The 51—preceding the number 5829 does not, as might be supposed, signify that the sheets were printed in 1951: the original issue of civilian Air Letters of Great Britain, which were current from 7th December, 1942 to 17th June, 1943, bore the Control numbers 51-5506 (1) to 51-5506 (6).

G.B. USED ABROAD.

According to "Stamp Collecting" Mr. Ritchie

Bodely has found a new item in this category, one hitherto not recorded. It is the 10/- greenish-grey (S.G. 128)) used at Greytown, Nicaragua, with a circular date-stamp of Oct. 15, 1881.

U.S.A.

We thought the four commemoratives recorded in our January issue for this year wouldn't exhaust the list. The **Vox Populi** has been shouting, and as that is equivalent to the **Vox Dei** seven more have been announced, honouring respectively: North Atlantic Treaty Organisation; Grand Coulee Dam; Newspaper Boys of America; Mount Rushmore National Memorial (25th anniversary); International Red Cross; American Society of Civil Engineers (Centenary); 500th anniversary of the printing of the first book, The Holy Bible, from movable type, by Johann Gutenberg. Dates and places of first-day sale not yet announced.

NEW ISSUES OF 1951.

Mr. Kent B. Stiles has reported for some years in the **New York Times** on the number of stamps issued. The following few notes are taken from the 6 January issue of that paper.

Total issues for the year more than 2,500, a few countries' figures not being available in full. The largest issues were from Hungary, 104; Venezuela, 70; S. Korea, 65; Czechoslovakia, 62; Bolivia, 60; Russia, 60; Jugoslavia, 60; Belgium, 57; Poland, 56 and Japan 52 — these ten countries producing more than a fourth of the world's total.

Fully a third of the lot were commemoratives. American Republics led in air-mail stamps, fifteen of them issuing more than 60 per cent. of the total 326 airm. Fourteen European countries had fully two-thirds of the total 139 semi-postals. There were fewer overprinted varieties than usual, only 360, by 50 different governments.

FINLAND.

The postal authorities announce the issue of two semi-postals (15 plus 2 and 25 plus 4 mk.) on 15 February for the Olympic Games at Helsinki towards whose funds the surtax on the stamps will go.

SEYCHELLES.

Mr. H. V. Farmer has a first instalment in the Jan.-Feb. number of "The Stamp Lover" on the K.G. VI photogravure issue, 1941-51 series of stamps. The sub-title calls it "Study of the Plate Flaws, Markings and Retouches to be found on these Stamps, the printing plates for which were just used in 1941 in their present form of 60 subjects."

Collectors of Union stamps are sometimes jeered at for their study of "fly-marks" on the various issues. This is exactly the same sort of thing. But why shouldn't you make such studies, if you like doing that sort of thing? After all it is only a case of plating the stamps, considered to be a most respectable study in the case of "classic" issues; so why should it not be equally respectable and beyond reproach in the case of any modern issue?

THE SOUTH AFRICAN PHILATELIST

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MAY, 1952.

Whole No. 326.

GAPETOWN INTERNATIONAL STAMP EXHIBITION

Officially opened on 26th March by the Patron-in-Chief, H.E. the Governor-General and lasting till 5th April, this is now but a very pleasant memory for all concerned, except perhaps for a few exhibitors who did not gain such high awards as they had hoped for. That this may have happened is not surprising in view of the extraordinarily high quality of many of the exhibits. An overseas visitor said he had never seen any International Exhibition of comparable size at which so many high awards had been given, adding "but of course the Jury could not help but give them, as the standard of so many was so high."

Exhibits.

The highlights were of course, the selection from the Royal Collection and those entered for the Cape championship.

The selection from the Royal Collection, brought out with Mr. Frank Godden, O.B.E. as Sir John Wilson was unfortunately unable to make the trip, had been picked so as to appeal particularly to South Africa. There were some 40 sheets with Cape stamps and covers, 40 of early Natsals, 20 of Union colour trials, etc., and 40 of Proofs of K.G. VI Colonials. Many of the pieces incomparably fine and many unique (using that rather overworked word in the strictest sense).

For the Cape Championship class there were five entries and it is understood that the jury had a hard task in deciding on the winner. They ultimately settled on the collection of Capt. C. Emerson Huston as the best and the winner of the Grand Prix, a most beautiful painting by Gabriel de Jongh which had been donated by Mrs. G. H. Hunt. Capt. Huston is to be particularly congratulated as this was the first time his collection had ever been exhibited, and to jump right up to a Grand Prix at first time of showing must be a feat very seldom achieved.

There were official exhibits sent by eight Governments.

The Union Government shewed in attractive frames a number of old issues from the collection originally made by the Transvaal Republic, other old Colonial stamps, artists' drawings and colour trials of the Van Riebeeck issue, and the actual dies used for making the first Natal (embossed) stamps.

The British Government sent the Dies of the 1840 1d. and 2d.; Proof sheets of the 1d. black and a historical series of subsequent ½d. and 1d. issues; Mulready envelopes and a number of 1s and 1½s stamps.

Smaller exhibits were sent by the Governments of Netherlands, France, Belgium, West Germany, Argentina and Israel. Court of Honour (non-competitive) exhibits included Greece (Royal Philatelic Society), Cape Triangular Forgeries (H. R. Harmer), Russia (Sir John Wilson), Ceylon (Wm. Irving), S. Rhodesia (Dr. A. Kaplan), Union Die Proofs and colour trials (Dr. T. B. Davie).

Mention must also be made of the collection of Tibet made by the late Mr. H. L. Rivers, Hon. Treasurer of the exhibition to whose memory this exhibit paid tribute.

The entire foyer of the exhibition hall was given over to a display of Cape Postal History arranged by Mr. A. A. Jurgens from his own vast store of material.

Competitive exhibits numbered about 130, and of these about one-quarter came from outside the Union. British collectors were well represented, with a few from Holland, Germany, Eire, Denmark and France.

Space does not allow of any detailed mention of these, but we would just mention the magnificent lot of the first issue of Holland shewn by D. J. Klink, which was awarded the special medal of the Royal Philatelic Society of London.

The Jury.

There was much regret that Sir John Wilson and Mr. A. de Cock were both unable to make the journey to Cape Town through ill-health. The jury was therefore not so truly international as it was hoped it would have been, but Mr. Wm. Irving, F.R.P.S.L., from London, made an excellent Chairman. Their deliberations were prolonged and the awards were not announced till the Banquet on the 29th March, four days after the opening.

Awards.

Grand Trophy and Championship. Triangular issues of the Cape of Good Hope 1853-63: Capt. C. Emerson Huston.

Championship. Issues of the Union of South Africa: Sam Legator.

Royal Philatelic Society's Medal. Holland: D. J. Klink.

Special Prize. The World Collection: Ernest Hunt.

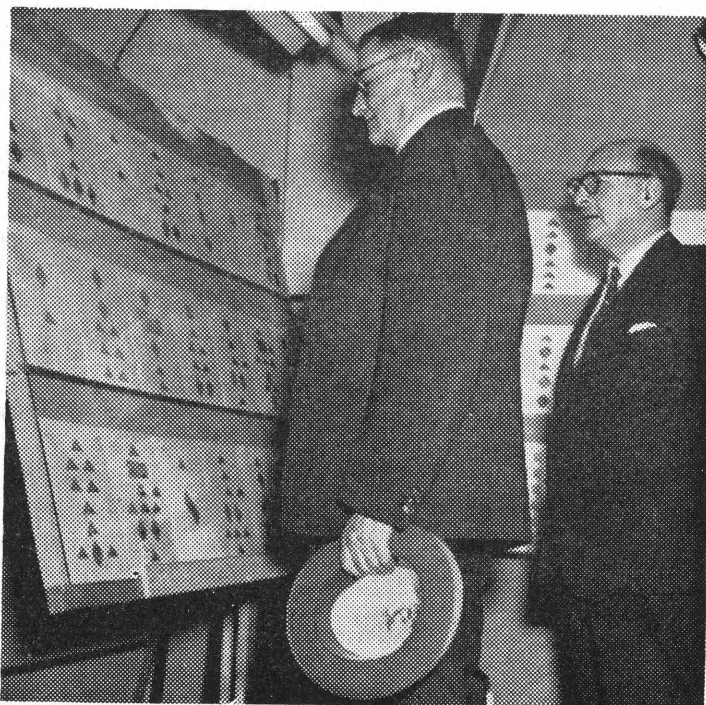


Photo: Cape Times.

H.E. The Governor-General examining the Royal Collection.

Gold Awards of Honour: E. T. Hall, Cape Triangulars; Arthur V. Jacob, Rhodesia; H. V. Farmer, Seychelles; W. E. Lea, Great Britain; D. J. Klink, Holland; H. C. Baldus, Prussia; L. E. Dawson, India; Col. A. E. Stewart, India; H. W. Hurlock, Barbados; H. W. Hurlock, Trinidad; J. H. Sinton, St. Vincent.

Gold Awards: L. Lewe, Union of South Africa; J. Shepherd, Cape Triangulars. (With the felicitations of the Jury). E. Hunt, Transvaal; J. H. Sinton, Rhodesia; W. Newlands, Orange Free State; H. Leslie, Sierra Leone; G. L. Pilkington, Niger Coast (with the felicitations of the Jury); C. G. Mummery, Falkland Islands and Dependencies; C. Hornal, Aden 1839-1952; P. A. Wilde, Hong Kong (with the felicitations of the Jury).

Silver Gilt Awards: T. E. Field, Air Posts of South Africa; G. Petroulis, Airmails; W. N. Sheffield, Union War Effort Stamps; W. G. Nodder, Postal History of B.C.A.; W. Redford, Seychelles; W. Redford, Gold Coast; Dr. K. Freund, Mafeking (commended for Research). Dr. J. H. Harvey Pirie, Swaziland — Stamps and Postal History; E. Hunt, German States; Hervey W. Jones, Nova Scotia; N. Welsford, Australian Commonwealth; A. C. Mullen, Jaipur; B. Leslie Barker, Belgium; F. C. Wills, Dutch East Indies (with the felicitations of the Jury); W. H. Adgey-Edgar, Tibet; B. Glassman, George VI; Dr. and Mrs. Chait, The History of Animals and Stamps.

Silver: S. Wilson, Gibraltar (with the felicitations of the Jury); Anonymous, Cape Triangulars; D. H. Kirchner, Commemorative Stamps of the Union of South Africa; Dr. T. B. Berry, Union Officials; Dr. J. H. Harvey Pirie, T.P.O. and Maritime Postmarks; L. Simenhoff, Union Rotogravure Booklets and Coils; A. Cecil Fenn, Orange Free State and Orange River Colony; J. A. B. van Wyk, South West Africa; Mrs. J. Hotz, South West Africa; W. Newlands, Zululand; J. H. C. Godfrey, Air Posts of Southern Rhodesia and Nyasaland; Arthur V. Jacob, Southern Rhodesia; W. Redford, Sierra Leone; Mrs. E. Hunt, Gambia; R. Leslie, P.O.'s in Egypt; A. C. Mullen, Cayman Islands; K. Freyman, Imperial Russia; J. Michelson, Latvia; Helge Ploughman, Danish West Indies; Ernest Hunt, Brazil; S. Legator, Israel; W. Newlands, Anglo-Boer War; H. R. Savage, George VI; E. A. Church, George VI; Ina M. Butler, Music; L. Simenhoff, Natural History on Stamps (with the felicitations of the Jury).

Bronze: D. W. Rossouw, South African Postal Stationery; A. H. Strutt, Rhodesia (commended for Presentation); A. M. Jones, Orange Free State; C. A. Stonehill, Uganda, November 1896 Issue (with felicitations of the Jury); B. L. R. Fox, Southern Rhodesia; C. A. Stonehill, New Republic; G. N. Gilbert, Basutoland; L. Buchen, German South West Africa; C. G. Mummery, Egypt; J. W. Schubart, Netherlands; F. C. Wills, Holland; R. Tocila, Netherlands; A. Ber-

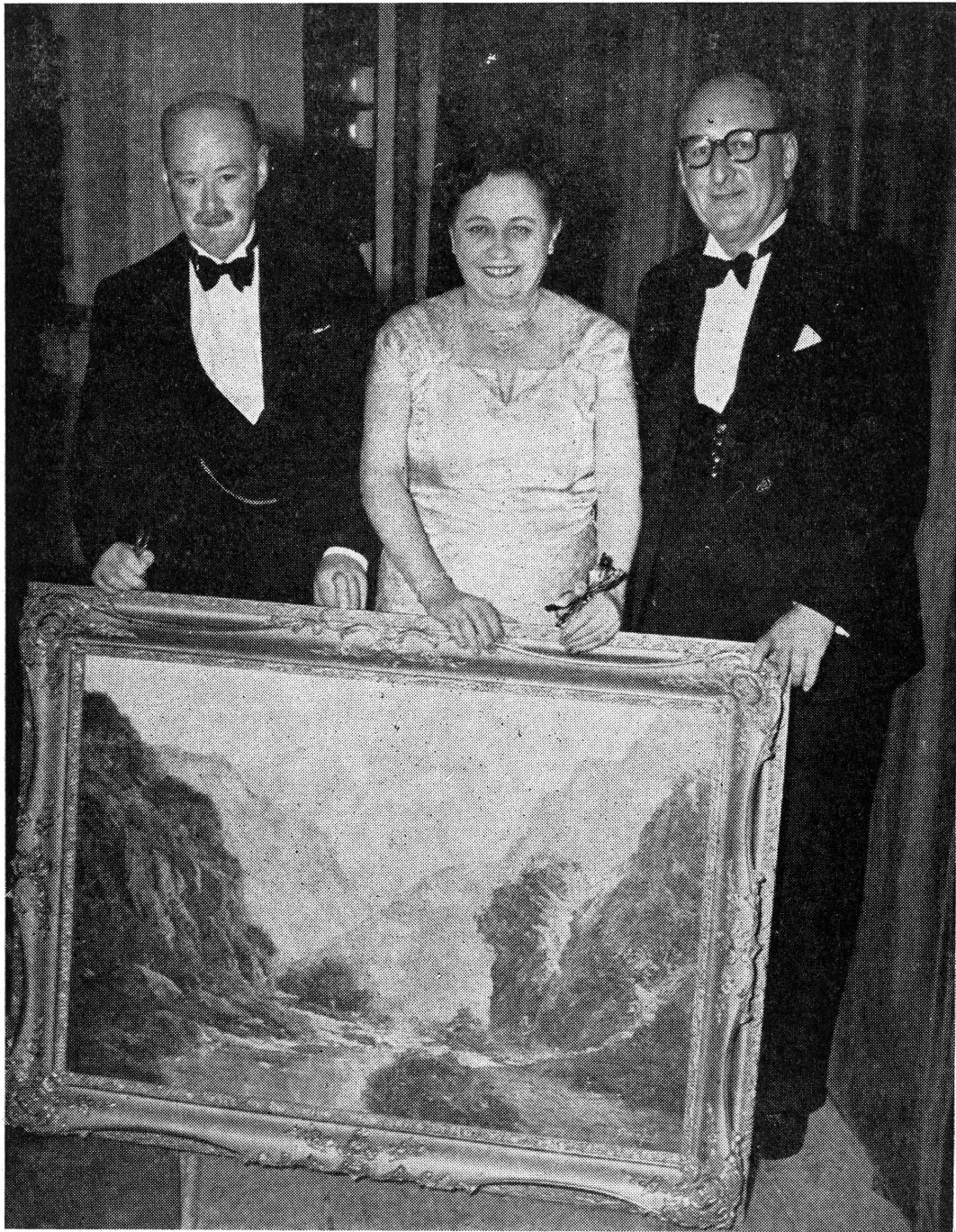


Photo: Martin Gibbs.

Capt. C. Emerson Huston (left) being presented with the Grand Prix (a painting by Gabriel de Jongh) by its donor, Mrs. E. Hunt. Mr. A. V. Jacob, Chairman of the Exhibition Committee, on the right.

nard, Hitler and After; C. E. D. Enoch, British Guiana; A. C. Mullen, Burma; J. Frankland, Morocco Agencies; B. Seelig, Australian Commonwealth; J. E. Creewell, Denmark; A. Wau-mans, Netherlands Indies; Leo Hellman, U.S.A.; Stuart A. Robertson, China; L. Buchen, Israel; E. C. Wright, Postal Stationery; E. S. C. Lauder, Centenary of Postage Stamps; E. Schaiowitz, Musicians and their Music; A. Brasch, Errors in Design; J. V. Jensen, Art and Philately; Dr. J. W. Harris, Medical Phi-lately of South Africa; G. Carr, Ships on Stamps.

Junior Section.

Special Silver Award: Miss Delphine Newlands, Holland and Belgium.

Bronze Award: Miss Dawn Newlands, Germany; Miss Deidre Newlands, North Borneo; Master David Newlands, Aden, Aden States and Muscat; Master Roy Burrow, Australian Commonwealth.

It will be noted from the above list that there are some ten awards given to thematic collections, evidence that this Jury at all events considers "Thematically" as definitely a part of Philately. In this connection we quote a few words from the Banquet Speech of Mr. Wm. Irving, Chairman of the Jury:

"Now may I say a few words upon Thematics. This is another branch of philately which is making great strides. It opens a wide field to the imagination and should be encouraged in every possible way. The exhibits which have been submitted give an idea of what **can** be done and we have shown our appreciation of their merit by awarding a silver-gilt medal to the best. Though inexpensive to compile, this type of collection has great educative value and there is no limit to its possibilities.

"We older collectors feel sure that those now concerned with more modern issues will, sooner or later, be attracted to the older stamps, even if they have to confine themselves only to a few countries. The great thing is to get pleasure and relaxation from our hobby."

We end with our congratulations to Mr. A. V. Jacob and all his fellow workers for so successfully initiating and carrying through the exhibition. A good job, well done.

Collectors' Wants & Offers

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

Collections and rarities especially Unions wanted for cash. Kindly contact—JOHN MENDELSSOHN, P.O. Box 1607, Johannesburg.

APPROVALS: British Colonials and World for all collectors.—BENONI STAMP SHOP, Benoni.

50% over Gibbons Catalogue price offered for a superb Mint and Used copy of Seychelles, S.G. 52A.—WILLIAM REDFORD, P.O. Box 1182, Johannesburg.

FOR SALE: Fine O.F.S., mint unless stated. S.G. numbers, those with an asterisk in pair with normals. At third catalogue, 102 block 4 used; 193*; 194* (two); 209; 222*; 226; 234*; 241* (two); 242b*; also Z.A.R. 212a used.—M. KARP, 46 Thomas Road, Walmer, C.P.

WANTED: CAPE TRIANGULARS. In good condition. Also Forgeries. Submit with prices to: JACK SHEPHERD, Box 97, Brakpan.

BRITISH AFRICANS: Continually breaking up collections of these. Your wants sent on approval.—L. WHITE, Box 9825, Johannesburg.

WANTED: Booklets, Post Cards, Registered Envelopes and Airlittercards, unused and used of Union only.—DR. MURRAY, Kuils River.

German P.O.'s Abroad and ex-Colonies, Approvals, Wants lists filled.—E. CHALLEN, Wilderness, C.P.

REQUIRED Switzerland. All issues, mint, used and covers. For Cash or Exchange for Geo. VI.—E. JOSEPH, P.O. Box 4967, Johannesburg.

WANTED: Large Quantities of Union, S.W.A. and all British African Stamps, washed and bundled. Send details first. Immediate Cash settlement once price is agreed.—D. R. R. SHIMMIN, P.O. Box 4578, Johannesburg.

STAMPS.—Want lists invited for any country; specialitiss Union, S.W.A., British Africa.—LACY'S, 211 Long Street, Capetown.

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Union Notes

Sub-Editor: Mr. W. N. SHEFFIELD,
Box 99, Cleveland, Transvaal.

Rare Union Items in the Royal Exhibit at Cape Town.

A notable part of the exhibit displayed by Her Majesty, Queen Elizabeth, at the South African Tercentenary International Stamp Exhibition held in Cape Town from the 26th March to the 5th April 1952, consisted of a frame containing the die and plate proofs of the Union's first stamp — the 2½d. Commemorative of 1910; the unadopted essays of the 1913 King George V issue; a number of pages of colour trials of the same series and complete panes of the 5/-, 10/- and 1s stamps of the first definitive set.

The pages of colour trials proved of particular interest in the fact that those of the 1d. stamp, in monocolour, showed examples in three different greens; two shades of blue; two greys; two different browns; a mauve, plum, carmine, scarlet and one of orange, a total of fourteen in all. Another series of sixteen trials of the frame of the 2½d., printed in a similar range of colours to that of the 1d., was also on view and, in addition, a set of twenty-eight examples of the 2½d. bicoloured trials with the frames in various colours and the head plates in black, blue, orange, brown, green and purple.

The unadopted designs of the 1913 issue were on thin card and in the colours of:

¾d.—Violet.	4d.—Red
1d.—Brown	4d.—Black
3d.—Yellow	5/-—Black.

The panes of sixty stamps of the 5/-, 10/- and 1s denominations in this rare display made one think of those days when these items could be purchased at post offices in the Union at face and so very seldom seen these days in pieces larger than a block of four. Incidentally, the 10/- pane proved of special interest to Union specialist collectors because of the presence of the **co-extensive** Jubilee line on the side of the end stamp, below the Plate Number. This variety is more familiar on several of the other values up to the 5/-, but is certainly not so well known in the 10/- denomination. It is an item that will have to be added to the list in the new Handbook/Catalogue.

Department of Posts and Telegraphs Exhibit at Cape Town.

The Union Postal Department's exhibit at the International Stamp Exhibition in Cape Town covered a wide and interesting field in a display of stamps in use prior to Union and also a selection of those issued since Union. It was pointed out in the Exhibition Catalogue that the collection was not intended to be one in the philatelic sense, but was simply a record of what the Department had in its possession and a number of the pre-Union items were shown on the leaves of albums to which the stamps had been stuck down with their own gum by officials of the former administrations. Any attempt at removal and remounting of these stamps might

have damaged irreplaceable items and where it was necessary to show both sides of such album leaves, the Department's admirable method of mounting the exhibit in double sided glass frames, swung on hinges fixed to central supporting stands, made it delightfully easy to view and study the display.

Of the modern stamps on view, those of the Van Riebeeck issue drew most attention for the display included the five original full scale drawings used by the Government Printing Department for the production of the different values and also a number of sheets of the colour trials which had been prepared for the series. There were four sheets of each denomination and the following list, compiled with the kind assistance of Mr. E. Johannesson of Cape Town, will give some idea of the colours considered when selecting the most suitable for the various values. In each case the fourth on the list was the adopted colour.

Van Riebeeck Commemorative Colour Trials.

- ¾d.—Black and orange. Cyls. 7018 (Int.) and 6923 (Ext.).
- Grey-black and rosine. Cyls. 7018 (Int.) and 6923 (Ext.).
- Claret and grey. Cyls. 7018 (Int.) and 6923 (Ext.).
- Claret and olive-brown. Cyls. 7018 (Int.) and 6923 (Ext.).
- 1d.—Blackish green. Cylinder 53.
- Light green. Cylinder 53.
- Myrtle green. Cylinder 53.
- Dark green (on toned paper). Cylinder 30.
- 2d.—Purple. Cylinder 46.
- Dark purple. Cylinder 46.
- Lilac. Cylinder 46.
- Dark violet. Cylinder 36.
- 4½d.—Blue. Cylinder 38.
- Light blue. Cylinder 38.
- Royal Blue. Cylinder 38.
- Dark blue. Cylinder 44.
- 1/-—Yellow-brown. Cylinder 27.
- Chocolate brown. Cylinder 27.
- Dark brown. Cylinder 27.
- Sepia brown. Cylinder 27.

It will be noted from the above that in some cases different cylinders were employed in making the colour trials.

SATISE and SADIPU Overprinted Stamps on Sale at the Exhibition.

The 1d. and 2d. Van Riebeeck Tercentenary Commemorative Stamps, which it had been announced in a Post Office Bulletin would be overprinted SATISE and SADIPU respectively and made available at the International Stamp Exhibition Post Office, duly appeared and were on sale at the Exhibition from the opening day on the 26th March to the 5th April, 1952. Those who were unable to attend could order (in sheets only) from the Philatelic Agency in Pretoria and it is understood that they will continue to be available from this source until stocks run out or they are withdrawn in the middle of June.

The overprints SATISE (South African Tercentenary International Stamp Exhibition) on the 1d. and SADIPU (Suid-Afrikaanse Driehonderdjarige Internasionale Posseeluitstalling) on the 2d., were both produced by the rotogravure process from screened cylinders in a similar manner to that adopted, and used for the first

time, for the "SWA" overprints on the Voortrekker Monument issue of 1949. The cross-lined screening in the letters of SATISE and SADIPU is easily visible under a magnifying glass and the mesh used for the 1d. overprint appears coarser than that employed for the 2d. value.



"SWA" Overprint of the Van Riebeeck Commemorative Stamps.

It is of interest to note that though the overprints on the SATISE and SADIPU stamps were produced by screened rotogravure, the "SWA" overprints on the Van Riebeeck series prepared for use in South West Africa were made by the letterpress process. An examination of the backs of these stamps will clearly show the indentation of the letters.

Toned Paper Variety in Van Riebeeck Series.

Mr. E. Johannesson of Cape Town has drawn attention to a toned paper variety in the Van Riebeeck Stamps. So far we have only seen it in the 1d. SATISE and 2d. SADIPU, but understand that it has also appeared in some of the other values. The variety is easily detected for the margins and backs of the stamps, and also the lighter portions of the design, all have a distinctly creamy appearance, especially when compared with items of the same denomination which have been printed on a white paper.

Current 3d. Stamps with Black Serial Numbers on Margin.

We have recently learned from several collectors that the current 3d. stamp — Union Cat. No. 48B: Cyl. 17 (Single) — has appeared on sale with five-figure black serial numbers on the margin. Previous printings of this stamp have been issued with four-figure red serial numbers on the margin and the change denotes that these particular stamps have simply been printed on another machine.

New Union Handbook/Catalogue Awarded Special Prize at the International Stamp Exhibition.

The new Union Handbook/Catalogue, the De Luxe edition of which appeared on the same day the Van Riebeeck Tercentenary Celebrations

commenced — March 14th, 1952; and the ordinary edition on the opening day of the International Stamp Exhibition in Cape Town — 26th March, has been acclaimed on all sides as a first class, informative and beautifully illustrated work which every Union collector, old or young, beginner or specialist, will truly welcome as the finest book yet published on the Union of South Africa stamps and as such was awarded a Special Prize at the Tercentenary International Exhibition held in Cape Town from 26th March to the 5th April, 1952.

Built up on the earlier pioneering work, writings and publications of Union collectors during the past forty years, the new Handbook/Catalogue has been greatly enlarged in order to cover practically all phases of Union philately. Its thirty-two sections range through a field commencing with the Philatelic History of the Union and the first commemorative issue of 1910 and then on to the Interprovincials; the "Georgian" series; Air Mails; London and Pretoria printings; Unhyphenated and Hyphenated rotogravure issues; Roll Stamps; Booklets; Commemoratives; War Effort issues; Officials; Postage Dues; Unions used Abroad; Parcels and Meter Franks, and finally the Christmas Seals which, though not bearing any postal value, have been sponsored by the Department since the scheme was launched some twenty-three years ago and which have become increasingly popular with collectors.

The system adopted of grouping and numbering the stamps is one which cannot fail to assist collectors of Unions and both beginners and specialists will find the solution to many of their problems in the pages of this volume.

As a non-trading publication all prices given in the catalogue can form only a guide in the matter of values, but it can be stated that every care has been taken in determining the figures for the various items and, in general, it will be found that the values given are a fairly true reflection of the present day market prices. Since these, of course, are likely to alter from time to time, it is proposed to publish a Supplement in the South African Philatelist each month. New issues, alterations of prices and additional information on such matters which may be raised by collectors will be dealt with in the Supplement and so arranged that it may be detached from the other pages of the magazine for separate filing.

Written by Union collectors for Union collectors this new Handbook/Catalogue must undoubtedly prove a boon to all those interested in this country's stamps and since the edition is a limited one there should be no hesitation in ordering a copy from your nearest stamp dealer, bookshop or The Business Manager, The Federation of Southern Africa, P.O. Box 375, Johannesburg, South Africa. A Form for the purpose will be found in another part of this journal.

And incidently, if you wish to keep up to date with additions and price changes as they appear in the Supplements it would be just as well to ensure regular delivery of the South African Philatelist by sending a yearly subscription to the same address as that given above. (Ten Shillings per annum, post free to any part of the World).

Discovery of Two Different Printings of the ½d. Cross-hatched Stamps.

Some two or three months ago we learned from Mr. S. J. Hagger of Alberton, Transvaal and Dr. G. I. Faerber of Germiston, that in the course of their joint study of the many printings of the ½d. rotogravure stamps they had found distinct evidence that there had actually been two and not just one printing of sheets of the rare cross-hatched issue. The absence of known flaws on certain stamps of what, for convenience at the moment, may be termed the "B" printing, a difference in the marginal arrows and also certain features in the designs, all pointed to more than one set of cylinders having been used and they have since been following the matter up with the object of publishing an article on the subject.

We have recently had an opportunity of seeing further specimens of these two printings in the possession of collectors as far apart as Cape Town and East London and there can be no doubt at all but that Messrs. Hagger and Faerber have made a most interesting discovery. They are busy at the moment concluding their investigations and we shall look forward to seeing their article in print at an early date.

"White Flower" and "Split Bar" Flaws on ½d. Stamps.

Dr. T. B. Berry of Bryanston, Transvaal, has written as follows on the above varieties.

I read with interest the account published in the March issue of the S.A. Philatelist, of Mr. Lichtenstein's report on the above variety which he received on a letter from Dr. T. B. Davie of Cape Town.

On examining my halfpenny stamps, I was glad to discover that this specimen was present in my collection — and, further, that the third stamp from it, Row 5, stamp II, contains a flaw, in effect, the left ear of the buck presenting a "white break" at its base which break extends upwards onto the superior margin of the ear.

As I possess only one specimen-block of this variety in my collection, I shall be glad to know if the "Split Ear" flaw is constant.

We can state that an examination of a sheet of these stamps shows that the flaw noted by Dr. Berry is constant.

PHILIPPINES.

The Bureau of Posts announces the issue on 31 January of a 5c. stamp honouring the Golden Jubilee of the Educational system. Also on 17 March a 5c. stamp which is the first of a "Famous Filipinos" series. This honours Marcelo del Pilar.

REVIEWS

Stanley Gibbons' Priced Catalogue, Part II. Europe and Colonies. 1952 Edition. Price 21/-. Postage 1/3

This brings the S.G. Catalogues up to their standard 3-volume form. As it is some years since the previous European volume was issued, there are many price alterations, including sharp rises in the early issues of many countries for which the demand is keen the world over.

Stamps of Indonesia and the Indonesian Republic are listed for the first time, while there is a non-specialized list of Japanese occupation issues in the Netherlands Indies.

There are improvements made to the lists of the earlier issues of Denmark and Russia.

Stamp illustrations are throughout of smaller size, thus saving space, but even so, the volume runs to 1,138 pages.

United States and U.S. Possessions. Stanley Gibbons, 391 Strand, London W.C.2. Price 2/6 plus 2d. postage.

This is published as a separate volume so that collectors do not have to wait until 1953 for Part III. of their catalogue covering America, Asia and Africa, but it is not intended that the U.S. should be omitted from Part III.

It covers the U.S. from the Postmaster's stamps up to the present day, the Confederate States and all the various U.S. possessions.

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ABYSSINIA.

Messrs. Whitfield King & Co. report the forthcoming issue of a set of 9 stamps to commemorate the federation with Eritrea.

EARLY MACHINE PRINTING TRIALS AT DARMSTADT, GERMANY. 1d. VALUE DUMMY LABELS AND HUNTER-PENROSE PHOTOGRAPHS.

The Printing of these Rotogravure "stamps", labels and Hunter-Penrose Photographs with a view to testing out the suitability of the Goebels-Mark II Printing Machine which was tested out prior to purchase by the Union Government, cannot be regarded as official South African productions.

They have therefore not received catalogue status and collectors are advised that large numbers (at least 1,000 sheets equalling 240,000 "stamps") were printed in testing this machine.

The attention of collectors however is invited to the essay on Page 79 of the Official Handbook Catalogue of 1952 which has official status as an essay of trial.

PHILATELIC FEDERATION 14th ANNUAL CONGRESS

This, with the largest attendance of delegates ever to attend Congress, was held on March 27th and 28th in the Municipal Buildings through the kindness of His Worship the Mayor of Cape Town. The mayor also formally opened Congress and treated delegates to a Civic Luncheon, an honour much appreciated.

Herewith a short summary of the proceedings; fuller details will be supplied as Minutes to the member societies: After the opening address by the President, Mr. A. V. Jacob, more or less formal business consisted of reports from the Executive Committee, the "Philatelist", the Expert Committee and the Handbook Committee.

The **Executive Committee** reported the re-admission to the Federation of the Pretoria Railway Philatelic Society and the acceptance of the application of the Afrikaanse Filatelistiese Vereniging for membership.

S.A. Philatelist. Although the Committee in charge of this had raised the advertising rates, as they had been empowered to do if considered necessary, it was still being run at a considerable loss owing largely to the increased cost of paper and printing. Mr. Redford announced the good news that paper was not likely to increase more in cost, although printing might. After considerable discussion it was decided that the magazine must continue but that the retail price should be raised to 1/- per copy or 10/- per annum as from the July issue, the situation to be reviewed in six months' time.

The **Expert Committee** reported that it had started work and in the case of 9 items submitted to it, 5 had been found to be genuine, 2 were cleaned fiscally used stamps, 1 a forgery, while one was still under consideration. Although the committee has a fair number of forgeries, reprints and literature available for reference, it would gratefully receive more material dealing with Africa south of the Equator for its use.

Handbook Committee. No formal report was submitted as the members had been far too busy in getting out the Handbook in time for the Exhibition. In this they had succeeded and Congress formally expressed its deep appreciation of the magnificent work done by the editors, and tendered its sincere thanks for their splendid effort.

The Committee stated that owing to the rush at the end, it had not been possible to check all the final proofs, particularly the Introduction on p. xiii. It had never been possible to mention all the names of those who had assisted in writing sections of the Handbook, but 4 important names had inadvertently been omitted from the list of those they had thanked in that Introduction. **A motion was unanimously agreed to that the names of Mr. Kirchner, Mr. Simenhoff, Dr. Reines and Mr. Petroulis should be added to the list of those thanked for their contributions. Papers.**

A record number of papers (five) were sub-

mitted to, and read at Congress. They were "Swaziland Forgeries", by J. H. Harvey Pirie; "Zululand Postal Markings", by W. Newlands; "Postal Registration Marks of the Royal Tour, 1947" by H. W. Bond; "The Urgent Need of an Annual issue of Health Stamps in South Africa", by J. P. Shingler; "Are Our Philatelic Horizons too Limited?" by J. S. Crewell. Congress awards were given to the first three papers.

Roll of Honour. Messrs. E. Hunt of Johannesburg and A. Watson of East London were elected to the Roll of Distinguished Philatelists in Southern Africa for their fine work done for philately over many years.

Skinner Cup. This Cup, a floating trophy to be held for a year, for the best work done for philately during the preceding twelvemonth, was awarded to Mr. Sam Legator for his work in connection with the Handbook. Mr. Legator in thanking Congress for the honour admitted modestly that he had done some work but felt he need not have been singled out from his two editorial colleagues.

Next Congresses. The invitation of the Philatelic Society of Rhodesia to hold the 1953 Congress in Bulawayo in connection with the Rhodes Centenary celebrations was accepted. The date suggested was 13-18 July.

The Philatelic Society of Natal suggested Durban as the place for the 1954 Congress, in the 3rd week of May. This was tentatively agreed to.

Office Bearers:

Dr. A. Kaplan was elected President for the ensuing year and as Vice-Presidents, Messrs. J. Shepherd, L. Bevis, A. V. Jacob, J. Crewell and C. Larsen.

Mr. J. Nathanson reported that owing to pressure of work he was unable to carry on in the joint post of Secretary-Treasurer of the Federation and Business Manager of the South African Philatelist. His resignation was accepted with regret and with thanks for his past services.

Mr. J. Michelson was appointed, subject to final approval by the sub-committee which had previously been set up by the Executive Committee with this matter.

Finale.

Mr. Newlands handed in to the Federation a long list of the Post Offices and Postal Agencies of the O.V.S. and O.R.C. which he had compiled with the help of Mr. P. Smits and Mr. A. C. Fenn. This should be valuable reference material for O.F.S. collectors.

During one of the sittings Mr. H. R. Harmer conveyed greetings to Congress from the Philatelic Congress of Great Britain. He was asked to convey reciprocal greetings to their forthcoming meeting in Southampton.

Thanks were expressed to the Cape Town Society for their hospitality and entertainment, particularly to Mrs. Hotz and the ladies' committee, also to Mr. Buchen for acting Secretary at the meeting and to the President for the wonderful evening party at his house, even if the "Khalifa" display by a Malay party sticking skewers in themselves and cutting (or not cutting) themselves with swords did prove a little too much for some of those witnessing it.

THE "PHILATELIC ADVISER"

is a high-class monthly Magazine specialising in stamps and postmarks of Great Britain, but catering in addition for the General Collector. All articles fully illustrated and printed on good quality paper. It occasionally has authoritative articles on Tristan da Cunha and other South African news, and should be read by all philatelists. Price 1/3 per issue, 15/- per year. A specimen copy will be gladly sent to any serious philatelist.

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25 2/- blk. and brown 12	11 6	5 0	
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ENGLAND.

SOUTH AFRICAN LETTER CARD ISSUES.

KOREA

By Jeffrey Jones.

(This article is reprinted from "The Aero Field" by kind permission of Messrs. Francis J. Field, Ltd., Sutton Coldfield, England. Our thanks are also due to them for loan of the block illustrating the types of Letter Card.

Mr. Jones seems to have been luckier than anyone in South Africa in obtaining specimens of these cards. Although numbers of them have presumably come here, we have so far only seen one specimen, of Mr. Jones Type 2. Like the specimens he mentions this came through by air without postmarks of any kind.—Ed.)

In addition to the overprints shown in the illustration, the bi-lingual 3-line inscription reading "IF A HIGHER POSTAGE RATE IS APPLICABLE—TO THE COUNTRY OF DESTINATION THE/ADDITIONAL POSTAGE MUST BE PREPAID" which appears on the back when folded, was blocked out in the same blue colour.

Other differences by which the three issues may be distinguished are as follows:

Type 1.—Three obliterating bars, 31 mm. x 3½ mm., maximum dimensions of inscription 46 mm. x 7 mm.

Type 2.—Four obliterating bars 31 mm. x 7 mm., inscription as type 1.



As will be seen from the illustration, there have been three types of overprint employed on the Letter Cards issued to the Air Unit serving in Korea. As far as I can ascertain, the three types were issued in the order illustrated. The whole overprint, consisting of the air mail etiquette, bi-lingual "Free Forces Mail" inscription and the obliterating bars, is in royal blue, the third issue being slightly deeper than the first two.

Type 3.—Four obliterating bars 29 mm. x 8 mm., inscription in bolder letters, 52 mm. x 7 mm.

The issues are extremely scarce as they are strictly rationed. I have seen the second and third issues in used condition, flown from Korea to South Africa via Japan, but there are no transit marks at any point. I have, however, heard of a few specimens mailed per an Australian unit P.O., which bear a circular postmark reading: "Aust. Army P.O. 214" with date.

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H. R. HARMER.

On his way home from the Cape Town Exhibition Mr. H. R. Harmer very kindly agreed to break his journey in Johannesburg and to address philatelists there. A meeting was arranged by the local society and there was a very good turn-out of collectors from all over the Transvaal on the afternoon of Saturday, 11th April when Mr. Harmer, speaking without notes, gave some personal reminiscences of great philatelists of the past, and his views about present-day collecting.

With regard to the market at present he said that in France business was not too good because of heavy taxation; in Germany it was hampered through the division into East and West. In Switzerland prices were comparatively high; in Italy there was a fair market, but it was hampered by lack of ready money; in Greece it was difficult to do business on account of currency regulations, but the demand for good stamps was good. In London prices were good although those for the less popular countries were falling. In New York the market was good although prices were somewhat lower than in London; the greatest demand was for U.S.A. stamps. Canada and South America were also good markets, although largely for their own stamps.

He regarded the Cape Town Exhibition as a great success and thought that Johannesburg should not be too long in staging another International for South Africa.

He himself had a very large collection of Forgeries and he thought that all collectors should include forgeries in any specialized collections. But, he said, do not pay high prices for them as that merely encouraged the "forging of forgeries". There was not actually much forging of stamps going on nowadays, but there was a lot of faking of overprints and cancellations, most of them however pretty easily detected.

Many took advantage of Mr. Harmer's offer to answer questions. Among his answers were the following: Classics with full gum generally fetched about twice as much as similar stamps without full original gum — that was how the market stood. Whether it was sensible or not was a different matter. Union stamps and varieties sold very well in London, but he thought at rather less than what they should fetch, having regard to their rarity. On the continent of Europe there was little demand for them.

He regarded stamps as being the finest international currency in existence; there was nothing else in the world so easily portable and so readily convertible.

His reminiscences of Baron Ferrari, whom he regarded as the greatest philatelist of all time, were most interesting; also his experiences in the selling of great collections, such as those of Hind and of President Roosevelt.

Mr. Harmer was thanked most enthusiastically for his talk and as a small tribute he was presented with a De Luxe copy of the Union Handbook/Catalogue.

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SOCIETY NEWS

PHILATELIC SOCIETY OF JOHANNESBURG.

March.

At our first meeting we were pleased to welcome our friends from the Pretoria Philatelic Society, although their President, Mr. F. C. Ferguson, found himself unable to come at the last minute. The Vice-President, Mr. Gain, was however able to attend and Mr. Ferguson's paper and exhibit "Philatelic Odds and Ends" was very happily presented by Miss Versfeld.

In addition Mr. Wright shewed a very fine collection of Rhodesia and Mrs. Butler displayed a selection from her Covers of Interest.

Our second meeting suffered from competition, as many of our stalwarts were away in Cape Town for the Exhibition, while nearer home political and pugilistic interests claimed other talent. Those who did resist the other distractions had a very enjoyable quiet evening getting down to some swopping. One of these days we shall have to repeat this with a larger attendance as it evidently does meet a want.

April. This evening there were a number of small exhibits by various members, limited to 12 sheets each. Mr. Economides showed U.S.A.; Com. Enoch, first issue of Siam; Mr. Frankland, a variety of covers; Mr. B. Glassman, K.G. VI issues; Mr. Schaiowitz, used Union Georgians; Mr. Lydall, Gambia; Mr. Isaacs, New Zealand flown covers; Mr. Michelson, Latvia; Dr. Pirie, French Zanzibar; Mr. Roux, Cape cork cancellations; Mr. von Varendorff, Crete, Austria and Levant; and Mr. Oppenheim, a recent 1st day covers. I.I.

UNIVERSITY OF CAPE TOWN PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

26 March.

Unfortunately only 9 members were present when Mr. Nathan and Mr. Anderson showed some of their stamps, mainly Union of South Africa. This seems to be the first occasion on which Union stamps have been in the forefront at our meetings — a rather peculiar state of affairs.

April.

Mr. Dubowitz provided a mixed display which ranged from undelivered covers to Union cylinder blocks via United States Commemoratives, some of which were written up with interesting short biographies.

We are looking forward to seeing what the Cape Town Society bring along and we trust that nobody will have to give an impromptu talk this time while we wait for the coffee to warm up! D.A.

PRETORIA RAILWAY PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

March.

The usual monthly meeting of the Society took place on the 12th, when the attendance was not quite up to the high standard that has been set for the past few meetings. However, all those members who did attend appeared to have spent a very pleasant evening. Mr. Castignani read a very interesting paper on his collection of "Islands of the British Empire" and received a very good reception from those who were present. After the interval, this gentleman tabled his exhibit of the commemorative issues of his collection, and certainly gave us a very fine show indeed. Mr. Coombe Martin spoke on the exhibit, and congratulated Mr. Castignani for his excellent show. Mr. Martin said that the exhibitor had shown what could be done in a short time by one who made up his mind as to what he wanted, and then set about doing it. I would like to endorse Mr. Martin's remarks, and add my congratulations to a very fine show.

We welcome as members to the Society Mr. and Mrs. Oliver, Mrs. Gough, Messrs. Bruhn, du Toit, and D. S. M. Schoeman all of Pretoria, and Mr. E. H. Cox of Elsburg, Transvaal.

F. J. V. L.

EAST RAND PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

At our March meeting there was a fair attendance seeing that some of our members were away at Cape Town.

Messrs. Johnson and Baan were duly elected members to the Society.

The evening's exhibits were supplied by the following members:

Mr. Clements, Gold Coast: a very nice mint collection with the High values.

Mr. Rigg, Nyasaland: mostly mint.

Mr. MacArthur: First Day covers from a great number of countries.

Mr. Slomowitz: a few pages taken from his Union Collection.

Mr. Feinstein: Covers of the period before stamps were used in the Cape Colony. F.J.R.

PORT ELIZABETH PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

Mr. Forbes presided over the first meeting of the month on March 4th.

Mr. Winsley was responsible and shewed some 40 pages of Japanese occupation of Malaya, both mint and used.

The display included D5 of various states, overprints by woodcut in Japanese characters, also Dai Nippon and the so-called Kanji characters.

At the second meeting on March the 18th Mr. Leale tabled about 70 pages of his general collection.

There were three pages of old U.S.A. of interest: pages of Zanzibar, Nyasaland, British East Africa and Kenya. A used £1 stamp of Edward VII and a 5/- one overprinted B.C.A. were keenly scrutinised. Most of the issues were used.

A strip of six halfpenny Union stamps was noteworthy as there were 2 English together followed by two Afrikaans and again 2 English.

A number of pages filled with different New Zealand Health stamps were on view.

Although there was no write-up, the copies were clean and altogether it was a very creditable show.

Mr. Bulbring gave a vote of thanks to Mr. Leale, after which Mr. Watson auctioned a large number of packets. L.E.C.

OBITUARY.

W. L. Ashmead.

We regret to announce the death on 31st March of William Lacey Ashmead, one of the most senior members of the Cape Town Philatelic Society. He was on the Roll of South African Distinguished Philatelists and a full biography was published in our issue of May 1950, page 69.

SOME RECENT AUCTION PRICES.

Robson Lowe.

Cyprus £1 (S.G. 101), mint, £15 10s.

Malta 10/- (S.G. 96), mint, £31 10s.

Great Britain, K.G. V Registered envelope, 3d. brown plus 2d. orange, £11.

Great Britain, 1882 £1, brown lilac, used, £35.

Great Britain, 1924-26, 1½d. tête-bêche mint pair £7 15s.

Great Britain, K.E. VII 6d. I.R. official, £800.

H. R. Harmer.

Cape, Brilliant pair, unused 6d. (S.G. 20), £19.

Ditto, single, very large margins, £13.

Gambia 3/- (S.G. 139), block of 4 mint, £65.

Seychelles S.G. 44f, 3c. on 16c. pair, one with opt. omitted, £20.

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BURMA, Mily Admn. set at about half face value!	15/-
CANADA 1942 War Effort set to \$1, two Air stamps and three Special Delivery, S.G. 375-93, 399-400, S 12-14	30/-
CEYLON 1949 Independence set of four, S.G. 406-409	1/-
CEYLON 1950 set of six 1R, S.G. 413-418	4/-
COOK ISLANDS, 1944 Mult. wmk. set, S.G. 131-139	9/6
COOK ISLANDS, 1949 set to 3/-, S.G. 150-159	9/9
CYPRUS 1938 ¼p. to £1, one of each value without shades or perforation varieties (16 stamps)	50/-
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MOROCCO 1940 Centenary set of seven, fine used	7/6
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MOROCCO 1950 2/6, 5/- and 10/-, S.G. 408-410, fine used	21/-
MOROCCO 1950 ½d. to 5/-, S.G. 411-417, fine used	10/-
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NEWFOUNDLAND 1941 perf. 12½ set to 48c., S.G. 276-289	12/6
NYASALAND 1945 set complete to £1, S.G. 144-157	50/-
PITCAIRN ISLAND 1940 set of eight to 2/6, S.G. 1-8	5/9
SEYCHELLES 1938-49 set complete with all colours and shades (28 stamps)	£13
SIERRA LEONE, complete set to £1, S.G. 188-200	70/-
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THE PANTOGRAPHED "QUEEN'S HEAD" STAMPS OF THE TRANSVAAL—1878/1880

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

(So far as we are aware this is the first time a philatelic journal has shown an illustration of a pantograph.—Ed.)

According to the Catalogue of Messrs. Stanley Gibbons Limited the "Queen's Head" postage stamps of the Transvaal were issued first on the 26th August, 1878. The issue comprised the 1d. red-brown; 3d. dull-rose; 4d. sage-green; 6d. olive-black; 1/- green and 2/- blue. The vermilion hued ½d. "Queens" followed in the year 1880.

The "Queen's Head" stamps were recessed-printed from electrotyped intaglio or en creux plates by Bradbury, Wilkinson and Company in England. As narrated hereunder the plates were made by an apparatus known as a pantograph.

I became interested in these stamps some years ago after I had read an article published in the "Philatelic Journal of Great Britain" for October 1932 entitled "Pantographed Stamps" penned by that very eminent philatelist the late Percy Loines Pemberton.

Like the Athenians of old I too delighted "to hear of some new thing". I wanted to hear (and to see if possible) something more about this new thing — for at that time it was something new to me — so I wrote to Messrs. Bradbury, Wilkinson & Co. Ltd. concerning this pantographic apparatus. In reply to my letter they very kindly stated that —

"As asked for in your letter of the 27th February I am enclosing herewith a rough sketch of our eight pointed diamond pantograph machine, which I hope is what you want."

I have copied and drawn the sketch annexed to this article from the rough sketch in pencil which I received from Messrs. Bradbury, Wilkinson and Co. Limited and I have concatenated the sketch with the words contained in the historiette penned by the late P. L. Pemberton for the "Philatelic Journal of Great Britain, to wit:—

"I am indebted to the kindness of Mr. Charles A. Tyrer, the Manager of the Engraving Department at Messrs. Bradbury, Wilkinson, who not only showed me over the works and allowed me to inspect the actual pantograph apparatus, but has since most courteously and patiently supplied me with information on several puzzling points which presented themselves during an examination of the actual stamps.

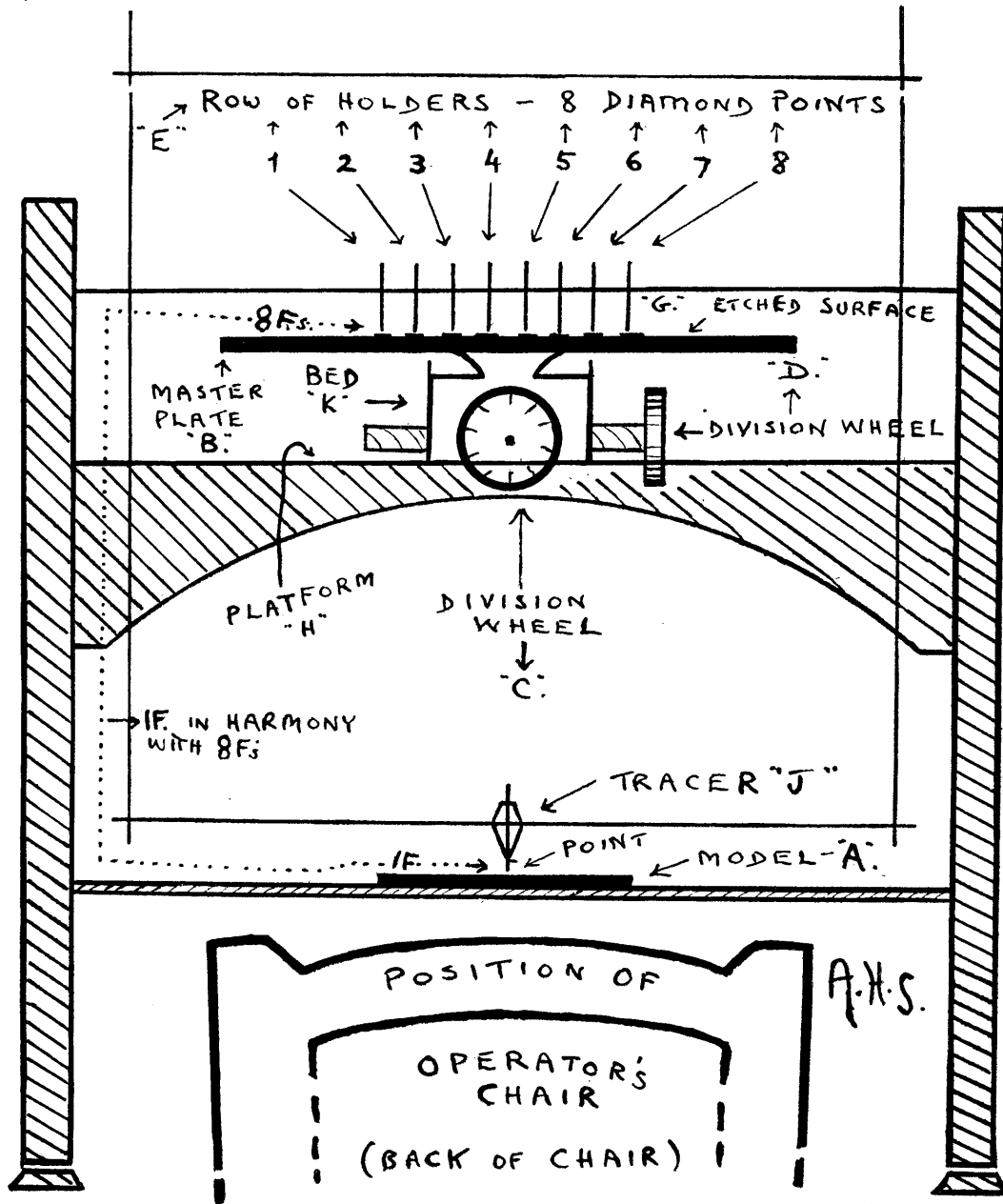
My enquiries were prompted in the first instances by my belief, which had been gradually been taking shape, that the Falkland Island stamps and those of the Queen's issue of the Transvaal must have been pantographed, and I was pleased to find that this belief is confirmed. Mr. Tyrer tells me that the pantograph is now

never used for stamps except on original dies, though it is still used for documents of security.

A pantograph is an instrument which reproduces a drawing on a different scale from the original; I imagine that the principles on which it works is too well known to need a description. The special feature of the Bradbury, Wilkinson & Co. pantograph which is a contrivance of their own invention is that it reproduces, not one, but a number of etchings at one operation. The operator uses a large model of the design in negative which is called the zinco. (See Model "A" on Sketch). This is eight times the size of the stamp, and is engraved in line, corresponding to the lines of the design. On a platform above this, and above the head of the operator (See PLATFORM "H" on Sketch), as he sits at his work, is the copper plate which is to be etched. (See MASTER "B" on Sketch). This is fixed on to a bed (See BED "K" on Sketch), which can be moved backwards and forwards by means of screws. (See DIVISION WHEELS "C" and "D" on Sketch). The plate is covered with an etching surface — a thin coating of wax-like composition — (See ETCHED SURFACE "G" on Sketch) and above it is a row of holders, corresponding in number to the number of stamps required in a single row. (See Row of HOLDERS "E" on Sketch). Each of the holders grips a diamond sharpened to a point, and these are spaced the length of a stamp apart (for the plates were etched in vertical rows). The whole row of diamonds (See 8 DIAMOND POINTS on Sketch) is brought down so that their points rest on the surface of the plate in the required position, and then the operator turns to his model. (See MODEL "AA" on Sketch). This is rubbed over with whitening, which serves to throw up the lines of the design and to lessen the danger of being overlooked. The operator traces a pointed instrument (See TRACER "J" on Sketch) along the lines of the model (See MODEL "A" on Sketch) and as he does so all the diamonds (See Nos. 1 to 8 on Sketch) etch the design in harmony (See 8 F's to 1 F on Sketch) on the surface of the plate, but reduced to stamp size. By the time all the lines of the model have been gone over, a whole vertical row of stamp designs has been etched; the plate is then adjusted (by means of the division wheels — see Sketch "C" and "D") and the operation is repeated until the whole plate is finished.

The plate is then covered with acid, which goes through the etching ground at the points where it has been pierced by the diamonds, and bites into the metal, thereby producing the depressions in the surface of the plate, which are required for printing the design in intaglio.

After the plate has been cleared of the etching ground, and thoroughly cleaned, proofs are



taken, when, if any defects are revealed, they are touched up by hand by an engraver. An important point to remember is that the plates so made were never used to print the stamps; they were kept as Master Plates, and the actual printing done from electros taken from them."

Each stamp of the Transvaal Queen's Head issue showed its denomination in numeral and in word; for instance, "½" and "HALF PENNY", "1" and "ONE PENNY" and "6" and "SIX PENCE", etc. The frame design was common to all the denominations. Mr. Tyrer told Mr. Pemberton that the different numerals and words were inserted on the different plates as follows:

After the plate for one value was ready, a

"matrix" was "grown from it" and from this, which had the design in relief or en epargne, the values were cut away. An electro was then "grown" from the matrix with value labels blank. The new values were then pantographed direct into the blank spaces on the electro. If, for example, the said plate was the 1d. denominated one, then the numerals "1", "1", "1" and "1" and the words "ONE PENNY" would have been cut away and the numerals "6", "6", "6" and "6" and the words "SIX PENCE" pantographed into the blank spaces of the electro derived from the said "matrix", if, of course, the next plate required was that for the 6d. denomination.

UNION XMAS STAMPS

(Vide Union Handbook, pp. 319-326).

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A press notice from Messrs. Whitfield King & Co. announces the following stamps as either just issued or about to appear very soon:

British Guiana: A new 4c Postage Due.

Czechoslovakia. Two stamps honouring the violinist Sovcik and three commemorating fighters against fascism.

Fiji. A competition is offered for designs for two health stamps.

France. Celebrities of the 19th century to be honoured by an early issue are Flaubert, Manet, Poincaré, Haussman, Saint-Saëns and Thiers.

Hungary. Set of eleven stamps featuring birds.

Israel. Two stamps on the occasion of the National stamp exhibition held in April and three for the 4th Anniversary of the proclamation of the State of Israel.

Libya. Sets of 12 postage and 4 postage dues, definitive.

Netherlands. A 10c. stamp for the 50th anniversary of the Limburg coal mine.

North Borneo. A 50c. with revised spelling of "Jesselton".

Saar. Two Olympic Games stamps and a Saarp Day one.

Tonga. 14 new pictorials (1d. to £1).

Virgin Islands. Definitive set 1c. to 4.80 dollars.

SHORT NOTICES.

The Barclay Wholesaler. We have received a copy of this little magazine described as Canada's only monthly stamp trade publication and stated to reach 3,500 dealers. It contains a useful list of the quantities of Canadian stamps issued, from the K.E. VII of 1903-12 onwards.

Harold D. Bearce. Of 8242 Flora, Kansas City 5 Mo. U.S.A.. This gentleman appears to be interested in many lines of philately, e.g. Luxemburg, Korea and a number of Thematic lines. We have sent on a number of Press Releases on Scouts, Flowers, etc. to the Thematic Society in Cape Town.

New Zealand. The Auckland Philatelic Society (P.O. Box 1932, Auckland), in response to a resolution of the Federation of N.Z. Philatelic Societies, is sponsoring an International Stamp Exhibition to be held there July 16-22, 1955 to mark the centenary of N.Z.'s first postage stamps.

Il Filatelico. This new paper, published at Via Umberto 222, Catania, Italy, looks as if it would be of interest to general collectors with a special leaning towards Italian stamps, provided of course that they can read Italian easily.

SOUTH AFRICA.

I shall be holding another postal Auction on May 24th, 1952, again Union items only. Catalogue and prices realised, 1/6 post free.

Union Handbook/Catalogue, 23/-
postage paid.

C. E. SHERWOOD

105 MARFORD CRESCENT, SALE,
MANCHESTER, G.B.

"STAMP COLLECTING" — No. 2000.

Our heartiest congratulations to "Stamp Collecting", whose issue of 29th February, 1952, was No. 2,000. Its record of having appeared every week for nearly 40 years is one which is probably unequalled, although there are a few philatelic magazines still going strong — like Johnny Walker — of older foundation.

Three philatelists prominently associated with No. 1 are contributors to No. 2,000 — Douglas Armstrong, "Dickie" Dalwick and Percy Bishop.

No. 2002 was a special South African number commemorating the Tercentenary International Stamp Exhibition."

NORTHERN RHODESIA.

The "Commonwealth Courier" reports the K.G. VI 2d. carmine-rose and 3d. bright ultramarine as going to be good items. They went obsolete rather unexpectedly and no dealer seem to have laid in any great stock of them. Two new values, 4½d. and 9d., are due for issue on 5 May.

CANADA.

Two forthcoming stamps will be a 4c. featuring the head of a Rocky Mountain sheep or Bighorn, and a 20c. representing forestry products.

SPORTS STAMPS.

A report has been received from Messrs. Whitfield King & Co. of an International Exhibition of Sports Stamps held in Rome on March 19-30 under the auspices of the Italian National Olympic Committee. There were some 140 exhibitors, including 12 Governments. Mr. Jas. Whitfield King was the British member of the International jury.

It appears to have been a very fine show although there was much dubiety as to just what constitutes a Sport stamp. The Italian Government rose to the occasion by the issue of a special 25l. stamp and this was also overprinted "A.M.G. F.T.T." for use in Trieste.

THE RHODESIAS.

Next year is the centenary of the birth of C. J. Rhodes and an exhibition will be held in Bulawayo from 15 April to 15 August under the auspices of the N. and S. Rhodesian Governments.

It has been announced that five Commemorative stamps will be issued by S. Rhodesia, ½d., 1d., 2d., 4½d. and 1/- and probably a similar set by N. Rhodesia, although here the top value may be 9d. instead of 1/-.

AUSTRALIAN COLLECTORS:

1952 Orlo-Smith Commonwealth Specialists' Catalogue. Completely revised and up-to-date. Price 7/6 Reg. post 6d. extra. Trade Enquiries:



JACK'S PHILATELISTS,

64/6 Main Road, Mowbray, Cape Town.

THE SOUTH AFRICAN PHILATELIST

PROPRIETORS AND PUBLISHERS :

The Philatelic Federation of Southern Africa

Honorary Editor: Dr. J. H. HARVEY PIRIE }
Business Manager: Mr. J. MICHELSON. } P.O. Box 375, Johannesburg.

Subscription: Ten Shillings per annum, post free to any part of the world.

Vol. 28 No. 6.

JUNE, 1952.

Whole No. 327.

EDITORIAL NOTE.

Following on the decision taken at the recent Federation Congress in Cape Town the price of the **South African Philatelist** will be raised as from the next, July, issue to 1/- per copy, or 10/- per annum prepaid subscription.

It is regretted that this has to be done, but the cost of printing is now so high, that even with the increase in the advertising rates, the shortfall each month is still such that the magazine cannot be continued at the old rates.

Subscriptions that have been paid at the old rate to 1st June will be filled, the rise only coming into force when subscriptions fall to be renewed.

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 11.1.1952 to the 29.4.1952. For the previous list see our March 1952 issue.

Ordinary Pictorial Stamps.

1d.—Job No. 474 contd. On an order for 1,000,000 sheets, 467,180 x 240 have been delivered to date from the same cylinders as before, 6925 (Int.) and 36 (Ext.).

2d.—Job No. 475 contd. No addition to previous list. Total delivered to date, 568,137 x 240 sheets from cylinders 6927 (Int.) and 50 (Ext.).

3d.—Job No. 12451. On an order for 120,000 sheets, 18,710 x 120 have been delivered to date from the same cylinder as before, No. 17. Date of first delivery on this order, 11.3.52.

6d.—Job No. 12452. On an order for 60,000 sheets, 13,074 x 240 have been delivered to date from the same cylinders as before, 6930 (Int.) and 6 (Ext.). First delivery 13.3.52.

1/-—Job No. 12453. On an order for 120,000 sheets, 1,000 x 120 have been delivered to date from same cylinders as before, 6926 (Int.) and 6935 (Ext.). First delivery 29.4.52.

Van Riebeeck Stamps.

½d.—Job No. 7883. On an order for 71,000 sheets, 76,272 x 120 were delivered from new cylinders 6923 (Int.) and 7018 (Ext.). Date of first delivery 12.1.52 and final on 28.2.52.

1d.—Job No. 7884. On an order for 580,000

sheets, 374,750 x 120 have been delivered to date from new cylinder No. 30. First delivery on the 22.1.52.

2d.—Job No. 7885. On an order for 460,000 sheets, 462,399 x 120 were delivered between the 29.1.52 and 22.4.52 from new cylinder No. 36.

½d.—Job No. 7886. On an order for 47,000 sheets, 45,494 x 120 were delivered between the 18.1.52 and 22.1.52 from new cylinder No. 44.

1/-—Job No. 7887. On an order for 56,000 sheets, 58,440 x 120 were delivered during the period 10.1.52 and 15.1.52 from new cylinder No. 27.

Van Riebeeck Stamps—Overprinted SATISE and SADIPU.

1d.—Overprinted SATISE on Stamp Printing Machine with new cylinder No. 4:—
8,500 sheets x 120 on 29.1.52.

5,000 sheets x 120 on 20.3.52.

2d.—Overprinted SADIPU on Stamp Printing Machine with new cylinder No. 6922:

8,657 sheets x 120 on 29.1.52.

5,000 sheets x 120 on 25.3.52.

Van Riebeeck Stamps—Overprinted SWA.

The following sheets were overprinted SWA on a flat bed machine from New Process Blocks on the same job numbers as the respective stamps. The same blocks were used for all values.

½d.—6,000 sheets x 120 on the 22.1.52.

1d.—4,000 sheets x 120 on the 24.1.52.

2d.—4,160 sheets x 120 on the 31.1.52.

½d.—1,340 sheets x 120 on the 24.1.52.

1/-—840 sheets x 120 on the 18.1.52.

The following were supplied by the P.M.G. and overprinted SWA from the same blocks as the foregoing on the 25.3.52.

1d.—Job No. 33541 — 3,000 sheets x 120.

2d.—Job No. 33542 — 10,000 sheets x 120.

½d.—Job No. 33543 — 2,500 sheets x 120.

1/-—Job No. 33544 — 2,500 sheets x 120.

Roll Stamps.

1d.—Job No. 478 contd. On an order for (a) 8,000 rolls x 506 and (b) 5,000 rolls x 1,012 stamps, the number delivered to date amount to (a) 7,626 rolls and (b) 3,061 rolls. Cylinder No. 24 as before. Stamps per sheet — 264. One colour stamps.

Air Letter Cards.

6d.—Job No. 3911 contd. On an order for 4,000,000 cards, the total from the one colour cylinder No. 18 remains unchanged at 1,707,600: final date of delivery 27.11.51. Delivered to date from Chambon Printing Machine, 658,800: date of first delivery 18.3.52.

Pictorial Post Cards.

1d.—Job No. 3912 contd. On an order for 2,720,000 cards, 2,768,320 have been delivered to date. Same printing on Chambon Machine and final date of delivery 21.2.52.

"Official" Stamps.

The following were supplied by the P.M.G. and overprinted OFFICIAL—OFFISIEEL from the same process blocks as before.

1d.—Job No. 12455. 500 sheets x 240, 11.3.52.

6d.—Job No. 12456. 300 sheets x 240, 11.3.52.

1/—Job No. 12457. 300 sheets x 120, 11.3.52.

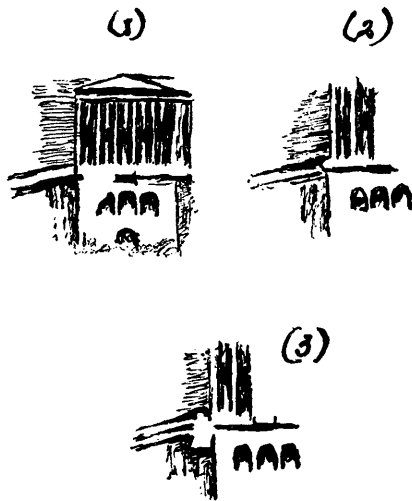
Air Letter Cards Overprinted Swaziland.

6d.—Job No. 33437. Supplied by the P.M.G. and overprinted SWAZILAND from same formes as before on 11.3.52 — 18,000 cards.

Unrecorded Varieties on 2d. Rotogravure Stamps of 1931-36.

The accompanying sketches illustrating flaws on copies of the 2d. unhyphenated stamps of 1931-36, have been received from Mr. H. J. Anderson of Glasgow who enquires if any other readers have noted these particular varieties.

In each case the varieties appear on English inscribed stamps and Mr. Anderson has four copies of No. 1 showing the broken architrave or balcony. In No. 2, the side of the building



(1) BROKEN ARCHITRAVE
OR BALCONY

(2) RETOUCH?

(3) WHITE FLAW

ALL ENGLISH LANGUAGE
STAMPS OF 1931-1934
ISSUE, 2D ROTO. (5644)

and edge of the roof shows some signs of re-touching and he would like to know if No. 2 is actually a retouch of No. 1. No. 3 was purchased quite recently and shows a white flaw the same size and shape as the mark illustrated in No. 1, giving the impression that something attached itself to the cylinder to cause the broken architrave variety and then moved and caused the blotch at the side.

Any information on the matter would be much appreciated.

"Van Riebeeck" Postmark with February Date.

A drawing of the VAN RIEBEECK Post Office cancellation bearing the date "17 FEB. 52" has been sent in by Mr. M. Peisach of Cape Town. He records that this postmark appeared on certain envelopes posted at the Van Riebeeck Festival Fair on Saturday night, 15th March, and that the date was clearly "FEB" and not "III", as in the case of the official First Day covers. He also notes that the circles of the cancellation mark were larger in diameter than those on the First Day covers.

Three Printings of the ½d. Cross-Hatched Stamps.

Writing in connection with our note in the May number about there being two different printings of the ½d. cross-hatched issue, Mr. A. H. Sydow of Cape Town mentions that he has discovered printings in his collection from **Three Sets of Cylinders** of these particular stamps. One set is numbered in the "South African Philatelist" among the intimations from the Government Printer, but two sets have not been referred to in the printing information and so are, of course, unnumbered.

Mr. Sydow states that he is busy writing a paper on the subject and has also almost completed other two in connection with the ½d. bi-coloured stamps from sheets, coils and booklets which he proposes to send forward for publication in this magazine in the near future. His collection includes 26 sets of the ½d. Rotos from sheets and 39 sets of cylinders in all from sheets, coils and booklets, and there is no doubt but that his research work has proved one of the most interesting and popular items in the collecting of Union stamps — the ½d. Springbok Head and especially the Roto series — will be welcomed by all students of this country's stamps.

Incidentally, Mr. Sydow's letter announcing his discovery of three printings of the ½d. cross-hatched issue arrived at just the right time to answer a query from Mr. R. T. Lilley of Johannesburg who had written a little earlier in the month asking if it was possible that there were **three** printings of these particular stamps. He had found copies in his possession which had given rise to the question and other readers with duplicates may now find it of interest to examine them in detail for different printing features.

Constant Varieties in the Van Riebeeck Series.

A list of the constant varieties present on the current Van Riebeeck stamps received from Mr. K. W. Kuhne of Ermelo, Transvaal, gives the following additions to those recorded in our April issue.

½d.—Row 18/5—Dart in top edge of left hand medal.

2d.—Row 9/5 — Two black dots above mountain.

4½d.—Row 2/6 — White tail and dot to "K" of van Riebeeck.

Row 6/18 — Damaged "A" of AFRICA and stroke to "D" of SUID.

1/—Row 6/5 — White spot below "2" in date 1652.

Van Riebeeck Issue Toned Paper Variety.

Referring to the toned paper variety, mentioned in our May "Notes" as present in some of the Van Riebeeck denominations, Mr. J. Robertson of Johannesburg records that he has noted both white and toned papers in the printings of the 4½d. and 1/- stamps. And Mr. G. F. Duigan, Johannesburg, also reports that the toned paper variety has been seen in the 2d. Van Riebeeck without the SADIPU overprint. The 1d. is known to exist with the SATISE overprint, but no information has yet come to hand regarding the ½d. value.

Small 2d. "Official"—Overprint Variety.

Following the note and illustration in our December 1951 issue of a single Small 2d. "Official" bearing the old type of overprint, we received a letter from Mr. H. J. Burkin, England, enclosing a photograph of a used vertical pair of these stamps, which we reproduce herewith.



Mr. Burkin states that the postmark is not very distinct, but he thinks it is in the region of November or December 1950, and that the item illustrated is just as he received it with the exception of the lower right edges, which he trimmed very slightly. The last paragraph of his letter reads as follows:

"I bought it with a lot of used S.A. mostly Officials, not knowing what was there, and you can imagine my surprise when I found it; I could hardly believe my eyes."

Mr. C. E. Sherwood of Manchester, England, who loaned us the copy we wrote about in December, has now written appealing for the assistance of readers in tracking down further copies of these stamps. So far he has learnt of eight and if any readers know of others he would welcome their information along the lines of:

Mint or used. Horizontal or vertical pair, or Singles, and if the latter, which language.

If on cover. Postmark. Source of origin — with a view to ascertaining the distribution. Mr. Sherwood's conclusions will be published in due course so that the information he may obtain will be available to all.

Issue of Van Riebeeck Stamps in Half Sheets.

Mr. Sam Legator of Brakpan reports that some of the Van Riebeeck stamps have recently been issued to certain post offices in half instead of full sheets. There is no official information as to the reason for this policy, but it is possible that portions of the sheets were found defective and these parts were withdrawn from circulation.

"White Flower" and "Split Ear" Flaws on ½d. Stamps.

Writing in connection with our May notes on these two flaws, Mr. A. H. Sydow states that both varieties are constant and are what he would call "Cylinder Characteristics." They exist on the sheets printed from the following cylinders.

(A) The "White Flower" variety. Row 5 No. 8 on:—

1. Exterior No. 6933 and Interior No. 38.
2. Exterior No. 6933 and Interior No. 6912.

(B) The "Split Ear" variety. Row 5 No. 11 on:—

1. Exterior No. 6933 and Interior No. 48.
2. Exterior No. 45 and Interior No. 48.

Mr. Sydow adds that there will be difficulty in allocating these varieties if a collector has only a block of four in view of the fact that the cylinders were interchanged, e.g. 6933 and 48, and 6933 and 6912, and in order to aid collectors and specialists he is preparing a list of the varieties concerning these four cylinders for early publication in the "South African Philatelist."

New Printing of the 2/6 Denomination.

We are informed by the Publicity Officer of the Department of Posts and Telegraphs that a new 2/6 stamp appeared on the 20th May from cylinders No. 3 Interior and No. 51 Exterior.

Like its immediate predecessor, the new stamp is an all-screened issue produced from cross-lined screened cylinders but of a finer mesh than the last printing (Cylinders 6919 and 17). The size of the stamp and language setting are unchanged, but the colours of the centre and frame are in brighter shades of green and brown respectively and the cylinder number imprints are now near the bottom of the right hand margin — opposite the 19th and 20th rows—instead of, as previously, on the left hand margin. There is no change in the design and SUID-AFRIKA is, of course, hyphenated.

New Overprints on S.W.A. "Officials".

Mr. J. Robertson of Johannesburg has drawn our attention to the use of a new fount on the South West Africa "Officials". The letters are of a larger and heavier type, and the "O's" and "C's" round instead of the oval shape in the previous issue: OFFICIAL and OFFISIEEL are consequently about two millimetres longer in length. The values overprinted are the 1d., 1½d., 2d. and 6d.

IMPERF. BETWEEN OR NOT?

Mr. R. T. Lilley writes:—

There was recently some correspondence in your columns concerning the most suitable nomenclature for pairs of stamps showing incomplete perforations between. I suggest that the best term be: **BLIND PERFS. BETWEEN.** This will make it plain that an attempt has been made to perforate as against the true "imperf. between" which has usually altogether escaped the attention of the perforating pins.

"FASCINATING FLAWS."

Philatelia in the "Philatelic Magazine" describes the market for Union stamps without fear of contradiction as one of the firmest in the world. South Africa is as philatelically pure as any country and among its fascinations are the printer's flaws which arise from those born experimenters, the Government Printers. Little idea of the scope of this field of study is obtainable from the ordinary catalogues — the "Catalogue/Handbook of the Union Stamps" is an absolute necessity. From an investment point of view South Africa bristles with possibilities; whatever the future of South Africa, it will always hold a high place in the regard of true philatelists.

ISRAEL.**New Issue.**

The Philatelic Services announce the issue on 13 May of a 220 pruta bicoloured stamp on the occasion of the inauguration of the House of American Zionist in Tel-Aviv.

Israel Philatelic Society.

The philately and postal history of Israel is gaining popularity in Great Britain and the need is felt for a society or study circle to co-ordinate study and the distribution and exchange of information and material. Anyone interested should communicate with Dr. H. H. Hirst of 8 Ruskin Terrace, Glasgow, W.2.

VIET-NAM.

Through the G.P.O. Publicity Officer, Pretoria we have been informed of the issue of a series of "National Unity" stamps. There are 3 each featuring 'Bongour Falls' (Dalat), 'Imperial Palace' (Hué), 'H.M. Bao Dai' and 2 each featuring 'Small Lake' (Hanoi) and 'Remembrance Temple' (Saigon). The values run from 0.10 to 30.00 Indo-Chinese piastres. The Director of Posts and Telecommunications, Saigon, Viet-Nam is prepared to serve any collector who may be interested in obtaining stamps.

TRANSWAAL PHILATELIC BOWLERS.

On Thursday, 22nd May eight teams of philatelists from the Reef and Pretoria and their allies (Government Printer's staff and Pretoria Postal Officials) met for a very friendly bowling match at the Sunnyside Bowling Club's grounds in Pretoria. Thanks to the President of the Pretoria Philatelic Society, and his good lady, the day was an outstanding social success, even if the bowling was perhaps not up to championship standard. The Pretoria Postal team repeated their performance of last year by coming out on top.

FALKLAND ISLANDS.**Design Error(?).**

Mr. R. M. Sandford draws attention in "Stamp Collecting" to an error of design, of a type not uncommon in the past on map stamps. It is on the 2½d. of the newly issued set, featuring a map of the islands; the line of West longitude which should have been marked 60 degrees is in error marked 6 degrees.

Later information, however, and an examination of the stamp, makes it clear that the line of longitude is 61 degrees West (the 60 line goes through the middle of the islands and is not shown on the stamp). The '1' of '61' is almost like an extension of the longitude line but there is no actual error of design.

The recent issue. There has been a lot of adverse criticism of the recent set of stamps. Actually the main defect in them is not so much the designs as that the colours are pale and watery. If the centres had been in black or in a different colour from the frames it would have been a great improvement.

Direct Air Flight from Great Britain.

There were no official commemorative covers on this flight but a commercial company notified the stamp trade that they were servicing covers at 5/- each. This probably means at least 7/6 to the collector!

SOME RECENT AUCTION PRICES.**H. R. Harmer:**

Interprovincials—A large collection, broken into some 30 lots, £154 10s. od.

Cape De La Rue 1/- light emerald green, pair, £52 10s. od.

Falkland Is. ½d. on half of 1d. orange brown, nine used on cover, £84.

New Zealand 1931, Smiling Boy, pair used, £5 10s. od.

Robson Lowe:

Abyssinia. FF cancellation on cover with G.B. and Indian stamps, £50.

Egypt 1934 U.P.U. Set 1-200m, 50p and 1s mint, £14.

St. Kitts 1923 1s mint, £24.

Sierra Leone 1933 Set ½d. to 1s mint, £33.

S.W.A. 1923 1s, block of 4, one without stop after Afrika, £37.

Transvaal 1903 1s mint, £30.

Anglo-Boer War "F.P.O. 43" on 3 G.B. 3d. stamps, £11.

Bermuda 1941 5/- perf. 14½ block of 4 with scroll flaw. £39.

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THE PENNY BLACK AND ITS HISTORY

by

Mrs. R. ALABASTER.
(Communicated to the East London
Philatelic Society.)

There has been endless controversy about the beginnings of the Postage Stamp and when one realises the many so called "stamps" which existed long before the Penny Black was thought of, it is no wonder that Philatelists argue as to whether the Penny Black was really the first stamp to be issued. It does, however, mark a very definite period inasmuch as it was the first adhesive stamp and the forerunner of thousands of others for over 100 years. The idea caught on so well that very soon nearly every country in the world followed England's example in printing adhesive stamps for pre-paid postage. The infinite variety of colour, size and design which fired the imagination of artists you all know to your joy when you pore over your collections.

It is a recognised fact that previous to 1840 so called "stamps" had been used for tax and revenue purposes. They were not adhesive "bits of paper" but were rather different inasmuch as they were nearly always designs embossed or stamped on to the paper. They would not be classed as stamps as we know them today but nevertheless they were the actual ancestors of the "Penny Black" and deserve to be honoured as such.

A few of these ancestors may be mentioned as being of particular interest, not only in England but in other parts of the world.

As early as 1653 Monsieur de Villayer started a local post in Paris. The letters were enclosed in wrappers known as "Billets de Port Paye". None of these wrappers is known to exist today as they were generally destroyed when the letters were opened. They were believed, however, to bear a device which represented a stamp. In the reign of King George III there were stamps taxing hats and wallpapers. In Greece in 1831 stamps were used for Poll Tax and in Grahamstown, South African newspaper tax stamps were used. In England seals in Black and Red bearing the Cypher of the Sovereign of the time were used on documents.

In Sardinia in 1818 stationery embossed with Cavallini or "Little Horses" with the value underneath, were in use. These letters were carried privately and the value did not constitute a postal fee but rather a tax. In New South Wales in 1838 envelopes were embossed with a "stamp" showing the Royal Coat of Arms and sold at 1/3 a dozen. In England at the time of the Restoration in 1660 Henry Bishop was appointed Postmaster General. He introduced date stamps which showed the day of the month on which the letter passed through the post. The invention no doubt helped to deter unauthorised letter carriers. Then a famous English pioneer,

William Dockwra set up in 1680 an admirable penny post which covered the whole of London. The Dockwra post is of particular interest in that the postmarks he used showed the date, time and place of posting very much as they do to-day.

The best known stamp stationery was of course the Mulready envelope with which most of us are familiar. This envelope and cover with its multitudinous designs caused quite a sensation. Not a few rhymes were written to its detriment and it was literally laughed out of existence.

These marks, seals and stationery through the years have been quoted here as milestones leading up to the issue of the first adhesive postage stamp. Therefore we may say that the Penny Black was not a sudden innovation but a slowly evolved idea brought to perfection and used for the pre-payment of postage on letters to all parts of the country irrespective of distance.

The ancestors of the Penny Black may be proud to know to what perfection their first efforts led.

So much has been written about the Penny Black, but to those who have become ardent followers of the fascinating hobby of Philately, the story of the first adhesive stamp will always find a hearing, even to those specialists who have studied it closely.

Although it has been claimed that Sir Rowland Hill was the first instigator of the idea of adhesive postage stamps other schools of thought claim that James Chalmers, a bookseller of Dundee, was the original inventor. However it was in Hill's pamphlet on Post Office Reform in 1837 that the mention of "a bit of paper just large enough to bear a stamp and covered at the back with a glutinous wash which the bringer might — by applying a little moisture, attach to the back of a letter" was suggested.

On August 17, 1839 the Royal Assent was given to the Penny Postage Bill which proposed a uniform inland postage of one penny for each half ounce.

Then in the following September came the invitation to artists for suggestions for designs, and prizes were offered. There were 2,600 replies received. Finally the design submitted by Henry Corbould, the famous artist, was accepted. He made the drawing of Queen Victoria's portrait from the obverse of William Wyonn's medal. This medal was struck in commemoration of Queen Victoria's first visit to the Guildhall on November 9, 1837.

So it came about that the first adhesive stamp was favoured with this beautiful design and two values were printed on May 1, 1840. A penny value in black and a twopenny value in blue, engraved by Frederick Heath and printed by Messrs. Perkins Bacon and Petch. These stamps were not released to the public until May 6. five days after being issued. The resultant perfect and today much sought after stamp can be attributed to four — Sir Rowland Hill, Frederick Heath, William Wyon, and Henry Corbould. To them we owe our fascinating hobby which has spread throughout the world and given pleasure to young and old.

At one time it was thought that Sir Rowland Hill's portrait would appear on the stamp. This idea was discarded in favour of the Queen's portrait in order to minimise the event of any forgery. Forgeries had already been tried with Bank Notes, one delinquent being tried and hanged for this offence. Another means of foxing the forger's activities was by means of the watermark. This was achieved by a wire formed to the shape of the watermark desired and laid on to the paper while it was in the process of being rolled in the cylinder. This caused a thinning of the paper, which, on being held up to the light, could be clearly seen.

At first the stamps were not approved of by the public. They were even made fun of in a letter dated May 25, 1840 by an unknown writer. He says "Have you tried the new stamps yet? I don't fancy making my mouth a glue pot although to be sure, you have the satisfaction of kissing, or rather slobbering over her Majesty's back." This I should say is about the greatest insult the present Ministry could have offered the Queen."

No doubt this was not the only criticism — there must have been many scathing comments until the public got used to the idea of licking that "little bit of paper" and sticking it on to a letter.

The paper used for the stamps was hand wove deckled edged paper made by Stacy Wise, Rush Mills, Northamptonshire. Owing to the variation of weight between one sheet and another, paper was correspondingly thick or thin. After experiments they got the paper just thick enough to prevent the gum from penetrating to the face of the stamp. In 1841 the standard weight was raised to 33-34 lbs. per ream. In certain cases this paper showed signs of bluing through chemical reaction to the printing ink.

Gum was not applied until after the sheets had been printed. It was commercially known as "British Gum" although described on the sheets as "Cement". It was made from Potato Starch slightly toasted or burnt at a temperature of 400 degrees Fahrenheit and varied from white to brownish.

The Penny Black was printed from eleven plates, each plate containing 240 impressions arranged as an unbroken block of twenty horizontal rows of 12 each. In each corner of the stamp was left a colourless tablet, the top two of which were filled in with Maltese Crosses or stars and in the lower two were punched check letters — the first row of 12 starting from A-L and the last row T-L. In each of the four margins of the sheet the following inscriptions appeared "Price 1d. per label 1/- per row of 12. £1 per sheet. Place the labels above the address and towards the right hand side of the letter. In wetting the back be careful not to remove the cement."

Of the 11 plates printed the first two were registered on April 27, 1840. Numbers 3 and 4 followed in May. Numbers 5 and 6 in June. 8 in July, 9 in November, 10 in December and 11 in January, 1841. The scarcest plate of all is No. 11, only 700 sheets having been printed.

The shade of black varies. The earliest printings were of an intense black, later the shade

became just black, while the last printings, including the scarce No. 11 are in grey-black.

If Sir Rowland Hill could look down on the world now, he would see, not only his own portrait on a centenary stamp of Portugal but would view with pleasure the widespread effect of his Post Office Reform and the respect given to the Penny Black which was, and still is "A thing of beauty and a joy forever."

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REVIEW

A Century of Stamp Production. By L. N. and M. Williams.

This has been prepared for Messrs. Waterlow and Sons Ltd., the famous London stamp printers, on the occasion of the centenary of their first printing (which was of British Guiana). The booklet is not being sold to the public, but is an exceedingly beautiful production.

It opens with a short account of the firms' history and traditions and then has chapters dealing respectively with stamps produced by direct plate printing, by lithographic processes and by photogravure and other processes. Each chapter has a short description of the technique employed and is additionally illustrated by illustrations of stamps in black and white and by five lovely plates of stamps in their natural colours.

Finally there is a short account of the security measures employed and a check list of all the postage stamps printed by the firm from 1852 onwards to 1951. It is only mentioned casually that they also print bank notes and large quantities of Revenue stamps.

EARLIEST CAPE BISECT AND 6d. MARK.

In our issue of August 1951, p. 136, there was illustrated a cover with a Cape 4d. plus a bisected 4d., the date of usage being 1858, two to three years ante-dating any previous known occurrence. There was also a large 6d. mark of unknown origin on the cover. This cover was on show at the recent International in Capt. Huston's collection.

franked with a single 3d. embossed stamp; it has the Cape Packet, Devonport mark dated 28 JY 1859 and a 6d. mark like that on Capt. Huston's cover. A similar cover with two 3d. Natal embossed stamps had no such 6d. mark. As the mark is definitely not a Cape one, this seems to suggest that the 6d. mark was applied at Devonport and indicated what the proper franking should have been — not the amount to be col-



A cover in the Royal Collection, also on show at Cape Town, when considered in conjunction with Capt. Huston's, gives a clue about this 6d. mark. This cover from Natal to Ireland was

lected. The British post office apparently did not recognise the bisected 4d. as valid, although the Cape authorities did. Will British Postal Historians please get busy on this mark?

NETHERLANDS—SUMMER STAMPS.

The Summer stamps this year will be obtainable from all postal establishments from 1 May to 25 June inclusive. The net proceeds, in excess of the postage value, are destined for social and cultural purposes.

The stamps have been designed by the artist Mr. D. van Gelder of Veere.

The stamps are each printed in two colours and each represents a flower. They will appear in the following values and colours:

2 plus 2 cents, dune rose (pink) in natural colours against a red ground.

5 plus 3 cents, marsh-marigold (yellow) in natural colours against a green ground.

6 plus 4 cents, dark-red tulip against a lighter red ground.

10 plus 5 cents, marguerite (white) in natural colours against a yellow ground.

20 plus 5 cents, corn-flower (dark-blue) in natural colours against a light-blue ground.

The stamps have been printed by Joh. Enschede en Zonen of Haarlem; printing technique: rotogravure.

These Summer Stamps remain valid for prepayment till 31 December 1953 inclusive.

AIR MAIL SERVICES.**B.O.A.C.**

With the arrival at Johannesburg of the Comet jet airliner on 3 May after a 23½ hour flight from London a new phase opened in commercial air services and in rapidity of mail transmission.

With stops at Rome, Beirut, Khartoum, Entebbe and Livingstone the actual flying time was only just over 18½ hours. On the first return flight, leaving Johannesburg on 5 May, the times taken were practically identical with those of the outward flight.

The service at first was once a week but it has been increased to twice weekly, and now to be thrice.

The first flight brought mail, but the special covers advertised at 5/- a time seem to have been rather a flop as nobody seems to have bothered about them. Small wonder at the price!

K.L.M.

The K.L.M. had a special flight to Cape Town, leaving Holland on 26 March and bearing first day covers with the Dutch Van Riebeeck stamps. Reaching Cape Town on 28 March, it started back next day on its return flight.

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- 30 1873 CC 12½ 6d. dull blue, mint £14

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- 15 1865/8 CC 4d. carmine, unused 100/-
- 19 1882 CC 1d. lake, fine used 35/-
- 21 1882 CC 3d. purple, mint 170/-
- 25 1883 CC 1/- yel.-green, fine used 30/-

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392, STRAND, LONDON, W.C.2.
ENGLAND.

CORRESPONDENCE

HANDBOOK-CATALOGUE.

Sir,

The Editors of the new Handbook/Catalogue of the stamps of the Union of South Africa are to be congratulated on a very fine production. Immeasurably better than any previous catalogue, it will put South African stamps "on the Map" philatelically speaking as they have never been before.

The purpose of this letter however is to point out certain errors and omissions which are so obvious that they need to be corrected at the earliest opportunity. A summary perusal revealed the following:—

1. King's Head 1d. Plate 1. This exists with No Nicks in the bottom right hand corner. It has not been catalogued.

2. ½d., 1d. London Typo (Waterlow) Tête-bêche pairs. These do not exist, and the two pairs illustrated in the catalogue are from the Pretoria Plates. This can be proved by the fact that both are perf. 14 and not 14½ x 14.

3. 1d. S.G. 43c Error Missing Centres. This is not catalogued though there is no doubt as to its authenticity (I am not referring to the Darmstadt proofs). This occurs in either No. 37L or 37M group of the 1930-1945 1d. in the catalogue and there is an example in the collection of one of the Editors.

4. 2d. 1938 Blue and Violet. This is described as being the same colour as the hyphenated 2d. blue and violet issue. This is quite incorrect as they are very different. I have handled large quantities of this stamp and have yet to see a pair which is remotely similar in colour to the hyphenated issue. Furthermore it is noted that the indigo shade is more common than the blue shade. In point of fact there is little doubt that the indigo shade is about twice as rare as the blue shade. Both of the items are of course S.G. 44b.

5. 1d. Hyphenated Issue Missing Frames Error. This is not included though it is catalogued by Gibbons. Certainly it is genuine.

6. 1d. Hyphenated Issue Missing Centres. This is not included though undoubtedly genuine.

7. 1½d. Medium Format Error Missing Gold Centres. This item has not been Catalogued.

8. 1/- Hyphenated Issue. Error Missing frames. This has not been included although catalogued by Gibbons. There is no doubt about the authenticity of this error.

9. Postage Due Proofs. 1922-27. Frames in green and rose, and slate. These are bi-lingual yet they are priced in pairs. Why?

10. 1d. Typo Pretoria printing on Waterlow plates. This item exists completely Imperf. in block of four. It has not been catalogued.

The matter of pricing is a delicate one, and I am loth to make comments though I consider that the matter has on the whole been handled in an able manner. However there are a few items on which I feel comment is indicated so that the items in question can be amended in a supplement.

1. A lettering flaw SoJth for South in the King's Head Issue is priced at £15, whilst the major Errors ½d. and 1d. Pretoria Typo Missing Centre are priced at £6 apiece. I recently paid almost three times catalogue for these items, (the latter two) which are rarities, and remember that I purchased them for resale. Whilst acknowledging the rarity of the ½d. variety, the price of these two errors does seem amazingly low. Both are major errors on a par with some of the rarest of Unions.

2. 1d. Unhyphenated Roto Error Missing frames. This item catalogued by Gibbons at £40 is priced at £12. How dearly I would like to buy at this figure. I myself paid about double this amount for the last pairs I purchased which were sold for around £32 10s. od. per pair.

3. 1½d. Large Format. Missing shading on mine dump. This is priced at 30/- which figure is an undervaluation to say the least. The last item sold at auction in London fetched £6 6s. per pair, and a conservative price would be £5 per pair.

4. ½d. and 1d. Pretoria Typo Booklets. These are priced proportionately less in complete booklet panes than they are as individual pairs. The complete panes are however considerably scarcer than the individual pairs. The two panes (one of each value) catalogued at £13 10s. od. have on two occasions fetched about double that figure at auction in London.

5. Air Proofs 1929. These are catalogued but not priced. Why? These are available on the stamp market from time to time and are currently worth about £3 each.

6. The 6d. Small War is catalogued with Certificate on stamps and priced. However the 6d. with Slogan "Make National" on stamps (a shift on the bottom of the sheet) is uncatalogued.

I trust that you will appreciate this summary of some of the major omissions and inconsistencies in the catalogue is offered in no spirit of criticism. The Editors in a foreword to the catalogue stated that they would be glad to have their attention drawn to any inaccuracies, so I trust that they will accept this letter in the spirit in which it is written.

Yours faithfully,

J. MENDELSSOHN.

THE "A" GUIDE DOT OF THE 1/- VALUE, LONDON PICTORIAL ISSUE.

The Editor,

S.A. Philatelist.

Sir,

Did Plate 2 of the 1/- value of the London Pictorials ever exist?

On browsing through my meagre supply of material, I have acquired grave doubts whether this plate ever existed, and consequently, I suspect that Plate 2, as at present determined by the absence of the 'guide dot' in the right limb of the first 'A' of 'SUID AFRIKA', is in reality Plate 1 from which the 'A Guide Dot' is absent due to wear of the plate or to other relative printing conditions.

The grounds on which I base my supposition are:—

1. The 'A Guide Dots', and the 'marginal Guide Dots' appearing on the lower margin of the sheet, were rolled into the plate before the design of the stamp was imparted to the plate.

2. In the early printings — that is, on those stamps of the perforation 14 x 14 vintage — the 'A Guide Dots' and the 'Marginal Guide Dots' are heavy, distinct and are easily picked out by a magnifier, whereas, in the later printings, these guide dots are faint, indistinct, and have to be sought for through a magnifier.

3. In the last printing of the series — Group 3, perf. 14 x 13½ upwards — it is possible to find some stamps on which the 'A Guide Dot' is faintly discernible while on others from the same sheet, this guide dot is absent. Associated with this condition, it may also be observed that some 'Marginal Guide Dots' are absent while others are present in a faint hue.

4. It is recorded that only one set of plates did duty for the 2/6, 5/- and 10/- values. Was the demand so great for the 1/- value during its short existence, that a second plate was required, and does any evidence exist of Plate 1 showing signs of wear?

Conversely, if a second plate had have been prepared, the "Marginal Guide Dots" would have been newly "rolled into" this new plate — Plate 2 — and these guide dots will appear fresh and heavy instead of faint and indistinct as they are in the printings of Group 3.

I shall be very grateful to you or to any readers of your esteemed Journal who may be able to enlighten me through its columns, for if my conclusions are maintained, our recordings of the printing of the 1/- value should be altered to the effect that Groups 1, 2 and 3 were printed from Plate 1 and 1 only — in other words Plate 2 does not exist.

Yours faithfully,

T. B. BERRY.

Collectors' Wants & Offers

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

Collections and rarities especially Unions wanted for cash. Kindly contact—JOHN MENDELSSOHN, P.O. Box 1607, Johannesburg.

APPROVALS: British Colonials and World for all collectors.—BENONI STAMP SHOP, Benoni.

50% over Gibbons Catalogue price offered for a superb Mint and Used copy of Seychelles, S.G. 52A.—WILLIAM REDFORD, P.O. Box 1182, Johannesburg.

WANTED: CAPE TRIANGULARS. In good condition. Also Forgeries. Submit with prices to: JACK SHEPHERD, Box 97, Brakpan.

BRITISH AFRICANS: Continually breaking up collections of these. Your wants sent on approval.—L. WHITE, Box 9825, Johannesburg.

WANTED: Booklets, Post Cards, Registered Envelopes and Airlittercards, unused and used of Union only.—DR. MURRAY, Kuils River.

German P.O.'s Abroad and ex-Colonies, Approvals, Wants lists filled.—B. CHALLEN, Wilderness, C.P.

REQUIRED Switzerland. All issues, mint, used and covers. For Cash or Exchange for Geo. VI.—B. JOSEPH, P.O. Box 4967, Johannesburg.

STAMPS.—Want lists invited for any country; specialities Union, S.W.A., British Africa.—LACY'S, 211 Long Street, Capetown.

Junior Philatelic Exchange, Mtunzini, Zululand, South Africa. Buying and selling stamps for beginners and medium collectors. Descriptive leaflet free on application.

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NYASALAND.

Mr. C. D. Twyman sends the following figures given him officially for the sales of the Jubilee stamps. The supplies sent to Nyasaland were to all intents and purposes completely sold out except in the case of the 2d. value.

Value	Printed	Sold Locally	Sold by		Total Sold
			C.A., U.S.A.	U.K. and	
2d.	608400	488400	58191		546591
3d.	144000	54000	54211		108211
6d.	165000	75000	53140		128140
5/-	81000	21000	37737		58737

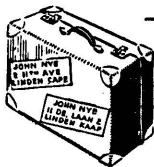
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FROM STOCK: I can offer the scarce $\frac{1}{2}$ d. Union showing the Cross-Hatching. Union
Handbook No. 44C, Commonwealth No. 4h. Mint horizontal pairs from
each of the two printings 70/-
CAPE OF GOOD HOPE: 4d. S.G.6a Superb used with very large margins, light pmk.
and SIDEWAYS WMK. 110/-
6d., S.G.7a superb unused with margins all round and good colour £27
1/-, S.G.8a superb used with good margins and very light pmk. £14

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Our heartiest congratulations to Mr. A. A. Jurgens for the honour conferred on him by the Philatelic Congress of Great Britain in electing him to their Roll of Distinguished Philatelists in consideration of his outstanding work on the Postal History of Southern Africa.

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FRANCE.

May 8th saw the issue of a 15 fr. stamp honouring, and bearing a portrait of, Maréchal de Lattre de Tassigny, distinguished leader in the later phases of World War II and in Indo-China.

JAMAICA.

The Scout 2d. and 6d. stamps issued in connection with the recently held Jamboree have had in general a very poor reception both in Jamaica and in the philatelic press, neither the colouring nor the designs getting very favourable comment. Perhaps "Mekeel's Weekly" is the kindest in saying they are "of interesting design and brilliant colouring."

I am a seller of the stamps of the Republic of San Marino, Vatican City State, Italy, and other European countries.

I buy all British Colonial and Dominion Stamps in all quantities. I am not particularly interested in F.D.C. or Complete Sets.

I also exchange various sets of European Stamps.

For packets (100 identical stamps per pkt. write to:

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REPUBBLICA DI SAN MARINO (CITTA),
Via ITALY.

OVERPRINT AND/OR SURCHARGE?

In the "American Philatelist" Mr. Stephen G. Rich returns to a matter he has dealt with before, viz., which of these two terms should be used to describe something printed on to a stamp after it was first made but before it did postal duty.

Some make a distinction between the two terms used; "Surcharge" being limited to overprints which change in some way the monetary face value of the stamp. This is in keeping with practice in the business and financial world

where the word "surcharge" always means an extra charge or an increase in charge. 'Overprint', on the other hand is the universal printers' term and seeing that stamps are printers' products it might be better to use their term exclusively.

His personal inclination is to keep both terms in use, but with identical meaning, merely for the convenience of having two words to alternate in writing about stamps and so avoid clumsy repetitions. But he promises not to weep if either vanishes from use!

FRENCH ANTARCTIC POSTS.

The French authorities have recently added to the string of meteorological stations reporting weather conditions regularly from various Antarctic and sub-Antarctic stations, by operating from Kerguelen and from St. Paul-Amsterdam islands in the Southern Indian Ocean.

Mail from the latter has reached this country, the cancellation on Madagascar stamps being as shown in the accompanying illustration. Dates are 24 Dec. 50 and 3 Jan 51. The covers have an official cachet "Ile Amsterdam/Mission 1949-1950."

The Kerguelen postmark is shown in the 7 March issue of "Stamp Collecting". It is smaller than the Amsterdam one, reading "Archipel Kerguelen/Madagascar" with an asterisk /4-5/1951 in the centre. The first mail is said to have been dispatched on December 26th, 1951.

**SOUTH WEST AFRICA****Temporary "Postage Dues".**

Mr. Herbert C. Nöcker sends the following interesting information:

At the time when the 1½d. postage for letters was raised to 2d., the Luderitz post office ran short of 1d. postage dues. The counter official then tore the 2d. dues in half and affixed half of each for a T 1d. and when this denomination ran out the 3d. was torn in three pieces. I have another envelope where the 1d. of the current pictorial issue was used instead of a postage due stamp and another — addressed to a native — bears the full 2d. postage due!

Dozens of defaulters were natives — as I was informed by the post office officials, but as they are not collectors and threw away the envelopes very few of these curios have probably survived.

FINLAND.

The postal administration announces the issue on 4 March of three semi-postals (10 plus 2 marks, 15 plus 3 marks and 25 plus 5 marks), the surtaxes to go to the Finnish Red Cross. The stamps will feature Marshal Mannerheim.

A CONTRIBUTION ON THE NUMERAL POSTMARKS OF THE ORANGE FREE STATE

By P. SMITS.

(Continued from page 64 of April Issue.)

6 Dating Stamps, 2/10	£15- 0-0
26 Defacing Stamps, A to Z	
12/6	£16- 5-0
60 Defacing Stamps I to 60	
12/6	£37-10-0
1 Stamp (A place-date stamp of Bloemfontein. P.S.)	68-15-0 17-6
	£69-12-6

Attached to this invoice were the following:—
1. A sheet with imprints of the 11 bar oval cancellers with numerals No. 1 to 38 in the inner circle.

2. Do. Nos. 39 to 60.

3. Do., letters A to Z.

4. A strip defaced with two Bloemfontein daters W and U. The numerals are 7 mm. high and the letters 3¼ mm. wide, by 7¼ mm. high. Of the stamps the supplier writes as follows:—
Port Elizabeth,
June 2nd, 1882.

H. P. Kingsmill, Esq.,
Bloemfontein.

Dear Sir!

Your favour of the 25th May duly to hand, I will try to fill the order for 2 dating Stamps as soon as possible.

Today I have pleasure in sending you invoice for the Dating and Defacing Stamps, I feel sure that these stamps will be to your satisfaction; they are vulcanised by 280 Degree heat, nothing can spoil them. By ordering a larger quantity of Dating Stamps I can reduce the price to £2 5s. 0d. each.

My brother at Berlin wrote me that he had to make special cuts for the Defacing Stamps.

I have not sent you any Ink or Pads as I presume you are supplied with both.

I suppose you are using a special kind of Pads.

Enclosed find Specimen Impressions of the Stamps. Hoping to be favoured soon with more orders. I remain,

Dear Sir,

Yours truly!

FELIX F. DAUS.

As stated earlier, we know of the use of the Numerals 1, 8, 20—31 and certain higher values and as I have now demonstrated the existence of all numerals 1 to 60 on cancellers, I should be most pleased to receive reports on the actual use of the numerals not given in my list (Annexure "A") as well as the use and placing of all letters A to Z most of which are known but few placed.

A debit note countersigned by the P.M.G. Mr. v.d. Korst and a Payment Order for £69 12s. 6d. also accompanied these papers.

Due to the considerable number of files I had to page through I was prevented from delving further into the postal history of the O.F.S. but would like to quote an amusing correspondence I found. The Post Master had apparently decided that besides defacers, he wanted new dating stamps for all the Post Offices and promptly ordered these. Upon delivery the following ensued.

(No. 1492).

General Post Office,
Bloemfontein.
11/12/1882.

His Honour the Government Secretary,
Bloemfontein.

Your Honour,

Of the dating stamps for the Post Office, no single one is readable while several offices no longer even have a usable stamp. I have therefore already ordered and received stamps. The Auditor General requires His Excellency the State President's agreement of authorisation for which I now make request. Besides those which I have already received a further 34 stamps at £22 10s. 0d. are required for the Post Agents Offices and for which I now ask authorisation. For further cancellers, the price will be much less as then only one other 'gutta percha' plate will be required.

Your Honour's Obedient Servant.

??V.D. KORST,
P.M.G.

Bloemfontein.
12-12-82.

(No. 10/678).

To:
Post Master General,
Bloemfontein.

Receipt is acknowledged of your letter seeking authorisation for the payment of an account for £99 10s. 0d. for stamps for the use of various post offices which have already been delivered and I have the honour, at the command of the State President to advise that, as the cancellers have already been received authorisation is given, but in future no order of this nature must be placed without prior authority.

With regard to the 34 other cancellers His Excellency has ruled that only Post Offices and not Post Agents Offices may be supplied and you may therefore obtain stamps for the Post Offices at Parys, Zastron, Koffiefontein, Bultfontein, Vrede, De Wetsdorp, Oliefontein and Witsieshoek.
(sgd.) CHAS. WARREN,
Asst. Govt. Secy.

Even the high sounding title of Post Master General meant nothing!

I must apologise for the disjointedness of this report but due to lack of time and the loss of many files in a fire many years back it was not possible to obtain all the corroborative evidence desired. However much can be obtained from collections and I hope all O.F.S. collectors will come forward with all information available.

In conclusion I would like to thank Mr. W. Newlands for the loan of his collection to obtain much of the data; also the staff of the Bloemfontein Archives for the very great assistance given in looking up records.

ANNEXURE "A".

RECORDED AND KNOWN NUMERAL CANCELLERS.

Numeral	Bars	Place
1	16	Bloemfontein.
1	11	Clocolan.
2	16	Winburg.
3 (round top)	16	Harrismith.
3 (flat top)	16	?

4	16 Fauresmith.
5	16 Smithfield (1889).
6	16 Kroonstad (1889).
7	16 Bethulie (1888).
8	16 Boshoff (1889).
8	11 ?
9	16 Jagersfontein (1891).
10	16 Philippolis (1884).
11	16 Bethlehem
12	16 Rouxville.
13	16 ?
14	16 Edenburg (1889).
15	16 ?
16	16 Brandfort.
17	16 Ladybrand (1890).
18	16 ?
19	16 Reddersburg.
20	11 ?
21	11 Ventersburg (before 1899).
21	11 Ladybrand (1899).
22	11 ?
23	11 ?
24	11 Heilbron (possibly also Bloemfontein).
25	11 Frankfort.
26	11 Bultfontein (1891).
27	11 ?
28	11 ?
29	11 Senekal (1893).
30	11 ?

30	11
31	11
35	6
36	11

Also the following:—

38, 45, 49, 51, 55, 57, 60.

ANNEXURE "B".

Of the Oval shaped cancellers with 16 bars and a letter in the centre, the known places of usage are:—

A—Clocolan.

C—Smithfield.

K—Rouxville.

O—Jagersfontein and Bushmanskop.

R—Bloemfontein (Registered mail).

X? Bloemfontein newspapers.

The places of usage of the other letters of the alphabet have not been identified.

PHILIPPINE EXHIBITION.

The Bureau of Posts reports that the first Pan-Asian Philatelic Exhibition (Panapex) will be held in Manila, Nov. 16-22 of this year. The exhibition will feature especially the stamps, etc. of Asiatic countries.

POLAND.

'Varimex', the Polish Co. for Foreign Trade reports that there will be ten issues of commemorative stamps during the second quarter of this year, some 22 stamps in all.

SIERRA LEONE 1897 2½d. on 6d., S.G. Nos. 59 to 62.

Messrs. Gibbons and Robson Lowe both state that this was printed in sheets of **thirty**. I have a complete sheet of **sixty**. The **surcharge** is in a setting of thirty applied twice and with the aid of these details many of the stamps can be placed but marginal copies would be needed to tell whether they came from the upper or lower setting.

No. in setting	Surcharge Types	Stop after "d"	Constant minor variety
1	a	large	
2	a	large	
3	a	large	broken "d"
4	a	small	
5	a	large	broken "d"
6	a	large	
7	a	large	
8	a	large	
9	a	small	
10	a	small	
11	a	large	no serif to "d"
12	a	large	
13	a	square	
14	a	small	
15	a	large	mutilated large "2"
16	a	small	
17	a	square	
18	a	square	
19	a	large	
20	a	a rough comma	
21	a	large	
22	c	large	
23	c	large, shapeless	
24	d	square	Large "a" broken above foot
25	c	large	broken "d"
26	c	large	
27	c	large	
28	d	square	
29	e	large, something between round and square	
30	a	large	

R. T. LILLEY.

SOCIETY NEWS

FEDERATED SOCIETIES

NAME AND ADDRESS:	MEETINGS:
Afrikaanse Filateliese Vereniging, Krugerlaan 82, Selwyn, Florida	1st Vrydag, 8 nm., Openbare Biblioteek, Johannesburg.
Cape Town P.S., P.O. Box 1973	2nd and 4th Thursdays, 8 p.m., Mountain Club Rooms, Yorkshire House, Strand Street.
Copperbelt P.S., c/o No. 12 7th Ave., Nkana, N. Rhodesia.	2nd Fridays, 7.45 p.m., Colosseum Theatre Tea Room
E. London P.S., c/o P.O. Box 450	3rd Tuesdays, 8 p.m., Regent Hotel, Benoni.
E. Rand P.S., c/o 103 Kemstone Ave., Benoni	2nd Thursdays, 8 p.m., 1 Thompson Street.
Grahamstown P.S., c/o R. Q. Tarr, Kingswood Coll. 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.
Mashonaland P.S., Box 74, Causeway, S. Rhodesia Natal, P.S. of, Box 588, Durban	2nd Wednesdays, Room 4, Polytechnic, 5th Street.
N. Transvaal P.S., c/o Miss van Niekerk, P.O. Rita Nyasaland P.S., c/o Limbe Trading Co., Limbe	1st and 3rd Wednesdays, 7.30 p.m., Durban Camera Club, 319 Smith Street.
O.F.S. & Basutoland P.S., Box 702, Bloemfontein	3rd Mondays, Goldfields Hotel, Pietersburg.
Port Elizabeth P.S., c/o 37 Heugh Road, Walmer	4th Fridays, 7.30 p.m., Tech. Col., Bloemfontein.
Pretoria P.S., Box 514	1st and 3rd Tuesdays, 7.45 p.m., Room 3, City Hall Basement.
Pretoria Railway P.S., Railway Recreation Club, Berea Park	1st and 3rd Mondays, 8 p.m., Technical College.
Rhodesia, P.S. of, Box 803, Bulawayo	2nd Wednesdays, 7.30 p.m., Railway Recreation Club
Roodepoort Stamp Club, c/o 53, 6th Ave., Florida Springs P.S., c/o Box 688, Springs	1st Wednesdays, Presbyterian Hall, 5th Ave., Bulawayo.
Thematic Stamp Club, Box 4290, Capetown	3rd Thursdays, 8 p.m., Savoy Hotel, Roodepoort.
Univ. of Capetown P.S., c/o Univ. of Capetown, Rondebosch	2nd Mondays, 7.30 p.m., Board Room, New Era Press
Vereeniging Stamp Club, Box 48	At times announced during term time.
West Rand Stamp Club, c/o U 184, W. Rand Consolidated Mines	2nd Wednesdays, 8 p.m., Technical College.
	1st Wednesdays, 7.45 p.m., Royal Hotel, Krugersdorp.

THE CAPE TOWN PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

February:

The 41st Annual General Meeting.

Mr. A. V. Jacob in the Chair, 41 members and 4 visitors present.

After the presentation of the Annual Report, the Income and Expenditure Account, and the Balance Sheet, the following were elected Office Bearers for the year 1952/53:—

President: Mr. A. V. Jacob; Vice-President: Mr. G. Petroulis; Secretary: Mr. A. J. Nathan; Treasurer: Mr. I. Hall; Librarian: Mr. W. G. Combrinck; Exchange Superintendent: Mr. C. R. V. Soloman. Members of the Committee: Messrs. Mummery, Savage, Chapman and Dr. Vautier.

It was agreed that since we are to be honoured by the holding of an International Stamp Exhibition in Cape Town, all Past Presidents of the Society should be invited to serve on the Committee for one year only in view of their past services, these gentlemen to be additional to the duly Elected Committee.

March:

This was the last Meeting to be held before the International Stamp Exhibition and all members were cordially invited to attend the opening by His Excellency The Governor-General on the 26th March.

Mr. Douglas Roth gave a most interesting talk which he called, "How to Make Stamp Collecting More Interesting." He explained that stamp collecting can be more than filling in the spaces in an album, and described the various processes by which stamps are printed; he suggested branches of the hobby as interesting subjects for specialisation, and outlined possible fields for philatelic research. The talk was illustrated by stamps printed by several processes and examples of forgeries and reprints were shown.

April:

The display for the evening was provided by Mr. Ferguson (President of the Pretoria Philatelic Society) which he called, "Odds and Ends, Philatelic and Otherwise"; this comprised an interesting selection from his philatelic scrapbook. It included mail posted in the Bahamas Underwater Post Office, covers from Tristan da Cunha and Marion Island, a card from Salt Lake City complete with a bag of salt, etc. Mr. Ferguson read an instructive and humorous paper indicating several new aspects of the hobby. A vote of thanks was proposed by Mr. A. M. Jones and seconded by Mr. L. Simenhoff.

Mr. W. G. Combrinck presented Mr. W. Irving, F.R.P.S.L., with a De Luxe copy of the Union Handbook as a memento of his stay in Cape Town

and of his valuable and much appreciated work as Chairman of the Jury at the International Stamp Exhibition. A.J.N.

ROODEPOORT STAMP CLUB.

April:

In attendance were eight members and four visitors. The Chairman, Mr. Vermaak, welcomed and thanked the visitors for coming along.

Mr. Henderson gave us an interesting account of Congress and the International Stamp Exhibition at Cape Town.

The main exhibit for the evening was put on by Mr. Oliver, consisting of Red Cross and stamps of general interest, followed by a sideline of the Second World War Victories tabled by Mr. Yelland. On behalf of the Club Mr. Vermaak thanked Mr. Oliver, and Mr. Laubscher thanked Mr. Yelland for his sideline exhibit. J.K.

EAST LONDON PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

March:

A well attended meeting with many visitors. Items of Philatelic interest were shown as follows: United Nations 1st day covers. A full sheet of United Nations stamps. Kenya Royal Visit. Rumanian and Czechoslovakian covers. 1st day Australian cover of a new stamp of King George VI. Set of Hungary stamps on cover.

Mr. Shingler read a very interesting paper on "My Collection of Stamps", and was thanked by Mrs. Alabaster. A reply to the Society's query about the South African Albino Ship Stamp was read and also a letter about an issue of Health Stamps for South Africa. Mr. Durkin wrote a letter of thanks for his award for the best collection (senior) of the year. Mr. Hellman spoke about the Junior Society and said that Selborne College was now giving time during school hours to Stamp Collecting.

Mrs. Alabaster provided a quiz which was won by Mr. Harper with 7 marks out of 10.

Mr. Urquart kindly attended the meeting in order to show his very comprehensive Union Collection containing all errors and was very appreciatively thanked. Mr. Thornton showed his U.S.A. classics including many rare items which were a joy to see. Mr. Hellman, himself a U.S.A. collector, heartily thanked him, pointing out the specialities to members.

April:

The 43rd Annual General Meeting. Mr. Shingler welcomed all present including Mr. and Mrs. Wilken-son, Mr. and Mrs. Cordez and Mr. Shingler Jnr.

Mr. Shingler read a report on the Congress held at Capetown at which he, Mr. Hellman and Mrs. Alabaster were delegates. Mention was made that Mr. Ernest Hunt of Johannesburg and Mr. Watson of East London had been put on the Roll of Distinguished Philatelists. Congratulations Mr. Watson! Mr. Shingler then read a report on the International Exhibition, called "The Million Pound Exhibition." The exhibit of Her Majesty The Queen was the centre of attraction. Frames containing Cape of Good Hope Stamps, Natal and Union caused crowds to gather round spellbound at the display of Philatelic treasures. In our own Society Mr. Jenson, for Art Philately, and Mr. Hellman for U.S.A. both obtained Bronze awards. Good work! Mr. Jenson and Mr. Hellman. We are proud of you.

Mr. Hellman also spoke on the Exhibition and Mrs. Alabaster gave an account of the well organised and most enjoyable entertainments which were provided for delegates and visitors to Capetown for this important occasion.

The President then read the Annual Report and handing over the chair to Mr. Watson for the election of new officers, the following were elected:

President: Mr. Hellman; Vice-President, Mr. Williams; Hon. Secretary, Miss Taylor; Hon. Treasurer, Mr. Williams; Hon. Auditor, Mr. McCullum; Hon. Librarian, Mr. H. Harper; Hon. Press Superintendent, Mrs. Alabaster; Hon. Magazine Superintendent, Mr. Sparkman; Hon. Club Sales Superintendents, Messrs. Sparkman, Joseph and Harper.

Committee: Messrs. Shingler, Watson and Durkin with Mr. Thornton as advisor.

A beautiful display of Unusual Items was given by Mr. Thornton. This selection was to have been shown at the Exhibition but owing to lack of sufficient frames we had the pleasure of seeing it instead. Mr. McCullum thanked him for the sight of these "Gems of Philately". Mr. Attwell showed a nice collection of South African Christmas Seals as well as two photographs obtained at Capetown Castle of Jan van Riebeeck and Maria de la Quellerie. He was thanked by Mr. Joseph. R.A.

WEST RAND STAMP CLUB.

April:

Another pleasant evening was spent by the members of the Club this month, the meeting being again held at Mr. Burrell's residence.

Official business took quite a long time at this meeting, mainly in discussing items of interest brought up during the month.

When this was finally completed the meeting settled down to the exhibit. This consisted of a mint collection of Samoa shown by Mr. Sharpe. The collection consisted of most of the issues from 1887 onwards.

Mr. Burrell commented upon the exhibit.

The meeting was a small one, only 7 being present. Some of our regulars were away and others unable to attend for various reasons.

May:

Another very pleasant evening was held by the Club at Mr. Burrell's residence. It being very cold the members held the meeting seated around the fire.

During the evening Mr. Keet gave us an interesting resumé of doings at the Congress and exhibition in Cape Town which he attended as a delegate.

After the business of the meeting had been disposed of, which took quite a time, Mr. Yelland was called upon to exhibit and showed us his collection of Union coils and booklets.

Highlights of the exhibit included King George V rolls with joins and plate numbers and amongst the other stamps were those with shifted head plates, reconstructed plates of the Jipex issue and almost completed panes of the 1935 to 1939 booklets.

After the exhibit Mrs. Burrell kindly provided tea which was much appreciated by the members.

Mr. Burrell commented upon the exhibit and thanked Mr. Yelland for his very fine exhibit. E.J.S.

EAST RAND PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

Only a fair attendance because of the severe rain storm which came our way.

Congratulations were conveyed to two of our members, Messrs. J. Shepherd and Sam Legator for the awards and honours which they gained at the Philatelic Exhibition at Cape Town.

The exhibits for the evening were provided by Messrs. MacArthur, Geo. VI, Rigg, St. Helena and Behrandh, Postage Dues.

Mr. S. Legator presented the Society with a beautiful Floating Trophy and miniatures for competition and no doubt there will be keen competition for this in the future.

Mr. Shepherd presented the Society with a copy of the Union De Luxe Handbook-Catalogue; this work is a great credit to all those who edited and contributed to it.

UNIVERSITY OF CAPE TOWN PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

May:

We were glad to have the Cape Town P.S. as our guests. Nine members put on 20 sheets each.

Mr. Jones, O.F.S.; Mr. Axer, New Zealand; Major Welsford 1d. kangaroo Australia; Mr. Simenhoff, Thematics; Mrs. Grout, Pages I fancy; Mr. Combrink, Printing methods illustrated; Mrs. Hotz, Newfoundland; Mr. Hall, U.P.U.; Mr. Mummery, Egypt.

In view of Dr. Davies' recent ill-health, we were especially glad to welcome him to this meeting. Later in the year we are looking forward to a lecture by Dr. Davie on Stamp Printing. (Dr. Davie is Principal and Vice-Chancellor of U.C.T.). D.A.

AFRIKAANSE FILATELISTIESE VERENIGING.

Friday, 2nd May:

Despite the unavoidable absence of a number of members, a fair attendance was recorded, thanks to the enthusiasm of those country-members to whom distance is no barrier. Dr. van der Merwe, Viljoenskroon, O.F.S., Mrs. du Toit, Potchefstroom, and Mr. de Swart and Mr. R. Schilz, Pretoria, earned the applause of the locals. The occasion was, of course, the Society's First Annual General Meeting.

The retiring Chairman, Mr. Vermaak, thanked members for their ardent support — support which made possible the coming into being of the A.F.V. The Secretary reported, inter alia, how remarkably well the Society's membership had grown during the first year of its existence, and recorded our first visit, a memorable and pleasant one, to another Society, viz. the Philatelic Society of Johannesburg, on Monday, 28th April. The Treasurer conjured up a profit, so that the Society easily surmounted initial financial obstacles.

Office Bearers for the ensuing year are:

Mr. J. W. Schubart, Chairman; Dr. W. P. van der Merwe, Vice-Chairman; Messrs. S. J. Vermaak, Secretary; M. V. Mioch, Treasurer and Exchange Superintendent; G. J. de Swardt, Publicity Officer. Messrs. D. W. Rossouw and W. Fetter and Mrs. E. A. Vermaak are the additional Committee Members.

Two amendments to the Constitution were unanimously approved, viz. subscriptions reduced to 10/- for senior and 2/6 for junior members; and the age limit of junior members reduced to 18 years.

As it was anticipated that time would not allow it, an exhibit was not arranged. Instead, members indulged freely in the auction provided.

S.J.V.
PRETORIA RAILWAY PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

April:

The monthly meeting of the Society took place at the usual venue on the 9th inst., when despite several members being present at the Cape Town Exhibition, the attendance was well up to the normal standard. There were also quite a few visitors and among them was Mr. and Mrs. K. I. Bevis of Durban. Mr. Bevis is the secretary of the Natal Philatelic Society and the President extended a warm welcome to him and Mrs. Bevis. In replying Mr. Bevis gave the meeting his impressions of the congress and the exhibition. This was very much appreciated by the members present.

After the business of the meeting had been concluded, Mr. Slater Kinghorn gave us a paper on the correct methods of cleaning, mounting and the right way to hinge our stamps. There was also the question as to whether the gum should be retained on the stamp or not, and also the old problem of rust. This led to a general discussion between several of those present and Mr. Slater Kinghorn, and I am sure that the less experienced collectors must have gleaned quite a few useful hints. I think that these discussions are of inestimable value and create a lot of interest at the meetings and I would definitely like them to take place more often.

After the interval a very pleasant surprise eventuated when the chairman announced that Mr. Bevis would exhibit his collection of the "West Indies". This proved a real treat and was enjoyed by everyone. I understand that this collection gained the award of runner-up for the "P. C. Bishop Trophy" of the Natal Philatelic Society. The chairman voiced the approval and thanks of the meeting and spoke in glowing terms of a very fine effort.

I would like on behalf of the Society to offer our sincere congratulations to the following members who were successful in gaining awards at the International Exhibition at Cape Town. Mr. W. Newlands — Gold Award for his "Orange Free State" collection and two Silver Awards for his "Zululand" and "Anglo-Boer War" exhibits respectively. Mrs. I. M. Butler — Silver Award for her "Music" exhibit. Messrs. Newlands and Herby Bond were also successful in gaining awards for the papers that they read at Congress. We would also like to congratulate the four members of the Newlands family who gained awards in the various classes in which they exhibited. Miss Delphine Newlands was awarded a special silver award which I believe is the highest that can be awarded to a junior. Mr. Newlands' gold award was also the first ever for a "Free State" collection. A very stout efforts and your fellow members are proud of you.

F.J.V.L.
PHILATELIC SOCIETY OF NATAL.

April 2:

After Mr. J. Lyle read some extracts from magazines and conducted a quiz, which was won by Mr. Middleton, the display of the evening was given by Mr. F. Appleby. It was entitled "What I Like to Collect" and consisted mainly of commemoratives.

April 16. Although an informal evening some 40 members attended to see Mr. J. Crewell's display of Denmark. This was only a portion of his collection which was entered at the Cape Town Exhibition.

PRETORIA PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

3 March:

Dr. Sherd was unable to comply with the programme but Mr. P. Smits filled in admirably with a paper and display of O.V.S. which gave evidence of his research work.

17 March: A visit from the Railway Society, members of which gave us a good evening's entertainment.

7 April: Mr. E. C. Wright, in spite of having been busy preparing for the Cape Town Exhibition, managed to give us a display of various choice items from his collection.

21 April: Philatelic jostlings between Messrs. Gouws, Greef, Orkin and McKillip.

It is a pleasure to report that Dr. A. J. Broughton has been elected to Hon. Life membership of the Society.

PHILATELIC SOCIETY OF JOHANNESBURG.

At the meeting held on April 28th there was a visit from Die Afrikaanse Filateliese Vereniging whose members showed several fine exhibits.

Mr. H. Fetter showed Belgium commemoratives. This was a small exhibit beautifully written up. Mr. L. Buchen expressed the thanks of the Johannesburg members for this exhibit.

Mr. Rousseau showed a full range of Christmas stamps of the Union. He showed numerous blocks and all varieties. Mr. Sheffield spoke on this exhibit, and proposed the vote of thanks.

Mr. Mioch showed Netherlands Air Mail Flights. There were numerous first flights and special flights.

Mr. Bernard showed South African Airmail stamps and flown covers. All the official flights were shown from the earliest. Mr. I. Isaacs spoke on the two air mail exhibits. Mr. Vermaak, who was the President of the visiting society, showed Sweden. This was a fine exhibit including many varieties. Mr. Froehlich spoke on this exhibit.

The Johannesburg members expressed their hearty thanks to the visitors for the exhibits.

On May 13th Mr. Seelig showed France. He gave numerous introductory notes. The exhibit was strong in the early issues and there were some fine used copies. There was a full range of the modern issues with commemoratives, airmails and miniature sheets.

Mr. W. Oppenheim spoke on the exhibit.

At the meeting of May 26th Dr. von Varendorff showed a selection of 19th century Europeans. His exhibit was of numerous countries including Greece, Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, Finland, Denmark, Portugal, Norway, Iceland, Gibraltar, Italian States.

There were numbers of the first issues of these different countries. The Rev. Lesley Chamings spoke on the exhibit.

During the evening there was a quiz arranged by Mr. Economides. Mr. Lilley scored the highest marks.

SPECIAL OFFERS !

- TRANSVAAL 1885, ½d. to £5, 13 unused, complete.
Face Value £6 0s. 3d.) 22/6
Do. 1894 ½d. to 1/-, cpl. 5 unused (Cat. 13/-) 2/6
Do. 1895 ½d.-10/- cpl. 9 unused. (Cat. 32/2) 15/-
Do. 1896 ½d.-2/6 cpl. 9 unused (Face 5/1) 4/6
- SOUTH AFRICA 1933 Voortrekker, 4 pairs cpl. with
Special Cancellation (Cat. 37/-) 20/-
Do. 1938 Voortrekker, 6 prs. cpl. with Special
Cancellation (Cat. 50/-) 18/-
Do. "SATISE," & "SADIPU" in blocks 1/4
- S.W.A. Van Riebeeck 5 unused complete 2/-
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6/-) 4/6
- S. RHODESIA ½d. and 1d. Royal Visit with "ROYAL
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RHODESIA 1898 £2 superb used. (Cat. 35/-) 17/6

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DARMSTADT TRIALS.

Union Id. Slip Roto, with wmk. Trefoil or no wmk.; frames or vignettes missing, Hunter Penrose labels, etc., the **Authentic** story of these interesting items by Prof. Dix, as published in Royal Phil. Soc. journal, illustrated. Price only 3/6 postfree.

NEW APPROVAL SELECTIONS:

Union Inter-provincials, S.W.A. Occupationals, Union Officials, Switzerland, France, Germany, French African Colonies, Union Commemos, Bantam Marginals, Great Britain (all periods), Malaya, etc.

New Clients, references please.

A. Lichtenstein

B.P.A.

Box 1117 ————— BLOEMFONTEIN

UNION STAMPS USED IN G.E.A.—WORLD WAR I



Union Stamps cancelled as seen in the illustration:

(a) A censor mark (b) "Tanganjika" (c) "S.A. Field Telegraph and Postal Corps."

It is rather wonderful how publication of a little bit of news brings out more information on the matter.

In our April issue, p. 58, a note was made about the rarity of records of covers from G.E.A. to South Africa in World War I. This note elicited record of one stampless cover with an Indian F.P.O. mark and of a stampless postcard with a South African Base Post Office mark. Incidentally part of the last word in the note was omitted; it should have read "Kilindini."

Now Mr. A. Lichtenstein of Bloemfontein comes to light with three pieces bearing

So evidently there were Union Stamps in G.E.A. and now all that is wanted is a complete cover with them.

SOUTH AFRICA.

I shall be holding another postal Auction on May 24th, 1952, again Union items only. Catalogue and prices realised, 1/6 post free.

Union Handbook/Catalogue, 23/- postage paid.

C. E. SHERWOOD

105 MARFORD CRESCENT, SALE,
MANCHESTER, G.B.

AUSTRALIAN COLLECTORS:

1952 Orlo-Smith Commonwealth Specialists' Catalogue. Completely revised and up-to-date. Price 7/6 Reg. post 6d. extra. Trade Enquiries:

JACK'S PHILATELISTS,

64/6 Main Road, Mowbray, Cape Town.

SOME NEW ISSUES.

Czechoslovakia. 15 new stamps in period April 30—June 2. Three honouring agriculture, two for Labour Day, two commemorating liberation by Soviet Army, three honouring Prague musical festival, three for Children's Day, and two for anniversary of destruction of Lidice.

Germany. Both West Berlin and E. Germany have issued stamps on the occasion of the 125th anniversary of the death of Beethoven. The Federal Republic has issued one for the 500th anniversary of the birth of Leonardo da Vinci.

Malta. Colour changes are reported as in preparation in the case of the 1d., 1½d. and 2d. "Self Government" stamps.

Switzerland. From this year on the National Festival stamps will be known as "Pro Patria" stamps. Five stamps due for issue on 31 May and remaining on sale for three months.

United Nations. A 5c. commemorative is to be issued on 24 October, United Nations Day.

The design will feature the War Veterans' Memorial in San Francisco.

Whitfield King & Co.

SOUTHERN RHODESIA METER PARCEL FRANKS.

Mr. R. Axer reports that in Salisbury and Bulawayo meter franking machines for parcel post labels are in use. A specimen submitted shows the paper used for the labels light yellow in colour with, in light green, wavy lines broken up by ovals containing the words "Metered Mail." The franking on this, in red, has the following: A number (presumably serial), UR4, Parcel post paid (with the amount following), Bulawayo, Southern Rhodesia, and a date. The date on the specimen is 19 VII 50; if this is the date of posting then, of course, these machines have been in use for quite some time, but their use does not seem to have been recorded previously.

THE SOUTH AFRICAN PHILATELIST

PROPRIETORS AND PUBLISHERS :

The Philatelic Federation of Southern Africa

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JULY, 1952.

Whole No. 328.

Union Notes

Sub-Editor: Mr. W. N. SHEFFIELD,
Box 99, Cleveland, Transvaal.

New "SUID, SUID" Variety in the ½d. Roll Stamps.

A variety in the 1930 unhyphenated ½d. roll stamps, which does not appear to have been previously recorded, has been shown to us by Mr. R. Smyter of Camps Bay, Cape Province.

The item consists of a strip of six stamps with a "join" in the centre which brings two Afrikaans stamps together and produces a language sequence of:—

SUID: SOUTH: SUID: SUID: SOUTH: SUID.

The join is simply a strip of perforated paper connecting the ends of the two centre stamps together and has every appearance of being the work of the staff employed in the making up of the rolls.

Mr. Smyter states that he purchased the strip on the same occasion as several others bearing the "SUID: SUID: SOUTH: SOUTH" variety (R9/Va — page 161, Union 'Handbook/Catalogue') when it was current in the post offices, but it was sometime afterwards before he discovered that the particular strip he has shown to us was different to the others. He asks if anyone can give the reason for joining the stamps in the manner described and Mr. S. J. Hagger of Alberton, Transvaal, has kindly supplied the following explanation:

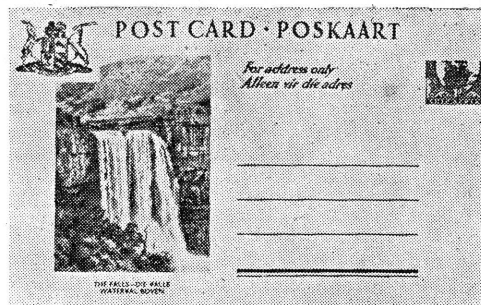
"Due to the rotogravure process by which these unhyphenated ½d. coil stamps were printed, there was, at least in theory, no need for them to have any joins at all. However, an examination of the sides of the stamps from these coils never shows any trace of their having been cut, and we must assume, therefore, that they were torn into strips; which method would naturally result in occasional broken strips. The method of repairing these breaks was the rather cumbersome one of clipping the top and bottom perforations respectively from the two stamps to be joined, and pasting them, apparently with mucilage, to a strip of gummed paper already perforated, which had previously been cut from a large sheet. For this reason, therefore, I suggest that the breaks were not repaired as they occurred, which would naturally have resulted in no change in the language order; but that

the broken strips were put aside so that the joining, and probably also counting, could be tackled later as one job. It had probably been realised by then that the two extra rows had been etched on to the frame cylinder in the wrong order resulting in two English stamps being followed by two in Afrikaans, or vice versa, in every twenty-two stamps, so there was no need to worry about the language progression. In any case, whether accidentally or not, the strips were joined at random, and this made possible a number of different language combinations. Two of these, viz.: Three English stamps followed by two Afrikaans, or three Afrikaans stamps followed by two English are well known, both being listed on page 161 of the new Union "Handbook/Catalogue", and the former illustrated on page 160. I seem to remember also having heard or read of a join which did not alter the language order, but as far as I know, this is the first time a strip with
SUID: SOUTH: SUID: SUID: SOUTH:
SUID

has been recorded, and it will be interesting to see if any other combination come to light."

Unique Pictorial Post Card Variety.

The accompanying photograph of a pictorial post card bearing only half of a penny imprinted stamp was sent to us by Mr. S. J. Vermaak of Johannesburg who bought the original at the Jeppe Street Post Office in October 1951. It was found in an ordinary packet of post cards on sale at the time, but despite further daily purchases at the same post office for some time afterwards, Mr. Vermaak found no more like it, though four other packets did yield respectively two, two, one and one post cards — six in all — entirely without stamps.



The latter variety was recorded in our April 1951 issue, but this is the first we have heard of a card with an impressed "bisect".

Plating of the Current 3/6 Booklet Panes.

To give the specialists in the Pretoria area an opportunity of studying his reconstructed sheets of the 3/6 Booklet panes and their covers, which incidently, were all on view at the recent South African Tercentenary International Stamp Exhibition in Cape Town, Mr. Sam Legator of Brakpan has loaned his copies to the Philatelic Agency and those interested in plating this latest series should arrange to call in while they are still available.

The set-up of the completed sheets of these booklets is illustrated on page 173 of the Union "Handbook/Catalogue" and for the benefit of the many collectors who will be unable to visit the Agency in Pretoria, Mr. Legator has kindly offered to assist us in publishing details of the plating. It is hoped to have the article ready at an early date.

Second Voortrekkers — "Broken Spoke" in Wheel on 1d. Stamp.

A recent issue of the Monthly News Folder circulated by Mr. C. E. Sherwood of Manchester, England to all members of his Society, contains the following note.

"Mr. M. D. Gibson draws attention to an unrecorded variety on the 1d. 1938 Voortrekker in which there is a break in one of the spokes of the wheel. Row 14, No. 6 E. Mr. Gibson has two copies."

Examination of a sheet shows the flaw to be constant and the break occurs just at the point where the outer line of the rising ground in the design intersects the lowest spoke of the wheel.

Postage Due Stamps Without Dot Under Pence Symbol.

Mr. J. A. Doeg of Everett, Washington State, U.S.A. has written enquiring about the 6d. Postage Due stamp illustrated herewith which has no dot below the "d" of the pence symbol.



This was one of the series which appeared in 1927-28 bearing English and Afrikaans inscriptions instead of English and Nederlands of the previous issue and is listed under GROUP V in the recently published "Handbook/Catalogue" of the Union stamps.

It was typographed by the Government Printer, Pretoria, on unwatermarked paper and perforated 14. Printed in sheets of four panes of 60 stamps, each pane surrounded by Jubilee lines, and issued in panes of 60.

Of the five values in this series, — ½d., 1d., 2d., 3d. and 6d. — the first three were produced with a dot under the pence symbol and the 3d. and 6d. without a dot.

Van Riebeeck Varieties.

Writing in connection with the Van Riebeeck varieties listed in our April and June issues, Mr. K. W. Kuhne of Ermelo, Transvaal, states that he has been unable to locate those given in April as appearing on the following stamps, and we agree that they have not proved constant.

1d.—Row 1, No. 14 and Row 2, No. 18.

4½d.—Row 1, No. 1 and Row 5, No. 19.

He also mentions that the following given in his June list are evidently not as constant as he first thought and apparently only appeared on a few sheets.

½d.—Row 18/5 (Dart in top edge of left medal)

4½d.—Row 2/6 (White tail and dot to "K" of van Riebeeck).

— Row 6/18 (Damaged "A" of AFRICA and stroke to "D" of SUID).

There are two varieties on the 4½d. stamps however, which undoubtedly are constant and so far have gone unrecorded. Mr. Kuhne gives the first and Mr. Sam Legator, Brakpan has drawn our attention to the second.

4½d. Row 4/14—Apostrophe mark in front of "2" in 1952.

5/20—Blue "stone" in signet ring on van Riebeeck's little finger.

Pictorial 1/- Stamps with Black Serial Numbers.

We have been advised by the Publicity Officer of the Department of Posts and Telegraphs that the 1/- pictorial stamp — Union Cat. No. 50B — appeared about the middle of June with five-figure black serial numbers on the sheets instead of the usual four-figure red numbers.

The same variety on sheets of the 3d. stamps was recorded in our May number and with the appearance of the 1/-, we now have the ½d., 2d., 3d., 6d. and 1/- denominations of the pictorial series which have been issued during the last few years with the five-figure black serial numbers.

It is worthy of note that the colours of the latest 1/- printing are much deeper than the pale tones recorded in our February number.

Transposition of Overprints on S.W.A. "Officials".

In our last month's Notes we recorded a new "Official" overprint on four of the South West Africa stamps, the principle feature of which was the change in the fount. The actual overprints,

OFFICIAL and OFFISIEEL, were in all cases correctly placed on their respective English and Afrikaans inscribed stamps in the manner normally adopted with these "Officials".



This month we can report another issue of the 1½d. and 6d. S.W.A. "Officials" which Mr. J. Robertson of Johannesburg has noted bears the same larger fount as that described last month, but with the entirely new feature that the overprints are transposed on one horizontal pair in each block of four copies. Thus, though the stamps are correctly inscribed alternately in English and Afrikaans — both horizontally and vertically — the overprints **alternate horizontally only** and in consequence, we have all the OFFICIAL's set one above the other in one column and the OFFISIEEL's arranged in a similar manner in the adjoining column, with the unusual result shown in our illustration.

June Notes Errata.

A typographical omission and error in our June "Notes" should be corrected as follows:

On page 98 the words "on what" should be added between "work" and "has" in the 46th line of the right hand column so that the sentence reads:—

"and there is no doubt but that his research work on what has proved one of the most interesting and popular items in the collecting of Union stamps — the 1½d. Springbok Head and especially the Roto series — will be welcomed by all students of this country's stamps."

On page 99, under the heading of "White Flower" and "Split Ear" Flaws on 1½d. Stamps, the Interior Cylinder No. 38 in the 9th line down should be corrected to read No. 48.

Handbook/Catalogue Supplement No. 1.

The first supplement to the "Handbook/Catalogue of Union Stamps of South Africa" appears in this number and readers who have any suggestions to offer regarding the set-up of future issues are invited to drop a line to the Editor.

"SATISE" Tailpiece.

We pass on the following short Postscript — with all due apologies — recently received in a letter from Mr. C. H. Thornton of East London. "Are you SATISEfied with the Exhibition overprint?"

"It is very SADIP(H)U are not!"

Collectors' Wants & Offers

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

Collections and rarities especially Unions wanted for cash. Kindly contact—JOHN MENDELSSOHN, P.O. Box 1607, Johannesburg.

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WANTED: Booklets, Post Cards, Registered Envelopes and Airlittercards, unused and used of Union only.—DR. MURRAY, Kuils River.

German P.O.'s Abroad and ex-Colonies, Approvals, Wants lists filled.—B. CHALLEN, Wilderness, C.P.

REQUIRED Switzerland. All issues, mint, used and covers. For Cash or Exchange for Geo. VI.—B. JOSEPH, P.O. Box 4967, Johannesburg.

STAMPS.—Want lists invited for any country; specialities Union, S.W.A., British Africa.—LACY'S, 211 Long Street, Capetown.

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OUR GREATEST CENTENARY.

September 1st, 1953 is the centenary of the issue of the world renowned Cape Triangulars, the first stamps of the African continent although Mauritius, as an African island beat us to it by six years for the first stamp of Africa.

Is this event to be celebrated philatelically and postally? It would be a thousand pities if it were not, and it is hoped that our Postal Department has not forgotten this important event even in the stress of getting ready a complete set of ordinary stamps and the Van Riebeeck commemoratives.

But just how a suitable commemorative stamp is to be designed may be a bit of a puzzle. The obvious issue of a triangular stamp of similar design would seem to be ruled out in view of the Union 4d. of 1926. Another plan which has been tried out in several countries of recent years is that of "a stamp within a stamp" i.e. a rectangular stamp of, say, the usual size of our commemoratives, bearing a small reproduction of a Cape Triangular and, of course some suitable surround to it.

Shall we throw this open to suggestions? No prizes offered as we are not in a position to afford them, but possibly a beneficent Government will come to the rescue in this direction!

AMAZING POSTAL HISTORY

(The following letter was sent to a prominent philatelist in East London. Without guaranteeing its accuracy *in toto*, we gladly publish it as a contribution to the lighter side of South African postal history.—Ed.)

Fournierville,
I. IV. 51.

Mr. Blank,
East London.
My dear Friend,

Concerning our discussion, I have examined all available records and I now give you the following details of my research:

In very early days Gasper de Pama recruited a company of sailors at Valetta and set out to plant Crosses around the African coast — probably intending them as beacons in his claim to ownership of the land. As he did not erect a George Cross this made the Maltese cross, so to pacify them he put up a Pillar Box at Table Bay where they could post their home letters. Sailors from passing ships put stones in the Post Box and it is reported that two sailors rifled the Box and took a bag of stones which they sold in England. These so-called "Post Stones" are now seldom found in Albums and are in fact great rarities.

On returning to Europe Gasper reported having discovered a Three-cornered Cape at Southern extremity of Africa but was put down as a wooden blockhead for his error in trying to palm off such a tale after having been such a constant visitor at Constantia.

A later navigator, Jan van Riebeeck, decided to investigate this tale of a Three-cornered Cape and arrived with his ships in Table Bay.

Sergt. Dromedaris had heard that Stanley Gibbons had sent out General De Ahler to open a branch Winkel in Kaapstad so, being a collector, he stumped the streets in search. Unsuccessful, on his return to his ship, he said it had given him the hump and he raised Hell's Hoogte!

The Commandant shouted "Hou jou bek! I want to hear the Devil speak with Van Hunks!"

In Natal Chaka the reputed author of the Philatelic Anthem "Stamp, Stamp, Stamp the Boys are Marching" caused a stampede which destroyed almost everything. When his society wished to present him with an embossed address the only paper to be found was coloured blotting.

Transvaal: Captain Bygoom-Hitstiques of the Yacht Hermes sailed up the Orange and Vaal Rivers. Near Potch. he found the water-mark was low so he cabled for an anchor. Whilst waiting he went to see the Ossewa Gold Mine where there was a stamp-battery running with two shafts down to the reef. This caused a boom in the town of Dissel. Having bought a lot of Speculation issues he made a pile. Hitstiques then designed a stamp with his own head which made Victoria Cross so she instructed one Van der Bijl to attend to the matter.

The **Free State**, always the poor relation had, about 1903, reached the "I owe" stage. These 'chits' are still met with but, being of only fourpence in value, are thought to have been issued to pay for the orangeade consumed at their society meetings.

Societies. Somewhat naturally Johannesburg claims to be the old classic "Post Office" society. Pretoria, Cape Town and Durban are allowed smaller margins, while other societies are mostly just 'space-fillers.'

All records of an earlier society at Stokpedjie Vlei have disappeared, but that societies did, at various periods, exist at Sedang Fontein, Hobytown on Hogsback, Posthumus Kop, Martinus Petrus Berg, and various other dorps can scarcely be doubted. The Village of Panmure did however inaugurate one in April 1909 which has functioned without a break until now as The East London Philatelic Society.

When all these facts are digested it will be found that I am Wright, you are right, and all is right as right can be with the king of hobbies and the hobby of kings.

Your Philately,

I. M. WRIGHT.

P.S. I have omitted to state that most of the facts given above were culled from Kromdraai's "History of South Africa." I.M.W.

GERMAN EAST AFRICA.

Dr. K. Pennycuik has a first instalment of an article on the Post Offices and their Cancellations of G.E.A. in the May-June issue of the "West-End Philatelist."

Incidentally it may be mentioned that the writer was formerly connected with the ill-fated ground nut scheme in Tanganyika, but he left that some time ago and has just recently gone to Singapore. What will he take up philately there?

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"SATISE" IN RETROSPECT

When the doors were closed on Capetown's International Stamp Exhibition on the 5th April, a chapter in the history of philately of South Africa was started for without a doubt, more people saw more good collections in the ten days of the exhibition than most had seen in their collecting days. The visitor was greeted at the outset — even before paying his fee — by an array of pre-stamp covers and letters that must surely have been unique, to his left while on the right there met his eye a wonderful collection of covers bearing three-cornered Capes in singles, in pairs, in combinations of values, in combination with halved and quartered stamps and in combination with stamps other than those of the Cape.

Passing on to the main hall an aisle led to the dais on which the Royal Collection was displayed; at most hours of the day too congested for proper inspection. But by biding his time, the stamp collector could eventually enjoy and appreciate the pages of Capes, Natal embossed and Union items presented in the left and centre frames while in the right-hand frames the artists' drawings, proofs and essays of modern Colonial issues drove dull care away.

The Cape Championship exhibits nearby attracted great attention so that to avoid the sense of urgency which a crowd inspires and the student abhors, one had once more to await an opportunity to near one's goal. Once this was achieved, patience was rewarded in very great measure. It is one thing to know of the existence of rarities but it is a vastly different thing to have seen them and here was a veritable storehouse of good things presented in a manner that brought out the importance of every item shown.

To vary the fare, the exhibit of the Union Postal Department was visible. This had evident popular appeal, especially those sections in which the colour trials, in complete sheets, of the Van Riebeeck stamps were housed. Many remarked that they preferred some of the unissued colours to those that were finally selected: no doubt technical reasons of which the man in the street is unaware were the cause of rejection, and it would therefore have been kind of the Postal Authorities to include an explanation. Perhaps on another occasion and if such a hint were thrown out, the information could be provided.

The competitive exhibits of Rhodesian stamps provided another focal point for all collectors. The artists' drawings, proofs, essays, and "Specimens" to say nothing of the issued stamps were items to impart knowledge to the knowing and an education for the tyro. The Orange Free State frames with their contents of countless overprinted stamps attracted more than passing interest while the Transvaal sheets, surely a source of great pride to their owner, were revelations to the beholder.

Of the foreign collections exhibited one could not help but be impressed by the series of Netherlands frames where the early postal history of that country was most admirably set out. Although the owners of these could not

possibly have known what each was to show, it was a happy coincidence that the pre-stamp covers, the first issues (in profusion), the stamps of the young Queen Wilhelmina and the more modern charity and commemorative series followed one another. In the displays of Latvia, Estonia and Germany (Hitler and after) the troubled state of Europe could clearly be discerned especially when compared with the older issues in other frames.

The modern trend in philately was exemplified in the number of thematic entries that were to be seen. This branch of the hobby, which developed from sideline to serious study in a very short time, has today many devoted followers, possibly to the disgust of the orthodox but certainly to the benefit of the stamp collecting world.

No mention has so far been made of any particular stamp or philatelic item and none will be, for the time has long since passed when any individual could have the knowledge to praise or condemn much of what was to be seen. To one the stamps of Brazil appeal, to another British Guiana has a fascination above all others, and who is to say that China and Thibet should yield to Mauritius and South Africa the pride of place in his collections? National and International stamp exhibitions are the colleges and universities of the philatelic world and it is the feeling of disappointment or the sense of gain with which the visiting collectors depart that really determines the failure or success of an exhibition. Capetown, it is felt, can justly be proud of the South African Tercentenary International Exhibition it has offered philatelists.

COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA.

Postmaster-General's Department.

Treasury Gardens,

Melbourne. Cz.

Australia.

June 16th, 1952.

AUSTRALIA-SOUTH AFRICA AIR MAIL SERVICES.

FIRST FLIGHT FACILITIES.

Arrangements are being made for the carriage of philatelic mail by the first flight from Australia of the direct air service between Australia and South Africa, which is to be inaugurated in September, 1952. The 8,500-mile route — Sydney-Perth-Cocos Is.-Mauritius-Johannesburg — will be operated by Constellation Aircraft of Quantas Airways Ltd.

Philatelic mail will be accepted for conveyance by this flight ONLY TO COCOS IS., MAURITIUS AND SOUTH AFRICA and for return to Australia via one or other of these three places.

Air mail despatched by the first flight will be impressed with a special cachet and return cover facilities will be provided in respect of Cocos Is., Mauritius and South Africa.

Full details concerning air mail charges and related postal arrangements will be furnished early in August, 1952, but collectors will need to make their own arrangements to have covers prepared for the flight.

G. T. CHIPPINDALL,
Director-General.

THE "PHILATELIC ADVISER"

is a high-class monthly Magazine specialising in stamps and postmarks of Great Britain, but catering in addition for the General Collector. All articles fully illustrated and printed on good quality paper. It occasionally has authoritative articles on Tristan da Cunha and other South African news, and should be read by all philatelists. Price 1/3 per issue, 15/- per year. A specimen copy will be gladly sent to any serious philatelist.

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AIR MAIL NOTES.**COMET JETLINER SERVICE.****Friday 2nd May, 1950—First Southbound Flight.**

B.O.A.C. Souvenir covers inscribed "THE WORLD'S FIRST COMET JETLINER SERVICE/FIRST FLIGHT BETWEEN LONDON AND JOHANNESBURG BY B.O.A.C." in blue and yellow (for which a charge of 5s. each for servicing was made) were backstamped in Johannesburg 3 May 3.45 p.m.—five minutes after the arrival of the plane at Palmietfontein, and just under twenty three and a half hours after leaving London.

Whilst the co-operation of the Johannesburg Postal Authorities is always greatly appreciated by collectors, it is a pity that in this instance the timing of the postmark presents such an anomaly, for these covers did not reach Johannesburg until much later in the day.

Ordinary mail carried by the Comet and addressed to Poste Restante, Johannesburg, was not backstamped until after the week-end, some covers receiving postmarks of the 5th and some of the 6th May.

Monday, 5th May, 1952—First Northbound Flight:

Souvenir covers were postmarked Johannesburg 9 a.m. (the actual time of the Comet's departure from Jan Smuts Airport — **quod erat absurdum**), those addressed to London receiving the Airways Terminal date stamp of 6 MAY—12 noon, a few hours after the plane's arrival. Ordinary mail from Johannesburg had to be posted on the evening of Sunday, 4th May.

B.O.A.C. covers despatched from Livingstone on the Northbound Flight have an added interest in that they are franked with the new 9d. Northern Rhodesia stamps and are, therefore, both First Flight and **First Day** items.

KOREAN "FREE FORCES MAIL".

With reference to the article on these South African Letter Cards issued to our Air Squadron in Korea, Mr. Godfrey submits from specimens which he has obtained.

Two of these are of Mr. Jones' Type Z. In one the green colour of the inside of the letter card is fairly obvious on the outside, in the other it only shows up as faint tinge of green.

The other two are of Type 3. In one of them, the outside is greened like the darker one of Type 2. In the other the green inside is very faint and there is practically none of it showing on the outside; in fact it might almost be described as a faintly pinkish white. It might also be noted that one of the Type 2 cards has "Brief Kaart" first, at the top; the other three have "Letter Card" first.

GREAT BRITAIN.

The Registration Fee has been increased to 6d. and the Air Mail rate to South Africa raised from 1/- to 1/3.

Thanks are due to several friends for commemorative covers with special postmarks from the 34th Philatelic Congress of Great Britain held at Southampton on 20-24 Mal, and also from the Postal History Exhibition held at Bath in connection with the Fifth Assembly there on 22-31 May.

The Philatelic Fund.

The London International Exhibition ended up with a credit balance of £574 14s. 6d. and the sponsors (The Royal Philatelic Society and the B.P.A.) are putting this money to a Fund to be expended for the "general benefit of philately."

The terms of reference explain that this includes any object likely to promote or encourage the study of philately or spread philatelic interest and knowledge e.g. holding or assisting exhibitions, making of collections, expertisation of stamps, helping societies, etc., etc.

The Convenor and Hon. Treasurer of the Fund is Mr. Arnold M. Strange, old Whaddon, Lyndhurst Drive, Harpenden, Herts.

HUNGARY.

Some 18 stamps, honouring or commemorating a variety of things or persons, have either recently been issued or are soon to appear, but lack of space prevents details being listed.

"REINATEX" AND "CENTILUX".

At the Reinatex exhibition in Monaco at the end of April no special stamps were issued for the exhibition but during the week a postal museum was opened and for this a set of three values was issued. There were, however, three special exhibition post marks. The winner of the Oscar Statuette was Dr. Leeman-Geymuller of Switzerland for his collection of that country.

At Centilux (the Luxemburg Centenary Stamp Exhibition — May 24 to June 4) the authorities have gone even further than those of Itep (commented on elsewhere under the heading "Netherlands") in the way of fleecing collectors.

In the first place the special stamps are being sold under conditions which impose the purchase of a 20 fr. entrance ticket to the exhibition. Secondly the number of special stamps is excessive. There are two ordinary postage stamps of 2 fr. and 4fr. values — costing 26 fr. and five air mail stamps of total face value 25fr. 30—costing 45 fr. 30. Stamps will be on sale at public post offices, but even there at face plus 20 fr. on each set.

SHORT NOTICES.

The American Philatelic Society has issued a 16-page brochure entitled "Fun and Profit in Stamp Collecting" at a price of only 4 cents. It is first-class propaganda meant to attract new collectors to our hobby and it may be stressed that the "Profit" mentioned in the title refers rather to relaxation, enjoyment and greater happiness in life, rather than to financial profit.

Messrs. Robson Lowe have published a booklet describing some 31 collections they have for disposal by private treaty. These range all over the world and vary in price from under £50 to over £7,000.

Stanley Gibbons Ltd. announce Part I (British Empire) catalogue to be published at end of August, the cost will be up 1/- i.e. to 16/-. The "Simplified" will appear early in November, the price remaining at 18/6. The K.G. VI catalogue is due early in December, price not yet known.

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SUPPLEMENT No. 1.

SECTION 33.

VAN RIEBEECK TERCENTENARY.

A series of five stamps in the denominations of ½d., 1d., 2d., 4½d. and 1/- issued on the 14th March, 1952, to commemorate the Tercentenary of the landing of Jan van Riebeeck at the Cape. The ½d. and 1d. stamps were valid for both postage and revenue and the other values for postage only.

Printed by the rotogravure process at the Government Printing Works, Pretoria, in sheets of 120 stamps, each inscribed bilingually in English and Afrikaans on paper watermarked multiple Springbok's Head. Two colours were employed for the printing of the ½d. and one for each of the other four denominations.

Cross-lined screened cylinders were employed for all values and their numbers appear twice on the bottom margin of the 1d. and 4½d. sheets and on the right hand margin of the ½d., 2d. and 1/- sheets. They are printed in the same colour as the corresponding interior and exterior designs on the ½d. stamp an in the respective colours of the other values. Four-figure red serial numbers appear twice on the same margins as the cylinder numbers. There were no cylinder changes throughout the life of the issue.

There are only two marginal arrows on each sheet and these are printed at the left and right hand ends of the 1d. and 4½d. values and at the top and bottom of the ½d., 2d. and 1/-. Those on the ½d. are in the same colour as the exterior design — olive-brown — and in the colour of the stamps of the other value. The arrows are omitted from the other margins because the 120 stamps per sheet are separated into two equal panels of 60 stamps each by a central gutter, which in itself forms a ready guide for dividing the sheet into two halves.

The design measures 21 x 37½ mm. on the 1d. and 4½d., and 37½ x 21 mm. on the ½d., 2d. and 1/-.

The perforating was carried out by a "closed comb" or "grid" type of apparatus, which perforates a complete pane of 60 stamps in one beat, but unlike the 11-row multiple perforator previously employed for the Union rotogravure issues, this new type does not carry the perforations into the margins at the narrow ends of the sheet. The gutter — one stamp wide — which runs across the centre of each sheet, is also free from perforations.

The bulk of the stamps were printed on a white paper, but at one period during the issue, sheets of all values except the ½d. and 1/- were on sale on a paper with a distinct "toned" or creamy appearance. Similar occurrences have

been noted on other issues of the Union stamps.

Towards the end of the period of sale — 13th June 1952 — some post offices received their supplies in the form of half sheets which had been guillotined along the centre line of the pane dividing gutter.

OFFICIAL PROOFS.

Photographic prints of ½d., 1d., 2d., 4½d. and 1/-, each. (Illustrated on frontispiece of Catalogue).

1952 (14th March) Van Riebeeck Tercentenary wmk. left on 1d. and 4½d., and upright on ½d., 2d., 1/- Perf. 14 x 15 on 1d. and 4½d. and 15 x 14 on ½d., 2d. and 1/-. Cylinder numbers: ½d. Nos. 7018 (Int.) and 6923 (Ext.); 1d. No. 30; 2d. No. 36; 4½d. No. 44; 1/- No. 27.



Official Seal and V.O.C. Monogram of Dutch East India Company.

Cat. No.

111 ½d. Claret and olive-brown.
a. Toned paper.

CONTROLS.

Ca. Pair with Cylinder Nos. "7018" and "6923" in margin.
Cb. Marginal arrow pair.

VARIETIES.

Va. Dot between "F" and "R" of AFRIKA, Row 1/1.
Vb. Break in bottom frame line between "F" and "R" of AFRIKA, Row 19/6.
Vc. Black and white marks on "O" of the Monogram, Row 20/5.
Vd. Olive-brown marks in gutters between stamps, Rows 1 to 15/1.



Maria de la Quellerie
First Wife of Jan van Riebeeck.

- 112 1d. Dark green.
a. Toned paper.

CONTROLS.

- Ca. Stamp with Cylinder No. "30" in margin.
Cb. As above on toned paper.
Cc. Marginal arrow pair.
Cd. Arrow pair on toned paper.

VARIETIES.

- Va. Green stroke between "A" and "F" of AFRICA and "hyphen" in front of AFRICA Row 2/3.
Vb. Wrinkle on forehead, Row 2/14.
Vc. White dot between "R" and "I" of AFRIKA, Row 2/20.
Vd. Dark green blob near middle of frame, Row 3/10.
Ve. White "mushroom" mark on upper half of left frame, Row 5/9.
Vf. Spots on left cheek, Row 6/3.
Vg. White mark at top of first "A" in AFRICA, Row 6/6.



Historical depiction of the arrival of Van Riebeeck's Ships.

- 113 2d. Dark violet.
a. Toned paper.

CONTROLS.

- Ca. Stamp with Cylinder No. "36" on margin.
Cb. As above on toned paper.
Cc. Marginal arrow pair.
Cd. Arrow pair on toned paper.

VARIETIES.

- Va. "Moon" to left of ship below "R" of AFRIKA, Row 6/3.
Vb. Two black dots above Mountain, Row 9/5.
Vc. Black spot above Table Mountain, Row 9/6.
Vd. Long vertical line through sails of ship on left, Row 11/2.
Ve. Short vertical mark above sails of ship on left, Row 12/2.
Vf. "Smoke" above Mountain, Row 13/4.
Vg. "Smoke" above Mountain, Row 14/3.
Vh. White dot under first "A" of AFRIKA, Row 16/6.



Jan van Riebeeck.

- 114 4 1/2d. Dark blue.
a. Toned paper.

CONTROLS.

- Ca. Stamp with Cylinder No. "44" on margin.
Cb. As above on toned paper.
Cc. Marginal arrow pair.
Cd. Arrow pair on toned paper.

VARIETIES.

- Va. Oblique line of colour above Van Riebeeck's head and dot above right eyebrow, Row 1/7.
Vb. Blue dot in gutter below first "A" of AFRIKA, Row 2/10.
Vc. White mark on end of hyphen, Row 3/13.
Vd. White dot inside first "A" of AFRIKA, Row 4/2.
Ve. White dot on shoulder above value, Row 4/20.
Vf. Blue mark near forehead, Row 5/5.
Vg. Blue spot between RIEBEECK and 1952, Row 5/13.
Vh. Blob of colour on signet ring, Row 5/20.



The landing of Van Riebeeck at the Cape.

- 115 1/- Sepia-brown.
a. Toned paper.

CONTROLS.

- Ca. Stamp with Cylinder No. "27" on margin.
Cb. As above on toned paper.
Cc. Marginal arrow pair.
Cd. Arrow pair on toned paper.

VARIETIES.

- Va. Number of brown spots in front of the Natives and around landing party. Also brown mark ("Bird") on barrel of gun, Row 1/2.
Vb. White spot behind Native's leg, Row 19/4.
Vc. Oblique brown line behind right Native's head, Row 20/2.

CORRECTIONS.

- Page VII (De Luxe Edition, Page XV) Par. 8. SCREENED CYLINDERS, Correct the word (**moziac**), to read (**mosaic**).
- Page 102—Item 42Ac, **Normal** wmk. should be corrected to read Upright wmk.
- Page 108—Item 44A/Ca, Correct date **1951**, to read 1937.
- Page 112—Heading of Sixth Hyphenated Issue. Change Roman figures in **GROUP VII**, to read **GROUP 7**.
- Page 119—Item 45Ac. Correct to read 45Ab.
- Page 134—Plate VIIIc under illustration should read Plate VIIIc.
- Page 145—Correct the date under illustration to read February 1939.
- Page 169—Item B7. Insert colours of 1d. stamp, Black and carmine.
- Page 170—Items B10 and B11, Reverse colours to read Grey and carmine.
- Page 174—Change the date under illustration to read 1948.
- Page 277—Correct the title word **STATIONARY**, to read **STATIONERY**.

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KING GEORGE VI STAMPS

by
B. GLASSMAN.

Today, perhaps the widest collected thematic yet philatelic stamps are those of the reign of King George VI of Great Britain, the Dominions and Colonies. There must be in the neighbourhood of well over 100,000 collectors all over the world who partake in this section of the hobby.

About six years ago I decided to collect these stamps — at first both mint and used. Later I dropped the used as genuinely used copies are difficult to come by although they are easy to obtain cancelled to order, besides mint stamps always give a better appearance and are easier to study.

At first my collection was a straight one but whilst comparing and swapping stamps with friends differences in shades and papers were noticed although they were not listed in the collector's bible. About the same time I had practically completed my straight collection with the exception of some of the rarities (a few of which I am still missing). During one of these evenings I decided to go in for paper and shade varieties and so from a small three-volume collection I now have fourteen volumes and I am far from finished.

Of course to look at a straight collection of George VI is, perhaps, monotonous but who will say that a collection of, say, only British Guiana is interesting? — at least in my collection I can travel the world — in technicolour — and not only will I increase my geographical knowledge but also my history.

However after increasing my knowledge of geography and history I decided to increase my knowledge of colours and papers and where is there a better field than in the George VI section? Varieties too, are not lacking and many of the issues can give one hours and hours of study. Take the Bermuda "Half Penny" overprint which includes the various sizes of overprint on the same sheet and still two shades to worry about! What a field to plate! Another interesting group is the first map issue of the Falkland Islands Dependencies which exists in four plates and which contains varieties appearing not only on all plates but some only on some of the plates whilst others are on one plate only. The Australian stamps overprinted "B.C.O.F." can give a collector a good headache trying to plate all the flaws and errors. Re-entries are found in many of the long Coronation set of Newfoundland which set also has a variety of perforations.

George VI stamps have become so vast a field that many collectors are adopting the idea of collecting areas only such as the West Indies, Africa, Asia or Pacific. Of course collectors of George VI have the advantage of the numerous philatelic magazines devoting a considerable amount of space to their hobby which cannot

be said for many other collections but then there are handbooks on nearly all the 'classic' issues.

Another sideline of my George VI collection is trying to obtain the "Specimens" of the earlier issues. No stamps after 1946 have been issued perforated "Specimen". Although these stamps are priced very low in Robinson Lowe's Encyclopaedias I must say that they are very, very difficult to obtain. Still I have not given up hope and it will be a pleasure to me to display at a Society meeting a full evening of the Specimen stamps of George VI.

Of course at present no George VI collection can hope for 'Grand Prix' class at exhibitions but surprises always occur and who knows what the future holds? Generally collectors are to-day more concerned with the present and what a surprise it will be when an exhibition will be devoted solely to modern issues thus giving the younger collectors a chance to show their treasures.

Many times before we have heard it said "It is impossible" yet when the circumstances arise the impossible is accomplished and who knows but that in fifty years time (or maybe less) someone will say "Why collect the issues of to-day, rather collect the issues of George VI they are full of study and will give you plenty of pleasure." It is not impossible, after all, the modern item to-day is the classic of tomorrow.

No matter what anyone says about George VI there is just as much research, fun and expense as in many other collections but there are very few that can interest so many with so small a field.

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BERMUDA 12/6 "YELLOW".

The "Commonwealth Courier" seems to have solved the mystery about this elusive stamp (S.G. 120b. Com. Cat. 15b). They first saw it in 1950 and were informed by the Colonial Postmaster that it was issued on 2 May 1949. Then they came across used copies on cover with post marks of June 1947.

The solution of this mystery is that stamps are not sent from London direct to the Post Office, but to the Colonial Treasury and they sell direct to certain large firms. These 1947 stamps probably therefore came from such sources, but the post-office did not have them till 1949. The earlier date, 1947, must however be taken as that of issue.

The Error in the Centre Plates of the Highest Values of the German Colonial Stamps

By L. BUCHEN.

During the year 1900 all German Colonies were provided with definitive series of stamps, with a picture of the Imperial yacht "Hohenzollern" as the central design. Apart from certain lower values which were printed in two colours on coloured paper, only the top value in each set showed two colours on white paper viz. a black frame with a red centre. The only exception is the 3 Rupee stamp of German East Africa where for some unknown reason the colours were reversed, the frame being red and the centre black.



Type I.

FRAME & CENTRE PLATES



Type II.

FRAME & CENTRE PLATES

The name of the colony appears on a ribbon which forms the top of the frame and two types of plates were employed, Type I where the long name of the colony filled the entire length of the ribbon and Type II where the short name necessitated the insertion of scrolls on either side of the name to balance the artistic appearance of the stamps. These scrolls protruded towards the centre and it was therefore also necessary to use two different centre plates, Type I where the shading of sky filled the entire space all along the top part of the frame and Type II with black spaces which corresponded with the lower portion of the two scrolls.

From copies in my collection it appears that due to some error centre plate Type II was used with frame plate Type I and *vice versa*. In the first case there are **two blank spaces** in the shading of the sky in exactly the same position where normally the lower portion of the scrolls would appear and in the second case the shading of the sky clearly **covers the scrolls**, thus proving that centre Plate Type I was used with frame plate Type II.

It is a strange fact that none of the well known reference books on the stamps of the German Colonies mentions what may be termed a major error. Mr. Douglas Roth advised me that a certain Paul Kotz of Essen, Germany, first noticed this error and an article by him on this subject appeared on page 111 of the "Germania Berichte" of 1930. Readers of the **South African Philatelist** are requested to furnish any further information they may have on this rather interesting subject.

Check List of stamps in my collection:

Frame Plate I with Centre Plate II:

German East Africa, 3 Rupees with Watermark, September 1908.

German New Guinea, 5 Marks with Watermark, July 1914.

Marshall Islands, 5 Marks with Watermark, May 1916.

Frame Plate II with Centre Plate I:

Caroline Islands, 5 Marks without Watermark, January 1901.

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FRANCE.

On 11 May there was issued a 12fr. stamp featuring "La Porte de France" an ancient gateway in the little village of Vaucouleurs (Meuse) where Joan of Arcs gained her first victory.

THE UNION CHRISTMAS SEALS
NOTES ON SECTION 32 OF THE NEW
UNION HANDBOOK
 By
DR. K. FREUND.
 (Continued from page 72 of April issue).

7. THE BOOKLET PANES.

A.—Varieties in the Set-up.

In the New Handbook, we find in regard to Booklets the following brief listing for every issue since 1934, in uniform regularity:

"Ba. Booklet Pane of six . . ."

Actually, there exists a great variety in the appearance and set-up of the various panes, depending mainly on the original set-up of the complete, ordinary sheets of seals from which the booklet panes were guillotined.

Some panes are laid out 2 x 3, others 3 x 2; some panes have a margin strip "on top", others "at bottom", again others "at left"; some panes are bound in "upright" position, others "side-ways", "reversed", etc.

The panes can roughly be divided into two groups of set-up:

The **first** group, issued from 1934 to 1937, consisted of a **horizontal** set-up of 2 x 3 (2 horizontal rows of 3 each), presenting the seals in the booklet in a normal, upright position.

The **second** group, issued from 1938 to 1951, had a **vertical** lay-out of 3 x 2, showing the panes in a side-way position when still in the booklet.

In both groups, minor variations of the set-up exists:

(1) **Horizontal set-up, 1934-1937.**—(a) The margin strip through which the stitching for the booklet binding went, is on the left side. Except for the 1935 issue, it is perforated through, as it derived from the side margin of a full sheet. (Fig. 2).

	E	A	E
	A	E	A

Fig. 2.

A	E	A	E	A	E
A	E	A	E	A	E

Fig. 3.

(a) In the case of the **1935 panes**, the horizontal set-up of 2 x 3 was also applied, although this is the only issue having seals with a transverse format, the designs themselves being horizontally laid out, with the effect that the panes extend far wider across than the other panes of this group. The stitching margin of the 1935 panes derived from those margins of the original full sheet which are imperforate and only show the single perf. holes. The tête-bêche set-up of the issue facilitated the making up of the booklets in the desired format. (Fig. 3).

(b) Of particular interest are the **panes of 1937** which have a **blank marginal strip** also on

the **right-hand side**, opposite the stitching margin. These panes were cut apparently from sheets specially printed in preparation of the booklets. The following process was most probably employed: Certain vertical columns of the stamp images on the printing cylinders were blacked out with bitumen paint before commencing the etching process on the cylinders. The rows thus treated were probably the vertical rows No. 5, 9, 13, 17 and 21. The process left these rows blank, thus providing the desired marginal strips on both sides of a pane. When the panes were cut from the sheets, the guillotine went through the mentioned rows, one half (roughly) of a row forming the right-hand margin strip of a pane, the other half providing the "stitching" margin of another pane. (Fig. 4).

	A	E	A			A	E	A		
	E	A	E			E	A	E		

Fig. 4.

(2) **Vertical set-up, 1938-1951.**—The panes of this group are bound sideways in the booklets.

(a) The **1938** and the **1951** panes derived from sheets which had no tête-bêche lay-out. Consequently, when a sheet was cut up into panes, 10 panes had a margin strip "on top" (from the top margin of the sheet (fig. 5), while the other 10 panes from the lower half of the sheet had a margin strip "at bottom" of the pane (fig. 6). When binding the booklets, therefore, and stitching through the margin strips, panes with margin strips "above" were bound sideways in one direction, while panes with margin strips "below" appeared sideways facing the opposite direction.

Incidentally, in the 1951 booklets the usual white interleaving paper was left out as far as possible. In order to economize but at the same time to avoid "sticking", pairs of panes of this issue were bound with the printed sides facing each other, causing a tête-bêche effect of two bound panes in relation to each other.

(b) All other panes of this group, namely of the years 1939 to 1950, derived from sheets which had a tête-bêche lay-out (3 rows of 20 printed tête-bêche to the other 3 rows). The tête-bêche arrangement caused all booklet panes of these issues to have the **margin strip "on top"**. (fig. 5).

E	A
A	E
E	A

Fig. 5.

A	E
E	A
A	E

Fig. 6.

A	E
A	E
A	E

Fig. 7.

(c) Panes from the issues with marginal slogan inscriptions, i.e. from 1943 to 1948, show portions of these inscriptions naturally also on their margin strips. It must be emphasized however that panes from every one of these issues with marginal inscriptions exist also with plain margin strips. These panes with plain margin strips were cut from sheets which were printed from the cylinders before the marginal inscriptions had been etched thereon. Some of these "early" sheets with plain margins were not cut up into booklets, but sold over the counter (in 1944 and 1947, see listing in New Handbook).

(d) Booklet panes of the 1945 issue show the vertical unilingual strips of three, typical for the sheets of this issue (see chapter 5) from which the panes were cut. Owing to the particular set-up of the sheets (see diagram, fig. 1), every booklet pane of the 1945 issue without exception consists of a vertical strip of 3 Afrikaans inscribed seals set-tenant with a strip of 3 English inscribed seals, the Afrikaans strip being in all cases at the left (fig. 7).

(e) Panes of the 1951 issue exist of both printings, one having the "id." value omitted in the design, the other showing a large white "id." value. The fact that panes of both versions appear frequently in one and the same booklet indicates that both printings were ready some time before issue. It must be presumed that the printing without the "id." value was the first one, replaced soon by the "corrected" version with the "id." added in the design. Printings without the "id." value appear to have been used up in booklets only. Particularly intriguing are existing 1/- booklets which show a pane of both versions bound in interesting contrast opposite each other.

B.—The Make-up of the Booklets.

Most booklet covers consisted of stiff, thin cardboard paper. Only the booklets of 1939, 1940, 1943 and 1944 had covers of soft, ordinary paper, owing to paper restrictions and austerity conditions.

The majority of the booklets were bound by the stitching method. However in the case of thicker booklets (2/6, 5/- and 10/- booklets) it appeared to be more practical to use a wire staple for binding. The only exceptions from this general principle were the 1/- booklets of 1942 which were also bound with a wire staple, and the 2/6 booklets of the 1951 issue which were stitched with cotton.

The "interleaving" did not always consist of very thin, white paper. The 1943 and 1944 booklets had interleaving paper of thick, yellowish grade, due no doubt to the war shortages.

Here is a brief summary of the main inscriptions which appeared on the booklet covers:

Cover Fronts:

1934 to 1939: Full reproductions of the yearly seal;

1940 to 1947: Reproductions of the main features of the yearly seal;

1948 to 1951: Ornamental design, featuring the Anti-Tuberculosis Cross.

Cover Backs:

1934 to 1935: Plain, no inscription;

1936 to 1941: Adverts of the Vacuum Oil Co.;

1942 to 1944: The so-called "Lamp" Slogans, featuring a classical Oil Lamp and the wording: "Health's smallest Lamp a Christmas Stamp"—„Die kleinste lig wat heel is 'n Kersseel."

1945 to 1951: The usual Christmas Seal Slogans in various arrangements.

Cover Insides:

1934 to 1937: Plain, no inscription;

1938 to 1944: Details about the Christmas Stamp Fund;

1945 : "Lamp" design and Slogans.

1946 to 1951: The usual Christmas Seal Slogans with ornamental design.

SATISE AWARDS.

The Capetown Exhibition Committee have done well in breaking away from the traditional medals or plaques in their awards. Cigarette boxes of Stinkwood with the Van Riebeeck gold coins, let into the lid for the gold awards or with name plates for the silver-gilt. The bronze award have not come out at time of going to press.

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BELGIUM.

On the occasion of the holding of the 13th Congress of the U.P.U. in Brussels in May a set of 12 stamps was issued commemorating members of the de la Tour and Tassis family who organised the postal services of the Low Countries from 1490 to 1815.

NETHERLANDS.

A set of four stamps, 2, 6, 10 and 20 cents is being issued to commemorate the centenary of the first Netherlands stamp.

A similar set, but with the colours changed is to be on sale at ITEP (the International Stamp Exhibition at Utrecht—28 June to 6 July), and only there. Each visitor to the exhibition will be allowed to buy one set, and one set only on production of the entrance ticket which has to be paid for to get into the exhibition.

This is really fleecing collectors and we are sorry to see the authorities lending themselves to this practice. We nearly fell into it at Cape Town recently, but there one could at any rate buy as many of the special stamps as one wanted, and they were also obtainable from the Philatelic Bureau, Pretoria without having to pay to get into the exhibition.

SOCIETY NEWS

CAPE TOWN PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

24th April.

The display for the evening was provided by Major Van Blommestein who showed his collection of "South African Army Post Offices in World War II and read a most comprehensive paper describing his exhibit. He explained that the Army Post Offices were numbered from 1 to 60 with certain omissions, so that only 46 were actually used; of these two were captured by the enemy.

6 May.

We paid our annual visit to the University of Cape Town Philatelic Society and, in accordance with what has now become a tradition, provided the display for the evening. Although the number of members present was not as high as last year the variety of exhibits was well up to standard and included Egypt, New Zealand, Australia, Orange Free State Overprints, U.P.U.'s, etc. We were honoured by the presence of Dr. Davie who addressed the Meeting.

20 May.

Two collections were displayed during the evening. The first was a collection which arrived from Australia too late for the International Stamp Exhibition but was highly commended by the local members of the Jury. It was owned by Mr. Charles Nauthe, of Sydney, and was called, 'Youth and Children on Postage Stamps. Commemorative and Charity Issues', and covered the whole world, nearly all the stamps being mint.

Then followed Mrs. Hotz with an exceptionally interesting and well written up collection of "The Union of South Africa", all issues being represented but with emphasis on the pictorials. An informative paper was read describing the exhibit.

PRETORIA RAILWAY PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

May.

The Society carried on its run of successful meetings, when the members gathered at the usual venue on the 14th. The attendance was good, and there was also a number of visitors, which helped to swell the attendance to the excellent figure of 39. This is ample proof of the interest and pleasure that the members derive from the meetings, and our only regret is that distance prohibits a lot of our country members from attending and enjoying the social amenities of the Society. The business of the evening, which included the report of Messrs. Walker and Roux, who were our official delegates to Congress, was ably disposed of, and the lighter side was proceeded with. The paper and exhibit for the evening was in the capable hand of Dr. Berry, who fully lived up to expectations, and delighted the members with a very fine effort. His wealth of detail of the "London Pictorial Issues" shows how much research and effort Dr. Berry has put into his hobby, and he has to be sincerely congratulated on the result of his work. All the details and flaws of the issue were very well dealt with in his paper, and he was able to follow up and illustrate these in his exhibit, which also dealt with Essays, Proofs and Colour Trials. Truly Dr. Berry spared no effort in making the evening as interesting as possible for the members, and he fully deserved the praise and thanks that was accorded him by Messrs. Newlands, Reisenner and Walker, who spoke on behalf of the members. F.J.V.L.

ORANGE FREE STATE AND BASUTOLAND PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

April.

Dr. K. Freund gave a much detailed report about the Philatelic Congress and the International Stamp Exhibition held at Cape Town. He gave some interesting glimpses on the various events, on well-known philatelic personalities he met and on other philatelic aspects which arose there. He spoke highly of the hospitality of various Capetownians and in particular of a very enjoyable meeting of the Cape Town Thematic Stamp Club.

Members of the Free State Society who had exhibited at Cape Town, were requested to display their entries to their fellow-members, and the following fine collections were tabled: Mr. A. H. Scott's stamps of "Switzerland", Mr. J. W. Hodgson's "African Animal Life" on stamps, and Dr. J. R. Mallet's stamps of the "German States".

The evening was rounded off with a display by Dr. Freund of various philatelic items issued in

connection with the Van Riebeeck Festival, as for instance K.L.M. Flight covers, so-called "Maximum Cards", and a set of 11 Exhibition covers showing all the dates of the period of the Stamp Exhibition.

May.

The acting chairman, Dr. Freund, reported that the hon. Secretary, Mr. A. H. Scott, had succeeded in making the necessary arrangements for a large display frame to be put up in one of the windows of a prominent book shop in Bloemfontein's main street. The display frame will contain a weekly feature, "stamps of the week" on an album page, as well as data of the monthly meetings of the society, and is sure to advertise our hobby and gain new members.

The new policy to keep the business part of the society's meetings down to an absolute minimum, was strictly adhered to, and formalities were rushed through at the lightning speed of ten minutes. The large audience was then treated to a very instructive display given by Mr. J. Lewis, entitled "An Envelope Story". A large array of early entires, campaign covers and modern 'Special Day' covers presented an interesting picture of the postal service and its various backgrounds. An auction sale of choice items followed, with Mr. Scott as auctioneer, and the bidding was keen and brisk.

The next item on the evening's programme was an enjoyable Stamp Quiz, conducted by Dr. Freund as quizmaster, and everyone present participated with pencils busily scribbling along. The questions were confined to Union issues only, and tried to prove that most collectors do not know their Union stamps too well. A typical question was for instance: "Which Union stamp shows 6 Aeroplanes, in two formations of three, flying in the sky?" The answer is of course the 1/3 War stamp, but it had most people stumped. The winner of the quiz was again Mr. C. E. Kachelhoffer who had won most "20 Question" quizzes of former meetings and who continued his winning strain, although the type of quiz had been purposely changed. Mr. J. Hodgson was a good runner-up, while Master I. Simmons was the winner of the scholars' group.

The regular feature "Philatelic News of the Month" was then given by Mr. Lewis in competent fashion. The evening was rounded off with two fine displays, both presented by Mr. Kachelhoffer, under the headings of "Princess Elizabeth" and "S.A. Royal Visit stamps". The exhibitor introduced both displays with brief and interesting talks.

The aim of the committee to present programmes of much variety and interest appears to meet with great success, as the record attendances of members, visitors and scholars of both sexes testify.

PHILATELIC SOCIETY OF NATAL.

The President (Mr. L. Bevis) presided at the meeting held on May 7 and there were 45 members present.

Mr. K. I. Bevis and Miss Woodroffe had been our delegates to Congress and their full report had already been submitted to the members but Mr. Bevis enlarged on the report by giving further details of their experiences in Cape Town and spoke in warm terms of the hospitality and kindness shown them during their stay. He appealed for more members to subscribe to the "Philatelist" as this publication was not at present in a sound financial position. An increase of subscription might further depress the demand but if its contents could be made more appealing and interesting it would probably increase its circulation.

The President reminded the meeting that we would be the host Society to Congress, 1954, and he suggested that members begin thinking now of the event so that the machinery for making Congress a success could be put into operation. He would like to see members coming forward to assist in several ways. Finance would also be a consideration, and an early start on preparations would help considerably towards a successful and, perhaps, memorable Congress.

Mr. V. F. Middleton was the quizmaster for the evening, setting the meeting twelve questions which he thought would be easy hurdles for Empire enthusiasts. However, the members apparently felt otherwise and after many groans of anguish Mr. C. Lambie eventually emerged the winner with 4½ points. He donated his prize to the Society and will conduct next month's competition.

The exhibit was a display of the stamps of Switzerland given by Dr. H. J. Way of Mbabane, Swaziland. Although the full collection was not shown

the quality of the stamps on view was excellent and many scarce items were to be seen. Mr. S. Maskell voiced the appreciation of those present when he thanked Dr. Way for having brought his stamps on so long a journey for us to see.

Other displays recently given have been "Germany" by Mr. C. A. Whysall; "George VI issues of the West Indies" by Mr. K. Bevis; "Russia" by Mr. H. E. Wright of the Gen Stamp Box, who kindly loaned the collection, and "George VI Commemoratives and Others" by Mr. F. Appleby. All these exhibitors were heartily thanked for the excellence of their displays.

The June meeting, held on Wednesday, the 6th, was well attended, the President welcoming 51 members and visitors.

There were the usual letters from collectors abroad seeking correspondents in this country and different members undertook to reply. Members were interested to hear from Mr. Milner-Palmer who is holidaying in Britain and on the Continent. Six new members were accepted by the meeting; and the Secretary was glad to inform us that our membership had now passed the 300 mark and that more prospective members had made application to join. This was a healthy state of affairs. A discussion took place on junior collectors. This will be dealt with separately.

After Mr. Lyle had read interesting extracts from the magazines, and after Mr. C. Lambie had conducted his competition which was won by Mr. Daillecourt, Mr. R. Gilzean displayed his collection of the Union. He stated that all the stamps had been acquired when issued so he had paid no more than face value for them. The collection was impressive, containing both mint and used varieties; he threw in a collection of Christmas Seals for good measure. Mr. Selwyn Smith spoke on the exhibit and its quality and proposed a hearty vote of thanks.

After a successful auction and refreshments the meeting closed at 10.20 p.m. V.F.M.

PRETORIA PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

5th May 1952. At this meeting the President, Mr. F. C. Ferguson, gave a general report on activities and decisions at the Philatelic Federation's Congress held at Cape Town in March. He congratulated the Pretoria philatelists who had gained awards at the International Stamp Exhibition, and this was heartily endorsed by the meeting.

Mr. Ferguson also reported on visits he had recently paid to sister societies at Cape Town, Grahamstown and Port Elizabeth and brought their reciprocal greetings to this meeting.

Dr. Sherel gave a talk and an exhibit on his thematic collection — Sports in Stamps. The commemoratives of modern Olympiads, revived by a Frenchman in 1896 (and held every 4 years thereafter except during the war years) to promote worldwide peace and friendship, were specially interesting. The talk, built on much research on the subject, gave many little known facts about the countries and the sports sponsored at the Olympic Games, as demonstrated in the display of stamps. The whole subject was fascinating and instructive. When Dr. Sherel was thanked for his entertaining contribution to the meeting, he had no reply to a question as to why the Games had as yet not provided for cricket, bowls and jukskei contests!

19th May, 1952. The Allen Cup Competition, an annual contest instituted in 1939, was held on this date. The trophy serves to encourage the Society's less experienced philatelists, advanced collectors and specialists being precluded from competing. Entries are restricted to 30 pages, the merits being judged by popular vote by all present. There were six entries on this occasion, and all were of an exceedingly high standard — so much so that there were very few points between the aggregate votes.

The winner was Mr. D. Slater Kinghorn (South African Commemoratives and Special Issues) and the runner-up Mr. Goldberg (Selection of Foreign U.P.U.'s); they were congratulated by all present, and all the entrants were complimented on their praiseworthy prowess as philatelists. B.J.V.

PHILATELIC SOCIETY OF RHODESIA.

At the Annual General Meeting the following officials were elected for the coming year:

Chairman: Rev. R. N. Dryden; Vice-Chairman: Mr. H. Rendsburg; Hon. Sec. and Treasurer: Mr. B. P. Jaffa; Exchange Supt.: Mr. J. Lazarus; Committee members: Mrs. M. Wallace, Mr. J. E. Crewe, Mr. R. N. Ely.

The popular outgoing Secretary, Mr. W. J. Norman, who was unable to accept nomination as he

is being transferred to Durban by his firm. Until he leaves he agreed to assist the new Secretary.

April.

The April meeting was held somewhat later than usual owing to the Easter Holidays.

After the normal Society business, we were treated to three displays. Mr. Porter showed his "Great Britain used in Malta", and Mr. Spencer then presented a pleasant display of "Gilbert and Ellice Islands." The Vice-Chairman, (Mr. Rendsburg, added to the evening's pleasure with the stamps of U.N.O., mint, with a F.D.C. for each value, and a complete sheet of the 1 cent.

The P.M.G. had, at an earlier date, presented to the Society the official collection of U.P.U. stamps, and at this meeting we were shown the "late arrivals" which he had forwarded.

During the evening we learned that Mr. B. L. R. Fox had won a bronze award at SATISE for his "Southern Rhodesia."

May.

The Chairman being ill, Mr. Rendsburg took the chair. The list of prize-winners at SATISE had arrived, and therein appeared the name of Mr. J. E. Crewe as winning a bronze award for his "Denmark". The Society is rather proud that, although small, its members brought home two awards from such a star-studded affair.

Mr. B. L. R. Fox gave an interesting account of the Exhibition, and also of the social activities. The Cape Town Society in general, and Mr. Jacob in particular, treated their guests in a right royal manner.

Then Mr. Crewe gave a short report on Congress.

There wasn't a great deal of time left after this but there was just enough time for Mr. R. E. Sinclair to show his attractive collection of the B.S.A. Co. and Southern Rhodesia.

Finally Mr. Norman, Secretary for last year, gave the sad news that this would be his last meeting as he would be leaving for Durban before the June meeting.

The June meeting was held on the 9th and members were much saddened by the news of the death of Mr. A. Fitzstephens. A short silence was observed in his memory, and the Secretary was then instructed to send messages of condolence to Mrs. Fitzstephens and also to Mr. Fitzstephens, junior.

After correspondence had been read and discussed, Mr. Porter showed his collection of Zanzibar, which, although described by him as a "sideline", was nevertheless most attractive. Mr. Rendsburg then displayed the latest arrivals from the U.S.A.

Following these displays, Mr. Lazarus conducted a postmark competition, and kindly gave three small prizes of stamps. Each postmark (all of S. Rhodesia) was in an envelope, and only a part showed through a small slit. Members had to identify them and some proved to be real teasers. The prizes were awarded to those having correct the three different totals called out by Mr. Lazarus.

The meeting then closed. F.P.B.H.

ROODEPOORT STAMP CLUB.

For our meeting on the 15th May we received a visit from the Afrikaans Society, and they certainly gave us a feast of displays.

Mr. Lambert started off with an outstanding display of Air Mails that must have taken a long time to compile. Mr. Mioch then tabled his Modern Netherlands; a fine display well mounted and written up. After a short interval for refreshments, Dr. van der Merwe displayed his Post War Germany. This exhibitor travelled all the way from Viljoenskroon, O.F.S. to be present, certainly a fine gesture to our Hobby. The last display of the evening was O.F.S. tabled by Mr. Schubart, this being a class of quality on its own; everybody was greatly impressed by it. With a special vote of thanks to both Exhibitors and Visitors, the meeting came to a close. J.K.

UNIVERSITY OF CAPE TOWN PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

Our Chairman, Mr. M. C. E. Hotz, showed part of his interesting collection of Israel. The first few pages showed some of the early provisionals on cover, and the later issues were strong in plate blocks and marginal inscriptions.

Perhaps the best tribute to the exhibit was paid (unconsciously) by a member who is seriously considering collecting Israel too.

At this meeting, the Principal and Vice-Chancellor of the University, Dr. T. B. Davie, was elected President of the Society. D.A.

AFRIKAANSE FILATELISTIESE VERENIGING.

15 Mei 1952.

Die vereniging se besoek aan die Roodepoort Stamp Club het baie mooi verloop, en aan geselligheid het dit nie ontbreek nie. Die R.S. Club verdien lof vir die reëlings getref vir ons besoek en die gasvryheid vorendag gelê. Vertonings is verskaf deur vriende Lambert (Iugpos), Mioch (Nederland), Schurbart (Vrystaat) en dr. van der Merwe (Na-oorlogse Duitsland). Die here Yelland, Keet, Burrell en Vermaak, onderskeidelik, het opgetree namens die R.S. Club om die uitstallings te bespreek en die tentoonstellers te bedank.

Dr. van der Merwe (Viljoenskroon) en mevr. du Toit (Potchefstroom), het weereens bewys dat posse-lversamelry 'n sterk trekpleister is.

6 Junie 1952.

Hierdie byeenkoms was gekenmerk deur 'n goeie opkoms nieestaanstaande die kouerige weer. Miskien was die aas wat vriend Henry Schwartz uitgehang het verantwoordelik vir die goeie „vangs". Sy tentoongestelde versameling van Kaapse Seëls, stukke uit die Kaapse pos-geskiedenis en posstempels voor die dae van die posseël, het baie belang gewek. Lid Vermaak het die uitstalling bespreek, vriend Schwartz geluk gewens met sy prestasie en die vereniging se dank uitgespreek. S.J.V.

JEWISH GUILD PHILATELIC SECTION.

The Annual General Meeting of the Philatelic Section was held on Thursday, 29th May, 1952. The results of the election for the Committee for the following year were:

Chairman: Mr. B. Glassman; Vice-Chairman: Mr. I. Isaacs; Secretary: Mr. H. Chodos; Ex-officio: Mr. B. Joseph.

Further members of the committee will be co-opted later.

A programme for the remainder of the year has been arranged as follows (subject to alteration):

June. Thursday, 26th: Mr. W. Oppenheim . . . "Highlights".

July. Tuesday, 8th: Visit to the Philatelic Society of Johannesburg.

Thursday, 31st: Ten sheets from each member.

August. Thursday, 21st: Visit to Roodepoort Stamp Club. (To be confirmed).

Thursday, 28th: Visit from West Rand Stamp Club.

October. Thursday, 30th: Mr. B. Joseph . . . "Switzerland".

November. Thursday 27th: Visit from Philatelic Society of Johannesburg.

All visitors interested are welcome to the meetings which are held at the Jewish Guild, Von Brandis Street.

PHILATELIC SOCIETY OF JOHANNESBURG.

At the meeting held on 10th July the West Rand Stamp Club and the Springs Philatelic Society paid an official visit to our Society.

Mr. Vermaak took the chair and introduced the exhibitors.

Mr. David Crocker, a junior collector showed a fine exhibit of early Great Britain. He showed some fine 1d. blacks and 2d. Blues, the imperf. 1d. Browns and a fine selection of plate numbers. He also showed some embossed stamps.

Mr. James Keet showed child welfare stamps including New Zealand Health, Holland Child Welfare, and Swiss pro juventute. He also showed some Union Christmas Stamps.

Mr. W. Yelland showed Union Booklets and Coils. He introduced his exhibit by a few notes. He showed some Kings Head panes, London Prints and a full range of all issues.

Dr. Berry showed the 1951 Union Officials showing the broken "C" variety in the 1d., 6d., and 3d. It was pointed out by Mr. Burrell who showed the exhibit in Mr. Berry's absence that the broken "C" appeared in various positions.

Mr. J. Burrell showed Kenya, Uganda and Tanganyika including several rare varieties.

Mr. S. J. Vermaak showed a Thematic Collection of the 1/- values of countries of Southern Africa. The exhibit included Cape Triangulars, Mafeking, Transvaal, Pietersburg, Unions and others.

Mr. Lilley spoke on the Great Britain collection; Mr. B. Glassman on the Child Welfare; Mr. W. Oppenheim on the Union Booklets and Coils; Commander Enoch on the Thematic Collection; Dr. Harvey Pirie on the Kenya and Mr. W. Sheffield on the Union Officials.

At the meeting held on June 23rd there were a few sheets each displayed by several members.

Dr. J. H. Harvey Pirie showed Antarctic covers to illustrate the cold war between Chile, Great Britain and Argentina regarding the Falkland Islands. There were Argentine covers and Chile covers used in South Orkneys and South Shetlands as well as the official stamps used in that area.

Dr. Von Vorendorff showed some sheets of Ceylon chiefly in fine used condition, including some pence issues.

Mr. L. Buchen showed a few sheets of Austria, Belgium, Holland, France, Germany and Israel in fine mint condition. Mr. Michaelson showed covers of German occupation of Latvia, and Ukraine.

Dr. Hesse showed a thematic collection of art and artists beautifully written up.

Mr. I. Isaacs showed a few flown covers.

Mr. W. Redford showed a fine exhibit of Niger Coast including the early issues and rarities.

Mr. Seelig showed Switzerland tête-bêche stamps — some in fine used condition.

Mr. Rossouw showed 3d. Union hyphenated issues all printings in large blocks.

Mr. Nathanson early Barbados as well as some of the moderns and some proof.

Mr. Kupferman showed French Colonies — a large variety chiefly fine used.

A vote was taken from the members present as to the best exhibits and the winner was Mr. Rossouw with Mr. Nathanson and Dr. Hesse third.

A competition was arranged by Commander Enoch on the lines of 20 Questions. Mr. Lilley and Mr. Hofmann were the referees and the team of four who volunteered were Mr. W. Oppenheim, Br. E. Glassman, Mr. Schaiowitz, and Dr. Von Vadenrorff. The team won 3 out of 4.

EAST LONDON PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

May 9th, 1952.

The President, Mr. Hellman, welcomed many visitors and there was a large meeting. Mr. H. O. Barnsley and Mr. G. Feros were proposed as new members. Matters of Philatelic interest were shown as follows: Mr. Watson brought a new issue of Czechoslovakia on cover and also one of Hungary; Mr. Paviour, U.S.A. Air-mail 80c. Magenta and Germany, Leonardo da Vinci's Mona Liza; Mr. Addison, Northern Rhodesian new issue 4½d. and 9d.; Mrs. Alabaster, 1st Day Cover of NATO (North Atlantic Treaty Organisation).

Mr. Gillespie showed the cross hatching on the South African 3d. stamps, saying that dealers are asking a lot for them. It is described on page 110 in the new Union Catalogue — so look through all those thousands of 3d.'s you have!

Mr. Ellenburger read a paper on "How I began to collect Stamps and why I continued to do so," and was thanked very warmly by the President.

The displays of the evening were Great Britain by Mrs. Alabaster and U.S.A. by the President. Mr. Hellman. Mrs. Alabaster was thanked by Mr. Watson and Mr. Paviour was eloquent in his praise of Mr. Hellman's wonderfully complete collection, very adequately written up with much historical detail. This collection deservedly got a prize at the International Philatelic Exhibition recently held in Cape Town. R.A.

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ANOTHER EARLY TRISTAN DA CUNHA COVER.

The quest for early Tristan da Cunha items is still as keen as ever. Mr. Charles Drewe has acquired a piece addressed to Mr. George Newman, of Wood Green, London. Someone has written on the piece "From the King of Tristan D'Acunha aged 90, about 1894." There is also impressed a capital T. Mr. A. A. Jurgens says "this is not a Cape mark." In all probability it is a London one.

The "Green" of "Wood Green" in the writing is identical with Peter Green's writing and the word Finsbury has the two dots over the y ("ij") as Peter Green always wrote.

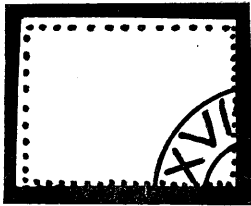
Peter Green (or Pieter Groen), a Dutchman, was born in 1808. He was wrecked on Tristan on October 5, 1836 and lived there until he died.

George Newman (the poet) was a correspondent of his for many years. In the year 1896 H.M.S. "Magpie" conveyed a gift of a case containing Queen Victoria's portrait signed by herself, which Her Majesty graciously presented to Peter Green. Mr. Green wrote about this to "Dear Old Friend Newman". Green died on April 2, 1902, aged 94, after a very useful life on Tristan da Cunha.

Mr. Drewe will be very pleased to hear anything further regarding Tristan da Cunha about this time, or later postal history. His address is: 88 Bath Road, Cheltenham Spa, England.

A POSTMARK PUZZLE.

Mr. A. Hilton Sydow recently received from



an overseas reader a 2d. Union postage due with portion of a postmark as shewn in the accompanying sketch. The sender was puzzled as to how Sixteen

—XVI, could be part of a postmark. Mr. Sydow has an idea as to the solution of the puzzle but thinks others might be interested in working it out personally. Any solutions? No prizes.

SEE ANYTHING WRONG WITH THE VAN RIEBEECK STAMPS?

How observant are you? The Van Riebeeck stamps have been on sale for several weeks now, and most people have bought them and looked at them before licking and sticking them on envelopes. Pictorial stamps are always intriguing, especially when they depict some part of the history that is our national heritage.

But have you spotted the flaws? There are quite a few in these richly coloured commemorative stamps. Have you seen the "frowning Maria" with the wrinkle on her brow? Or the "spotty" Maria with a sprinkling of spots on her left cheek?? You'll find the first mentioned in row two, number 14 across, and the second is number three in row six, that is, right down at the bottom left hand corner of a sheet of stamps.

There is another flaw in row six, the "pennant A" of number six, a tiny pennant fluttering from the top of the first A in AFRICA.

Of course you've seen the full moon on the 2d. stamps? If not, you'll need to look for it on stamp number three of row six. Just below the R of AFRIKA there is a faint full moon to the left of the ship. And in stamps number four of row 13 and number three of row 14 there is "smoke" above Table Mountain.

The flaws on the 4½d. stamps are minor ones, just odd spots here and there, but there is one beautiful variety among the flaws in the 1/- stamps that depict the landing of Van Riebeeck at the Cape. Row one, number two, shows a "swarm of bees" between the landing party and the group of natives, and there is even a "bird" perched on the barrel of the gun.

Flaw-spotting on stamps may be foolish, but it's fun, too. So next time you buy some stamps see how many dots you can spot that should never have shown up in the sheets.

"Cape Times".

SOME RECENT AUCTION PRICES.

Robson Lowe:

Abyssinia FF 1867 cancellation on cover with 5 Indian stamps, £50.

Barbados 1858 6d. rose red, block of 4, £140.

Falkland Is. 1868 frank on cover, £75.

S. Georgia 2½d. provisional on cover, £60.

Great Britain 1d. black, plate 1A, complete row of 12 on cover, £200.

H. R. Harmer:

New Zealand. The only known mint pair of No. 1, £1,050.

Silver Wedding set complete except for N. Borneo, £51.

Australia. Ross Smith vignette on cover, £60.

Transvaal 6d. 1878 and two Cape 1d. and 4d. combination cover, £21.

Kenya 1935-36 1/- perf. 13 x 12 (S.G. 118a), unused £67 10s.

Morocco, Spanish zone 1935 Silver Jubilee 10c. on 1d. block with centre stamp error "Centimes" for "Centimos", £48.

BASUTOLAND NOTES.

I recently obtained a cover addressed to a Maseru resident dated June 1st, 1883.

This cover is of interest, as it did not come by the usual route which was via Aliwal North in those days, but via Bloemfontein and Ladybrand, and has the Ladybrand postmark in blue.

From this it would appear that there must have been a postcart running at this period between Maseru and Ladybrand, although I have never found any mention of this anywhere.

Until the railway opened in Maseru in 1905, Aliwal North appears to have been the usual route taken by the postcards — i.e. via Mafeteng, Mhaheshoek-Wepener.

On the face of it it would seem obvious that as regards Maseru-Ladybrand, only some seven miles away, would be the quickest route but it is strange that no mention has been made of this in the few references I have been able to find about Basutoland postal matters.

The postoffice at Peka was burgled recently, and was temporarily closed down. It is now being reopened but as an Agency only — postal and telegraph, in place of a full postoffice as before. Mapoteng, a nearby Agency, has been graded up.

G. N. GILBERT.

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AUGUST, 1952.

Whole No. 329.

Union Notes

Sub-Editor: Mr. W. N. SHEFFIELD,
Box 99, Cleveland, Transvaal.

New Francotype Meter Franks.

Specimens of the new Francotype Meter Franks sent in by Mr. R. Axer of Cape Town and Dr. J. F. Fick of Goedgegun, Swaziland, are illustrated below.



Mr. Axer notes that the top example bears the date showing the first day of issue and that the old type was introduced in 1930 under the letter "F", but became obsolete by 1940.

The two lower covers, submitted by Dr. Fick, show numbers 2 and 9 of the series and he records that up to the time of writing, he has seen Nos. 2, 3, 7, 8 and 9; all used in Cape Town.

Two Interesting Varieties on the "Third" Voortrekker 1d. Stamp.

Letters received from Mr. H. J. Scholtz and Mr. W. G. Rall, both of Oudtshoorn, Cape, bring to light an interesting flaw in the position of Row 4/Stamp No. 5 of the 1d. 1949 Voortrekker issue which takes the form of a fairly large white splash immediately above the back of the rear ox drawing the wagon. The mark is easily visible without the aid of a glass, is constant in both the violet-lake and claret colours and to the best of our knowledge has not been previously recorded.

Mr. Scholtz also mentions another unrecorded variety in Row 3/Stamp 3 of the same denomination and issue which shows up as a small, but complete, coloured circle at the point where the left hand side of the tent bow on the wagon disappears behind the luggage. In this case also, the variety appears in both colours and was constant throughout the printing.

Coarse-Mesh and Fine-mesh Screen Features on Union Stamps.

The "Recent Printing" information given in our June issue records that the SATISE and SADIPU overprints on the 1d. and 2d. Van Riebeeck stamps were carried out on the stamp printing machine with cylinders Nos. 4 and 6922 respectively.

Both these cylinders were cross-lined screened and an examination under a strong glass will show — in the case of the 1d. denomination especially — that a much coarser meshed screen was employed for the overprints than for the stamps themselves.

In drawing attention to this feature, Mr. A. H. Sydow of Cape Town mentions that a similar coarse screen was employed for the current 6d. stamps (Cylinders 6930 and 6) and an inspection of the horizontal lines of the design around the tree trunk will show some of the screen dots quite clearly, though others appear as serrated lines.

Mr. Sydow goes on to say that the difference between coarse and fine screens is a most interesting feature in the study of the Union's stamps and gives as examples the comparatively coarse mesh of the first issue of the 1d. all-red roll stamps and also the interior designs of the 1d. bicoloured printings from cylinders Nos. 70/14, 70/88 and 76/14.

For the fine cross-lined screening, he quotes the Van Riebeeck series and the current 1d. all-red roll stamps and then, for those who would

like to compare these with the irregular grained screened issues, excellent examples of the latter will be found in all values of the 1949 Voortrekker stamps and on the three U.P.U. denominations issued on the 1st October of the same year.

We may add that those collectors who would like to make a detailed comparison of the size of the various cross-lined screens used in the production of this country's stamps will find a small thin millimetre scale and a linen tester magnifying glass very easy to use for counting the number of dots, or squares, per millimetre.

Van Riebeeck Postmarks.

Writing in connection with a Van Riebeeck postmark variety mentioned in our June issue, Mr. David Allison of Mowbray, Cape, has submitted the following notes on the subject.

"With reference to your note on page 98 of the June "S.A.P.", I am able to state that the Van Riebeeck P.O. employed at least four double-circle handstamps. I have examined less than a dozen specimens, so more handstamps may well turn up. All four have the date in one line across the centre within the inner circle, "VAN RIEBEECK" at top between the two circles, and nothing at the bottom. I number the different handstamps for reference.

1. Date as 10 APR A 52.

2, 3, 4 Date as 21 III A 52.

No. 2 has "V" and "K" level with the date, and is smaller than 3 or 4. Nos. 3 and 4 have "V" and "K" above date. No. 3 has much smaller lettering than 4.

Tracking down different handstamps from the same P.O. is very interesting. I have eight different ones from Worcester, all with the inner circle unbroken by the date and all blank at bottom. I have noted six of these with dates in 1951 or 1952. Sometimes two handstamps are so similar that one thinks they are one — this happened to me e.g. in the case of two Hopefield handstamps.

If anybody is looking for an underworked philatelic field, I can recommend postmarks (both machines and handstamps). Temporary handstamps provide their share of the fun and — surprisingly enough — most collectors have never imagined that the stamps "T/2d." "PARTI /GONE AWAY/VERTREK", etc., can often be allocated to P.O.'s using them. These latter must, of course, be on piece, or, better still, on cover."

Unrecorded Varieties on 2d. Rotogravure Stamps of 1931-36.

Referring to the varieties on the 2d. stamps illustrated on page 98 of our June issue, Mr. E. Breach-Smith of Barnstaple, England, has written to say that he has two of the three items mentioned.

Among a small pile of duplicates, he found two of No. 3 and one of No. 1 and though unable to allocate them to any particular position on the sheet, he states that they occur on the Plate III printings with the dark bluish centres. They are all used English inscribed copies postmarked with dates between July and October 1938.

Up to the time of writing he had not come across any specimens bearing signs of re-touching.

The "Cloven Hoof" Variety on the Van Riebeeck ½d. and 1d. Stamps.

Dr. J. F. Fick of Goedegun, Swaziland, has drawn attention to several green marks in the perforation gutters, and on the margins of sheets of the 1d. Van Riebeeck stamps which are similar in type to the "Cloven Hoof" variety on the ½d. denomination, mentioned in our April issue.

The majority of the marks appear to be constant, though they possibly vary considerably in intensity on different sheets and are therefore not always clearly visible in the positions given. Those noted by Dr. Fick appear across the numeral "1" on stamps in the 4th row of the sheet and also on the right hand margin of Row 3 and on both side margins opposite Row 5. They can also be found at the left hand side of Stamp 11/Row 4 and in the perforation gutters between:—

- Stamps 17 and 18 — Row 1.
- Stamps 12 and 13 — Row 4.
- Stamps 16 and 17 — Row 4.
- Stamps 15 and 16 — Row 5.



We recorded in April that the "Cloven Hoof" flaws on the ½d. stamps — illustrated above — were present in the gutters of copies Nos. 1 to 15 of the left hand vertical column of the sheet, and several reports indicated that they were constant at the time. It is becoming evident now, however, that there were probably stages in their development for a reader in Cape Town, "I. T. Rhenius", has written to say that except for the blob in the gutter, the marks were definitely absent from sheets purchased in that area during March, whereas Colin Marquard, writing from Bloemfontein, notes that two sheets were purchased a few days before the stamps were withdrawn, showed the marks extending below the fifteenth row to as low as the bottom stamp in the column.

The appearance of these unusual marks on the 1d. value gives them an added interest, but so far we have no knowledge as to their cause.

Unscreened 6d. Plate V Flaw also Present in Current Screened Plate VI Printing.

Mr. C. E. Sherwood of Manchester, England, has drawn attention to a flaw on the 6d. hyphenated stamp listed at the bottom of page 143 of the Union Handbook/Catalogue No.:

49B/Vd.—Break in lines of shading between trunk and oval at right. Row 19/2.

as also present on the same stamp of the current Plate VI issue. (Cylinders 6930 and 6).

The difference between the two stamps is that Plate V is unscreened and Plate VI is all-screened.

Minor Flaws on New 2/6 Stamps.

Mr. C. E. Sherwood has submitted the following list of minor flaws on the bottom half of a sheet of the new 2/6 stamps recently printed from Cylinders Nos. 3 Interior and 51 Exterior.

Row 11/3 — E. Brown dot in left "2".

— 15/1 — E. Brown dot below frame under right "2".

— 16/5 — A. Brown dot right of left value circle.

— 17/6 — A. Brown dot in brown shading above and to right of trees.

— 19/2 — A. Brown dot just under inside inner frame above "P" of POSSEEL.

Van Riebeeck ½d. Stamps on Toned Paper.

In our June issue we mentioned that no information had, at that time, come to hand regarding the ½d. Van Riebeeck stamps on toned paper, but a few days ago we received a letter from Mr. K. B. Braithwaite of Port Elizabeth to say that some of the ½d. value had also appeared on the toned paper and specimens he has shown to us clearly indicate that this denomination can now be definitely included in the list.

Incidentally, our previous note to the effect that the 1/- value had been seen on toned paper was subsequently found to be incorrect. Evidently the light under which copies are examined can sometimes give a wrong impression and therefore we are still awaiting information about the 1/- denomination.

S.W.A. "OFFICIALS".

Mr. J. Robertson, of the Robertson Stamp Co. (Pty.) Ltd., Johannesburg, kindly sends us the following information about the recently issued "Officials" with transposed overprints:—

Regarding the information on page 119 of July issue the following is the position at date regarding the new large overprint illustrated by you:—

First printing: This occurs on the 1d., 1½d., 2d. and 6d. values and the right hand panes are all correctly overprinted. In the case of left hand panes of all values the top five rows are correctly overprinted, but on the lower five rows the overprint is transposed. This is because the fifth and sixth horizontal rows both commence with an English overprint. Thus, blocks from the fifth and sixth horizontal rows each contain a correctly overprinted horizontal pair and a pair with transposed overprint, while blocks taken from any position in the lower half of the sheet (rows 6-10) shew every stamp with transposed overprint.

Second printing: This is that illustrated by you and occurs on the 1½d. and 6d. values. Left and right hand panes are both identical and any block will shew a horizontal pair normal overprint and a horizontal pair transposed overprint.

In a letter to us the Director of Posts, Windhoek, states that this second printing comprised only a small portion of an order and the error of setting of the overprint will not be repeated on the balance of the order, the printer's attention having been called to his error. This third printing is expected to be delivered by the printers about the end of July and, unless a new type font is used, will be identical with right hand panes of the first printing.

In a letter to a customer the Director of Posts stated that the ½d. value was available with this new large overprint, but in a letter to us he states that it was not available. Perhaps someone else can give definite news re this value.

Collectors' Wants & Offers

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

Collections and rarities especially Unions wanted for cash. Kindly contact—JOHN MENDELSSOHN, P.O. Box 1607, Johannesburg.

APPROVALS: British Colonials and World for all collectors.—BENONI STAMP SHOP, Benoni.

50% over Gibbons Catalogue price offered for a superb Mint and Used copy of Seychelles, S.G. 52A.—WILLIAM REDFORD, P.O. Box 1182, Johannesburg.

WANTED: CAPE TRIANGULARS. In good condition. Also Forgeries. Submit with prices to: JACK SHEPHERD, Box 97, Brakpan.

WANTED: Booklets, Post Cards, Registered Envelopes and Airlettercards, unused and used of Union only.—DR. MURRAY, Kuils River.

German P.O.'s Abroad and ex-Colonies, Approvals, Wants lists filled.—B. CHALLEN, Wilderness, C.P.

REQUIRED Switzerland. All issues, mint, used and covers. For Cash or Exchange for Geo. VI.—B. JOSEPH, P.O. Box 4967, Johannesburg.

STAMPS.—Want lists invited for any country; specialities Union, S.W.A., British Africa.—LACY'S, 211 Long Street, Capetown.

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Orange Free State Republic eight diff. postcards mint 10/6: Boer War covers, 8 diff. £1.—F. LUTZ, Box 2311, Johannesburg.

Exchange United States Commemoratives for Unions. Want List invited. Please write for particulars — FRANK E. HAMILTON, Marne, Michigan, U.S.A.

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THE BIRKENHEAD DISASTER CENTENARY COVER.

On the 26th February, 1852, one of the most tragic sea disasters off the South African coast occurred, when the paddle steamer, H.M.S. "Birkenhead", struck a rock just over a mile from a point where Danger Point Lighthouse now stands. H.M.S. "Birkenhead", with 631 souls aboard was en route for the Buffalo River with reinforcements for the Eighth Kafir War.

Owing to the rapidity with which she sank, the fact that it was possible to launch only three small boats, and the time, 2 a.m. some 438 souls perished.

The troops, although given permission to swim for the boats refrained from doing so on the request of Capt. E. W. C. Wright of the 91st Regiment and Lieut. Giradet of the 43rd Lancers, who pointed out to them the danger of swamping the boats containing the women and children, and many went down with the ship.

Danger Point Lighthouse was erected in 1894, and to-day a postal agency is operated at the office in the base of the tower, being under the

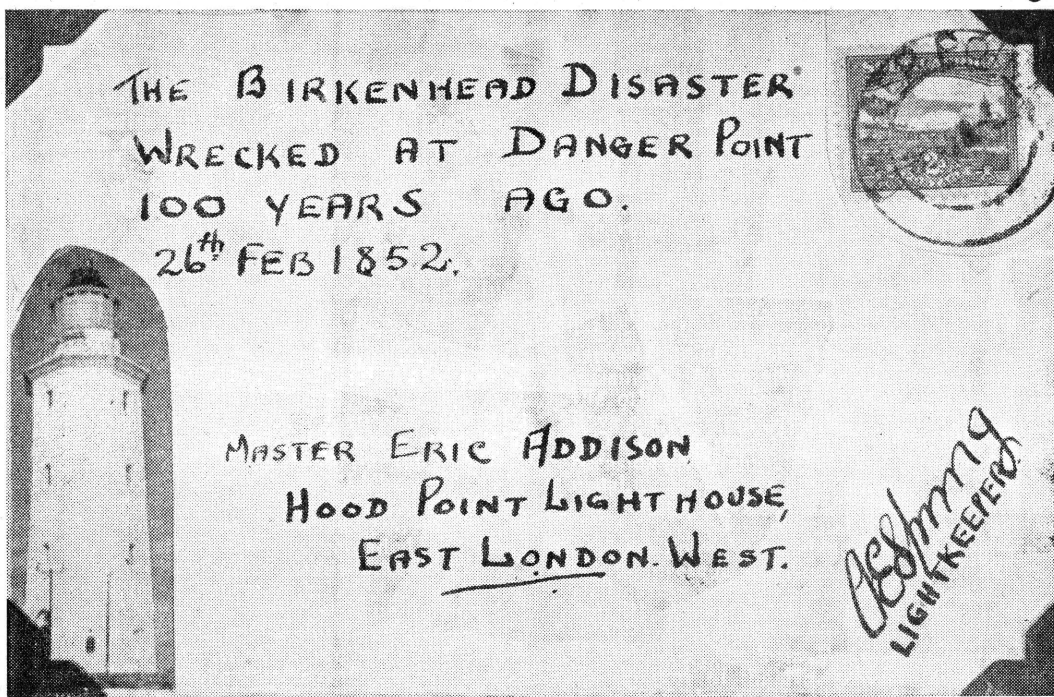
control of the Lightkeeper. Postal records at Danger Point go back as far as 1914, and it was evidently in use before that date, but I have not approached the Union Postal Authorities to find out the exact date it started operating as a Postal Agency.

In the past a fair number of lighthouses in the more isolated spots around the coast operated as Postal Agencies, but most were closed as such in 1939 for security reasons, and have not been again re-opened. At the moment there are only three lighthouses in South Africa which are also Postal Agencies.

A plaque commemorating the "Birkenhead" disaster was fixed to the Danger Point Lighthouse by the Navy League in 1938, and subsequently handed over to the Historical Monuments Commission.

The present Lightkeeper at Danger Point, Mr. A. E. Spring was, incidentally an assistant Lightkeeper at Danger Point in 1938 when the plaque was first unveiled.

As a point of interest, the plaque, although erected and unveiled in 1938, actually bears the date 1936.



A memorial service was held at Danger Point on the Centenary of the "Birkenhead" disaster, being attended by over 300 persons, many well known personalities, and under the auspices of the Hermanus Branch of the B.E.S.L.

To commemorate this event the writer had the attached cover, here illustrated, addressed to his son; it is endorsed in the bottom right hand corner by the Postal Agent (the Lightkeeper) and has the Danger Point postmark. Unfortunately, the postmark is not too clear, but does

in fact read "DANGER POINT 26-Feb-'52".

As far as is known, only two other Birkenhead Disaster Centenary covers received the 26th February, 1952 cancellation, both I was given to understand going to Cape Town, one of them to be presented to the Cape Town Museum.

This cover, to me, provides a perfect example of what a treasure house of interesting data may be behind a plain, simple cover.

J. C. ADDISON.

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Railway Parcel & Newspaper Service

by

A. HILTON SYDOW and J. H. HARVEY PIRIE

(The writers have to express their indebtedness to Messrs. Leonard J. Dodd and T. A. Harper for some of the information given in this article.)

Articles under the above title were published by one of us (J.H.H.P.) in this magazine Vol. 23, 1947, pp. 120, 139, 172 and 194. These gave our knowledge of these stamps, so far as it was known, up to date. Since then some additional information has come our way as regards the old issues and there have been two new issues of parcel stamps by the South African Railways; we have pooled our information without specifying who is responsible for which particular part of it.

I.—Additions to previous records.

1. Cape Town Railway, 1867, Imperf.

4d., 5d. and 7d. Black and shades of blue. The 5d. has a different type of meshwork background from the other two.

2. Cape Railway Service, 1882, perf. 10.

There are two types of this issue:—

(a) As illustrated in Robson Lowe's "Encyclopaedia of British Empire Postage Stamps" Vol. II, Africa, p. 436. The words 'Cape Railway Service' close together and in heavy type. Stops after 'Service', 'Pence' and 'Parcel'. Of this type we can record 1d., 2d. and 3d., also the 4d. and 7d. each surcharged in red "½", the original values being cancelled by two thick red lines. Incidentally there is no stop after 'Pence' in the 7d. specimen.

(b) As illustrated in the original article referred to above. Thinner letters and 'Cape Railway' spaced wider. No stop after 'Service'. Still only the Halfpenny recorded. A used specimen has a small single-circle cancellation with "East London" at the top, "R.O." at the foot and "P" over "JA" over "OO" in the centre.

3. Cape Government Railways. ?ca. 1909.

A 2/6 imperf. Previously recorded for the whole issue as perf. 11. Possibly other denominations also occur imperforate.

4. South African Railways, 1st issue, 1910-1916.

The 9d. green and red in this issue was noted as "apparently very rare, only one copy having been seen." Two more specimens have since been observed.

5. South African Railways, 2nd issue, rouletted, 1916-1922.

There are two types of the 1d. stamp (a) Size 18 mm. wide x 22½ mm. high; this is the same as the 1d. black of the 1st issue and there are nine links in the chain of each side panel. The ornamental curl at the end of the "R" of S.A.R. is also like that of the 1d. black, the curl going outwards. (b) Size 18 mm. wide x 21 mm. high. The chain in the left side panel has seven links while that on the right has eight. The tail to the "R" ends with an inward curl.

Whether these two varieties also occur in the 3rd issue (which only differs from the 2nd in being perforated) we cannot say; all the specimens we have seen are of the (a) variety.

6. South African Railways, 5th issue, 1923-1930.

The 3d., 1/-, 2/- and 2/ have been noted with the Station Code Letters in thin type. Possibly other values occur thus also.

7. South African Railways, 6th and 7th issues.

We propose reversing the order in which these two issues were classified in the original paper, making the former 7th issue the 6th and the former 6th issue the 7th.

This is done for two reasons (a) because the earliest known dates of usage seem to indicate that this change is desirable (b) because in the change-over from the English-only of the 5th issue the lay-out of the former 7th issue seems to follow on more logically than that of the former 6th issue. Thus the newly classified 6th issue is perf. 14 and has 14 lines of small printing in the background as in the 5th issue, whereas in the newly classified 7th issue has 16 lines in the background and is perf. 15 x 14, this bringing it into line with the later perforation of postage stamps. The newly classified 7th issue is also peculiar in occurring on three varieties of paper, unwatermarked, with multiple springbok's head upright and with the watermark sideways.

In the newly classified 6th issue on the Afrikaans variety of the 1/- the diaeresis over the second "E" of "SEEL" is sometimes completely missing. It is sometimes rather faint on some of the other denominations, but not, so far as we have seen, completely missing.

On both issues the station Code Letters are occasionally found in different type from the usual.

8. South African Railways, ¼d. Newspaper Stamp.

The bilingual type, black on white, as in use at the present, also occurs rouletted, ca 7, as well as pin-perf. as previously recorded.

9. Rhodesia Railways, 1d. Newspaper Stamp.

We are not quite certain whether or not the record of a Rhodesia Railways, Limited stamp of the type of the No. 2 illustration shown on p. 195 of the article referred to at the commencement, is correct. But there is definitely a Rhodesia Railways, Limited stamp with the design of the No. 1 type illustrated, specimens noted with dates in 1944 and 1947. We have one specimen of this on piece along with two 5c. Mozambique stamps. There is considerable variation in the shades of red of the various Rhodesian newspaper stamps.

II.—New Issues.

9. South African Railways, 8th issue, earliest recorded cancellation, July, 1946.

This is a "Bantam" series of stamps, of the same size as the Miniature War Effort postage stamps, but all in horizontal format like the 4d. and the 1/- of the bantam postage stamps. Like them they are divided by a mixture of perforation and roulette, the vertical short sides being perforated 14, also one of the longer horizontal sides, the other being rouletted.

Complete sheets of these have not been seen, but presumably the set-up was the same as in the case of the bantam postage stamps, i.e. in sheets of 360.

The denominations and colours of this set are:

1d. Blue.	6d. Red.
2d. Mauve.	9d. Emerald.
3d. Grey green.	1/- Orange.
4d. Slate grey.	2/- Reddish purple.
5d. Reddish buff.	2/6 Greenish blue.

5/-, 10/- and £1 values, if they exist, have not been seen.

As in the case of the next issue the figures of value and the letters indicative of the station of use have been letterpress-printed from zinc-typed plates derived from Ludlow type made by the American Typograph Company, in shiny black ink. The denomination is read horizontally at the right-hand side of the stamp, the letters



indicative of the stations read vertically upwards near the left-hand edge. Letters and numbers are smaller and thinner than in those of the next issue, the figures being 5½ mm. as against 7 mm. and the station letters 2 mm. as against 7 mm.

Each design contains three tablets (See Fig. 1.)

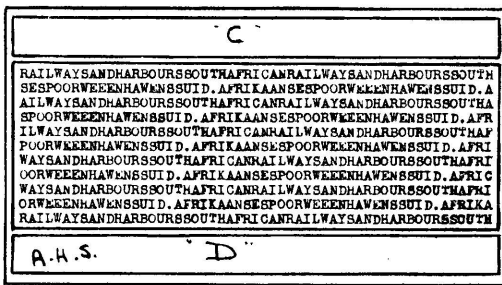


Fig. 1.

- (1) Afrikaans inscribed stamps. Tablet C — "SUID-AFRIKAANSE SPOORWEE" in white lettering on coloured background. Tablet D — "PAKKET-SEEL" in white text on coloured background.
- (2) English inscribed stamps. Tablet C — "SOUTH AFRICAN RAILWAYS" in white text on coloured background. Tablet D — "PARCEL STAMP" in white text on coloured background.

- (3) Central Tablet — common to both English and Afrikaans designs. Miniature text in colour in alternate rows English and Afrikaans. 11 rows. "SOUTH AFRICAN RAILWAYS AND HARBOURS" — 6 rows. "SUID-AFRIKAANSE SPOORWEE EN HAWENS" — 5 rows.

The stamps have been printed by cross-line screened rotogravure. The Master Design is indicated enlarged in Fig. 1. Master Negatives and Diapositives prepared in the same manner as described for the next issue.

(To be continued.)

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SUTTON COLDFIELD — ENGLAND.

TRANSVAAL S.G. 89.

This is the 1/- yellow green overprinted "V. R. /Transvaal/" in red in July, 1877. Mr. H. R. Holmes in the "London Philatelist" gives the history of a sheet of 40 of these stamps once owned by Mr. W. H. Dunnett, Assist. Hon. Sec. of the R.P.S. The sheet was broken up and sold in five lots in 1894. Although the least rare of the red surcharges, about 80 sheets being estimated to have been printed, as against a probable 20 for the 6d., nevertheless only one tête-bêche appears to have survived.

Two unique pieces from this sheet are now in the Royal Collection (a) the one and only known tête-bêche pair; (b) a strip of three, one of them showing the wider spacing between "V.R." and "TRANSVAAL" (89c). The third unique piece, a block of 25 is in the Curle collection in the Africana Museum, Johannesburg.

HANDBOOK - CATALOGUE

UNION OF SOUTH AFRICAN STAMPS.

Price: 22/6.

Obtainable at:

VAN SCHAIK'S BOOKSTORE
Libri Buildings, Church Street, Pretoria.

The Elusive Broken "C"

It was reported in the October 1950 issue of the "S.A. Philatelist" that the overprint of the OFFICIAL stamps of the Union of S. Africa, had been changed. Subsequent issues of this Journal recorded the new printings as other values of the series made their appearance.

The overprint was changed from the small type previously used to a new fount which was produced on a flat bed machine from new process blocks, and in which the letters are more distinct, slightly larger, and have a thinner and clearer outline. This "stereotype" overprint was adopted to overprint all subsequent issues of the OFFICIAL stamps and was accepted approvingly — little comment being made on any irregularities, notwithstanding the fact that early in its use a flaw, in the form of a broken letter in its overprint, occurred.

The letter "C" in the word AFRICA appeared with a "bite" out of its lower extremity, and due to wear and tear of subsequent printings, this deficiency increased, until a gap developed which almost cut the letter in two. At this stage it was retouched when the "C" took on an appearance resembling somewhat a "G".

These conditions are illustrated in the sketch below:—



Also, the "Broken C" assumed an interesting aspect in that it did not occupy a permanent position on the sheet but changed its position as subsequent printings were made.

No record is available that the "Broken C" of AFRICA was present when the "stereotype" set up was employed to make its initial overprint of the 1d. value, Cyl. Nos. 6A/6B, in August 1950. Its presence was noticed, however, in the next issue — the overprint of the 1d. value, Cyl. Nos. 76/14, in May 1951, and of the 6d. value, Cyl. Nos. 6930/6, the same overprint-set up being employed for these two values. As subsequent issues of the ½d., 1d. and 6d. values were made, the "Broken C" surprisingly made its unexpected appearance in different positions on the sheet. Its various positions are recorded below:—

Overprint Setting	Date of Issue at Pretoria.	Position of "Broken C" on the sheet.	Basic Stamp.
First	May, 1951.	Stamp R3/2, A.	1d. Cyl. No. 76/14.
	"	Stamp R3/2, E.	6d., Cyl. Nos. 6930/6
Second	June, 1951	Stamp R13/2, E.	½d., Cyl. Nos. 11A/11B.
	"	Stamp R13/2, A.	1d., Cyl. Nos. 70/14.
	June, 1952.	Stamp R13/2, E.	6d., Cyl. Nos. 6930/6.
	"	Stamp R13/2, A.	1d., Cyl. Nos. 6925/36.
Third	Jan. 1952.	Stamp R13/8, A.	1d., Cyl. Nos. 6925/36.
	Feb. 1952.	Stamp R13/8, E.	½d., Cyl. Nos. 11A/11B.
Fourth	Feb. 1952.	Stamp R3/2, A.	1d., Cyl. Nos. 6925/36.
Fifth	June, 1952.	Stamp R13/2, A "C" retouched.	1d., Cyl. No.s. 6925/36.

The "Broken C" has occupied five different positions on the sheet to date, thus indicating that the overprint set-up is in quadrants and that these have not been assembled in the same order for each subsequent printing.

The "Elusive Broken C" is expected to make future appearances as further overprintings are made. It will make interesting conjecture to determine the positions on the sheet which it will occupy and in what other disguises it may appear.

T. B. BERRY.

A POSTMARK PUZZLE.

Several readers have sent in the same solution as Mr. Sydow had reached regarding the XVI postmark illustrated in our last issue, viz., that it was part of a ROUXVILLE postmark. No other solution has been suggested.

UNION OF SOUTH AFRICA.

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Our name has been well known to a number of philatelists in England and South Africa, both for our outstanding stock of the Union issues and for the service we offer our customers. We are equally well known in many parts of the world for the wide range of material of all British Colonial issues offered in our fortnightly lists, which are recognised by many collectors and dealers as a standard. For this, our first advertisement in the "S.A. PHILATELIST", we offer a few items taken from a number of colonies, which we think may be of interest:—

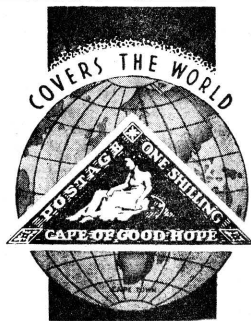
ADEN 1937 "Dhow" Set, S.G. 1-12, comp., £15
ANTIGUA 1903/09 5/-, S.G. 40 £2 10s. 0d.
ASCENSION 1924/33. Set complete, S.G. 10-20,
£7 10s. 0d.
AUSTRALIA 1913 £1 S.G. 15, £13 10s. 0d.
BAHAMAS 1921/29. Set complete, S.G. 122-131,
£5.
BARBADOS 1882/86 5/-, S.G. 103, £5.
BRITISH HONDURAS 1913/21. Set complete.
S.G. 101-110, £7 10s. 0d.
CAYMAN IS. 1907 ½d. on 5/-, S.G. 18, a superb
used pair, pmkd. "Grand Cayman/No./26/
27", £17 10s. 0d.
CYPRUS 1928 Set complete S.G. 123-132, £8.
DOMINICA 1903 5/-, S.G. 36, £5.
GAMBIA 1902/05. Set complete S.G. 45-56, £5.
MONTserrat 1908/13 5/- S.G. 47, £2 5s. 0d.;
superb used, £2 15s. 0d.
NEW ZEALAND 1926. Set S.G. 539-543, £7 10s.
NIGERIA 1914/26 10/- S.G. 13b, £16.
RHODESIA 1905 "Falls" Set S.G. 94-99, £3 3s.
ST. HELENA 1922/27 £1 S.G. 96, £5.
SIERRA LEONE 1903. Set complete, S.G. 72-
84, £14.

SOUTH AFRICA 1913/21 6d. S.G. 18a with inv.
wmk. Union Cat. 10/-, 5/-.
1913/21 £1 S.G. 24—Union Cat., £14, £12 10s.
£1 S.G. 24a, Union Cat. £16, £14 10s.
1913/21 5/-, 10/-, £1 S.G. 22, 23, 24 all
clearly used in S.W.A.—Union Cat. £8
15s., £7 15s. 0d.
1927/28 Pictorial issue S.G. 34-39. All perf.
14. Union Cat. £12 17s. 6d., £12 10s. 0d.
A similar set, but in Imprint pairs.
Union Cat. £22 — £17 10s. 0d.
A similar set in vertical prs. o'p'd.
"Specimen", £8.
1931 2d. Roll, a complete strip of 22, one
stamp being "Rift" variety, Union Cat.
R 11 and R 11 Vb. £7 — £5.
1930/45 1d. S.G. 43a, no wmk. gum., £3;
ungummed, £2; Trefoil wmk. gum., £4.
1935 Silver Jubilee Set in Blocks of four
S.G. 65-68, one stamp each value with
"Cleft Skull" variety. Un. Cat., £6 3s. 6d.,
£5 10s. 0d.

All Mint except as stated. We welcome enquiries for all British Colonial stamps and our New Issue Service. All correspondence by Air Mail, and all stamps are sent by registered air mail and fully insured.

B. J. Hunter

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CUSTOMERS WANT-LISTS INVITED.

HANDBOOK / CATALOGUE

UNION OF SOUTH AFRICA

SUPPLEMENT No. 2.

SECTION 33.

VAN RIEBEECK TERCENTENARY.

"SATISE-SADIPU" OVERPRINTED ISSUE.



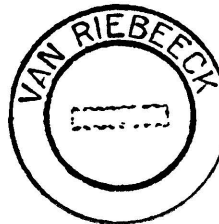
The 1d. and 2d. denominations of the Van Riebeeck Tercentenary Commemorative stamps were specially overprinted "SATISE" and "SADIPU" respectively, by the Government Printing Department, Pretoria, for sale at the International Stamp Exhibition Post Office, Cape Town, during the period 26th March to 5th April, 1952. The words are derived from the initial letters of "South African Tercentenary International Stamp Exhibition" and "Suid-Afrikaanse Driehonderdjarige Internasionale Posseëluitstalling."

These overprinted stamps were not on sale at any other post office in the Union, but dealers and collectors who required quantities of the stamps in mint condition and who were unable to attend the Exhibition, could forward their orders to the Philatelic Agency, Publicity Section, G.P.O., Pretoria. They were supplied by the Philatelic Agency in mint sheets only, but once purchased could be used for postage — and in the case of the 1d., also for revenue — in exactly the same manner as the 1d. and 2d. un-overprinted stamps. Used copies will therefore be found bearing various names of post offices

throughout the Union, but those franking mail matter posted at the Exhibition were all post-marked with a date-stamp bearing the wording:

"INTERNASIONALE POSSEELUITSTALLING, KAAPSTAD
— INTERNATIONAL STAMP EXHIBITION, CAPE TOWN."

As with the ordinary Van Riebeeck stamps, the SATISE-SADIPU issue also appeared on both white and toned paper.



Cat. No.

116 1d. Dark green.

a. Toned paper.

CONTROLS.

Ca. Stamp with Cylinder No. "30" on margin.

Cb. As above on toned paper.

Cc. Marginal arrow pair.

Cd. Arrow pair on toned paper.

VARIETIES.

Va. Green stroke between "A" and "E" of AFRICA and "Hyphen" in front of AFRICA. Row 2/3.

Vb. Wrinkle on forehead, Row 2/14.

Vc. White dot between "R" and "T" of AFRICA. Row 2/20.

Vd. Dark green blob near middle of frame, Row 3/10.

Ve. White "mushroom" mark on upper half of left frame, Row 5/9.

Vf. Spots on left cheek, Row 6/3.

Vg. White mark at top of first "A" of AFRICA. Row 6/6.

117 2d. Dark violet.

a. Toned paper.

CONTROLS.

- Ca. Stamp with Cylinder No. '36' on margin.
 Cb. As above on toned paper.
 Cc. Marginal arrow pair.
 Cd. Arrow pair on toned paper.

VARIETIES.

- Va. "Moon" to left of ship below "R" of AFRIKA, Row 6/3.
 Vb. Two black dots above Mountain, Row 9/5.
 Vc. Black spot above Table Mountain, Row 9/6.
 Vd. Long vertical line through sails of ship on left, Row 11/2.
 Ve. Short vertical mark above sails of ship on left, Row 12/2.
 Vf. "Smoke" above Mountain, Row 13/4.
 Vg. "Smoke" above Mountain, Row 14/3.
 Vh. White dot under first "A" of AFRIKA, Row 16/6.

SECTION 4.**THE FIRST DEFINITIVE ISSUE.****No. 3. 1d. Plate Numbers.**

At the end of the paragraph on Plate Numbers—page 23—add:

"Plates 1 and 2 originally existed with no nicks in the lower right hand corner."

And under the item "Ca. Plate 1" on same page add:

Caa. Plate 1 or 2 corner pair from bottom right hand corner of the sheet showing no nicks.

No. 3 1d. Watermark Varieties.

Between items "Wd" and "We" on page 24 add:

Wdd. Inverted watermark with Plate 4 margin
 40 0 40 0.

Under item "Wi" on page 24 add:

NOTE.—Control blocks of both Plates 6 and 7 are known to exist with the watermark missing.

No. 14 10/- Varieties.

At bottom of page 31 add:

Ve. Co-extensive Jubilee line, Plate 1.

Roll Stamps.

In order to conform with the prices given for the ½d., 1d., 1½d. and 2d. King's Head roll stamps in SECTION 11, the following adjustments are necessary on pages 20, 23, 25 and 26 respectively.

- No. 2h. ½d. Alter to read 2 0 Mint and 0 8 Used.
 No. 3f. 1d. Alter to read 2 6 Mint and 0 9 Used.
 No. 4e. 1½d. Alter to read 2 6 Mint and 1 3 Used.
 No. 5g. 2d. Alter to read 2 6 Mint and 2 0 Used.

SECTION 6.**THE LONDON TYPOGRAPHED PICTORIALS.****No. 22 ½d. Booklets. Perf. 15 x 14.**

Delete item "f", Tete-beche pair, on page 59.
 Insert "Pretoria printing" under the Tete-beche illustration on same page.

No. 23 1d. Booklets. Perf. 15 x 14.

Delete item "f", Tete-beche pair, on page 62.
 Insert "Pretoria printing" under the Tete-beche illustration on page 60.

SECTION 7.**THE PRETORIA TYPOGRAPHED PICTORIALS.****No. 33 ½d. Special Booklet Issue. Perf. 14.**

To the item "Bf. Tete-beche, pair" on page 73 add: (Illustration on page 59).

No. 34 1d. Special Booklet Issue. Perf. 14.

To the item "f. Tete beche, pair" on page 76 add: (Illustration on page 60).

No. 34. 1d. Perforation Varieties.

Under the item "Pa" on page 75 add:

Paa. Completely imperforate block of four.

SECTION 21.**ROYAL VISIT.****Special Cancellations used on Royal Visit Stamps.**

Further to the information concerning covers from H.M.S. VANGUARD and the King's Flight Aeroplane — at the bottom of page 233 — it is now known that members of the King's Flight were allowed to send all letter mail free provided the King's Flight mark was used, but in the case of larger packets, the practice was to frank them with stamps and these were cancelled with the same mark.

A cover is known to exist with the cancellation mark illustrated below.



It is a double circle, 38 mm. in diameter, with the wording ROYAL AIR FORCE at the top and THE KINGS FLIGHT at the bottom. Its history is unknown and it differs from the next example which has a double lined outer circle, is 42 mm. in diameter, and has the wording THE KING'S FLIGHT at the top with ROYAL AIR FORCE below.

**SECTION 29.****UNION "USED ABROAD."****South African A.P.O. (U.K.) Cancellations.**

The last sentence in the first paragraph on page 310 should be altered to read as follows:

"These offices only sold British stamps, but if Union stamps were proffered they appear to have been accepted and passed, as a cover is known sent to South Africa bearing a 3d. large War Effort stamp cancelled with the S.A.A.P.O. (U.K.) mark No. 1".

BELGIUM

NEW ISSUES.

	Mint	Used
1952 Postal Union Congress, 12 vals.	23/6	—
1952 King Baudouin 50 fr. 1 val.	10/3	—

COMPLETE SETS

1951 Political Prisoners, 3 vals.	4/-	—
1944 Van Dyck, 6 vals.	4/9	—
1941 Princes and Princesses, 10 vals.	3/9	—
1941 Orval Abbey, 12 vals.	7/6	—
1939 Red Cross, 8 vals.	11/6	10/6
1935 Queen Astrid Mourning, 8 vals.	6/3	6/6
1932 Piccard, 3 vals.	15/-	4/-

Gibbons Catalogue Part II (Europe and Colonies),
22/4 post free.

Subject unsold. Post Free — Airmail if over £2.
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E. S. JAMES

RUSTINGTON, SUSSEX, ENGLAND.

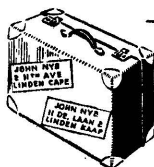
Luggage and goods can easily

go astray if labels aren't

addressed clearly—fixed on firmly

Address and pack properly

—we'll deliver the goods



**SOUTH
AFRICAN
RAILWAYS**



PRINTING INKS

by A. I. MACKENZIE.

Printing inks are essentially solids in solution, the solid being the pigment which is always dry and the solvent being boiled linseed oil. Glossy inks are made by flaring the linseed oil, that is setting it alight in order to remove all greasy matter from the ink. A third group of printing inks are known as two-tone inks. These inks when dry give the appearance of two colours owing to their special preparation.

Inks are sub-divided into various classes. For instance the grade of paper being used has to be known before an ink can be chosen. Different kinds of ink suit different grades of paper. The different types of printing presses decide what kind of ink will be employed. For instance a letterpress machine requires a completely different kind of ink from that used on an intaglio machine and a litho machine calls for yet another class of ink altogether.

As if this were not sufficient the speeds at which the presses run influence the grade of ink to be used. It is obvious that if a slow-running machine is used, namely one running at 2,000 copies per hour, the ink on each sheet will have longer to dry than the ink of a fast running press, say one producing 20,000 copies per hour. So we have slow-drying inks, medium-drying inks and fast-drying inks. From the above it is obvious that this question of drying is an important one, so let us study it a little closer.

Ink can be dried by any one of three methods: (1) By oxidation; (2) by absorption and (3) by a combination of both. The third method is by far the most common. I mentioned earlier that ink is a solid in solution. If therefore the ink dries by absorption only the oil sinks into the paper and dries in that fashion. If the ink dries by oxidation the ink dries as soon as or very soon after it has been applied to the paper. The ink oxidises on exposure to air forming a hard fibre which is what the reader sees. The third method is of course a combination of the above methods.

By now the reader will begin to realise why I mentioned the grade of paper as being important. Paper plays an important part in drying of printing inks, so let us take a glance at this consideration.

Papers can be divided into two main groups for the purpose of this article, namely writing paper and printing paper. In the case of writing paper the ink does not penetrate the surface of the paper, in printing paper the ink does penetrate the surface. The way the ink behaves on paper is determined by the sizing of the paper. Size is a chemical compound added to the pulp when making paper. If only a little is added the paper is soft-sized, such as printing paper; if a higher percentage is added the paper is hard-sized, such as in writing papers. It is therefore obvious that the more sizing a paper has, the longer the ink will take to dry.

This point has an important bearing on inks, because if a hard-sized paper is used, the drying process of the ink has to be speeded up. This is done by adding chemicals called driers

to the ink. In nearly every case driers affect the colour of the ink. Here is one very important reason why there are so many shades in ink.

Driers are very often used when the humidity content of the air in the pressroom is incorrect. From this it may be gathered that driers are frequently used especially in tropical and sub-tropical countries.

So far I have said nothing about colours in ink. Colours are obtained from three sources. These are mineral, vegetable and synthetic. Mineral colours are the best. They are colour fast and long-lasting. This is the reason why the early postage stamps have kept their colours. Inks made with vegetable colours are not so long-lasting, although they may last a long time. The third-mentioned group, the group from which most of our inks are made today are the weakest of the three as far as lasting qualities are concerned. Most of them are sensitive to light, losing their initial colour in a matter of some years. This, of course give the colour-specialist a holiday. What he fails to realise is that the colours are changing all the time with these inks. Every year they will reveal a different shade, and the older they are the poorer their colours will be.

Paper has a large percentage of sulphuric acid in it. In stamps this acid gradually works its way into the ink and plays havoc with it. This is another reason for colours changing.

Other factors which influence the colour of the ink is the amount of ink deposited on the paper. A slow-running machine, as a rule, deposits more ink on the paper than a fast-running press. Therefore stamps printed on a slow-running press appear to be of a darker shade than stamps printed on a fast-running machine. For instance, the early stamps always appear to be of darker shades than their modern counterparts. The slower speed at which they were printed is one reason for this. Another reason is that better grade inks were used for the early issues and a third reason is that better quality paper was used in their production.

In modern issues a great range of colours can be found in the one issue. There are various reasons for this. One is the speed at which the press runs. This sets up vibration and results in the rollers "jumping". This up-and-down movement of the steel rollers is only slight but when you realise that a film of ink is only 1 micron in thickness and that a micron is one-thousandth of a millimetre, it will be realised why the shades differ. This piece of information may explain to readers why stamps change colours when examined under different sources of light, and why stamps change colour at different times of the year and at different hours of the day. The reason is because the inks are transparent and the strength of the light falling on them affects their colour.

I could say more, but perhaps I have said enough. Readers may complain that this article is too technical, but they should realise that printing is a highly technical process and in order to be able to pass an intelligent opinion on stamps one must know something of how they are made. Otherwise one is merely made to look foolish.

SOCIETIES AND JUNIOR COLLECTORS.

The problem of how best to help junior collectors is one that has faced or is facing many of our constituent Societies. Following are notes of a discussion which recently took place at a meeting of the Philatelic Society of Natal; they are given *in extenso* here instead of perhaps being buried in "Society News", in the hope that they may be helpful to other societies.

"The problem of junior members and how best to cater for them came up for discussion. The President (Mr. L. Bevis) stated that the committee had discussed the matter at some length but had come to no definite decision as to the most satisfactory means of absorbing junior members. He brought the matter forward to give members an opportunity to discuss it fully and to give their opinions. In the discussion that ensued there was a general desire to do something to encourage junior collectors but it was felt, all things considered, that the ordinary meetings were not a suitable channel for this encouragement although juniors were often in evidence as visitors. It was pointed out that there were large numbers of collectors in the schools and it was suggested they be brought together; that meetings could be held after school-hours which the juniors would be glad to attend; and that it would be possible to arrange such meetings. Mr. Meeuwis, an ex-president of the Springs Society, said that in Springs the society worked satisfactorily in the schools.

On the other hand, it was argued, the Durban area was huge with many schools situated many miles apart. There would be the greatest difficulty in co-ordinating the efforts of all these schools and each school, therefore, would have to act independently: this, of course, would only be possible if great interest were taken by some responsible individual at each school. If such individuals were lacking could members of the society undertake the task? As scholars advanced in their studies evening meetings became impossible, if not undesirable.

The President remarked that if we decided to accept members under the age of 21 it would be necessary to have a guarantee from parents or guardians if such members were to receive the sales packets.

Editor, "S.A. Philatelist".
Sir,

EXHIBITION STAMPS AND POSTMARKS.

South Africa has a very good reputation among philatelists as a country that does not exploit collectors. But with the van Riebeeck issue it perpetrated all those evils that we as a rule attribute to — well, I could mention several countries, we all know them, but in case the Editor should be had up for libel I forbear to give names.

The Satisse-Sadipu overprint was an entirely unnecessary issue. It had the hall marks of the worst form of exploitation viz. monopoly of selling at the Drill Hall, Cape Town, and then only for a few days. (This is not quite accurate; the stamps could also be obtained from the Philatelic Agency, Pretoria, and for a considerable period.—Ed.)

It is a safe bet that not a single one of these overprinted stamps was used by the ordinary

public. True some were used on ordinary correspondence. I did so myself. And I know of one collector who purchased £20 worth of the stamps to use in his office. Nevertheless all such commercial use would not have occurred but for the fathering by stamp collectors.

As for F.D. Cancellations — that was a perfect racket. There were three different ones. And a good many covers never went through the post, they were cancelled and handed back over the counter. How does this sort of thing differ from the miniature sheet ramp issues on the continent, as admission to philatelic exhibitions? Indeed that is about the only useful purpose these covers served — they helped to cover the expenses of SATISE.

But worse was in store. I handed my K.L.M. flight covers into the Cape Town office of the company on the 23rd March. They all came back cancelled on the S. African stamps "VAN RIEBEECK 14.3.1952"! So the first day cancellation did duty for goodness knows how long. Surely we in South Africa must not fall to the level of the philatelic morality of the unmentionable countries already referred to.

The future must be watched in that respect and it is to be hoped that as a first step the exploitation of collectors (as desired by some at the Philatelic Congress last March) by charity issues will not be permitted.

Yours, etc.,

J. W. HARRIS.

REVIEW.

Kleines Handbuch der Deutschen Feldpost 1937-1945., by Alfred Clement, Graz, Heinrichstrasse 27/1, Austria. Price 17/- or 22 International Reply Coupons, post free.

This, although called a "small" handbook, has some 70 pages of about the size of this magazine, close print. There are numerous illustrations of postmarks, etc. and practically every phase of army, air-force and naval postal activities of German forces between 1937-1945 are dealt with. They include those operating both in Germany itself and beyond its borders, including posts for Germany P.O.W.'s in various lands. It is well produced and can be strongly recommended to anyone interested in this field of philately.

O.V.S. NUMERAL POSTMARKS.

Following up his article in our June issue, Mr. P. Smits reports that he has received the following additional records from Mr. A. M. Jones of Cape Town. They should be added to his Annexure "A":

Numeral	Bars	Place
20	II	Brandfort
27	II	Hoopstad
48	II	(?) Holfontein.
50	II	?

The following numbers are known, but are still unplaced: 34, 42, 47, 48, 50 and *56; all II barred.

In Annexure "B", postmarks with letters, a mistake was made in stating they were I6 barred; they are II barred, all letters have now been reported except Q. and V.

I WANT TO BUY:

A good general collection;
An extensive collection of Unions;
Specialised collections of almost any country;
Wholesale stocks;
Speculators' stocks;
Rare single stamps or sets;
in fact almost anything philatelic except common stamps in poor condition.

PRIVATE TREATY

I have several very interesting items and collections for sale on behalf of various owners. On the other hand I may be able to find a buyer for your stamps. Ask for details of this service.

APPROVAL SELECTIONS

are now ready of most Empire countries. Please state whether mint or used are wanted. I cannot submit selections of K.G. VI issues only. References or a cash deposit are necessary from customers not already known to me.

WANT LISTS

can usually be dealt with by return post. I carry hardly any stock of Foreign but my stock of Empire issues (as listed in Gibbons' Part I Catalogue) is very representative.

I am now booking orders for

GIBBONS 1953 EMPIRE CATALOGUE

The price will be 17/-, registered book post 1/- extra. For prepaid orders delivery is free in the central City area.

Stevenson's "The Triangular Stamps of the Cape of Good Hope" is a book that should be in the possession of every keen collector whether he has any triangulars or not. Delivery from stock, 63/- post free.

The Union Handbook-Catalogue is again in stock at the published price of 22/6, postage 1/- extra This is another book of infinite interest.

My Price Lists are free and post free.

R. T. LILLEY

37 Wroxham House, 212 Jeppe Street,
JOHANNESBURG.

THE "PHILATELIC ADVISER"

is a high-class monthly Magazine specialising in stamps and postmarks of Great Britain, but catering in addition for the General Collector. All articles fully illustrated and printed on good quality paper. It occasionally has authoritative articles on Tristan da Cunha and other South African news, and should be read by all philatelists. Price 1/3 per issue, 15/- per year. A specimen copy will be gladly sent to any serious philatelist.

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SOCIETY NEWS

ROODEPOORT STAMP CLUB.

June. The monthly meeting of the Society took place at the usual venue, on the 19th inst., attended by seven members and two visitors.

The Chairman welcomed our visitors, especially The Father of Thematics, our friend the Rev. Loxley Chamings of Teakwood, who has honoured us again with one of his fine Thematic Displays. His exhibit for the evening was made up of about 104 people and 54 places on separate stamps of U.S.A. detailed with all the necessary information regarding each Stamp.

Mr. Vermaak thanked the Padre for his display, and his interesting talk which is certainly an education to any Club.

July. The monthly meeting was held on Thursday, July the 17th, at the Savoy Hotel, Roodepoort, in attendance were eleven members and two visitors.

After the usual minutes and business were discussed, the Exhibit was displayed. Sideline tabled by Mr. Henderson consisting of a few sheets of Southern Rhodesia, Cayman Islands, Australia, Dominica, and a study of Queen Elizabeth on postage stamps. Then Mr. Keet tabled the main display for the evening, a general collection of Unions.

Mr. Vermaak thanked Mr. Henderson for his fine and neat display, and Mr. Yelland thanked Mr. Keet for his excellent collection which was well written up. J.K.

CAPE TOWN PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

June 12.

The display for the evening was provided by Mr. L. Simenhoff, F.R.P.S.L., who showed a thematic collection entitled "Literature on Stamps", comprising stamps from many countries on which authors were depicted or illustrations referring to literary works. The collection was amplified with cut-outs and quotations. In an interesting talk Mr. Simenhoff outlined several possible approaches to "Literature on Stamps" such as authors according to their countries, history of literature in chronological order, etc.

After an interval in which tea was served, an Auction took place to raise further funds for the International Stamp Exhibition. Mr. Schonegevel was the Honorary Auctioneer and the sum of £50 was raised.

June 26.

The exhibit for the evening was provided by Mr. C. G. Mummery, who showed selections from his collections of the Falkland Islands and of Egypt. He chose the early Queen Victoria issues of the Falkland Islands for display and read a most interesting paper describing his stamps with particular reference to watermarks. The Egyptian selection comprised mainly early issues showing errors, varieties and small flaws; also early covers with stamps.

A vote of thanks to Mr. Mummery was proposed by Mr. Combrink and was seconded by Mr. Savage.

A small auction took place after the tea interval in aid of Exhibition Funds, being the balance of material remaining from the sale at the last Meeting. Mr. Petroulis was the Hon. Auctioneer.

July 10.

Mr. K. Alexander displayed a selection which he called "Bits and Pieces", comprising mint stamps of many countries including several foreign countries whose stamps are seldom seen at the Society. Charity and commemorative stamps were well represented. A.J.W.

PRETORIA RAILWAY PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

The June monthly meeting was held on the 11th inst., and the attendance was quite satisfactory considering that the cold weather has now set in; when the President, Mr. MacLachlan, called the meeting to order, there was an attendance of just over 30 members and visitors. The continued presence of so many members at our meetings is very pleasing indeed, and the success of the Society is assured, whilst the members continue to exhibit the interest they are now showing.

The exhibit for the evening was in the hands of Mr. A. Clapham, who put up a very creditable show. Considering that this gentleman is, as he put it "not a specialist", the exhibit that he tabled of his

"General Collection" deserved every bit of praise that it received from Mr. Slater-Kinghorn, who said that a general collection always gave him a lot of pleasure, and that general collectors were the backbone of Philately. The thanks of the members are due to Mr. Clapham for allowing us the pleasure of seeing his exhibit.

The President announced that the committee had made arrangements for the holding of a special informal meeting to take place on the 26th June at the Berea Park. This meeting will take the form of a "study circle", and all members are invited to come along and bring their problems. The committee feels that discussions of this sort will be all for the good, and that members should certainly derive a lot of pleasure and benefit from them. This would apply more so to us amateurs, who are still only touching on the fringe of philately. For the benefit of our country members, it is intended to include any interesting item that may be discussed in the monthly bulletin. Visitors are also very cordially invited, and their participation in the discussions will be very much appreciated.

JEWISH GUILD PHILATELIC SECTION.

26th June, 1952.

At a fairly well attended meeting Mr. Oppenheim exhibited some of the modern French pictorials. The variety, colour and fine printings were very much appreciated by those present. Mr. L. Buchen thanked Mr. Oppenheim.

AFRIKAANSE FILATELISTIESE VERENIGING.

4 Julie 1952: Weereens het ons 'n baie geslaagde byeenkoms gehad. Die belangstelling in die vereniging neem steeds toe en aansoek om lidmaatskap is ingedien namens prof. H. G. Schulze, Potchefstroom en die here J. J. F. Britz, Parys, en J. Keet, Florida.

Lid S. J. Vermaak was vir die uitstalling verantwoordelik en het n.l. 'n gedeelte van sy een-sjieling groep vertoon. In sy bespreking van die uitstalling het die voorsitter o.a. gesê dat hy nog nooit so 'n tema teëgekóm het nie en dat die versameling seker enig van sy soort is.

Die vereniging bring op 26 September a.s. 'n besoek aan die Afrikaanse Filateliese Vereniging van Pretoria, en op 7 November sal hy lede van die Roodepoort Stamp Club ontvang. S.J.V.

WEST RAND STAMP CLUB.

July.

Mr. Burrell again acted as host to the club and a very pleasant evening was held at his home.

After business was disposed of Mr. Keet displayed his collection of U.P.U. stamps. This was enjoyed by all present and contained many of the difficult foreign sets. The stamps were all in mint condition and were a real pleasure to look at.

Mr. Yelland congratulated Mr. Keet on his collection remarking that Mr. Keet had done very well to get hold of some of the stamps he had.

At the next meeting to be held on August 6th at Mr. Burrell's home Mr. Simpkins will exhibit his collection of Cayman Islands and all members are looking forward to another fine display.

After the business of the meeting was finished tea was served by Mrs. Burrell and the thanks of the members passed to her for her trouble in preparing same. E.J.S.

EAST LONDON PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

June.

A well attended meeting with some visitors. It was agreed that only one display would be shown at a meeting if that display was a large one. Otherwise two smaller displays would be shown.

Mr. Hellman intimated that the Exchange Club was bringing in many new members. Three new members were elected.

Matters of Philatelic interest; Mr. Hellman, Cover commemorating 34th Philatelic Congress held at Southampton; Block of South African War Stamps showing a nurse, Miss Palmer; Mr. Forster, New Jamaican Scout Stamps; Mr. Watson, Czechoslovakian new issues; Mr. Shingler, Air Letter Card on first jet air flight; Mr. Harper, Envelope covers of Columbia, Cyrenaica and Correos el Salvador.

Mr. Jensen read a paper on "The Imp's Interesting Odds and Ends of Stamp Collecting". This paper dealt essentially with used stamps and postmarks and Mr. Jensen showed stamps to illustrate his talk.

Mr. Hellman thanked him on behalf of the society for his very informative paper which approached an old theme in a new and arresting way.

Mr. Hellman arranged a quiz which was won by Mr. Kruger who scored 11 points out of 21.

Mr. Watson displayed his large collection of fine Canadian stamps and was thanked by Mr. Gillespie on behalf of the society.

Mr. Paviour showed his very beautiful collection of Newfoundland stamps and was thanked by Mr. Harper, himself a collector of Canadians.

July.

From this date onwards our meetings will be held at Shell House, Buxton Street, in the Social Club Room. There was a well attended meeting with eight new members and also visitors welcomed by Mr. Hellman, the President. The August meeting was set aside especially for juniors, each senior member being asked to bring six sheets of stamps which would be of interest to the juniors. Matters of Philatelic interest: Mr. Watson, four 1st day covers of Czechoslovakia; Mr. Clark, Postal History exhibited at Bath and the new Jamaica 3d.; Mr. Pludderman, German first day cover of the cycle distance race; Dr. Druinsky, Italian Centenary, a stamp, on a stamp; Mr. Shingler brought up the suggestion of a Union Study meeting to be held once a month at a city office during the lunch hour in order to have the daylight to study shades. Mr. Gillespie read a paper on "How and what to Collect" and also showed a few interesting sheets to illustrate his remarks. He went to great lengths to show what not to collect and what to avoid. Mr. Hellman thanked him for his paper and for the trouble taken.

Mr. Joseph arranged a novel Quiz — 20 stamps with the name of the country cut out were passed round for members to identify. It was won by a junior visitor (shame, East London Collectors!).

Mr. D. C. D. Castle, of Greytown, Natal, sent a collection of Air Transport and other interesting pages, via Mr. Attwell; a really wonderful comprehensive survey of all kinds of Transport as well as other unusual items. We are very grateful to Mr. Castle for his kindness in sending his collection for us to see and we all enjoyed the many varied pages, beautifully written up. Mr. Pludderman kindly forewent displaying his collection at this meeting so that Mr. Castle's display could be fully studied.

An auction was held and tea was served. R.A.

EAST RAND PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

At our June monthly meeting we had an official visit from the Springs Philatelic Society who supplied the evening's exhibits. Mr. Carnshaw's exhibit was the start of a collection being built up in a Windsor Album and Mr. Moolman exhibited a very fine collection of Netherlands.

A vote of thanks was given to these gentlemen by the Chairman. E.J.R.

THE PHILATELIC SOCIETY OF JOHANNESBURG

At the meeting held on July 8th the Philatelic Section of the Jewish Guild were the guests of the Society and provided the exhibits for the evening.

The theme of the guests was "something old, something new, something borrowed and something blue."

The something old was provided by Mr. L. Buchen who showed an exhibit of stamps of the former German Colonies. He showed all the Colonies except South West Africa and the exhibit included German stamps used in the different colonies, covers, specimen stamps, booklets and many varieties. Mr. Jordaan expressed the thanks of the Society for this exhibit.

Something new was provided by Mr. B. Glassman, Chairman of the Section, who showed specimen stamps of King George VI. It was an almost complete collection. Mr. W. Redford spoke on this exhibit.

Mr. W. Reckling, a non-member of the Section (hence "something borrowed") showed a portion of his collection of pre-stamp covers. These included Cape covers and British ship letters. Dr. J. H. Harvey Pirie spoke on this exhibit.

Mr. I. Isaacs showed "something blue" namely flown covers of South African Airways whose slogan is "travel the blue and silver way". These included some first flights. Mr. K. Lydall spoke on this exhibit.

At the meeting held on July 28th Mr. A. Assimacopoulos showed a fine exhibit of Greece. He introduced

his exhibit with some notes on Greek Post Offices and an historical survey of the issues.

The exhibit was very strong in the early issues showing the different printings and papers. All the modern issues were, however, shown as well as new issues and occupation stamps. The exhibit included stamps of Crete, Samos, Mytilene and Epirus.

Mr. G. Simonides spoke on the exhibit.

An error was made in last month's issue reporting our meeting of 10th July. The visiting Societies were the West Rand Stamp Club and the Roo-depoort Stamp Club, not the former and the Springs Philatelic Society as was stated.

GENERAL.

The Federation has lost two of its member Societies (a) The Vereeniging Stamp Club, which is no longer in existence, and (b) The Nyasaland Philatelic Society, which is presumed to have demised as its dues have not been received nor any reply to communications addressed to it.

On the credit side, however, a new Society has been admitted at the last meeting of the Executive Committee, viz., the Paarlse Posseëlversamelaarsvereniging.

U.S.A.

A 3c. stamp appeared on 13 June honouring the 175th anniversary of the arrival of Marquis de La Fayette at Georgetown, S. Carolina. It has a portrait of LaFayette flanked by the French and U.S.A., but the criticism has been made that these flags are the modern ones of the two countries and not those in use in 1777. The national flag of France at that time was white with fleurs de lys and that of the U.S.A. 13 alternate red and white stripes and a circle of 13 white stars.

August 11 was the date of issue of the 3c. Mount Rushmore stamp featuring the heads of Washington, Lincoln, Jefferson and T. Roosevelt hewn from a granite ridge near the top of Mt. Rushmore in South Dakota.

CURRENCY GUIDE.

A reader has asked us to give occasionally a currency guide which will show the rates of exchange with various foreign countries. Herewith are a few taken from the "Stamp Collectors' Annual"; the list is now six months old, but probably is still reasonably accurate.

Austria 1 sch.—3½d.

Belgium, 1 fr.—1¼d.

Denmark, 1 kr.—1s. 0½d.

Germany, 1 mk.—1s. 8½d.

Holland, 1 fl.—1s. 10½d.

Sweden, 1 kr.—1s. 4½d.

Switzerland, 1 fr.—1s. 8d.

U.S.A., 1 dollar—7s. 1½d.

Australia, 1 pound—16s.

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ENGLAND TO SOUTH AFRICA AIRMAIL SERVICES IN RETROSPECT

Just over 20 years ago — on 20th January, 1932 — **B.O.A.C.** (then known as **Imperial Airways**) — inaugurated the first Regular Airmail service between England and South Africa, the journey taking 13 days to Cape Town. In the space of those twenty years incredible strides have been made in the acceleration of services; various types of aircraft have been used; new routes and Feeder services opened, and International competition for supremacy has had to be met. Great Britain can therefore be justifiably proud of having raced ahead of her com-

petitors in the field of civil aviation by the introduction of the de Havilland Comets, in use by B.O.A.C., which cruise some 200 m.p.h. faster than any other civil aircraft.

It is doubtful whether the air passenger of 1952, reclining and dining in luxury six miles above the African Continent, gives even a passing thought to the hardships which preceded the introduction of the air services now running with clockwork precision to the most distant parts of the world in only a fraction of the time required a few years ago:—

Inaugural Flight	Terminus of Service	Types of Plane used in Africa. Route.	Approximate Overall Time.
*20.1.1932	Cape Town	Argosy, Calcutta F/B. and Hercules. (Central Africa)	13 days.
26.4.1933	Cape Town	Atalanta (Central Africa)	10 days.
11.4.1934	Cape Town	Atalanta (Central Africa)	9 days.
16.5.1935	Cape Town	Atalanta (Central Africa)	8 days.
24.3.1936	Germiston.	Atalanta (Central Africa)	7 days.
2.6.1937	Durban.	Empire Flying Boats (East Coast)	6 days.
*10.11.1945	Germiston.	Avro "York" (Central Africa).	2½ days
11. 5.1948	Vaaldam.	"Solent" Flying Boats (Great Lakes)	4½ days
7.11.1950	Palmietfontein	Hermes (West Africa).	30 hours
* 2. 5.1952	Palmietfontein	COMET I (Central Africa and Lebanon)	Under 24 hours

The present route of the Comet is via Rome (927m.) — Beirut (1,420m.) — Khartoum (1,360 m.) — Entebbe (1,090m.) — Livingstone (1,318 m.) to Johannesburg (609m.), the total distance of 6,724m. being covered in under 24 hours, or some 18 hours flying time. B.O.A.C. predict that this time will be further reduced to 21 hours

in the near future, when the political situation permits their planes landing at Cairo instead of at Beirut.

***Note:** Souvenir envelopes to commemorate these events were issued by Imperial Airways, British Airways and B.O.A.C. respectively.

I. H. C. GODFREY.

COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA.
POSTMASTER-GENERAL'S DEPARTMENT
Treasury Gardens,
Melbourne, C.2.

Dear Sir,

AUSTRALIA-SOUTH AFRICA DIRECT AIR MAIL SERVICE.

Air mail fees per half ounce for the first flight on the new Australia-South Africa service, to be operated by Quantas Empire Airways, leaving Sydney, Australia, for Johannesburg, South Africa, via Cocos Island and Mauritius on Monday, 1st September, 1952, will be:—

1. Australia to Cocos Island — one way, 6½d.; return covers 1/1.
 2. Australia to Mauritius or South Africa — one way, 2/-; return covers 4/-.
 3. Cocos to Australia — one way, 6½d.; return covers 1/1.
 4. Cocos to Mauritius or South Africa—one way 2/-; return covers 4/-.
- (Australian currency in each case).

The special philatelic facility for the first flight will be available for letters addressed only to Cocos Island, Mauritius and South Africa, for letters for return to Australia via one or other of

these three points and for letters posted at Cocos for Australia, Mauritius, South Africa or for return to Cocos by one or other of these three points.

Every article must bear the endorsement "Australia-South Africa, First Regular Direct Air Mail" close to the inscription "BY AIR MAIL".

All articles intended for despatch by this Service must reach the Superintendent of Mails, General Post Office, Sydney, Australia, not later than noon on September 1st, 1952.

Quantas Empire Airways will print commemorative envelopes for the flight and will service covers for residents of overseas countries. Details may be secured from offices and agents of the company in all parts of the world.

A special cachet measuring about 2in. x 1½in. will be impressed on the lower left part of all covers carried.

Yours faithfully,

P. VANTHOFF.

Director-General.

(A successful trial flight took place from Sydney to Johannesburg on July 25-29.—Ed.)

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CORONATION STAMPS.

Rumours are busy as to the issue of stamps for the Queen's coronation, the general impression so far being that there will be one special low value in Britain and in each of the colonies. Query. The same monotonous design throughout?

THE FIRST POSTAGE STAMP.

A claimant has arisen that the first postage stamp was not the Penny Black in 1840, but one issued in 1839 by the postmaster of Spittal in Carinthia (Austria). At the moment we will merely echo the advice given by "Le Philatelist Belge" as to this claim—**Be Prudent.**

NEW ZEALAND.

We have received Bulletin No. 2 about the International Stamp Exhibition to be held in Auckland in July 1955. Preparations are going ahead; amongst other things they have publicity covers drawn by Mr. J. Berry which are claimed to be the finest yet produced in N.Z.

It has been announced that this year's Health Stamps (values 1½d. plus ½d. and 2d. plus 1d.) will bear portraits of Prince Charles and Princess Anne.

CANADA.

The International Red Cross opened at Toronto on 26 July was honoured by the issue of a special 4c stamp of a simple, yet very effective, design. Most of the stamp is blue, from engraved plates, the cross in the top left alone being in red, added to the design by offset printing.

KENYA

Total sales of the Royal Visit stamps are announced by the Crown Agents as being 1,020,044 for the 10c. stamp and 320,409 for the 1/- stamp.

B.E.A. AND UGANDA.

In the May issue of "The Philatelist" Dr. W. E. Flood has a first instalment of an article on the Postal History and early cancellations of these territories. This portion includes the early postmarks of Mombasa (going back to 1891) and other offices in the original B.E.A. and in the East African Protectorate up to 1910 and he certainly adds a lot to the eleven listed in Robson Lowe's Encyclopaedia.

BASUTOLAND.

"Stamp Collector" reports that a new printing was released on 14 May. The 1d. is slightly paler, the 2d. lighter in shade and a mauve-purple rather than the original red-purple, the 4d. a lighter slate-grey, but the 1/- shows the most marked shade change. It is on thinner paper and is very dull and pale compared with all previous printings.

PHILIPPINES.

The Bureau of Posts announces the issue of new 2c. Postal Cards on 19 June, coinciding with the 91st anniversary of the birth of Dr. Jose Rizal.

Pan-Asian Exhibition.

We have received a copy of the Rules of this exhibition to be held in Manila on Nov. 16-22. Also an entry form which we could send to any reader wishing to exhibit. It may be mentioned that there are only 4 classes (a) Asian countries in general (with 12 classes); (b) Philippine Islands; (c) Rest of the world; (d) Specialities (Postal History, Philatelic Literature and Topics).

SOME NEW ISSUES.

New Hebrides. A new issue of some eleven values in both the English and the French series is announced but no date is yet given.

United Nations. Already a "Commemorative" is announced for 24 October, United Nations Day. It will be a 5c. featuring the Veterans' War Memorial where the charter was signed on 6 June, 1945.

Belgian Congo. A definitive set of 22 denominations is in preparation to show the country's flora. Six were put on sale on 20 May.

German Republic. A 20 pf. stamp is to be issued in honour of the return of Heligoland to Germany.

France. On 29 May a 30 fr. stamp commemorating the battle of Narvik in 1940, the last occasion in which regular French troops put up armed resistance in Europe till 1945.

On 14 June a 30 fr. stamp commemorating the battle of Bir Hakeim in 1942, when a small force under the leadership of Gen. Koenig successfully held up the German and Italian forces.

On 21 June a 15 fr. stamp for the 14th Centenary of the Abbey of the Holy Cross at Poitiers.

A JAMES CHALMERS DISCOVERY.

The "British Philatelist" (Messrs. Chas. Nissen & Co.) announces the discovery of a document addressed to the Lords of the Treasury on 30 Sept. 1839 which goes a long way towards proving the claim of James Chalmers to be the proposer of adhesive postage stamps (though he calls them **stamped slips**) for use in Rowland Hill's scheme of uniform penny postage sanctioned to come into effect in 1840.

S. RHODESIA.

That there will be special commemorative issues in S. and N. Rhodesia next year in connection with the Rhodes Centennial celebrations, may be taken as certain. It is now rumoured that there may be a stamp (probably a sixpenny) common to the two Rhodesias and Nyasaland, but so far official confirmation is not forthcoming.

Meter Parcel Franks.

Referring to the note on these in our June issue, Mrs. M. Cawood states they were recorded in the bulletin of the Rhodesian Study Circle of Sept. 1949 as in use in Bulawayo and in Salisbury in December 1949. These records were overlooked when it was stated that these franks had not previously been recorded.

MOBILE POST OFFICES.

In our March issue four new Mobile Post Offices were noted as operating in various towns of the Union. Actually there were seven new ones, all having started on 3 Sept. 1951. We are indebted to the Publicity Officer of the G.P.O. for this information. The complete list of Union Mobile P.O.'s, with their numbers, is as follows:—

- | | |
|--------------------|-----------------------|
| 1. Johannesburg. | 8. Johannesburg. |
| 2. Johannesburg. | 9. Johannesburg. |
| 3. Port Elizabeth. | 10. Cape Town. |
| 4. Cape Town. | 11. Bloemfontein. |
| 5. Cape Town. | 12. Durban. |
| 6. Durban. | 13. East London. |
| 7. Pretoria. | 14. Pietermaritzburg. |

THE
SOUTH AFRICAN PHILATELIST

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SEPTEMBER, 1952.

Whole No. 330.

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 29.4.1952 to 29.7.1952. For the previous list see our June 1952 issue.

Ordinary Pictorial Postage Stamps.

1d.—Job No. 474 contd. On an order for 1,000,000 sheets, a total of 807,956 x 240 has been delivered to date from the same cylinders as before, 6925 (Int.) and 36 (Ext.)

2d.—Job No. 475 contd. On an order for 1,000,000 sheets, a total of 807,935 x 240 has been delivered to date from the same cylinders as before, 6927 (Int.) and 50 (Ext.).

3d.—Job No. 12451 contd. On an order for 120,000 sheets, the number delivered to date is now 60,910 x 120 from the same one colour cylinder as before, No. 17.

6d.—Job No. 12452 contd. On an order for 60,000 sheets, a total of 55,574 x 240 has been delivered and date of final delivery was 2.6.52. Same cylinders as before, 6930 (Int.) and 6 (Ext.)

1/- — Job No. 12453 contd. On an order for 120,000 sheets, 26,914 x 120 have been delivered to date. Same cylinders as before, 6926 (Int.) and 6935 (Ext.).

2/6 — Job No. 12454. On an order for 20,000 sheets, 19,500 x 60 were first delivered on the 20.5.52 and the number increased to 40,572 x 60 on the final delivery date of 27.5.52. New cylinders, Nos. 3 (Int.) and 51 (Ext.), were used for this printing.

Roll Stamps.

1d.—Job No. 478 contd. On an order for (a) 8,000 rolls x 506 and (b) 5,000 rolls x 1,012, the totals delivered to date are now (a) 8,226 rolls and (b) 3,361 rolls. One colour cylinder No. 24, as before.

Air Letter Cards.

6d.—Job No. 3911 contd. On an order for 4,000,000 cards, 1,707,600 were delivered from the one colour cylinder No. 18 and 2,313,000 from the Chambon Printing Machine. Final date of delivery 1.7.52.

Overprinted for Use in S.W.A.

The following quantities were supplied by the P.M.G. and overprinted S.W.A. on a flat bed machine from old formes.

Pictorial Post Cards—1d. Job No. 30430 — 38,400 cards on the 3.6.52.

Air Letter Cards—6d. Job No. 30432—100,800 cards on the 6.5.52.

“Official” Stamps.

The following stamps were supplied by the P.M.G. and overprinted OFFICIAL-OFFISIEEL from the same process blocks as before.

1/- — Job No. 2340. 500 sheets x 120. Date 12.6.52.

Unrecorded Varieties on the 2d. Rotogravure Stamps of 1931-36.

Apropos the notes by Mr. H. J. Anderson on page 98 of our June issue, we have received the following interesting observations from Mr. A. Lichtenstein of Bloemfontein.

“I have before me a bottom half sheet of the Pl. III printing (Handbook No. 38Da) and find the variety illustrated as No. 2 (Anderson’s Retouch) on Stamp No. 1 and 3 (both English) of Row 15, — both stamps showing clearly the break in the guttering in the top left hand corner of the three-windowed right hand wing of the building.”

“I am afraid I cannot detect any trace of a retouch of any kind, and must therefore dismiss the suggestion that illustration No. 2 can be a retouch of the flaws Nos. 1 and 3. On the other hand I think that flaws 1 and 3 are closely related and owe their origin to the intrusion of a piece of paper (or other foreign matter).”

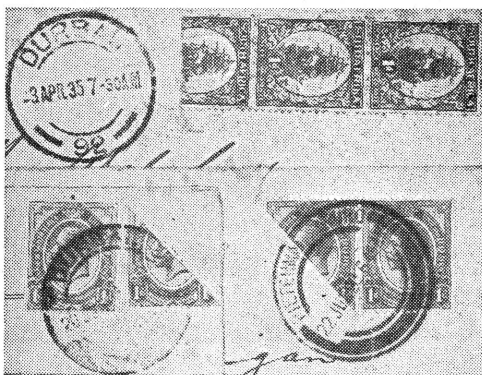
“Many Union collectors will have in their collections a similar flaw, occurring on the unhyphenated 1/- roto, of very similar size. If memory serves me right, the flaw is situated at the left ornamental column of the 1/- stamp from either vertical row 5 or 6 — said flaw being found in any position from the top left to the bottom left corner — and caused by a piece of paper, etc. which kept on shifting its position during the printing of this value, and of which fairly large quantities were printed as it was on sale for many months.”

“As indicated above, a similar piece of paper shifting its position during printing, may have caused the flaws Nos. 1 and 3 of your sketches — the amazing thing being only that it has not been spotted and reported before. However, the distance travelled by the intrusion, as sketch-

ed, could easily have occurred during the printing of say 50 or even a hundred sheets, and the 2d., being the ordinary letter rate at the time, the entire supply of sheets with this flaw may have been used at only one small country P.O. where there was no philatelically minded person to spot them."

Examples of Union "Bisects"

The accompanying illustration shows the stamp portions of three covers which Maj. J. Milligan of Johannesburg has kindly submitted as interesting examples of the use of "bisects" on letters which actually travelled through the post on the dates indicated by the cancellations.



Maj. Milligan mentions in his letter on the subject that though no direct authorization for the use of "bisects" existed at the time, the increase in the letter rate to 1½d., with no three-halfpenny stamps available, quite possibly caught some people short of halfpenny stamps, and with no desire to pay 2d. for the postage, they used the "bisects", which, for the first few days at anyrate, were evidently accepted in Durban and

Pietermaritzburg.

He adds that if the idea was just "a try on", it passed in the towns in question and remembers seeing at a much later date, either in the Cape or the Transvaal, specimens of "bisects", the covers of which bore the under-stamped mark, "TAX 1d." In this regard, he observes that the views of Postmasters on the use of "bisects", under emergency conditions, can differ considerably, but when the distance from Head Quarters was great one can quite easily understand that some were accepted for a couple of days or so, and anyhow, "1920 is a long time ago."

The cover bearing the two and one-half penny stamps was loaned to Maj. Milligan by Maj. Norman Welsford of Camps Bay, Cape, for use in the present notes as being of particular interest in the fact that it was posted in Port Elizabeth and dispatched as a Rail Letter. It has a Rail Letter Post label — printed in red, on white — stuck on the back, duly numbered and cancelled, and as mentioned in Maj. Welsford's letter on the matter, it is assumed that the extra penny stamp on the envelope was to cover the charge for letters sent by rail.

Issue of 4d. Pictorial "Native Huts" Stamp in Hyphenated Form.

As we go to press we have been advised by the Publicity Officer of the Philatelic Agency of the Department of Posts and Telegraphs, Pretoria, that a new issue of the 4d. pictorial stamp, depicting the Native Huts, appeared on sale on the 22nd August and it turns out to be the long awaited printing of this denomination with SUID-AFRIKA, on the Afrikaans inscribed stamps, in its **hyphenated** form. As before, it is a one-colour stamp, but produced from the **screened** cylinder No. 103.

The 4d. value was the only one of the pictorial series which was continuing to appear with SUIDAFRIKA unhyphenated and as a matter of interest this is the first time in a matter of sixteen years that the Government Printing Department has found it necessary to employ a new cylinder for the printing of this denomination. The last change in the design took place in 1936 and since then the unscreened cylinder No. 19 has been employed for replenishing stocks of these stamps.

An examination of the new issue shows that apart from the use of the hyphen in SUID-AFRIKA and several small changes in details of the drawing, the design is similar to that of the stamp in vogue for so many years. But the size has been reduced from the previous dimensions of 27½ x 22 mm. to 27 x 21½ mm. — with a consequent increase in the width of the perforation gutters — and a cross-line screen of comparatively fine mesh has been employed in the making of the new cylinder.

Printed, as before, in sheets of 120 (20 rows x 6) with the first stamp on the sheet inscribed in Afrikaans, the watermark of the multiple Springbok's Head is upright and the single cylinder number "103" is imprinted on the right hand margin opposite Row 19. The four marginal arrows, however, have been changed and are now similar in appearance to those found on the sheets of the 2d. PLATE VIII stamps illustrated on page 136 of the Union Handbook/Catalogue.

Like its predecessors, the new stamp is perforated 14 and printed in a shade of chocolate brown, but the redrawn design has resulted in a considerable improvement in the tones, depth and general appearance. The sheet serial numbers on this first printing of the hyphenated 4d. are of the five-numeral type and printed twice, in black, on the right hand margin.

A study of the stamps for varieties has not yet presented itself, but it may be noted that our old friends the "Monkey in the Tree" (Row 2/2) and the "Brown spot on the Rafter" (Row 19/4) of Cylinder No. 19 have naturally disappeared from this new issue.

Varieties in the Current Hyphenated Postage Dues.

Two interesting printing flaws present on stamps of the current 1d., 2d., 3d., and possibly the 6d., postage due stamps, and not previously recorded, have been noted by Mr. R. T. Lilley of Johannesburg.

The first takes the form of a "pole" protruding upwards from the centre of the bottom

ornamental leaves in the frame design, to a point just below the value numeral. It is about 3 mm. long, printed in the same colour as that used for the frames of the different denominations and occurs in the position of Row 8/Stamp 1 of the bottom right hand pane of the sheets. (Note. Though printed in sheets of 240 stamps (20 rows x 12), the Postage Dues are normally issued in quarter-sheets panes of 60 stamps each).

The second variety is in the form of a distinct white spot in the right hand side portion of the frame design and joining together the bottoms of the two letters "A" in the word BETAAL. It occurs in the position of Row 4/Stamp 3 of the same bottom right hand pane of each value.

The "Cross-hatching" Lines on the ½d. Stamps of No. 44C.

Two or three letters recently received from readers indicate that because many specimens of the ½d. "Cross-hatched" issue (Union Cat. No. 44C) do not show the same cross-hatching lines as those visible in the illustration on page 110 of the Union Handbook/Catalogue, and reproduced here for convenience, the items in question may not be those catalogued as No. 44C.



It will assist those in doubt on the matter if it is explained that the illustration of the frame design is a photograph, on a reduced scale, of the actual artist's drawing and therefore all the white cross-hatching lines painted in by the artist on the solid colour portions of the name scroll, vertical columns, horizontal bars and the value panel, are clearly visible. But as explained in the opening paragraphs of the Group 5 Section dealing with this issue — page 109 of the book — the cross-hatching does not always reproduce so clearly and consistently throughout all portions of the stamps in the printing process, but if the feature can be found on any of the heavy coloured parts shown in the photograph, then one can be assured that the stamp is that which has become known as the cross-hatched issue, No. 44C.

Provided, of course, that no "screen" has been employed in the production of the stamp under examination, for it should be pointed out that the cross-hatching lines shown in the illustration of the artist's drawing, were included solely for the purpose of breaking up the solid coloured portions of the design and enabling these areas to be reproduced on the stamps, without the aid of a screen. When a screen is used, the necessity for the white lines falls away, but in the following issue of the ½d. stamps — Cat. No. 44D — where a fine-mesh screened cylinder was employed for printing the frame portion of the stamps, there are distinct indications on many specimens that the same cross-hatched artist's drawing of No. 44C was used again in conjunction with a screen. However, with the aid of a strong magnifying glass there is no difficulty in distinguishing these screened stamps from the unscreened cross-hatched issue.

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HAROLD STROUD,

COLLECTORS OVERSEAS

Concerning new Colonial Issues — do you receive perfect mint? Are your used really superb? Do you wait too long for replies? If not, may I invite you to consider the attached offers and submit a trial order. This morning's mail (Aug. 5th) included orders from U.S.A., Canada, Hong Kong, S. Rhodesia and Cyprus. Most of them were repeat orders. Does it not speak for itself?

BRITISH COLONIAL NEW ISSUE SERVICE.

Mint 10% on face. Used 25% on face. Full details on request.

58 DARWEN STREET,

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1c. to 1 dol. 20c.	13/6	15/6
1c. to 4 dol. 80c.	35/7	41/6

St. Vincent	M.	U.
new 1c. to 10c.	1/3	1/6

Barbados	M.	U.
1942 Centenary	2/1	2/5

Canada	M.	U.
Red Cross 4c.	5d.	5d.
new 20c.	2/-	4d.
new 20c. "G"	2/-	2/-

Jamaica	M.	U.
Jamboree	1/-	1/-
new 3 red	4d.	5d.

BLACKBURN, ENGLAND

Collecting "Butterflies"

By

Dr. K. FREUND.

Now don't get me wrong: It is not my intention to persuade you here to throw your old stamp collection into the dustbin and switch over instead to another old hobby, equally beloved by school boys and professors, namely the collecting of butterflies. I merely would like to suggest to you to give your devotion to both in a happy combination: What about hunting "philatelic" butterflies, i.e. stamps depicting these colourful insects? Once you have started such a "butterfly" collection, you will see how fascinating it is to "catch" and "add specimens" to your collection, some of which are quite "elusive" and do not so easily "flit and fly" about. And if you ask me, I consider it much more humane and less cruel to chase after philatelic butterflies than after real ones. Admittedly, both types have often the common fate to be affixed to a cardboard background, if possible in a display frame. But I hate the sight of specimens having been cruelly pierced with a pin on to a board. A pin stuck between the shoulder blades is not at all a comfortable sight. How more satisfactory is our arrangement of philatelic specimens, neatly attached with mere hinges. And they will never disappoint us, as their colourful pigments will not come off so easily when handling them, as is the case with their original counterparts.

You think, there are only a few negligible specimens in existence? Make a start, and you will see what a representable collection of philatelic butterflies you can build up. To help you in your hunt for philatelic "lepidoptera", here is a "tabulation" of some "species" you can look for in your philatelic "field":

The first specimen is a colourful butterfly, "**Castnia Endesmia**", found in South America. You need not go for a trip so far to catch one; you can find it also in the 1948 "Flora and Fauna" set of Chile (issued in panes of 25 different designs). There you can get hold of 3 specimens, in blue (60c.), in green (2p. 60c.) and in red (3p.). But I warn you, they are elusive.

Another striking butterfly is depicted on the 1 cent (black) of the 1949 pictorial set of Sarawak. Its name is "**Troides Brookiana**", also known as "Raja Brooke's Birdwing". Its wing span is often over six inches, and the wings are covered with peacock blue-green scales. It is found mainly on the Koyan River. Get a block of four of it, it is an easy catch.

The next specimens you should try to catch are of a "night butterfly", the common "**Silk Moth**" ("**Bembyx mori**"). There are six specimens (values) in existence in the 1930 "Silk Congress" set of Lebanon. The design shows not only the Moth, but also the earlier stages of its transformation, the Silk-worm, Larva and Cocoon.

On the same album page you may add also the 20 Din. value of the 1950 "Zoological set" of Trieste where you can see some more Silk-worms, realistically squirming and crawling, and a Cocoon.

"**Dragonflies**" ("**Diplaces elisae**") are usually included in butterfly collections for their large wings and brightly coloured appearance. In the 1923 imperf. set of Japan, on the 10s. brown and on the 20s. blue, we can see a fine pair of Japanese "Libellae". They appear to have only one pair of wings, while the more common varieties have usually two pairs of filmy wings.

Next on our list are the eight beautiful Butterflies appearing in the "Pro Juventute" sets of Switzerland of 1950 and 1951. All these beauties are shown in their natural colours, with a background design of the plants or foliage they prefer. Every specimen can be found "flying in formations of four", or philatelically speaking you can collect them in strips of four with the sheet margins attached which give their names in each case in Latin, German, French and Italian. That gives you, in all, another 32 specimens for your collection. First, here are the four specimens of the 1950 set:

On the 10c. plus 10c. of this set, we see the magnificent "**Red Admiral**" ("**Pyrameis atalanta**"). This striking butterfly is quite common in Europe. Its velvety black wings with the orange stripes stretch from 2 to 3 inches across.

The 20c. plus 10c. value shows the "**Blue Underwing**" ("**Catocala fraxini**"). This pretty Moth is also found in Europe, although it is very elusive. With its wing span of 4 inches, it is one of the largest Moths in existence.

The 30c. plus 10c. value depicts a life-like "**Honey-Bee**" ("**Apis mellifica**") which the Swiss seem to have promoted to the rank of butterfly.

On the highest value of this set, the 40c. plus 10c., a "**Sulphur Butterfly**" ("**Colias palaeno**") can be seen. Although there are many similar lemon-coloured species in Europe, this particular chap is found only in Lapland and Siberia.

In the 1951 set, we find a "**Dragonfly**" ("**Calopteryx splendens**") on the 10c. value. You see, we were right in including Dragonflies. This particular "damsel-fly" has some pretty blue bands across its two pairs of wings.

The 20c. of this set show the "**Swallow-tail Butterfly**" ("**Papilio podalirius**") of truly magnificent appearance. Its black-streaked yellow colouring and its swallow-tailed underwings are of striking beauty.

The "**Aurora Butterfly**" ("**Anthocharis cardamine**"), appearing on the 30c. value, got its name through its orange wing-tips which remind one of the sunset.

Lastly, the ubiquitous "**Emperor Moth**" ("**Saturnia pyri**"), on the 40c., is no less attractive, with its colourful and vivid eye-spots on all four wings.

Once we have given into the Swiss idea of including Bees in a butterfly collection, we might as well continue in this strain and pick up some more **Bees**. Do not worry, you will not get "stung" unless you overpay for them. There is quite a swarm of Bees humming about in the philatelic garden. On the 3 Din. value of the already mentioned Trieste set of 1950 we see 3 Bees realistically hovering over their honey-cells. The Agricultural set of Bulgaria of 1941 has two stamps, a 30s. green and a 30s. orange, showing a Bee-keeper busy with his bees and modern wooden bee-hives with honey-cell plates.

A straw-covered Bee-hive and swarming bees can be seen on the 15s. blue of the Bulgarian 1940 set. The Savings Bank set of the same country of 1946 depicts also a large bee-hive — in most catalogues wrongly stated to be a money-box — with bees visibly swarming about. A small bee-hive, the symbol of saving, has been included in the design of the Savings Bank stamp of Hungary of 1916. In the same manner, Finland has issued also a Post Office Savings Bank stamp in a 10 mk. value, in 1947, depicting the symbolic Bee-hive.

For those who like to digress and to add also other specimens of flying insects to their philatelic-entomological collection, here are a few nice creatures to have around: A fierce-looking **Beetle**, "*Chiasognatus Grantii*", is presented in the mentioned "Flora and Fauna" set of Chile 1948 (3 values). — A "**Praying Mantis**" ("*Mantis Gaylori*") appears in the same set in its characteristic pose. — **Mosquitoes** ("*Aedes Egypci*") can be found (if you really miss them) on stamps of Mexico and Panama. The 1c. "Anti-Malaria" stamp of Mexico 1939 shows an outside specimen attacking a helpless poor man, while the 5c. value of the 1949 set of Panama presents a similar spindly monster.

But let us hasten back to our more pleasant Butterflies. On several stamps, Butterflies flit about, which are of a more nondescript species. One can be seen on the charming 300 k. Charity stamp of Hungary 1924, leading the way for a little nude child tripping through the meadows. It is a real Hollywood cartoon setting in true "Walt Disney" style. Another charming Butterfly approaches a girl's face in playful mood, on the 20c. and 7c. stamp of the Child Welfare set of Holland 1950, while the 2 and 3c. value of the same set shows a child playing with two Bees, apparently none the worse for it. Butterflies seem to enjoy the company of playing children, as another stamp, the 40f. of the Children's Day set of Hungary 1951, also illustrates to us.

Do not overlook the three little mischievous Butterflies on the 15 f. stamp of France 1951, issued in commemoration of the vagabond-poet Rimbaud. You can clearly see them chasing each other in the background above the left shoulder of the poet.

Official First Day covers, issued in connection with the Child Welfare sets of Holland 1950 and of Switzerland 1950 and 1951, all have charming pictorial designs which contain also beautiful specimens of large Butterflies.

"Butterfly" postmarks should certainly be included in our collection. There are the early U.S.A. postmark "choppers" which had various pictorial motives, amongst them the silhouette of a "butterfly". If you are lucky, you might even acquire some of the classic and unusual "Butterfly" postmarks of early Victoria.

You can look forward to add many more Butterflies to your collection at the end of the year. Switzerland is expected to continue the series in her yearly Pro Juventute issue. It is reported also that the Portuguese Colony of Mozambique, following the success of her set of "Fishes", intends to issue a large set of Butterflies in similar style and extent, and orders

for such stamps are said to have been given already to a printing firm in Holland.

In case you are still not satisfied with the extent of your "Butterfly" collection, here are a few tips how to add some more pages and at the same time give it "that extra charm and lustre": Make some "introductory" pages which incidentally every decent stamp collection should have. For instance, make a page "Flowers and Butterflies belong together—", showing a few picked with attractive flowers. Or what about an introductory page "Gardens and Fields where Butterflies abound—", showing some suitable stamp as for instance the "Fresh Air Crusade" stamp of France 1945, where you can see two children running through the fields and birds (and butterflies?) flying in the sky.

A real "piece de resistance" would be the following page: Get hold of a real butterfly, remove wings when dead (the dead state refers to the poor butterfly not to you), affix the wings very carefully with stamp hinges in correct position on a piece of white cardboard, sketch the insect body between the wings in black ink, enclose the whole piece in cellophane and affix it in the centre of your album page. There you have a marvellous "frontispiece", no comment required.

A page showing portrait stamps of some Entomologists or Lepidopterists should round up the collection. In case you don't know who these gruesome tongue-twisting foreigners are, they refer to scientists who have busied themselves with butterflies. A good example is **Buffon**, a French zoologist who lived from 1707 to 1788 and who is depicted on the 12f. stamp of the "Famous Frenchmen" set, France 1949. **Buffon** was Director of the King's Garden and Museum and wrote volumes on the study of butterflies. I believe you can find some Entomologists also among the scientists portrayed on Russian stamps. Anyway, if you have got hold of an Entomologist, affix him also to your album page. Make a suitable inscription below the old gentleman: "This is not a butterfly but the famous French Zoologist Buffon who made a study of Butterflies."

Can you find any further "species" for your philatelic "butterfly" collection? Happy hunting and chasing!



Madame "Butterfly".

Railway Parcel & Newspaper Service

by
A. HILTON SYDOW and J. H. HARVEY PIRIE

(Continued from Page 143 of August Issue)

10. South African Railways, 9th issue, earliest recorded cancellation, 13 May, 1948.

The Set.

- 1d. Blue.
- 2d. Violet.
- 3d. Blue-green.
- 4d. Grey.
- 5d. Reddish Buff.
- 6d. Salmon.
- 9d. Emerald.
- 1s. Yellow-orange.
- 2s. Maroon.
- 2/6 Greenish Blue.
- 5s. Yellow.
- 10s. Sepia.
- f1 Ultramarine.



The Station Code Letters and the Values are all in shiny black ink.

The Design.

The background comprises very minute lettering or text in colour made of the words "South African Railways and Harbours" in English and "Suid-Afrikaanse Spoorwee en Hawens" in Afrikaans. On the stamps the text appears in minute lettering but on the original Master Design they are drawn in large lettering. The Master Design was about 12in. x 11in. and contained three tablets. See Fig. 2. The Tablet marked "A" showed the tablet with the Letters "S.A.R." in white on a black background. The Tablet marked "B" showed the tablet with the letters "PARCELS STAMP" in white on black ground. The central tablet contained the lettering referred to afore. This design was photographed and a Master Negative obtained, say Master Negative "E". Another tablet was prepared with the lettering "S.A.S." in white on a black background. This tablet was then superimposed on the "S.A.R." tablet on the Master Design, in the space marked "A" on the said figure. A further tablet was drawn with white text "PAKKET-SEEL" on a black background. This tablet was then superimposed on the "PARCELS STAMP" table in the space marked "B" on the figure. Another Master Negative say Master Negative "A" was also obtained in the same way. The two Master Negatives were then placed side by side in a Plate Holder of the Step and Repeat

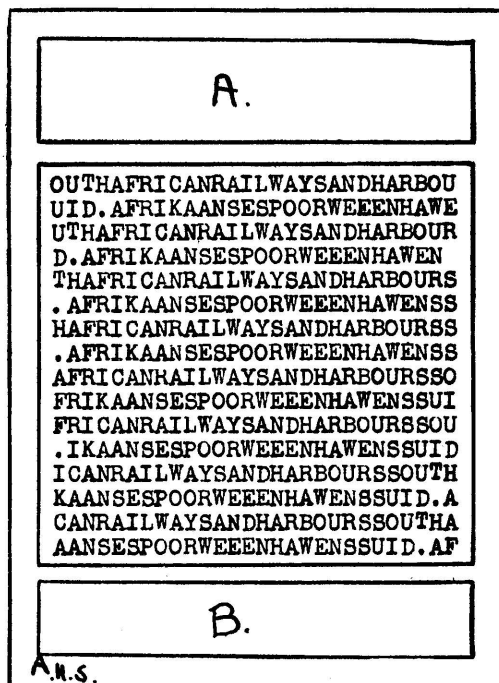


Fig. 2.

Camera and a Diapositive obtained which contained 120 stamp images in ten horizontal rows of twelve each. Two carbon tissue sheets of 120 images each were obtained from the said Diapositive and 240-set cylinder prepared (2 panels of 120 each). See Figure 3. The sheets of stamps were printed in 240-set, but they were issued in 120-set to the Railway Stations. Each issued sheet had one set of Cyclometer Numbers. Of course, a 240-set printed sheet had two sets of 4-figure cyclometer numbers on each right-hand margin, see figure 3 with cyclometer Nos. 4518 and 4518. On each sheet of all the thirteen denominations a coloured horizontal line appeared in the space between the two panels below the eleventh vertical row marked "X" on Fig. 3. A small horizontal line in colour was also shown on all sheets of all denominations below vertical row 12 of the lower panel — see Fig. 3. marked "Y".

On each stamp, the central tablet shows 16 horizontal rows of text in very minute text. See Fig. 2. Each stamp contains this 16-row, alternate English-Afrikaanse Text irrespective of whether the top and bottom Tablets are in English or in Afrikaans, i.e. S.A.R. and PARCELS STAMP or S.A.S. and PAKKET-SEEL.

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
1	A	E	A	E	A	E	A	E	A	E	A	E
2	●	●							A	E	A	E
3									A	E	A	E
4									A	E	A	E
5									A	E	A	E
6									A	E	A	E
7									A	E	A	E
8									A	E	A	E
9									A	E	A	E
10	A	E	A	E	A	E	A	E	A	E	A	E

A.H.S.

X → —

1	A	E	A	E	A	E	A	E	A	E	A	E
2	●	●							A	E	A	E
3									A	E	A	E
4									A	E	A	E
5									A	E	A	E
6									A	E	A	E
7									A	E	A	E
8									A	E	A	E
9									A	E	A	E
10	A	E	A	E	A	E	A	E	A	E	A	E

Fig. 3.

Printing.

The stamps, i.e., designs without figures of values were printed by the screened rotogravure process. A cross-line screen was used. The serrulated or saw-tooth effect can easily be discerned through a magnifier on the outer framed line and on the text itself.

Paper.

The paper employed was the usual Springbok-head Multiple paper as used for the ordinary postage stamps. They also occur on unwater-marked paper. The stamps are perforated 15 x 14.

Figures of Value.

The figures of value, i.e., numeral, letter and stop, were printed by letterpress or typographed from zinco-typed plates in shiny black ink. The typographic characteristics, namely, slightly raised portions in reverse of the numerals, letters and stops, on the gummed sides of the stamps are clearly discerned. Likewise also the letterpress initials printed typographically below the figures of value representing the name of the particular station where the stamps are used.

The zincotype plate numerals, letters and stops were derived from 30-point Ludlow Tenpo type

— made by the American Typograph Company. Figure No. 3 shows a full set of numerals — 30 point Ludlow — together with the £, symbol, the “s” and the “d”. For the 2/6 denomination only the Ludlow Compressed Type was used. Fig. 4 shows the exact size of the Type used as Masters.

£123456
7890

AHS Sd

Fig. 4.

Of course, of the set of type figures illustrated the numerals 7 and 8 were not utilised.

Language Setting of Designs.

There is no alternation of language setting on the sheets as in the case of some of the postage and revenue stamps of the Union. On both upper and lower panels Vertical Rows 1, 3, 5, 7, 9 and 11 are Afrikaans inscribed with S.A.S. and PAKKET POSSEEL. The stamps of Vertical Rows 2, 4, 6, 8, 10 and 12 are inscribed in English, viz. S.A.R. and PARCEL STAMP. See “A” and “E” columns in Fig. 3. The miniature text of course alternates bilingually.

Note 1. Up to now only one cylinder has been used for all the 13 denominations—i.e. one design cylinder only — design cylinder means cylinder with the three tablets only and not black numeral overprints which for the sake of convenience we may call “OVERPRINT CYLINDERS”.

Note 2. Four denominations, 1d., 2d., 9d. and 1s., have been seen with “NATIVE” or “NATUREL” (on the English or Afrikaans stamps respectively) printed in small black block capitals reading upwards on the left-hand side of the stamps, but what the signification or purport of this is, we do not know.

III.—General Notes.

These were given us by a Station-Master and are of interest:—

Revenue from forwarded paid parcels is accounted for on the S.A.R. by Parcels Stamps attached to the relative waybills. This revenue is checked by the daily stamp balance at the forwarding station. The receiving station is equally responsible for seeing that the correct amount of stamps has been put on the waybills. Pen or pencil lines drawn through used parcels stamps indicates efficient checking.

Parcels stamps are not affixed to waybills of parcels going outside the Union borders, nor is traffic coming in from outside the Union stamped. Foreign stamps are therefore not received in the Union.

Parcel stamps are requisitioned for and supplied only once a year normally; they are supplied in full sheets in the case of values up to 1/- and in half or quarter sheets for the higher denominations. Because stamps are only supplied in these quantities some of the smaller

stations may carry a stock of an earlier printing for as many as twenty years, especially in the case of the higher values. Dates of cancellation are therefore not always a good guide to the dates of issue.

The stamps are supplied by the Chief Accountant at Johannesburg.

They are not readily obtainable by the public as they are not sold to them. They are destroyed under supervision after the first audit has taken place, when the relative documents are at least three years old. Perhaps it should be said that they are all supposed to be destroyed, but some appear to escape and somehow find their way into the hand of these strange people — stamp collectors — even if they are not strictly speaking 'postage' stamps.

In some countries — Belgium, for instance — stamps used in precisely the same manner as the South African Railways Parcel Stamps, are collected by the Government and sold to stamp dealers or the public.

We might commend the selling of mint stamps from Railway Headquarters to collectors, as well as of used stamps. It might prove to be quite a good source of income to the Railway Administration as we feel sure that Union collectors would find these stamps a very interesting adjunct to their postage stamps if they could be obtained by direct, instead of only by devious, routes as at present.

O.V.S. NUMERAL POSTMARKS.

Mr. A. Cecil Fenn writes from Sutton Coldfield, England:

I was very interested to read Mr. P. Smits' article on the numeral postmarks of the Orange Free State in your recent issues, and would like to make the following comments:

He states "A sheet with imprints of the 11 bar oval cancellers with numerals 1 to 38 and 39 to 60." I have a very highly specialised collection running into 15 volumes, and have handled thousands of stamps, but I have never come across any 11-bar ovals only 1 and 20 and upwards. Has any other specialist come across 2 to 19 other than in 16 bar?

He also states No. 35 in 6 bar. Should this read 11 bar?

I have recorded that No. 26 in Brandfort, 27 Hoopstad and 48 Holfontein. (Mr. Smits has also recorded these in his further note in the August issue.—Ed.)

In my collection and another one I have access to are also Nos. 42, 47, 53 and 56, the latter is in my own lot and is in purple.

Regarding the Annexure "B". He states that the letter cancellers have 16 bars but I think this is an error for 11 bars, as I have them all bar G, H, U, V and Z, and they are all in 11 bars. Has any collector the above letters I am short? (Mr. Smits has also corrected the error about the letter cancellers; they are all 11-barred.—Ed.)

I have recorded the "X" is Vrede, and although I have no information that they were used on Newspapers I have one on a shilling orange with "T.F." overprint, and also one in red. Has this latter any significance?

Perhaps you would include this letter in your paper and see what information it brings forth.

R. T. LILLEY

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REVIEW

De Nederlandse Interneringszegels. By K. E. König. Published by the Foundation "Philateliskring Amsterdam". 32 pages printed on art paper and fully illustrated. Price 1g. 50ct. Limited edition of 500 copies.

Apart from the Nederlands specialist catalogue and the publication of Michel and Zumstein, the Internment Camp Stamps of Holland do not figure in the stamp catalogues of other well-known stamp dealers. Even in Holland, the country of origin, not much was known of their status and history until the author of the above-mentioned booklet started his investigation, the first results of which were published in the "Nederlands Maandblad voor Philatelie" in 1948 with further contributions from time to time.

The complete series of articles was issued in the present form as a contribution to serious philately by the Foundation "Philatelic Circle Amsterdam" in honour of its first "Lustrum" (5 years' existence). It is evident from its contents that the author has taken immense pains to ensure that the information contained in the booklet is as free from doubt as possible, a task made more formidable by the lapse of time between the period of use and the period of investigation.

Having marshalled his facts, the author presents his case for the acceptance of at least one of the two stamps as a collectable item in a specialised Netherlands collection. Briefly told, the facts establish that the stamps were printed by the Steam Printing Works of J. R. van den Berg of Amsterdam as sub-contractor to J. van Boekhoven of Utrecht on an order placed by the Internment Service at the instance of the Commander in Chief of Internment Camps. The necessity for the stamps arose out of a complaint by the German occupation Authorities in Belgium that the volume of post was becoming unmanageable. It was decided to limit correspondence to two letters per month per internee and to ensure this the expedient of using stamps offered an easy solution. As a deterrent to traffic in the stamps they were sold to internees at ½ cent each. As a further control measure it was also decided to issue these stamps in different colours every month.

The first stamp, in green, was issued to internees in the beginning of February, 1916, and letters bearing these stamps were forwarded for delivery by the postal authorities. Alas for the

success of the scheme, the Germans objected to the stamps on the score of its size and the possibility of concealed messages. All the letters were returned to Holland and eventually to the senders. The stamps for March, in a different design and colour (brown), had already been printed and distributed but due to the German objection were never used.

In considering the status of the stamps a salient point is a service Order (No. 49) dated 3.2.1916 published by the Post and Telegraph Authorities giving notice of their intended issue by the Military Authorities. The Order further contained an instruction concerning the date stamping of the postal articles bearing the stamps, viz. that such date Stamp was to be placed partly on the "etiquette" and partly on the article. A further stamped impression indicating that the article was post free was to be placed thereon.

The greatest difficulty the author experienced was tracing the printer and designer. It was only after a great deal of correspondence (some 200 letters were written during the investigation) and visiting, this information was obtained and the story was complete.

The stamp was superseded by a card designed and printed by the Germans and supplied against payment to the Netherlands Government. These are illustrated together with examples of the work of the designer of the stamps A. P. W. van Starrenburg, in other directions.

The author has presented his case in a very able manner and there would seem to be no doubt that in time the stamps will obtain general catalogue rank.

In addition to the story of the stamps, the booklet contains information on the postmarks to be found, the camps themselves and a note of warning on the existence of forgeries, manufactured items and the like. J.W.S.

CORONATION ISSUES.

We have not yet heard what it is proposed to do in Great Britain in the way of Coronation stamps, but there are several indications that the British Colonial series will be one stamp per colony of low or moderate value. We trust this is true and that the unfortunate occurrence of the Silver Wedding series will not be repeated.

Dominion intentions have also so far not been announced. There has been a report in the local press of a request for a semi-postal health stamp for the occasion. This we fancy will not receive much support from philatelists.

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Editor,
"S.A. Philatelist."
Sir:

A VAN RIEBEECK ERROR.

Those who collect errors on stamps must now add the 1/- van Riebeeck to their collection. This stamp simply teems with errors.

To begin with it is officially described as "The Landing of van Riebeeck at the Cape" by Charles Bell. It is nothing of the sort. It represents the visit of Herry the Strandlooper to van Riebeeck. This occurred at the end of April 1652, whereas van Riebeeck arrived on the 6th April and landed the next day. Bell did indeed paint a picture portraying the landing. This picture portraying the landing. This picture was ture was exhibited at the first Fine Arts Exhibition in Cape Town in 1851, but it has since been apparently lost.

The painting is full of anachronisms. This of course is the fault of the artist. The stamp designer is innocent here.

The hat and collar of van Riebeeck as shown in the painting did not come into fashion in Holland, at the earliest, before 1658. But the event portrayed, as already stated, took place at the end of April 1652. The lower half of the coat is in the fashion of Cromwell's England, rather than that of the Dutch of the middle of the 17th Century.

Van Riebeeck is shown with a long cane rather than with the Commander's short staff as portrayed in all extant contemporary paintings. It is more than likely that on such an occasion as painted, the Commander would have carried his staff of authority.

The two soldiers on the right of van Riebeeck are wearing the uniform of half a century earlier than the period concerned.

The flag is much larger than the Dutch flags of the period.

I am obliged to Prof. D. Bax of Cape Town University and to Dr. R. van Luttervelt, keeper of the Ryksmuseum, Amsterdam for all the information above.

Yours, etc.,
J. W. HARRIS.

Editorial Note. Knowing how thoroughly the Postal Authorities and the Central Van Riebeeck Committee investigated the historical side of Van Riebeeck's landing, etc., this letter was submitted to the former for their comments.

It is admitted there are two schools of thought about the painting. In J. Brugge and A Smith's Pictorial Atlas it is described as "Van Riebeeck and the Hottentots". On the other hand it is fairly generally accepted that the picture is an interpretation, made by Bell in 1850, of Van Riebeeck's landing. The offloading of boats (as seen in the background) supports this view, which is accepted by the historian Thiël, by Mr. de Kock of the Cape Archives, and by the State Information Office, amongst others.

That there may be anachronisms in dress is quite possible.

This is the sum and substance of the reply received from the Department, and they are not prepared here to indulge in any lengthy discussion.

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SOCIETY NEWS

PRETORIA PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

At this Society's bi-monthly meeting held on the 2nd June, the members were treated to a Philatelic Discussion Forum, presided over as Question Master by Mr. D. Slater Kinghorn. The four members taking part were Dr. T. Berry, Dr. H. Reisener, Mr. W. Newlands and Mr. E. C. Wright. Discussion points included the following: "In view of the penchant of many South Africa philatelists to collect horizontal pairs of Union stamps in the past, and the attendant difficulties, do you consider the decision in the new Union Handbook to regard both horizontal and vertical pairs of equal value, as equitable?; Apart from thematic collecting, do you consider the inclusion of papers, documents, drawings, etc. serves any useful purpose?; Is it considered that interest in perforation and colour printing varieties of modern British Colonial stamps will be maintained?; Views are invited on the merits and investment possibilities of collecting foreign stamps as applied to collectors in South Africa." Very keen discussion took place and many opinions were expressed which gave members both information and food for thought.

The second meeting of the month, held two weeks later, was the annual event of Vice-President's Evening, which fell to the organising of Mr. P. Gain as holder of that office. Those who contributed talks and/or exhibits for this event were Mr. Obermeyer (Holland, an exhibit rich in classics and superb as to condition and extent); Mr. Newlands (Cheque stamps of Nyasaland — a small but unusual and well presented collection); Mr. E. C. Wright (a fine selection of general British Empire postal stationery); Mr. L. C. Dodd (some very interesting early South African Revenues); Mr. Chowles' representative selection of Cape rectangulars and triangulars, and Mr. Ford's fine collection of mint Southern Rhodesians. These varied contributions were all appreciated and the Vice-President congratulated on the success of his special evening.

The President, Mr. F. C. Ferguson, presided at the meeting held on the 7th July, when the Society enjoyed a special event in being shown its own collection of Union issues, by the Curator, Dr. H. Reisener. It was announced that this collection, now much expanded and more specialised than when last seen at a Society meeting, and consequently of increased interest and value, was available to members for reference purposes. Dr. Reisener's explanatory talk and the well defined variations constituting the nearly complete collection, were found to be so intensely absorbing that the evening passed all too quickly. The Society is indebted to its Curator for a very fine effort in making this collection so nearly perfect. He was warmly thanked for exhibiting it, and for coping patiently with a flood of questions from viewers.

On the 21st July, Mr. Ferguson presided over a meeting that was unusual in that no paper was read but the major event was confined to an exhibit. Mr. H. Bond had sent for display his very comprehensive collection of Royal Visit records — stamps (including all variations), cancellations throughout the Tour, covers, photographs, timetables and construction plans for the Royal Train, and so forth — all exceptionally annotated and written up. It is a monument to patient research and much resource in finding many items which are unusual even to other collectors of Royal Visit data. Mr. Brown, who brought the exhibit, was asked to convey to Mr. Bond the meeting's thanks and appreciation of the opportunity of seeing it.

The President reminded members that the following meeting, to be held on 4th August, would be the annual Ladies' Evening, and the meeting closed with an auction.

The advance programme of the two meetings of this Society held in August promised attractive events, and so they proved to be.

The annual "Ladies' Evening" was held on the 4th of the month, when almost too much good material was presented for adequate study in the time available. Mrs. I. A. Betzler read a comprehensive paper on the stamp issues of post-war Germany, i.e. since the use of Hitler stamps was forbidden in 1945. The complications arising from a multitude of issues emanating from several authorities

and zones make it a very difficult period for which to achieve a complete collection. Mrs. Betzler was able to give wide information on the subject, definitive and commemorative printings and their varieties, including civil and military issues.

Mrs. I. Butler's thematic collection on Music which won a Silver award at the Van Riebeeck exhibition in Cape Town, Miss J. Taylor's complete exhibit of all Queen Elizabeth II stamps issued to date, and Mrs. W. Newlands' very fine almost complete collection of Aden stamps, comprised the other exhibits; all were seen with great interest and the exhibitors were suitably congratulated and thanked.

At the second meeting, presided over by Mr. F. C. Ferguson, and held on the 18th August, Dr. T. Berry delighted the Union enthusiasts with a paper on the Group Allocation of the Springbok Halfpenny Stamp" (excluding coil and booklet stamps). First dividing the complete issue into 8 distinct groups, he classified these groups and showed how they could readily be recognised. Novel blue-print drawings of the main factors added to the listeners' enlightenment of the subject. The paper was followed by Dr. Berry showing his collection of practically every known printing of the ½d. stamp, fully annotated as to group allocation and method of printing and supported by specimens of varieties, shades, controls, arrows, etc. It was an exhibit of absorbing interest, especially to those who, having attempted to study the subject, and perhaps yet yet realised its considerable scope.

When Dr. Berry was warmly thanked for his instructive and helpful contribution to this special field of study, which is of inexhaustible interest to many philatelists, he paid tribute to the assistance he had received during his researches from members of the Pretoria and other Philatelic societies.

Dr. Wassenstein showed, as an item of interest, an experiment in photography by a method which revealed otherwise undetectable variations in fluorescence in the printing of the later issues of the Union ½d. stamps.

The annual "Society Certificate of Merit Competition" will be held at the Pretoria Society's next meeting, to be held on the 2nd September. B.J.V.

PHILATELIC SOCIETY OF JOHANNESBURG.

At the meeting of Aug. 12 Mr. B. Glassman showed an exhibit "You don't see it every day". It was an exhibit built round the United Nations. He showed one issue of each country belonging to the United Nations — with the exception of Saudi Arabia and White Russia. Issues of 5 countries were shown together with the special issue for the United Nations (2 sheets) and the U.S.A. United Nations strip — 6 sheets in all. Some very beautiful stamps were included. Every stamp was in fine mint condition. S. Africa was represented by the Van Riebeeck issue and Great Britain by the current high values.

Rev. W. Loxley Chamings spoke on the exhibit.

At the meeting of August 25th members were asked to bring Thematic Exhibits. Mr. Froelich showed an exhibit of "birds" illustrating the use of birds and winged animals as symbols. The exhibit was a most interesting one and showed great ingenuity.

He introduced his exhibit by a page and pointed out how man through history had regarded birds as symbols e.g. the dove as peace, the owl is wisdom, etc.

Mr. E. Joseph showed flowers well arranged in classes. Rev. W. Loxley Chamings showed "faces" arranged in groups of lawyers, educationalists, liberators, scientists, composers, poets, dramatists, kings, etc.

Mr. Seligman showed "Science", beautifully arranged and illustrated with neat drawings. Each stamp was well described.

Mr. Duigan showed "Paris" including a beautifully drawn map, and full notes on each stamp.

Mr. L. Buchen spoke on the birds of Mr. Froelich.

Mr. Isaacs spoke on Mr. Chamings' collection.

Mr. Kupferman spoke on the flowers of Mr. Joseph.

Mr. Hutton spoke on the Paris of Mr. Duigan.

Dr. Harvey Pirie spoke on Mr. Seligman's "Science".

THE PHILATELIC SOCIETY OF RHODESIA.

The July meeting was held on Monday, July 7th, both the date and venue being changed on account of the Rhodes and Founders' holidays.

We were privileged to have Mr. Arthur V. Jacob of Cape Town visit us, and he brought along a part of his world-famous collection of Southern Rhodesia to entertain us. Among a fine display were an imperforate block of the Falls 3d. blue and a block of four King George V 5/- stamps printed on the gummed side. Also displayed were two copies of the Bechuanaland stamp postmarked "Gubulawayo—Bechuanaland, August 17, 1877." (This is surely a mistake — the only known date so far is Aug. 21, 88.—Ed.) These stamps were used for only one day, as it was realised that Lobengula might take offence at the use of the word "Bechuanaland".

This month's notes are somewhat short as the writer was prevented from attending the meeting by having to work to a late hour.

The monthly meeting was held on July 11th (the second Monday of the month, which is the normal meeting day of the Society).

We were sorry to learn that our Chairman, Rev. Dryden, had left the district, but his duties were most competently performed by our Vice-Chairman, Mr. Rendsburg. After the usual society business, a display was given. All members had been asked to bring two sheets from their respective collections, and several obliged. This gave us an unusual display, which was much appreciated. The rest of the evening was given over to exchanging. F.P.B.H.

AFRIKAANSE FILATELISTIESE VERENIGING.

1 Augustus 1952: Die vyftiende gewone byeenkoms van hierdie vereniging was nie so fluks soos gewoonlik bygewoon nie, maar nogtans het die tiental teenwoordiges 'n baie genotvolle en geslaagde aand gehad.

Vriend Lambert het 'n gedeelte van sy lugpos-versameling, en wel dié oor Frankryk en kolonies, tentoongestel. Omdat hy eers later die aand kon opdaag, het hy 'n voorbereide praatjie oor sy vertoning aangestuur. Die voorsitter het namens hom die praatjie uitgelees. Ons het hierdie vriend al leer ken as 'n versamelaar met baie goeie smaak, en is altoos verseker van iets goeds as hy aanbied om te vertoon. Lid Moch het sy vertonings bespreek, die uitstaller bedank en die hoop uitgespreek dat hy ons gou weer op 'n soortgelyke klompie goed sal trakteeer.

Een van die lede van wie ons groot dinge te wagte is, het die byvertoning verskaf. Hy is vriend Achterhof. Hierdie betreklike nuweling het by wyse van vertoning van 'n gedeelte van sy Stadspost almal iets nuuts geleer, n.l. die betekenis van die woord „spaargom". Die voorsitter het hom vir sy uitstalling bedank.

Die vergadering was dit eens met die uitvoerende-komitee se aanbeveling dat 'n poging aangewend moet word om 'n uitstalling te reël ter geleentheid van die eeu van die driehoek-seëls van die Kaap, en het kennis daarvan geneem dat plaaslike verenigings reeds om hul sienswyse genader is. Ook is belowe om die federasie te steun indien hy ver-toë aan die owerhede wil rig i.v.m. die uitreiking van 'n gedenkseël met hierdie aangeleentheid. S.J.V.

PORT ELIZABETH PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

1st July, 1952:

The first meeting of the month was attended by 15 members and two visitors. The evening's fare was exhibits by Mr. A. T. W. Kennedy and Mr. G. K. Forbes. The first gentleman showed a selection of Covers bearing stamps showing various members of the English Royal Family and a very complete lot of British Stamps depicting British Monarchs of the last centuries. Our President, Mr. G. K. Forbes, brought along about 150 First Day U.S.A. Commemoration Covers. They were indeed a pleasure to behold in their infinite variety and were much admired. It is well known that U.S.A. Com. Stamps and Covers have the first day of issue reserved to the territory or town with which is linked the event depicted on the Stamp. The rest of the country sells these Commemoration Stamps only on the second day.

The evening was concluded with quite a successful auction.

15th July, 1952:

After members and visitors had been welcomed by our President the usual stamp auction filled the first part of the evening. Mr. E. Baer, one of our newer members, showed a "Pot-pourri" consisting of a fine variety of Cape, Northern and Southern Rhodesia and Basutoland Stamps with many interesting items. The exhibitor commented in a short

and humorous speech on his newly-found love for stamp collecting. He was suitably thanked by Mr. G. Bulbring, who stressed the importance of less advanced collectors coming forward and playing their part in the life of the Society.

During tea interval, Mr. G. Bulbring showed a few sheets of varieties of German Stamps and Specialised Cancellation Covers.

The enrolment of two new members and the reading of recently received mail concluded an interesting meeting.

ROODEPOORT STAMP CLUB.

Our usual monthly meeting was held on Thursday, 21st August in the Parish Hall, Amelia Street, Roodepoort. We had the honour of receiving The Jewish Guild Philatelic Society as our guests, and also providing the exhibits.

After welcoming the visitors our Chairman handed the meeting over to the visitors. Mr. Buchen who was the first exhibitor, gave us an interesting account of his display, which consisted of the German Occupation of Czechoslovakia and Poland. Tea and refreshments was then served. After which Mr. Boris Glassman displayed his outstanding collection of King George VI specimens, followed up by Mr. Mann with his Air Mails of Italy.

On behalf of the Club Mr. Vermaak thanked Mr. Buchen for his interesting display, Mr. Henderson thanked Mr. Boris Glassman for his impressive collection and Mr. Oliver thanked Mr. Mann on his display.

Our Chairman then thanked the visitors for coming along, and Mr. Boris Glassman passed a vote of thanks to Mrs. Henderson for her able assistance with the tea and refreshments. J.K.

GRAHAMSTOWN PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

The following is a short resumé of the activities of the above Society during the year 1952. Regular monthly meetings have been held and interest well maintained and several stamp packets have been circulated to members.

February 14th:

At this the annual meeting Mr. W. M. Fletcher was re-elected President and Mr. E. Pote as Vice. Miss U. Reece took over the Secretaryship from Mr. R. Q. Tarr and Mr. J. Clarkson was elected Sales Superintendent vice Dr. Tame. Mr. T. Drury being re-elected Hon. Librarian. Sympathetic reference was made to the death of Mr. Eric Carr, past-President, a foundation member, and noted for his West Indian collection. Mr. K. Graham showed his thematic collection of "Birds of the British Empire", which was very well presented and of great interest.

March 13th:

Mr. T. Drury showed "One Sheet per Letter" (of alphabet), which included many rare items. Some of the late Mr. Carr's stamps were auctioned.

April 14th:

The Chairman (Mr. Fletcher) reported on S.A.T.I.S.E. and Congress held at Cape Town, when Mr. W. Sheffield, our member on the Executive and himself represented the Society. Arrangements were made for Messrs. Ferguson and Sheffield's promised visit. Mr. Clarkson showed his Great Britain (Edward VIII and George VI.)

A special meeting was arranged at Wood House Kingswood College on April 18th, to meet Mr. W. Sheffield. President Johannesburg Philatelic Society and also to see the wonderful display and lecture given by Mr. F. C. Ferguson, President of the Pretoria Society, called "Odds and Ends — Philatelic and Otherwise" which included sheets of stamps, newspaper cuttings, photographs and even a postmarked penguin's egg from Marion Island! A very enjoyable social evening was wound up with thanks to the visitor and also to Mesdames R. Q. Tarr and M. C. Fletcher who supplied the refreshments.

May 8th:

Dr. Callan, a scientist lately arrived from Trinidad was welcomed as a new member and promised to display his West Indies at a later date. Mr. Drury showed British Africans — Natal, the Nigerias and Nyasaland.

June 12th:

Reference was made to Mr. Motyer's recent illness. The President and many members had visited him. Pleasure was expressed that our "veteran member" was regaining his health. Mr. S. C. Chantler's resignation was received with regret, he having disposed of his valuable Union collection. Mr. Bradley showed his Great Britain, Australia and New Zealand.

July 10th:

Mr. Fletcher showed his Hong Kong and Strits Settlements and was suitably thanked by Dr. Cory. He also brought a photograph of the delegates at the 14th Congress of the P.F. of S.A. at Cape Town, which included most of the philatelic celebrities of Southern Africa. The meeting ended with thanks to Mr. T. Drury for his usual hospitality. M.C.F.

THE CAPE TOWN PHILATELIC SOCIETY.**24 July:**

Mr. A. A. Jurgens, F.R.P.S.L. showed his extensive collection of "Cape Rectangulars", many of these specimens being in both mint and used blocks of four. Mafeking siege stamps were shown, together with forgeries, and stamps overprinted for use in Vryburg during its temporary occupation by the Boers. Pre-stamp covers were also exhibited, together with several covers marked "On Her Majesty's Service".

A vote of thanks was proposed by Major Welsford and was seconded by Mr. Mummery.

Members present who had won awards at the recent International Stamp Exhibition received their Certificates from Mrs. A. V. Jacob.

A presentation was made to Mr. A. A. Jurgens in appreciation of his Cape Postal History exhibit at the International Stamp Exhibition. He received an ink-well mounted on stinkwood.

Mr. A. V. Jacob was presented with a stinkwood cigar box with a gold Van Riebeeck commemorative medal inlaid in the lid, as a token of appreciation of his work as Chairman of the Exhibition Executive Committee.

14 August:

The President welcomed Members of the University of Cape Town Philatelic Society who were paying their annual official visit to the Cape Town Society. Apologies were read from Mr. Petroulis and from Dr. Davie.

The first display of the evening was provided by Mr. Allison, of the University P.S., who showed an extensive collection of Union of South Africa postmarks, errors and varieties in post marks. Mr. Allison gave an exceptionally interesting talk in which he indicated the fascination in the study of postmarks and showed a very good knowledge of his subject. A vote of thanks was proposed by Mr. Axer and was seconded by Mr. Nathan.

Mr. Peisach, also of the University P.S., then exhibited stamps of the reign of K.G. VI of Aden, Barbadoes, Cayman Islands, Grenada and Mauritius, of which he had made a highly specialised study. A vote of thanks was proposed by Mr. Savage and was seconded by Mr. Hall.

After an interval for tea, there was a presentation of awards won at the recent International Stamp Exhibition. Then followed an exhibit of Russian stamps provided by Mr. Lewe. A vote of thanks to Mr. Lewe was proposed by Mr. Douglas Roth and was seconded by Mr. Freyman. A.J.N.

GENERAL.

Another Society has been admitted to membership of the Federation, this time "Die Afrikaanse Philatelistiese Vereniging van Pretoria."

It is interesting to note that there are now three cities in the Union, each with three Society members, viz., Cape Town, Johannesburg and Pretoria. We understand that a society has been started at the University of the Witwatersrand and should this prove successful and apply for membership, Johannesburg might lead in the race with four.

SOME RECENT AUCTION PRICES.**H. R. Harmer:**

Bermuda 5/- (S.G. 118) block of 4 with broken scroll var., £21.

Gilbert & Ellice 1917. Prov. 2/- on 2½d., £12.
Canada. Block of five of the 1851-55 6d. wove paper fetched 3,500 dollars at a recent New York sale.

S. Africa 2d. (S.G. 44b), block of 6, one with "weathercock" variety, £19.

Swaziland. Extra flagstaffs (No. 49) and 3d. and 6d. with small flagstaff (No. 7), £10 10s.

The London 1951-52 season's sales are now over; the 42 of them realised £243,000.

Robson Lowe:

Australia 1913 1s corner block of 4, £75.

Gold Coast 1921-25 2s corner block of 4, £70.

Do. Do. 20/- (S.G. 24), £85.

Grenada 1938 perf. 12, 10/- mint, £22.

Newfoundland 1919 3c. optd. "First Transatlantic Air Post", mint, £350.

Newfoundland "De Pinedo" on cover, £170.

St. Helena 15/- mint block of 4, £75.

S. Africa. Four 1926 photogravure proofs, £26.

Transvaal 1s (S.G. 239) mint, £28.

Great Britain ½d., Cyprus green (S.G. 355).

Block of six, £87 10s.

The new season's sales start this month.

AUSTRALIA.**No More Imprint Blocks.**

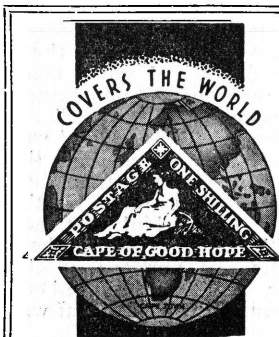
A favourite form of collecting of the Commonwealth stamps is coming to an end according to the following official information:

"It has been decided to discontinue the imprint "Printed by the authority of the Government of the Commonwealth of Australia" which at present appears on the selvage of the sheets of postage stamps.

In announcing this on June 26, the Postmaster-General (Mr. Anthony) said that it was not the universal practice of Postal Administrations to have any imprint on the selvage and, so far as Australian stamps are concerned, the imprint served no useful purpose. It was not possible to supply stamps to all post offices, particularly those of the higher denominations, with an imprint attached, and the stamp selling staff at many post offices had been subjected to a good deal of complaint because of their inability to furnish stamps with the imprint on the selvage.

The imprints will be discontinued gradually as new printing plates are made."

There is also announced the issue of a 3½d. stamp in November, for the Pan-Pacific Scout Jamboree to be held in December-January. It will be a modification of the 1948 Scout Jamboree Commemorative.



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ITEP.

We have received the list of awards at the Utrecht International Exhibition.

The Grand Prix was won by J. Poulie of Amsterdam for his Netherlands collection.

Exhibits by Postal Administrations (Hors Concours, of course, not competitive) were classified in two groups (a) those with stamps issued prior to 1852, and (b) those with stamps issued only subsequent to 1852. The latter group included a display by the Union Postal Administration.

There were only two competitive exhibits from South Africa, both from Cape Town, and we congratulate both of them on gaining Bronze Awards: A. A. Jurgens, for his Postal History of the Cape from 1652 to 1852, and A. C. Mullen, for his specialised collection of Jaipur.

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MOBILE POST OFFICES.

The list of new mobile post offices given last month was not quite accurate in one respect — they did not all start operation on 3 Sept. 1951. Nos. 8 and 9, the two new Johannesburg P.O.'s only started on 18 Aug., 1952 and neither had their permanent cancellers. No. 8 used a 'relief' type mark, a small single-circle with "Mobile P.O. 8 JH" and No. 9 the old mark of the original Johannesburg Mobile P.O. when it was the one and only of its kind (25-1-37), a large double-circle mark with "Mobile P.O. Mobiele P.K./Johannesburg."

SHORT NOTICES.

Confederate States. At the sale of the E. D. Finney collection held at H. R. Harmer Inc.'s in New York on 5 May, the sum of over 18,000 dollars was realised, approximately 50 per cent. over the estimated values. These stamps are increasingly popular and there was a large invasion of bidders from the Southern States.

Palestine—Israel. The British Association of Palestine-Israel Philatelists has been duly launched, with Dr. H. H. Hirst of Glasgow as President and Major S. Denfield as General Secretary. Anyone interested in this field of work should apply to Mr. and Mrs. P. Mead of 10 Ashville Road, Leytonstone, London, E. 11. for membership application forms and further details.

We have received No. 1 of the "BAPIP" Bulletin, to which an introductory note says it was rather hurriedly produced, but great oaks grow from little acorns. Even as it is, however, it can be recommended to both specialist and ordinary Palestine-Israel collectors.

B.W.I. Philatelist. The March number has a

summary of B.W.I. Airways flights from 1940 onwards and a listing of post-offices in all the islands with the exception of Jamaica.

Stanley Gibbons Ltd. announce that the publication of their Part III catalogue (Foreign Countries of America, Asia and Africa) has been postponed until the early autumn of 1953. The present edition, dated 1951, is still available.

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GAMBIA AND NIGERIA.

According to Whitfield King & Co. these two countries are first in the field with official announcements of Queen Elizabeth stamps.

Gambia is to have fifteen values, 1½d. to £1, pictorials, recess printed, with portrait of Her Majesty and Crown.

Nigeria is to have twelve pictorials, ½d. to £1. The ½d., 1½d., 2d., 4d., 1/- and 5/- will show a portrait of Her Majesty together with the Crown; the other values will show the Crown only.

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FRANCE.

Three recent issues are:—

- A 15 fr. stamp on 5 July featuring the Garabit Viaduct in the central massif.
- On the same date a 15 fr. stamp commemorating the centenary of the creation of the Military Medal.
- A 30 fr. stamp on 9 July honouring the memory of Leonardo da Vinci, born in 1452.

U.S.A.

On 30 Sept. there is due for issue a stamp commemorating what is believed to be the year of completion of the first book printed by moveable type, the famous Gutenberg Bible. There are 46 known copies of this still extant; the printer's name was actually Gensfleisch, the name Gutenberg is derived from the family residence. This is followed by the Newspaper-boys stamp on 4 October.

THE SOUTH AFRICAN PHILATELIST

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Whole No. 331.

Union Notes

Sub-Editor: Mr. W. N. SHEFFIELD,
Box 99, Cleveland, Transvaal.

The "Humble Half-penny" Under the Quartz Lamp.

Dr. Benno Wasserstein of Pretoria has recently been carrying out some interesting research work on the varying degrees of fluorescence found on different printings of the Union ½d. Springbok stamp when viewed in ultra-violet light. His observations in this latest field of study of the ½d. pictorial (Handbook No. 44J), together with his accompanying photograph taken in ultra-violet light, are given below and will no doubt prove of considerable interest to the many collectors of this ever popular stamp.

YELLOW FLUORESCENCE OF THE SPRINGBOK.

The present ½d.-Springbok is characterised by the most distinct fluorescence found in any South African stamp: the grey to black colour appears yellow when viewed in ultra-violet light. The source of such radiation was a commercial model known as "Mineralight", which is an argon-mercury quartz type.

This phenomenon made its first appearance during the previous issue (cyl. 11A/11B), for two different printings give positive and negative results respectively. This is illustrated in the accompanying photograph which was taken in ultra-violet light: the first block shows no fluorescence and the Springbok is sharply defined but in the second block there is a certain loss in definition and the Springbok is lighter due to the yellow fluorescence.

The third and fourth blocks are two different printings of the present issue (cyl. 31/70) and the remarkably strong fluorescence in the fourth block, i.e. the right-hand one, is clearly seen even in this black-and-white reproduction. The present issue **always** shows up yellow under ultra-violet radiation but the degree of colouration is variable in different printings.

A noticeable whitish fluorescence can be seen along the perforations of the third block; identical observations were made when some Van Riebeeck stamps were examined. It is suggested that during a certain limited period the (excessive?) lubrication of the needles was the ultimate cause of this fluorescence — and this may help to date this printing.

It seems feasible that inspection by ultra-violet light may facilitate group identification of the "humble Ha'penny" in the future. The present study of the incidence of fluorescence cannot be considered exhaustive, but this interim statement seems worthy of publication;



it is hoped to report further findings at a later date.

This short investigation was materially helped by the friendly co-operation of Messrs. N. J. Grobler and J. A. van der Merwe of the Publicity Department of the Post Office; by Mr. Arthur Goldberg whose excellent collection indicated how unique the behaviour of the present Springbok issue really is. Lastly, a young colleague, Mr. S. A. Hiemstra, helped to solve the protographic problems involved. Pretoria: 18th Aug., '52.

Unrecorded Varieties on 2d. Rotogravure Stamps of 1931-36.

Writing in connection with the recently discovered printing flaws on the 2d. unhyphenated stamps of 1931-36 (Handbook-Catalogue No. 38D) — first reported and illustrated by Mr. H. J. Anderson in our June issue —, Mr. A. E. Williamson of Enniskerry, Eire, states that in sorting through 3,200 used copies of these stamps bearing dates between June 1933 and April 1934, he found the following varieties:—

7 Copies showing the Broken Balcony (Sketch No. 1, June).

6 Copies of the "White Flaw" (Sketch No. 3, June) but none of suspected retouch indicated in Sketch No. 2.

The earliest date decipherable on those copies with the flaws was 21.11.33, and the latest, 4.4.34. He is of the opinion that the colours of nine of these should be classified as black and slate-purple, and the other four as blue-black and slate-purple, in preference to the **slate-grey** and purple shades given in the Union 1952 HANDBOOK/CATALOGUE.

Current 1d. Pictorial Paper and Printing Varieties.

Mr. Sam Legator, Brakpan, reports the recent appearance of the 1d. pictorial stamp (Handbook No. 45D) on paper which shows up the "horizontally laid" lines of the manufacturing process to a greater degree than is usually the case in the Union issues. On some specimens examined the lines are easily discernable on the surface of the paper, but only in the marginal portions of the sheet.

Mr. John Lewis of Bloemfontein also reports that some of the No. 45D 1d. pictorial stamps have appeared on "toned" paper. The sample shown to us is quite distinctly tinted and copies can be distinguished by the tone of the interior design and, if mint, the creamy appearance of the gum.

Mr. Lewis is of the opinion that these toned paper copies are part of the first batch of sheets to be printed and issued in the redrawn design of February 1951, and therefore any which may come to light in post offices now will simply be remainders of old stock.

A check-up on any date-bearing used items on toned paper will assist in determining the period they were on sale.

A Cape Town reader: "I. T. Rhenius" has noted the appearance of carmine marks between 1d. stamps 2 and 3 of Row No. 2; between stamps 8 and 9 of Row No. 3 and also on the right margin of the sheet opposite Rows Nos. 3 and 4. They are evidently a fairly recent de-

velopment in the printing of No. 45D and somewhat similar in appearance to those marks noted as the "Cloven Hoof" variety on the ½d. and 1d. Van Riebeeck stamps, discussed in our August issue.

Current 2d. Toned Paper Variety.

In his letter on the 1d. toned paper variety, Mr. Lewis also mentions that he has in his possession an arrow block of the "Small 2d. — Handbook No. 47E. — on a similar kind of paper. Like the 1d., there has been no previous report of the 2d. denomination appearing on anything but a white paper.

Side Dots on the 2d. Pictorial Second Hyphenated Issue.

We have received a letter from Mr. J. W. Culling of Guildford, England, in which he considers that a case could be made out for further investigation into the side dots that appear on the 2d. hyphenated stamps listed as 47B and 47C in the Union HANDBOOK/CATALOGUE. (S.G. Nos. 107 and 107a).

He notes that on page 134 of the H/C., in the paragraph describing Plates VI and VII, the following statement occurs:—

"Another characteristic of these two plates consists of a minute dot opposite the centre of outside left and right frame lines, on all stamps. These dots are absent on stamps of Plate V".

Before obtaining the Handbook, his information on the subject was as described in the Summary published by the S.A. Collectors' Society of Manchester, England, which reads as follows:—

Plate V stamps. "No dots outside frame lines."

Plates VI and VII. "Minute dots outside vertical frame lines, to left of "A" stamp and right of "E" stamp".

NOTE: The HANDBOOK/CATALOGUE plate numbers are given in the above for convenience of comparison.

Mr. Culling now wishes to know if the Handbook statement is intended to be the same as the one in the Summary i.e., that the dots occur on one side only of each stamp, or does it imply that there are dots to left and right of each stamp. Because, on looking through his lot he has found dots on both sides of some stamps; those described by the Summary being easily detected with the naked eye, whereas the others are faint and require a glass to see them properly. On other stamps, only the Summary dots are discernable.

Though a comparatively new-comer to the study of the Union's stamps and with only postally used copies to work on, Mr. Culling submits the theory that the dots do exist on Plate V stamps in the form as given in the Summary for the Plates VI and VII issues, or at least, on some of them. He has had this opinion for some time, for in sorting out the various issues, he has found that stamps, which were good examples of the "figure '2' of the value merging into the circle", also had dots, or traces of a dot, and the colours were not a very good guide.

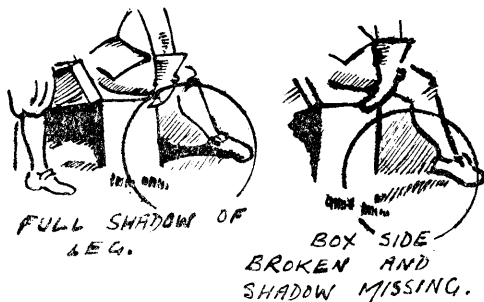
He recently purchased a block of four which could only be from Plate V since it is post-marked "CAPE TOWN" — 20 APL. 45". and

also "ST. HELENA" — 11.745", and Plate VI was not issued until May 1946. On this block there are very minute dots requiring a glass to see them properly, and they are more readily apparent on the "E" stamps.

In conclusion, Mr. Culling asks if it is not possible that the dots existed on Plate V in the first place, but were perhaps smaller than the later ones, and were nearly eliminated in the cleaning process before printing. He would be grateful for any further information on the matter from any reader, for it appears to him that the statement on page 134 of the *HANDBOOK/CATALOGUE* does not give the whole of the facts and is therefore likely to be misleading.

Further Interesting Varieties on the 1/- Van Riebeeck Stamps.

Some interesting printing flaws on the 1/- Van Riebeeck stamps (*Handbook Supplement No. 115*) have come to light during the last few weeks and the accompanying sketch, sent in by Mr. G. Allan of Nelspoort, Cape Province, shows one of them in the form of a "Missing Shadow."



It occurs in the position of Row 19/2, is constant throughout the printing of both shades of this denomination and has not been previously recorded.

Other constant varieties on these stamps, and not previously noted, have been submitted by Messrs. John Lewis of Bloemfontein, Victor Dubowitz, Cape Town; H. Loots, Bethlehem, O.F.S., J. E. Jeppe, Cape Town, and Dr. W. E. Schilz, Pretoria, and are as follows:—

Row 1/5 Sepia marks on sand in front of Van Riebeeck. Defect at left foot of man sitting. Sepia spot on Native's leg.

9/5 Large round sepia mark behind "G" of POSTAGE.

11/6 White "bubble" flaw in front of face of Native standing.

20/6 White spot behind Native standing.

Characteristics of the 1d. Monocoloured Roll Stamps.

Further to his notes and sketches published in our November 1951 issue, Mr. J. S. Hagger of Alberton, Transvaal, has submitted the following additional information on the 1d. monocoloured roll stamps — *Handbook No. R23*.

"In your November 1951 issue you reproduced a rough sketch which I had prepared of the 'lines' in the gutter between the 22nd and 1st horizontal rows of the current 1d. roll stamps as they appeared in the eleven vertical rows

which I had thus far identified. While continuing the search for the missing twelfth one I found that in every new roll I opened the 'lines' were always the same as in one or other of the eleven pairs that I already had, so realising that different methods must be used or the investigation go on for years, I commenced studying the pencilled numbers appearing on the wrappers holding the roll. There were always two of these, the first having an 'R' in front of it, and apparently ranging from 1 to 48; the second having no letter in front of it and apparently ranging from 1 to 12. This second number proved to be significant because I found that, if the wrapper had an odd number, the first stamp was Afrikaans, if an even number it was English, while if two wrappers had the same number the stamps in those rolls had identical characteristics. It became obvious therefore that this second number denoted the order in which each vertical row appears on the cylinder, and I suggest that the first number denotes the order in which the rolls from that vertical row are wound. These numbers would be of value for accounting and checking purposes."

"As the pair I was seeking had to come from a roll which had an Afrikaans stamp first, from then on I bought only those rolls on which the second number on the wrapper was odd. All this naturally took time but eventually I found that I already had pairs from rows 1, 3, 5, 7 and 9 and that meant that the missing pair must be from row 11. All I had to do now was to buy a roll on which the second number on the wrapper was 11, and the reconstruction would be complete; but in spite of being a nuisance to collector friends and Post Office clerks, this was just not to be had, and I have been forced to the conclusion that the stamps from this 11th row are not sold. It is known that there must be a 12th row because it has been published in the 'Union Notes' in the information regarding stamps printed, that this cylinder No. 24 prints 264 stamps, and further the second number on some of the wrappers is 12. As to why the stamps from this 11th row are not sold, your guess is as good as mine. One possibility which comes most readily to mind is that it contains a bad flaw, but that is far-fetched, because this cylinder has been in use for a very long time and it would mean that a good deal of paper has been wasted, unjustifiably, because the preparation of a new cylinder is no great task."

"Needless to say the order in which I sketched the gutters is not correct. I thought the 'lines' followed some pattern but this is not so. My task now is to place the pairs of these stamps in the correct order and when completed it is hoped to reproduce a photograph of them and the corresponding wrappers."

"The theory I put forward for the 'lines' was ingenious but not feasible. I stated that the 'lines' were screened, which means that they could only have got on to the cylinder via the Carbon Tissue Sheet, but I now think that they must be attributed to the Carbon Tissue Sheet picking up the reflection of portions of the edges of the Diapositive, and it would have been the latter, not the Carbon Tissue Sheet that was trimmed too close."

AIR MAIL NOTES

COMET JETLINER SERVICE.

The first B.O.A.C. "Comet" to fly from South Africa to England, via CAIRO (instead of Beirut) left Jan Smuts Airport at 9 a.m. on Friday, 4th July, 1952, thereby shortening the route by some 400 miles with a corresponding saving in transit time.

Souvenir Envelopes were issued by the operating Company inscribed: "B.O.A.C. COMET/JETLINER SERVICE/FIRST FLIGHT BETWEEN/LONDON AND CAIRO/By B.O.A.C." in blue and green. (A charge of 3s. 6d. each was made for servicing these covers). They were only used however on the London — Cairo and Cairo — London stages of the flight and were postmarked as follows:—

London 1st July. Backstamped Cairo 2 July 1.45 a.m.

Cairo 5th July 12.05 a.m. London Airways Terminal July 5th 2.30 p.m.

No advance information was given in Great Britain of the change in route and so it is improbable that any ordinary air mail covers exist to commemorate the outward bound flight to South Africa. In the reverse direction however, ordinary air mail posted in Johannesburg on the evening of Thursday, July 3rd was conveyed via Cairo, but did not receive backstamps (if any) until the following Monday morning—July 7th.

SYDNEY-JOHANNESBURG FIRST REGULAR DIRECT AIR MAIL SERVICE.

A "Constellation" of QUANTAS EMPIRE AIRWAYS, in charge of Capt. K. G. Jackson and R. F. Uren, inaugurated the first direct regular Airmail service between Australia and South Africa on Monday, 1st September, 1952. The plane covered the distance between Sydney and Johannesburg of 8,690 miles in approximately 37 flying hours, with calls at Adelaide, Perth, Cocos (or Keeling) Island and Port Louis, Mauritius. The flight involves the longest sea crossing of any of the World's scheduled air services: that between Cocos Is. and Port Louis—2,678 miles, which is flown overnight — the other stages being Perth-Cocos 1,835 miles and Port Louis-Johannesburg, 1,913 miles.

At the time of writing First Flight covers, being serviced by the operating Company on

the various stages of the outward and Home-bound flights, have not yet been distributed to subscribers, but mail, including Air Letters which arrived in Johannesburg on September 4th all bore a purple cachet depicting a Kangaroo, plane and Springbok, inscribed "AUSTRALIA/SOUTH AFRICA/First Regular Air Mail/Sydney-Cocos Is.-Mauritius-Johannesburg /September 1952." The special souvenir envelopes issued by QANTAS were suitably inscribed in red, blue and yellow.

Mail posted in Australia and intended for the inaugural flight was sent to Sydney where it was postmarked 12 noon — 1 SE. 52. Three different Sydney Air Mail postmarks have been seen, bearing the same date and hour. On arrival in South Africa all mail matter, except for an occasional slip, was backstamped "JOHANNESBURG 4.XI.52 — 11.000", which was the actual time the plane landed at Palmietfontein.

Mail from the Cocos Islands bears a postmark inscribed "R.A.A.F.P.O.—COCOS ISLAND", and that from Mauritius was postmarked at Port Louis the same day as it arrived in Johannesburg.

The first return flight left Johannesburg at 7 a.m. on Saturday, 6th September and reached Sydney on time according to schedule. The mail was postmarked "Johannesburg—6-9-52—7.00" and backstamped "Sydney 12 Noon—9 SE 52".

I. H. C. GODFREY.

KOREAN FREE FORCES MAIL.


Mr. S. J. Vermaak supplies the following notes:

From air letter cards received from Korea to date I have made the following observations, in addition to particulars listed:—

Types 1 and 2 (page 86 of your May issue): emerald green; inside lettering distinct; overprint royal blue; air mail label measures 48 x 18½ m.m.

Type 3 (2 shades):

I. Deeper emerald; inside lettering indistinct.
II. Outside tinted pinkish; inside lettering very indistinct. In both these shades the overprint is a deeper royal blue, the air mail label measures 47 x 17½ m.m., and the lettering on the label is thinner. In Type 3 (both shades) three white dots occur in the English part of the blocked-out wording on the back (small dot over "S" of "is"; big dot over "DD" of "additional" and medium dot over "E" of "prepaid").



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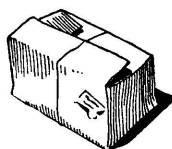
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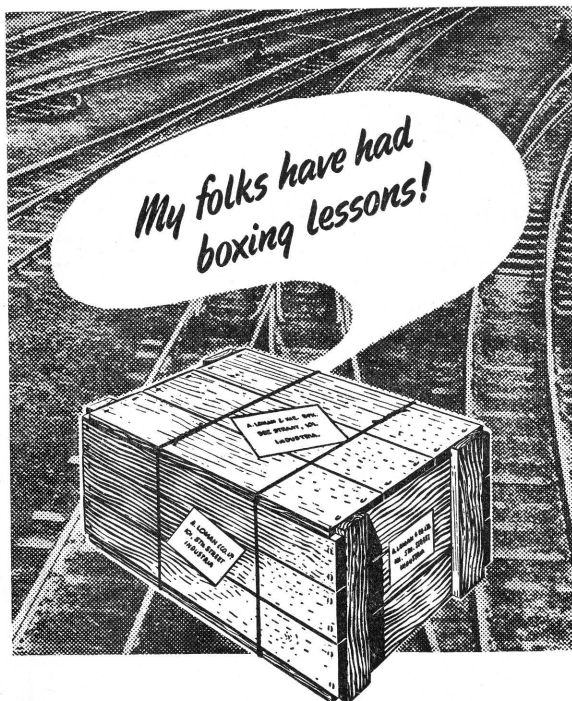
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SOUTH AFRICAN RAILWAYS



B. J. Hunter

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POST and REGISTRATION MARKS of the ROYAL TOUR of SOUTHERN AFRICA

By H. W. BOND.

(A paper read before the Philatelic Congress, Cape Town, March, 1952, and given a Congress Award.)

On delving through past issues of the **South African Philatelist** in the hope of gaining some information regarding the why and wherefore of the various Post and Registration marks, I noticed that no contributor of the articles on these very interesting marks seemed to be quite sure that his information was correct. With the aid of Official data, and the information given to me by a member of the staff on the Royal Train, I hope, with this paper, to help clarify the position.

UNION OF SOUTH AFRICA.

A.—Premature Postmarks:

As happens when we have a commemorative issue of stamps, sometimes some of the smaller Post Offices in the towns issue the stamps to the public before the Official First Day of Issue, resulting in the premature franking of the stamps. These are interesting items to have in a specialised collection.

B.—H.M.S. Vanguard:

Taking the cancellations in the order that they were used throughout the tour, we have the Post and Registration marks of the ship H.M.S. Vanguard, which carried The Royal Family on the first stage of their historic tour of Southern Africa.

The Postmark is a circular mark 32 mm. in diameter, with a line dividing the circle into two halves, with the wording Post Office in the upper half, and Maritime Mail in the bottom half. Colour of ink used, Red.

The Registration cachet is oblong in shape, 47 mm. long by 23.5 mm. wide, the wording Mail Office at the top and H.M.S. Vanguard at the bottom, divided by the date in the centre. Colour of ink used, Violet.

C.—Pretoria.

Six special cancellers were made for franking mail posted at the G.P.O., Pretoria and on the Royal Train.

Four special cancellers were used for franking first day covers at the G.P.O., Pretoria, no other Post Office in the Union having this privilege. Two of these cancellers were used at the G.P.O., Pretoria from the day The Royal Family arrived in South Africa (17.II.47) and every day of the tour, to the day The Royal Family embarked on H.M.S. Vanguard to return to England (24.IV.47) including the days they spent in Southern Rhodesia and the three High Commission Territories. Two of these marks were not used for franking First Day issue covers at Pretoria. Only one of each type of canceller was made.

In this paper the words "ENGLISH" cancel-

ler means the canceller having the English wording first, and similiary "AFRIKAANS" canceller the Afrikaans wording first. There are very clear distinguishing features which help to differentiate between the six types used. To the casual eye they all look alike. Four of these cancellers were later sent to Cape Town to be used on the Royal Train.

The Postmarks are oval in shape, with the wording in English and Afrikaans at the top and bottom, and dividing the upper and lower lettering is a distinguishing mark. The date is in the centre of the inner oval, and surmounting the oval design is the Union Coat of Arms. The size of the lettering in the English canceller is 3 mm., and in the Afrikaans canceller 2 mm., and in the width between the two ovals 5 mm. and 4.5 mm. respectively. **The distinguishing features** are to be found in the "ornaments" between the upper wording "Royal Visit—Köninklike Besoek" and the lower wording "South Africa—1947—Suid-Afrika", and illustrations of these are given in the **South African Philatelist**, Vol. 23, 1947, p. 73.

1. "English" canceller used throughout the tour: a small open circle. The Registration cachet is a small oblong-shaped gummed printed label with a large "R" at the left, on the top right Pretoria 25, and below this the registered number.

2. "Afrikaans" canceller used throughout the tour: a small open square. The Registration cachet is the same as 1.

3. "English" canceller: a small solid square, later used on the Royal Train (Pilot Train Post Office for cancelling mail from the Royal "White" Train).

4. "Afrikaans" canceller: a small open triangle, later used on the Royal "White Train" for cancelling telegrams, etc. This office on the White Train was known as the "Communications Centre."

Note. The registration cachet as Type 1, was used with all these marks on First Day of Issue only (17.II.47). This type 1 Registration mark is a rectangle 37 x 15 mm. with a large R on the left, and PRETORIA 7 top right and No..... below.

D.—The Royal Train Post and Registration Marks:

The two "Pretoria Type" Postmarks numbered 3 and 4, originally used at the G.P.O. Pretoria for franking the first day of issue covers, and later sent to the Royal Train Post Office, will now be described as Types 3A and 4A. Type 5 and 6 are the other two types of the four used on the train.

5. "English" canceller: user on the Royal "Pilot" Train for franking mail for the personnel on the "Pilot" Train. The distinguishing feature is a small solid Maltese Cross. The Registration cachet is oblong in shape, measuring 58 mm. by 23 mm., with a large "R" on the left, with the wording ROYAL TRAIN—KONINK-LIKE TREIN top right, and below this No..... and a line of dots on which the registration cachet is written in by hand. This Registration cachet was used with Types 3A and 4A as well.

6. "Afrikaans" canceller: used on the Royal "Pilot" Train. The distinguishing feature is a small open Lozenge shape ornament.

3A. "English" canceller: used for franking mail sent in by The Royal Party and personnel on the Royal "White" Train. The distinguishing feature is a small solid black square.

4A. "Afrikaans" canceller: used for franking Telegrams only, the distinguishing feature being a small open triangle. This mark was used for all tele-communications received on both the "White" and "Pilot" trains, no registration cachet being needed.

Any letter postmarked with Types 3A and 4A, whether they be registered or un-registered, having the first day of issue date (17.II.47) are letters postmarked only at the G.P.O. Pretoria. The letters dated 21.II.47 to the 20.IV.47 inclusive, are those cancelled on the Royal "Pilot" Train Post Office. This does not include Type 4A. This will not be found on Royal Train covers, but only on Telegrams. The date is an important factor in determining whether a cover has been cancelled on the Royal Train or at the G.P.O. Pretoria.

Broadly speaking The Royal Train was one train, split into two units; The Royal "White" Train and The Royal "Pilot" train preceding the "White" train on its travels. The "WHITE" train comprised 14 coaches, numbered R1 to R14, and the "PILOT" train 13 coaches numbered R15 to R27. The Tele-communications centre was in coach R14 on the "White" train, the Post Office and the Wireless Transmitting and Receiving centre were in coach R27 on the "Pilot" train. All covers posted on "THE ROYAL TRAIN" were cancelled at the "PILOT-TRAIN POST OFFICE", there being only one Post Office. All mail matter from the Royal "White" Train (which was a Palace on wheels) was placed into blue-coloured mail-bags, which were picked up by motor-car and taken to the "Pilot" train, where it was sent on its way. The same procedure was adopted for incoming mail: after sorting, the mail for the "White" train was placed in the blue coloured mail-bags, taken by motor car back to the "White" train. While the "Pilot" and the "White" train were stationary, the mail was handed from the one train to another.

Note: It was the practice of the Royal Train Postal Staff to use the "English" canceller on the one day, and the "Afrikaans" canceller on the next day throughout the tour.

E.—Mark used for cancelling important correspondence.

This is a large oval shaped canceller approx. 60 x 37 mm., surmounted by a crown, with the wording in small letters curved around the inner circumference of the oval, Royal Visit—South Africa in the top half, Koninklike Besoek—Suid Afrika at the bottom half, divided by star shaped marks, then in the centre of the inner oval in larger letters the wording Official—Free at the top, 1947 in the centre, and Offisieel—Vry at the bottom.

F.—Mark used for cancelling mailbag labels:

A heavy large lettered rubber stamp with the wording Royal Train on top, with Koninklike Trein at the bottom, lettering 6.5 mm. high, used for cancelling the labels that were attached to the Royal Hail Bags when they were sealed.

G.—King's Flight.

The Postmark is a circular mark 42 mm. outer diameter, and 30 mm. inner diameter, the wording THE KING'S FLIGHT at the top, and ROYAL AIR FORCE at the bottom, in the centre of the inner circle is the date. This mark has been seen on "On Service" and normal covers with Royal Visit stamps. The colour of the ink user, Purple. On March 8th The Royal Family flew to the Game Reserve in the Orange Free State, on April 3rd on their visit to Pietersburg, and on the 7th April to Salisbury in Southern Rhodesia.

NOTE: Since Mr. Bond prepared his paper a second type of King's Flight postmark has been described. This is slightly smaller, outer circle 38 mm., but double lined; the wording is reversed in position, ROYAL AIR FORCE being at the top and THE KING'S FLIGHT at the bottom. The only specimen so far recorded has the date 11 FEB 1947.—Ed. See our March issue, p. 37, and August issue, p. 147.

BASUTOLAND.

B1.—Day of issue of Special Stamps.

The normal Station Post Office mark, being two circles with the word "Maseru" at the top, and at the bottom two short curved lines divided by a solid Maltese Cross, with the date in the centre (17 II A47).

B2.

The Special G.P.O. mark, being two circles with the wording "Maseru" at the top, and Basutoland at the bottom, the lettering curved to the circumference of the circles, with the date 17 FEB A47 in the centre.

B3.—Day of arrival and visit.

The Special G.P.O. mark, being two circles with the wording "Royal Visit" at the top, and Basutoland at the bottom, curved to the circumference of the circles. The date 11 III 47 and 12 III 47 in the centre of the inner circle.

(To be continued.)

SPECIAL POST-OFFICES.

Medical Congress, Johannesburg. For the 38th S.A. Medical Congress, held in the University Buildings, Johannesburg, on Sept. 22-27, the Union Postal Authorities provided a Special Post-Office. No special postmark was supplied, however, as on previous similar occasions, the office using an ordinary Johannesburg date-stamp No. 105.

Tourist Congress, Lourenco Marques. The 4th Congress of African Tourism was held at Lourenco Marques last month, opening on 15th September, and we are indebted to Mr. V. Netto for a first-day Air Letter Card from it. The special postmark was a 4-line one, apparently from a rubber stamp, in violet with 5 wavy lines, the top 4 being broken for the wording "C.T.T./Lourenco Marques/15 Set, 1952/Congresso de Turismo."

Incidentally, the Air Letter Form is of a new type and it was franked with a special 1\$50 stamp issued for the occasion. This features a steamship and an aeroplane and has the inscription "IV Congresso do Turismo Africano/Lourenco Marques".

INDIA.

A set of 6 stamps (9p. to 12a) is due for issue on 1 Oct., each featuring a "Saint-Poet" or Poet. They will be the first Indian stamps printed by photogravure.

The Philatelic Advisory Committee is recommending special stamps for the occasion of the Railway, Telegraph, Post Office and Postage Stamp Centenaries, which all fall due in the next few years. Also that the next series of postage stamps should depict the growth of Industries and Agriculture in India.

To the Editor,
The South African Philatelist.
Sir:

OVERPRINT AND/OR SURCHARGE.

In your June 1952 number, page 109, you mention my discussion of these two terms which appeared in the American Philatelist of March 1952. I dislike to find even slight fault with any citation of what I have written. But the essential point is missed in the condensation in the S.A. Phil. . . in fact two essential points.

The first is the fact, mentioned in my article, that the philatelic term "surcharge" is not the financial or business one at all, but a separate word of identical form, taken from French. It is the French printing trade term for overprint. The second is the actual usage among stamp people does make the two terms interchangeable synonyms.

In all fairness, I should add that the financial term "surcharge", meaning an additional or increased charge, is a complete misnomer for most cases of value-changing overprints on stamps. Normally such changes lower the value.

Thus far I have had some correspondence as a result of the article you quote. Not even one person has brought forward even one case in which the use of the two terms with differing meanings serves any useful purpose.

STEPHEN G. RICH.

SHORT NOTICES.**K. Beleski.**

Mr. S. H. Moyle of Cape Town has sent us a cutting from a Winnipeg paper describing the home and business of this multi-million dollar stamp dealer in Winnipeg. Originally a school teacher he went to London for seven years to learn the stamp trade. Returning to Canada he has built up an enormous business; he sometimes takes big chances in his purchases, for his motto is "Even a turtle has to stick its neck out to get anywhere". But generally his "gambles" pay big dividends. Two of his big purchases were the gems of the Bermuda Prize Court Sale in 1949 and the half million envelopes addressed to the International Red Cross during World War II.

"Iris" Thematic Booklets. The stamp printers, Helio-Vaugirard (142 Rue de Vaugirard, Paris (XVe) announce the issue of a number of booklets of various themes, which according to their prospectus will be very fine works of art and beautifully illustrated so as to appeal to bibliophile philatelists. Editions of each will be limited to 500, the price being 5,000 fr. (5,200 fr. post free). The first volume now ready, is "Goya"; to appear early are volumes on Birds, Egypt of the Pharaohs and Argentina. If the project is successful many more are in prospect. Of course they are published in French.

Commonwealth Catalogue. The new edition, expected early in October, will be called the Commonwealth Catalogue of K.G. VI and Q.E. II stamps. Price 7/6 plus 6d. postage.

Stanley Gibbons announce three new publications: (a) A colour guide, with reproductions of the 75 colours which they consider the most useful for stamp colour description. Price 5/-. (b) A loose leaf section bringing their "New Age" album for British Empire issues up to date, i.e. 1949 to mid 1952.

(c) The 1953 edition of their "King George VI" Catalogue, due on 26 November, price 4/- plus 3d. postage.

Robson Lowe Ltd. report on their season's sales that the market for British and British Empire stamps has continued to fall towards the lower level of the hard currency markets; that London's position as the centre of the world's stamp markets is firmly maintained, and the export figures are a record. The new season's sales have started.

New Advertisers. Very recent newcomers to our advertising columns are Messrs. **H. Stroud** and **B. J. Hunter**. The former is a prominent member of the Philatelic Traders' Society in Britain and has been in the stamp business for many years, having recently developed an extensive postal trade in addition to his local retail shop. The latter is well known as an extensive advertiser in British Stamp periodicals. We can recommend them both to our readers.

ZANZIBAR.

A new set went on sale on 26 Aug. The low values, up to 50c. have a portrait (a new one) of the Sultan and the higher values, up to 10/-, feature the buildings of the new schools, named after the Sultan, and on the site of a former palace a little way outside the town.

|

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HANDBOOK - CATALOGUE UNION OF SOUTH AFRICA

SUPPLEMENT No. 4.

Editors:

Dr. Alec Kaplan, Sam Legator, William N. Sheffield

SECTION 8.

THE ROTOGRAVURE PRINTINGS UNHYPHENATED.

Cat. No.	Pairs	
	Mint	Used
38D. 2d. Typographical error—Supplement No. 3—Page 166.		
Item "Cd" should be amended to read	£10	30 0

SECTION 20.

VICTORY ISSUE.

Date of issue correction—Page 227.

Amend the date at the top of the page to read:—"1945 (3rd Dec.)."

SECTION 21.

ROYAL VISIT.

100. 1d. Shade and Variety position—Page 229.			
After "Slate-black and carmine" add:			
a. Black and deep carmine	0 3	0 3	
And change the location of the variety "Vg" to Row 20/5 instead of Row 20/6.			

SECTION 27.

OFFICIALS.

08. 2d. Shade—Page 261.			
Insert between first item and "C":			
a. Grey-black and dull purple	2 6	2 6	
013. 1d. Overprint note—Page 262.			
Add to the description of the item: "Thin overprint".			
013a. 1d. Overprint—Page 262.			
Insert between "O13" and "O14":			
O13a. Basic No. "34b", 1d. Plate 3. Black and carmine with thicker overprint than on "O13"	1 6	1 0	
014. 6d. Overprint note—Page 262.			
Add to the description of the item:—"Thin overprint".			
014a. 6d. Overprint—Page 262.			
Insert after "O14":—			
O14a. Basic No. "35d", 6d. Green and orange with thicker overprint than on "O14"	4 6	3 6	
016. 2/6 Deletion of Perf. Item—Page 262.			
Delete item "P".			
019. 1d. Typographical correction—Page 263.			
Alter the word "back" to read "black."			
021. 6d. Basic number—Page 263.			
Delete the letter "A" from the basic number "41A".			

Cat. No.

Mint Used

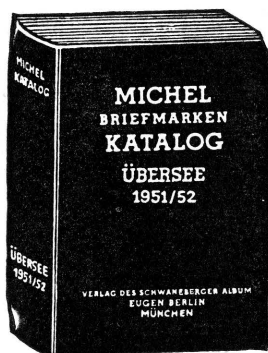
025. 6d. Basic number—Page 264.			
Delete the letter "A" from the basic number "41A", and in the description, add the capital letter "O" in front of the numbers "22" and "23".			
026. 1/- Cylinder number—Page 265:			
Alter the number "6297" to read "6927".			
027. 1/- Watermark—Page 265:			
Delete "Inverted" and replace with "Upright" wmk.			
028. 2/6 Plate and perf. corrections—Page 265.			
Amend "Plate 2. Perf. 14 x 13½" to read "Plate 1. Perf. 14 x 14".			
031. 1/- Watermark—Page 265.			
Delete "Normal" and replace with "Inverted" wmk.			
035. 2d. Catalogue number—Page 266.			
Add the capital letter "O" in front of the Cat. No. "35".			
039. 2/6 Typographical error—Page 266.			
Amend "Rows 17-20/16" to read "Rows 17-20/6".			
042. 2d. Typographical error—Page 266.			
Amend "Rows 17-20/16" to read "Rows 17-20/6".			
045. 1d. Basic number—Page 267.			
The number "42" should be corrected to read "44".			
046. 1d. Basic number—Page 267.			
The number "42" should be corrected to read "44" and the capital letter "O" added in front of "45".			
047a. 1d. Additional number—Page 267.			
After the item "O47" add:—			
O47a. Basic No. "45", 1d. Plate 11 Upright wmk. Black and deep carmine. 12½-13½. December 1937	2 6	2 6	
047b.—1d. Additional number—Page 267.			
After "O47a" add:—			
O47b. Basic No. "45", 1d. Plate 11. Upright wmk. Olive-black and carmine. 11½-12½. 1939	2 6	2 6	
052. 1d. Basic number—Page 267.			
Add the capital letter "A" after "44" to read "44A".			
056. 2d. Colour correction—Page 263.			
Delete "Indigo" and amend to read "Blue and violet".			
057. 6d. Plate number and adjustment of variety positions—Page 268.			
Instead of "Plate 1", alter to read "Plate 3" and adjust the Row/Stamp positions of Ba. and Bb. to read			
"Ba. Ladder. Row 5/10".			
"Bb. Mole-hill. Row 20/11".			

Cat. No.	Pairs	
	Mint	Used
O58. 1/- Plate and cylinder number—Page 268. Amend "Plate 1 (Cyl. 6925/30)" to read "Plate 3" (Cyl. 6925/38).		
O62. 1d. Basic number—Page 269. Add the capital letter "A" after "44" to read "44A".		
O63a. 1d. Additional number—Page 269. After the item "O63" add:— O63a. Basic No. "45". 1d. Plate 14. Upright wmk. "Sepia-grey and carmine. Cyl. 35/50. 11½-13 mm. June 1940	1 0	0 6
O66. 6d. Plate number—Page 270. Alter "Plate 2" to read "Plate 4".		
O70. 1d. Cylinder and Type number—Page 270. Alter Cyl. "23/24" to read "60/17", and instnd of "Type II" read "Type III".		
O71. 1½d. Plate number—Page 270. For "Plate 2" read "Plate 6".		
O72. 2d. Die number—Page 270. Delete "Die 1" and replace with Plate 6".		
O80. 1½d. Plate number—Page 271. Alter "Plate 2" to read "Plate 6".		
O81. 2d. Die number and typographical correction—Page 271. Amend the first and second lines to read as follows:— "Photo vignette. Cyl. 8/21. Plate 7. (Figure 2 separated from white circle)".		
O83. 1/- Die number and o/p measurement—Page 272. Delete "Die II, 14/6027" and replace with "Cyl. 14/6027 (Brown arrow issue) Plate 4." Also, amend the o/p. measurement "19-29" mm. to read "19-20 mm."		
O91. 1½d. Plate and basic number—Page 273. For "Plate 3" read "Plate 7", and for the basic number "46D" read "46E".		
O92. 1½d. Plate and basic number—Page 273. For "Plate 4" read "Plate 9" and change basic number "46D" to "46E".		



Cat. No.	Pairs	
	Mint	Used
O94A. 1/- Additional number—Page 273. Between items "094" and "095" add: 094A. Basic No. 50B. 1/-, Plate 5. All screened. Cyl. 6926/6935 (Imprinted). Smudgy blue solid arrows. Red serial numbers. o/p. Type IV, 18-19 mm. June 1950. Chocolate and pale blue	5 0	5 0
Ca. Cylinder No. pair	15 0	15 0
Cb. Marginal arrow pair	7 6	7 6
Va. Retouch in top left hand sorn-er of frame. Row 20/5	10 0	10 0
O96a. 2d. Colour correction—Page 274. Amend the colours "Blue-grey and purple" to read "Slate-blue and plum".		
O97. ½d. Addition of o/p variety—Page 274. After item "Cb" add:— Va. Broken "C" in "OFFICIAL". Row 13/2	—	—
O98a. 1d. Additional number—Page 274. Between items "O98" and "O99" add: O98a. Basic No. 45B. 1d. Cyl. 6A/6B (Imprinted). Grey and carmine. o/p. Type X—10 mm. Thicker letters than on O98	0 6	0 4
Ca. Cyl. block of six, (A or B)	3 0	3 0
Cb. Marginal arrow pair	1 6	1 6
O99. 1d. Cylinder number and addition of o/p. variety. Alter the cylinder numbers "14/76" to read "76/14", and after item "Cb" add:— Va. Broken "C" in "OFFICIAL". Row 3/2	—	—
O99a. 1d. Cylinder number and ad-dition of o/p. variety. Alter the cylinder numbers "14/70" to read "70/14" and after item "Cb" add:— Va. Broken "C" in "OFFICIAL". Row 13/2	—	—
O101. 2d. Stamp size—Page 275. For size "22 x 16" read "22 x 18".		
O101a. 2d. Catalogue number—Page 275. Amend "No. 102" to read "No. 101".		
O102. 6d. Addition of o/p variety—Page 275. After item "Cb" add:— Va. Broken "C" in "OFFICIAL". Row 3/2	—	—
O103 1/- Plate and cylinder num-ber—Page 276. Delete Die 3" and replace with "Plate 5", and correct the cylin-der number "6925" to read "6926".		
O106. 10/- Price correction — Page 276. Amend the price of item "B" to read 37/6 instead of 27/6.		

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S. RHODESIA S.G. 23B 1/- Perf. 14. Imprint Block of 8 (mint)	£30
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Do. S.G. 23B 1/- Perf. 14 Block of 6 (Fine Used)	£25
Do. S.G. 17 Mint 5/-; Used	4/-
Do. S.G. 18 Mine, 12/6; Used	12/6
Do. S.G. 16c Mint block of 6	£11
SOUTH AFRICA S.G. 98A. Cat. 10/- Mint. Price	5/-
KENYA £100. S.G. 109 overprinted Specimen	£20

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O.V.S. PLATE NUMBERS.

Mr. A. Cecil Fenn of Gandria, Endwood Drive, Little Aston Park, Sutton Coldfield, England, writes:—

"There seems to be a misunderstanding as to the plate numbers on the Orange Free State issues. On the top and bottom margins over or under the 2nd stamp from each end appears a number either in a colourless type with a circle of solid colour or a solid number in a white truncated oblong.

The circular one is the plate number and as far as my collection is concerned (it runs into 15 volumes) I have only seen the one number viz. 1. This appears in a thin or thick type. The other number in the truncated oblong is not a plate number but an "engraving" sequence number, and is seen from 1 to 5. From reliable information in my possession, the first plate to be engraved was the 1d. and in consequence was numbered 1. The second plate was the 6d. value which was numbered 2.; the third the 1/- value No. 3, the fourth the 4d. value No. 4, next the 5/- value No. 5. Now owing to the records of De La Rue having been destroyed through enemy action during the Second War, no reason can be found why this procedure was stopped, because the next plate was the ½d. value which should have been No. 6, next the 2d. value No. 7 and lastly the 3d. value No. 8. This however was not done, so the plate number in a circle was put in its place. Although my collection is a vast one I have not got (or have seen) either the 1d. brown with truncated 1 or the 1/- orange buff with No. 3. I have heard of the 6d. value with both thin and thick number but have not seen this, and would not know why it should be as there were only about 5 million stamps printed of this value and the plate would not have had even to have been re-engraved through wear, as we have nearly 18 million of the 1d. value all shewing the heavy number.

If any Orange Free State specialists can throw any light on this interesting point I should be glad, and would be pleased at all times to give any other information in my possession to interested philatelists."

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C. E. SHERWOOD

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BECHUANALAND.

The "Stamp Magazine" also reports the release of new printings of the 2d., 6d. and 1/- on 21 May. Only the 1/- shews any marked shade difference, the centre being a very deep olive.

THE SECRET SOLACE OF STAMPS.

Some folk find distraction
In music or a play,
While others by a streamlet
Can sit and fish all day!

★

Now since I am a woman,
When things seem dull and flat,
I really find a solace
When buying a chic hat!

★

But I have often noticed
When HE is sad and blue,
He takes out his stamp albums,
To gaze at them anew.

★

Then like a flash of lightning
An unknown flag's unfurled,
And just as if by magic
He's in another world!

★

His face has lost the traces
And wrinkles of the years,
As there he sits enchanted,
Oblivious to fears.

★

So though I cannot follow
Of stamps the hidden joy,
I'm glad, that by some secret,
From man they make a boy!

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NOT TO BE CATALOGUED.

Messrs. Stanley Gibbons have announced that they are not going to include the ITEP printing of the Netherlands Centenary stamps in their catalogue. This follows on similar decisions about the Tabá stamps of Israel and the Luxembourg high values issued at Centilux.

The reason in all cases is that purchase of these stamps was conditional on purchasing a ticket of admission to the respective exhibitions — one ticket, one set of stamps.

We nearly came under the same ban at SATISE, but were saved by the fact that the stamps were also on sale at the Philatelic Agency in Pretoria.

The F.I.P. although coming down heavily on issues of stamps with large surcharges for charities, etc., make a special exception — more's the pity — on stamps issued in connection with philatelic exhibitions.

BELGIAN CONGO.

Some thematic collectors will be interested to hear that a set of 22 denominations of stamps with flower designs is in preparation.

PHILATELIC ODDS & ENDS

By
F. C. FERGUSON,
 President, Pretoria Philatelic Society)

In the pursuit of one's philatelic inclinations, much in the way of interest can be garnered from the various parts of the globe and I propose in this brief paper this evening to present some odds and ends, philatelic and otherwise, which have come to my notice, to do which I shall make many excursions into my philatelic scrapbook.

The first is the reference in the January 1940 issue of the Royal Canadian Mounted Police Magazine to the most northerly post office in the world at Craig Harbour on Ellesmore Island, 960 miles from the North Pole. The entire population of Craig Harbour in 1940 consisted of two Mounted Police and two childless Eskimo couples and what mail there was was collected once each year when the ice had sufficiently melted to permit the passage of R.M.S. "Nascopie" through the Eastern Arctic Circle. All mail picked up by the vessel at its points of call was taken at that time to the small Post Office in Craig Harbour where it was stamped with the local postmark and thereafter returned to the ship for carriage to the respective destinations.

The non-philatelist is often critical of those engaged in pursuit of stamp collecting, even to the extent of gesturing to the forehead, and support for their attitude may well arise when considering such claims from philatelists that post offices exist or have existed in such impossible points as in the air or on the floor of the ocean. These claims may prompt the suggestion that the critics are well-founded in their disbelief, but by the old adage that the proof of the pudding is in the eating thereof, cancelled covers are available to confound the protagonists and will be featured in the exhibit which you will be privileged to see this evening.

On certain recognised commercial air routes an officer of the flight acts as the recipient of postal matter handed in en route and collects the relevant postage rate, affixing the value at his first point of regular landing. The post-card on exhibit give the date when the missive was handed in, the time, the altitude and speed of the plane at that moment; the position of the plane in the air, the name of the Captain of the craft and the flight number.

It will be recalled that the centenary of the first adhesive postage stamp was commemorated on 6th May, 1940. To mark the occasion John Ernest Williamson, the originator of undersea photography and Director of the Bahamas Williamson Undersea Expedition, at the time engaged in scientific research of the mighty deep by the aid of a photosphere of his own creation, temporarily converted the photosphere into a diminutive post office. Visitors were daily taken on location, were permitted to descend

a flexible tube constructed on the principle of a concertina into a globular steel chamber with a huge glass window through which they were able to glimpse the wonders of marine life on the sea floor. They were encouraged to record their impressions and to post the mail matter in the photosphere. A special stamp, the Bahamas fourpenny, reproduced from a Williamson undersea photograph of the Nassau Marine Garden, the only stamp in philately bearing an undersea scene, was issued for the occasion and also commemorates an achievement of man in the mastery of the elements, in thus so doing marking yet another major contribution to world knowledge in the sphere of natural history.

Another cover of interest in the exhibit is one engraved by Perkins Bacon Ltd. with a special set of six Great Britain stamps cancelled in London on the first day of issue to commemorate the centenary of the first adhesive postage stamp.

You are well aware that mail has been carried by a variety of means, on foot, steamer, railways, airways, pigeon post and the like, but one of the least known must be the Rocket Post of which there are three actual flights recorded as having taken place in Great Britain in 1934. Various provisional stamps and labels as well as covers are listed in the catalogue of Messrs. Francis J. Field Ltd., of Sutton Coldfield, England, and it will be of interest to know whether any member has actually seen specimens of them.

It is a simple matter to-day to purchase prepared registered envelopes complete with blue lines across the envelope or to acquire an ordinary envelope and cross it with blue pencil lines indicative of a registered packet, but has it ever occurred to us to query the practice of crossing the envelope? According to Mr. S. Graveson, an authority on postal history, the origin is to be found in the middle ages when letters had no extra outside covering or envelope, but merely had the ends tucked in and, if it was specially desired to prevent the contents from being seen, a piece of silk or tape folded in with the ends was tied round the letter in both directions, the ends of the tie being secured under a seal. This crossed tie and seal also indicated to the bearer that special care should be taken of the missive. When the system of registration was adopted universally by post offices, cording and sealing was at first insisted on but in 1878 when printed registration envelopes were introduced the practice became defunct and the blue printed lines across the envelope was recognised as an instruction that care had to be taken with the packet.

Great interest was aroused in philatelic circles shortly after the conclusion of the first Great War by the discovery of forged German, Austrian and Bavarian stamps reported to be counterfeited by order of the British Government and which, according to Walter Behrens, a Brunswick stamp dealer, were employed for espionage purposes by the Allies, the censorship of letters in Germany especially in the closing years of the war being so strict that

foreign spies in that country found it almost impossible to transmit their reports and resorted to the use of forged stamps specially prepared in London for the purpose. Messages were written either on the back of the stamps or on the space covered by the stamps; alternatively the stamps were positioned on an envelope or cover in such a manner as to convey meanings. The British authorities have neither admitted nor disclaimed responsibility for the issues and it is common knowledge amongst philatelists during the second Great War that every precaution possible was taken to guard against the utilisation of this medium as a means of communication with the enemy.

The 1914/1918 conflict caused the collapse of several thrones but it will be admitted that the 1939/45 conflagration exceeded all records in the dethronement, even if only temporary, of royal personages. The removal of postal portraits of rulers was commenced by Hitler in Holland and in all about a dozen countries were so dealt with. Some have been restored but many new faces will appear on the stamps of the future. One philatelic prophesy is fulfilled, however, viz., that the Nazis would never efface from the stamps of Britain and her Colonies the head of the reigning British Monarch.

Some disbelief was expressed at a philatelic meeting when mention was made of a Bohemian stamp issued during the German occupation of Bohemia and Moravia incorporating an outline of the province prior to occupation and caricatures of Czech patriots. Following occupation the Germans overprinted the existing stocks of Czechoslovakian stamps and on near exhaustion of these, commissioned Herr B. Heinz to engrave new series. This he did with a subtlety that completely deceived the Germans and gave the Czechs immense secret amusement at the expense of the oppressors. The design of one stamp, No. 26 in Stanley Gibbons Catalogue, outwardly depicts a castle built on a rock with cloud effect above, tips of pine trees on the left, with rock formation in the foreground and on the right, the whole being an outline of the Province of independent Bohemia as it was before the Sudetenland had been cut away and added to the Reich. The patriot had carried his jest even further, for in the lines of the rock crevices he had sketched rough caricatures of

three former Czech Statesmen, President Masaryk, General Stefanik and Herr Svehla, a popular Minister. The Nazis eventually discovered the trick played upon them, the stamps were withdrawn and Herr Heinz seized and flung into a concentration camp where, undoubtedly, vengeance was exacted of him for his defiant act.

Brazil used its postage stamps by which to denounce Nazi Germany, and two issues are of particular interest. The first shows a Nazi Soldier guarding a concentration camp and bears the inscription "If Hitler wins there will be no freedom." The other, a Nazi hand grabbing at a map of Brazil and on it the wording "Words of Hitler 'We shall transform Brazil into a German Dominion'."

Many have been the victim nations of the Nazi hordes, and the United States of America in honour of the enemy occupied countries, issued a series of stamps which are proving most popular amongst collectors. Honoured by all nations, the late President Roosevelt attended ceremonies in America which marked the first day sale of each issue, and usually accompanying him were the Postmaster-General and Ambassadors or Ministers of the countries concerned.

Notwithstanding the activities of the former secret police and Gestapo in Germany and of the Cheka in Russia, it is common knowledge that if a joke delivers a sufficient wallop against the prevailing system it will spread by grapevine from country to country, regardless of language, and no secret police, however ruthless, is able to suppress it. The work "Cracks Behind the Iron Curtain" quotes several stories of interest and comments that the secret police is often the target of underground humour, as an illustration of which, there is the story of the unhappy Rumanian shuffling down a street, muttering to himself, "Those dirty rotten, no-good so-and-sos". A heavy hand falls on his shoulder. "Come along," says the policeman, "you are under arrest for treasonable utterances against the authorities." The citizen is indignant. "The authorities!" he cries, "why, I never even mentioned them!" "No," says the policeman, "but you described them perfectly."

(To be continued)

NEW ISSUES		COLLECTORS OVERSEAS		RECENT ISSUES	
	M. U.			M.	U.
Zanzibar		Concerning new Colonial Issues		St. Kitts	
5c. to 1/-	3/10 4/5	—do you receive perfect mint?		1c. to 24c.	2/10 3/2
5c. to 5/-	11/9 13/9	Are your used really superb?		1c. to 1 dol. 20c.	13/6 15/6
5c. to 10/-	31/3 36/-	Do you wait too long for replies?		1c. to 4 dol. 80c.	35/7 41/6
Bermuda		Are you really satisfied? If not, may I invite you to consider the attached offers and submit a trial order. This morning's mail (Aug. 5th) included orders from U.S.A., Canada, Hong Kong, S. Rhodesia and Cyprus. Most of them were repeat orders. Does it not speak for itself?		St. Vincent	
2/6, new shade	2/10 3/4	BRITISH COLONIAL NEW ISSUE SERVICE.		new 1c. to 10c.	1/3 1/6
Papua New Guinea		Mint 10% face. Used 25% on face.		Barbados	
New Pictorial Set due October 30th				1942 Centenary	2/1 2/5
1d. to 1/-	4/- 4/6			Canada	
1d. to 2/6	10/- 11/-			Red Cross 4c.	5d. 5d.
1d. to 10/-	19/6 21/6			new 20c.	2/- 4d.
1d. to £1	39/6 42/6			new 20c. "G"	2/- 2/-
Postage extra please.				Jamaica	
2½d. per oz. registration 6d.				Jamboree	1/- 1/-
Air Mail, 1/3 per half ounce.				new 3 red	4d. 5d.
HAROLD STROUD,		58 DARWEN STREET,		BLACKBURN, ENGLAND	

POLAND.

'Varimex' announces issues of 20 stamps during the third quarter of 1952. Subjects and numbers are Young Shock Workers (3), Our Constitution (2), 70th Anniversary of Foundation of Workers' Party (2), Power Station at Jaworzno (2), Beautiful Monuments (3), Aviation Day (3), Gdansk shipyards (2), 1,000th Birth Anniversary of Avicenna and 150th Birth Anniversary of Victor Hugo (2), Henryk Sienkiewicz (1).

BRITISH COLONIALS.

Messrs. Whitfield King & Co.'s "Press Notes" indicate that preparations for Elizabethan stamps are in full swing now. Some of the issues in preparation are:—

Antigua. A set in decimal currency, designs mostly as before except for the change in currency and the new portrait.

Gold Coast. New Royal portrait and the following colour changes — ½d., colour of present 2½d.; 1½d., green; 2½d., design of present ½d.; red; 3d., magenta and 4d., blue.

Leeward Is. Set of 14 in decimal currency and new portrait; values 1c. to \$4.80.

N. Rhodesia. Entire set to have the Queen's portrait.

Trinidad. All values to have portrait changed; no further changes announced so far.

ERITREA.

Federation with Abyssinia occurred on 15 September. British stamps reprinted "B.A. Eritrea" withdrawn on that date.

N. ZEALAND CORONATIONS.

New Zealand is to have a special set of five Coronation stamps in June, 1953; the new definitive stamps will not be issued until after the Coronation set has been withdrawn.

U.S.A. COMMEMORATIVES.

American collectors appear to be becoming dissatisfied with the commemorative issues. Mr. R. B. McCoy in "Stamps" says the worthy idea of commemoration has degenerated to a point where some special issues promote and publicize events which have no national significance or historical value whatever.

He recommends that collectors and stamp societies should form a standing committee to attempt to represent the hobby in Washington and to get the co-operation of Congress and the Post Office Department to set up criteria for the future issues of commemoratives.

FRENCH ESTABLISHMENTS IN INDIA.

It is reported in "Stamp Collecting" that the French possession of Chandernagore has been ceded to India, and there seems to be little doubt but that the four other small territories of Karikal, Mahé, Pondichery and Yanvan will go the same way.

For the philatelist this means of course the disappearance of the "Etablissements Francais dans l'Indes" stamps. Also, seeing that Indian P.O.'s functioned in these territories as well as French ones, there will no longer be any "India Used Abroad" items from them.

GREAT BRITAIN.

Mr. C. Calitz has submitted an Air Mail Letter Card which has been guillotined right through the middle of what would normally be the front of the card when it is folded and closed. He says it is one found in a packet of 20 normal forms bought in Tobruk when the South African troops were there.

According to "Stamp Collecting" the Queen Elizabeth definitive issue will have a three-quarter face portrait of Her Majesty, facing left. It is a new experiment to have a natural portrait instead of the formal or stylised portraits hitherto employed.

CAPE TRIANGULAR CENTENARY.

At a recent meeting of the Executive Committee of the Philatelic Federation it was decided to approach the Union P.M.G. with a view to having one low-value commemorative stamp issued in September next year in honour of this noteworthy philatelic and postal occasion.

There is a move on foot, sponsored originally by the Afrikaanse Filatelistiese Vereniging, that the Transvaal Societies should unite in having a non-competitive display of Cape and other stamps about the same time. Each participating society to contribute exhibits which its members could best provide.

It is hoped that this display might take place in the foyer of the Johannesburg Public Library where so many Africana exhibits get shown.

RHODESIA 1953.

If you are thinking of attending the Rhodes Centenary Celebrations and the Philatelic Congress which will be held in Bulawayo on 13-16 July, 1953 it is about time to do something about it.

As is usual on such occasions the getting there and the finding of accommodation when you do arrive, will present difficulties.

The member-societies of the Federation have been notified about travel, accommodation, possible extra trip to the Falls, prices, etc. and the best thing you can do now is to get in touch with your Society's Secretary at once.

FINLAND.

The Director of Posts reports the issue on 3 August of a 25 m. stamp commemorating the centenary of the burning of the town of Vaasa.

We also received from Helsinki particulars about servicing of covers with the Special Olympic stamps and cancellation, but only after the games were finished.

S.W.A. "OFFICIALS"

In connection with the transposed Overprints and the note on page 139 of our August issue, Mr. J. Robertson now informs us that the ½d. value was definitely **not overprinted** with the 1st or 2nd setting of the current type of overprint, only with the latest (3rd) setting.

AUSTRALIA

All fine used.

18 1937/47 King and Queen, 1d. to 5/-	4/6
9 1950/52 new style, large heads 1½d.—12½d.	3/6
9 1942/48 Australian Zoo 1½d. to 2/-	2/6
4 1937/52 Aborigine and Airs, 8½d. to 2/6	4/-
2 1938 Robes 10/- and £1. Specimen	8/6
3 1949/50 Arms 10/-, £1, £2 Specimen	13/6
1 1951 Anus 5/- pelure paper	3/6

GERMANY

1923, S.G. 62, constant plate flaw, broken or missing loop at left centre of rosette." 20, 100, 200, 500 M., 1, 2, 5, 10 Md.,—set of 8 pairs with normal mint, price 10/6.

**UNION 10/- CONSTANTIA
(Mint Pairs)**

Ultramarine and black, 35/-; variety dot top left 45/-; Violet-blue and sepia, 40/-; variety dot top left, 52/6; Violet-blue and sepia-black, 35/-; Electric-blue and sepia-black, 42/-.

C.W.O. Postfree.

A. Lichtenstein

B.P.A.

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SOCIETY NEWS

PRETORIA RAILWAY PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

The August meeting was held at the usual venue on the 13th when unfortunately history repeated itself in so far as the fact that the attendance was just as disappointing as it was last year, when the yearly competition was held. However, the standard and the number of entries certainly showed a big improvement on the previous competition. The excellence of the exhibits was proved when the final result was announced and it was found that very few marks separated the participants. This year the judging was done by the members present at the meeting, and the result was — 1st Mr. L. B. McLachlan; 2nd Mr. E. Walker; 3rd a tie between Mr. R. Castignani and Mr. A. Roy, and 5th Mr. A. Clapham, with a special prize to our old friend Mr. J. P. Martin of Estcourt, Natal, who was the only country member to send in an exhibit. A notable fact was that the first two prizes went to exhibits that were mounted and written up on black paper. Our congratulations and thanks are due not only to the winners, but also to the other seven exhibitors who helped to make the competition the outstanding success that it was with the excellence of their entries. F.J.V.L.

ORANGE FREE STATE & BASUTOLAND PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

June Meeting.

Mr. C. A. Larsen in the chair. The first half of the evening consisted of "Philatelic News", reported by Mr. J. Lewis, of an auction sale of small stamp lots, and of a "20 Questions" Quiz which was won by Master I. Simmons. The highlight of the evening was a display by Mr. J. B. Levy of his fine collection of Newfoundland stamps. Some of the scarcer items were present and included a "DO-X" cover, and all stamps were in immaculate condition. The evening was rounded off with an interesting discussion initiated by a thought-provoking talk which was given by Mr. A. I. Mackenzie on "cylinder numbers on sheet margins."

July Meeting:

An informal evening presided by Dr. Freund. The programme was a much varied one. Mr. M. Sacks started the ball rolling by showing off the problem of the "Cross-hatched Union id. stamp" with several pages of id. printings. Mr. A. H. Scott gave a surprise display of a practically complete collection of modern French pictorials, the majority of which he had acquired from his own business correspondence. Dr. Freund gave a talk on Sige material of the Boer War (Mafeking excluded) and followed this up with a display which was outstanding in quantity and quality. Mr. Mackenzie gave another one of his expert talks, this time on "Substances of Stamp paper and the Dangers of its gradual deterioration", which kept the audience spell-bound, if not panic-stricken.

August Meeting:

Dr. Freund in the chair. After disposing of the formal business, members settled down to a "Stamp Knowledge" Quiz, arranged by Mr. R. A. Brown. Mr. J. Hodgson was the winner, with Dr. Freund the runner-up. Mr. G. N. Gilbert, of Westminster, showed the town members what is being done on the "plaas" and displayed a wonderful collection of the stamps of Bermuda, with "high values" in abundance. The evening was concluded with a thematic collection by Dr. Freund, entitled "Chess on stamps", shown to coincide with the Chess Tournament held at the same time between Bloemfontein and Kimberley. A surprising number of pages showed the "Chess" motive on stamps of various countries and in postal cancellations.

AFRIKAANSE FITALISTIESE VERENIGING.

5 September 1952:

Onvermydelik kan al die lede van 'n vereniging nie altyd teenwoordig wees nie, al is die hoofsaak dan ook 'n ruil- en veilaand. Die veertien geesdriftiges wat opgedaag het om aan die vendisie deel te neem was nie teleurgestel nie, want selfs die mees gevorderdste onder hulle het nog iets bygekry. Lidmaatskap is aan vyf applikante toegestaan, terwyl kennis geneem is van 'n verdere aansoek, en wel deur mnr. W. H. J. Muller, van Rewlatch. Besoekers altyd baie welkom. S.J.V.

WEST RAND STAMP CLUB.

September:

Once again a pleasant meeting was held at Mr. Burrell's residence though the meeting was small, some members being on leave and others unable to attend for various reasons.

The meeting started with a discussion on the latest copy of Stanley Gibbons Part I catalogue and much interest was displayed in the various alterations in the 1953 edition.

After that we went on to general business which seemed to take a long time. The question of a quiz team was discussed and we hope to give a good account of ourselves when the time comes.

When all the business was completed the hour was getting late so that our exhibitor for the evening was asked if he would not mind postponing his exhibit till another evening.

At our next meeting we will be visited by the Jewish Guild Philatelic Section and look forward to a very good show.

In November Mr. J. Spencer who is now in Rhodesia (a former member of the club) has agreed to give us an exhibit.

The meeting closed with a vote of thanks to Mrs. Burrell for providing the tea. E.J.S.

PORT ELIZABETH PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

5th August, 1952:

This meeting saw an average number of members in attendance. The first half of the evening showed members in a buying mood at the auction, so that the funds of the Society benefited as a result.

Mr. G. A. Geard delighted us with a collection of the stamps of the Netherlands, showing a good range from the earliest to the latest issues in fine condition. Holland being a popular country, members were much interested in the display and Mr. Geard was warmly thanked for his effort.

19th August, 1952:

On this evening members and visitors were greeted by an improved look in the meeting room due to the fact that display tables were adorned by newly provided covers, which should in future keep any material shown nice and clean.

Mr. Watson, the Auctioneer, conducted a successful auction; plenty of material now coming forward from members.

After tea and cake, Mr. G. Bülbring displayed a collection of stamps of the former German Colonies. It consisted of a very representative lot, including many complete sets of both used and mint stamps, as also examples of the "Vorläufer", the "Zug" cancellations on German East African Stamps, the "Marie" Stamps of that colony, complete booklets and Specimen Sets.

The Exhibitor also read a paper, which explained the stamps shown as well as some special and interesting aspects relative to them, besides briefly touching on the historical and economic history of the Colonies.

Mr. G. K. Forbes thanked Mr. Bülbring on behalf of the members before the closing of the meeting at a somewhat late hour.

EAST LONDON PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

August 8th, 1952.

This meeting was essentially a Junior meeting. All Junior stamp collectors were invited and welcomed by the President, Mr. Hellman. A paper was read to them by Mr. Gillespie and advice given on mounting and collecting stamps. The President thanked Mr. Gillespie for his interest and for the trouble taken in bringing examples of writing-up and mounting to show to the juniors. Mr. Hellman conducted a Quiz. Three boys scored 8½ points out of 10 (well done future Philatelists!) and Mr. Hellman brought numerous prizes for the winners and runners-up.

All members brought 6 sheets of stamps along to provide variety for display and were thanked by the President.

Items of Philatelic interest were shown as follows: Mr. Harper, Canadian Red Cross 4c. Mr. Hellman, Mozambique 1st National Congress of Tropical Medicine, 3.00.

Mr. Watson, Finland Stamps Commemorating Olympic Games, Czech. Cover.

Mrs. Alabaster, Cover Commemorating the S.S. United States "Maiden Voyage".

Dr. Alabaster, 1st day cover of recent flower issue of Holland.

Altogther a very popular and profitable evening for the youngsters.

An auction was held at the end of the proceedings.

September 12th, 1952.

A very well attended meeting in spite of bad weather. Mr. Hellman welcomed all members and visitors. Three new members were elected. The President said that the Master of Selbourne College had thanked him for arranging a Junior meeting last month and that now all the Juniors wanted to become members of our Senior Society!

Matters of Philatelic interest were shown as follows:

Mr. Ferros, Double overprint Union Penny.
Mr. Watson, Two Czech. Covers.
Mr. Gillespie, Union Penny, part of background behind ship missing.
Mr. Pluddeman, Cover of the Handel Festival at Halle, Soviet Occupied Eastern Germany.
Mr. Cambell, Cover of First Australian-South African Air Service.
Mrs. Alabaster, Old Korean Post Cards with the second language in French.

The new S.G. Catalogue was discussed and the many changes in it.

The 2/6 Union stamp is now obtainable in a new shade. The 4d. just about the 16th or 17th row is lighter in the top half of the row than in the bottom half. The President intimated that the life of the present Pictorials is short and that the promised new issues are coming out soon. The 4^{ad}. will be the first to appear and the issue will not be Pictorial. Mr. Shingler suggested that at least one stamp of this issue should have a portrait of Her Majesty the Queen and that our Society recommend it to the Federation. This was unanimously supported and a letter is duly being sent to The South African Federation on this point.

The President said that a change of venue was necessary. Favourable replies had been received from the East London Museum and Red Cross House. After much discussion it was decided that Red Cross House be our future meeting place.

Mr. H. Harper resigned from his job of circulating the Magazines and Mr. Gillespie gallantly stepped into the breach.

Mr. Jensen showed a beautifully written-up and artistically mounted collection of Denmark. We can always be sure of a treat when Mr. Jensen promises us a display. He was warmly thanked by Mr. Thornton. Mr. Joseph showed some pages of very specialised Union stamps with controls in blocks of four and read a few notes on it. Mr. Shingler, a Union Collector himself, thanked him for his display.

An Auction was held and tea served. R.A.

PHILATELIC SOCIETY OF JOHANNESBURG.

At the meeting held on September 9th the Rev. Loxley Chamings exhibited a fine collection of the stamps of United States of America consisting of "People" and "Places".

In all there were 150 stamps each on a separate card describing the person or place.

The people included John Smith, Pocahontas, George Washington, Benjamin Franklin, Scientists, Poets and numerous others. The places included the 1924 National Park Series and the Statehood Stamps.

It was a fine section of Mr. Chamings' Thematic Collection of People and Places.

Before the Exhibit Mr. Chamings read a paper describing some of the prominent people and some of the places shown.

Mr. W. Redford spoke on the exhibit.

At the meeting of September 22nd, Mr. Ferreira, the Publicity Officer G.P.O., showed Essays and Proofs of the Union. He read a paper on these before the exhibit giving a history of the different issues and the competitions held for the designs. Originally the distribution of stamps to the Post Offices were in the hands of the Treasury but in 1917 this was transferred to the Post Office.

The Exhibit contained numerous proofs and essays of the Pictorial issues. In the King's Head series there were several essays. Several of the designs shown were not adopted for the official issues but they were for the most part very near the adopted issues.

Mr. J. Mendelssohn first spoke on the exhibit and expressed the appreciation of the members. Mr. Buchen also spoke on the exhibit and associated himself with Mr. Mendelssohn in expressing appreciation. Mr. Sheffield also expressed the Society's thanks.

STUDY YOUR COUNTRY'S STAMPS

R. T. LILLEY**OFFERS:**

GODDEN'S De Luxe album. The retail price a years ago was £8. I have a few which have never been used. They can be inspected in my office each 150/-

SOUTH AFRICA—MINT:

King's Head 2d. Roll stamp, isolated perf. 4/-
1d. without wmk. S.G. 43a. No gum, pair 35/-
1d. Ship type Trefoil wmk. Mint pair 80/-
1938 Voortrekker set of 6 horizontal pairs 17/6
1939 Huguenot set of three horizontal pairs 9/-
Small War ½d. The true green in unit of 3 2/-
Small War 2d. Pair with misplaced perfs. 5/-
½d. Cross-hatch. Still a few pairs available 35/-
5/- Screened, block of 4 from top of sheet with arrow and two constant varieties 30/-
London Printing 1/- Official. Two bottom rows of the sheet showing Imprint and the variety "Stop after Official". S.G. 021 & 21a. £6

SOUTH AFRICA—USED:

1910 2½d. postmarked Day of Issue, 4/11/10 4/-
1927 10/- in a superb horizontal pair. Cat. £3 25/-
1933-48 10/- sepia frame, S.G. 64b 10/-
1933-48 10/- frame in blackish-brown, S.G.64ba 8/6
1937 Coronation set, five horizontal pairs 5/-
New type Overprint Officials: 2d. hor, pair 4d.
6d. S.G. 039, 1/6; 6d. 039a 1/3; 1/- 040 2/-
2/6 S.G. 041 (Gibbons price 3/-!! I'm a buyer) 6/-

ANSWER TO LAST MONTH'S TEASER:

Sir (Thomas) Moore—Sirmoor.

Now forgive me and try this one:

OUR TEEN LETER SPINE

which is an anagram of a term describing some Scandinavian stamps.

Credit Note for £1 1s. 0d. will go to the first correct solution received by 15th November provided it is accompanied by an order for at least 10/- worth of stamps.

GREAT BRITAIN SIDEWAYS WATERMARK:

S.G. 418a used, 1/6; 439a used, 6d.; 441c used, 1/3; 442b mint, 2/-; 442b used 2/3; 462a mint or used 3d; 463a mint 1/-; 463a used 9d.; 464a mint or used 5d; 465a used 1/9; 466a used 2/-; 486a used 2d.; 488a mint 4d.; 488a used 5d.; 489a used 4d.; 504a mint or used 2d.; 505a mint or used 3d.; 506a mint or used 3d.; 507a mint or used 4d.

All offered subject to stock. Registration or insurance is extra on orders value less than 40/-. Country cheques and crossed Postal Orders must include bank charges.

Price lists are free and post free.

**37 Wroxham House, 212 Jeppe Street,
JOHANNESBURG.**

ALL IN THE GAME

I.

By W. LOXLEY CHAMINGS.

All sorts of incidents have attended my fifty-five years of collecting. None of them perhaps was very thrilling, but to a collector nothing connected with the great game is devoid of interest. I am proposing therefore to share a few of these incidents with my fellow philatelists.

The first concerns the odd places in which good stamps at times turn up. In 1927 I stayed for a week at the Pestalozzi Orphanage at Intra on Lake Maggiore, and became so greatly interested in those bright-eyed Italian orphans that I determined to set stamps to work for their benefit. Accordingly I made it widely known that the proceeds of any stamps given me would be sent to the Orphanage. Of course, much that was handed to me was the ordinary schoolboy stuff that realised at most a few shillings. But not all, as two typical incidents will show.

I spoke of this Orphanage to an audience in Northern Ireland in March of 1928, and at the close an elderly lady said: "I have some old American stamps you can have for the orphans. In due time she brought them along. From a tattered old envelope tumbled a score or so copies, mostly in good condition, of S.G. No. 6 of U.S.A., with a few odds and ends. She appeared to be one to whom a gift of ten shillings would be a real sacrifice, so I said: "But these are really good stamps; shouldn't I give you at least part of their value?" She looked quite hurt, and said: "No, no, I want the Orphanage to have the money." So it was a good few pounds the gainer;

The same sort of thing happened again in Jersey in the Channel Islands. This time it was an old cigar-box that was turned out for the benefit of the orphans, and mixed up with some junk were superb copies of the early Canadian imperforates, beavers and all, large Queen's heads, and what not. In this case the donor was a wealthy printer, so I didn't even give him a chance to change his mind!

EXPLORE THE SKYWAYS!

No modern stamp collection is postally or historically complete without representative flown covers. Therefore let us help you to explore the Skyway Mails of your favourite country or group. Name the country and we will submit recommended appropriate covers which will portray a birds-eye view of the complete story.

FRANCIS J. FIELD, LTD.,

Publishers of "THE AERO FIELD".

SUTTON COLDFIELD ————— ENGLAND.

"FIRST STAMP OF THE WORLD."

The latest claim on behalf of a stamp to be earlier than the British Penny Black — from Spital in Corinthia (Austria) is dealt with exhaustively by Mr. E. Mueller in "Stamps". He gives very convincing evidence that the find is bogus, made by fakers.

REVIEWS.

Stamp Collecting for All, by Stanley Phillips. Stanley Gibbons Ltd. Price 2/6 plus 2d. postage.

This is the 6th edition of an old friend, which the author himself says is the most popular of all the various books he has written about stamp collecting.

It is an eminently practical little work, well illustrated, for beginners, young or old, and deals with almost every problem with which such collectors may be faced.

New features in the edition are (a) a chapter on "the stamp library", what you need as a beginner in the way of catalogues, etc., and (b) a stamp 'quiz', introduced not so much as a game, but to tempt readers to search their catalogues — before looking at the answers.

Basic Philately, by L. N. and M. Williams. Link House Publications, 24 Store St., London W.C.1. Price 8/-.

The scope of this booklet is perhaps better indicated by its sub-title "The Art and Craft of Stamp Making."

It deals briefly but adequately with the various methods of printing, with different dies, overprints and surcharges (the writers maintain the difference between these terms, surcharges being overprints which may alter the original value), paper, watermarks, gum, perforations, proofs, specimens, essays, etc.

The names of the writers are sufficient guarantee that within its short limits the information given is both accurate and interestingly presented.

Collectors' Wants & Offers

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

Collections and rarities especially Unions wanted for cash. Kindly contact—JOHN MENDELSSOHN, P.O. Box 1607, Johannesburg.

APPROVALS: British Colonials and World for all collectors.—BENONI STAMP SHOP, Benoni.

50% over Gibbons Catalogue price offered for a superb Mint and Used copy of Seychelles, S.G. 52A.—WILLIAM REDFORD, P.O. Box 1182, Johannesburg.

REQUIRED Switzerland. All issues, mint, used and covers. For Cash or Exchange for Geo. VI.—B. JOSEPH, P.O. Box 4967, Johannesburg.

Austria Collector wanting exchange.—Postamt 49, Fach 27, Vienna, Austria.

STAMPS.—Want lists invited for any country; specialties Union, S.W.A., British Africa. — LACY'S, Gillbern Buildings, cor. Plein and Mostert Streets, Cape Town.

GEORGE VI Silver Weddings: Complete Mint Set for Sale. May be seen evenings. Offers to P. SMITS, 21, Strathbogie, 8 Caroline Street, Hillbrow, Johannesburg.

U.S.A.

The next commemoratives to appear are a 3c. on 5 Sept., for the centenary of the Society of Civil Engineers, and another 3c. on 11 Sept., honouring the women in the U.S. Armed Services.

THE SOUTH AFRICAN PHILATELIST

PROPRIETORS AND PUBLISHERS :

The Philatelic Federation of Southern Africa

Honorary Editor: Dr. J. H. HARVEY PIRIE }
Business Manager: Mr. J. MICHELSON. } P.O. Box 375, Johannesburg.

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EDITORIAL

CATALOGUE SUPPLEMENTS.

Several letters have been received by the Editor and by the Handbook-Catalogue editors re the Supplements. The main theme of them has been that they would have liked the supplements to have been printed in the same size and set-up as the pages of the Handbook-Catalogue. This, it is stated, would have enabled them to cut out the supplements and paste them into the Handbook-Catalogue at the appropriate places.

The possibility was considered by the editors of the Handbook-Catalogue and by myself. It would, of course, have been possible to print the supplements with the typescript the same size as that of the pages of the Handbook-Catalogue although it would have meant a considerable sacrifice of space on the pages of the "S.A. Philatelist". It would not have been possible, with a different printer, to have had the type and set-up quite identical with that of the Handbook-Catalogue.

Another argument against printing the Supplements in the style suggested was this: It was realised that, as information came in, or was detected by the joint editors, about corrections required, that these would inevitably refer to many and varied Sections of the Handbook-Catalogue. It would never have been possible therefore to have supplements dealing only with one section and set up in a form suitable for cutting out a whole page for pasting in the Handbook-Catalogue. Even if this had been possible, it was considered that such pasting in of pages would have been a clumsy way of dealing with them. One correspondent described such a procedure as "disfiguring the Handbook."

It was decided therefore to stick to the terms of the announcement made in the Explanatory Notes, p. xv of the Handbook-Catalogue where it is stated "it is proposed to compile a monthly supplement for inclusion in each issue of 'The South African Philatelist'. The information will be printed on the centre page so as to be easily removed for separate filing."

The operative words there are **for separate**

filing as it was felt that this would be the best way of dealing with the supplements. When they come to an end they will then form a complete supplement to the Handbook-Catalogue, but will be ready for incorporation in a revised edition, if and when that is required.

The plan is really that used by Messrs. Stanley Gibbons who publish supplements to their catalogues in their monthly magazine, though it is not likely that we will be able to run to yearly new editions of the Handbook-Catalogue.

1952 XMAS SEAL.

The 1952 Xmas Seal is as shown in the illustration. It was designed by Nils Folberg, the centre being in green and the surround in red.

Three Preventoria ("Sunshine Homes") depend entirely on the sale of these seals for their upkeep, at Belville, Queenstown and Pietermaritzburg.

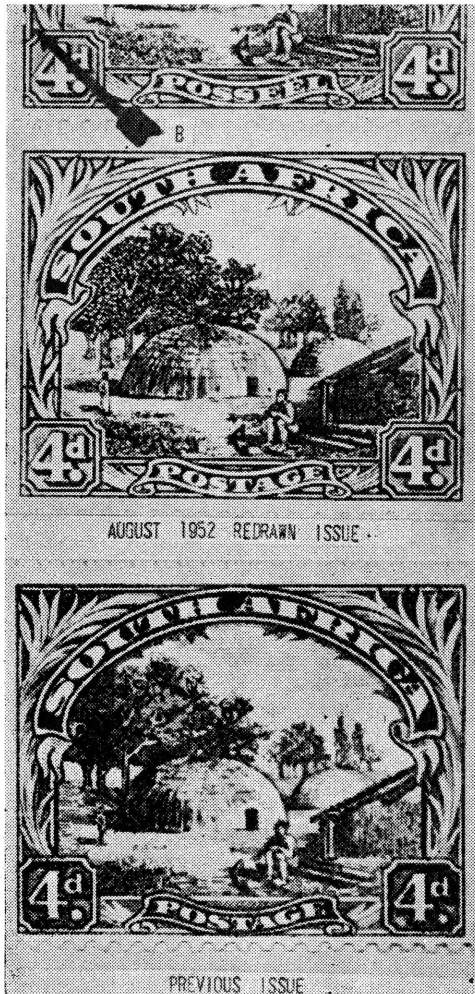


A CORRECTION.

We regret that a mistake in the lay-out of Messrs. Robson Lowe's advertisement in our September issue made the announcement of the sixth and final portion of Mr. J. B. Seymour's famous Great Britain collection read "Mr. J. B. Seumour". The sale unfortunately will be over by the time this correction appears, but we hope that those collectors to whom the announcement would have specially appealed, were not lead astray by the misprint. As the collection was such a very well known one, and as sections of it had been sold for quite a period, we fancy they would have put two and two together to make four, not merely three. Nevertheless our apologies for the mistake.

The new hyphenated fourpenny stamp

By W. N. SHEFFIELD.



Master Negative Flaw on Redrawn 4d. Hyphenated Stamps.


A letter received from Mr. C. E. Sherwood of Manchester, England, draws attention to the presence of a constant flaw on one Afrikaans inscribed stamp in every block of four of the recently issued 4d. hyphenated pictorial.

It takes the form of a small, but clearly visible, indentation in the left hand frame line immediately above the value tablet as shown in the accompanying photograph. It occurs on all the odd-numbered Afrikaans stamps of the sheet and these, of course, are in the odd-numbered rows.

The flaw is of particular interest as indicating that in the preparation of the new issue, the glass multipositive plate — which is the same size as the sheet of stamps — was produced from a photographic negative comprising a block of four images instead of, as is sometimes the case, a bilingual pair. A master negative of a pair of images is easier to prepare than one of a block of four, but the time spent in the projecting process when making a multipositive for a sheet of stamps is, of course, longer.

Writing in connection with some of the features in the design of the hyphenated stamps, Mr. D. Lamont Smith of Johannesburg, mentions that probably one of the most easily noticeable differences between the old and new English inscribed copies lies in the leaves under the name scroll. In the old issue, these are more numerous and somewhat fuzzy in the drawing; whereas in the new stamps they are limited to six in number and are all clear cut.

Our enlarged photographs of the English stamps show the feature referred to in Mr. Smith's letter. The main design on the Afrikaans copies is similar, but with the distinguishing feature that in the new issue, the place name SUID-AFRIKA is hyphenated.



B.P.A.

The GLOBE POSTAGE STAMP COMPANY
(E. M. LACY (PTY.) LTD.)
House for Quality in
STAMPS OF ALL NATIONS
Specialists in British Africans, Union, S.W.A., Old Capes, Transvaal,
Natal, O.F.S., etc.

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**POST AND REGISTRATION MARKS OF
THE ROYAL TOUR OF SOUTHERN AFRICA**
By H. W. BOND.

(Continued from page 183 of October issue.)

SWAZILAND.

S1. First day of issue.

A circular mark used at the G.P.O., the outer circle being 26mm. in diameter, and the inner 17.5mm. in diameter. The wording "Mbabane" at the top, and "Swaziland" at the bottom. The date 17 II A47 in the centre of the inner circle.

Two Registration cachets were used: (1) "MBABANE" in large letters 4.5mm. high, and underlined with one single line, the registration number being written in by hand.

(2) An oval shaped mark, with the wording Post-Office—Poskantoor around the curve at the top, Mbabane, Swaziland at the bottom, divided by star shaped ornaments on the left and right side, the Registration number written in by hand in the inner oval.

S2. Day of arrival.

A circular mark having the outer circle 29mm. and the inner circle 19mm. in diameter, at the top the wording Royal Visit, at the bottom and off-centre to the level line of the date the word Swaziland, the date 25 III 47 in the centre of the inner circle. The distinguishing features are:—

(i) A line level with the bottom of the date cutting the circle in half, shows the top of the "S" of Swaziland 1mm. below the line.

(ii) '47' of the date is level with this line.

(iii) The "W" in Swaziland is wide, and the three vertical strokes of even height.

(iv) The horizontal stroke of "A" in land, slopes from right to left. No registration cachet.

S3. Day of Arrival.

A circular mark having the outer circle 29mm. and the inner circle 19mm. in diameter, at the top the wording Royal Visit, and at the bottom and centralised with the date level, the word Swaziland. The distinguishing features are:—

(i) '47' of the date is below the level of the date line.

(ii) The "W" of Swaziland is full and narrow.

(iii) The horizontal stroke of the "A" is straight. The registration cachet is the same as No. 2 of S1.

S4. Royal Train mark.

This is a very interesting cancellation, having been cancelled on the Royal Train. The shape and wording are the same as No.'s 2 and 3, the distinguishing features being:—

(i) Diameter of the outer circle 28mm. inner circle 18mm.

(ii) The wording and the date are centralised, but smaller than No.'s 2 or 3, taking a line level with the bottom of the date and cutting the circles in half, the top of the "S" and "D" of Swaziland will be 4mm. from the date line level.

(iii) Two dots, one on the left and the other on the right hand side, and between the two circles, divide the wording Royal Visit at the top and Swaziland at the bottom.

(iv) '47' is above the level of the date line.

(v) The middle vertical stroke of the "W" in Swaziland is short, and the horizontal stroke of the "A" in "land" is curved. This is the cancellation used at Bremersdorp.

The registration cachet is oblong in shape, 60 mm. by 23.5 mm. wide, with a large "R" at the left, and Bremersdorp on the top right, below, the No..... and a line of dots on which the registration number is written in by hand. The hand that wrote the Registration Number of the Bechuanaland Royal Train cachet, wrote in the number of the Bremersdorp 'Royal Train' cachet of Swaziland. There are no Railways in Basutoland and Swaziland, so The Royal Train stopped at Maseru on the border of the Orange Free State and Basutoland; and at Piet Retief in the Transvaal just on the border of Swaziland, from these towns the Royal Party toured the two High Commission Territories by motor car.

SOUTHERN RHODESIA.

R1. First day of issue.

The normal cancellation from the G.P.O. is two circles, the outer measuring 30mm. and the inner 20mm. in diameter, the wording Salisbury at the top, and S. Rhodesia at the bottom.

The registration cachet is oblong in shape, with a large "R" at the left, on the right the wording Salisbury, in smaller letters S. Rhodesia, at the bottom Nr..... a line of dots on which the registration number has been machine typed.

R2. Royal Train.

The Special postmark is oval in shape, with the wording Royal Tour around the inner circumference at the top, and Southern Rhodesia at the bottom, divided by two dots, one on the left and the other on the right hand side of the oval, and the whole is surmounted by the Rhodesian Coat of Arms. The distinguishing features are:—

The base on which the Coat of Arms stands has three bars across it, one in the middle and one at either end. The base is straight, 8mm. long, and the colour of the ink used is Blue.

The registration cachet is oblong in shape, with a large "R" at the left, at the top right Royal Train, below this in smaller letters S. Rhodesia, at the bottom Nr..... and a line of dots on which the registration number is written in by hand, the colour of ink used is blue.

R3. Royal Train/G.P.O.

Similar in design to Type R2, the difference being in the base on which the Coat of Arms stands. This base curves to the shape of the top of the oval, is 10mm. long, and there are no bars across it. The letters R. in Royal Tour are 2.5 mm. wide. It has been claimed that this mark, used in conjunction with the registration cachet which had the number machine typed, was used only in room 4, G.P.O. Salisbury, for cancelling covers sent in by the public. This is not quite correct. The following information was given to me by a member of the staff of the train:—

I wanted to know why covers cancelled with the Royal Train postal and registration marks were cancelled in the G.P.O. Salisbury. If they were cancelled there, they obviously cannot be Royal-Train covers. He tells me that he personally franked my covers, and on the train.

There was such a lot of work to get through that he had not the time to walk into Salisbury to post one or a hundred covers to me or any one else.

I then taxed him with the following question:

Where was and who handed the machine or machine-typing-in of the registration number? Having helped to build the Royal Train, I had not noticed any machine being fitted for machine typing the registered numbers. His answer was: There were so many covers to be cancelled, that the staff on the train had no hope of completing their work within the time at their disposal, so orders were given to cancel the remaining covers, which were then placed in mail-bags and despatched to Room 4, G.P.O. Salisbury, where the registered numbers were machine typed and recorded. This is a hybrid cover, it is neither a Royal Train cover, or a normal G.P.O. cover:

R4. Salisbury.

The 'ROYAL TRAIN' cancellations which were cancelled at the G.P.O. Salisbury, and not on the Royal Train, are the marks known as the narrow R type: The marks are similar to Type R3. The difference is in the size of the letters R, in Royal Tour 2mm. and in Southern Rhodesia 1.5mm. in the postmark, the registration mark is similar to R3.

R5. Royal Train.

These Postal and Registration cancellers are the same as those used in type R3, the distinguishing feature being that the registration number has been written in by hand. Postmark cancelled in black ink, the registration mark in violet coloured ink.

R6. Royal Train.

The postal cancellation is the same as type R2, colour of ink used is blue.

The registration cachet is the same as type R2, colour of ink used violet.

The registration number has been written in by hand.

R7. Royal Train.

This Post and Registration canceller is the one mainly used for cancelling mail from the "White" Train. They are similar to type R3, the differentiating features being: The Post and Registration marks are in black ink. The Registration cachet markings are very heavy, and the registration number has been written in by hand.

BECHUANALAND PROTECTORATE.

BP1. First day of issue.

A circular cancellation having the outer circle measuring 28mm. and the inner circle 19mm. in diameter. The wording Lobatsi at the top and Bech. Prot. at the bottom, and the date in the centre.

The registration cachet being oblong in shape, 35mm. long by 18mm. deep, a large R on the left, with Lobatsi at the top, below, No..... with a line of dots on which the registration number has been typed, on the right.

BP2. Royal Train.

A circular mark having the outer circle 28mm. and the inner 19.5 mm. in diameter. The wording Royal Visit at the top, and Lobatsi-Bech. Prot. at the bottom, with the date 17 APR A47 in the centre. The distinguishing features are:—

- (i) The date 17 APR A47.
- (ii) Two dots after Bech. (:).

The registration cachet being oblong in shape, 17mm. by 23.5mm. deep, a large R at the left, on the right top, Lobatsi, below No..... and a line of dots on which the registration number has been written in by hand. The cover in my collection was sent to me by a member of the staff of the Royal Train. The postmark differs in the date and size of the circles.

The registration cachet has the number written in by hand.

BP3. Royal Train/Lobatsi Station.

I have a cover in my collection with the Royal Train registration cachet and the Lobatsi Station Post Office mark. This juzzled me, as the postmark was the Station P.O. mark, circular in shape, with the word Lobatsi at the top, and at the bottom a solid Maltese Cross dividing two curved lines which separate the inner and outer circles of the design. The date is 18 APR A47.

This date is wrong, as the following information, taken from "The Official Government Arrangements for the Visit of The Royal Family to South Africa, 1947, pages 61 and 62" shows:

On Thursday 17 APR at 10.0 a.m. The Royal Train will arrive at Lobatsi-Bech. Prot. At 2.15 p.m. The Royal Train will leave Lobatsi-Bech. Prot.

At 4.30 p.m. The Royal Train will arrive at Mafeking, at 6 p.m. The Royal Train will leave Mafeking.

Friday 18 APR. at 10 a.m. The Royal Train will arrive at Kimberley. At 4 p.m. The Royal Train will leave Kimberley for Beaufort West. Therefore this cover has been cancelled one day too late.

No mail sent in by the general public was allowed to be cancelled on the Royal Train, so all mail from the general public was despatched to the G.P.O. for cancelling and forwarding.

BP4. Day of arrival.

Similar to type BP2, the distinguishing features are:—

- (i) The date is 17 APR-47 (stroke 47).
- (ii) Diameter of outer circle is 28.5mm. the inner 18.5mm.
- (iii) The "L" of Lobatsi is above the top level line of the date.

The registration cachet is oblong in shape, 41mm. long by 24mm. deep. A large "R" on the left. On the top right the wording Royal Visit—Bech. Prot.—1940—Lobatsi, at the bottom No..... with a line of dots on which the registration number had been machine typed.

BP5. Day of arrival.

Similar to type BP4, the postmark differing:

- (i) The date is 17 APR-47 (the stroke between R and 47 has dropped).
- (ii) The "L" of Lobatsi in postmark is below top level line of date.
- (iii) Diameter of outer circle 28mm. and inner circle 19mm.

The registration cachet remains the same as type BP4.

I end this paper with a few words taken from His Majesty's farewell speech: "Our journey through your land has been more than merely interesting and enjoyable, it has been made outstanding in our memories by the generous measure of loyalty and affection we have had the good fortune to receive from all sections of your people."

OPPORTUNITIES LOST AND GAINED

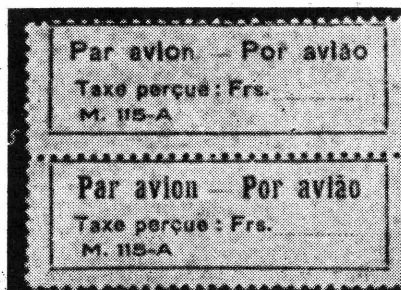
(From the Lourenco Marques "Guardian")

Mozambique was not the only oversea province of Portugal which adopted the system of collecting air fees by means of affixing etiquettes (air mail labels) on correspondence in substitution for stamps, in accordance with the Air Mail Convention. The oversea provinces of Angola and Guinea also followed the same system.



It is believed that in 1936 or thereabouts, Angola utilized a label as shown in fig. 1 for the same purpose owing to the shortage of stamps. A receipt — M/264-A form — was then granted at the post office counter to the sender of the letter for the amount collected, for air transmission only. This etiquette was printed on dark blue paper and each sheet contained 30 etiquettes (5 x 6), perforation 11½ un gummed.

A variety occurs in each sheet on the 13th etiquette, as here is no stop after "Frs", which represents a very interesting error to be collected by philatelists together with normal etiquettes, when in mint condition.



In 1942, due to the shortage of those labels, the postal officials had to indicate on the cover in handwriting, by indelible pencil or ink, the amount paid for the air fee.

Shortly after these M/264-A forms went out of circulation, the Postal Administrations concerned utilized a rubber stamp as per fig. 3 for the collection of air fees which were mentioned in the currency of the country of origin, in terms of Regulations. Covers which may bear these interesting rubber stamps are collectable items as specialists like to see such material in the International Exhibitions where particular attention is paid by the philatelic public and others.

As already stated, Portuguese Guinea also followed a similar procedure around 1936 and issued sheets of 14 etiquettes (2 x 7), perforation 11½, un gummed, with the indication as shown in fig. 5. In each sheet of this issue, which was printed in black on pale blue, thin paper, there were three etiquettes of different type as the words "Par Avion—Por aviao" were larger than the others, therefore they should be collected when in mint condition in "se tenant" pairs as in collections of postage stamps (Fig. 5).

There are no further particulars available at present regarding this issue, but specialists who may succeed in obtaining them will, no doubt, supply the information so as to further the study of the air mails of Portuguese Guinea.

Mr. Virgilio Netto of Lourenco Marques informs us that the 1945 Angola blue vignettes issued in 30 denominations, in multiples of 90 centavos up to 27 Angolaries (fig. 2) were printed with the word "Percu" instead of "Percue" but as soon as the error was noticed, the Postal Administration of Angola ordered their immediate withdrawal, hence the reason these items are not common, whereas the Mozambique Province first three air fee labels and the first and unique 1932 label with the same error issued by the Companhia de Mocambique (Chartered Territory) were not withdrawn, possibly due to an oversight.

Air mail collectors have still a large number of similar items to collect and it is to be regretted that philatelists have lost so many good opportunities to enrich their collections.

However, it is believed that there is still a good chance of obtaining etiquettes, vignettes and rubber air fee postmarks which are all considered as air mail stamps in terms of the International Postal Convention.

VIRGILIO NETTO.

H.M. QUEEN ELIZABETH II.**R.P.S.**

Her Majesty has been graciously pleased to grant her patronage to The Royal Philatelic Society, London, thus keeping up the tradition established by her grandfather and father.

Colonial Coronation Stamps.

It has been officially announced that there will be one stamp for each Crown Colony, of the same design throughout. With a few exceptions, the denomination will be that required for a local inland letter. The portrait of Her Majesty will be facing right, framed in an oval with 'Coronation' at the top and 2nd June 1953 at the foot. Name of the territory in a tablet across the foot of the stamp and value in two tablets at the top. The stamps will be on sale till the end of the year, unless stocks have previously been exhausted.

Commemorative Covers.

The B.P.A. and P.T.S. are jointly issuing covers measuring 3½ in. x 6½ in. with the accompanying photograph at the left.

The photograph (by Karsh, of Ottawa) is stated to be almost, if not entirely identical with that which will appear on the definitive issue of G.B. and on the special Coronation stamps of G.B. and of the Colonies.

**Elizabethan issues.**

We note wails from various dealers in the philatelic press about the amounts they will have to outlay on all the new issues which will be coming from the Empire. They are being given some help we understand, by the staggering of new issues, but otherwise it is a rub of the green which occurs with every new ruler. Most of them, in any case, have put up their New Issue Service Commission.

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NETHERLANDS.

We are indebted to the Netherlands Embassy for a note about the "For the Child 1952" stamps which are appearing on 17 November and will be available till 17 January. The series of five, 2c. plus 3c., 5c. plus 3c., 6c. plus 4c., 10c. plus 5c. and 20c. plus 7c., all feature children with animals, goat, donkey, dog, cat and rabbit respectively.

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CYPRUS.

It has been officially announced that there is to be a change of currency, coincidentally with the issue of the new Q.E. stamps. The new coinage system is to have £1 sterling divided into 1,000 mils; the new stamps are not expected till 1954.

EXPLORE THE SKYWAYS!

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F.R.P.S.L.

Heartiest congratulations to the two latest elections to the honour of Fellowship of the "Royal", Messrs. E. H. Hunt and S. G. Rich. The former is well known to many collectors in South Africa; the latter although not known personally, is familiar to readers of the "S.A. Philatelist" through his writings on African and other subjects.

Last month's puzzle was more difficult than I intended it to be — the printer omitted a letter! It should have read "Our Teen Letter Spine". Re-arranged these letters read "SERPENTINE ROULETTE". Even so some people got it right. This month's is really easy so let me hear from more of you:

EVE BARK NICE

Again an anagram, of a name that has been in the news all the year. Credit note of a guinea will go to the sender of the first correct answer who also orders at least 10/- worth of stamps from my recent advertisements or lists. Closing date 15th December.

WANT LISTS: I have always been able to supply a good proportion of customer's wants so tell me your present needs. Customers already known to me get the stamps on approval. Others get a pro forma invoice. In every case the stamps are always subject to the customer's satisfaction.

APPROVAL SELECTIONS are available of most stamps detailed in Gibbon's Empire Catalogues. I stock only good copies and all stamps are neatly presented and accurately described. Further, all stamps are guaranteed free from defects of any kind. Let me know your interests and I will show you what I have. References will be needed from customers not already known to me.

FOREIGN stamps do not figure largely in my stock but I invite specialists to tell me what they collect. I frequently get interesting pieces.

PRIVATE TREATY. If you have good collections or individual stamps or are looking for something unusual ask me for details of this scheme. I can often place good material which I, myself, cannot hold in stock.

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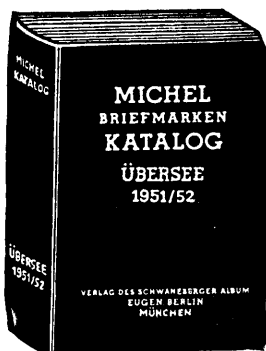
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A. Lichtenstein

B.P.A.

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REVIEWS

Stanley Gibbons' Postage Stamp Catalogue, Part I, British Empire (complete) 1953 Ed.
Price 16/-, postage abroad 1/1.

This edition is welcome, as the last has been unavailable for six months. It now runs to 680 pages which include a year's issues and more revision of lists than has occurred for many a long day.

In Great Britain the plates of the Penny Black are included and priced separately, also the penny reds printed from the black plates. There are numerous rises in prices, evidence of the popularity of G.B. stamps; this is very noticeable in the "Used Abroad" section.

Other countries whose listings have been substantially revised are: Bermuda, India, certain Indian states and Jap occupational issues, Malay States and New South Wales.

The publishers point out that the cost of re-setting catalogue lists is very considerable and they therefore try as far as possible to make revisions coincide with the necessary periodical renewal of type. Type unfortunately does not wear out conveniently country by country, so re-setting is liable to be somewhat patchy; this is inevitable if the total catalogue cost is to be kept down.

Cyprus — Its Postal History and Postage Stamps. By Wilfrid T. Castle. Robson Lowe, Ltd. Price 25/-, postage 1/-.

First comes a pleasant little Foreword by Lord Winster, a former Governor, then an Introduction by the author, in which he modestly disclaims being either a philatelic specialist or a professional historian — merely an ordinary stamp collector resident in Cyprus, but one wanting to know all about his stamps and their history. Nevertheless he has contrived to give us a very interesting and readable volume.

First of all he deals with two postal services which operated in the island in the 1860's, one Ottoman, the other Austrian. Philatelic records of these are very scanty and there is probably more to find out about them yet — Mr. Castle indicates where our knowledge is lacking.

Events leading to the raising of the British flag in 1878 are briefly but clearly dealt with; then follows an account of the first British postal service and the various British Stamps used in 1878-1880. Then come the British Stamps overprinted 'Cyprus' and postal history of the

Victorian key-plate issue of 1881.

Later Victorian, Edwardian and Georgian issues are suitably dealt with, including Postal Stationery and Air Mail services. There is a long chapter on cancellations, well illustrated, but the notes disclaim being complete.

There are various appendices dealing with post office work and finally one by Dr. D. S. Patton on Forgeries. The overprinted British stamps have suffered most at forgers' hands but Dr. Patton here gives a very valuable guide to the detection of the many varieties of them.

The Postage Stamps of the Falkland Islands and Dependencies, by B. S. H. Grant. Stanley Gibbons Ltd. Price 21/- net.

This book is a sheer joy to read and it should appeal not merely to the specialised collector of these stamps, but to general collectors and even to non-collectors; the general story of the Islands and their polar dependencies develops throughout the book and there are numerous illustrations thereof, as well as of stamps, etc.

Some bits are purely for the specialist, printing technicalities and such like, but most of the work can be read with pleasure by anyone.

Mr. Grant has been a collector and student of this group for many years, but for the purposes of making this book 'complete' he has had the co-operation of fellow students of Falkland Island stamps, the Colonial Office and the Crown Agents, the several printers of the stamps, Postmasters in the islands, etc., etc.

As a result it might be said, as was claimed, by a certain newspaper, 'What isn't here isn't News'.

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BLACKBURN, ENGLAND

THE UNION CHRISTMAS SEALS
By Dr. K. FREUND.
(Continued from page 132 of July issue.)

8. THE MARGINAL INSCRIPTIONS.

A.—Designs and Appearance.

In the years from 1943 to 1948, the sheet margins on top and at bottom were overprinted with Slogans appealing to the public in both languages to buy the Christmas Seals. At the same time, the **blank** vertical margin rows at left and at right, representing Row 1 and Row 22 of the sheets, were also utilized and formed into so-called "Slogan Tablets" or "Slogan Seals".

Marginal slogan inscriptions were known already from earlier postage stamp issues. For instance the 1937 Booklet panes and later the "JIPEX" panes, the "Bantam War Effort" issue and the 3/- Booklet panes of 1948 all showed various types of marginal slogans. But "Slogan Tablets" in the full size of stamps of **large** format with their own pictorial design were something new in a Union issue. In appearance and type they resembled somewhat the Pictorial Tablets associated usually with recent issues of Czechoslovakia and Israel.

In the New Handbook, reproductions of the Slogan Seals had to be omitted owing to shortage of space. As they are identical in size and similar in appearance to the proper Christmas Seals, there was a distinct danger that the general public might mistake them for the proper Seals and misuse them to the detriment of the Christmas Stamp Fund, according to a report by the Postal authorities. It is therefore quite important to record them for the interest they represent to the student of printings of Union issues. The two existing types are illustrated here in fig. 8 and 9.

As stated in the Handbook, the 1943 Slogan Seals exist only in the form of "Bi-sects", owing to the trimming of the sheets at the Government Printing Works. The sole reason for trimming off half of the Slogan Tablets vertically on each side of the sheets was, according to the information given by the Government Printer, to prevent the public from using the Tablets instead of proper Seals. The question arises, why then print these Slogan Seals at all, seeing that it was intended to cut them considerably and make their slogan text incomplete and ineffective?

Anyway, with corresponding pairs of Bi-sects from the left and from the right side of the sheet, one can **reconstruct** the full Slogan Seals as they looked originally before trimming at the Printing Works. Fig. 8 shows such

From 1944, the Slogan Seals were not trimmed but were left intact. Fig. 9. shows that each vertical row was now unilingual, the left hand row consisting of English inscribed seals only, while the right-hand vertical row was Afrikaans throughout.



Fig. 8.
Slogan Seals 1943 reconstructed with "Bi-sects".



Fig. 9.
Slogan Seals, 1944-1948. English version showing Error "Tuberculosis"

B.—The Printing Process.

The methods of the rotogravure process used in printing our Union stamps are in general well known, but as here a supplementary process of additional etching is concerned, it is perhaps necessary to give a brief description of the stages in processing the slogan etchings on already prepared stamp (seal) cylinders.

The first important fact to know is that the circumjacent inscriptions, consisting of the marginal inscriptions on the top and bottom margins and of the slogan seals, were **printed from**

the same cylinders which bore also the etchings of the main set-up of seal images. A different method was therefore employed than for instance in the case of the Bantam National Defence issue, where the marginal slogans had been printed from special slogan cylinders at a separate operation. In consequence of such a separate printing, some errors of "misplacement" had occurred with the slogans falling occasionally into the first horizontal stamp row, which is not possible in the case of a cylinder bearing both — the slogans as well as the stamp (seal) images. The marginal inscriptions of the Christmas issues were **etched on to the main stamp (seal) cylinders and printed at the same time.**

Before giving the stages of processing the marginal inscriptions, it may be emphasized that even the **marginal lettering** was printed by the "**screened**" method, just like the Seals themselves, although one could have expected that the adding of ordinary lettering on the margins could have been done in a more simplified method. Actually, to the plain eye the marginal lettering does seem to be of a solid, full colour-tone, but if one uses a magnifying glass, the mesh-work effect of coloured dots and the serrulated edges, typical for the "screened" process, become quite apparent in these marginal letters too.

Here, then, are the various phases in which the marginal inscriptions were evolved:

(a) The original **idea** to make use of the sheet margins and cover them with appeals to the public to buy the Christmas seals, came from the late Hon. Organizing Secretary of the Christmas Stamp Fund, Mrs. E. Moore.

(b) Following her suggestions, **Designs** were prepared in the artists' room of the Government Printing Works under supervision of Col. Kruger, the Government Printer at that time. The designs consisted of the slogan unit of 4 individual Slogans for the narrow horizontal margins (for particulars of these 4 slogans, see the New Handbook), and of the Slogan Tablets. — In 1943, the slogan unit was set up in large sans-serif Capitals of **ordinary printing type**, while from 1944 to 1948 the lettering of the slogans was **hand-drawn** in fancy, italic style. — The designs of the Slogan Seals were all drawn by artist's hand.

(c) From these Original Designs, **Master Negatives** were prepared, showing the set-up of the four slogans and of the 6-set images of the slogan seals in two vertical rows.

(d) **Diapositives** (glass) were obtained from these Master Negatives by "exposure".

(e) The Diapositives were printed in contact with sensitised and gelatine-covered **Carbon Tissue sheets**, imparting to them the slogan images and the slogan seals images.

(f) Then the usual method of rotogravure **screening** was effected, consisting in making another exposure on the carbon tissue sheets through a photogravure screen, which furnished the tissues with a pattern of intersecting lines in their gelatine resist.

(g) The carbon tissues were then "**squeegeed**" on to the cylinders. In the case of the 1943 issue, (which shows the marginal slogans and

the slogan seals bi-coloured), carbon tissues bearing images of the **first** and of the **third** individual slogans were transferred to the one cylinder devised to bring the black portions of the design, in their correct allotment on the **horizontal margin spaces**; while carbon tissues with images of the **second** and of the **fourth** individual slogans were transferred to the other cylinder destined to bring the red portions of the design. The carbon tissues were printed **in duplicate** from the diapositive, providing identical inscriptions for the top and bottom margins. The transfer on the bottom margin was in inverted position.

Carbon tissues with the 6-set images of the Slogan Seals were similarly "**squeegeed**" on to the two blank vertical rows of the cylinder. The one cylinder, destined to bring the black portions of the seals, received the carbon tissues having images of the slogan seal **inscriptions**, while the other cylinder for the "red" portions received the images of the simple **cross' motif** of the slogan seals.

The job of transferring various strips of carbon tissues into well-defined, exact allotments on the cylinder margins, was a rather intricate and complicated one, especially as two cylinders were concerned. Therefore in the following years, in the case of the 1944 to 1948 cylinders, the "squeegeeing" process was simplified. In these years, all carbon tissues were transferred to **one** of the two yearly cylinders only, thus causing all portions of the marginal inscriptions (including the slogan seals) to appear in one colour only.

But only in 1946 to 1948 were the carbon tissues transferred in one large horizontal strip of the whole set-up. In 1944 and 1945, **single** tissue strips of each individual slogan must have been transferred **separately** to the cylinder margins. This is indicated by the fact that in these years the alignment, the sequence and the spacing of the individual slogans varies.

(h) After the cylinders had received the gelatine relief images of the marginal inscriptions, the main portions of the cylinder, consisting of the intaglio etched images of the 120-set Christmas seals, were now painted out with bitumen.

(i) The cylinders were now etched again in the usual manner in solutions of ferric chloride. This second etching process brought out the slogans and the slogan seals on the cylinders, without interfering with the previously etched images of the Christmas seals.

It was not always possible to make use of one and the same diapositive for subsequent issues. Practically the whole process had to be renewed in some cases where pronounced spelling **Errors** were found to have occurred in a previous issue. These amazing Errors shall be dealt with in the following chapter. One of them can be seen in the illustration of Fig. 9. Incidentally, this particular one was never corrected, but retained for 5 years until 1948.

In the case when spelling errors were amended, the method employed was to make the corrections in the **original text-drawings** and then to process new diapositives again.

In the years from 1946 to 1948, one and the same diapositive was used throughout.

(To be continued.)

PHILATELIC ODDS & ENDS

By
By F. C. FERGUSON.

(Cont. from page 191 of October issue.)

Also on exhibit this evening is a postcard from Salt Lake City, attached to which is a miniature bag of salt on which is inscribed "Salt from the Great Salt Lake, Utah." The bag sewn on the card came through the post undamaged. It offers the suggestion of a reciprocal arrangement which our Chamber of Mines might well consider worthy of adoption — gold for salt!

The islands of Tristan da Cunha, situate about midway between Cape Town and Buenos Aires, in the South Atlantic, are of particular interest to South Africa. Discovered by Tristan da Cunha, a Portuguese Navigator, in 1506 and subsequently made a British Possession in 1816, the largest island is 44 square miles and is inhabited by descendants of a British garrison established as a security measure during the captivity of Napoleon in St. Helena. The Union Government recently established a meteorological station and a fishing industry has since been established on the island. Prior to 1st January, 1952, the island had no authorised issue of stamps but in April 1946 a propaganda "Essay" was designed by Mr. A. B. Crawford, printed by Messrs. Hortors Limited, of Johannesburg, and was distributed to the islanders. A bartering of this stamp for potatoes was the medium of exchange and the issue became known as the "Potato Stamp". It is reliably reported that the bulk of the stamps were collected from the islanders by American Tourists on board the luxury liner Caronia when it visited the island shortly after issue.

In December 1947 there was blazoned in all newspapers the exciting announcement that the South African Frigate "Transvaal" was journeying on a special mission towards the South Polar regions. An official explanation was difficult to procure but enterprising newspapermen unearthed that priority equipment and stores had been urgently consigned from inland addressed to "Met. Officer, Snoektown, Cape Town Docks." On January 4th the press announced that Prince Edward and Marion Islands had been occupied by South African forces for strategic reasons. A metal South African flag had been planted on Marion Island, together with a metal container in which was deposited a proclamation which had been read by Lieutenant-Commander J. Fairbairn to the assembled landing party.

As is now generally known the Union has established a meteorological station on Marion Island and philatelists, who lost no time in suggesting to the Union Minister of Posts and Telegraphs that special stamps be printed to commemorate the occupation of the islands, were alerted for covers bearing the imprint of the Islands' rubber stamps. A cover will be on exhibit.

Turning to our own land, many of our present generation, by reason of younger age, will be unable first hand to speak of association with pre-Union days. To them it will be a matter of history. As an item of exceeding interest in the exhibit will be seen a set of Postal Orders ranging from 1/- to 20/- of the Zuid Afrikaansche Republiek.

South Africa sustained a sad loss in the passing away in 1950 of our venerated and beloved "Oubaas", the late Field Marshal J. C. Smuts. Two covers autographed by him a few weeks before his death will be on view, both with censor imprints, the one from Sanford, Maine, U.S.A., addressed to him in 1942 in his capacity as Prime Minister of the Union of South Africa, and the second, from Palestine addressed him as "Field Marshal".

"The King is Dead—Long Live the Queen." A stunned world received the news on Wednesday, February 6th, of the sudden passing away of our Sovereign, His Majesty King George VI, and the events which followed, culminating with the burial of this royal personage in all sombre pageantry on Friday, February 15th, is still fresh in our minds. Our revered King and Royal Philatelist came to the throne a matter of eighteen years after the cessation of the first world war, was confronted with threats and rumours of a second world war, with a world in turmoil. His was the experience during his reign of a second world conflagration, of the strain of post-war trials and tribulations, of the demands from member nations within the British Commonwealth of Nations for self-determination and of the granting of dominion status and self-government. The various events in the life of our late Monarch are well portrayed in stamps which I have endeavoured to depict in the exhibit which I shall shortly lay before you.

With our thoughts centred at this time on the bereaved royal family, our minds are cast back to our Sovereign of the last century, to Queen Victoria, the Good, of the Victorian Era, her successor, King Edward VII, the Peacemaker, our venerated King George V in the transient period, and the uncrowned King Edward VIII. It is of interest to note that the last named followed behind his predecessor's remains to their resting place at Windsor Chapel and likewise, in due time, his successor's. What of the future of this Royal Prince who had studied his own inclinations? Much will be said for and against, and whilst assuredly the holder of the crown as head of the Church and State must set a national example which must be exemplary, the banishment of the Duke and Duchess of Windsor over the years and the fact that the Duke, after all, is a cherished unit of a beloved family, should, perhaps, prompt charitableness in that if the Royal Family desire restoration of a long lost son into the bosom of his household, the wishes of especially the aged Dowager Queen Mother should be respected. Reference to the reigns of these Monarchs is featured in the exhibit.

I set out to give you a paper at random on "Odds and Ends" and in mentioning that my exhibit has been prepared on a similar theme, may I, by way of a concluding note, repeat

an observation which I made during the Pretoria Society's Golden Jubilee celebration and Exhibition in 1948 that stamp collecting is a hobby which, applied correctly, provides relaxation, is educative and creates an abundance of interest in the affairs of the world. It is the prerogative alike of the rich and of the poor and presents opportunities of approach to the subject in a variety of ways. It has its appeal for the veriest of schoolboys as for the most learned and respected adult, and its following throughout the world is countless. I trust that both my paper and the exhibit will provide that variety, entertaining and instructive, and if you have found it so then I will have passed on that pleasure which it has afforded me in its preparation and I am grateful.

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In case you don't know what a "Maximum Card" is, it is a card (usually a postcard) having a picture on it identical, or almost so, with the picture on the stamp. Very often, but not necessarily, the stamp is stuck on the card on the same side as the picture.

B. J. Hunter

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SOCIETY NEWS

DIE PAARLSE POSSEELVERSAMELAARS- VERENIGING.

27 Augustus 1952.

Die maandelikse vergadering van die Vereniging is gehou in die Paarlse Afrikaanse Trust Maatskappy kantore en is bygewoon deur elf lede en vier besoekers van die Kaapstadse Posseël Vereniging.

Nadat die roetine sakes soos, notule lees, mededelings van belang ens. afgehandel is, het een van die besoekers nl. mnr. Cameron vir ons 'n uitstalling aangebied van oorgedrukte posseëls van die Britse Ryk. Hy het daarop gewys dat die versameling van oorgedrukte seëls 'n afdeling op sy eie is en dat dit net soveel plesier verskaf en interessant is soos enige ander deel van posseëlversameling. Mnr. Combrink het mnr. Cameron vir sy uitstalling bedank en ons waardering uitgespreek teenoor die besoekers.

Boekies met posseëls wat te koop aangebied word, is onder lede gesirkuleer.

'n Besluit is ook geneem dat die Vereniging voortaan sy vergaderings die laaste Woensdagaand van elke maand om 8 n.m. sal hou.

Mev. Beukes was verantwoordelik vir die bediening van tee en ligte verversings wat baie tot die gesellige atmosfeer bygedra het.

Op 'n vergadering gehou op 24 September 1952 is besluit dat ons volgende jaar vanaf 1 September, of so na aan die datum moontlik, 'n uitstalling sal hou. Dit sal saamval met die 100-jarige bestaan van die posseël in Suid-Afrika en sal 4 dae duur.

Toegang tot die uitstalling is vry maar daar sal 'n katalogus te koop aangebied word. Voorlopig is ook besluit om inskrywingsgeld van 5/- per bord vir voorgenome uitstallers te vra.

Mnr. Morrell het interessante koeverte met sensor merke van die tweede Wêreld oorlog uitgestal.

T.G.S.B.

THE PHILATELIC SOCIETY OF RHODESIA.
The September meeting, held on Monday the 8th, was well attended.

The Secretary read a letter from our former Chairman, Rev. Dryden, expressing his thanks for the Society's good wishes.

After all business had been dealt with, Mr. Ely gave us a discourse on New Zealand, interesting both generally and philatelically. He illustrated his comments with his own collection of New Zealand. Mr. Spencer then displayed his Gilbert and Ellice Islands as an entry for the Porter Cup. Mr. Porter, one of the oldest members, and a bulwark of the Society, donated the Cup for annual competition. His underlying idea was to encourage members to display their collections.

F.P.B.H.
PHILATELIC SOCIETY OF NATAL.

The September general meeting was held on Wednesday the 3rd, and the President, Mr. L. Bevis, in opening the proceedings at 8 p.m., welcomed 47 members and visitors.

The President drew attention to the serious illness of Mr. H. B. Wright and asked the Secretary to write a letter of sympathy wishing him a speedy and complete recovery. Correspondence from the Federation was read concerning the itinerary and arrangements made for the business and various entertainments and trips connected with the next Congress to be held in Bulawayo.

There had been some changes made in the routine of the meetings and there were some criticisms of the new arrangements: Mr. Bevis replied that the changes had been in the nature of a trial and promised that the matter would again be dealt with by the Committee at its next meeting.

The competition was in the capable hands of Mr. D. Williams who is an expert at this type of aggravation. Mr. Bosse was the winner and he promptly donated his prize to the newly established Durban Congress Fund.

The exhibit of the evening was of Morocco, Algiers and Tunisia by Mr. L. Bevis who explained that, here and there, he had mixed used and mint to make completion; he hoped members would enjoy his little collection. They did and Mr. Robinow voiced the thanks of the viewers.

Mr. Lyle, unfortunately, was indisposed and Mr. Whysall consented to act as auctioneer. There were many lots and Mr. Whysall did well to dispose of most of them, the Society benefitting to the extent of 10/9. The disposal of stamps donated by Messrs. Wicks and Welsford realised £2 10s. which also went to swell the beforementioned fund.

After refreshments the meeting closed at 10.30 p.m. V.F.M.

WEST RAND STAMP CLUB.

The meeting held on 1 October in the Banqueting Hall of the Krugersdorp Town Hall was attended by nine of our members.

After business had been attended to we tried out a few questions as practice for the 20 questions quiz to be held in Johannesburg on 14th October with the idea of seeing how we would get on and we had a discussion of the ways and means by which we could best get at the answers.

In the absence of the Jewish Guild who were our exhibitors for the evening, but had to cancel their visit with apologies, Mr. Sharpe provided an exhibit of Western Australia which was commented upon favourably by Mr. Vermaak. This exhibit being more or less a sideline had many gaps the nicest item in it being a fine copy of S.G. No. 1.

Tea and sandwiches were served and after thanks to Mrs. Edwards for helping us with this the meeting closed. E.J.S.

AFRIKAANSE FILATELISTIESE VERENIGING.

26 September: Die eifal lede wat hulle die moeite getroos het om ons broedervereniging van Pretoria te besoek, het met tevredenheid in hulle harte daar weggegaan. Die Pretorianers het niks ongedaan gelaat om ons nou somer doodlekker op ons gemak te laat voel nie. Daar was die verrassende getal van by die veertig van hulle om ons te onthaal. Dit was bemoedigend om die jongspan so mooi verteenwoordig te hê. Net vir oulaas nog 'n woordjie van dank aan hulle vir die gasvryheid en belangstelling in die seëls wat ons saamgeneem het.

3 Oktober: Vriend Achterhof het dan eidelik aan die beurt gekom en ons vergas op 'n pragtige en bykans voltallige versameling van België (afwykings uitgesonderd). Lid Fetter het kortliks die uitstalling bespreek en die vertoner bedank. Dit het lid Smith te beurt geval om sy eerste uitstalling aan te bied. Sy kort byvertoning spreek van goeie smaak. Eerlank sal hierdie nuweling 'n aanwys vir enige posseëlvereniging wees.

Om 2.30 nm., Saterdag 29 November, hou ons 'n spesiale vergadering om buitelede die kans te bied om nadere kennis met ander lede te maak. Ook word 'n kompetisie gehou.

Nuwe lid — mnr. W. H. J. Muller. Aansoek om lidmaatskap: dr. C. L. L. Murray, Kuilsrivier en mnr. N. Prinsloo, Bethal. Ons verwelkom hulle en vertrou dat ons hulle van diens mag wees. S.J.V.
PRETORIA RAILWAY PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

The Annual General Meeting of the Society took place at the Berea Hall on the 10th September. The attendance was very satisfactory, and when the President called the meeting to order there was a muster of 28 members and 3 visitors. Included in the visitors present was the President of the Pretoria Philatelic Society, Mr. Ferguson and he was accorded a warm welcome.

The evening was naturally devoted to the business side of the Society's activities, and I would like to give a resumé of the reports of the Exchange Superintendent, the Treasurer, and the President.

The Exchange Superintendent drew the attention of the members to the fact, that early in the year the section had received a set-back in that the former superintendent had asked to be relieved of his duties. The committee then carried on with these duties, and with some very able assistance from Mr. Roux, the Exchange Section has continued to function very favourably; 129 new books were received and 70 were returned to members. At present there are 370 books out on 32 circuits, which reflects a very sound position. The experiment of reducing the commission from 10 per cent. to 5 per cent. has proved very successful as will be seen from the Treasurer's report. The report closed with an appeal to members to send in more and better books. The quality of the material submitted during the year was also not quite up to standard, and an improvement could be made.

The report of the Hon. Treasurer, Mr. W. Howie, showed that the year under review was the most successful financially since the inauguration of the Society. The reducing of the commission from 5 per cent to 2½ per cent, on the cost price of stamps proved very successful, and the report showed that the Stamp Superintendent finished the year with £3 more in commission than last year. Likewise the Exchange Superintendent also had an increase on last year's commission of £3 16s. 6d. Both these officers did marvellous business during the year, and the thanks of the Society are due to them for their sterling work.

Thus looking at your balance sheet you will see that your Society is on a fairly firm ground with a balance of stock and cash of £157 11s. 10½d.

In conclusion Mr. Howie paid a very warm tribute to the other members of the committee, and announced that owing to circumstances beyond his control he would not be able to continue in his position as Hon. Treasurer.

The President in his report gave some very interesting facts and figures of the activities of the Society during the past year. The average attendance at the meetings was 24 members and 6 visitors. The Society started the year with 135 members, and through various reasons we lost 10 members. However, there was a total of 21 new members so that the strength of the Society has been fully maintained. The thanks of the Society are due to those who read papers or exhibited at our meetings. Also to the delegates who represented the Society at Congress and at the Federation meetings. These were Messrs. Roux, Walker, Bond, Beunderman and Slotboom at Congress, whilst Messrs. MacLachlan, Roux and Kriste had a 100 per cent. attendance at Federation meetings. The new innovation that had been started during the year, namely the informal meetings for study purposes, had proved a big success, and were very much appreciated. The thanks of the Society are due to the Management of the Recreation Club for the facilities granted to members, also to the ladies who so kindly assist with the refreshments. Finally the President thanked the retiring committee for a job of work that had been well done.

Mr. Ferguson and Dr. Reiserer both spoke on the very fine state that the affairs of the Society were in, and congratulated the outgoing committee.

The election of officers followed and the following gentlemen will serve for the coming year:

President: Mr. L. B. MacLachlan; Vice-President: Mr. W. Howie; Stamp Superintendent: Mr. E. Walker; Exchange Superintendent: Mr. P. K. Brown; Asst. Exchange Superintendent: Mr. H. A. Troskie; Hon. Treasurer: Mr. J. P. Roux; Hon. Secretary: Mr. W. Kriste; Asst. Secretary: Mr. F. J. V. London; Librarian: Mr. A. E. Oliver; Hon. Auctioneer: Mr. Slater Kinghorn.

At the October meeting on the 8th inst., yet another enjoyable and interesting evening eventuated. The attendance at these meetings continues to be of a very high standard and this occasion did not prove to be an exception, there being 30 members and 2 visitors present. After disposing of the business the lighter side of the evening was proceeded with. This consisted of a very well delivered paper by our worthy Secretary, Mr. W. Kriste. This gentleman can always be depended on "to deliver the goods", and this occasion did not detract one iota from his reputation. Mr. Kriste's subject was "The Centenary of the Postage Stamp", and his paper showed that he must have spent an enormous amount of time and effort in preparing all the data and detail that was required. He fully covered all stamps that have been issued to commemorate the centenary of postage stamps. These ranged from the famous "Penny Black" which was commemorated in 1940 down to the issues by Holland, Luxembourg, Barbados and Pakistan which countries have just completed one hundred years of adhesive postage stamps this year. The exhibit that Mr. Kriste tabled also proved of a most interesting nature, and both Mr. W. Newlands and Mr. Slater Kinghorn spoke very highly of the paper and exhibit, and congratulated the exhibitor on his very good effort. "Good show Bill." F.J.V.L.

PRETORIA PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

On the 2nd September the Society held its annual Certificate of Merit competition, in which more advanced competitors are invited to take part and exhibit 60 pages. Although the number of entries was, regrettably, only two on this occasion, both were

of a very high standard; Dr. T. Berry showed his Union of South Africa London Pictorials of 1926, which serves as an almost complete record of the Union's earlier stamps. Mr. A. P. Obermeyer, a Life Member, exhibited part of his Natal collection. The Jury, after considerable difficulty in making a decision, awarded the Certificate to Dr. Berry.

For the meeting held on the 15th September, members of the East Rand Philatelic Society paid a welcome visit, and presented a delightful programme, under the leadership of their President Mr. I. Slomowitz. Mr. Rigg's fine exhibit of Nyasaland stamps, Mr. L. Feinstein's unusual thematic collection showing the birth, growth and development of the Union of South Africa, and Mr. W. N. Sheffield's Union Commemoratives, were all viewed with great interest. The exhibitors were suitably thanked for their visit and their much appreciated contributions.

In October there were three events:

On the 6th October the President, Mr. F. C. Ferguson, presided over a Philatelic Jostling evening, to which three members contributed: Dr. P. Hack read a paper reviewing all the Olympic stamp issues from 1896 — a subject to which he has given much attention and research; Mr. W. Kriste exhibited German East Africa and Tanganyika stamps from 1896 up to the Great War, very nearly complete and splendidly written up; Mr. S. F. Crellin read a paper in which the essential differences and similarities between collectors and philatelists were discussed, and several constructive criticisms on methods of collecting, cataloguing and price variations were included. This paper was provocative and led to a lively discussion afterwards. Jostling evenings always provide pleasant surprises and are a popular feature of the Society's programmes.

On the 4th October about fifteen members availed themselves of the invitation to participate in the Johannesburg Philatelic Society's 300th meeting. Our team took part in the competitive quiz to such good effect that it attained the highest score and as a result received attractive prizes. It was a very happy birthday celebration for the many attending it.

Lastly, at the bi-monthly meeting held on 20th October and presided over by the President, Mr. F. C. Ferguson, the Society was honoured by a visit from the President of the Philatelic Federation of S. Africa, Dr. A. Kaplan, and Mr. W. N. Sheffield, President of the Johannesburg Philatelic Society. Dr. Kaplan called his intriguing talk and exhibit "The Development of a Stamp Collector"; introducing these with a clever parody on Shakespeare's Seven Ages of Man, he allocated a collector's seven stages to be (1) The Beginner; (2) The School Boy Collector; (3) The Philatelist; (4) The Thematic Collector; (5) The Specialist; (6) The Expert, and (7) The Stamp Collector who collects what and how he likes, in a happy tolerance, sans medal hunting and with no axe to grind. (Dr. Kaplan called Nos. (5) and (6) "The unreasonable collectors").

The exhibits divided into seven sections to illustrate the stages, were prepared with Dr. Kaplan's usual thoroughness and served as an excellent survey of all the phases through which most stamp owners pass in the course of developing their hobby before arriving at the one which gives most satisfaction. An instructive contribution, for which Dr. Kaplan was warmly thanked. B.J.V.

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COPPERBELT PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

The September Meeting of the Copperbelt Philatelic Society held in the Synagogue Hall, Kitwe, was well attended and enjoyed the company of some ten members of the Ndola Philatelic Society. The Chairman, Mr. Kelly, gave a very interesting and descriptive talk and display of French Colonial Stamps, all being Free French issues of the 1939-1945 war years.

Mr. J. Davidson demonstrated his Ultra Violet Ray Lamp, showing various colour differences, watermarks and forgeries.

Mr. N. P. Hartley prepared a competition dealing with various items of nature shown on British Colonial stamps. This was won by a local visitor, Mr. Dunn.

Much general discussion took place, refreshments were provided by the ladies, and a most enjoyable evening was spent by all present. D.F.

ROODEPOORT STAMP CLUB.

Our monthly meeting was held on Thursday the 18th of September in the Parish Hall, Amelia Street, Roodepoort. Business matters arising out of the minutes was discussed, especially strengthening the bond of Philately on the West Rand.

Then after making arrangements for our visits to the Jewish Guild on October the 30th, and the Afrikaans Society on November the 7th, the exhibits were tabled. Sudan by Mr. Sharpe, Unions by Mr. Yelland, and Union Air Mail Letters and Post Marks by Mr. Vermaak. All the exhibits were excellent, including some outstanding items. J.K.

PORT ELIZABETH PHILATELIC SOCIETY.**2nd September, 1952:**

So keen were members to display four of their favourite sheets of stamps, that they took matters into their own hands and reversed the usual practice of auction first by having the competitive show first. The stamps displayed and writing up evoked much discussion among the 18 members and 5 visitors present. The three judges had no light task in assessing the merits of the many fine entries, but finally awarded the first prize to Mr. R. W. Pearson - Australia; the second award going to young Mr. P. W. Barnes for some sheets of German stamps. Congratulations to both of them were extended by the President.

The Sweep for a desirable stamp which takes place at every meeting was this time won by one of our Lady Members.

The Auction produced some keen competition with much joking and laughter from the members for some very nice items.

16th September, 1952:

The second meeting of the month was attended by 21 members and three visitors. The official part occupied the first part of the evening, details regarding next year's Congress being made known, correspondence dealt with and two new members enrolled.

Dr. J. W. Harris entertained us with a very attractive and complete display of New Zealand Health Stamps in both mint and used condition. Many items were shown on official and special covers with the authorised first day cancellations as also varieties catalogued and uncatalogued. An informative talk accompanied the doctor's exhibit and was much appreciated by those present. Later our Union Specialists were given an opportunity of hearing more about the "tricky" 3d. Union Stamp through a subsidiary display and remarks by Dr. Harris.

An auction concluded the proceedings of the evening.

EAST RAND PHILATELIC SOCIETY.**July.**

The members were issued with the rules governing the Sam Legator Trophy and after discussion these were agreed to. As this trophy will be presented at the end of the year, members were asked to exhibit their collections at the earliest opportunity.

The evening's exhibit was provided by Mr. Burger (Senior), consisting of Australia, New Zealand and a large number of covers.

August:

After the Society's business had been concluded the evening was fully occupied with exhibits for Sam Legator Trophy; they were: Mr. J. Shepherd Geo. VI, Mr. Legator, O.F.S., Mr. Suklje, Geo. VI.

September:

We had an official visit from the Johannesburg Society, their members providing the evening's exhibit Dr. Kaplan displayed his collection of Van Riebeeck Stamps and Covers, and explained the various flaws, etc. Mr. Enoch exhibited Siam, and explained the various issues and overprints. Mr. Franklin exhibited his collection of Bahamas which was a very nice collection of a country not very often seen, and finally Mr. Willey's collection of Latvia.

Mr. Shepherd on behalf of the East Rand members, passed a vote of thanks to these Johannesburg exhibitors for coming over with these very fine stamps. E.R.

UNIVERSITY OF CAPE TOWN PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

September. The Cape Town Society visited us to hear two talks by Dr. Davie, President of the Society and Principal of the University.

The first dealt with the Darmstadt Trials, but this is not reported here as it is hoped that a full account of his paper will be published.

The second, illustrated by lantern slides, described the different methods of production and the various printings of the Union 3d. stamps, and showed how these could all be identified.

October. The Chairman made his annual report on the progress of the Society to the scantily-attended Annual General Meeting of the U.C.T. Philatelic Society.

After short discussion, the society decided to send letters of congratulation to the newly-formed societies, at Wits. University and at Paarl. A motion that the U.C.T. Philatelic Society should disaffiliate from the Cape Town Philatelic Society was passed nem. con. It was decided to try to arrange joint meetings with the Thematic Philatelic Society.

Miss R. Ganz and Mr. M. Peisach told the meeting that they would not be returning to U.C.T. next year. They were, however, made hon. members of the Society. A presentation was made to Mr. Peisach of a set of enlarged photographs of the Van Riebeeck commemorative stamps. The meeting heard that Miss Ganz would try to go to the Philatelic Congress at Bulawayo next year.

The Committee elections followed. Dr. T. B. Davie was elected Hon. President, and Mr. M. C. B. Hotz was elected Chairman for his third term of office. Mr. P. Anderson was elected Secretary, and Mr. D. Allison Treasurer. Mr. V. Dubowitz was the new Librarian, and the sixth committee member was Mr. P. Freedman. P.A.

PHILATELIC SOCIETY OF JOHANNESBURG.**300th MEETING.**

On Tuesday, October 14th the Philatelic Society of Johannesburg had its 300th ordinary meeting and invited the other Transvaal Philatelic Societies to be its guests to celebrate the occasion.

Dr. J. H. Harvey Pirie and Dr. Kaplan gave short addresses on the history of the Societies in Johannesburg, Dr. Pirie dealing with the earliest days and Dr. Kaplan with the later period. Dr. Pirie told us that the first Philatelic Society in Johannesburg was founded in 1894 but lasted only a few months. The then Postmaster of Johannesburg was its President.

Early in 1899 a Philatelic Society was founded in Johannesburg from which the present Society was the direct descendant. There was a Transvaal Philatelic Society in Johannesburg from 1905 to 1908. In 1908 this amalgamated with the Philatelic Society of Johannesburg and the amalgamated Society was called the United Philatelic Society.

Dr. Kaplan told us about some first members of the Society.

The main event of the evening was a quiz contest in which four teams took part.

The Pretoria team consisted of Dr. Reisener, and Messrs Newlands, Wright and Slater-Kinghorn. The East Rand team consisted of Mr. Woods, Dr. Kaplan and Messrs. Slomowitz and Rigg.

The West Rand team had Dr. Berry and Messrs. Burrill, Sharpe and Henderson. The Johannesburg team was Messrs. Schabort, Oppenheim, Joseph and Isaacs.

Dr. J. H. Harvey Pirie was the question-master, Mr. Lilley was the time-keeper and Commodore Enoch was scorer.

The adjudicators and court of appeal consisted of Messrs. Coombe-Martin, Buchen and Yelland. The contest was won by Pretoria.

THE SOUTH AFRICAN PHILATELIST

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Sub-Editor: W. N. SHEFFIELD,
Box 99, Cleveland, Transvaal.

More Unusual Post Card Varieties.

The pictorial post card bearing only half of a penny imprinted stamp, and illustrated in our July 1952 issue, has brought forward three more examples of post card printing flaws, this time from Mr. A. H. de Villiers of Kimberley. We illustrate them below.

The top one (depicting "The Falls — Waterval Boven") shows the stamp partly cut away at the bottom. The second (Hermanus—Cape) has the left outer frame practically missing and the third shows the picture of Commissioner Street, Johannesburg with the bottom part of the photograph and the inscription missing.

Mr. de Villiers states that all three were found on different occasions at Kimberley.

Further to the above, Mr. S. J. Vermaak of Johannesburg has written to say that he knows of the existence of the following post card varieties.

Cards without imprinted stamps.

- PC41b Chuniespoort—Chuniespoort.
- PC41b Goudmyn—Gold Mine, Johannesburg.
- PC41d Hermanus, Cape—Kaap.
- PC41d Yachting — Cape — Seilspoor — Kaap.
- PC41d The Falls—Die Valle, Waterval Boven.

PC41d Kruger National Park—Nasionale Krugerwildtuin.

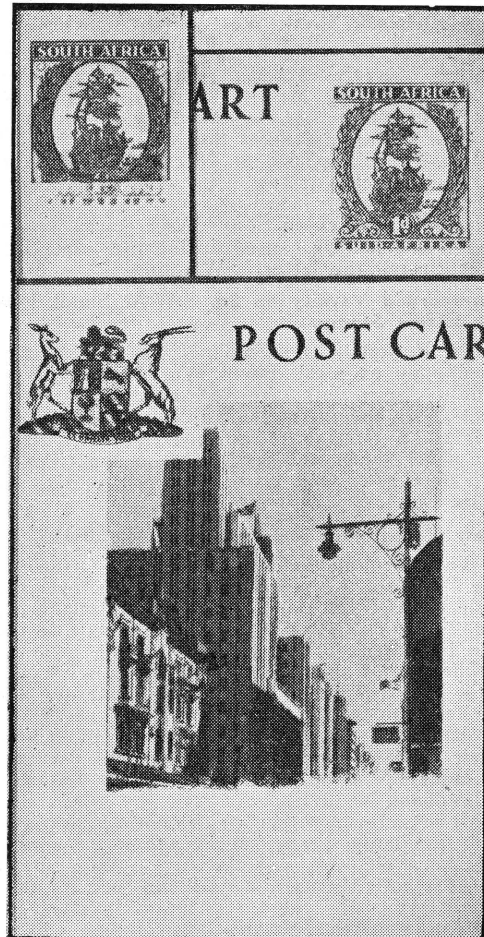
Card with stamp heavily inked—very smudgy.

PC41a Wilge River—Wilgerivier Harrismith.

Uncommon Line Flaws on 4½d. Van Riebeeck Stamps.

A variety not previously recorded has turned up on the stamps of the first and second rows of a sheet of the 4½d. Van Riebeeck series which Mr. B. Glassman of Johannesburg recently purchased at a post office.

It is in the form of a blue line running horizontally through the letters of the place name SOUTH AFRICA in each of the top row of stamps, and a similar, though darker blue line running horizontally through the letters of SUID-AFRIKA in each of the copies in the second row.



A Merry Xmas to all
and
Good Hunting in 1953

"S.A. Philatelist"

In both cases the lines are single, thin, clear markings easily discernable with the naked eye and lying parallel to the top and bottom frame lines of the design respectively. They are evident across the full width of each stamp, but are only faintly visible in the perforation gutters of the top row and break off at each gutter of the second row. They do not show up to any marked degree in the left, centre or right side margins of the sheet, and are unusual in the fact that they do not appear to have been caused by the action of the "doctor blade" during the printing process.

It would be of interest to learn if anything of a similar nature has been observed on other copies of this denomination. The sheet serial number in the above instance was 5259.

Van Riebeeck South West Africa Variety.

A variety on one of the 4½d. Van Riebeeck stamps overprinted S.W.A. has been drawn to our attention by Mr. R. Jaacks of Windhoek. He reports that it is constant in the position of Row 2/No. 14, and takes the form of a number of small black specks on Van Riebeeck's chin: Mr. Jaacks calls it the "Unshaved chin" variety.

It only appears on South West Africa copies and was evidently caused during the process of overprinting the letters SWA.

Unrecorded Variety on 2d. S.W.A. Small War Effort Stamp.

Mr. R. Jaacks of Windhoek has shown us a used copy of a 2d. Small War Effort ("Bantam") stamp with the "S" of the overprint "SWA" in the distinct form of a figure "8".

It is an Afrikaans inscribed item printed in the same shade as that known in the HANDBOOK/CATALOGUE of Union Stamps as Slate-violet. (Cyls. 6931/2).

New Printing of the Small 2d. Pictorial.

We understand from the Publicity Officer of the Philatelic Agency, Department of Posts and Telegraphs, Pretoria, that a new printing of the small 2d. pictorial stamp appeared on sale during the first week of November.

The stamps have been printed from new cylinders No. 30 Interior and No. 18 Exterior, and a check-up on any small flaws that appear will probably show if the multipositive employed for their preparation is the same as that used for cylinders Nos. 6927 Interior and 50 Exterior. (Handbook No. 47E).

Mr. A. Lichtenstein of Bloemfontein notes that the language setting of the new printing has been changed and the first stamp on the sheet is now inscribed in Afrikaans instead of in English.

Further particulars of these stamps will be found in the HANDBOOK/CATALOGUE Supplement No. 6 published on the centre pages of this magazine.

New 6d. Air Letter Card.

The Publicity Officer of the Philatelic Agency, Pretoria, has also advised us of the issue, during November, of a new 6d. Air Letter Card, the address panel of which has been redrawn.

An illustration and particulars appear in the accompanying Supplement No. 6.

Two New Commemorative Issues for 1953.

The following Bulletin has been received from the Philatelic Agency, Publicity Department, G.P.O., Pretoria:

UNION OF SOUTH AFRICA. DEPARTMENT OF POSTS AND TELEGRAPHS. CORONATION STAMPS.

The Postmaster-General announces that a special postage stamp to commemorate the Coronation of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II will be placed on sale at all post offices in the Union for a period of approximately three months as from the 2nd June, 1953. The value of the stamps will be 2d.

CENTENARY OF POSTAGE STAMPS IN SOUTH AFRICA.

In commemoration of the Centenary of the issue of postage stamps in South Africa a special series of postage stamps of the denominations of 1d. and 4d. will be placed on sale as from the 1st September, 1953, for a period of approximately three months at all post offices in the Union.

Details of the designs and colours of the proposed stamps are not yet available but further announcements in this connection will be made in due course.

Orders for these stamps should not be placed until further details are announced.

"Tuberculosis" Error on Christmas Seal Booklet Covers.

Mrs. C. Jacot-Guillarmod of Mamathes, Basutoland, has written to say that reading Dr. K. Freund's article on "The Union Christmas Seals" in our November issue reminded her that though the marginal error of **Tuberculosis** had been corrected on the seals she finds that the mistake still exists on the booklet covers.

Our correspondent first drew attention to this error in our January 1949 "Notes", when it was present on the slogans which at that time were being printed on the margins of the sheets of Christmas Seals, and it is interesting to learn now that it is still in existence on the booklet covers.

Incidentally, Mrs. Jacot-Guillarmod points out that in our title to the illustration of the "Tuberculosis" error on page 210 of the November issue we, or our printers, have also erred by spelling the "error" incorrectly!

Light on the Union Bisects.

Arising from the notes and illustrated examples of Union Bisects, published in our September 1952 issue, we have received the following interesting letter from Mr. Stephen G. Rich of Verona, New Jersey, U.S.A., which undoubtedly throws quite a lot of light on the subject of postally used "Bisects".

"Major Milligan's comments and pictures of Union Bisects, on page 158 of the S.A. Phil. of Sept. 1952 (received here only last night) deserve some extension because the matter of those various bisects is far less complex than would appear on the surface."

"In Lobdell's monograph 'The De La Rue Georgians of South Africa,' 1944, this matter is treated fairly fully; pages 65 and 66 contain the information. As I was one of those in

the group that created practically all the Durban bisects, and Mr. Norman Welsford was the sender of some of those shown in the picture of my material on page 65 of Lobdell, I may claim to know what it was all about and how done."

"Let us be clear: all known bisects were deliberately done by philatelic people, at this time. There were no known cases of postmasters allowing bisects in default of official orders. It is probable that the ones from Davel, Tvl, had co-operation of a philatelic-minded postmaster or postal clerk."

"But in Durban, we merely took care to mail at rush hours, so that the bisect would normally not be noticed. Usually this resulted in delivery without extra charge. However, I have one item, sent to me, on which 1d. postage due was assessed, postmarked on with the usual "T 1d." mark, and paid with a 1d. due stamp (for which I paid the penny, of course)."

"No 'emergency conditions' were involved at Durban in 1920 anyway. We could get all the halfpenny stamps we needed. It was strictly philatelic horseplay. We knew it was wholly unauthorised, wholly outside the regulations — but we banked on the idea that most of the postal officials wouldn't know the difference. They didn't."

"We were not working 'in the first few days' after the 1½d. rate went into effect. We didn't even think of the idea of trying it till a month later; and we quit only when we had as many covers as we wanted. We could have kept right on for weeks."

King's Head with "O.H.M.S." Overprint.

Mr. P. J. van der Merwe of Hartebeesfontein, Western Transvaal, has a used copy of a 2½d. King's Head stamp bearing the letters:

O N
H M
S

set out in the manner shown.

This is the first we have seen of this type of overprint on a Union stamp and there is no information of its ever having been used for official purposes.

Van Riebeeck 1/- Toned Paper Variety.

A letter received from Mr. L. H. Twiss of Solihull, England, states that he has a single 1/- Van Riebeeck mint stamp which has every appearance of having been printed on toned paper.

He received it from a friend in Johannesburg and the tones of both paper and gum are the same as those found on copies of the 1d. SATISE toned paper variety.

No other reports have, so far, come to hand regarding this paper variety in the 1/- denomination.

Recent Changes in Machine and Handstamp Cancellations.

We have received the following notes on Union postmarks from Mr. David Allison of Mowbray, Cape.

"Since my last note, there have been a number of changes in Union machines.

Paarl (Huguenot), Stellenbosch, and Pietersburg have introduced datestamps showing the

place name in a 'curved rectangle' at top, the date across the centre as usual, but no circle (except for the 'curved rectangle') is visible, though a fair amount of black ink appears within the datestamp. These must **not** be confused with a couple of recent datestamps (Johannesburg, and Pietersburg again), showing part of an inner circle.

Montagu used IV on one date stamp and IIII on the other this year, in April.

Witbank presents a problem. Instead of the five wavy lines it is now using a slogan with two rows of lettering between horizontal lines. Unfortunately the cylinder is so worn (or dirty) that the rows of lettering appear as solid black rectangles. What the slogan is I really don't know — it might be a cylinder transferred from some other office. Perhaps some earlier specimens than mine are legible, and some kind reader might be able to enlighten me. My own guess — nothing more — is that the road safety cylinder previously used at Bloemfontein (or, less likely, Johannesburg) has been transferred. Can anybody confirm or disprove this?

There are a number of other changes; the above are the most outstanding that I have seen.

The small single-circle (temporary) type handstamp has appeared from several offices recently with the top inner line blank and the middle inner line giving day and month. This is perfectly usual, of course, but the way in which the year is given is noteworthy — "19" in the bottom inner line and "52" round the bottom of the handstamp. This seems a funny way to split the year up, and at least five offices — Concordia, Kinross, Lady Gray, Staemines and Wellington Stn. show this. I have not seen this feature at all on handstamps dated before June this year, although a note in the 'S.A.P.' for February 1936, mentions the handstamp of the Scout Camp E.L. office as having the date NOON 15 JA 19 in the middle (whether in 3 lines is not stated and XXXVI round the bottom. Whether this was a single-circle I don't know — it sounds as if it could be. None of my specimens have half the year in Roman Figures, though one of my Lady Gray specimens (the only one thus spelt) has the date given (blank)/V VIII/19/52. The spelling Gray was used on 2 VIII and II.VIII."

The Elusive Broken "C" on the "Officials" — Retouched.

Dr. T. B. Berry of Bryanston, Transvaal, reports that further to his article on "The Elusive Broken C" in our August 1952 issue, the 6d. "Official" recently made its appearance with the broken "C" retouched.

The item occurs in the position of Row 13/2 on the sheets printed from Cylinders Nos. 6930/6 and the retouched "C" is similar to that illustrated in the article as present on the stamp of Row 13/2 of the 1d. denomination printed from Cylinders Nos. 6925/36.

(A portion of foregoing Notes had to be held over from the November issue on account of lack of space.—Ed. S.A.P.)

STUDY YOUR COUNTRY'S STAMPS

The POSTMARKS of ZULULAND

By

W. NEWLANDS.

(Paper read at the Philatelic Congress, Cape Town, in March, 1952, and given a Congress Award.)

Before dealing with the various types of postmarks used in Zululand I propose to list the known Post Offices and Agencies. Only such offices as are listed in Official Guides and Reports or are supported by actual dated marks and covers are included. Thus although the list is reasonably complete I do not exclude the possibility of there having been other Agencies in existence for short periods.

The British Possession of Zululand as established in 1887 is virtually the same area as that listed as Zululand in the Union Year Book. The only difference is that the area of Amatongaland which was annexed in 1897 was added to the Ingwavuma District in 1898. The area of Zulu-

land is 10,425 square miles and Zululand was incorporated in Natal as from 30th December, 1897. The stamps of Zululand were first issued in 1888 and after incorporation were withdrawn from sale on 30th June, 1898. After that date the postal history becomes part of the postal history of Natal and as such falls outside the scope of this paper.

It has been stated that a Post Office was established in Eshowe as early as 1876 but I am far from convinced that it was a Post Office transacting business. The absence of covers seems to confirm this view especially as the first postmark so far recorded comes from Entonjaneni in 1888 just after the issue of stamps.

ZULULAND POST OFFICES ETC. IN 1897.

Name	Grade	Where Listed	Remarks.
1. Eshowe	P.O.(M). T.	Z. & N.	— Only listed in Natal Telegraph Report.
2. Eshowe Camp	T.	N. (T).	—
3. Hlabisa	P.O.A.	Z. & N.	—
4. Ingwavuma	?	N.	—
5. Inyoni	P.O.	Z. & N.	—
6. Lower Umfolosi	P.O.A.	Z. & N.	—
7. Maputa	?	N.	In Amatongaland.
8. Melmoth	P.O.(M). T.	Z. & N.	—
9. Ndwandwe	P.O.A.	Z.	Name in 1898 was Nongoma.
10. Nkhandhla	P.O.	Z. & N.	Magistracy established in 1881.
11. Nondweni	P.O.(M). T.	Z. & N.	—
12. Nongoma	P.O. T.	N.	See also Ndwandwe.
13. Nqutu	P.O.(M). T.	Z. & N.	Listed in Z.A.R. Guide as: Nqutu (Rorke's Drift).
14. Qudeni	?	N.	Formerly Ntingwe (?).
15. Ubombo	P.O.A. T.	Z. & N.	Listed by Z.A.R. as: Abombo.
16. Ulundi	P.O.	Z. & N.	Listed in Natal report as Ulundi (Zululand) to prevent confusion with Ulundi in Natal, a P.O. in the Weenen Area.
17. Umlalazi	?	N.	Report of 1898 (Natal) states Umlalazi closed and office of O'Banjani opened in same vicinity.
18. O'Banjani	?	N.	

OFFICES NOT IN OFFICIAL LIST BUT KNOWN TO EXIST FROM COVERS, ETC.

19. Entonjaneni	?	—	See Notes.
20. Lower Tugela	?	—	Listed as a Natal P.O. in years before Incorporation.
21. Rorke's Drift	?	—	Listed as Natal P.O. for many years before Incorporation.

NEW OFFICES OPENED IN 1898.

22. Upper Umhlatuze	?	N. (1898) (Between Nkandhla and Melmoth)	Also spelt "Upper Umhlatuzi."
23. Waterval	?	N. (1898) (Between Nkandhla and Nondweni)	—

Thus until definite proof is forthcoming in the form of covers franked from Eshowe I am not recording this office as being open before 1888.

The list given herewith has been compiled from the following official sources:—

1. Natal P.M.G.'s reports for 1897 and 1898. In the 1898 Natal report the P.M.G. states that at the time of incorporation there were in existence 15 offices and agencies in Zululand, but does not list these separately. However by comparing with the 1897 report I was able to list the 15 offices. The 1898 report further lists the opening of 2 Zululand offices and the closing of one office and the closing of one office and the substituting therefor of another office in the same neighbourhood. (All marked N in the listing).

2. Z.A.R. Postal Guides for 1895, 1896, 1897 and 1898. These guides give a list of 11 offices stating the office grades as well. (Marked Z in listing).

3. In the 1898 Natal P.M.G.'s report (Telegraph section) there is a list of offices in Zululand that provided telegraphic facilities. (Marked T. in listing).

Certain offices also provided postal order facilities and these offices are classified as P.O. (M) as against P.O. for ordinary Post Office and P.O.A. for an Agency.

Of the above 24 Post Offices (counting Ntingwe as the 24th) I have never heard of postmarks from the following for the period 1888/98:—

Eshowe Camp, Inyoni, Maputa, Ndwandwene, Umlalazi, O'Banjeni, Ntingwe (I have a mark that might be this office), Upper Umhlatuzi or Waterval.

There is thus plenty of scope left for the Zululand enthusiast to search for and record these and possibly other unrecorded postmarks.

The following notes are furnished in connection with certain offices:—

1. **Nongoma:** This was originally known as Ndwandwe so named after the Ndwandwe tribe. Later the office and district's name was changed to Nongoma. This was the name of Chief Zwide's principal kraal which was sited near the present township of Nongoma.

2. **Emtonjaneni:** For a long time I could not understand why this office was fairly well known for the years 1888 to 1891 only. Today there does not appear to be an office of this name, although the name of the district of which Melmoth is the Magistrate's seat is EMTONJANENI. I have now ascertained that Emtonjaneni (Little Spring) was the fountain from which Dingaan obtained his drinking water and is not far from the site of his principal kraal Mgungundhlovu. In 1879 Fort Emtonjaneni was built near Boucher's store near this spring and overlooking the main road to Mahlabatini.

3. **Lower Tugela & Rorke's Drift:** These are Natal post offices and were in operation many years before Zululand issued stamps. I cannot agree with the theory put forward that there were also Zululand Post Offices with the same name just on the opposite side of the Natal-Zululand Boundary in each case. (Tugela River for Lower Tugela and Buffalo River for Rorke's Drift). My suggestion to cover the use of

these post office names on Zululand stamps is that this arose out of the Natal-Zululand postal convention of 1888 which provided that all letters from places in each country addressed to the other be prepaid by the stamps of the country of origin and that the whole postage on mail sent via Natal to Overseas destinations be credited to the Natal Administration. As most of the Zululand post would pass through these two points I suggest that both post offices had their ordinary cancellers as well as cancellers with the name Zululand replacing that of Natal for use only on Zululand mail received. Mr. Paul A. Dorn of Los Angeles, Calif. states that the Lower Tugela (Zululand) Post Office was in Mr. Weber's store on the Zululand side of the Tugela and that of Rorke's Drift in Fort Northampton on the Zululand side of the Buffalo River. As the Natal P.M.G.'s Report of 1898 does not list these two offices as being in existence or as having been closed I feel that the existence of these offices is not proven. There is a possibility that the offices he refers to did not transact ordinary postal business, but simply acted as cancelling and checking offices for mail handed over to and received from the Natal Administration. To further complicate the issue note must be made of the existence of faked Zululand 'errors' all with faked 'Rorke's Drift' postmarks. To prove the existence of post offices on the Zululand side of the border I feel it will be necessary to produce covers having both the Natal and Zululand postmarks for Rorke's Drift or Lower Tugela. So far all covers I have seen or heard of have one or the other of the postmarks if they bear this postmark.

(To be continued.)

PHILIPPINES.

The Bureau of Posts announce the issue on 19 August of two semi-postals, 5 plus 1c. and 6 plus 2c. as "Fruit Tree Memorials. Each will bear a portrait of Senora Quezon (who was the wife of the late President); she had devoted her life to charity and social welfare work.

Also, on 23 October of two stamps 5c. and 6c. on the occasion of the 4th meeting of the Indo-Pacific Fisheries Council. These feature a fish, with a map of the area of the member nations of the Council as a background.

On 16 November, three stamps, 5c., 6c. and 30c. honouring the Pan-Asian Philatelic Exhibition.

S.G. 43b.

1930/45 1d. Roto, unmounted right marginal strip of 4.

First and second stamp—frame missing.

Third stamp — Top half frame missing.

Fourth stamp — Normal.

£40.

C. E. SHERWOOD

105, Marford Crescent, Sale, Manchester, Gt. Britain.

THE SURE SUPREMACY OF STAMPS.

The morning mail is on his desk,
With urgent cables, too;
I know that answers are required,
So I await my cue!

But not one question or command
Is issued forth to me,
So large decisions I presume
He's weighing carefully!

Then when about an hour has passed,
He rushes through the door;
I cautiously approach his desk,
Quite shaken to the core!

The urgent cables lie untouched;
His letters are unread;
But from each envelope I see
The foreign stamp has fled!

Eventually he hoes return,
Delight upon his face,
And we at last get down to work,
At quite the briskest pace!

Some time and tide may come and go,
But nothing ever cramps,
As far as he's concerned, the sure
Supremacy of stamps!

MARGARET CAMERON.

FOR SALE

3 Sheets, 60 stamps each, WS..A. Official 1½d.
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The top five rows are correctly overprinted, the
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For Sale in Block of Four, or in whole sheets.

Send offers to:

H. J. MEYRAHN,

P.O. Box 250, Windhoek, S.W.A.

KOREAN FREE FORCES MAIL.

Following up his notes on the air letter forms
of this service, given in our October issue, p.
180, Mr. S. J. Vermaak reports the following:

Type 4. June, 1952. As Type 3 but the 4 obliterating bars measure 29 mm. x 7 mm. as against former 29 mm. x 8mm. Deep royal blue in colour.

Type 5. Sept., 1952. As type 4 but colour royal blue, not deep.

Type 6. Oct., 1952. Four obliterating bars of unequal length, 30.5, 29, 29 and 29.5mm. respectively, ends not in alignment. Depth of the 4 bars is 8mm. Deep blue in colour.

Mr. Vermaak ends up with the plea "Could not someone ask the Government Printer to take over the job of the overprinting of these forms?"

BRITISH MUSEUM'S STAMPS.

The best known collection is of course that presented by Mr. T. K. Tapling in 1891. There have been additions since then, the most important being that presented in 1946 by Mrs. K. Cunningham, of the collection of British African stamps formed by her father Dr. Edward Mosely.

A summary of the scope of this collection is given by Mr. H. R. Holmes, Curator of the Museum's Stamps, in the "British Museum Quarterly" of Jan., 1951. He describes it as a whole "as not so all-embracing as Tapling's, it is nevertheless, for the countries it covers, not only supplementary but also complimentary" as it carries on from 1890, where Tapling's stops, to 1935. A few of the outstanding items in it are:

Cape Die Proofs of the 1d., 6d. and 1/- triangulars. One of the seven known copies of the 4d. black triangular, 67 "Woodblocks", including 2 of each of the errors of colour.

Mauritius. No "Post Office" issues but a fine range of the Post Paid printings.

Niger Coast. A very fine lot of Proofs of the 1893 issue.

Nyasaland. Both the 2d. and 4d. of 1907 on Mult. Crown C.A. paper.

St. Helena 2½d. ultramarine of 1893 doubly printed.

Collectors' Wants & Offers

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

Collections and rarities especially Unions wanted for cash. Kindly contact—JOHN MENDELSSOHN, P.O. Box 1607, Johannesburg.

APPROVALS: British Colonials and World for all collectors.—BENONI STAMP SHOP, Benoni.

50% over Gibbons Catalogue price offered for a superb Mint and Used copy of Seychelles, S.G. 52A.—WILLIAM REDFORD, P.O. Box 1182, Johannesburg.

REQUIRED Switzerland. All issues, mint, used and covers. For Cash or Exchange for Geo. VI.—B. JOSEPH, P.O. Box 4967, Johannesburg.

STAMPS.—Want lists invited for any country; specialities Union, S.W.A., British Africa. — LACY'S, Gillbern Buildings, cor. Plein and Mostert Streets, Cape Town.

WANTED: Orange Free State — everything — buy or give used British Empire, Foreign in exchange.—Morton Morris, 37 Overlook Terrace, New York 33, New York, U.S.A.

Parcel of 5,000 Union (On paper), 2d. Victory issue, sprinkling of pennies. Offers to: J. R. ROUSE, 15 Regent Road, Sea Point, Cape.

WANTED: Army Covers all periods, especially Boer War. — E. Proud, Malim Nawar, Perak, Malaya.

The "Bumerang" arranges Stamp Exchange between Collectors throughout the World. Please request a Specimen Copy of the magazine. — BUMERANG, G. HENLEIN, (22c), Morsbach/Sieg. Germany.

SPECIAL OFFERS OF NEW ISSUES

3 Austria Costumes new high values	5/6
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4 Egypt, Crown Prince and King of Sudan	4/-
2 Eire, Thomas Moore	9d.
6 France, Saint-Saens and celebrities	4/6
4 Germany (West) Humanitarians	2/6
6 Germany Johu, Stiemens, Halle, etc.	2/6
3 Italy, Armed Forces Day	2/-
3 Italy, Air Congress, Savanarola Alpini	2/6
2 India Scinde Dawk Centenary	3/-
2 Kenya, Royal Visit, new price	4/6
4 Liberia 1947, N.S. Centenary	5/6
1 Lichtenstein, latest Provis 1.20 on 40r.	4/6
5 Monaco, Rainier giants	1/6
1 Mocambique, Tourist Congress	9d.
4 Netherlands, van Riebeeck, complete	2/-
3 Saar, new Volkshilfe, cpl.	3/-
9 Spanish Africa, 3 animal sets	2/-
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AIR MAIL LABELS OF THE UNION OF SOUTH AFRICA

By JOHN A. BISSETT-CORMACK.

In 1925 the South African Postal Authorities issued their first Air Mail Label. This was printed in black and orange with the inscription in English and Afrikaans and in rouletted sheets of fifty by the Government Printer. This Air Mail Label however did not conform to the recommendations of the Postal Union Congress which in 1922 laid down that Air Mail Labels should be blue in colour and that the inscription should be at least bilingual of which one of the languages should be French.

In 1929 the colour was at last changed to blue but still the inscription did not include the French "PAR AVION". These labels were issued for the regular internal service by Union Airways Ltd., and were once more printed in rouletted sheets of fifty.

In March 1932 the first issue appeared which conformed in every way with the U.P.U. recommendations. This was printed in black on blue with the inscription in French, English and Afrikaans and in rouletted sheets of fifty. There was a 2.5mm. space between the words "PER" and "LUGPOS" in the Afrikaans inscription. This issue appeared shortly after the inauguration of the Imperial Airways service which, being international, probably accounts for the inclusion of French in the Air Label inscription. In March 1933 a similar label was issued but this time there was no space between "PERLUGPOS".

In March 1934 a further issue was made and this time the sheet consisted of sixty rouletted labels.

In August 1935 the design of the labels was completely changed to incorporate the "Speedbird" insignia of the Imperial Airways. The labels were again tri-lingual and rouletted. They were printed in white on blue.

In September 1935 a similar label in white on saxe-blue appeared. The labels were grouped in vertical strips of four with narrow gutters dividing the sheets at regular intervals. In October 1935 the colour was changed to white on light navy blue but the sheets remained the same.

This design with many variations of shade but always in sheets of one hundred and twenty remained in use right up to July 1950.

A portion of the consignment printed in 1945 was perforated on the machine, but this operation did not prove very satisfactory and the remainder was rouletted in the Binding Department of the printing works.

All labels printed subsequently were rouletted until May 1950 when the design was changed.

In June 1950 the "Speedbird" design was dropped and in its place appeared a "Flying Springbok", which is the insignia of South African Airways. These labels, which are still in current use, are tri-lingual in white on blue and issued in sheets of a hundred and twenty which are perforated on the printing machine.

The first 2/6 booklets of stamps which contained six Air Mail Labels in white on dark blue were issued in March 1937. All subsequent issues up to and including the 3/- booklets (stocks of which were exhausted in February 1951) contained Air Mail Labels. The current 3/6 booklets do not contain any Air Mail Labels.

In 1935 the first of a number of booklets of labels only similar to the 1935-1950 issue appeared. They were issued jointly by the Post Office Administration, Imperial Airways and South African Airways. They consisted of twenty-four labels in sheets of four interleaved with advertisements and postal information. Booklets containing labels only are no longer available.

In conclusion the author would like to thank Mr. John C. W. Field and the publishers of the "Aero Field" for allowing him to use the information on Air Mail Labels contained in their article on the "Air Mail Labels of South Africa" and the Publicity Officer of the South African Postal Administration for much of the information contained in this article.

1870—1952.

Air Posts Specialities of all countries — Stamps, Covers, Rarities, Souvenirs, Literature and Catalogues.

THEMATICS.

Special Covers and Postmarks of International events are available from unique stocks.

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Red Cross 4c.	5d.	5d.		Gibbons, Utile, 22/6, 35/-, 47/6	St. Kitts		
new design 7c Air	9d.	9d.		Simplex, 15/-, 17/6, 25/-, 42/-	1c. to 24c.	2/10	3/2
new Prime Ministers	9d.	9d.		Godden, Graduate 22/6, Jet 55/-,	1c. to 1 dol. 20c.	13/6	15/6
				Warwick, 63/-, Burleigh, 32/6.	1c. to 4 dol. 80c.	35/7	41/6
Bermuda				Rapkin, Crown 22/6, Universe	St. Vincent		
2/6, new shade	2/10	3/4		45/6, Excellent 21/-, Favourite	new 1c. to 10c.	1/3	1/6
Papua New Guinea				27/-.	Barbados		
New Pictorial Set due October				1942 Centenary			
30th				2/1 2/5			
1d. to 1/-	4/-	4/6		Zanzibar			
1d. to 2/6	10/-	11/-		5c. to 1/-		3/10	4/5
1d. to 10/-	19/6	21/6		5c. to 5/-		11/9	13/9
1d. to £1	39/6	42/6		5c. to 10/-		31/3	36/-
Postage extra please.				Jamaica			
2½d. per oz. registration	6d.			Jamboree		1/-	1/-
Air Mail, 1/3 per half ounce.				new 3 red		4d.	5d.
HAROLD STROUD,				58 DARWEN STREET,			
				BLACKBURN, ENGLAND			

ALBUMS & ACCESSORIES
All the items mentioned above are available from stock, postage is extra but no big loss. A I use commemorative, overprinted or wmk. sideways stamps. Other albums and leaves are available. Details and quotations on request

SYDNEY JACOBS

I am still in the market to buy any quantity of current South African Stamps, no matter of what kind or of what denomination as long as they are clean and counted in 100's.

I will appreciate it if all those who can offer me any stamps at all, will use the attached form, and immediately upon receipt of same I will let you have my offers.

————— □ —————

To:

SYDNEY JACOBS, ESQ.,
P.O. Box 1819,
Johannesburg.

I can offer you the following stamps of South Africa and of certain territories.

Description: *Quantity:*

I will appreciate it if you will let me have your offers.

Name: -----

Address: -----

By the time you read this I shall be established in my new office. For a long time I have been looking for a

Larger Office

in a more

Central Position

not only for my own sake but for the convenience of those customers who had not the time to get as far as Wroxham House.

The

NEW ADDRESS

is

**504 BELFAST BUILDINGS,
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JOHANNESBURG**

This building is opposite the new rear entrance of the Carlton Hotel and my office is on the 5th floor (take the lift, don't trouble to walk up!)

By Christmas I hope to be able to display a fine show of stamps. All will be welcome to stroll round and no-one will be pestered to make a purchase. Office hours will be from 10 a.m. to 5.30 p.m. (Saturdays 10 a.m. to 1 p.m.) or by appointment.



R. T. LILLEY

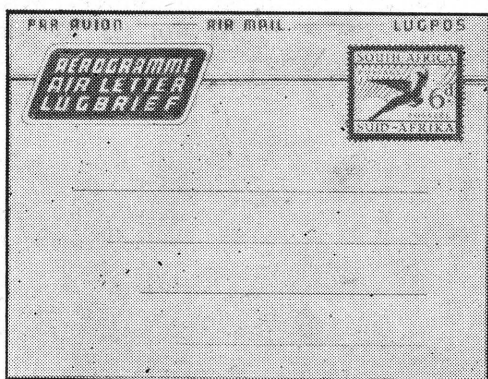
HANDBOOK – CATALOGUE UNION OF SOUTH AFRICA

SUPPLEMENT No. 5.

Editors:

Dr. Alec Kaplan, Sam Legator, William N. Sheffield

SECTION 5.

AIR MAILS
AIR LETTER CARDS AND SHEETS.

1952 (November). Design changed and the clouds, birds, mountains and sea bordering the address panel of the previous issue now omitted. Inscribed "PAR AVION — AIR MAIL — LUGPOS" in one line and "AEROGRAMME — AIR LETTER — LUGBRIEF" in three lines in panel at left of card. Stamp depicts the "Flying Springbok" of South African Airways as before, but drawn on a new background and with the position of POSTAGE and POSSEEL changed. 3-fold; 5 x 3½ in.

Cat. No.		Pairs	Mint	Used
PAL 41.	6d. Blue—greenish white paper	—	—	—

SECTION 9.

THE ROTOGRAVURE PRINTINGS
HYPHENATED.2d. UNION BUILDINGS, PRETORIA.
GROUP 5— PLATE X.

Fifth Hyphenated Issue. Format — 21½ x 17¼ mm.

Design and size the same as PLATE IX, but language setting changed and first stamp on sheet now in Afrikaans instead of English. Position of the cylinder numbers imprinted on the sheet also changed from the right hand end of the bottom margin to the left hand end and now under stamps 1 and 2 of the 12th row.

Printed as before in sheets of 240 (12 rows x 20) from cross-lined screened cylinders, with four marginal arrows in the same colour as the frames and similar in appearance to those of PLATE IX.



Watermark sideways, facing left; perforated 14 x 15 and four-figure red serial numbers printed twice on the bottom margin — all as before.

Cross-lined screened cylinders.

Interior 30 and Exterior 18.

Issued November 1952.

Cat. No.		Pairs	Mint	Used
PLATE X.				
47F.	2d. Slate-blue and plum	—	—	—
CONTROLS.				
	Ca. Block of four with cylinder numbers "30" and "18" on attached margin	—	—	—
	Cb. Marginal arrow	—	—	—

SECTION 27.

OFFICIALS.

Cat. No.		Pairs	Mint	Used
O23	1d. Varieties—Page 264.			
	Designate the variety "OFFICIAL" by the letters "Va". Delete the entire line of "Vc" and amend the variety "Vb" to read "Shifted overprint".			
	Under the illustration on the left amend the title to read:— "O34/V. Double Overprint."			
	Under the illustration on the right amend the title to read:— "O23/Vb. Shifted Overprint."			
O24	2d. Plate number—Page 264.			
	Instead of "Plate 1" alter to read "Plate 1/B".			
O27	1/- Basic number—Page 265.			
	Alter the basic number to read "42".			
O40	3d. Basic number—Page 266.			
	Amend the basic number by changing the letter "c" to a capital to read "36C" and alter "Plate 2" to read "Plate IIb".			

O52 ½d. Plate and Cylinder Numbers

—Page 267.

Insert "Plate 6" in the descriptive matter and correct the cylinder numbers to read 6934/26.

O62 ½d. Plate and Cylinder Numbers

Page 269.

Delete from the descriptive matter "Cyl. 60/21 as No. 52" and insert "Cyl. 25/7019, Plate 10".

O64. 1½d. Cylinder numbers—Page 269.

Correct the cylinder numbers to read "15/62"; not 62/15.

O69 ½d. Plate Number—Page 270.

Delete the following part of the descriptive matter, "as before. 18½ x 22½", and insert "Plate 12".

O77 ½d. Plate Number—Page 271.

Insert "Plate 12" in descriptive matter.

O82 6d. Price correction—Page 272.

Amend price of pairs to read 3 0 3 0

O87 ½d. Plate Number—Page 272.

Insert "Plate 12" in descriptive matter.

O100 1½d. Basic number—Page 275.

Amend the basic number to read "46E", and add "Plate 10" to the descriptive matter.

O100a 1½d. Basic number—Page 275.

Amend the basic number to read "46E" and add "Plate 10" to the descriptive matter.

SECTION 30:**ADHESIVE PARCEL LABELS.**

Add the following to the list of post offices using adhesive parcel labels—Page 314.

Arcadia (Pretoria).
Brakpan.
George.
Motortown, Johannesburg.
Rissik Street, Johannesburg.
Uitenhage.
Vryburg.

NOTE. The Pietermaritzburg, Longmarket Street post office label shows only the town name "Pietermaritzburg".

PHILATELIC FEDERATION OF SOUTHERN AFRICA

EXPERT COMMITTEE

The Committee will receive stamps only on the following terms and conditions, and the submission of stamps to the Expert Committee will be deemed to imply the sender's acceptance of these terms and conditions unreservedly:—

1. All material submitted at sender's risk throughout.
2. The Committee will only give opinions on the stamps of Southern Africa, i.e. the mainland south of the equator and the islands corresponding, excluding Mauritius.
3. Senders will be required to state precisely what information is sought, and the Committee's fee will have regard to the value of the material and the time spent upon it. For a simple opinion as to identity and genuineness the fee will be as set out below, and must be prepaid, plus the cost of return by registered mail. The fee for other requirements may be more or less than, or the same as, that set out below, but it will normally be impracticable to quote such fees in advance.

Returned material will not be marked for transmission by air mail unless this is requested and prepaid by the sender.

4. Scale of fees for members of affiliated societies only.

For an opinion as to identity and genuineness, including the Committee's Certificate and a photograph:—

5/- where the latest Gibbons quotation does not exceed £25;

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10/- where it exceeds £50 or is an unquoted item.

These fees are increased 50 per cent. where there is an overprint or surcharge. These fees are per stamp and no reduction will be allowed for pairs, blocks, etc., or multiple inquiries.

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For all classes the charge will be as in paragraph 4 above, but increased 50 per cent. This does not include return postage.

6. Senders claiming to be entitled to the reduced scale of fees must provide written confirmation by a responsible officer that the sender is a member in good standing of an affiliated society.

7. The Expert Committee has the right to take and retain for record photographs of any material submitted and may reproduce any such photographs free of charge in any publication of the Federation. Such publication will not disclose the identity of the sender without permission to do so.

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9. All communications for the Expert Committee are to be addressed to the Secretary, P.O. Box 375, Johannesburg, and are not to be sent to any individual by name.

|

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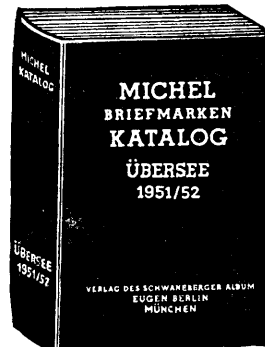
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REVIEWS

Catalogue 'Thiaude' of the Stamps of France and the French Union. H. Thiaude, 24 Rue du Quatre-Septembre, Paris (2e.). Price 160 Francs.

This catalogue, 37th edition, includes the stamps of France, French Colonies, Andorra, Monaco, Sarre, Syria and Lebanon.

Numerous prices have been modified since the last edition, reflecting the rulings of the French philatelic market.

The older stamps of the French Colonies seem particularly on the up-grade.

The catalogue is well printed and there is much information not readily obtainable in general catalogues. It is, in fact, a fairly highly specialised catalogue of the stamps in the field covered by it.

British Air Mails 1946-1951, by N. C. Baldwin. Francis J. Field, Ltd., Sutton Coldfield, England. Price 7/6 nett.

This is an illustrated and priced supplement to the publishers 'British Air Mails 1784-1946', which is still available. It brings the 712 items listed in the latter, up to 833, so that there have obviously been quite extensive developments in the past five years.

Every phase of air mails is covered, local services, overseas services, helicopter flights, air letter forms, changes in postal rates, etc., etc.

Colour Guide. Messrs. Stanley Gibbons Ltd., 391 Strand, London W.C.2. Price 5/- nett, postage 2d.

This new colour guide shows seventy-five colours most useful in stamp description. It has been produced in consultation with the British Colour Council's Dictionary of Colour, and printed by the same printers as that work. It may be taken therefore that the naming comes from a wider field than stamps only; this is perhaps where it is not going to appeal at once to all collectors, as some of the names given to some colours are definitely not those which most collectors are accustomed to use. It is a very difficult subject in which to achieve unanimity, but if the publishers consistently make the chart the standard for their catalogues a good step forward may be taken in this direction.

It should be noted that the matching must be done with **solid** portions of colour in the stamp. Instructions for use go with the chart.

Wrona-Deutschland. Special Catalogue. Obtainable at 7/- nett from the Waltham Stamp Co., 163 Sumatra Road, London, N.W.6.

This pocket sized catalogue of all German stamps has some 700 illustrations, detailed listings of booklets, joint pairs and combinations, although it does not generally deal with varieties. Early States, Colonies, and War Occupation issues are included.

Postage Stamps and Postal History of Tibet. By H. D. S. Haverbeck. Collectors Club, 22 E. 35th Street, New York 16, N.Y. Price 1.50 dollars post paid.

This appeared originally as a series of articles in the Collectors Club Philatelist and is now reprinted in booklet form, 50 pages with the same number of illustrations.

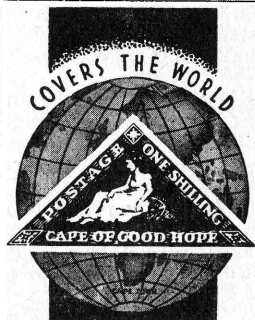
It can properly be described as a Tibet Handbook, for after a brief description of its geography and history, it deals with the expeditions which had their own posts and the Indian and Chinese Post Offices in Tibet. Then we come to the Tibetan postal service and stamps, from 1912 onwards. A fascinating book to read and one, of course, indispensable if you want seriously to know about Tibetan stamps and posts.

EARLIEST CATALOGUES AND MAGAZINES.

Messrs. L. N. and M. Williams have a very interesting article in the Sept. 'Stamp Magazine' dealing with the beginnings of what is now that vast subject, philatelic literature.

In 1861 appeared **Timbres-Poste**, by Oscar Berger-Levrault. It was merely a list of the stamps known to the writer, handwritten and reproduced by lithography. This was followed later in the same year by A. Potiquet's **Catalogue des Timbres-poste Créés dans les divers Etats du Globe**, a more ambitious effort. Others, by various French and Belgian writers followed in quick succession.

The first purely philatelic journal to be published anywhere in the world was the **Monthly Advertiser** in Dec. 1882. A good deal of the text was written by E. L. Pemberton. The first British catalogue was F. W. Booty's **Aids to Stamp Collectors**, which appeared in April, 1862; in August of the same year the **Stamp Collector's Guide**, the world's first illustrated stamp catalogue.



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CUSTOMERS WANT-LISTS INVITED.

COLLECTIONS AND SINGLE ITEMS BOUGHT.

O.V.S. POSTMARKS.

Mr. P. Smits writes:—

It is very pleasing to find that articles in our S.A. Philatelist on the less popular countries are being commented on by overseas readers. I refer particularly to Mr. A. Cecil Fenn's comments in the September issue on my article on the O.V.S. Numeral Postmarks.

In answer to Mr. Fenn I would advise that besides the numbers 1, 20 and upwards, No. 8 is also known in the 11 bar type numeral canceller but although quite common has not yet been placed.

Information which I now have indicates that the 16-bar numeral cancellers were in use from 1873 (or earlier) till the end of the Republican period; which is probably the reason that the 11-bar numerals up to No. 19 (except Nos. 1 and 8) were not put into service when received in 1882.

As was stated in my article the imprints of all 11-bar numerals 1 to 60 inclusive may be seen in the Treasurer General's Ledger T.G. 480 in the Bloemfontein Archives.

With regard to the Numeral 35, I am very definite in stating that this has so far only been seen in a 6-bar type. This item is in the W. Newlands collection which recently won a "Gold Award" at the Cape Town exhibition. The mark is very clear but it is crude and probably from a locally made canceller produced to fill a loss.

I am surprised at Mr. Fenn stating that the 11-bar grid letter "X" belongs to Vrede as this was long ago recorded as being used at Bloemfontein. Perhaps he will be so good as to send it for your examination and comment.

Concerning the use of the numeral and letter grids being used on "T.F." overprinted stamps I do not think there is any special significance as I have several of both. It is bound to occur when Post Offices and Telegraph Offices are combined. There is also no evidence that the letter grids were for newspaper postage only.

Mr. A. Cecil Fenn writes further:—

In your August issue headed "O.V.S. Numeral Postmarks" you state that as regards the postmarks with letters "all letters have now been reported except 'Q' and 'V'."

I wish to record that I have the "Q". This is quite distinct from the "O", it is much narrower and has a tail coming from the bottom of the oval which is 4mm. long. The "O" is fatter by ½mm. It is cancelled in Black.

I should also like to mention the "R". The one that is usually seen is in red and is narrow 3½mm. I also have others which are in black and are 4mm. that is of the same font as the other letters.

I have also come across an interesting cover. This has a 1d. purple "VRI" 2nd or 3rd printing, cancelled in black with numeral 18. On the face is the squared octagon postmark of Ficksburg, O.V.S. 16 JUL 00, and has the cachet in manuscript "Censored and some initials". On the reverse side is the sender's rubber dated stamp from Gabriel Myers, Ficksburg, O.F.S. (Note O.F.S. and not O.V.S. as datestamp). It is also backstamped with c.d.s. Grahamstown C.G.H. (which is the town to which the cover is ad-

ressed) dated H. JY 1900. This would appear to add another numeral to the "Located List".

Perhaps some other collector of this interesting Colony can add further to the list.

In conclusion I would add that here in England a Study Circle is being formed in the interest of all collectors large and small of "Orange Free State". If any one is interested and would communicate with me I should be pleased to send them further details.

FINE WEST INDIES

are probably the most popular of all groups with collectors. We have some splendid approval books of these stamps—all issues are represented—fine copies only are mounted—and prices are reasonable. Every stamp is correctly catalogued by Gibbons, and they are worth seeing. We also have a fine range of approval books of British Colonies in Asia, Africa, Europe, Australia and North America. A bank or business reference (preferably English) will bring you a selection.

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RHODESIAS.

The latest number of the Journal of the Rhodesian study circle is, as usual, crammed as full of meat as an egg.

The Hon. Editor, Mr. W. G. Nodder reports having obtained what he presumes to be a recently discovered copy of the famous **Gubulawayo-Bechuanaland** postmark. He says only seven copies are said to exist and wonders if this is an eighth specimen. He would like to know where the seven copies repose. Can any reader oblige? We understand two are in Mr. A. V. Jacob's collection.

A number of A.P.O. marks and Censor marks of World War II are recorded from the Rhodesias and Nyasaland, several of them not previously known.

There are numerous recordings of new post-offices and their marks, also stamp varieties of the three territories.

Mr. C. Calitz of Mossel Bay has submitted a 1½d. of the 1940 issue of S. Rhodesia on which the top half of the large "1" of the right hand "1½d." is almost obliterated by a white smudge so that the value in that tablet looks almost but not quite, like 1/12d.

In connection with S. Rhodesian Meter Marks Mr. W. G. Nodder writes that they were mentioned in his Journals of Sept., 1949 and Dec., 1949, also illustrated in March, 1950. The earliest recorded date is 5-VIII-49 but as the serial number of this is 1092 it is highly probable it was in use several months earlier. The lettering UR has been seen followed by a 2 (for Salisbury) and 3 and 4 (for Bulawayo). It is not yet known just what "UR" signifies.

An interesting point is whether the machine perforates the label when it prints or whether the paper is already perforated; Mr. Nodder inclines to the first view, but it is not certain,

CARE OF STAMPS

By

C. H. THORNTON.

In many parts of the tropical and sub-tropical world where the atmosphere is highly charged with moisture, stamps are very liable to be attacked by a fungoid growth which shows in the form of "rust spots" or foxing. The spots do a great deal of damage to stamps as we, along the Eastern Coast line of South Africa, well know to our cost. Either the poor quality of the paper used for certain stamps or perhaps paper containing some chemical impurities may be responsible for the attack which also occurs in the leaves of albums unless of very high grade paper.

Some years ago a Mr. Lovejoy of the Natal Philatelic Society did a great research work investigating the possibility of removing the spots from stamps with a preparation called Milton and other similar chemicals.

This had a certain degree of success with some stamps of fast colours, but in fugitive colours and especially with mint stamps, one was liable to do more damage than good — the remedy proving worse than the disease.

In any case stamps treated with these nostrums are detected immediately, and condemned, by the experts, so it is unwise to try this doctoring of one's treasures.

Prevention always better than cure.

But how to prevent? We can't very well extract the moisture from all the air in our houses or even in all the rooms. **No!**

But I suppose most people keep their albums in a cupboard or box and with a modicum of care that box or cupboard can be made fairly airtight by adjusting the lid or door.

Then make use of dry crystals of Calcium Chloride spread on a saucer or metal container. Leave it there for a couple of days and you'll be surprised to find a small pool of water where each crystal has been. Throw out this water, dry the saucer **completely** and replenish with more crystals. **Be very careful** to see that the chemical **is** in the saucer. **Don't** scatter it amongst your stamps and albums or you will find both soaked with water.

The foregoing is within my own experience, but now comes along my tame analyst with the following notes:—

Calcium Chloride. White crystalline substance. Relative drying power 1.

Advantages — cheapness, a few pence per lb.

Disadvantages — comparative low drying power. Once used is finished.

Silica Gel. Brownish white granules. Relative power 40.

Advantages — high drying power.

Lasts for ever — though costing about 6/- per lb. Ease of regeneration (place in hot oven for half an hour). Absorbs large amount of water before needing to be dried. Method of use — suggest small tin box with a lid that can be closed down when cupboard door open. Store in a closed glass jar after regeneration and before using.

Activated Alumina. Relative power 200. Remarks as for Silical Gel except that it will not last quite as long. Price about 5/- per lb.

Modern Unsorted Lots on Paper.

British Empire (no S.A. or G.B.), 26/- lb., Australia or Canada, 14/- lb.; New Zealand 19/- lb. World assortment (over 30 countries), 19/6 lb.; Eire, 7/6 lb.; France, Belgium, Sweden, all 13/6 lb.; Netherlands or U.S.A., 11/6 lb.; Swiss — many pictorials, 21/- lb.; Germany (with Zones), 23/- lb.; Malaya 10/- per 2 oz.; French large pictorials 1 oz. (abt. 120), 6/3.

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Pictorial—mixtures per 100. U.S.A., 4/3, G.B. & Eire (mixed), 2/-, Latin America, 6/6, Italy 5/6, Brit. Col. large pictorials, 6/6, Higher Val. Cols. (2½d. and over), 9/-, World Pictorials 3/6, Superior World, 7/6. Australia Geo. V heads stocked.

U.S.A. precancels, 200 mixed, 5/-. Recent U.S.A. comms. F.U. 1d. Mint, 3½d. (and S.A.E.) U.S.A. full list of singles 2d.

Wanted Stamps on Paper—Cash or Exchange.

G.B. Coronation Souvenir Covers mailed single 1/-, 10 covers 9/6.

All the above items post free to Brit. Africa and South Africa.

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NORTHERN RHODESIA

George V. All Mint.

S.G. 1 to 7, Cat. 9/8 Price	5/-
S.G. 8, Cat. 6/6, Price	6/-
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S.G. 10, Cat. 7/-, Price	3/-
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S.G. 13, Cat. 20/-, Price	15/-
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S.G. 15, Cat. 50/-, Price	55/-
S.G. 16, Cat. 50/-, Price	40/-
S.G. 17, Cat. £5, Price	80/-
S.G. 1 to 17 complete mint. Cat., £16.1.2, Price	£11.10
Do. do. Blocks of four. Price	£51.

Also Specimens available of N. Rhodesia. One set of each.

We have a fine Stock of Cape Triangulars, Rhodesia, Southern and Northern Rhodesia, New Zealand Healths, Foreigns etc. Want lists receive prompt attention.

We are buyers of collections and rare stamps.

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SHORT NOTICES.

Editions Inter-nationales of 47 Rue St.-André-des-Arts, Paris VIe, announce the issue in the series 'Encyclopédie pittoresque', of a volume on Religious Art in Philately. It is not a catalogue of all such stamps but some 1,200 are enumerated and 400 described. There are 35 illustrations in colour and 25 in black. Price Fr. 675 net.

Stamp Collectors' Fortnightly. Congratulations to our contemporary on reaching (on 20th September last) their No. 1,500. The founder and first editor, Mr. Percy C. Bishop contributes a short birthday message to the number.

Papermakers' Watermarks. Messrs. H. R. Harmer Ltd. had a curious, and probably unique, type of scale in 17 November. This was a collection of stamps belonging to Mr. R. W. T. Lees-Jones, consisting entirely of stamps with watermarks of the papermakers.

Junior Philatelic Society. This society, the largest of its kind in the British Empire, had a loss on last year's working, but the Council is not dismayed. They have plans which they hope will soon put matters right, without either reducing benefits or increasing the annual subscription. They hope even to acquire a permanent building to house the society and thus much increase its usefulness. The Society was founded over 50 years ago and, despite its name, is by no means a society of juveniles, far from it indeed. Membership includes the monthly journal 'The Stamp Lover' free. An immediate aim is an increase in membership and any one interested is invited to write to F. A. Pester, 44 Fleet Street, London E.C.4., for particulars.

Spanish Catalogues. We have received from "Filatelica Hevia" of Mayor, 13, Madrid, two 1953 catalogues, well illustrated, priced and nicely got-up. One is of the stamps of Spain, all issues; the other the stamps of the Colonies and ex-colonies of Spain.

The Dairy Industry for Thematelists. Messrs. David Michael & Co. of 3743-63 D. Street, Philadelphia 24, Pa. had an exhibit at a recent Dairy Industries Exposition held in Chicago of a large number of stamps connected in one way or another with dairying. They have sent us a folder and descriptive matter which we have sent to our Cape Town contemporary "The Thematic Magazine."

USEFUL COLLECTIONS—ALL MINT.

GERMANY: 1939-1945 War Issues Complete
S.G. 690/898, 209 stamps, 71 sets 80/-
Do. S.G. 796-98, 803-893, 95, 96, 94 stamps 17/6

K.G.VI 1937 Coronation, Complete Colonial and
Dominions, 202 stamps, 60 sets (1 only) 65/-
1946 Victories, Complete Colonials and Do-
minions, 163 stamps, 61 sets, face ca. £2 45/-
As last, but Crown Colonies only, complete
45 sets, 90 stamps face value 20/- 21/-

Trupel stamp hinges, protects mint stamps, no trace on gum after hinge removed. 250 for 2/6 plus 2d. postage. Subject unsold. Cash with Order. Post-free over £1.

L. T. KONG,

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SOME RECENT AUCTION PRICES.

Robson Lowe. Great Britain 6d. buff cancelled "C35" at Panama on cover in combination with Costa Rica stamp, £775.

Do. 1867-70, 2/- brown mint, £27.

Boer War. 1900 Machadodorp 1d. card used on 10 Aug. from Machadodorp, £5 10s.

Greece, 1862-67, 10l. with rare error, control No. inverted and on front, £23.

20l. control No. 80 instead of 20, £16.

Netherlands 1852, 5c. greyish blue, mint, £25.

Newfoundland 1910, 3c. optd. "First Transatlantic Air post (S.G. 142), £390.

Do. 1927 60c. optd. "Air Mail de Pinendo" on cover (S.G. 163) £150.

W. Australia. 1865 2d. mauve (S.G. 65) error of colour, £33.

H. R. Harmer.

Bermuda 10/- unused (S.G. 119), £10 10s.

Kenya £1 unused (S.G. 143), £11.

Vryburg Cover with S.G. 1 to 3 and 9, £14 10s.

Seychelles 1901 3c. on 36c., double (S.G. 44e), £26.

Zanzibar 100r. (S.G. 244), £36.

Zanzibar 200r. (S.G. 245), £60.

G.E.A. 1900 2p. imperf. (S.G. 15a), £1.

Cape Woodblock, 1d. error of colour, £230.

UNITED STATES—All Fine Mint.

S.G. 858	.....	1/-	S.G. 1048	.....	1/2
S.S. 860	.....	8d.	S.G. 1051-63	.....	7/-
S.G. 861	.....	1/-	S.G. 1092 a, b	.....	1/6
S.G. 862	.....	1/-	S.G. 1107	.....	7d.
S.G. 865	.....	1/-	S.G. 1136	.....	1/-
S.G. 870	.....	7d.	S.G. 1137	.....	1/6
S.G. 871	.....	6d.	S.G. 1138	.....	2/3
S.G. 875	.....	1/-	S.G. E 22a	.....	1/6
S.G. 888	.....	6d.	S.G. EA 1	.....	1/6
S.G. 889	.....	4d.	S.G. EA 2	.....	1/6

All recent issued 3c. (superb) 4d. Cpstomers Wantlists invited.

FRANK E. HAMILTON,

MARNE 17, MICHIGAN, U.S.A.

PAPUA AND NEW GUINEA.

We are informed by the Australian Trade Commissioner that these territories, which since 1945 have used Australian Commonwealth stamps, will have an issue of their own appearing on 30th October. This will be a pictorial set, with 15 values ranging from ½d. to £1.

THE FIRST POSTAGE STAMP.

Scarcely has the claim of Austria to have had a stamp earlier than the Penny Black died down, that a new claimant has arisen, this time from Holland.

The October number of the "Ned. Maandblat van Philatelie" announces the discovery of a cover sent from Amsterdam to Leiden on 28 Nov., 1817 with what looks like an adhesive stamp on it.

A couple of query marks is put after the statement, however, so we will await further reports before accepting or rejecting this claim.

B. J. Hunter

is pleased to inform his customers that he has recently purchased a very fine collection of the stamps of Rhodesia, and from the many choice items available, offers the following:—

RHODESIA.

1905 "Falls" Set complete £3 3s. 0d.; 2/6 S.G. 98, £1; 5/- S.G. 99, £1 2s. 6d.; U. £1 5s. 0d.
 1910/16. "Curl on King's Forehead" variety: 2d., S.G. 126, 10/-; 4d. S.G. 140, 10/-; 5d. S.G. 141a, 12/6; 10d. S.G. 149, 12/6.
 1910/16. 8d. S.G. 146, 10/-; S.G. 147, 15/-; S.G. 148, 13/6; 2/6 S.G. 155a, £1; S.G. 156, £3; S.G. 157, £1; S.G. 159, £1 5s.; S.G. 160, 17/6; 7/6 S.G. 160b, £1 10s.; S.G. 161, £1 2s. 6d.; 10/- S.G. 163, £2 10s.; U. £2 12s. 6d.; £1 S.G. 165, £6; S.G. 166, £6; S.G. 167 U. £6.
 1910/16 Other Varieties:—
 2½d. S.G. 131a extra line at bottom, 7/6.
 2½d. S.G. 133 fine re-entry bottom left scroll, 15/-
 5d. S.G. 141 "small 5" £1 17s. 6d.
 8d. S.G. 147 sheet number corner copy with re-entry top left £2 10s. 0d.

RHODESIA.

1913/22 1d. S.G. 204 (Cat. £8), £5 10s. 0d.
 1913/22 4d. S.G. 216, £3 10s. 0d.
 1913/22 2/- S.G. 235, £1; 3/- S.G. 236a, 17/6; 3/- S.G. 237, 12/6; 5/- S.G. 238, £1 7s. 6d.; 7/6 S.G. 240, 18/6; 10/- S.G. 241 £1; £1 S.G. 242, £4; £1 S.G. 243, £6.
 1913/32 Background over King's Cap touched in with watercolour:
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 1913/22 5/- S.G. 251, £1 5s. 0d.; 7/6 S.G. 252, £1 2s. 6d.
 1913/22 2/- S.G. 273a, £1; U. £1; 2/6 S.G. 274, 11/6; 3/- S.G. 274b, 18/6; 10/- S.G. 277 U. £2.

All Mint except as stated.

Wants Lists welcomed — Please write for particulars of our Fortnightly Lists, and New Issue Service.

B. J. Hunter

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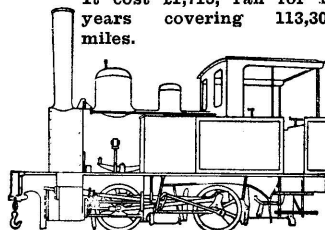
THE RAILWAYS OF THE TRANSVAAL



THE STORY OF SOUTH AFRICAN TRANSPORT.

President Kruger was the driving force behind the Z.A.S.M. line from Pretoria to the Portuguese Border at Komatipoort, completed on November 18th, 1894.

This old locomotive, now at Pretoria Station, ran on the Johannesburg-Boksburg line in the nineties. It cost £1,715, ran for 14 years covering 113,309 miles.



Transvaal railway history begins with the establishment of the Netherlands South African Railway Company — N.Z.A.S.M. — which held a concession from President Kruger to build a line from Pretoria to Lourenco Marques, an independent outlet which the President hoped to see finished before the Natal and Cape railways offered the competitive resources of Durban and Cape Town. The story of the building of the Delagoa Bay railway is one of drama and romance: the cold diary of dates as the line was slowly completed during the years 1891-1894 gives no idea of the struggles and frustrations that faced everyone connected with the enterprise. However, the line was finally completed, the last bolt being driven in by the President himself at Wilgerivier on November 2nd, 1894.

ONE OF A SERIES OF ADVERTISEMENTS SPONSORED BY THE SOUTH AFRICAN RAILWAYS
ADMINISTRATION IN THE TERCENTENARY YEAR, 1952.

S.A.R.S.

SOCIETY NEWS

PHILATELIC SOCIETY OF JOHANNESBURG.

27. Oct. Commander C. E. D. Enoch showed a fine collection of the stamps of Siam.

Commander Enoch read a paper on the exhibit pointing out rarities, and giving a history of the issues. The exhibit included re-entries, all varieties of surcharges, including many rarities, varieties of type, different plates, double surcharges and other errors, including a used stamp with the surcharge on the gummed side.

All issues to 1899 were shown. The first issues were well represented.

Some forgeries were shown to indicate the differences from genuine stamps. Mint and used stamps were shown in great profusion. There were numerous pairs and blocks showing different varieties set-tenant. The so-called "Korat" issue was included in the exhibit. There were also proofs.

Mr. Lilley and Mr. Economides spoke on the exhibit.

11 Nov. The East Rand and Springs Societies were due to pay us a visit this evening, but were prevented from coming by a heavy storm. The President, Mr. Sheffield, suspecting that this might happen, provided a very nice exhibit of the Commemorative issues of the Union.

24th Nov. Mr. Giessendammer showed a portion of his collection of the stamps of Switzerland. Although not so very full in the earlier issues it was practically complete in the later ones, and these beautiful stamps were most tastefully displayed on black mounts. The exhibit ended up with a fine set of the miniature sheets and altogether it was much appreciated.

JEWISH GUILD PHILATELIC SECTION.

On the 30th October 1952 the Roodepoort Stamp Club were visitors to the Section and provided some fine exhibits.

Master David Crock, a young collector, showed some fine Great Britain from the earliest to the most recent issues. Most were in used condition including some fine 1d. black and some fine specimens of the embossed issue.

Mr. Henderson showed Northern and Southern Rhodesia. These were complete except for some varieties. The South Rhodesian 1½d. perf. 12 and 1/- perf. 14 were both present.

Mr. Yelland showed Union Booklets and coils in a practically complete collection. There were numerous varieties joined together. The advertisement and Jipex panes were shown plated.

Mr. Sharpe showed Sudan mostly in mint condition and this showed the earliest to the modern issues.

Mr. Vermaak, the President of the Club, showed Air Letter Cards from the Union forces in Korea. All the different types were shown as well as the different post-office marks.

Mr. J. Burrell showed "odds and ends". These consisted of varieties of comparatively common stamps such as the 1d. New Zealand Universal Postage issue and the Great Britain Silver Jubilee issue. There were also the not so common 3d. Australia King George VI in the different dies in mint condition.

Mr. I. Isaacs spoke on the exhibits pointing out how all had been beautifully written up and presented.

ROODEPOORT STAMP CLUB.

The October meeting of the Club was held on Thursday the 16th, in the Parish Hall, Amelia St., Roodepoort.

The exhibit for the evening was tabled by Mr. Yelland, consisting of Union Booklets and Coils. This display was certainly outstanding, and must have taken a considerable time to compile, mount, and write up. Mr. Vermaak on behalf of the Club, thanked Mr. Yelland.

Quite a number of our members spent a very enjoyable evening as the guests of the Johannesburg Philatelic Society at their 300th meeting, and through the medium of the South African Philatelist, we wish to express our gratitude and thanks for the achievement gained in our hobby. J.K.

ORANGE FREE STATE AND BASUTOLAND PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

The September meeting had a programme full of variety. There was the "Half-hour of Swopping", followed by a few quick minutes of the unavoidable formal business. An auction sale and a sweepstake kept up the spirits. Mr. J. Lewis presented the "Philatelic News of the month", on which Mr. J. B. Levy commented in appreciation. Dr. Freund was in charge of "New issues", and he gave a brief talk and specially prepared display on the recent Olympic Games, tabling a number of colourful sports sets which have been issued in connection with the Helsinki Games. A Quiz arranged by Mr. A. H. Scott, presented the task to recognize a number of stamps of which only small parts of the design were visible. The quiz was won by Mr. J. Hodgson, Mr. M. Sacks and Master L. Sackstein. Mr. J. Lewis gave the main display of the evening, which consisted in a highly specialised presentation of the Union Van Riebeeck issue, with all its varieties and printing flaws. At the conclusion of the evening, Mr. A. G. Denne exhibited small, representative collections of five British Colonies (Barbados, Bermuda, Cyprus, Jamaica and Brit. Solomon Islands), which were offered for sale.

On a Saturday afternoon, also in September, the Society held its annual Junior Stamp Competition. The Exhibition, which was held at the Technical College, was well organized and attracted a good number of Bloemfontein scholars. The children had a great time with free refreshments and free stamp gifts. The number of collections handed in for competition was however not as large as in former years. The albums were judged in three age groups. The special "Kachelhoffer Prize" for the best collection of South African stamps went to Master L. Sackstein, with Master J. Simmons gaining a Second Prize in this section. The Postmaster of Bloemfontein, Mr. G. W. Hill, presented the prizes.

At the October meeting, the first half was taken up with the usual features, among which Mr. Lewis's "Stamp News", a Sweepstake and an auction sale were prominent. The main attraction of the evening was a display by Prof. G. H. van Rooyen, who displayed part of his collection of South West Africa. The display was outstanding and the more remarkable as Prof. van Rooyen has started with this subject less than a year ago. In the early historical section, there were in particular many interesting items, some of them hitherto unrecorded. The evening concluded with a display by Master I. Simmons who by request showed his South African collection which gained a prize at the Junior Competition.

AFRIKAANSE FILATELISTESE VERENIGING.

7 November: In plaas van die gebruikelike uitstallings deur lede van 'n besoekende vereniging, het ons gaste van die Roodepoort Stamp Club ons op 7 deser op iets heel nuuts getraakteer. Mnr. Jack Burrell, 'n deskundige op die gebied van filatelie en reeds wenner van die veelgesogte Skinner Cup, het gesorg vir 'n baie interessante en leersame lantern-vertoning wat gegaan het oor die voorbereiding van ons seëls in die Staatsdrukkery.

Omdat mnr. Burrell nog 'n ander funksie moes bywoon, was sy lesing heel eerste op die agenda geplaas. Daarna was huishoudelike aangeleenthede afgehandel.

Aan dr. C. L. L. Murray n mnr. N. Prinsloo is volle lidmaatskap van die vereniging toegestaan, terwyl kennis geneem is van aansoek deur mevr. A. B. Slabber en mnr. B. Slabber van Johannesburg.

Om 2.30 nm. op Saterdag, 29 deser, kom ons weer byeen. Met hierdie geleentheid vind 'n kompetisie onder lede plaas. Alle belangstellendes word vriendelik uitgenooi. S.J.V.

PRETORIA RAILWAY PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

The November meeting was no exception to the rule, so that yet another successful evening was marked up. The attendance was also up to the excellent standard that has been set, and everyone appeared to be enjoying themselves immensely. Owing to his being indisposed, Mr. J. J. Coombe-Martin was unable to attend, and was thus unable to give his scheduled paper and exhibit. We trust that he may have a speedy recovery, and look forward to the pleasure of him exhibiting in the near future. Mr. W. Newlands very ably filled the breach, and gave the members a real treat. The collection that he tabled covered a very wide field,

and included some very interesting postmarks of Aden on the stamps of India, some of the Arabian States and Somaliland. Then there was some early specimen stamps of Nyasaland, the N.F. overprints and the famous "cheque" stamps. Finally there was some Southern Rhodesia perf. and imperf. showing the variety of perfs., and some late war and re-occupation covers of Somaliland. One of the star items shown was the Aden "Olympic Games" with the double overprint. Before tabling his exhibit, Mr. Newlands gave the members an explanatory talk, and pointed out the main features of the collection. Dr. Reisener, who spoke on the exhibit prefaced his remarks by saying that whenever Mr. Newlands exhibited it was always something good and in congratulating the exhibitor, said that he fully merited the praise that had been accorded him. A very excellent show Mr. Newlands, and the Society are indeed fortunate in having an exhibitor of your standard.

EAST LONDON PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

October 17th at Red Cross House.

As the President was unavoidably late the Vice-President Mr. Williams extended a warm welcome to all visitors. Four new members were elected. Matters of Philatelic interest were as follows: Mr. Thornton — South African 1d. stamp printed on double paper; Rev. Pludderman — German Soviet Zone Cover; Mr. Rolfe — New Zealand 1st day cover; Mr. Paviour — Booklet page of 2½d. G.B. stamps and U.S.A. cover of "Centennial of Engineering"; Mr. Watson — Czechoslovakian 1st day cover; Mr. Gillespie — 1/- Van Riebeeck stamp with shadow error.

Mr. Hellman announced that the 4d. Union hphenated stamp which replaces the old 4d. one is now available and already three distinct shades are noticeable. He also appealed for volunteers to assist the Juniors.

There was a very interesting quiz conducted by the President and won by Mr. Watson.

Mr. Thornton displayed a wonderfully interesting collection of Early Europeans on which he gave a short talk. He was thanked by Mr. Hellman who alluded to the display as "magnificent".

Mr. Shingler displayed a friend's collection of British Colonial stamps and was thanked by Mr. Sparkman for his kindness in bringing such a lovely collection along.

November 14th, 1952 at Red Cross House.

The President welcomed all visitors and also Mr. and Mrs. Gillespie who are newly married. Six new members were proposed and seconded. Mr. Shingler said he had written an article by request to the Cape Times and The Sunday Times suggesting that on one at least of the new South African issues there should be a portrait of Queen Elizabeth II.

News of Philatelic interest was as follows:

Mr. Feros—Union Penny S.G. 43 error no watermark;

Mr. Joseph — Union Penny error of diagonal red lines and some German stamps;

Mr. Jensen — Danish official stamp;

Miss Taylor — New Zealand Health stamps of Prince Charles and Princess Ann;

Mrs. Alabaster — Block of Union 2d., one stamp showing an incomplete "d" making it look like a "j". This one error is constant in every sheet;

Rev. Pludderman—Two covers with attractive German Stamps;

Mr. Shingler—Block of twelve Postage Dues well postmarked from Northern Rhodesia;

Mrs. Cordes—Number of various airmail tags and cover with caption "insufficient postage—returned."

Mr. Hellman read an article from the Financial Times headed "Philately Prospers", in which it was recorded that a man had bought a booklet of 2½d. G.B. stamps, one page being imperforate. The cost was 5/-. These stamps sold at Harpers for £320.

A Coronation Stamp of Her Majesty the Queen will be on sale in England next June. Machines there can print 2-3 million per hour. South Africa will also print a 2d. stamp for the Coronation. In September next year South Africa will issue 1d. and 4d. stamps for the Centenary of The Cape of Good Hope triangulars.

The New Constitution has been circulated and certain amendments will be proposed to the Federation of Southern Africa.

Union Stamps are rising in price, some items being very difficult to obtain.

Mr. Paviour showed a very comprehensive collection of the Commonwealth of Australia. There were many mint blocks of four and difficult items to obtain such as the overprints used during the occupation of Japan. Mr. Paviour was warmly thanked by Mrs. Alabaster. Mr. Hellman showed a beautifully written up collection of Israel, both stamps on cover and singly with a mass of interesting explanations and cuttings. Mr. Jensen thanked him on behalf of the Society for his original display. R.A.

PHILATELIC SOCIETY OF NATAL.

The November meeting of the Society was held on the 5th and after the expiry of the usual informal hour the President welcomed 33 members and visitors. The President reminded the meeting of the passing of Mr. A. Mason, a member in Northern Rhodesia and a pause was observed as a mark of respect. Mr. Bevis referred to the forthcoming visit to the Maritzburg society and hoped that as many members as possible would make an effort to travel.

During a general discussion Mr. Simpson suggested that the time had arrived for the publication of a new membership-list and it was decided to give the matter attention. Mr. N. D. Williams proposed that the meetings start at 7.30 p.m. instead of at 8 p.m. and this was eventually agreed to by a narrow majority. Unfortunately it was not brought to the notice of the meeting that the President would have great difficulty in attending at the new time of opening so it is possible that the matter will have to be reopened and another change made.

Mr. J. Lyle read some interesting selections from philatelic journals and also conducted a competition on quite new lines: the questions all related to names of persons and other animate and inanimate objects, all these names were to be found in Gibbons' Colour Guide. Miss Reynolds and Mr. Ponsford ran out winners and donated the prize to the 1954 fund.

Mr. D. D. Black exhibited a portion of his British Empire collection. This included many blocks and pairs and many varieties of shade in the highest values. Unaccountably Mr. Black did not enter the exhibit for any of our trophies. Mr. McK. Malcolm proposed a vote of thanks on behalf of those present.

The auction was not as well supplied or supported as usual but most items were disposed of. One item donated to the St. John's Eye Hospital brought in 6/6 and other items were donated to the 1954 fund. After the usual refreshments the meeting closed at 10.20 p.m. V.F.M.

POLAND.

'Varimex' announces the issue in the 4th quarter of 1952 of (a) 3 semi-postals for Polish Army day (b) 2 semi-postals for the 35th anniversary of the October Revolution (in Petrograd); (c) 2 semi-postals with portrait of Lenin; (d) two honouring a passenger car factory; (e) two for Miner's Day; (f) two honouring the violinist Wieniawski, and (g) two of the 6-year plan of economical development series.

FRANCE.

The Ministry of Post announces the issue on 7 November of a 12fr. stamps honouring, and with a portrait of, the physician Laënnec.

Our September Sales were £11. Our October Sales were over

£30

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P.O. MTUNZINI, ZULULAND.

Write for descriptive leaflet.

QUEEN ELIZABETH STAMPS.

The uniform design of the single stamp for each British Colony has now been released. The stamps will be engraved; there is a central vignette surmounted by a crown, and containing a three-quarter face portrait of Her Majesty, facing right. This part will always be in black, the surround will be coloured. The whole design is very reminiscent of the Chalon Head types of Queen Victoria. The upper corners will contain the indication of value, with the name of the Colony in a tablet across the foot of the stamp. In the central oval medallion between Her Majesty's head and the Crown is "Coronation", and below her head is "2nd June, 1953."

The values and colours for colonies in our part of the world will be: Ascension, 3d. grey; Basutoland, 2d. purple; Bechuanaland, 2d., orange-brown; Kenya, 20c. orange; Mauritius, 10c. green; N. Rhodesia, 1½d. orange; St. Helena, 3d. lilac; Seychelles, 9c. grey-blue; Swaziland, 2d. brown; Tristan da Cunha, 3d. olive-green.

"Gibbons Stamp Monthly" analyses the position vis-a-vis the permanent change-over from stamps bearing the portrait of K.G. VI to stamps bearing that of Q.E. There are about 800 of them and if the values remain as at present a complete new set (face value) up to the 1/- values will cost £9 10s.; to the 5/- values, £31 10s.; and to the top values, £81 5s. Meeting this outlay raises problems for both dealers and collectors.

As we go to press the British 1½d. and 2½d. Q.E. stamps have arrived. They are beautiful reproductions.

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SOME NEW ISSUES.

(From Whitfield King & Co.'s Press Notes.)

Canada. A 7c., featuring a Canada Goose, will replace the present Postal Centenary 7c., on 3rd November. On the same date two further stamps in the Prime Ministers series will appear, a 4c. featuring Alexander Mackenzie and a 3c. with Sir John Abbott.

Germany (Federal Republic). A Heligoland Commemorative was issued on 6th September. Four semi-postals were issued on 1st October honouring Helpers of Mankind. They feature Elizabeth Fry, Dr. Carl Sonnenschein, Theodore Fliedner and Henry Dunant. (Western Berlin). A set of 10 stamps is to be issued to commemorate famous Berliners.

They are Zelter (musician), Lilienthal (aeronaut), Rattenau (statesman), Fontane (novelist), v. Menzel (engraver), Virchow (pathologist), v. Siemens (electrician), Schinkel (architect), Planck (physicist), v. Humboldt (philologist).

U.S.A. Nov. 21st saw the issue of a 3c. honouring the International Red Cross.

U.S.S.R. Eight stamps have recently been issued commemorating — well, all sorts of things and people.

Great Britain. Not a new stamp, but an interesting slogan Postmark reading "Postage on Letters for Europe 4d."

Eire. Two stamps (2½d. and 3½d.) were due for issue on 10 November, honouring Thomas Moore, the occasion being the centenary of his death. They feature his portrait and will be the first printed in Ireland by the recess process.

Israel. A new set of 9 Postage Due Stamps, required because of changes in postal rates, is to be issued this month; values 5 to 250 pruta, all of the same design, with a running stag.

Nyasaland. Stamps with a portrait of Queen Elizabeth have been ordered. Two new values and three existing values are to have designs and/or colours changed; ten are to have only a change in the portrait.

St. Helena. A set of 13 (½d. to 10/-) has been ordered with portrait of Her Majesty, the Crown and pictorial subjects.

PHILATELY PROSPERS.

Mr. G. Milner Palmer, of Durban, who has just returned from a trip to Europe, has sent us a cutting from the "Financial Times". This is a paper not usually given to exaggerations and we quote a few extracts from the article. These had been read to a meeting of the Philatelic Society of Natal and came very apropos after a discussion on whether or not dealers' catalogue prices were based on too high a level.

"At London auction rooms, prices have on the whole been well maintained, especially for Commonwealth issues. The highest figure obtained was 10,000 guineas for the Tweedale British and Commonwealth collection.

"Some important collections have been disposed of in New York, which before the war might have been sold in London, and the turnover of Harmers New York branch for the first time exceeded that of the parent house in London.

"The general lifting of restrictions on international trade in stamps and the increasing number of collectors on both sides of the Atlantic bode well for the future of philately as a satisfactory medium for combining business with pleasure."